

# THE TRESTLEBOARD

The First Issue | August 2025

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



## LIVING THE LIGHT



### The Master's Message

By: W.M.: Stephen Aganan, PM

As we embark on a new Masonic year, I am proud to share our theme: "Building Value, Living the Light." This theme speaks not only to the mission of Masonry as a whole but to the unique legacy of our lodge.

This theme is rooted in the very heart of our Craft—both operative and speculative. "Building Value" calls us to improve the quality of our lodge experiences: to make our meetings meaningful, our

fellowship stronger, and our programs relevant, not only for our members but for the communities we serve. It reminds us that the true worth of a lodge is measured not in numbers, but in impact.

"Living the Light" challenges each of us to bring the principles of Freemasonry beyond the tiled walls and into our daily lives. It means being men of integrity in our homes, our work, and our communities. It means acting justly, helping those in need, and strengthening the bonds of

*Continued on Page 2*

## The Master's Message

Continued from Page 1



brotherhood with compassion and humility.

Since its chartering, Solidarity Lodge No. 1457 has stood as a symbol of unity, purpose, and cultural pride, born from the vision of Filipino-American Masons who sought to create a home for fellowship, and a sense of community here in Houston. Our lodge was chartered in 1993 and is considered somewhat of a new lodge in comparison to other lodges in the area, but our lodge is filled with a unique sense of pride and a story synonymous to America, the enduring story of immigration and the pursuit of a better life.

Our name, Solidarity, is no coincidence it reflects the commitment of our founders to history, brotherhood, mutual support, and the shared values of both Texas Masonry and the Filipino spirit.

Our lodge has not only grown in membership but also in purpose. We have built bridges across cultures, generations, and

jurisdictions demonstrating what it truly means to “live the light.” We have honored our heritage while embracing the future, and we have become a beacon for others seeking to find their place in this great fraternity.

This year, we will focus on strengthening our mentorship program for our officers, looking at long term funding for the lodge, refining our ritual work, expanding our charitable efforts, and deepening our sense of brotherhood. The programs and activities that I’m planning this year can be categorized into three areas, leadership and administration, community engagement, and membership engagement. We will work to ensure that every brother not only receives light, but is empowered to live it.

Finally brethren, let us build value in all we do. And above all, let us live the light not just as Masons, but as men devoted to truth, virtue, and brotherly love. May God bless us all and guide our work in the year ahead. Thank you.

### From The West

By: Bro. Johannes “John” K. Calayag

It is with sincere gratitude and humility that I serve as Senior Warden of our beloved Mother Lodge. Assisting our Worshipful Master in fulfilling his vision for this Masonic year is both an honor and a sacred duty. I am confident that, together, we will continue to uphold the spirit of unity, supporting one another in brotherly love, relief, and truth.

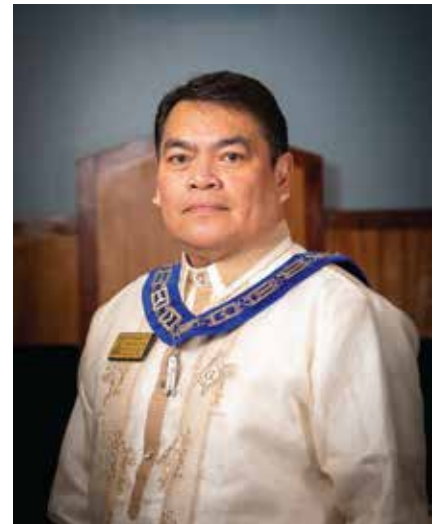
Solidarity Lodge No. 1457 has long



stood as a beacon of fellowship and service—and we remain steadfast in that purpose. May we each labor with integrity and zeal, ever mindful of the working tools placed in our hands. “Let us cultivate harmony and good will, that we may meet, act, and part as brothers.”

### From The South

By: Bro. Angelito “Titus” F. Madria, PM



As Junior Warden, I am honored to serve our lodge and help guide us through both labor and refreshment. In our journey through Freemasonry, we are reminded that the Lodge is not just a building—it is a sacred space where character is refined,

## From the South

Continued from Page 2

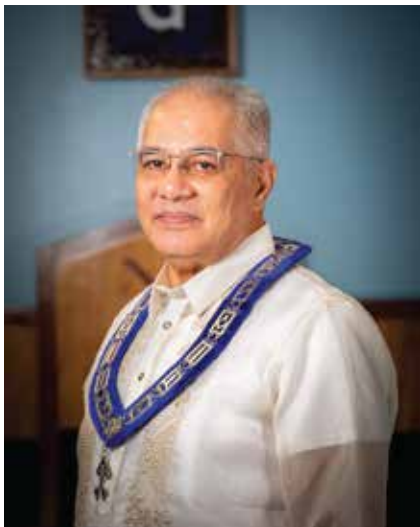
friendships are forged, and principles are lived.

