

Trestle Board

April 2025

Valley Lodge No. 135

Free & Accepted Masons
PO Box 443

4917 North Mill Road, Linden, California 95236



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Valley Lodge No. 135

Dispensation

Valley Lodge No. 135 Received: Tuesday, July 20, 1858
Worshipful J.C. Pendergrast Master: 1858 and 1859

Charter

Valley Lodge No. 135 Received: Friday, May 11, 1860
Worshipful Thomas Wasley Master: 1860 & 1861

Current Master

Worshipful Emmanuel Cubol Master: Saturday, December 21, 2024

Service to Community

166 Years of Service to Linden, CA
Tuesday, July 20, 1858 Saturday, July 20, 2024

Officers

Emmanuel C. "Noel" Cubol: Worshipful Master
Jose A. "Apollo" Hular Cueto: Senior Warden
Constante M. Molina: Junior Warden
Edison C. Espeleta, PM: Treasurer
Richard E. Thornton, PM: Secretary
Erickson Ordonia: Senior Deacon
Erwin Ordonia: Junior Deacon
Cesar Sotto: Senior Steward
Reynaldo Soriano Manalang: Junior Steward
Robert V. Lopez: Marshal
Mannie Buentipo, PM: Chaplin
Alejandro Villanueva, PM: Tiler
Onofre Carillo: Assistant Treasurer
Jericho Reyes, PM: Assistant Secretary
Oscar Amil, PM: Officers Coach
Edison Espeleta, PM: Officers Coach
Jericho Apolonio Reyes, PM: Trustee – Term Ends 12/31/2027 Election 11/2027
Richard Eugene Thornton, PM: Trustee – Term Ends 12/31/2026 Election 11/2026
Emmanuel Clamosa Cubol: Trustee – Term Ends 12/31/2025 Election 11/2025

Grand Lodge Officers

Arthur Lupe Salazar, Jr. Grand Master

Garrett Scott Chan	Deputy Grand Master
Ara Maloyan	Senior Grand Warden
Christopher D. Smith	Junior Grand Warden
Charles P. Cross	Grand Treasurer
Allan Lesley Casalou	Grand Secretary
Matthew Scott Vander Horck	Grand Lecturer
David Martirez Ferreria	Grand Chaplain
Gary Duane Sparks	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division I
Corey Payton Allen Leighty	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division II
Antonio G. Cimarra, Jr.	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division III
Jairo Jesus Gomez, Jr.	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division IV
jChristian Gegajo Marano	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division V
Rio Lagunda Santonil	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VI
Narbeh Bagdasarian	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VII
Victor Michael Ropac, Jr.	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division VIII
Russell Elliot Hennings	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division IX
Charles Delos Reyes Dimaano	Assistant Grand Lecturer Division X
Carlos Manuel Diez, Jr.	Grand Orator
Jordan Tyler Yelinek	Assistant Grand Secretary
Sean Matthew Mantucca	Grand Marshal
Cameron Scott Ellis	Grand Standard Bearer
Jhairo Echevarria	Grand Sword Bearer
Jarrold Demetrious Washington	Grand Bible Bearer
Luis f. Carrion	Senior Grand Deacon
Albert S. Cua	Junior Grand Deacon
Arman Albert Ordian	Senior Grand Steward
Michael Dalisay Tagulao	Junior Grand Steward
Scott Alan Morrison, Jr.	Grand Pursuant
Stephen Richard Miller	Grand Organist
Scotty Joe Christian	Grand Tiler
David Alfonso Olmedo	Assistant Grand Tiler

Valley Lodge No. 135

Status

****** As of Tuesday, March 04, 2025 ******

5 Entered Apprentices

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|--|
| • Cameron Eric William Bregman | 385573 | cameron@bregmanfinancial.com |
| • Argiene Jomer Sison Castillo | 384984 | argiene.castillo@gmail.com |
| • Reginald Guerrero Galanto | 387411 | reginaldgalanto@yahoo.com |
| • Reynoldo Gorospe Guerrero | 387415 | dlonyerg777@yahoo.com |
| • Jayr T. Rafanan | 387410 | karruba00@gmail.com |

2 Fellowcrafts

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--|
| • Christian Matthew Soriano | 366941 | cmmstolessoriano@gmail.com |
| • Karl Dominique Torres | 366934 | karldomtorres@gmail.com |

Valley Lodge No. 135 has 75 Master Masons



From the East

To My Valley Lodge No. 135 Family

To all my Brethren, Sisters and family of Valley Lodge #135, I am so honored and so pleased to inform you that our lodge is well appreciated because of what we do together to our family and community.

March 21, 9 volunteers from our lodge gave their time to Bread of life warehouse to help packed and bagged 175 groceries and foods that will be donated to Vintage Church to give to the people of Lodi that are in need of this foods in their tables.



