

### **The WW II War Years Continue.**

November, 1942 Stated Meeting "A communication was read from the Grand Lodge Defense Recreation Committee."

January, 1943 "On motion, the Secretary was directed to write a letter of thanks to Bro Thiele for his labor in preparing the service plaque for our members in the service of the U.S."

July, 1943 bills paid IRS Victory Tax \$10.95 also no suspensions for delinquent dues.

Special dispensation was received from the Grand Master so that Grundy Thurman Taylor, who was receiving his basic training in Fresno, could be elected to receive his degrees in Las Palmas Lodge without complying with the residence requirements. He received his first degree on 7/15, second 8/12 and third 8/19/1943. Back then the candidates had to learn the "long form" of their work.

August, 1943 the widow of Frederick Beach Hopkins sent a "thank you" for the lodge performing his Masonic funeral and a check for \$100 to be used as the Lodge felt correct. The Lodge applied it to the Masonic War Fund. Brother Hopkins, and later his wife, was entombed in the old Fresno Mausoleum along with Past Masters Pottle, Clark and Dick.

August, 1943 "It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the Master be empowered to request such degrees being conferred on our newly elected candidates, Harry Edgar Colhouer who was stationed in Washington State, Leland Morris Edman and Donald Ernest Durfey who was in the active military, as may be necessary to complete their Masonic work, two of them now being in the U.S. Army service and the other probably soon to be inducted."

November, 1943 The Lodge purchased \$5,000 in U. S. Bonds.

In early 1944 WM Edwin Munn Fornes started a new practice. Lodge would open at 1 p.m. and confer the first & second parts of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree. Lodge would not close, but would be called to refreshment and then at labor in either the first or second degree at 4 or 6 p.m. for a single first or

second degree and then Lodge would resume work in the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree at 7:30 for another 3<sup>rd</sup> degree and to lecture the first candidate for the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree conferred that afternoon.

At the April, 1944 stated meeting there were 14 petitions for degrees. In November of that year there were 16 petitions. In December there were 10 petitions for degrees and 2 applications for affiliation. In this same month, seven PG&E employees received their 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees.

Saturday 10/7/1944 Lodge opened at 6:45 am and Bro Frank Lerrigo was obligated, Lodge went to refreshment for breakfast at 7:30 am and at 8:30 am Lodge went back to Labor to raise Bro. Lerrigo.

In March of 1945 the secretary's salary was increased to \$175 per month expense, an increase of \$50 per month. It was made retroactive to January, 1945. In today's dollars that would be \$2300.00.

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