



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

The Las Palmian

Volume XVI Issue 1

JANUARY 2012

Greetings from the Master elect

From the Faar West.....



A vaporous chill clouded the river bottom. The cold seemed to soak deep up the banks, climbing up the enlamed rocks and icy moss. Suddenly, the dark heron standing still before, sprung into the grey morning mist and disappeared with a squawk. "Hail, brother!" It was Downriver Dave paddling quietly from the shallows into the bank. I rose from my still and noiseless spot. Coffee?" I replied. "Just in time", said he.

The Masonic Greeting. A hearty, friendly and manly greeting. And the correct greeting for the year ahead of us. 2012 - the dreaded end of the Mayan calendar, the U.S. Presidential election, world-wide economic collapse, and even the end of the age (?) Certainly a time ripe with a growing malignant chaos in society and family around us. And more certainly a time requiring men to be men. And as Masons something more.

Here at the turn of the year, Masons can be proud. We are still standing. Holding forth values and moral integrity, still showing tolerance and a quiet yet solid benevolence in the face of confusion, doubt, and in some cases even despair. Now is the time when Masons of every creed, color and religion can make the most difference in the lives around us, in our families, our town and our culture. So "Hail, 2012!" Let's "occupy" Las Palmas Ponderosa Lodge! (grin)

Your Outgoing Senior Warden - Brother High.

If your Masonic Group does not have a page in this edition of our e-mail Las Palmian you did not submit your articles, pictures and calendar's by the
The third Thursday of the month.

Editor



Greetings from Senior Warden Elect



What a wonderful Christmas Dinner we had in December at Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge. Just under one hundred of the finest ladies and hardest working Masons joined together for the end of the year celebration and joyous evening among friends and family. Our outstanding "Stone Chef" Brother **Richard Vitz** cooked up an *amazing* prime rib with all the trimmings and many Masons (including our Officers Coach Worshipful Chuck Bersani and P.M. Marvin Wallace) spent the day helping in this endeavor. The passion and enjoyment

they put into their work was ***shared by all***. Thank You Gentlemen. ***What a fine job you have done this year!***

Many smiles were captured and shared that evening by our own LPP Papparazzi, Brothers **Dennis "Frenchy" Johnson** and **Courtney Bacom**. Santa Claus was in the house as well and many sweet ladies got to whisper their Christmas wishes to that jolly young lad. Thank you Brother **Richard Haggerty** once again for all that you do, making dreams come true. One of our newest Masons, Brother **Alan Hanson** who was initiated just one week before joined in at the Masters Table and Worshipful **Joseph E. Perry Jr.** gave two truly fine speeches. All present that evening felt the *passion* this man had for his Lodge and Brethren. Worshipful Perry's degree work and leadership brought ***the best*** out of those around him, and helped Las Palmas-Ponderosa shine in 2011. Well Done!

So many wonderful memories and great moments took place in 2011 so be sure to visit our website at www.LPP366.Org to catch up and enjoy. The Secretaries/Treasurers area meeting was a big hit and educational/informative as well. Thank you to Jennifer Banta and all those that attended. We look forward to seeing you all in 2012.

What the future holds no one is certain... yet *change* is upon us once again. With new officers being installed on January 8th, a change of duties is in order. As this proud Mason moves from the South to the West, change brings about motivation and encouragement. Let us not fear change; for fear is sometimes paralyzing and restricts us from enjoying this wonderful life we are given. Change is possibly there to keep us from becoming bored and complacent. Change can be a good thing! Let us put to use those "New Year's Resolutions" and make a change for the better.

It has been an absolute pleasure being your Junior Warden for 2011. Thank you all for making my family feel at home and becoming this Masons "home away from home." Thank you for keeping our family in your thoughts and prayers through our difficult time. What an incredible group of friends you all have become. For the ladies and their embracing hugs (you know who you are), for the Widows Club and your smiling faces, for the Past Masters who help all the "young guys" stay on track we Thank You. ***Thank You to all our patient wives*** who bless us year round... and a special thank YOU to Brother **Jim Clark**, words cannot begin to explain how proud we are of you and all you do to make Las Palmas-Ponderosa rock solid, the "***Cornerstone***" of our Masonic district. Your wonderful wife **Natalina Clark** has the patience of a Saint. May Santa bring her "***everything***" she wants for Christmas and more... she is definitely at the very top of our "nice" list!

