



NIPPON LODGE No. 9

Free and Accepted Masons



MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF JAPAN



The Official Gazette of The Brethren of Nippon Lodge No. 9, Sasebo, Japan FEB 2020

Schedule of Events

FEB & MAR 2020

- 05 Feb Monthly Stated Meeting
- 07 Feb EA Degree Conferral
- 08 Feb Charity Work @ Seifuen Orphanage
- 12 Feb Lodge of Instruction
- 19 Feb Lodge of Instruction
- 26 Feb EA Degree Conferral
- 04 Mar Monthly Stated Meeting
- 11 Mar Lodge of Instruction
- 18 Mar Lodge of Instruction
- 20 Mar ANCOM MWGLJ Tokyo
- 21 Mar Day 2 of ANCOM
- 25 Mar Lodge of Instruction



The Newly Installed Pillars of The Lodge

From l-r: (BSW) *WB Manny Manipula*, (WM) *WB Ace Asuncion*, BJW Bro. *Caloy Caluya*.

The Installation of Officers was conducted on the 11th of January, 2020 held at the Nippon Lodge Masonic Center in Sasebo, Japan with **WB Bugs Bugawan (PM Kintai Lodge #16)** as the Master of Ceremonies and **WB Henry Staggs (PM Nippon Lodge #9)** as the Installation Officer.

Wisdom to Contrive, Strength to Support and Beauty to Adorn...

Greetings from the East! Please let me take this moment to congratulate the brethren that were elected and appointed for the Masonic Year 6020 A.L. Officers of Nippon Lodge No. 9.

First of all, I also would like to thank the brethren who participated during the night of the election. We have an exciting Masonic Year ahead. It has been 63 fruitful and harmonious years that the Lodge has been in existence, and we will continue to keep the Light of Nippon Lodge No. 9 shining brightly in peace and harmony.

As your Worshipful Master, I would like to give the Brethren an idea of how I envisioned the ensuing year.

We will strive to achieve and solidify the tenets of our Craft towards a concerted effort to accomplish the following:

1. Strengthen Masonic Education and familiarize the brethren in our Constitution, edicts, by-laws, general rules of the Grand Lodge and other directives particular to our Lodge and Jurisdiction.
2. Charity work and community service will always be a part of our Lodge. We will continue the scholarship program, helping the community and continue to support the Seifuen and Wakatake Ryo Orphanages.

We will seek advice from the city government if they need us for additional community service.

3. Training and development of our petitioners and progressing brethren by mentorship and developing a timeline for their progression to being raised. This will include assigning a Master Mason to teach our petitioners, EAs and FCs while the Lodge of MMs is in labor. The key to this venture is managing the time to do degree conferrals. I do believe that it will be a boost to motivate the petitioners, EAs and FCs to meet their goal of being raised on or before their timelines.

BROTHERLY LOVE



RELIEF



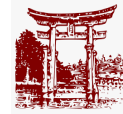
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4. While we are perceived as a charitable institution and not a fund-generating organization, we will continue to participate in some fundraising activities selectively.
5. Develop an official social media that shall be within the purview of Edict #13 of our Jurisdiction and shall be part of a yearly turnover between WMs and will be used as our official internet-based medium to communicate Lodge business for MEMBERS ONLY. Petitioners will be kept well-informed by their mentors, and strict compliance to our by-laws and Constitution shall be observed in disseminating all Masonic matters in the different degrees of our Craft.

6. More importantly, families will always be involved in our Lodge activities. Family gatherings will be scheduled. Their participation in all our activities is highly encouraged. Time to rethink the Saturday mornings' fellowship and other family-oriented activities in the coming months.

In closing, we are just starting this new Masonic year. What I have enumerated are just the perspective that I envisioned, but I also know upon your wisdom may come great ideas that will enhance our travels and labors in the Lodge. Looking back to how our Craft was built, it was erected by using a Trowel which united the building into one common mass, and which equates to us

being Free and Accepted Masons bound by the tenets of our Craft to be one sacred band of brothers among whom no contention should ever exist, but that noble contention or rather emulation of who can best work and best agree. With that said, there shall be no undertaking that shall undermine our brotherhood if we will keep peace and harmony amongst us and in our Great Lodge.

