

THE TRESTLEBOARD

The Second Issue | November 2025

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

GOLF FOR A CAUSE



The Master's Message

By: W.M.: Stephen Aganan, PM

The past three months have been a busy and rewarding time for our lodge. We truly hit the ground running with meaningful events that brought our brethren together in fellowship and purpose, including our annual golf tournament, the inter-lodge bowling tournament, and the conferral of degrees for our newly initiated brothers. Each gathering reminded us of the strength of our brotherhood and the light we share through service and unity.

One of the highlights of this quarter was the official visit of our District Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Sol Eisenbaum, who shared the message of our Grand Master. Along with the District Service Team, he offered inspiring words and encouragement to the brethren of Solidarity Lodge.

We also had the privilege of honoring Brother Rey Climacosa, PM, for achieving 50 years as a Master Mason—a remarkable milestone that reflects a lifetime of dedication, service, and fidelity to our sacred obligations. Brother

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The Master's Message

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Rey's example stands as a shining light to all who follow in his footsteps.

This year's lodge theme, "Building Value, Living the Light," calls us to labor with purpose—adding value to our lodge through our actions, and living the light of Masonry through our words and deeds. Each degree, meeting, and act of service contributes to this greater work of enlightenment.

As we look ahead, the coming months will be equally significant. In November, we will have the distinct honor of hosting the Official Visit of the Grand Master of Masons in Texas as well as honoring the veterans of our lodge. Then, in December, we will gather once again for our annual Holiday Party at Kim Son in Bellaire, celebrating the season with fellowship, entertainment, and cheer. We will also commemorate our Charter and Institution Anniversaries, during which we will present 25 and 40 year Service Awards to brethren who have dedicated years of faithful service to the Craft. These

milestones remind us that the lodge endures through the steady labor, light, and love of its members.

Finally, if you are planning on going to Waco for Grand Lodge, please let Brother John Calayag know because he is in charge of accommodations. Grand Lodge is between January 15th - 17th, but most of us are only traveling on the 16th to the 17th.

Brethren, thank you for your continued support and participation. Let us carry forward the spirit of Building Value and Living the Light as we close out this year with renewed energy, unity, and brotherly love.



From The West

By: Bro. Johannes "John" K. Calayag

Thanksgiving is often taught as a celebration of unity between early settlers, pilgrims, and the Wampanoag people, symbolized by a shared feast of regional foods. While it remains a meaningful time for reflection and gratitude, it is also important to look deeper into its complex history and how the holiday has evolved.

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For many Native communities, especially the Wampanoag, Thanksgiving carries a different meaning. Olivia Waxman's article, "400 Years After the 'First Thanksgiving,' the Tribe That Fed the Pilgrims Continues to Fight for Its Land Amid Another Epidemic," highlights the work of Paula Peters, a Wampanoag tribe member, who strives to ensure her community's experiences are included in the holiday narrative. Although the first Thanksgiving did involve cultural exchange and cooperation, it also brought diseases that devastated Indigenous populations. For some, the day serves as a reminder of this painful history.

Thanksgiving's meaning has continued to shift alongside America's growing diversity. Elizabeth Pleck's article, "The History of Thanksgiving in the United States," explains how the holiday expanded from a New England tradition to a national celebration in 1863 to promote unity during the Civil War. Over time, Thanksgiving became a symbol of American values, domestic life, and immigrant hope.

Today, Thanksgiving reflects a blend of gratitude, cultural diversity, and acknowledgment of the Wampanoag legacy—honoring both unity and the complexities of history.



From The South

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

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate this joyous season, let us take a moment to reflect upon the blessings of the year past and the light we share as Masons. The warmth of brotherly love, the strength of our fellowship, and the guidance of our shared principles continue to sustain us both within and beyond the walls of our Lodge.

