

Trestle Board

June 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 | cmmostolessoriano@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, Beautiful Atengs and to all the family of Valley Lodge No. 135,

I am once again so grateful and so thankful to each and every one of you who are always there to support the lodge activities and community services.



Happy month of June, Summer is telling us that we need some to spend with each other, relax and celebrate all the accomplishment we all together.

Our last activity the Linden Cherry Festival was once again a very successful event in the history, because that was the first time, I'm sure not the last, that we joined the parade with Modesto AAHMES Shrine Club riding on their minilist. I want to thank WB Ryan Amil for coordinating this event with our Brethren in Modesto Lodge No. 206. I again want to thank all the brethren and ladies who gave time and participated in these memorable events that Valley Lodge 135 will never forget.

Time really flies so fast and my term is about halfway done, but I'm not so excited because we still have a lot of plans and activities coming before I can finally say it's done. The next activity I want all of us to be excited and participate is our annual family and friends camping that is schedule on June 13-15 at Pardee lake in Lone/Jackson area. This event is what I am talking that we need some time to relax and celebrate what we have completed the last 5 months. The lodge and Ladies will try their best to make this camping stress free and free for all the campers. We did that last year and I believe we can do that again this year. Let's all have some time together in a place that is so relaxing and with full of fun and excitement due to the plans and activities we are planning for those 3 days Father's Day weekend.

After the camping the Brethren will going to be busy refreshing our mind and floor works to degree our 4 possible future Brother who are interested on joining with our oldest philanthropic brotherhood. Which I am hoping that we will have our first applicant to Degree before the end of June. So, Brethren and Valley Lodge officers we will be busy practicing and working with our respective positive duties and responsibilities in the next coming month. I have no doubt that we will all going to give our best efforts to deliver the performance that our applicant will never forget in their masonic journey.

I am hoping to see you all this coming Tuesday on our Stated meeting, I am excited to see you all and to announce our 2025 Mason of the year. I am also planning to give a gift to all the Brother's who attended 6 consecutive months of our 2025 Stated Meetings. This day will also be a special night because we will be going to feel that we are in Hawaii due to out attire and foods to share together.

Again, Thank you so much to all of you who are always there to help and support our lodge activities. I pray that we are all safe, healthy and will continue to share our blessing to create a legacy of changing life through giving love and charity to all who are in needs. God Bless us all.

With Prayers and Brotherly Love,

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

From the West

Senior Warden's Corner (May 2025)

Leaders on the Horizon

This Month of May will hold a Leadership retreat for the officers of the lodge. We will have the opportunity to be in the presence of great leaders, mentors as well as fellow brothers who are currently in the officer's line, or an aspiring one who would potentially be the person of resource when it comes to running the lodge or simply, a brother who needs polishing up on the skills that had been taught before. Also, a learning experience that would guide the future leaders of our lodge if not the brotherhood. The month of May will feature



a crucial Leadership Retreat specifically designed for the officers of our lodge. This invaluable opportunity will bring us together with seasoned leaders, experienced mentors, and our own fellow brothers who are either actively serving in the officer's line or aspiring to do so. This gathering serves multiple vital purposes. Firstly, it provides a platform to glean wisdom and insights from those who have demonstrated exceptional leadership. Secondly, it offers a chance for brothers currently in leadership roles, as well as those with future aspirations, to collaborate and learn from each other's experiences. Furthermore, this retreat will benefit any brother seeking to refresh and enhance the foundational skills necessary for the effective operation of our lodge. Beyond the immediate needs of our lodge, this learning experience is intended to provide essential guidance and development for the future leaders of our lodge and potentially the wider brotherhood. It is an investment in the continued strength, stability, and progress of our fraternal community.

Last year's retreat was a great experience being one of the three lights of the Lodge, However, it was limited only to those that of the wardens and the Master. According to this year's event, the projected attendees will be all the elected and appointed officers of the lodge, given that each seat is filled. From what I see, each officer has the potential of being the next leader through election, selection or succession. Last year's Lodge retreat, while a valuable experience for the three principal officers – the Wardens and the Master – was inherently limited in its scope due to the exclusive nature of its attendees. This year, however, promises a significantly broader and more inclusive gathering. The projected attendance encompasses all elected and appointed officers of the Lodge, contingent upon every seat being filled. This expansion recognizes the inherent leadership potential residing within each officer, regardless of their current position. Every individual holding a role within the Lodge possesses the capacity to ascend to future leadership through the established mechanisms of election, selection, or succession. This upcoming retreat, therefore, represents a crucial opportunity for collective growth, shared learning, and the cultivation of future leaders across all levels of our Masonic body.

