



Message from the Exalted Ruler

Warmest wishes and God's blessings on this Holiday Season.

It pains me to start this Message by saying that we lost our Editor-in-Chief, Bro. Glendon Rowell, to cancer. True to his feisty form, Glendon carried on his fight for fifteen years. I have asked Bro. Paul Carpio to help Jen and me put out this current issue; I left for the States Nov. 22 to spend the holidays there with my family. While in the past Jen and I collaborated in publishing the Newsletter's December issues via email with me in the States, that arrangement had its obvious difficulties. Bro. Paul's help is most important and greatly appreciated.



We also lost Bro. Don McBride from the House Committee, but happily this was not due to death or illness but his recall to his Head Office. Sis. Sandra Tockes accepted her appointment to take his place. The House Committee now is composed of Bro. Mariano Martin as Chair, Bro. Reiner Gloor as Vice-Chair, and PER Charles Madson and Bro. Rey Sandico as members together with Sis. Sandra. The House Committee, in collaboration with Bro. Treasurer Wynn Sandico, has been quietly looking into the Club's information reporting systems and practices, HR practices, and most importantly, financial management and controls. I'm pleased to note that, as a result, we are seeing a steady improvement in our cash position. Sis. Sandra has also made it her priority to review our A La Carte menu and upgrade the quality and presentation of our offerings, expand the list of our American fares, and look at our prices, procurement costs and suppliers.

I personally am looking forward to giving the Heritage Room, the Lincoln Room and Dodge City a facelift, which will make these areas more appealing and hospitable to members. Funds allowing. Which is why what the House Committee is doing improving our cash flow is most important. Hopefully we can have the funds and Trustee and Lodge approval for this work to begin early in the New Year.

Sec 14.130 of the Statutes of the Order states:

"Subject to state and local laws, the use of the Home or Club facilities shall be limited to Members in good standing in the Order, their spouses and guests of Members, and those receiving Identification Cards under Sec 14.140, as provided in the House Rules, so as to preserve the privacy of the use of such facilities to the Members of the Order. Subordinate Lodges shall take appropriate action to conform to the provisions of this Section."

For far too long this Statute has been ignored in our Lodge. We have for years tolerated the use of our Club by "walk-ins," defined as non-members given access to the Club without being accompanied by members. This is apparently due to the mistaken notion of past House Committees that, in order to support and expand the business, we need to open our facilities to outsiders. Nothing can be more counter-productive to keeping and gaining members. The key to that is really making our Club more appealing to members, giving our members the food and service they deserve, at the right prices, providing members access to and use of additional facilities such as has been done via our reciprocity agreements, and giving attractive incentives to our present members to recruit new members.

I would like to see us observe Sec.14.130 of our Statutes. Therefore I have directed that walk-ins be given 30-day Guest Cards, invitations to apply for membership with the Club, and be informed that on expiry of their Guest Cards, if they have not yet applied for and been accepted into membership, they may no longer enjoy access to the Club. Similarly, I reviewed current practice vis-à-vis members of reciprocal clubs having access to our facility and have directed that henceforth, only persons who are card-bearing members of our reciprocal clubs be allowed access.

I want to return our Club to our members, for them and their families to enjoy in relative privacy. Hopefully we will see more of our members coming regularly and enjoying their Club. And more new members joining the Elks.

Our membership has been progressively improving. We now have 135 Lodge members, with another 2 awaiting initiation. As recently as 2005 our Lodge membership count was down to the 90's, after years of hemorrhaging with no let-up. Thanks to the Membership Committee, now co-chaired by Bros. John Skelly and Joe Quinlivan, and the efforts of our current members to recruit new members, this serious decline has been arrested and we are now seeing a snowball effect. Our Club membership is also up to 138.

The reforms and new ideas that have been put in place must be sustained and continued. We cannot allow ourselves to lapse back into the erroneous concepts and practices of the past. Soon I will be emailing you my 2nd Trimester Report, when operating results thru November 30 are in. Stay tuned.