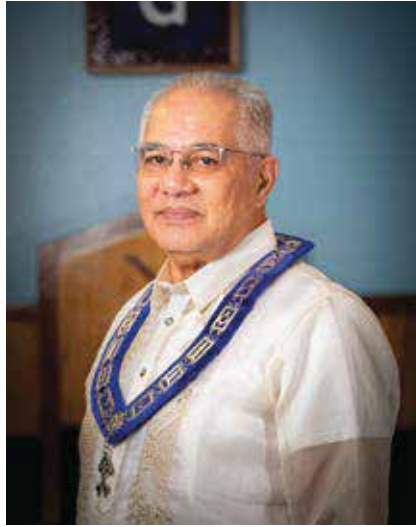
May this holiday season bring peace to your hearts, harmony to your homes, and renewed inspiration for the work that lies ahead. As the Junior Warden, it is my honor to help ensure that refreshment and fellowship flourish among us - reminding us that joy and gratitude are as essential to our Craft as labor and learning.

Wishing you and your families a season filled with light, love, and the enduring spirit of brotherhood.

Treasurer's Report

By: Bro. Daniel V. Baula, PM

Greetings Brethren! In the first quarter of this Masonic year, we receive proceeds from the Endowment Fund which is just



enough to pay for our annual dues without any more for lodge expenses. The increase in cost of our operating expenses cannot be sustained by our Lodge without the support of the Brethren. We are anticipating increase in rental in the coming year. We have been encouraged by the Grand Lodge to add to our individual contribution to the Endowment

Secretary's Desk

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



Congratulations to our two brothers who were initiated as Entered Apprentice Masons. We

are proud to welcome you to the Craft as you begin your Masonic journey.

May this path lead to growth, knowledge and lifelong brotherhood. We are excited to see the great things you will achieve as part of our Masonic family. Congratulations to the degree team on a fine job.

October Birthdays

Actual:

Guilberto Medrano, PM
Sohrab Alexander Sardual
Jeffrey L. Lungub
Edwardo B. Libranda
Rexie P. Pajarillaga
Stephen Aganan, PM
Angelito F. Madria, PM

Masonic:

Danilo P. Maines
Jose S. Siplon, PM
Florante A. Gaid, PM
Pocholo D. Dimayuga
Rodolfo O. Lagera
Joel A. Lazaro
Jose Valdez
Wilfredo O. Costales

Lodge Calendar:

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

- November 14th - Stated Meeting, Veterans Nights, & Grand Master Visit
- November 20th - EA Conferral
- December 5th - Holiday Party Kim Son Bellaire
- December 12th - Stated Meeting
- January 2nd - Dark
- January 9th - Stated Meeting & Service Awards
- January 15th - 17th Annual Communication Waco, TX

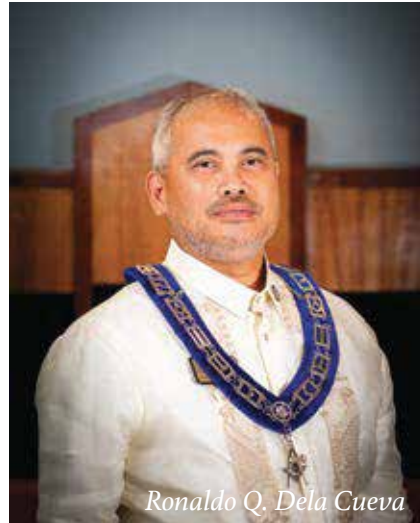
Member Spotlight: The Senior Deacon and His Expanding Role

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

The Senior Deacon holds one of the most essential stations in the lodge. Traditionally, his duties include preparing, receiving, and conducting candidates during their degrees, ensuring their first steps into Masonry are handled with dignity, precision, and proper instruction. He is also responsible for examining and introducing visiting brethren, serving as both a guardian of the lodge and a gracious ambassador to our guests.

This year, our Senior Deacon, Brother Ronaldo Q. Dela Cueva has taken on an even greater responsibility. The Worshipful Master has appointed him as Co-Chairman of the Conferral Committee, serving alongside Brother William “Wawa” M. Villa-Real, PM, who brings years of experience and wisdom to the role.

The Worshipful Master’s purpose in assigning the Senior Deacon to this committee is both practical and intentional. Beyond the ritual duties of his office, this expanded role provides a valuable opportunity for him to hone his organizational and leadership skills. As Co-Chairman, he is tasked with coordinating degree teams, organizing practices, and ensuring that each conferral is executed with excellence. These responsibilities help prepare him for future leadership within the lodge, strengthening his ability to manage brethren, communicate effectively, and uphold the high standards of our ritual.



