



The Las Palmian

FRATERNAL ORGAN

of

Las Palmas Lodge, No. 366
F. & A. M.



APRIL 1969



LAS PALMAS MASONIC TEMPLE
2992 East CLINTON AVE. — FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93703
768-2303

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Home Phone 227-9643 Office Phone 268-0761

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EDITORS — "LAS PALMIAN"

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1763 Van Ness Ave., Fresno 93721 — Phone 237-2151

MASTER'S MESSAGE



My Brethren:

It hardly seems possible that spring is already here and this wonderful experience as Master of your Lodge is passing so quickly.

The month of March saw Bros. Stanley Francis James and Kenneth Eugene Hallmark receive their first degree. Bros. Arthur A. Arzrouni, Albert Savannus White and William Wallace Weigandt their second degree. Brother Paul Wyatt Ford received his third degree.

Bro. Walter Stanley Conkey was elected to membership by affiliation and Mr. Fred William Spears received his first degree on March 27th.

Your Master conducted two Masonic funerals; Bro. Drew on Feb. 22 and Bro. Mansfield on March 7th. Our brethren from the City Police Department had a fine turnout for Bro. Mansfield.

Our Dates, headed by Corrine Allred and assisted by Frances Gottner, Ruth Buckalew, Mildred Gaither, Ardel Stall, Dorothy Starr, Marybeth Kalstrom, Mary Perch, Mattie Ivy, Charlotte Shelly, Esther Young, Margaret Ahlenslager, Presida Pavlovich and Quinne Tcherkoyan served a wonderful ham dinner which was prepared by Mrs. Steinhilber. A great sauce went with the ham.

Our April stated meeting dinner will have Presida Pavlovich as chairman and assisted by Connie Lingerfelt. The fare will consist of roast beef with all the trimmings. Make your reservations early - call the Lodge.

We had for our guests at the last month's stated meeting dinner Miss Janice Larson, Honored Queen of Bethel No. 49; Miss Patricia Chatfield, Honored Queen of Bethel No. 197; Miss Gena Steinhilber, Honored Queen of Bethel No. 243 and Mr. Radley Reep, Master Councilor of Las Palmas Chapter, Order of DeMolay. They were introduced by their respective guardians and advisors: Mrs. Thelma Stocks, Mrs. Stith, Mrs. Contreras and Mr. Al Dadmun, P.M.

These young people each gave a fine talk describing their order, their programs and their plans. "We know them better by their visit." Thank you for honoring us with your presence.

Brethren, lest we forget, we owe it to ourselves to spread a little good will and cheer to lighten the burdens of our less fortunate brethren. We can do this in any number of ways — by giving blood, by donating to our fine Homes (at Union City and Covina), and by visiting our shut-ins. Remember Bro. Farris "Pinky" Humphrey? He has been

confined to an iron lung in his home for over 10 years. Won't those of you who can stop by please and say "Hi."

This month is dedicated to Public Schools Week. The Grand Master of California has so proclaimed, please read his proclamation on a following page and visit our Public Schools during Open House nite. Let us close the generation gap by paying a visit to our schools whether or not we have children in them. By such a visit we begin to have an understanding of the needs and problems of our educational system.

We have one bus filled and are working on the second one for our projected trip to Columbia State Park. Call Bro. Bud Pope (264-4767) for reservations, \$7.50 single; \$15.00 per couple - round trip and lunch included. April 19th is the date of the trip. We will leave the Temple at 8 a.m. and return back to the Temple the same evening. Free tours are available for your ladies while we confer a second degree.

Fraternally yours, William Ahlenslager, Master



TRESTLEBOARD

Thurs. April 10 - Second Degree

Friday April 11 - Third Degree - Inspector 416th District Official Visit. 50 year button presentation to Bro. Earl M. Follett

Thurs. April 17 - Stated Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Dinner With Our Dates, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. April - 19 - Second Degree, Columbia State Park
1 p.m. - Leave Temple 8 a.m.

Sunday April 20 - 416th District Meeting, Breakfast 9:00 a.m.
\$1.50. Master Masons invited.

Thurs. April 24 - Dark - Visit your Public Schools

Thurs. May 1 - Third Degree. Officers wear white jackets

CHEER-UP CORNER

BRO. FARRIS "PINKY" HUMPHREYS, an iron lung patient, would appreciate visitors at his home.

BRO. ED GAMMEL is a patient in the Valley Children's Hospital.

BRO. BEN PASCHALL is in the Fresno Convalescent Hospital.