March 22 many brothers, Sisters and kids came to help distribute these foods, to more than 120 people that came to claim their groceries and foods. There are still some people coming a little bit late but the foods are all gone already. The community of Lodi and Stockton are so thankful for all of us for what we do. I am also grateful for all your support and participations in our masonic endeavors to share our love to the community.

This April 2 we will recognize 2 teachers, 2 volunteer assistant, and 48 students for our school month appreciation. We will also give 2 bikes to couple girls who are deserving to receive these bikes based on their highest performance in their classes. The Principal Ms. Jennifer Mosley help me identify who are the teacher and students that deserves our recognition and appreciation. Odd fellow Brothers are partnering with us on this endeavor and they donated \$250.00 to buy bikes and snack for the kids. I want to Thank Noble Grand Bill Alessio for partnering with us on this project. I am also inviting you, those who are available on April 2, 9:30 am at linden Elementary School to give our gift and bikes to the recipients of this award.

Also, we are ready for our Philippines projects back to school and feeding program for 200 students. We will conduct operation circumcision (TULI), dental hygiene cleaning and giving of dental kits. We have 10 wheelchairs to give to those recipients that has been waiting for so long to have a wheelchair that they need to be more mobile. We also going to give 10 refurbished apple laptops to the school for their library use. I am so happy to announce that all the budget needed for this project are all available and with extra funds without getting any amount from our Lodge funds. I've said during my budget presentation my goals is to save the lodge funds for future use. We are so fortunate that we have each other's support and willingness to share our blessings to finance our fund-raising campaign.

We still have more charity planning in the next coming months, hoping you won't stop supporting our Lodge.

We are also participating on cherry festival this coming May 17, please save the dates and be available to parade with us and give candies to the kids who will be there to watch us. Let's promote our lodge and let the community of linden recognize us the Masons of Linden. We might do some picnic or fellowship at the lodge after the parade.

Again, My beloved Valley lodge Family thank you so much for your unwavering supports, participations and presences with all the plans that we all doing together. God Bless us all. Love you all.

Brother Emmanuel C. "Noel" Cubol
Worshipful Master
Valley Lodge No. 135

From the West

Senior Warden's Corner

Charity at work

This Month of April the Philippines will be holding the Annual Communication for the upcoming Masonic year. We have an opportunity to take part in Activities and witness the election of the next officers for the ensuing year. Masonry in the Philippines is strong and has a well established presence. Becoming one takes a significant amount of patience, time, and tenacity. Ultimately a strong sense of dedication to the craft all rooted to the same values and traditions since the brotherhood began. We all are connected as one family sharing the same goals and principles.



One important value that we all share is Charity. Masons are known for Philanthropic endeavors not just on a local level but in a global setting. This year, we have the opportunity to spread goodness by being involved in School programs, Medical missions and distribution of provisions that were collectively acquired through the efforts of our community as well as our brethren. We will be extending our hands to those in need during our stay in the Philippines. We are truly grateful that we belong to an organization that embraces giving back and more. It is both a privilege and blessing to be Mason.

Giving back is a powerful and meaningful way to make a positive impact on others and the world around us. It's about sharing what we have—whether it's time, resources, or skills—to support causes, communities, and individuals in need. The act of giving back doesn't always have to be grand or extravagant; sometimes, the smallest gestures can make the biggest difference.

When we give back, we're not just helping others—we're also enriching our own lives. Volunteering, donating, or simply being kind to others can create a sense of fulfillment and connection. It reminds us of our shared humanity and the importance of supporting one another. Whether it's offering your time at a local shelter, donating to a charity, or mentoring someone in need, these acts of kindness have a ripple effect, inspiring others to do the same.

In essence, giving back is not just a responsibility but a reflection of the Freemason's commitment to the betterment of humanity. Through these charitable acts, Masons aim to create a positive and lasting impact, whether in their local communities or across the globe. By living the values of Freemasonry, We foster an environment where charity and goodwill are central to both our personal lives and work as a brotherhood. In a broader sense, giving back strengthens communities, fosters a sense of belonging, and creates a culture of compassion. It serves as a reminder that we're all connected, and when we share what we can, we build a better future for everyone. Whether at work, in our personal lives, or through global efforts, giving back is a reminder that kindness and generosity are essential in shaping a brighter tomorrow.

One Love, One Family, One 3 Five.

Bro. Jose Apollo H. Cueto
Senior Warden
Valley Lodge No. 135

From the South

Junior Warden's Corner

April came from Latin word Aperio, which means "to open (bud)". It marks the start of spring in many parts of the world. Trees and bushes that lost their leaves over the winter, begin to grow new leaves and flowers, again, at this time of the year. The dormant state of life during the cold season becomes vibrant and colorful, once more. May we, masons, would be like the spring, bringing out new hopes and new beginnings to all humankind.