Ronaldo Q. Dela Cueva

Through diligent service, dedication to the Craft, and a willingness to grow, our Senior Deacon exemplifies the spirit of Building Value, Living the Light. We look forward to witnessing his continued development as he serves the lodge in this important capacity.

November Birthdays



Actual:

Jose Angel Martinez
Alistair Mannix Siy Lee
William M. Villa-Real, PM
Melvyn S. Jurisprudencia, PM
Alexander Filipovich, PM
Joel A. Lazaro
Edmundo P. Dipasupil, PM
Reynaldo B. Climacosa, PM
Roberto B. Narajos, Jr.
Roldao Q. Dela Cueva

Masonic:

Domingo V. Fernandez
Ronaldo Q. Dela Cueva
Timothy V. Marquez

Alexander Filipovich, PM
Eleazar R. Aparece, PM
Gerald V. Santarina
Jose A. Montes
Winston M. Villa-Real
Daniel V. Baula, PM
Gerardo B. Dizon, PM
Marcial M. Rosal

October Stated Meeting Highlights

Our October Stated Meeting was a memorable evening filled with brotherhood, recognition, and inspiration as we welcomed the District Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Sol Eisenbaum, during his official visit to Solidarity Lodge No. 1457. Representing the Grand Master of Masons in Texas, the DDGM delivered the Grand Master’s message. His words encouraged us to strengthen our lodge, elevate our personal conduct, and continue serving our community with humility and dedication.

The evening also provided an opportunity to honor two distinguished members whose faithful service has shaped our lodge and our district.

Honoring Brother Reynaldo B. Climacosa, PM – 50 Years of Masonry

We proudly presented Brother Reynaldo B. Climacosa, PM, with his 50-Year Service Award, commemorating five decades of unwavering devotion to the Craft. Brother Climacosa is one of the pillars of Solidarity Lodge, having played an instrumental role in its founding. He is a Charter Member

and served as the Third Worshipful Master of our lodge.

His Masonic journey began in the Philippines, where he was initiated on July 24, 1975, passed on August 28, 1975, and raised on September 25, 1975 at St. John's-Corregidor Lodge No. 3, F. & A.M., under the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. After moving to Texas, Brother Climacosa continued his masonic journey when he helped gather Filipino-American Masons in the Houston area. They would later move forward with the formation of our lodge.

Brother Climacosa would serve as District Communications Officer from 2000-2002, and later as District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 30-A in 2003. His legacy of leadership and steady guidance continues to inspire the brethren of Solidarity Lodge.



Recognizing Brother Emile Bussemey, PM – Serving as District Instructor for more than 20 years.

We also honored Brother Emile Bussemey, PM, who received a



Plaque of Appreciation for his exceptional service to our district. Brother Bussemey has served as a District Instructor for more than 20 years, tirelessly dedicating his time to preserving the purity of our ritual and mentoring countless brethren across the district. His commitment to excellence has strengthened degree work throughout the area and enriched the Masonic experience of many.

Gratitude and Reflection

The DDGM's visit, coupled with the recognition of these two exemplary Past Masters, made our October meeting one of heartfelt reflection and renewed purpose. Their service reminds us that the strength of our lodge rests upon the labor of dedicated brethren who continue to carry the Light forward.

As we move through this Masonic year, may we be inspired by their example and remain steadfast in our commitment to Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.



Notice of Stated Meeting

The next Stated Meeting will be on November 14th. We will receive the Grand Master for his official visit as well as honor the Veterans of our lodge.

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.

Masonic Education: Moral Architecture By John L. Cooper, III

Prepared by: Brother Alex V. Lim, Jr., PM

California Freemason, Spring 2004

Freemasonry sometimes takes surprising turns as it unfolds its beauties to a candidate. Just when he thinks he has figured out the general direction of a train of thought, he is taken in a different, sometimes startling, direction. So it is when a Fellowcraft Mason hears for the first time the interest that Freemasons have in architecture.

As an Entered Apprentice he is introduced to the idea that he is building a spiritual house — a house “not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

He is symbolically placed close to the master of the lodge when he reenters it, and is told that he is thus placed so that he will learn how to build his “future moral and Masonic edifice.” For the first time he is told of the connection between architecture and morality — a theme pervasive in Freemasonry.