KNOW YOUR OFFICERS YOUR ORGANIST



PAUL C. SHELLY, Las Palmas organist for the past 12 years, was raised April 12, 1945 by Past Master Dee Moyers and was first appointed to his office by Past Master Wayne Hearn.

He was the 11th child, born in 1905 to the Reverend and Mrs. W. A. Shelly. Mother Shelly usually accompanied the pioneer circuit rider throughout Michigan to sing and play the folding organ which they carried on the back of the buggy.

In June of '67, Paul finished his 40 year teaching career which included positions in Michigan, Illinois, New Mexico, California and 28 years of teaching music and social studies in the Fresno City Schools. Since retirement from school work, he has become a representative as well as a life and disability agent for Mutual Fund Associates, Inc.

Charlotte, his loving wife for the past 38 years, is the proud mother of two married sons. William is a high school business teacher in Los Angeles and is a member of Las Palmas Lodge. Robert is Industrial Products Manager for the Avery Label Company division in Monrovia. Both boys attended Jefferson Elementary School under the guiding hand of Brother Buckalew, and graduated from Roosevelt High School and Fresno State College.

Paul had this to say: "We often hear members say that one gets out of Masonry just what he puts into it. My experience is that if we put even a little effort into Masonry, we get a lot out of it. After many years of service as musician, it is still a real pleasure to play-the organ for Las Palmas, - as well as the other two Lodges - Fresno No. 247 and Center No. 465."

NEW STRENGTH

BRO. KENNETH S. WICKSTROM affiliated with Las Palmas from Excelsior Lodge No. 166 in San Francisco. He was born Jan. 24, 1915 in Seattle, Washington where he was graduated from Ballard High School, then attended University of Washington for 2 years.

He and his wife, Jean, have two daughters, Cheryl, 22, is a beautician, and Jill, 16, is a Rainbow Girl and attends Ballard High School.

Bro. Wickstrom works for the Independent Order of Foresters as membership deputy. Golf, bowling and swimming are his hobbies.



THE LODGE AND COLUMBIA



The town of Columbia originated when the Hildreth party discovered gold in the area in March 1850. Over 1,000 prospectors came after the first discovery but the shortage of water in 1850 and '51 slowed the town's growth. By May 1852 sufficient water was provided and a large business section was built. About two months later (July 26th) a dispensation was granted to certain brethren to form Columbia Lodge U. D. On May 6, 1853, a charter was issued to Columbia Lodge No. 28, with J. Vanzile, W.M., Charles Blake, S.W., and I. Levy, J.W. While under dispensation it initiated 12; passed 11; raised 9; and affiliated 12. During its first year under charter it initiated 17; passed 18; raised 21; and affiliated 10. While the mines were working the Lodge prospered, but after 41 years the decay of the town reduced the membership to the point where the Lodge surrendered its charter and was consolidated with Tuolumne Lodge No. 8 at Sonora.

The Lodge furnished one Grand Master of Masons in California, two Generals, two State Senators, and many other outstanding citizens.

The town provided a public school in rented quarters as early as 1854, but in 1860 it moved to the two story brick schoolhouse which is still standing. It is one of the oldest schoolhouses in California and was used for classes up to 1937.

Originally called Hildreth's Diggings and American Camp, the town was one of the richest in the Mother Lode. It was rough and wild in the early days and one of the ugliest lynchings of Gold Rush Days occurred there in 1855.

NEW STRENGTH

WILLIAM STANLEY WONG is a physician and surgeon in general practice. He is a native Fresnan, born Feb. 26, 1931, was graduated from Edison High, Fresno State College, and took a year of post graduate work at USC. Then he graduated from College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (now Calif. College of Medicine.)

Bro. Wong is a member of First Chinese Baptist Church, AMA, CMA, FMS, is on the Sierra Hospital staff, Clovis Memorial Hospital Associate staff and the St. Agnes Hospital courtesy privilege staff.

He and wife Millicent have three youngsters; Melinda Lee, age 5 years; Sharlene Michelle, age 3 years and William Scott, age 5 months. Hunting and bowling are listed as hobbies.

Grand Lodge Free And Accepted Masons Of California

ROBERT A. CRIGLER, *Grand Master*
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Proclamation

PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK - APRIL 21 thru' 25, 1969

In 1920, Grand Master Charles Albert Adams stated, "A crisis is now confronting the Public School system in America." He proclaimed Public Schools Week and called on all Masons to take an active interest in all matters effecting our Public Schools. Because of this action, our system of Public Schools has become the largest and best in all the world.