Here is to 2012 and the bright future which awaits us all!

From your Senior Warden-elect

Richard A. Sherrod

Brethren, Friends, and Family,



Frost has blanketed the ground, the grass has turned brown, and the trees have lost their leaves. The year has come to a close and the winter sleep is upon us. This backdrop seems fitting as my year has come to an end. Reflecting back on the past year, we have had many accomplishments. As a lodge we have raised several Master Masons, and some of these new brothers have already taken seats in the officer line. They come to the degrees and participate in our functions. We travelled to Clovis and captured the Travelling Gavel. We attended a Grizzly baseball game, and watched the Fresno Monster hockey team win a double overtime game. We even spent a Sunday afternoon watching a San Francisco 49ers game on the television in the Parlor room. We had many practices and perfected our degree work. The new brothers we brought

into the lodge will be our legacy. It seems like just a short time ago I was asked to sit in the Senior Deacons position, and started my progression towards the East to become the Master of your lodge. I never really thought about how I was going to get there, but I knew I was going to enjoy the journey, and enjoy it I have. One of the first lessons I learned on joining the line is that nothing gets done by one person alone. We are a lodge of brothers, we succeed together, we fail together, and I must say, success is much more prevalent at Las Palmas-Ponderosa than failure ever is, for the brothers in this lodge refuse to let anyone fail, hence we all succeed together. With this thought in mind I need to thank all of those who have made my year so wonderful. First I would like to thank all the members of LPP 366 and their ladies. You have always encouraged me, and always made me feel like everything I do is worthwhile. The officers that served with me this year, you made every practice, you made all the degrees, you attended the OSI, you came to the dinners, and you never complained. I am proud to be associated with you. Richard Vitz, you took charge of the kitchen and its staff, and the meals are fantastic, both stated meetings, and the degrees. The past masters of this lodge, who kept me straight, Gordon Keeton, you filled every chair when asked, and always did it with a smile. John Herring, you taught me to extend a hand of welcome on every occasion, to look at every person like they are the most important person in the room, because they are. Bob Davis, a friend and a mentor, I would go through the line ten more times if I could gain a friendship like that each time. Chuck Bersani, as the officer's coach, you tirelessly kept me in check, perfect degree work is all you ask, and I tried to make you proud. Marvin Wallace, you appointed me to the line, which started this incredible journey. I would have never experienced any of this if it had not been for that night when you asked me to "just come to the OSI, you will learn a lot". There are so many of the Past masters who have helped me, Larry, Curtis, Cub, Sean, Jim, Dick, Joe, I could go on, but there is not enough paper to thank you all. Their involvement demonstrates how strong this lodge is. We do not have to rely on past masters filling our stations; they fill positions in the lodge because they want to, not because they have to. Jim Clark, our Secretary, I cannot begin to tell you how grateful I am to have you as the secretary and a friend. Everything you do is with the goal to make our lodge and its members look good, protocol is important, and you always strive to do things right. You made my year much easier than I could have hoped for. You chastised me when I needed it, and defended me when you could, you're a huge asset to this lodge, and I will always be indebted. Yeah I know, but it needed to be said. To my widows, the dignity with which you carry yourselves, the ever present smiles, you ladies are the best, I have enjoyed being around you, and the love of this lodge you constantly show. To all the ladies of the lodge, for behind every great Mason, there is a greater woman. Thank you for letting my brothers come out and play. Finally to my family, it has been a sacrifice; the boys always know when dad slips on a suit or tux that he is going off to lodge. They quietly say, "Lodge night." And to Cindy, my wife, she did not ask to be involved in this, but she followed along, always supporting, always loving. I could not have asked more from her, and God could not have blessed me more with her.

As to what my future at LPP holds...

I WILL SEE YOU IN LODGE!

