

THE TRESTLEBOARD

The Fourth Issue | May 2026

The Quarterly Newsletter of Solidarity Lodge No. 1457 A.F. & A.M.

LIVING THE LIGHT IN ACTION



The Master's Message

By: W.M.: Stephen Aganan, PM
Brethren,

As we reflect on the months of February through May, I am filled with gratitude and pride for all that we have accomplished together. This period has been one of the busiest and most rewarding of our Masonic year, demonstrating the commitment of our members to the principles of Freemasonry and to our lodge theme, "Building Value, Living the Light."

We began this season by continuing one of our cherished

traditions, celebrating Valentine's Day with the ladies of our lodge. Their unwavering support enables us to devote ourselves to the Craft, and this annual event serves as a small token of our appreciation for all they do.

Our travels took us to San Antonio for the Grand Master's Conference and the annual Alamo Observance. It was a meaningful opportunity to join brethren from across Texas in fellowship while honoring the sacrifices and history that continue to inspire generations of Texans.

Continued on next page

The Master's Message

Continued from Page 1



The lodge remained active in its core mission of making Masons. We conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree upon three candidates, welcoming them into our fraternity and beginning their journey in the Craft. We also later raised two brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, marking an important milestone in their Masonic development.

Education continued to be a cornerstone of our efforts. We hosted a Committee on Work Forum, conducted a presentation on Investigational Standards and Procedures, and held our Entered Apprentice Education and Past Masters Night entitled "From Apprentice to the East." The evening provided valuable insights into the journey of Masonic leadership while honoring the Past Masters whose dedication has shaped our lodge through the years.

Our commitment to fellowship extended beyond our lodge room. We made a fraternal visit to Walter M. Pierson Lodge No. 1339, attended Masonic District No.

30-G's Briscoe Workshop, and proudly represented Solidarity Lodge at the Houston Grand Master's Conference. We were also honored to receive our District Deputy Grand Master for his official visit, during which we recognized our one-year Master Masons with commemorative gifts as they celebrated their first year in the fraternity.

Community engagement remained at the forefront of our activities. We hosted an Open House and Blood Drive, inviting our neighbors to learn more about Freemasonry while supporting a worthy cause. Through our Teacher Honorarium Program, we recognized five outstanding educators for their dedication to student success by presenting each of them with a \$100 gift card to support classroom and student needs. The presentation was led by the First Lady of the Lodge and reflected our ongoing commitment to supporting education within our community.

In addition, through the generosity of our members and supporters, we raised funds to provide 24 backpacks filled with school supplies for elementary students. These backpacks, along with donated easels for student artwork displays, were presented through our partnership with Houston ISD during its 3rd Annual Our Community Voices event, which Solidarity Lodge proudly supported as a sponsor. These efforts exemplify our belief that Freemasonry's lessons should extend beyond the lodge room and into meaningful service to our communities.

The spirit of gratitude and

recognition was evident throughout the season. We continued our annual tradition of honoring the mothers of our lodge during our Mother's Day Program, recognizing the women who have nurtured and supported us throughout our lives. We also celebrated service and dedication through our Golden Trowel Award Ceremony, recognizing a brother whose contributions exemplify the highest ideals of our fraternity.

Finally, through consistent participation and support, Solidarity Lodge proudly brought home the attendance gavel from the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association for the month of March, a testament to the enthusiasm and commitment of our members.

These accomplishments are not the result of any one individual but of a lodge united in purpose. Every officer, committee member, volunteer, and brother contributed to the success of these endeavors. Together, we continue to strengthen our lodge, support our community, preserve our traditions, and prepare for the future.

As we move forward, let us continue to build value in everything we do and live the light that Freemasonry teaches us to share with others. Through education, fellowship, charity, and service, we are demonstrating that the strength of our lodge is measured not only by what we accomplish within our walls, but by the positive impact we have on the lives of others.

From The West

By: Bro. Johannes "John" K. Calayag



This year has kept the lodge moving. Constantly moving.