Pillars POC:

WM - whccmuace@gmail.com

BSW - laarni62@yahoo.com

BJW - caloy504usn@gmail.com

FACEBOOK:

Unofficial: Nippon ::9 (Non-Tiled)

Official: NL9 Officers and Members

Senior Warden's Corner

I take pride that our organization is one, if not the oldest fraternity in modern ages, and our constitution and regulations which serves as our rule and guide was framed by our fore brethren to ensure that we will survive the test of time, and we did and continue to be tested. However, moving forward in today's world, our fraternity is being challenge not only from without, worst from within. Outsiders who are not members of our order will continue to question Freemasonry. With modern technology and today's social media, false reports and other negative statements regarding our fraternity can easily be spread and destructive. Those of us who embrace the philosophy and principles of masonry have an obligation and moral duty to prove to them that men can meet in friendship and unity for the good of all. What about the challenge from within?



Our Masonic lodges is a group of Brethren of different ages, walks of life, and with different mindset. Having said that, disagreements and conflicts among the Brethren will always exist. Is this good or bad? This is actually great, we should agree to disagree. Disagreement should be encourage, it produces debate which keep us in check, and balance the outcome of our decisions. Our Brethren who have done and have gone this way before thrives on disagreement, it is the life blood of our Society. One can argue that his idea is better than the other, but at the end of the day, we are a society of friends and brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist but that noble contention of who best can work and best agree.

But what is reality? It is disturbing to know that this was not the case. Rather than coming up with the best solution and work their differences, it became personal and vicious. Unfortunately, anger among the brethren leads to dissension. I read in one of the journal which states, "People who disagree have argument, but people who dissent have a quarrel". Dissension if it remains unchecked is a "cancer" in our fraternity and should be treated with utmost importance. Diverse perspectives and courageous disagreements should be appreciated in our Fraternity. It is after all, about "RESPECT".

With fraternal embrace,
WB Manny Manipula (PM Nippon Lodge No. 9)

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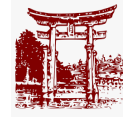
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Junior Warden's Corner



Congratulations to the newly elected and appointed officers for the Masonic Year 6020 (A.L.). Looking forward to everyone's cooperation and making this ensuing year to be another fruitful year for Nippon Lodge No. 9.

With fraternal embrace,

Bro. Caloy Caluya

BRETHREN'S CORNER

1. Please be reminded of our Lodge of Instruction every Wednesday except on the 1st Wednesday of every month during our Stated Meeting.
2. For those interested brethren who wanted to witness the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in Tokyo on 20th and 21st Mar, 2020, it is quite an experience to see such a grand gathering of Masons from different countries. There are limitation to EAs and FCs, but MMs are welcome to attend all events during that time.
3. Our Lodge will be presenting the E.J. King College Scholarship Program at E.J.King High School on their College Day on 5th Feb, 2020.
4. If you have any family, charity and other events in mind for our Lodge, think out loud and feel free to contact the Pillars, so that we can address it accordingly. Please be reminded that we are not a fund-generating organization.
5. We have started a new OFFICIAL chatgroup in Facebook that pertains to MEMBERS ONLY. It does not mean that we are excluding our progressing brethren (EAs and FCs) and Petitioners, but their mentors shall keep them informed.
6. Spread the word to your friends, as well as those people interested in joining our Charity work, they are welcome to participate and be awarded a Letter of Appreciate that they can use for their community service involvement while active duty.
7. Please update your contact information, so that we can reach you, and let you know how goes it in the Lodge.
8. BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS for month of January: Bro. Hero Jambalos and Bro. Orlan Blanco. Please let us know of any birthday celebrants that we can post every month.
9. Proficiency in all our rituals is part of our responsibility regardless if you are an officer or not. It helps to hone your memory and being always ready to contribute to labors of the Lodge and during your travels.

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MASONIC EDUCATION

(Read & Heed)

CHAPTER XXVIII of The Constitution of Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Japan

Of Rules Of Order In A Lodge

Art. 150. When the Presiding Officer takes the Chair, every officer and member shall immediately take his place and observe strict order and decorum.

Art. 151. No member shall speak until he first rise, and respectfully address the Presiding Officer; nor shall he speak more than twice on any subject, unless by permission from the Chair.