Fraternally,

Reynaldo C. DeJesus

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LODGE YEAR 2010 - 2011 OFFICERS

- Bro. Reynaldo C. DeJesus - Exalted Ruler
Bro. Matthew Slough - Est Leading Knight
Bro. Jeffery A. Green - Est Loyal Knight
Bro. Mariano M. Martin - Est Lecturing Knight
PER Richard S. Hart - Lodge Secretary
Bro. Winniefred S. Sandico - Lodge Treasurer
Bro. Joseph Quinlivan - Tiler
Bro. Timothy D. Strong - Esquire
Bro. Robert F. Lane - Chaplain
Bro. Hubert L. Higgins - Inner Guard

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- PER Larry V. Thomas - Chairman
Bro. Robert M. Sears - Member
PER Theodore V. Awad - Member
PER Humphrey P. O'leary III - Member
PER W. Thomas Hoese - Member

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## COMMITTEE DOINGS

### FROM YOUR HOUSE COMMITTEE

**Bro. Mariano M. Martin, Chair**

The House Committee (HC), among the other organized committees mandated by our statutes constitute the committee sharing a majority role in the management of the club.

It therefore calls for more dedicated commitment of its members because of day to day unexpected problems that may crop up in between its meetings held twice a month.

The Exalted Ruler (ER) is often in attendance at the House Committee meetings in his desire to ensure more intensive corporate governance supervision of the club. Admittedly the peculiar nature of our organization makes this imperative because of the various rules and statutes we have to reckon with. In character, we are governed by the Elk's grand statutes, but in our local vision and mission, we are governed by the Philippine regulatory environment such as the SEC, DOLE and SSS etc and further complemented by our in-house set of rules.

As the only American Club in Manila and non-profit at that, our only purpose in running the club is to ensure, apart from providing facilities to our members, is to embark on the sustainability of our corporate being in order for us to continue with our charitable work of being a major supporter of the Philippine Elks Cerebral Palsy. Call it our major CSR, as it has been in our tradition of 108 years of existence in the Philippines.

By tradition and as an American organization, we celebrate American holidays and events such as the George Washington Ball, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the Memorial Day, Thanksgiving and annually important milestone events of the Philippines.

Our lifeblood is therefore in the hands of our members, whose patronage we value as well as our donors and not to forget our elected board members and ER designated officers who unselfishly dispense their time on a "pro-bono" basis. To them all, our grateful appreciation.

In summary, the HC has the major role of supervising the management of our club. As much as we try to please everybody, there will always be instances of disappointment on the part of some members.

This, in closing, remains to be the ever constant problem, next to the realistic impossibility of keeping all members & stakeholders happy.

In said regard, therefore, the HC members appeal for everyone's gracious understanding that in a organization such as ours, it is always best **"TO AT LEAST COME TO A DECISION THAT MAY NOT RESULT IN A SOLUTION POPULAR TO ALL, THAN NOT TO EVEN TRY TO DECIDE AT ALL AND LET THE PROBLEM FESTER."**

Best Christmas Wishes to Everyone!!!

### FROM ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

**Bro. Timothy Strong, ENF Committee**

Manila Lodge #761 will be starting Bingo in the Club beginning in January, 2011. We will be offering cash prizes and, possibly, also prizes provided by donors in exchange for offering their goods and services at the events.

100% of the Bingo proceeds will be donated to the Elks National Foundation (ENF) for annual distribution to the Philippine Cerebral Palsy, Inc. (PCPI). PCPI was founded by our Lodge over 50 years ago and continues to provide care and therapy to indigent members of the local community.

The reason for donating the proceeds to the ENF for distribution to the PCPI, rather than a direct donation to the PCPI, is that we usually receive a multiple of our original donation back from the ENF. This means that Manila Lodge #761 can actually distribute more funds than we originally donated to the ENF. This year, the ENF sent back to Manila Lodge #761 \$2.16 for every \$1.00 donated to the ENF, 100% of which we are donating to various charities, including PCPI.

We hope that our Lodge and Club members will help to support this venture, and have a great time and a chance to win prizes at the same time.

We will be posting additional information regarding our Bingo in December, 2010 and look forward to seeing everyone there.