Fun and facts about April:

- April 1 "All fools Day" or April Fools Day
- April 5 first Saturday, International Pillow Fight Day
- April 7 First Monday, Sweet Potato Day
- April 12 the start of Passover, which begins at sundown

April 17 Blah, blah, blah Day

April 18 Good Friday

April 20 Easter Sunday; Go Fly A Kite Day

April 26 National Sense of Smell Day

April 28 National Arbor Day

One Love, One Family, One 3 Five.

Bro. Constante Molina

Junior Warden

Valley Lodge No. 135

From the South-East Corner

Assistand Secretary Corner

Masonic Brotherhood in Action: Grocery Packing and Distribution for the Community

On March 21st, our lodge exemplified the true essence of Masonic brotherhood and service as several brethren, along with their children, came together to pack 175 bags of groceries at the Bread of Life, A nonprofit organization located in Stockton, CA. These bags, filled with essential items such as rice, beans, canned goods, and other food staples, were prepared with the intention of helping families in need within our community.



The following day, Saturday, March 22nd, we successfully distributed grocery bags at Vintage Church, extending our support to the people of Lodi, CA. This charitable endeavor was made possible through the dedicated leadership of Worshipful Noel Cubol and his wife, Katrina, as well as the invaluable contributions of our Senior Warden, Apollo Cueto, and many other brethren who worked tirelessly to make this event a success.

Beyond the act of giving, this initiative fostered camaraderie and strengthened our bonds as brothers. After the distribution, we gathered for a fellowship at the house of our Worshipful Master, sharing stories, laughter, singing, dancing and the spirit of fraternity that makes our lodge truly special.

This event stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to service and the core Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth. We look forward to many more opportunities to serve our community and uphold the values that define us as Masons.

One Family, One 3 Five.

Worshipful Brother Jericho Reyes, PM
Assistant Secretary
Valley Lodge No. 135

Secretary's Chat

My Masonic Lodge Brothers and Families,

Let it be known to all; I have one cup of coffee each morning just to start the day off right. The other ones are to keep me out of jail, help me form sentences, and fuel my razor-sharp wit.

Decided to copy and paste something funny and I do make some of the best chili – I use three types of meat, sausage, hamburger, and stew meat, real garlic, onions, tomatos, spices, and beans.



This is an actual account as relayed to paramedics at a chili cook-off in Texas .

Note: Please take time to read this slowly. If you pay attention to the first two judges, the reaction of the third judge is even better. For those of you who have lived in Texas, you know how true this is. They actually have a Chili Cook-off about the time Halloween comes around. It takes up a major portion of a parking lot at the San Antonio City Park .

Judge #3 was an inexperienced chili taster Frank, who was visiting from Springfield , IL .

Frank: "Recently, I was honored to be selected as a judge at a chili cook-off. The original person called in sick at the last moment and I happened to be standing there at the judge's table, asking for directions to the Coors Light truck, when the call came in. I was assured by the other two judges (Native Texans) that the chili wouldn't be all that spicy; and, besides, they told me I could have free beer during the tasting, so I accepted and became Judge 3."

Here are the scorecard notes from the event:

CHILI # 1 - MIKE'S MANIAC MONSTER CHILI

Judge # 1 -- A little too heavy on the tomato. Amusing kick.

Judge # 2 -- Nice, smooth tomato flavor. Very mild.

Judge # 3 (Frank) -- Holy crap, what the heck is this stuff? You could remove dried paint from your driveway. Took me two beers to put the flames out. I hope that's the worst one. These Texans are crazy.

CHILI # 2 - AUSTIN 'S AFTERBURNER CHILI

Judge # 1 -- Smoky, with a hint of pork. Slight jalapeno tang.

Judge # 2 -- Exciting BBQ flavor, needs more peppers to be taken seriously.

Judge # 3 -- Keep this out of the reach of children. I'm not sure what I'm supposed to taste besides pain. I had to wave off two people who wanted to give me the Heimlich maneuver. They had to rush in more beer when they saw the look on my face.

CHILI # 3 - FRED'S FAMOUS BURN DOWN THE BARN CHILI

Judge # 1 -- Excellent firehouse chili. Great kick.

Judge # 2 -- A bit salty, good use of peppers.

Judge # 3 -- Call the EPA. I've located a uranium spill. My nose feels like I have been snorting Drano. Everyone knows the routine by now. Get me more beer before I ignite. Barmaid pounded me on the back, now my backbone is in the front part of my chest. I'm getting smashed from all of the beer.

CHILI # 4 - BUBBA'S BLACK MAGIC

Judge # 1 -- Black bean chili with almost no spice. Disappointing.

Judge # 2 -- Hint of lime in the black beans. Good side dish for fish or other mild foods, not much of a chili.