Art. 152. All questions of order shall be decided by the Presiding Officer, without appeal to the Lodge.

Art. 153. All questions before the Lodge, not otherwise particularly defined, shall be decided by a majority vote of the Lodge.

Art. 154. No person shall be permitted to leave the room during the session of the Lodge but by permission of the Presiding Officer.

Art. 155. No officer shall leave his seat, except it be in the discharge of his official duties.

Art. 156. No Brother shall move from his place, nor shall any member or visitor be permitted to enter or retire at any time during the opening or closing of the lodge, the reading of the minutes, during balloting, or during the conferral of a degree.

Art. 157. If any member or visitor shall be guilty of indecorum during the session of the Lodge, the Worshipful Master may, at his discretion, reprimand or exclude him, for that meeting.

Art. 158. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge and the Landmarks of the Order, as set forth in the "Law of the Builders" shall be the governing principle of every Lodge, and shall be referred to in cases of doubt. In all decisions of the Lodge, appeals may be made to the Grand Lodge; but, until the opinion of the latter is made known, the decision of the former is held valid.

Art. 159. The By-Laws of a Lodge, so far as relates to the times of meetings, and the amounts of fees, dues and disbursements by the Charity Committee, may be amended at any Stated Meeting by the votes of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present, PROVIDED, That written notice of such amendment shall have been given at the Stated Meeting next preceding, but such amendment shall have no effect until approved by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, and until such approval shall have been transmitted by the Grand Secretary, the Secretary of the Lodge shall note upon the minutes of the Lodge, the notice of proposed amendment when made, and when transmitting an amendment for approval shall forward a certificate, under seal, showing that the law has been complied with and that the proposed amendment has received the requisite vote.

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Words of Wisdom

Congratulations! to the newly elected and appointed officers of Nippon Lodge 9 for the Masonic Year 6020. Last year was a very challenging time in the history of Nippon Lodge 9.

Moving forward, we must go back to basic. My motto has been to read, learn and practice. These are supported in our charges. In order for us to be visible and draw interest from the community, we should live our lives by the teachings and tenets of our institution. We need to promote, develop, and produce motivated Master Masons who are open to Masonic education that give emphasis to participation in lodge work, development of officers, and excellence in the presentation of Masonic rituals.

We must be an institution intended for the purpose of making excellent Master Masons. From their first admission into our lodge, they should be impressed upon to take their selected journey into the society and the values of Freemasonry very seriously.

Our purpose and goal is to provide our members with the one thing that we have to offer that no other organizations can – Masonry. Our goal is to engage our members in Masonry, strengthen our Masonic principles through education while improving Pride and Excellence in the delivery of the Grand Lodge of Japan ritual work.

Always remember, when we put our minds together, we can do anything (Nan Demo Dekimasu). I honestly believed we can have an outstanding Blue Lodge if all Brothers remember a question we were asked in our First Degree:

What came you here to do?

With fraternal embrace,

MWB Marvin Abueg

Past Grandmaster, MWGLJ

Past Master, NIPPON LODGE No.9

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CONGRATULATIONS !!!

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MASONIC YEAR 6020 (A.L.) OFFICERS

Worshipful Master	WB Ace R. Asuncion
Senior Warden	WB Manny Manipula (PM Nippon Lodge #9)
Junior Warden	Bro. Carl Caluya
Secretary-Elect*	WB Ed Burdios (PM Harry S. Truman Lodge #117)
Treasurer-Elect*	HWM Bill Cloonan (Honorary PM Nippon Lodge #9)
Chaplain	WB Ron Deguzman (PM Aomori Lodge #10)
Marshall	WB Mike Velarmino (PM Nippon Lodge #9)
Senior Deacon	Bro. Will Dispolo
Junior Deacon	Bro. Joseph Delacruz
Senior Steward	Bro. Nathan Wade
Junior Steward	Bro. Hero Jambalos
Tiler	Bro. Orlan Blanco

*Awaiting Installation



*Truth is divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry. On this theme we contemplate, and by its dictates endeavor to regulate our conduct. Hence, while influenced by this principle, **hypocrisy and deceit are unknown among us; sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us; and with heart and tongue, we join in promoting each other's welfare and rejoicing in each other's prosperity.***

BROTHERLY LOVE



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