Shall we all rise up to the occasion? I believe that all our Brothers have the potential to lead. All we need is a chance, an opportunity and support from each other.

One Love, One Family, One 3 Five.

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

Summer Fun (June 2025)

Summer is here; June is upon us once again. The hot weather can be felt as soon as we all venture out to the world. What the sun brings also renders longer daylight and more time to feel the warmth of the season. Families across the board are getting ready to spend time with each other, especially since school will also be done. We are all ready for some summer fun. This season is the perfect opportunity for more activities, outings, and vacations. It may also bring more social gatherings, establish new friendships, and strengthen bonds. Summer offers an excellent opportunity for families to spend quality time together. With children out of school, families can engage in various activities and create lasting memories.

This year presents a wonderful opportunity for our annual Valley Lodge Camping trip, an event we are all fortunate to have on our calendar. This longstanding tradition within Valley Lodge has served as a cornerstone for fostering robust camaraderie amongst our dedicated brothers and sisters of the Masonic Brotherhood. Beyond its core membership, this cherished event extends a warm and inclusive invitation to friends and family members affiliated with our brethren who wish to partake in the shared spirit of unity and fellowship. It is an occasion where bonds are strengthened, new connections are forged, and the collective spirit of Valley Lodge is celebrated in an atmosphere of warmth and mutual respect. This inclusive approach not only reinforces the ties within our Masonic community but also allows us to share the values and principles of our fraternity with those closest to us, enriching the lives of all who choose to join in this meaningful gathering.

Bringing the Brethren, and families and the community together has been a part of our values. The strength of our lodge lies to the traditions that we hold, the support we have for each other and to the community that we serve. Our lodge thrives on time-honored traditions, strong support for each other, and a real commitment to helping our community. We believe in bringing everyone, members, their families, and the broader community. Together to create a welcoming place with shared goals. Ultimately, the strength of our lodge comes from these traditions and the bonds we build together.

Looking forward to this year's Camping trip to the beautiful Lake Pardee in Lone, California. Above all, let us prioritize safety and responsibility throughout the duration of the trip, ensuring a successful and incident-free outing for everyone involved. May we create lasting memories amidst the beauty of nature, may we meet new friends and grow our Valley Lodge family.

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

From the South

Junior Warden's Corner

Brethren,

On May 9 - 11, 2025, Free Mason brothers, including myself, attended leadership training to make us good leaders better, and good men better, as well. It was indeed a good opportunity to learn and enrich one's knowledge and capabilities in the implementation and realization of our fraternity's goals and objectives for the betterment of mankind. It is highly recommended to make time and attend similar trainings available. On the other hand, don't forget to chill and relax on our fast approaching Annual Friends and Family Camping this June 2025. Come one, come all! Everybody is invited!



One Love, One Family, One 3 Five.

Bro. Constante Molina

Junior Warden

Valley Lodge No. 135

Secretary's Chat

My Masonic Lodge Brothers and Families,

Monthly Noun: PROCAFFEINATING – the tendency to not start anything until you've had a cup of coffee.



Through Masonic Ritual to Masonic Enlightenment John L. Cooper III, PGM August 10, 2019 – Grass Valley, California

The topic of this presentation today, "Through Masonic Ritual to Masonic Enlightenment," is an intriguing one for me. Freemasonry alone among fraternal orders has a ritual which is both ancient and diverse. The emphasis in California on uniformity of ritual throughout the jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge can mislead us into thinking that the ritual used by California lodges is used by all Masonic lodges around the world. To quote just one phrase from our ritual, "such, however, was [is] not the case." Even if we exclude from consideration the rituals used by the concordant and appendant bodies, the ritual of the first three degrees of Freemasonry is not the same the world

over. And if it is not the same, in what sense can it be said to provide a pathway to Masonic Enlightenment, which is the subject of this paper today.