Judge # 3 -- I felt something scraping across my tongue, but was unable to taste it. Is it possible to burn out taste buds? Sally, the beer maid, was standing behind me with fresh refills. This 300 lb. woman is starting to look HOT ... just like this nuclear waste I'm eating! Is chili an aphrodisiac!

CHILI # 5 - LISA'S LEGAL LIP REMOVER

Judge # 1 -- Meaty, strong chili. Cayenne peppers freshly ground, adding considerable kick. Very impressive.

Judge # 2 -- Chili using shredded beef, could use more tomato. Must admit the cayenne peppers make a strong statement.

Judge # 3 -- My ears are ringing, sweat is pouring off my forehead and I can no longer focus my eyes. The contestant seemed offended when I told her that her chili had given me brain damage. Sally saved my tongue from bleeding by pouring beer directly on it from the pitcher. I wonder if I'm burning my lips off. It really ticks me off that the other judges asked me to stop screaming.

CHILI # 6 - VERA'S VERY VEGETARIAN VARIETY

Judge # 1 -- Thin yet bold vegetarian variety chili. Good balance of spices and peppers.

Judge # 2 -- The best yet. Aggressive use of peppers, onions, garlic. Superb.

Judge # 3 -- My intestines are now a straight pipe filled with gaseous, sulfuric flames. No one seems inclined to stand behind me except that Sally. Can't feel my lips anymore. I feel like I need to wipe my butt with a snow cone.

CHILI # 7 -- SUSAN'S SCREAMING SENSATION CHILI

Judge # 1 -- A mediocre chili with too much reliance on canned peppers.

Judge # 2 -- Ho hum, tastes as if the chef literally threw in a can of chili peppers at the last moment. **I should take note that I am worried about Judge #3. He appears to be a bit distressed as he is cursing uncontrollably.

Judge # 3 -- You could put a grenade in my mouth, pull the pin, and I wouldn't feel a thing. I've lost sight in one eye, and the world sounds like it is made of rushing water. My shirt is covered with chili, which slid unnoticed out of my mouth. My pants are full of lava to match my shirt. At least during the autopsy, they'll know what killed me. I've decided to stop breathing, it's too painful. Who cares; I'm not getting any oxygen anyway. If I need air, I'll just suck it in through the 4-inch hole in my stomach.

CHILI # 8 - BIG TOM'S TOENAIL CURLING CHILI

Judge # 1 -- The perfect ending, this is a nice blend chili. Not too bold but spicy enough to declare its existence.

Judge # 2 -- This final entry is a good, balanced chili. Neither mild nor hot. Sorry to see that most of it was lost when Judge #3 passed out, fell over and pulled the chili pot down on top of himself. Not sure if he's going to make it. Poor feller, wonder how he'd have reacted to really hot chili..

Judge # 3 - No Report

Our Masonic Valley

Antioch-Brentwood Lodge No. 175
Bicentennial Daylight Lodge No. 830
Calaveras Lodge No. 8
Elk Grove Lodge No. 173
Escalon Lodge No. 591
Hornitos Lodge No. 98
IONE Lodge No. 80
Lodi Lodge No. 256
Modesto Lodge No. 206
Morning Star Lodge No. 19
Mount Oso Lodge No. 460
Oak Summit Lodge No. 112
Patterson Lodge No. 488
Smyrna Lodge No. 532
Stockton York Rite
Turlock Lodge No. 236
Tyrian Lodge No. 439
Valley Lodge No. 135
Volcano Consolidated Lodge No. 56
Woodbridge Lodge No. 131
Yosemite Lodge No. 99

1st Wed @ 7:30pm
3rd Tue @ 1:00pm
2nd Wed @ 7:00pm
2nd Thu @ 7:30pm
3rd Wed @ 7:00pm
2nd Sat @ 6:00pm
3rd Mon @ 7:00pm
1st Thu @ 7:30pm
1st Thu @ 7:30pm
1st Thu @ 7:00pm
2nd Mon @ 7:30pm
3rd Tue @ 7:30pm
2nd Thu @ 7:00pm
1st Tue @ 7:30pm
4th Wed @ 6:00pm
1st Thu @ 7:00pm
1st Thu @ 7:30pm
1st Tue @ 7:30pm
1st Thu @ 8:00pm
1st Tue @ 7:30pm
1st Wed @ 7:30pm

Ed Marquez
Dave Hughes
Gary Bennis
William Hall
Matt Due
Robert McAllester
Bill Wells
William McVicker
Charles Heckendorf
John Baker
William Johnson

Stephen Bruce

Richard Thornton
William Sargenti

Richard Thornton
John Stettler
James Jones
Larry Smith

Secretary175@gmail.com
davehughes32@aol.com
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Wsarge7407@gmail.com
timdecarie@gmail.com
richard@valleylodge135.org
jsofisa@yahoo.com
nelsonjones1971@gmail.com
Cuaione12@gmail.com