From conferrals and blood drives to Grand Master's conferences and long-term financial planning, the past several months have been full of work that not only strengthened the lodge today, but also laid groundwork for the future. We've also had the privilege of raising two brothers to the Sublime Degree — moments that remind us exactly why we do what we do.

Busy year. Productive year.

And we're not done yet. We still have a few more things to accomplish before closing out this Masonic year, and with installation right around the corner, the momentum continues.

From The South

By: Bro. Angelito "Titus" F. Madria, PM

A Year of Brotherhood, Service, and Achievement

As we reflect on the past year at Solidarity Lodge No. 1457, we are filled with gratitude for the dedication, fellowship, and support shown by our members.



Through our meetings, charitable efforts, and shared commitment to Masonic principles, we have continued to strengthen the bonds that unite us as Brothers.

This year, we were especially honored to recognize our Past Masters, whose leadership, wisdom, and service have helped guide our lodge through the years. Their contributions have laid the foundation upon which we continue to build and grow.

We also proudly celebrate the recent achievement of Worshipful Brother Gilbert Medrano, recipient of the prestigious Golden Trowel Award. This recognition reflects his outstanding commitment to Freemasonry, his tireless efforts on behalf of the Craft, and his dedication to the success of our lodge. His accomplishment is a source of pride for all of us at Solidarity Lodge.

As we look forward to another year of labor and fellowship, we extend our sincere thanks to every Brother and family member who has contributed to our success. Together, we continue to uphold the values of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

Secretary's Desk

By: Bro. Juvenal T. Usero, Jr., PM



From February through May, our lodge enjoyed a season of meaningful labor, fellowship, and Masonic accomplishment. Prior to our stated meeting on February 13, we honored our Ladies with a short pre-Valentine's presentation, a gesture of appreciation for their steadfast support and presence in our Masonic journey.

On February 20, the lodge conducted proficiency examinations on our EA brothers, both of whom were found proficient and voted satisfactory. Thereafter, the lodge proceeded with the conferral of the Fellowcraft Degree upon both brothers.

On March 7, the lodge had the privilege of conferring the Entered Apprentice Degree upon three candidates, marking the beginning of their Masonic travels.

On April 10, the lodge was honored by the official visit of District Deputy Grand Master RW Said Trabiz of District 30-A, who graciously conveyed the message

of Most Worshipful Grand Master Jim Rumsey. On April 17, the lodge conducted proficiency examinations for two of our EA and two FC brothers, all four were found proficient and voted satisfactory.

On May 15, the lodge paid fitting tribute to our Past Masters by presenting them with certificates and Past Master's coins in grateful recognition of their faithful service and enduring contributions to the lodge.

On May 23, the lodge raised Brothers Manuel Roxas Jr. and Alfred Carampatan to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, a significant milestone in their Masonic advancement. This memorable occasion was followed by the presentation of the Golden Trowel Award in honor of WB Guilbert Medrano. As we know, the Golden Trowel Award is the highest distinction a lodge may bestow upon one of its members, serving as formal recognition of a brother's devoted service to Masonic principles and to the welfare of the lodge. As of the end of May, our lodge has one candidate and five Entered Apprentices awaiting advancement to the next degree, a promising sign of continued growth and labor in the quarry.

Notice of Stated Meeting

The next Stated Meeting will be on June 12th, dinner is at 6:30 pm and the meeting will follow at 7:30 pm. This will be our election of officers. Officers are to wear the installation type barong, Past Masters are encouraged to wear their PM Jackets and aprons, and members and guests can wear barong or suit and tie.