There are actually six basic types of Masonic rituals used in lodges around the world. Each has developed over time in its own Masonic environment, and reflects the interest of Masons to present the teachings of Freemasonry to its candidates in a way that they find most effective. And each of these "families" of ritual has its own peculiarities which cause them to be distinguished from one another. Some rituals are simple in basic ceremonies, while others use elaborate symbols and allegories to convey the teachings of Freemasonry. Some rituals use symbols drawn from other symbolic systems, such as the use of earth, air, fire and water by our brethren who use the Scottish Rite blue lodge rituals in their lodges. Others are closely aligned with a particular religion – Christianity, for example – and their symbols are explained to candidates within the context of that particular religion. And then others are a part of a more extensive system of degrees, such as the eleven degrees of the Swedish Rite, and in these systems the blue lodge degrees are essentially considered a preparatory step to the more advanced degrees. In our system in California, and indeed in the system utilized by English-speaking countries, the blue lodge degrees are considered sufficient in their own right. We treat the Master Mason Degree as the "highest" degree in Freemasonry, with the degrees of the York and Scottish rites considered to be optional, and only for Masonic enthusiasts.

Masonic ritual in the United States, and indeed in most English-speaking countries is memorized and delivered as if the ritual were a kind of "theatrical production." That is not true in many other parts of the world, where the ritual is delivered from a printed copy as if delivering it from a prepared speech. This way of dealing with the ritual is often called "reading the ritual," but that is a misleading concept. The ritual is not delivered with the officer's head in the book, mumbling inaudibly as he tries to pronounce unfamiliar words. The delivery is practiced in advance, and the ritual can be truly impressive even if it is not the way we do it in California.

Memorizing the ritual can be a daunting task as many a beginning officer has discovered. It does become easier with practice, and is often easier to learn while watching other, more proficient officers deliver it. In days past, when much of our ritual had to be learned "mouth to ear," the ritual learned often "stuck" better than it does nowadays. Before the use of our cipher ritual most of it had to be learned that way, and at degree practices it was common to skip over the parts that were printed in our Monitor. As a result, the phrase "monitorial" came into use, and many officers from earlier generations know the ritual that they learned "mouth to ear" much better than they know the "monitorial" material because the "monitorial" was so often skipped in the practice sessions.

But knowing all this, why do we have "ritual" in the first place? How did Freemasonry come to have this rather peculiar way of teaching its candidates with a ritual comprised of set words and actions which are either memorized, or learn so thoroughly that they have the consistency and uniformity that we expect – at least within a particular Grand Lodge, or Masonic jurisdiction? The story may be of some interest.

The roots of our Masonic ceremonies apparently go back to the stonemason lodges of the Middle Ages in Scotland – and possibly in England. I know that we lack much evidence of these early roots in England, but they are rather abundant in Scotland. The tradition in Masonry of concealing our ceremonies from the outside world has meant that we have a difficult time knowing much about the original ceremonies. However, we do have some evidence, such as the Edinburgh Register House Manuscript of 1696. The early "rituals" that we possess were almost uniformly copies of the questions and answers through which a candidate was taught the meaning of the

ceremonies through which he had just passed, much as we do today with the candidate proficiencies. Here is an example from the Edinburgh Register House Manuscript of 1696:

Question: Are you a mason?

Answer: Yes

Question: How shall I know it?

Answer: By signs, tokens, and other points of my entry.

Question: What is the first point?

Answer: Tell me the first point (and) I'll tell you the second

The exposure by Samuel Prichard, 1730, is a bit more familiar:

Question: From whence came you?

Answer: From the Holy Lodge of St. John's.

Question: What came you here to do?

Answer: Not to do my own proper Will, but to subdue my passion still; The rules of Masonry in hand to take, and daily progress therein make.

Admittedly some of our interest in Masonic ritual is that it is relatively old, and it connects us with Masons of the past. The language we use is antique, and that has a certain attraction. It can also be elegant, much as the plays of Shakespeare are cast in an elegant language which we have lost in daily usage. It would not sound nearly as elegant if the Master asked the Senior Warden, "So what did you come here for?" instead of "What came you here to do?" But other than perpetuating these old phrases and usages, why do we conduct our ceremonies with a set of words which are prescribed by our tradition, and maintained, at least in California, by a Grand Lecturer and a Ritual Committee? There is an answer to this question to be found in studies of another institution which also uses ritual to convey its teachings – religion -- not all religions, of course, but some of them. In some churches in particular, the ceremonies which they conduct are written down and the expectation is that the ceremonies will be conducted using these written words in much the same way that we do in Freemasonry.