5944 San Juan, Citrus Heights
5 West St. Charles Street/San Andreas
9075 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove
1500 Viking Street, Escalon

321 West Pine Street, Lodi
800 Rose Avenue, Modesto
340 East Market Street, Stockton

Main Street & Ellen Street, Knights Ferry
650 North 6th Street, Patterson
2904 3rd Street, Ceres
340 East Market Street, Stockton
108 South Thor Street, Turlock
212 North Powers Ave, Manteca
4917 North Mill Road, Linden
16180 Charleston-Volcano, Volcano
1040 East Augusta Street, Woodbridge

Events

Become well known in San Joaquin County

- 1) **Stated Meeting, Tuesday, April 01, 2025 6025**
 - a) Attire: Anime
 - b) Food: Japanese
- 2) **Outreach Program, Manila, Cavite, Philippines**
 - a) Operation Tuli / Dental Hygiene
 - b) 10 laptops to Schools
 - c) 10 Wheelchairs for children / Adults
 - d) 200 bags with School supplies
 - e) Feeding Program for Kids
- 3) With the assistance of John at Grand Lodge, we created a website for Valley Lodge No. 135, within the umbrella network of Grand Lodge of California.
The current website utilized by Valley Lodge No. 135 is a private website, being paid for by your secretary for space and posting of Trestle Boards and site information, such as Past Masters and History
The access to <https://lodge135.freemason.org> should be similar to current access of <https://www.valleylodge135.org>. This will enable more space for Valley Lodge No. 135 History, Past Masters, Current Officers, Hiram Award, and Mason of the Year.
As soon as the Grand Lodge website is activated, www.valleylodge135.org will be discontinued, as I have been paying for this site, for space and posting of Trestle Boards, and site information.
<https://lodge135.freemason.org/>

Become well known in every County touching San Joaquin County.

April Birthdays

Marcial Gullem, Jr	4/10
Argiene Jomer Sison Castillo	4/13
Albert G. Babaran	4/17
Gary Lamangan Ricafrente	4/22

Carisa P. Veridiano	4/16
Jennifer Gaite	4/23
Eumeha T. Babaran	4/24



Masonic Education

VALLEY Lodge No. 135

(The Guide rises, indicates that the new Brother should do the same. He extends his hand in friendship, and begins).

My Brother, I am Brother Richard Thornton and I am about to conduct you on a walk-about of the Lodge room. Please understand that this is not official ritual and does not need to be memorized. It is presented to you so that you will gain a better understanding of the workings of the Lodge. This will enable you to become more comfortable in attending and participating in this, your Mother Lodge, **Valley Lodge No. 135**, and in visiting other Lodges.



This is the Northeast corner of the Lodge. You were placed here before the Worshipful Master when he informed you that you there stood an upright man and Mason. It is where you began your journey in the world of Masonry. The Northeast corner is where, traditionally, the first stone of a building is laid, and it is where we have laid that first stone of your personal spiritual building. You stand here a rough ashlar starting a lifelong journey toward the ideal of becoming that perfect ashlar fitted for that house not made with hands, eternal in

the heavens.

We are taking this walk-about the Lodge so that you may meet the Brothers who assisted in the conferral of your Degrees. We hope to provide you with additional information that will make you a better Mason.

As you can see, the **Charter of Valley Lodge No. 135** is displayed before the Worshipful Master. No Lodge may conduct their work legally without their Charter present in the Lodge room. Just as a Lodge you are visiting has the right to require you to prove yourself a Master Mason, so you have the right to examine their Charter to assure yourself of their regularity.

It is important to remember that once the Lodge is opened and at labor, no one is allowed to talk or move about, except with the permission of the Worshipful Master. To do so would be the height of rudeness and disrespect.

(Guide escorts new Brother to the Worshipful Master and sees that he comes on the Sign of Fidelity by showing him how it is done.) This is the Sign of Fidelity, it is a Master Mason's proper sign of respect and is always to be given when addressing or being addressed by a senior officer. If you wish to speak in Lodge or ask a question, you will rise to your feet and come on the Sign of Fidelity, and wait to be recognized. You will continue to hold the sign while speaking and will drop it only when you are done and return to your seat. When speaking, you will only address the Worshipful Master. No cross talk is permitted in Lodge. There are other times when the Sign of Fidelity is also used as when the Chaplain is offering prayer to Deity, when the Senior Deacon approaches the altar to open or close the Great Light. It is also used when the Worshipful Master is obligating a candidate at the Altar and upon the entrance of the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master in the absence of the Grand Master.

During the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem the civilian salute (right hand over heart) should be given.