Let us continue to meet on the level, act by the plumb, and Part upon the square. Each of us brings a unique light to our Craft, and together, we shine brighter. Whether in ritual, fellowship, or community service, let us strive to be men of purpose, steadfast in virtue and ever ready to extend a hand to a brother in need.

May we be refreshed in spirit, renewed in brotherhood, and ever committed to the high ideals of Masonry.

## Treasurer's Report

By: Bro. Daniel V. Baula, PM



Greetings dear brethren! The Cross Keys on the Jewel of this office signifies that I am the keeper and distributor of all monies and accounts. I look forward to keeping an accurate account thereof and pay out by order of the Worshipful Master with the consent of the Lodge.

I look forward to presenting financial reports on a regular basis to the Lodge and will be open to any queries and corrections if necessary. Your cooperation in keeping your obligation to the care of the Lodge will be highly appreciated to keep our budget in order. Let us all be mindful of the increasing costs and expenses that we are facing. My best regards to all the members of this Lodge.

## Secretary's Desk

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



May the working tools of our Craft remind us of the principles we uphold and the journey we all undertake. When the gavel sounds and the work begins, let us stand together in harmony, reinforcing the bonds of Brotherhood that unite us.

### Notice of Stated Meeting:

We will have our 1st Stated Meeting on Friday, August 8, 2025 for Masonic Year 2025 - 2026.

### Meeting Agenda:

- Reading of Petitions and Balloting (if any)

- General overview of upcoming programs
- Introduction of "Vision 40 & Beyond"
- Committee Assignments
- Affiliation Fee
- Golf Tournament
- Rules & Regulations
- Presentation to the JPM
- Dinner starts at 6:30 PM, and meeting will follow at 7:30 PM.
- Fellowship will follow after the meeting.

The Worshipful Master is requesting to wear the following attires for the meeting:  
Officers - Barong, white long-sleeves  
Past Masters - Past Master Jackets  
Members - Barong or Suits  
Please be guided accordingly.

## August Birthdays

### Actual:

Loreto B. Caluya  
Juvenal T. Usero, PM  
Edmundo T. Valencia  
Maneleo A. Nunez  
Estanislao B. Suerte, PM  
Juanito F. Del Rosario, PM  
Luis A. Sumaylo  
Jefren L. Demeterio  
Danilo P. Maines  
Daniel V. Baula, PM  
Eddie F. Huliganga

### Masonic:

Derek G. Palisoc  
Antonio J. Peralez, PM  
Alistair S. Lee  
Mario P. Dipasupil, Jr., PM  
Felix V. Luchavez, PM  
Arturo G. Baltao  
Joven J. Villanueva, PM  
Lorenzo Perez  
Emilio T. Tico  
Edmundo T. Valencia  
Guilberto Medrano, PM  
Vigilante M. Roxas, PM

## Member(s) Spotlight: Pillars of Hospitality: The Importance of Lodge Stewards

By: W.M.: Stephen Aganan, PM

One of the first offices a newly raised brother is appointed to is being a steward. I consider this office as a right of passage for any Master Mason of the lodge because it is a demanding position. The role of Stewards is often quietly powerful. While their duties may seem behind-the-scenes, the impact they have on the lodge experience is both significant and enduring.

At the heart of their responsibilities is hospitality, a cornerstone of Masonic fellowship. From budgeting the meals for stated meetings to preparing and serving them with care, the Stewards help create a welcoming and nourishing environment where brothers can connect, reflect, and refresh after the formal work of the lodge.

Their role extends beyond the kitchen. Stewards support the flow of ritual, assist senior officers with logistics, and help maintain the lodge's sense of order and readiness. Their dedication ensures that the smallest details, those often taken for granted, are handled with pride and precision. This role also prepares the brother for further leadership roles within the lodge because it allows you to be proactive and dependable. You also get to know most if not all of the brothers in the lodge as you are oftentimes the first one to greet them when they arrive in the lodge.

More than cooks or assistants, Stewards are servant-leaders, embodying the Masonic principles



George "Jun" C. Doclan, III

Jerwin P. Garcia

of humility, diligence, and brotherly love. Their work reminds us that every meal shared, every detail attended to, is an act of care that strengthens the bonds of our fraternity.

So the next time you enjoy a well-prepared dinner at lodge or witness a smooth ritual transition, take a moment to thank the Stewards because their labor makes the light shine a little brighter for us all. Let us also extend our gratitude to Brothers George "Jun" C. Doclan III, Senior Steward, and Jerwin P. Garcia, Junior Steward, for stepping up to these challenging roles in service to their lodge.