Churches that use a set ritual refer to it as liturgy, and the word liturgy comes from the Greek words *leitōs* and *ergos*. Taken together the word means "work" in English. It is the work which a congregation does together in performing certain ceremonies, the ceremonies of which are accompanied by standardized words and phrases. Curiously enough, this word has come into Freemasonry, although not in California. In many grand lodges there is a Custodian of the Work, which is an officer much like our Grand Lecturer – someone who is expected to maintain the accuracy and purity of the ritual as handed down through the years. If you have found learning our ritual to be hard work, that is an appropriate conclusion, because our Masonic ritual is actually work – "liturgy" – or that which we do together.

A book originally published in England in 1978, *The Study of Liturgy*, is a collection of essays on the subject of liturgy in the church. One of the essays in the book, "The Language of Worship," by author Geoffrey Wainwright, is as applicable to the ritual of Freemasonry as it is to liturgy in the church. In pertinent part, this is what he has to say:

- First, language is not to be understood apart from the community that uses it and the activities and self-understanding of that community; and
- Second[ly], there is the notion of a 'universe of discourse': users of a common language presuppose the existence of a shared world of beliefs, ideas, and experiences which enable words and phrases to convey intended meaning between speaker and hearer;

Those two ideas are the foundation of why Freemasonry uses ritual to convey its teachings. Everything that we learn in the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry could be written out in a book – and, indeed, the ideas contained in our ritual have been the subject of thousands and thousands of books. But no book takes the place of our ritual in explaining the meaning of Freemasonry – the meaning that we convey not only to the candidate, but to all Masons present at the degree. When I confer the First Degree of Masonry, I have the habit of reminding the brethren that all of us are conferring the degree – not just the officers alone. Those on the sidelines need to enter into the spirit of the ritual along with the officers, and that is why the language of the ritual is so important.

Frequent attendance at the degrees will enhance this experience for sideliners, and entering into the ritual silently while the officers perform it on the floor of the lodge is as much conferring the degree as those who are actually in charge of the ritual that night.

Note what Geoffrey Wainwright says that applies to our Masonic ritual:

- “Language is not to be understood apart from the community that uses it.” One of the reasons that much of our ritual is not written out in plain English is to make it truly ours. The community of Masons shares the language of the ritual, and we share it only within the community. The actions which accompany the ritual – signs and modes of recognition – enhance the privacy of our communication with one another.
- “Users of a common language presuppose the existence of a shared world of beliefs, ideas, and experiences which enable words and phrases to convey intended meaning between the speaker and the hearer;” Think for a moment of the poignancy of the triple enunciation of the Master and Wardens as the lodge is closed. How do Masons meet? How act? How part? The principles set forth here in miniature reflect what we do when we assemble as Masons. “..... sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us.....” as we say elsewhere. We “.... square our actions by the ‘square of virtue’.....” We act toward one another with rectitude of both intention and behavior. Without the ritual words, and the actions that accompany it, the meaning would be largely lost.

There is much to learn as we progress on our Journey in Masonry. “Whence came you, and whither are you traveling?” Our ritual answers that question, time and again. And it does so in a way that makes it a part of our very person. “How may I know you to be a Mason?” You and I know the answer, because we are immersed in the ritual which we share in common. The ritual is, indeed, our pathway to Masonic Enlightenment.

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

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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

Become well known in every County touching San Joaquin County.

June Birthdays

Onofre C. Carillo	6/12
Gabriel O. Herrera	6/19
Warren I. Santos	6/30

Alyna M. Bloom	6/05 Spouse of Donald Bloom
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Masonic Education

Brief History of Freemasonry in North America: No one knows with certainty how or when the Masonic Fraternity was formed. A widely accepted theory among Masonic scholars is that it arose from the stonemasons' guilds during the Middle Ages. The language and symbols used in the fraternity's rituals come from this era. The oldest document that makes reference to Masons is the Regius Poem, printed about 1390, which was a copy of an earlier work.