(Directed to Worshipful Master) **Worshipful Master, I have the pleasure of presenting our newly Raised Brother _____.**

(Worshipful Master rises and shakes hands). His title is Worshipful Master and he is always to be addressed in this manner when the Lodge is at work. The title is one of respect and does not indicate that he is to be in any way worshipped, for it has no religious connotation. Its use is based upon the 13th century English custom of using the honorific "Your Worship" or "Worshipful." as a mark of respect for men who occupied positions of honor or authority. Freemasons adopted the latter title and it has been used in the craft for several hundred years. The jewel of his office (Worshipful Master holds jewel up for display) is the Square, an emblem of morality and virtue. It is also displayed upon his apron. The Worshipful Master is the presiding Officer of the Lodge; he may be the elected Master or someone designated by the elected Master to fill the station for a specific purpose and time. The Brother who sits in the East and wears the jewel and apron of the Master will always be addressed as Worshipful Master while there.

At the hand of the Worshipful Master is his gavel, a sign of authority in the Lodge room. With it the Worshipful Master can call his Officers up with two raps, raise the entire Lodge to their feet with three raps, and sit them again with one. If there is conversation in the Lodge room, all must fall silent upon the Worshipful Master's single rap. It is a serious breach of proper Masonic conduct to ignore the Worshipful Master's gavel. Thank you Worshipful Master.

(Guide points to the Flag of our Country) To the right of the Worshipful Master stands the Flag of our Country. It must be on display at all times when the Lodge is at work. It is customary for us to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag during the opening of the Lodge. If you are visiting a Lodge in a foreign jurisdiction and they follow this or a similar custom, you are not required to recite their pledge. You should stand with them out of courtesy and respect for their traditions.

(Standing at the northeast corner of the Lodge and facing south) The area between the Master's Station and the Altar is sometimes called the Master's Carpet. No Brother shall pass between the Altar and the East while the Lodge is at Labor, except when required to do so by ritualistic performance. The Worshipful Master is responsible for giving Masonic light to his Lodge, and because

Masons consider the Holy Writings to be a source of this light, we must never block the Master's view of the open Sacred Volume upon the Altar.

(Guide escorts new Brother to a position in front of the Senior Deacon) Here we have our Brother Senior Deacon (Rises and offers handshake). The jewel of his office (displayed) is the radiant sun contained within the Square & Compasses. This emblem is also present on his staff and apron. He welcomes visitors to the Lodge and sees that they are properly clothed as Master Masons. It was he who acted as your trusted guide as you progressed through the Degrees. He also serves to convey the orders of the Worshipful Master about the Lodge room and serves at the altar during the opening and closing of the Lodge. Thank you Brother Senior Deacon.

(Guide turns new Brother to Treasurer) This is our Brother Treasurer. (Rises and offers handshake.) The jewel of his office (displayed) is the Crossed Keys and represents the keys to the strongbox or safe and signifies the trust placed in him to manage the financial resources of the Lodge. He receives all funds paid to the Lodge, via the Secretary, and issues checks at the direction of the Lodge as certified by the Master and Secretary. Thank you, Brother Treasurer.

(Guide turns to the Organist) Still further on the right of the Worshipful Master sits our Brother Organist, (Rises and offers handshake.) who provides musical accompaniment to our work. The importance and power of Music, one of the liberal arts, was explained to you during your 2nd Degree. His jewel is the lyre (displayed), an ancient musical instrument. Thank you Brother Organist.

(Guide moves to the north of the altar {only if there is a chair there}) It has been already explained to you that the north side of the Lodge is considered to be in Masonic darkness. So you might ask, "Why is there a chair there?" This is because our concordant and associate bodies, such as the Scottish Rite, York Rite and Order of the Eastern Star, frequently use Masonic Temples, and they may use this position. It is, however, never used during the regular workings of a Masonic Lodge.

(Guide leads to just inside the two pillars at the inner door.) Here are the two pillars, representing those famous pillars at the entrance to the porch of King Solomon's Temple. They guard the inner door of the Lodge. This door leads to the preparation room where you made yourself ready to embark on your Masonic life. This door is only to be used for the entrance and exit of Degree candidates and their escorts during Degree work and is never to be used by a Master Mason to enter or retire from the Lodge.

(Moves to the West facing the Masters of Ceremony) These are our Brothers Masters of Ceremony (They rise and offer handshake). Their jewel is the Crossed Swords (displayed), worn about their neck, and displayed upon their aprons and staves. They are responsible for assisting the Worshipful Master in the ceremonial work of the Lodge. It was they who first met you in the preparation room and insured that you were duly and truly prepared to enter. They also were part of your escort around the Lodge during the Degrees. Thank you Brothers Masters of Ceremony.

(Facing the Senior Warden) This is our Brother Senior Warden (rises and shakes hands). The jewel of his office (displayed) is the Level, an emblem of equality and balance. The Senior Warden is second in command of the Lodge and will assume the Worshipful Master's duties and responsibilities in his absence. During your Degrees he was one of those responsible for observing that you were duly and truly prepared and later that you were indeed in possession of the signs and tokens. He often heads up Lodge Committees and projects for the Master. Thank you Brother Senior Warden.