February Birthdays



Actual:

Ricardo B. Achico, PM
Leovigildo G. Fulo, PM
Eleazar R. Aparece, PM
Enstainslao C. Ontoy, Jr.
Anthony J. Peralez, PM
Timothy V. Marquez

Masonic:

Gerardo H. Lizarondo, PM
Constantino D. Petilla
Arturo Ramirez
Juvenal T. Usero, Jr., PM
Estanislao B. Suerte, PM
Conrado B. Delacruz

March Birthdays

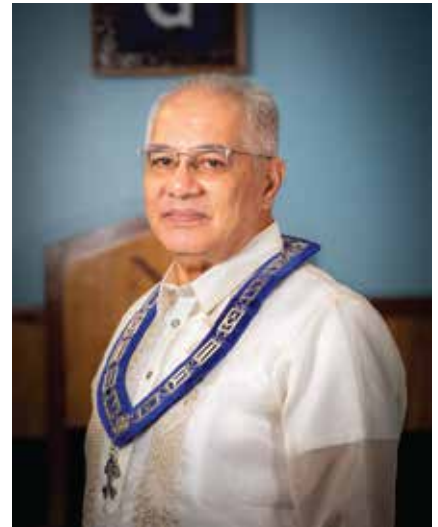


Actual:

Generoso G. Madrigal, Jr.
Jose J. Santos, PM
Constantino D. Petilla
Rodolfo O. Lagera
Angelito O. Somera, Jr., PM
Johannes K. Calayag
Wilfredo O. Costales
Marcial M. Rosal
Michael Omar P. Sevilla, PM
Christopher S. Wallingsford
Reginaldo E. Manzón

Masonic:

Reginaldo E. Manzón
Isaias G. Ginson
Ricaredo B. Tuazon
Johannes K. Karingal
Manelo A. Alcazar
Angelito O. Somera, Jr., PM
Carlos P. Cristobal, PM
Jerwin P. Garcia
Louis Christian L. Antenor
Christopher S. Wallingsford
Marlon M. Villanueva, PM
Jose Luis M. Rodriguez
Marc Gregor B. Barsales
Eleno P. DeLeon, PM
Ruben C. Rivera
James M. Tupas, PM



Treasurer's Report

By: Daniel Mederico V. Baula, PM

Greetings Brethren! The beginning of this year up to present has brought some light into our financial status. We must look into the changes of increased cost to our regular expenses due to the inflation adjustments we are undergoing that are unavoidable. We have to be involved in the cares of our lodge as part of our obligation.

I would like to thank everyone who has voluntarily contributed to the general fund. We have now digital means to contribute thru Zelle and Square with our cellphones and debit or credit cards.

We also have disbursed our scholarships for students and teacher appreciation gifts through the school districts with funds from matching grants and our proceeds from our fundraisers.

Brethren, let us be involved to keep our lodge financially healthy with your commitment.

Member Spotlight: The Tiler – Guardian of the Lodge

By: W.M.: Stephen Aganan, PM

“A tiled meeting cannot be tiled if there is not a Tiler tiling the door. Every officer has a station or a place. The Tiler’s place is outside the door.”

— Grand Lodge of Texas, Decision No. 1 (2026)

Recently, the Grand Master of Masons in Texas issued Decision No. 1, clarifying a question regarding whether a Tiler may enter the lodge room and sit in on a meeting after the lodge has been opened. The answer was clear: the Tiler’s duty is to remain at his station outside the door, guarding the lodge and ensuring that only those entitled to enter may do so.

While the decision addressed a point of Masonic law, it also serves as a reminder of the importance and dignity of an office that is often overlooked.

At Solidarity Lodge No. 1457, the office of Tiler has traditionally served as the first step for brothers considering a journey into lodge leadership. Though this tradition has not always been consistently practiced throughout our history, the principle behind it remains as relevant today as ever. The office teaches reliability, commitment, punctuality, and service before recognition. It is where future leaders learn that leadership in Masonry begins not with authority, but with responsibility.

The Tiler occupies a unique place among lodge officers. While he



Marcial M. Rosal

may not sit in the lodge room during a tiled meeting, his contribution is no less important. In fact, without a Tiler properly attending his post, the lodge itself cannot be considered properly tiled. He serves as the guardian of the threshold, protecting the privacy, security, and sanctity of our proceedings.

For many brothers, the office provides an opportunity to learn the rhythm and operations of the lodge. It allows them to become familiar with our traditions, officers, and customs while developing the habits necessary for future service. It is, in many ways, a proving ground where dedication and consistency are forged.