In the lecture of the Fellowcraft Degree, the candidate is told that Freemasonry consists of two fundamental concepts: operative Masonry and speculative Masonry. The lecture then goes on to describe the way in which operative Masons build and after explaining how such knowledge is necessary for the building of physical structures, he is then told that today Masons build nonmaterial structures by shaping the material of their lives into something as useful as the physical buildings which shelter us from the inclemencies of the weather. A

“speculative” Mason is to subdue his passions, act upon the square, keep a tongue of good report, maintain secrecy, and practice charity.

This brief introduction is followed by a more lengthy discussion of architecture itself, and especially classical architecture, with its emphasis on symmetry and order, upon form and beauty. Masons of the 17th and 18th centuries were fascinated by classical architecture — the architecture of ancient Greece and Rome. They contrasted the principles of this type of architecture with those of the Middle Ages — the so-called “Gothic” architecture that was so different.

Without understanding why classical architecture was so important to those who created our lectures, we cannot truly understand what they were trying to tell us. And as a result, much of the lesson is easily missed. As an example, take the Five Orders of Architecture.

The Senior Deacon explains the five orders to the candidate, but nothing is said as to why they are important to him as a Mason. If he is perceptive, he must be puzzled, because he was earlier told that Masons today are philosophical (speculative), and surely this bit of information pertains to operative masonry.

Unless the candidate is professionally an architect, or intends on becoming one, this bit of information is surely not very

useful. Or is it?

Is there something hidden here for the candidate to learn by induction? I believe there is, and here is a meaning to consider.

Classical architecture is classified into categories by the types of columns that supported as well as decorated the building. Although the Romans were familiar with the arch, they generally used it only in utilitarian architecture, such as aqueducts. Temples and other public buildings followed the traditional means of supporting the roof by a series of closely spaced pillars or columns. And the Romans followed the Greeks in creating a sense of order and beauty by carving all the columns of a building in a similar manner

The earliest buildings used the simple technique of fluting of columns to make them seem slim and graceful, despite the sturdiness needed to hold up the great weight of the stone roof. To keep the columns from sinking into the ground — or punching through the roof — they developed the concept of “caps” — capitals — on the columns. The way in which these capitals were carved determined the “orders in architecture” to which our lectures refer. The simplest is no capital at all, or only a rudimentary one — the Tuscan — which, although a late development, took simplicity to one extreme.

The most ornate of the three types was the Corinthian — a capital decorated with acanthus leaves, making the column to appear as if

A Season of Fellowship and Fun: Golf and Bowling Tournaments a Success



This fall, Solidarity Lodge proudly hosted two major fellowship events that brought together brethren from across the district for fun, friendly competition, and brotherly unity.