(Guide leads new Brother to the Junior Deacon) On the right of the Senior Warden is our Brother Junior Deacon (rises, shakes hands). The jewel of his office (displayed) is the Quarter Moon within the Square & Compasses, worn about his neck and also displayed on his apron and staff. He insures that we are properly tiled and attends to alarms at the Outer Door. He announces all visitors to the Worshipful Master, and, at the Worshipful Master's direction, admits them to the Lodge. Brother Junior Deacon, please make an alarm at the outer door. (When answered by the Tiler, the Junior Deacon opens the door and temporarily stands aside.)

(Guide faces the Outer Door) This is the Outer Door of the Lodge. It is the only proper place for a Master Mason to enter or leave the Lodge room except for the use of the inner door by officers or Brothers participating in a Degree or acting as escorts following a Degree. It was here that your presence was first made known to the Worshipful Master when you appeared for your Degrees.

(Facing Tiler through open Outer Door) Our Brother Tiler guards the Outer Door. His jewel (displayed) is the drawn or naked sword and his implement of office is the sword. He guards the Lodge against the intrusion of outsiders and prevents anyone from listening at the door. Additionally, he makes sure that all those wishing to enter are properly clothed and vouched for, at which time he will make an alarm and inform the Junior Deacon of their presence. Thank you Brother Tiler.

Brother Junior Deacon, please secure the Outer Door. (Junior Deacon closes Outer Door) Thank you Brother Junior Deacon.

(Guide leads the Brother to the South, facing the Junior Warden and Stewards) These are the Stewards of the Lodge (rise and shake hands); their jewel (displayed) is the Cornucopia, or Horn of Plenty. This is often the first chair a Brother will take when he aspires to begin his passage as an Officer to the East. They are responsible for assisting in the preparing, serving and clearing of collations and assisting in the housekeeping about the Lodge. Traditionally, Masonic Lodges celebrated Feast Days twice a year and it was the Stewards duty to prepare and serve the festive meal. They also were part of the procession during your Degrees. Thank you Brother Stewards.

(Guide faces the Junior Warden) This is our Brother Junior Warden (rises and offers his hand). The Junior Warden is the 3rd Senior Officer of the Lodge and it falls upon him to open the Lodge and set it to labor in the absence of the Worshipful Master or Senior Warden. His jewel (displayed) is the Plumb, an emblem of uprightness. At the direction of the Worshipful Master, it is he who calls the Craft from labor to refreshment and supervises the Brothers at that time. He also serves as the catering manager of the Lodge and arranges for the feasts and collations. He also was one of the Officers who examined you during your Degrees. Thank you Brother Junior Warden.

(Guide escorts new Brother to the Secretary's Desk) This is our Brother Secretary (rises and shakes hands). His jewel is the Crossed Quills (displayed) and is symbolic of the instrument he uses to keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Lodge. The Secretary receives all money that is sent to the Lodge and pays it into the hands of the Treasurer. When directed by the Worshipful Master, he will send a summons to all of the members of the Lodge. There is an old adage that "Worshipful Masters come and go, but Secretaries go on forever!" They often serve for many years in a row, and we are truly appreciative of their dedication, and love of the Craft Thank you Brother Secretary.

(Guide moves to the front of a Trustee, sitting near the Southeast) This is our Brother Trustee (rises and shakes hands) Our Lodge has three, one of which is elected each year. The Constitutions do not define the duties of Lodge Trustees. They are defined by our Lodge By-Laws. Their duties can include the care, management, and control of all the property of the Lodge, subject to the resolutions of the Lodge. Thank you Brother Trustee.

(Guide moves to the front of the Marshal) Here is our Brother Marshal (rises, shakes hands). The jewel of his office is the Crossed Batons (displayed) and the implement of his office is the Baton, a symbol of authority. Anciently it was a symbol of the Officer in charge of the English Lord's horses and stable, a position of great importance and prestige. In the Lodge, the Marshal takes charge of all Masonic processions and conducts distinguished visitors. He also assists the Worshipful Master in maintaining order in the Lodge room. Thank you Brother Marshal.

(Guide turns to Chaplain, who comes down on the level to offer his hand) This is our Brother Chaplain. The jewel of his office is an open copy of the Volume of Sacred Law (displayed), also worn upon his apron. His duties include leading our devotions to Deity at the opening and closing of the Lodge and reading the Scripture lessons during the Degrees. He does not have to be an Ordained Minister, though at the Grand Lodge level Grand Chaplains usually are. He ends his devotions with the word AMEN, a Hebrew word signifying "so should it be", at which time all Masons traditionally reply "So Mote It Be". This response has the same meaning as "Amen". Thank you Brother Chaplain.

