

The Davao Masonic Service Association

Would that there will be more like it in this grand jurisdiction. As the "do-it" and public relations arm of the Davao Masonic community, it is efficient in reaching out to the Masons, their families, and people of Davao City and province. Moreover, because the Davao Masonic Association, is principally of the Davao Bodies, AASR, it reaches out to Cotabato until such time as the Cotabato brethren shall organize their own independent bodies.

The Davao Masonic Association has been a felt need of the community for sometime. It is designed to bring together the Masonic organizations in the city and province and provide them a single organization which shall act for them in matters pertinent to their charities, their educational program and their social welfare work. Through the association, the Masonic community acts as one and because of it, the Masons and their families have earned the admiration and respect of the people of Davao.

In the December issue of their newsletter, they have announcements of the installation of officers, lists of new officers and members of Teodora Alonzo Chapter No. 4, Order of the Eastern Star, Sarangani Lodge No. 50, Davao Lodge No. 149, and Davao Bodies, AASR. It is interesting to note that the address lists contain not only the addresses, but the professions, firms, telephone numbers and zones,

the last item being given for the benefit of their Sunshine Committee.

They have a well-organized Sunshine Committee which has data on the dates of birth, weddings, spouses, children, professions of the children and of the members. Any accidents, illness or distress are communicated to the brethren. They visit sojourners and their families and bring them to their lodge or chapter meetings and join in their other assemblies. When there are conventions of national and international organizations in Davao, the Sunshine Committee goes out to meet and get acquainted with Masons and members of their families attending those conventions and conferences.

This school year the Davao Masonic Association is paying the tuition, books and other school supplies of six poor and deserving students in the Davao School of Arts and Trades. In the same period, it has taken care of the transportation, lodging and board while in Manila waiting for admission, in the Masonic Hospital for Crippled Children of four crippled children. At least one of them has returned home in good health while the others are still confined at the MHCC.

At the moment, the most pressing project of the Davao Masonic Association is the acquisition of a piece of property which can be used for its educational and welfare program. They are looking for a lot where they can build an edifice to house classrooms

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for their literacy campaign, a clinic and playground for poor children and adults of the community.

The association also has on tap plans to organize two lodges outside the city of Davao. The first will be in Mati on the northeastern coast of the province and the second will be in Digos on the southwestern coast.

The Davao brethren are in chargin over the statement that they can do most anything, what with so many millionaires in Davao. They are quick to point out that the bulk of any funds they collect are from the brethren of the middle class farmers and professionals of the community. Once in a while they might get eye-popping contributions from millionaire brethren, but they are tolerant in this respect as they know that millionaires have many obligations to take care of. They emphasize that contributing to charity and worthy projects is more a matter what one is willing to give, not what one can give. △ NBM △



NOTICE TO MASON GOLF PLAYERS

It is the desire of the Grand Master, MWB Serafin L. Teves, and the Deputy Grand Master, RWB Raymond E. Wilmarth, both golf club swingers, that a golf tournament among Mason golfers be held during the coming 50th annual communication of the Grand Lodge. Both believe that the tournament will add more attraction to the coming communication.

In compliance with their desire, a committee has been created, composed of Brothers: Patricio Gonzales, chairman; George J. Reid, Saturnino David, D. F.M. Domingo, Edgar E. Shepley, Bayani B. Ibarrola, and M.D. Cipriano, secretary: to take charge of the tournament. Prizes will be awarded.

The brethren who feel golfer enough to participate in this tournament may communicate with Bro. M. D. Cipriano, c/o Grand Logo of the Philippines, 1440 San Marcelino, Manila.

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