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## CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY		OPERATION TIME
Dec 23	Thurs	Staff Christmas Party	7AM - 12NN
Dec 24	Fri	Christmas Eve	CLOSED
Dec 25	Sat	Christmas Day	11AM- 6PM
		Eggnog-Fruitcake Fellowship	
Dec 26	Sun	Regular Operation	11AM - 6PM
Dec 27	Mon	Rizal Day	11AM - 10PM
		(moved from Dec 30, 2010)	
Dec 28	Tue	Regular Operation	7AM -12MN
Dec 29	Wed	Regular Operation	7AM -12MN
Dec 30	Thurs	Regular Operation	7AM -12MN
Dec 31	Fri	New Year's Eve	CLOSED
Jan 01	Sat	New Year's Day	11AM - 6PM
		Eggnog-Fruitcake Fellowship	

## OBITUARY

The Newsletter condoles with the family of the following Elk Brothers who passed away this year:

- |                     |   |                    |
|---------------------|---|--------------------|
| Bro. Harold Heagney | - | July 07, 2010      |
| Bro. Glendon Rowell | - | September 20, 2010 |
| Bro. Arthur Sokolow | - | October 21, 2010   |

# NEWS

## US AMBASSADOR THOMAS VISITS ELKS

After months of efforts to find room in his hectic schedule and months of repeated prodding and invitations from ER Rey De Jesus, His Excellency Ambassador Harry K. Thomas Jr. finally made it to the Elks Club on November 04, 2010. An added bonus was his being accompanied by the Consul General, Mr. Mike Schimmel, and the Chief of American Citizen Services, Mr. Michael Garrote. Embassy arrangements were made by Bro. Jonathan Skelly, Director of Veterans Affairs, who also came.

A dinner reception was held at the Lincoln Room, with Lodge Officers and Committee Persons in attendance. During the dinner, the ER presented the Ambassador with a Lodge Pin, our Centennial Pin, and our Centennial Mug. And after dinner, the ER gave the Ambassador a brief tour of our club facilities, and the Ambassador, ever the gracious person that he is, posed for photos with members and guests and staff present.

A lover of jazz music, Amb. Thomas spent one hour longer than planned to relax at the Heritage Lounge and enjoy the live music while chatting with Lodge officers and members. ER DeJesus presented him with an Honorary Lodge Membership Card on behalf of the Lodge. Later he was heard to remark that he had such a great time he would like to come back, perhaps simply as Citizen and Honorary Lodge Member Harry Thomas.



Arrival of His Excellency US Amb. Harry K. Thomas Jr. at the Corinthian Plaza Bldg.



L-R Exalted Ruler Reynaldo DeJesus and US VA Director/ Elks Membership Co-Chair Bro. Jonathan Skelly accompany Amb. Thomas going to Elks Club.



Elks Club Manager, Ms. Belinda Ricablanca made the presentation of welcome lei to Amb. Thomas upon entrance.



Ambassador tour of Elks Club facilities with (L-R) Ms. Vennie Tesalona, Executive Assistant for Lodge, ER DeJesus and HouseCom Chairman Bro. Mariano Martin.



ER Reynaldo DeJesus with his welcome remarks during ambassador's visit.

L-R Lodge Officers, Per W. Thomas Hoese, Bro. Timothy Strong, HC Chairman Bro. Mariano Martin, Audit Com Chairman Bro. Peter Mullen and Lodge Treasurer Bro. Wynniefred Sandico with ambassador.



US Amb. Harry K. Thomas Jr. with his message.

## ER VISITS WOBURN LODGE #908

Taking time out from his visit with his daughter and grandchildren in Tewksbury, MA, ER Reynaldo DeJesus dropped in on Elks Lodge #908 in Woburn, MA, a suburb of Boston. He met with three PERs: Bro. Arthur Duffy, whose son Bro. Arty was a recent visitor to our Lodge, Bro. Frank Sheeran, and Bro. Bill Barry. PER Duffy is also the Director of Development for the City of Woburn, as well as its Deputy Chief of Police, and he arranged a photo op with the Mayor at the Mayor's office. Mayor Scott Galvin also gave our ER a picture of the city Common and a coffee mug engraved with the city seal. The group photo will be published in the local newspaper and a copy will be sent to Manila.