Today, a different crisis is confronting the Public School system in America. As Masons, and as exemplary citizens, we have a sacred trust, duty and obligation to maintain and support our Public Schools, Freedom's Foundation Stone.

I, therefore, proclaim the week of April 21 through 25, 1969 to be Public Schools Week and call on every Mason in California and Hawaii to let his voice and his actions be heard. As concerned citizens, we cannot remain silent. Apathy must be replaced with energetic resolution. I further direct:

That all Constituent Lodges in California and Hawaii actively participate in an appropriate Public Schools program.

That the suggestions offered by the Public Schools Committee be followed whenever possible.

That no Lodge programs or meetings be held during this period for purposes other than this observance with the exception of stated meetings.

That publicity be given Public Schools Week in the Trestleboard of Constituent Lodges.

That this proclamation be read at each of the stated meetings for March and April.

Dated: February 11, 1969

Fraternally yours, Robert A. Crigler, *Grand Master*

CHEER-UP CORNER

BRO. WES TOSTRUP is still confined to the Veterans Administration Hospital.

BRO. JACK SHELBURNE is recuperating at home.

DALE F. ORR, Treasurer of Las Palmas Lodge is presently a patient at the Fresno Community Hospital.



YORK RITE

By Allan S. Mason, Past Grand Commander
of the Grand Commandery of California



(Continued from March Edition)

The Royal and Select Masters degree as exemplified in the council is truly an explanation and the meaning of the many things he has learned theretofore, and he learns how the great secret of Free Masonry, as divulged to him in the Royal Arch degree, was preserved for his and future generations. Likewise he works on the site of the temple of Solomon. In truth and in fact, the Royal Master degree takes one back in time to the day before the death of the builder, who once again is the central character as he was in the third degree.

The Super Excellent Master Degree, though not a required degree in the York Rite, the mason again stands before the Temple of Solomon, to see the destruction of that beautiful temple by Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, and the apparent loss of all its great treasures. This degree is chronologically out of order as it belongs in point of time to the Royal Arch Degree. Going into Commandery the Order of the Red Cross embraces the portrayal of incidents occurring during the captivity, in which we go back into the Royal Arch, and are again reminded that the Jew is to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the ruined temple.

The Order of Malta, purely a christian degree, does not directly have reference to the craft masonry of Solomon's Temple. It's name is derived from the Island of Malta, and the setting dates back to the time of the crusades when admission to the order was sought as a means of the safe pilgrimage to the Holy Sepulcher.

The Order of Temple, Chivalric Masonry, is the first place in the York Rite of Freemasonry where it is a test of religious beliefs except the fundamental belief in the existence and perfection of Deity. No one can be a Knight Templar unless he be a Freemason, and, at the same time, recognize Jesus of Nazareth as the son of God. The ancient Templars obtained their connection with this temple which we labored to erect and saw it destroyed and rebuilt. They were first organized as a group which had for its goal wresting from the hands of the Saracen, the infidel, the possession of the Holy City and the holy hill upon which the temple once stood. Later they acted as guards for the pilgrims to and from this holy spot. And we see the connection in this degree with the operative craft which erected the Temple of Solomon.

The belief of Freemasonry is in one eternal and everliving God and that a Freemason is a child of God. Men have

always recognized, when they came to know one God, as the father of men and that they were unworthy by their sins of being called sons of God, thus ever yearning for a Messiah, a son of God, who would free them from the bondage of their sins. What is more natural than the Christian Freemason should have the same yearning? That he should look beyond the first temple and the second temple and the third temple of Herod to that spiritual temple, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. There are other indicia of unity, things which point back from the other degrees of the York Rite to the symbolic lodge, its symbolism, its philosophy, its single goal.

Freemasonry as taught in the York Rite is by means of symbols and allegories. Symbols, though simple but meaningful, are insistently impressed upon the minds of candidates. This is no less true in all the degrees of the York Rite. One only has to recall the great symbol of light, one of the most eloquent of all the symbols of Freemasonry, to show the unity of this ancient rite. The novitate is never away from it from the time he is "brought to light" in the entered apprentice degree until he sees it exemplified in the ceremony in the lighting of the taper at the triangle in the Order of the Temple.

There are dozens of other symbols which can be traced through the Rite, the working tools of the craft, the holy writings, the garb of simplicity and humility, and the persistent use of a material object to teach a spiritual lesson.

It can again be said that York Freemasonry teaches the story, the great allegories of the York Rite, the legend of Herod, the allegories of the captivity and the return of the faithful to the Holy City, the legend of the dedication and destruction of the people, the story of the cross, the legends of Templary, the teaching of a great truth by means of a story, all having for the central thought a knowledge of God as taught before the sacred hill of the Holy City. The York Rite does not have a centralization of control of government. But in its teachings it has unity: it is one.