This issue’s Member Spotlight recognizes our Tiler, Brother Marcial M. Rosal and the important role he plays in the success of our lodge. His willingness to serve, often without

fanfare or recognition, embodies one of the most fundamental lessons of Freemasonry: that no labor performed in service to the Craft is insignificant.

As we continue to build the future of Solidarity Lodge, we are reminded that every station has value, every officer has a purpose, and every brother who accepts a responsibility contributes to the strength of our lodge. The path to leadership often begins with a simple commitment to serve, and for generations of Masons, that journey has frequently begun at the door.

To our Tiler, we extend our sincere appreciation for your faithful service and dedication to the Craft. Thank you for guarding the West Gate and helping ensure that the light of Freemasonry continues to shine brightly within our lodge.

April Birthdays



Actual:

James M. Tupas, PM
Allan N. Tuliao
Arturo Gabriel
Joven J. Villanueva, PM
Alberto C. Saligumba
Oliver S. Ayes

Masonic:

Romeo O. Mercado
Alejandro N. Hagad, III
Santiago J. Gutierrez, PM
Roberto B. Narjos, Jr.
Jerrald White S. Aves
Jefren L. Demeterio
Luis A. Sumaylo
Emile A. Bussemey, III, PM
Mark L. Fajardo
Parish C. Saculles

May Birthdays



Actual:

Jose L. Aguado, PM
 Jose S. Siplon, PM
 Arturo V. Sarmiento
 Eleno P. De Leon, PM
 Pocholo D. Dimayuga
 Gregorio R. Mercado
 Emilio T. Tico
 Emeterio M. Abanilla, Jr.
 Parish C. Saculles
 Isaias G. Ginson
 Ollie O. Veloso, PM
 Domingo V. Fernandez

Masonic:

Jose A. Martinez
 George C. Doclan, III
 Josier M. Nisnisan, PM
 Edmundo P. Dipasupil, PM
 Generoso G. Madrigal, Jr.
 Ollie O. Veloso, PM
 Alfred C. Carampatan
 Manuel R. Roxas, Jr.
 Sohrab A. Sardual
 Ricardo B. Achico, PM
 Alejandro V. Lim, Jr., PM
 Arturo V. Valzez, PM
 Roberto P. Vicerra
 Antonio Q. Hofileña
 Arturo V. Sarmiento

Lodge Calendar:

Please click on this [link](#) to view our lodge calendar for the year. Here are some highlighted events that are coming up:

- June 12 - Stated Meeting & Elections
- June 19 - Fellowcraft Degree
- July 4 - Independence Day
- July 10 - Stated Meeting & Thanksgiving by outgoing officers
- July 18 - Installation of Officers

District Deputy Grand Master Official Visit

Our April Stated Meeting was highlighted by the Official Visit of our District Deputy Grand Master, R W Said Tabrizi, who delivered the Spring Message of M W Jim Rumsey, Grand Master of Masons in Texas.

The evening provided an opportunity for the brethren to receive updates from Grand Lodge and reflect upon the vision and priorities of the Grand Master for the coming months. We were honored to welcome R W Tabrizi and grateful for his continued leadership, guidance, and support of the lodges within our district.

As part of the evening's program, Solidarity Lodge recognized several important milestones among our membership. We presented our one-year Master Masons with commemorative gifts marking their first year in the Craft and honored one of our 45-year Masons, who is also a Charter Member of our lodge, in recognition of his many years of faithful and dedicated service to Freemasonry.

In appreciation for his service to the district and our lodge, we were also privileged to present gifts to R W Tabrizi as a token of our gratitude.

This Official Visit carried additional significance as the Opening, Reception of the District Deputy Grand Master, and Closing ceremonies were observed and graded by our District Instructor, Brother Gary Weiner. The

evaluation provided an opportunity for our officers to demonstrate their proficiency while continuing to uphold the high standards of ritual excellence expected within our district.

We thank R.W. Said Tabrizi for his visit and Brother Gary Weiner for his instruction and mentorship. Their dedication helps strengthen our lodges and ensures that the traditions of our Craft continue to be preserved and passed on to future generations.



Photo Round Up - February to May

