

## Matt Cast

TAMDA President 2015-2016

Matt was born on November 8, 1955, in Freeport, Texas. He graduated from Bruceville-Eddy High School in 1974, Texas State Technical Institute with an associate degree in Applied Science in Environmental Engineering Technology in 1982, and the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree with an emphasis in Public Service in 2002. He also served as an advisor on developing circulation for Environmental Studies.



Matt was the youngest person to earn a Class A Water Certification in 1978. In 1994, he earned his Class A Wastewater Certification. Matt has worked for the City of Garland, Texas, since 1998 as a Senior Water Operator at the Duck Creek Purification Plant. In 2000, he served as President of The Double AA Club. Matt established the Water A Club in 2000 at Texas A&M. He has served as President and Secretary of the Apollo Water Association. In 2000, he was Named Operator of the Year and received the Community Service Award by the Texas Water Utilities Association of Texas. Matt also received a national award from the American Water Works Association for a rollaway pump building he designed.

Matt married Lisa Rene Finch on November 21, 1987, and they have one son, Zach, a Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary graduate. Matt enjoys teaching third graders at The Heights Baptist Church in Richardson, Texas.

## **Masonic History**

### *Blue Lodge*

Matt was initiated on July 3, 1980, passed on September 4, and raised on October 14, 1980, by McGregor Masonic Lodge 376 in McGregor, Texas. Later, in 1985, he joined M. Denton Stanford Lodge # 594 in Lorena, Texas, and in 1987, he was elected Master of the Lodge. During his tenure, he oversaw the construction and completion of the new lodge hall and organized the meal and outdoor degree for District 61 A.

Matt became affiliated with Highland Park Lodge #1150 in Dallas, Texas, in 2012 and was elected Master of the Lodge in 2014. He initiated the Tuesday Night Study Club to teach the new members their study work and served as degree master. In his year, the lodge had 12 stated meetings, weekly study club meetings, and 43 called meetings.

In 2016, Matt affiliated with Tannehill Masonic Lodge #52 in Dallas, Texas, and in 2017, he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master for District 14-B.

At Grand Lodge, he has served in the coffee shop and has been an assistant to Tyler for several years. In 2019, he was appointed to the Membership Committee.

In 2021, he received the Golden Trowel Award from Highland Park Lodge,

Matt is an active member of Highland Park Lodge for feeding the Boy and Girls Club during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

### *York Rite*

Chapter Degrees from Waco Chapter #45:

Mark Master (1981)  
Past Master (1981)  
Most Excellent Master (1981)  
Royal Arch Mason (1981)  
Elected and Served as High Priest (1985)  
Order of High Priesthood (1985)

In Grand Chapter, he currently serves on the Purposes and Policy Committee.

Matt moved to Dallas and is fully endowed with Dallas Chapter #47, where he has served as Steward.

Council Degrees from Waco Council of Royal and Select Masters #33:

Royal Master (1981)  
Select Master (1981)  
Elected and Served Thrice Illustrious Master (1983)  
Order of Silver Trowel Degree (1985)

Matt is an endowed member of Dallas Council #18.

Commander Orders from Waco Commandery #10:

Order of the Red Cross (1981)  
Order of Malta (1981)  
Order of the Temple (1981)  
Commander (1987)  
Knight Crusaders of the Cross (2020)

He was a member of the Waco Commandery drill team in 1983 when they placed first in C Class. In 1984, he joined the Dallas Commandery drill team. They won several Class A national competitions.

Matt was elected and served as Commander in Waco in 1987. The following year, he was the opening speaker for the Thirty-First Annual Conference of the York Rite Masons South Central Regional & Department Conference, General Grand Chapter, General Grand Council, and The Grand Encampment of Knight Templar in Austin, Texas. In 1989, he served as Commander of Crocket Commandery. He was also on the Purpose and Policy Committee for the Grand Commandery.

After moving to Dallas, he became a member of Dallas Commandery #6, serving as Commander in 2018. The Commandery won the Order of the Temple competition with a score of 999. Matt served on the audit committee for the Grand Commandery of Texas for Ritual Competition in 2016. The Grand Commander of Texas appointed him as a member of the Instructional Committee at Large.

*Knight of the York Cross of Honor*

April 16, 1989

*Holy Royal Arch Knight Temple Priest*

The Priestly Order of the Temple from Our Redeemer Dallas & Fort Worth, Texas

December 9, 2015

On May 10, 2019, Matt was Knighted as a member of *The Red Cross of Constantine*, DeMolay Chapter, Waco Texas.

Matt is a member of The Commemorative Order of the St Thomas of Acon in the Fort Worth Crusader Chapter #12.

### *Knight Masons*

Matt was a 2008 charter member of Knight Masons for the Frank G. McDonald Chapter 97 in Hillsboro, Texas, and in 2011 was elected as Excellent Chief. He also has a membership in Dallas Rose of Sharon Council #46.

### *Allied Masonic Degree*

Matt became a 2008 Charter member of Anson Jones # 462 in Hillsboro, Texas, and served as the Sovereign Master in 2012. He also served as President of the Texas Allied Masonic Degrees for Texas in 2015-2016. Matt participated on the various degree teams at The National Masonic Week in Washington, D.C., in 2019.

Matt received these degrees and orders and is on several degree teams:

Royal Ark Mariners

Order of the Monitor

Saint Lawrence of Martyr

Knights of Constantinople

Grand Tiler of Solomon

Excellent Master

Master of Tyre

Architect

Grand Architect

Superintend

Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord 1, 2, 3, & 4

### *The Royal Order of Scotland*

A member since October 14, 2013

*Order of the Bath*

A member since July 17, 2010

*Member of the Grand College of Rites of the United States of America*

February 2019

*Member of Texas York Rite Colleges*

Waco #14

Sherman #116

*Shrine*

Matt joined Karem Shine in Waco, Texas, on May 23, 1981, and was a member of the ritual team. Later, he moved to Dallas and joined Hella Shrine and is currently on the ceremonial team serving as High Priest and Profit and membership chairman.

*Grotto*

Matt is a member of Alla Grotto of Dallas, Texas, and has served as its Monarch in 2019.

*Scottish Rite*

Matt was a candidate in the Sam Lafitte JR. 33 Degree Memorial Reunion Class in May 1981 from the Waco Valley of the Scottish Rite. He subsequently moved to Dallas and joined Dallas Valley. He received the Knight Commander Cross of Honors from Dallas Valley on September 14th, 2019. Matt is on the 16th and 32nd degree teams.

*Updated September 2021: M.Cast/F.Sloan*