In the long ago the immortal Emerson said "There is a sublime and friendly destiny by which the human race is guided - - the race never dying - - the individual never spared - - the results affecting the masses and the ages."

Every christian Mason should be a Knight Templar.

CHEER-UP CORNER

MARGARET AHLENSLAGER is in St. Agnes Hospital.

FRANK FARRAR, a sojourner, is confined to Community Hospital and would appreciate visitors from Las Palmas Lodge.

DON AKEY, brother-in-law of the late Bro. Price Robinson, is confined in the hospital in Berkeley, Calif.

THE SECRETARY'S CORNER

Las Palmas will greatly miss Price Robinson, P.M., who served our Lodge for approximately 14 years as secretary.

Over the years we have been blessed with the leadership and faithful devotion to Masonry and its principles by Price and our good friend, Willard Tanzer, P.M., who served for many years before him. They have left a void that is difficult to fill, for there is a saying "Give me men to match our mountains" - and most certainly Price and Willard qualified with this proverb. I had the pleasure of working with both of them over my 25 years in Masonry. Willard was my sponsor in Las Palmas and Price was my Senior Warden, succeeding me as Master in 1952.

I appreciate the confidence placed in me by our Worshipful Master and the members of our Lodge and I will endeavor to the utmost to fulfill the responsibilities of my office in the same tradition of those who have gone before me.

St. Patrick's Day (God bless the Irish) has ushered in balmy sunshine and spring weather. Let's hope the rains are over, for we have had a sufficient supply. With the advent of spring there is no good excuse for not going out once in a while, so how about leaving the "old fireside" now and then to join with us in your Lodge for an evening of good fellowship.

The greater portion of our membership has "hit the deck" with their 1969 dues. Those of you with "a sore arm," get it "out of the sling" and spread some ink on a check so that my office may forward to you our current dues receipt which opens the doors. While you are at it, add a little to the check to assist us in the upkeep of our Masonic Homes. To date only 360 of our members have contributed and we should have a better percentage than this for such a worthy cause. It is deductible in your payment to "Uncle Sam," so stretch forth a helping hand.

I will be looking forward to seeing you in "My Lodge and yours - Las Palmas."

Norm Foley, P.M.

NEW STRENGTH

BRO. HOWARD F. SMILEY was born July 6, 1926 in Shawville, Quebec, Canada. He is a Vocational School and Business College graduate. He is general sales manager for Buckner Sprinkler Co.

He and his wife, Dorothy, have two daughters, Sharon, 23 and Ruth 18. Golf and gardening are his hobbies.

His fraternal interests are Fresno Consistory, Tehran Temple and the Novkeys; Sales and Marketing of Fresno; National Agricultural Advertising and Marketing Ass'n.



GALLEY NEWS

by Wally Scott

- Thursday - February 27 - First Degree
Crew: Frank Wright, Bill Wharton and Russ Day
Served Waffles and syrup
- Thursday - March 6 - Second Degree
Crew: Paul Ford, Vart Harry and Frank Wright
Served Boysenberry Kuchen
- Thursday - March 13 - Third Degree
Crew: Don Shelburne, Stan Wong, Frank Wright and Russ Day
Served: Clam Chowder and Oyster Crackers
- Friday - March 14 - First Degree School of Instruction
Crew: Wally Scott
Served Waffles and syrup
- Tuesday - March 18 - Candidates Coaches School of Instruction
Crew: Phil Lewis and Craig Shaw
Served Donuts and Coffee



In Memoriam



BRO. JOE H. MANSFIELD passed away on March 3, and funeral services were held on March 7. He was born in Kentucky 83 years ago, and served on the Fresno Police Department from 1922 until he retired in 1947.

Surviving him are his widow, Myrtle; a brother, a grand son and five great grandchildren. He was a member of Las Palmas Lodge and the First Baptist Church.

FRATERNAL BONDS

BRO. CLARENCE E. LARSON has recently retired as a maintenance mechanic for Valley Nitrogen Producers, Inc. where he worked nearly nine years. Prior to this his electrical and mechanical career took him to Seattle, Los Angeles, Honolulu, and Guam. He also spent time farming in his early years in Reedley where he was born.

He and Mrs. Larson have one daughter, Maxine, and three grandchildren. Bro. Larson has a complete home work shop where he will spend much of his time during retirement.

THE GREEN YOUNGS were blessed with a new grand son on Friday, March 21, 1969.