The three PERs gave our ER some of their lodge pins and a copy of their Lodge Newsletter. Also, he was treated to a sumptuous scallops lunch by PER Duffy.

Lodge #908 has about 800 members and faces two problems that seem to be common to all lodges: shrinking membership and low attendance at meetings. ER DeJesus discussed with them how the membership hemorrhage of the Manila Lodge was arrested and how membership has almost doubled since 2004. They also talked about Lodge 908's POS System and how it tracked cost of goods sold and inventory control, including red-flagging re-order levels. All were in agreement that these two items were critical and indispensable with any POS System.

In parting, our ER assured the PERs that he would arrange for them to receive Manila Lodge pins, copies of our Newsletter and Membership Brochure.

## Photo Op with Ambassador



L-R Lodge Officers Bro. Robert Sears, ER Reynaldo DeJesus, Sis. Sandra Tockes, Amb. Thomas, Sis. Lisa Lumbao, Bro. Doyle Stout, US Consul General Mike Schimmel and Bro. Reiner Gloor.



L-R US Chief American Citizen Services Mike Garrote, Amb. Thomas, ER DeJesus, Lodge Officers Bro. Humphrey O'Leary, Bro. Robert Lane and Bro. Hubert Higgins.



Elks Staff with Amb. Thomas.

# SPECIAL EVENTS PHOTO GALLERY



L-R Trustee Per Ted Awad, Er Rey DeJesus, Lodge Treasurer Wynn Sandico and Mr. Michael Deakin new Club Member.

## September Membership Cocktail



At the center Club Manager Ms. Belinda Ricablanca and Club Member Mr. Jorge Caparas with his guests.



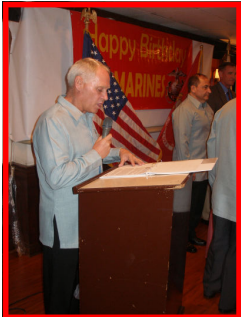
L-R HouseCom Bro. Reynaldo Sandico, Club Member Atty. Paul San Buenaventura and AuditCom Bro. Ted Padilla during Oktoberfest Beer Drinking Contest.

## Elks Oktoberfest 2010



Another batch of contestants for Beer Drinking Contest from L-R HouseCom Per Charles Madson, Club guest and HouseCom Vice Chair Bro. Reiner Gloor.

## 235th Birthday Celebration of United States Marine Corps held at the Club last November 10.



Master of Ceremony our very own Lodge Officer / Sgt Major. Jeffery Green (Ret) and Msgt. Phil Atkinson (Ret).



L-R Elks Lodge Members present during the ceremony, Cpl John Callaghan(Ret), youngest marine, Lt.Col. Doyle Stout (Ret), Oldest Marine, Brigadier General Joseph Medina, Senior Officer of United States Marines (Ret) and Guest of Honor Marine Colonel James Reilly United States Marine Corps.



## Snap Shots of Elks 2010 Thanksgiving



At the middle Bro. Jeffery Green, Elks 2nd Vice President with his family and guests.



American Association of the Philippines Officers and their guests.



## Manila Lodge and PAGA Golf Tournament Awarding



Tournament trophies and raffle prizes.

## Pacquiao VS Margarito Pay-Per-View



Pacquiao VS. Margarito PPV crowd at the Club.



L-R Club Member Mr. Cris Acosta with his guests.



Thanksgiving Buffet Table

## A Warm Welcome to Our New Members

### SEPTEMBER

- Mr. Michael H. Deakin proposed by ER Reynaldo DeJesus
- Mr. Roberto Lim proposed by Mr. Jorge Caparas

### OCTOBER

- Bro. James O. De Jesus proposed by Bro. Teodoro Padilla
- Bro. Philip M. Barkin proposed by PER Larry Thomas
- Sis. Dorothy Drysdale proposed by Bro. W. George Drysdale
- Bro. Thomas D. Jordan proposed by ER Reynaldo DeJesus

### NOVEMBER

- Bro. Jason Robert Mann proposed by Bro. Stephen Forand
- Bro. Charles J. Noble proposed by Bro. Paul Carpio