(Turning to the newly Raised Brother) You will perceive, my Brother, that there are 15 Officers of this Lodge. The Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of New York mandate 8 officers: Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and Tiler. The others are mandated by the By-laws of our Lodge to be either elected or appointed. All non-elected officers are appointed by the Worshipful Master and serve at his pleasure. Five officers, the Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary and Treasurer are yearly elected by the Brethren of the Lodge and serve for a one-year term. They may not resign their office but can leave only when their replacement has been duly elected and installed. Some Lodges appoint additional Officers, such as Historian or Education Officer. Since Grand Lodge does not mandate these positions, they have no official jewel or emblem of office.

(Guide leads Brother West of the Altar) Here, at your request, you were presented with the most important symbols of Masonry – the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses, the three Great Lights in Masonry. Lodges are referred to as "Blue" or Symbolic Lodges. The color Blue is emblematic of Friendship, a characteristic peculiar to our ancient Craft Lodges as well as our Lodges today. Masonry is not a religion, nor is it political; therefore, our symbolic teachings are acceptable to all men under the Blue Canopy of Heaven.

My Brother, it has been my pleasure to conduct you on a walk-about the Lodge room this evening, to explain and instruct you in some of our ancient and honorable customs. As you have seen here tonight, every Mason under the Blue Canopy of Heaven will extend the hand of Friendship and Brotherly Love to you at every opportunity. Your Brethren spent many hours learning and practicing their work to present your Initiation, Passing and Raising in this Lodge. We stand ever ready to continue to share Masonic Light with you; all you need do is ask. Congratulations and best wishes, my Brother, in your progress through the Craft.

Retaining Younger Brethren

How to stop them leaving the Lodge

Get them involved



Encourage them to take part in the Ceremonies



Encourage the senior Brethren to be more youth friendly



Adjust the Lodge times to suit modern working hours



Take them on a Fraternal visit to friendly Lodge



Finally lock and bar the door



Valley Lodge No. 135 Committees

All Reports must be in writing, given to Secretary for attachment to minutes. When Master calls upon the Committee, give verbally the report, stating a copy has been presented to Secretary, or state "No Report".

Name Audit	Members Oscar Ryan Paul Amil, PM Alejandro Villanueva, PM Donie Navarro, PM Erwin Guzman, PM Jose Apollo Cueto	Position Chairman Member Member Member Member
Budget and Finance	Emmanuel Cubol Edison Espeleta, PM Richard Thornton, PM Donie Navarro PM	Chairman Member Member Member
Candidates Coach	Jose Apollo Cueto Oscar Ryan Paul Amil PM Angelito Mirando, PM Paulino Collado, PM Constante Molina	Chairman
Charity	Emmanuel Cubol Jose Apollo Cueto Constante Molina	Chairman
Dues & Delinquent Dues	Emmanuel Cubol Edison Espeleta, PM Richard E. Thornton Oscar Ryan Paul Amil, PM	Chairman Member Member Member
Executive Committee	Emmanuel Cubol Jose Apollo Cueto Constante Molina Ryan Paul Amil PM Richard E. Thornton, PM	Chairman Member Member Member Secretary-non-voting member
Fund Raising	Emmanuel Cubol Jose Apollo Cueto John Jay Natividad, PM Oscar Ryan Paul Amil, PM Marcial Gullem, Jr, PM Donie Navarro, PM	Chairman Member Member Member Member Member
Hiram Award	Jose Apollo Cueto Oscar Ryan Paul Amil, PM Edison Espeleta, PM Andy Villanueva, PM Mannie Buentipo, PM Richard Thornton PM	Chairman Member Member Member Member Member
Masonic Education	Edison Espeleta, PM Oscar Ryan Paul Amil, PM Mannie Buentipo, PM Richard Thornton, PM	Chairman
Mason of the Year	Emmanuel Cubol	Chairman
Refreshment Committee	Constante Molina Cesar Sotto Reynaldo Manalang Xedrick Miguel Erickson Ordonia Erwin Ordonia	Chairman
Retention	All Members	

Sunshine Committee

Donie Navarro, PM
Robert Lopez
Richard Thornton, PM

Chairman

US Constitution Observance

Jericho Reyes, PM
Richard Thornton, PM
Donie Navarro, PM
Erwin Guzman, PM

Chairman

Trustees

Jericho Reyes
Richard Thornton
Emmanuel C. Cubol

Term Ends 12/31/2027	Election 11/ 2027
Term Ends 12/31/2026	Election 11/ 2026
Term Ends 12/31/2025	Election 11/ 2025

Pictures



Picture of Valley Lodge No. 135 Worshipful Master Emmanuel Cubol, Brother Jose Cueto, Senior Warden, and Constante Molina, Junior Warden.

Three fantastic pictures, remember, “without our ladies, this lodge would cease to exist.”

















Bread of Life