### September Birthdays



Actual:  
Santiago J. Gutierrez, PM  
Jerrald White S. Aves  
Lorenzo Perez  
Derek G. Palisoc  
Marlon M. Villanueva, PM  
Alejandro V. Lim, Jr., PM

Charles A. Montes  
Gerardo H. Lizarondo, PM  
Edgardo L. Gonzales  
Ruben C. Rivera  
Jose Valdez, PM  
Cipriano R. Sta. Rosa, PM  
Urbano S. Yap, Jr.  
Esteban V. Saulog, PM  
George C. Doclan, III

Masonic:  
Cipriano R. Sta. Rosa, PM  
Angelito F. Madria, PM  
Oliver S. Ayes  
Reynaldo B. Climacosa, PM

### Officer Welcome Workshop & Orientation

Last August 1st, the Worshipful Master conducted Officer Welcome Workshop and Orientation for the newly installed officers of the lodge. This informal session is designed to foster a collaborative environment and prepare the officer line for a successful and meaningful Masonic year.  
*Continue on next page*

## Officer Welcome Workshop & Orientation

Some of the agenda highlights were the following:

- Welcome and officer introductions
- Practice of the opening and closing of the lodge
- Review of lodge procedures, including balloting and vouching for visiting brethren
- Discussion of timelines and planning for upcoming candidate degrees
- Open floor for questions, comments, and suggestions

Here's the [link](#) to the powerpoint presentation.



## Grand Lodge Spotlight On our Lodge

Solidarity Lodge #1457, A.F. & A.M., continues to embody the spirit of brotherhood and tradition by celebrating milestones in unique and heartfelt ways. On April 4, 2025, the lodge proudly raised Bro. Mark Fajardo to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason—a pivotal moment in every Mason's journey.

In recognition of this significant achievement, Solidarity Lodge created a custom-printed congratulatory banner, signed by brethren, family, and friends who witnessed this memorable night. The banner serves as a testament not only to the Fraternity's enduring customs but also to the love and support within the Masonic community.

The banner reads:

"Congratulations! Bro. Mark Fajardo Newly raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason – April 4, 2025."

Signed by members including Worshipful Master Nestor Duremdes, Jr., Senior Warden Stephen Aganan, and Junior Warden John Calayag, it stands as a symbol of support and brotherhood.

"Making a new Master Mason is always a cause for celebration," said WM Duremdes. "But it's the personal touches like this banner, and the warmth of our brethren, that make it unforgettable."

Bro. Fajardo's raising was met with heartfelt congratulations, enthusiastic signatures, and words

of encouragement such as "Welcome to the Craft," "Enjoy your journey," and "Congratulations, Bro!"

This meaningful celebration exemplifies what it means to be a Mason—support, fellowship, and tradition. Solidarity Lodge #1457 continues to set a wonderful example of how lodges can warmly welcome newly raised brethren while preserving the essence of Masonic ritual and brotherhood.

May the Light continue to guide Bro. Fajardo and all our newly raised Master Masons.

– Mike Mistry P.M.

Taken from August 2025 Grand Lodge of Texas Newsletter



## Lodge Calendar:

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

- September 12th - Stated Meeting
- October 10th - State Meeting & DDGM Visit
- October 11th - 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Solidarity Lodge No. 1457  
Presents

# 2ND ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF *Tournament*



**11TH** OCTOBER  
2025

**PEARLAND GOLF CLUB**

Registration **\$150 per player**  
**\$500 per team**

## SPONSORSHIP PACKET

The Solidarity Lodge No. 1457 A.F. & A.M. Charity Golf Tournament was established in 2025 with a clear mission: to raise funds for educational scholarships that support deserving students in our community. Hosted by the members of Solidarity Lodge No. 1457 A.F. & A.M. in Houston, Texas, this annual event brings together golfers, sponsors, and supporters for a day of fellowship, fun, and philanthropy.

As a proud initiative of a Masonic lodge committed to service and uplift, all net proceeds from the event go towards funding scholarships that empower the next generation & other community service projects. Your sponsorship helps us make a lasting impact both on the course and beyond.

### NAME SPONSOR (1) \$ 1000

- Premier logo placement on all signage and event banners
- Two-hole sponsorship with custom signage
- Full-page ad in event program
- Two complimentary player entries
- Two discounted player entries
- Booth setup at clubhouse

### BACKPACK SPONSOR (1) \$ 700

- Name and logo on backpack giveaway for players
- Logo on event signage and program
- Half-page ad in program
- One complimentary player entry
- Three discounted player entries
- Booth setup at club house

### GOLD SPONSOR \$ 500

- Logo on event signage and program
- Half-page ad in program
- One complimentary player entry
- Three discounted player entries
- Booth setup at club house

### SILVER SPONSOR (2) \$ 300

- Contest hole sponsorship at with signage
- Booth setup at chose hole
- Quarter-page ad in event program

### BRONZE SPONSOR (14) \$ 100

- Hole sponsorship with signage
- Quarter-page ad in event program