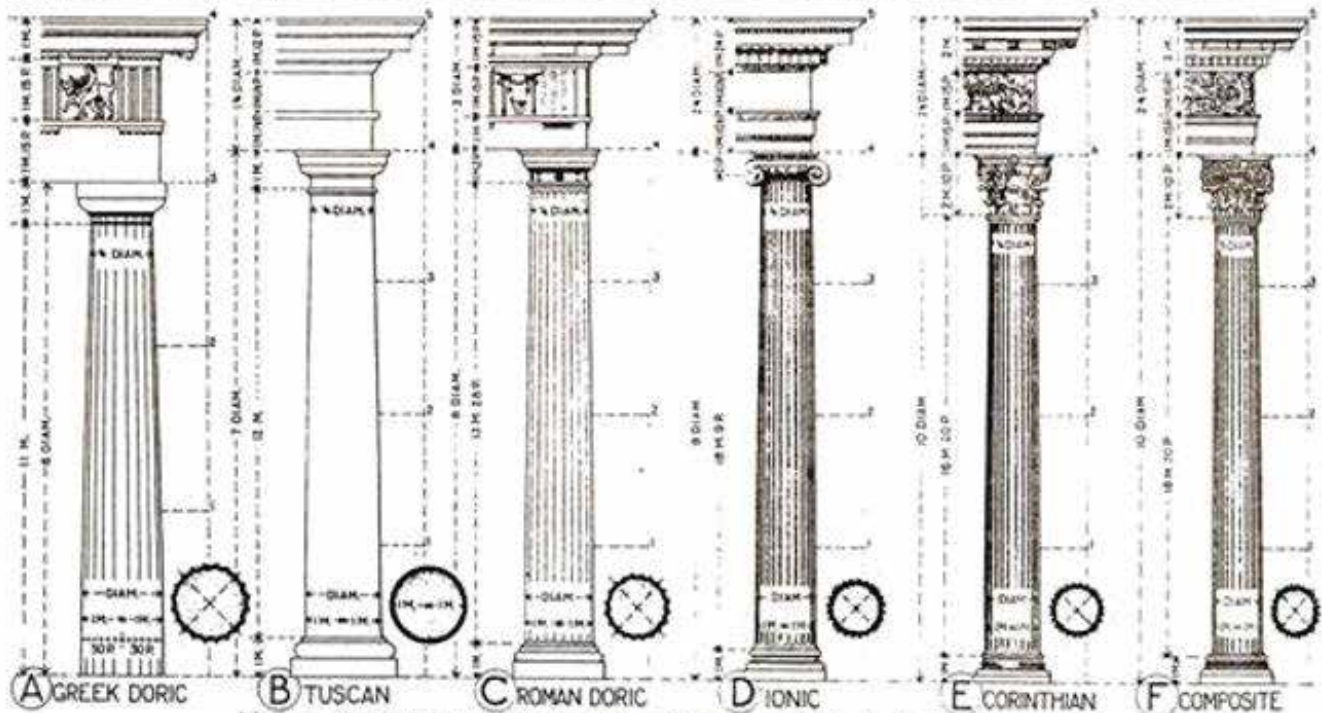
Our 2nd Worshipful Master's Cup: "Golf for a Cause" was held at the beautiful Pearland Golf Club, where perfect weather and a strong turnout made the day truly memorable. Brethren, families, and guests enjoyed a wonderful day on the course, filled with good swings, good laughs, and great fellowship. The event was a clear success and continues to grow as one of our lodge's signature charitable activities.

We also celebrated the success of our 2nd Inter-Lodge Bowling Tournament, held at Bowlero Stafford. This year, seven lodges participated, fielding nine competitive teams. Solidarity Lodge proudly represented with two teams. While we didn't take home the trophy, we certainly enjoyed every moment of camaraderie, competition, and fun.

Your participation and support made both events truly special. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!



COMPARATIVE PROPORTIONS OF THE ORDERS AFTER SIR W. CHAMBERS



NOTE.—A module is half the lower diameter and is divided into 30 parts

Reproduced from Banister Fletcher, *A History of Architecture*, 17th edition,
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it were a living, growing support for the building. The Doric added a plain capital, and the Ionic added a scroll-like carving to the primitive capital. The Composite, in turn, blended the acanthus leaves of the Corinthian with the scroll-like capital of the Ionic. In this manner classical architecture came to understand the Five Orders in Architecture.

Is there any symbolic meaning here for a Mason? I think that there is. Our “moral and masonic edifice” — our lives that we are building — are in reality supported by symbolic columns that raise our effort toward the heavens. There is an understanding that if what we build remains low and unimposing, it will never inspire any others to imitate what we have built. But by raising the

superstructure on columns of beauty as well as utility, our “moral and masonic edifice” soars into the sky.

We choose the style in which we build, but all have an equal value, for all hold up the superstructure. Our understanding of life may be of the simplest variety — Tuscan, if you will.

On the other hand, others may build with great simplicity but also with great symmetry. Their lives are marked by consistency and order. They are the Doric and Ionic columns — simple, honest, but also with a beauty of their own. Others may achieve great things in life — sometimes many great things — symbolized by the Corinthian and the Composite.

But all of us share the same values,

the same understanding of Freemasonry, regardless of which “order” in architecture we use.

One definition of Freemasonry is that it is “moral architecture.” If so, then one of the beautiful lessons we learn from the Five Orders of Architecture is that diversity in how we build is of immense value. We are not all of the same religion — or the same race — or the same language. But we all erect buildings of superb beauty, according to our understanding of the art. We truly are engaged in building that “house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”