There is little but tradition regarding Freemasonry in North America prior to 1750. Setting aside an inscribed stone dated 1606 from Goat Island, Nova Scotia; ambiguous Plymouth County records from 1654; and the Rev. Edward Peterson's claims for a Rhode Island lodge in 1658, the first reference to a freemason in North America is Jonathan Belcher, born in Boston in 1681, who was initiated into an "occasional lodge" while travelling in Europe in 1704, making him, upon his return to Boston in 1705, "Senior Freemason of America".

Henry Price, First Grand Master of Masons in America, of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts 1733. Born in London 1697. Died at Townsend, Mass. 1780.

There is some evidence that Lord Alexander, Viscount Canada (d. 1638)—who was admitted into the Lodge of Edinburgh on the 3rd of July, 1634—established a lodge in the colony on the banks of the St. Lawrence, but there is no trace."

In 1717, four lodges in London formed the first Grand Lodge of England, and records from that point on are more complete. The first Lodge meeting in the western hemisphere, the knowledge of which is supported by something more than pure tradition, was probably held in King's Chapel, Boston, in 1720.

From 1721 there are newspaper accounts of Masonic affairs, implying that Freemasonry was of public interest and that there were freemasons in the colonies. A number of members of the lodge meeting in King's Chapel, Boston relocated to Nova Scotia after 1723 and may well have held occasional lodges in their new home.

Within thirty years, of the founding of the first Grand Lodge of England the fraternity had spread throughout Europe and the American Colonies. The first lodge in Boston, St. John's meeting at Tun Tavern, was constituted July 30, 1733 but claimed an older history. Its first record book dates from the eleventh meeting of the lodge on December 27, 1738 to July 24, 1754.

The brethren who met in Philadelphia left an account book, now known as "St. Johns Lodge Libr B", beginning with June 24, 1731. In the archives of the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia is a volume entitled "Benjn Franklins Journal, began July 4, 1730". It is an account book containing an entry for September 9, 1731 referring to the "Lodge of Masons held at B. Hubard's". Bro. John Hubbard kept Tun Tavern, where the lodge met. Unfortunately, "premier Provincial Grand Lodge of the Western Hemisphere, organized in Boston, Massachusetts, July 30, 1733 [by Henry Price], has no formal and continuous records written in a book.

Freemasonry became very popular in colonial America. George Washington was a Mason, Benjamin Franklin served as the head of the fraternity in Pennsylvania, as did Paul Revere and Joseph Warren in Massachusetts. Other well-known Masons involved with the founding of America included John Hancock, John Sullivan, Lafayette, Baron Fredrick von Stuben, Nathanael Greene, and John Paul Jones. Another Mason, Chief Justice John Marshall, shaped the Supreme Court into its present form.

The first Lodges in the US were chartered directly by Lodges or Grand Lodges in Britain; after a while, however, Lodges in the colonies would issue warrants to form new Lodges themselves and eventually organized their own (Provincial, during the colonial period, but independent later on) Grand Lodges. The first truly independent Grand Lodge in America was organized by four Lodges meeting in Virginia. As each had been chartered by a different Grand Lodge in other states, the resulting ritual was a mixture of that in use in the other states. At the present time there is a Grand Lodge for each of the 50 states, as well as one for the District of Columbia. That is a fairly recent development; until just a few years ago, the Grand Lodge of California had jurisdiction over the Lodges in Hawaii. The Grand Lodges in the United States observe a custom of exclusive geographic jurisdiction (with some few exceptions in Alaska); no Grand Lodge may charter Lodges in the territory of another Grand Lodge. This custom does not prevail in other parts of the world.

In a young America, Masonic ideals fully took flight—sometimes in unexpected ways. In Boston in 1775, Freemasonic officials who were part of a British garrison granted local freemen of color the right to affiliate as Masons under the banner of African Lodge No. 1. The African Lodge later became known as Prince Hall Masonry, so named for the order's founder, Prince Hall, a freed slave. Hall became the first African-American named a Grand Master. Despite the African Lodge's segregated status, Prince Hall Masonry was a bastion of abolitionism. Its leader affixed his name to some of the republic's earliest anti-slavery petitions in 1777 and 1778. As such, African Lodge No. 1 represented the first black-led abolitionist movement in American history.

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.

Brethren of Valley Lodge 135 attending Pinoy Masons EB2EB at Bay View Hotel, Manila

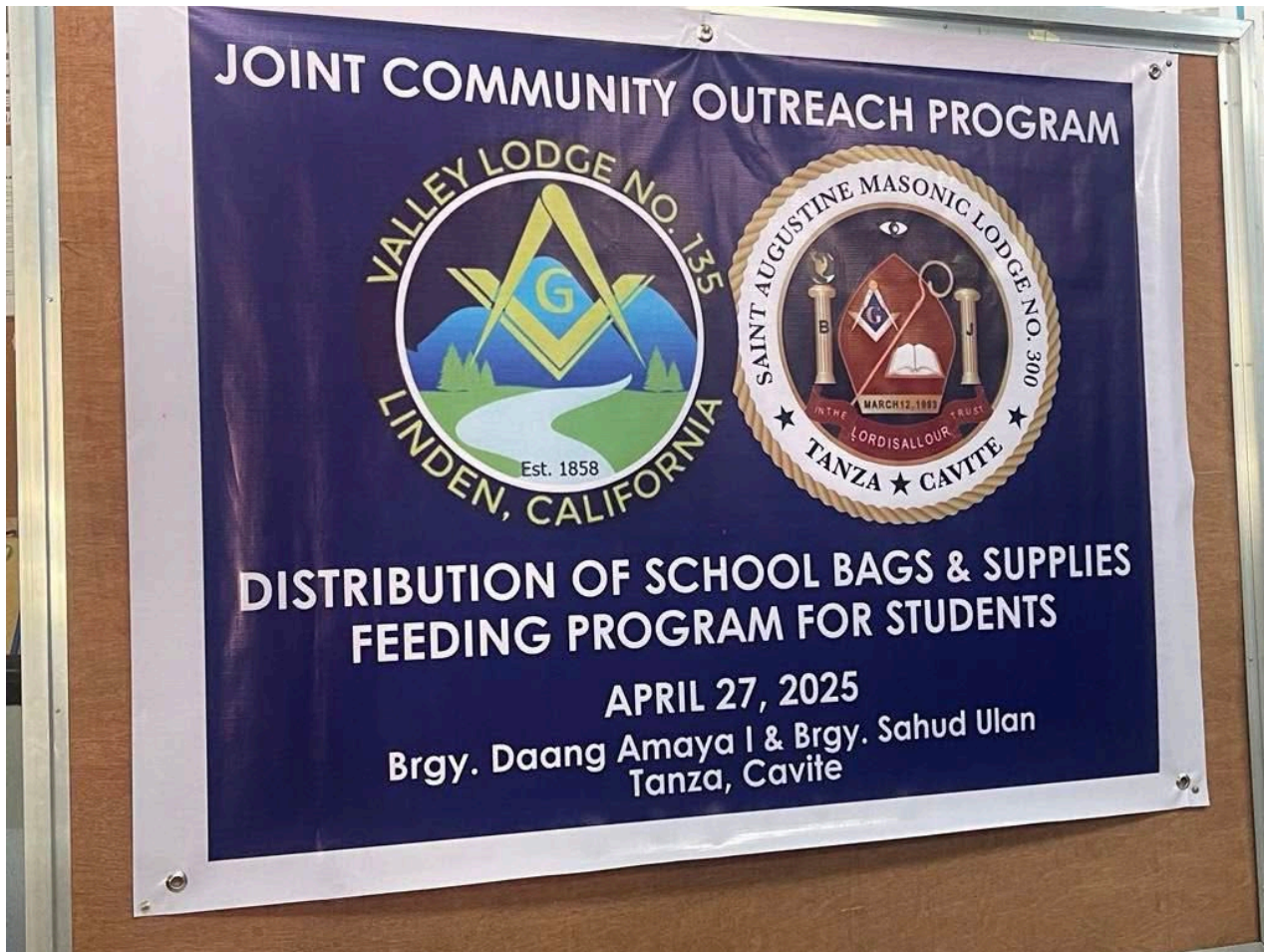


































Linden Cherry Festival





