Fraternally,
Joseph E Perry
Past Master



January Stated Meeting Dinner



Notes from the Kitchen:

The New Year is starting with the Installation of our New Officers of Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge on January 8th 2012. There will be heavy Hors d'oeuvres, light lunch items and adding desert fare for your gastronomic enjoyment. To promote friendship and participation in the Lodge a new tradition was started in 2011 by having a meal before Degrees, practices and OSI's, at no cost to the Brethren. These dinners have been supported by the \$10.00 charge for the Stated Diners and has worked out very well.

I want to thank Worshipful's Marvin Wallace and Chuck Bersani for their assistance in prepping and cooking the meals for the Stated Meeting Dinners. This is an all day endeavor, starting with setting the tables, prepping food, assembling appetizers, getting dishes in the oven and serving dinner on time. I would also like to thank the officers for their help plating, serving dinner and desert. Our first Stated Meeting menu of the New Year on 1/19/2012; will be:

Appetizers

Tossed Green Salad w/dressing

Hearty stick to your ribs Beef stew with vegetables

A great artisan bread to soak up the gravy from the stew

Bread pudding with spiced cream sauce





Many thanks to Richard (Santa) and Lynne Haggerty for all the events they attended for our Masonic groups for pictures with Santa. What a great Santa!



January Birthday's



		Raised Date			Raised Date
William D. Mackrill	1/25	4/9/1953	Marvin E. Wallace	1/10	12/8/1964
Lewis D. Wagoner	1/11	1/21/1949	John R. Reynolds	1/17	5/2/1968
Gordon G. Scott	1/12	2/13/1958	Dennis M. Johnson	1/17	2/2/1995
Clifton L. Kennedy	1/25	6/23/1956	Anthony L. Atkission	1/30	11/6/1968
Howard D. Sutliff	1/1	7/3/1957	Michael E. Ratley	1/22	9/6/1996
Ronald L. Copp	1/5	5/17/1952	Bahram Shifteh	1/1	4/27/1982
Dean L. Sigle	1/12	5/24/1961	James C. Stahl	1/18	2/11/1999
Robert B. Bower	1/25	11/2/1961	William D. Yelkin	1/27	5/6/1989
Kendrick M. Mc Kinley	1/9	12/19/1956	Kenneth M. Hoskin	1/29	2/5/1987
James G. Fisher	1/23	6/9/1960	Thomas J. Bekhdoud	1/9	9/29/1994
Thomas D. Carlson	1/7	9/6/1961	David M. Byrnes	1/15	3/6/2008
John R. Sanderson	1/18	10/24/1978			

From The Ladies Corner...

Don't forget... after the Stated Meeting Dinner the *Ladies* of Las Palmas-Ponderosa meet in the little room in the corner. We have had a great year enjoying tea and fellowship as the Boys "play in Lodge" in their Stated Meeting. All are welcome to be a part of the fun.

Cindy, we'd like to thank you for a fun year where we got to really get to know each other. The hot tea has been yummy and you do make great muffins!

This year we would like to have the ladies input on the activities you would like to do this year. We will be having a BP check screening for our widows, a ladies day out, and a boutique. Please come and share your ideas. We look forward to having more ladies join us each month.

Blessings and Peace, until we meet again.
See you on the third Thursday!

- From the Little Mouse in the Corner



IN MEMORIAM

Frank J. Volpa

Born 11/01/1923– Raised 12/26/1956
Called from labor
November 26, 2011

I received a note from Brother Volpa's wife, Barbara that he passed away from heart problems, When entering this information in to i-member , I found Brother Volpa has been a member for fifty five years, NO Golden Veterans Award, how embarrassing for Masonry and us as a Lodge to allow this to happen again!

FRESNO MASONIC WIDOWS CLUB

Wednesday, January 25, 2012 Noon

Fresno Masonic Center

Will be having soup

President; Ethel Day

Vice-President; Bobbi Carder

Secretary; Hilda Johnson

Treasurer; Jane James

Reservations Required

For Information call (559) 276-2631

The Masonic Widows Club meets for lunch and fellowship on the last Wednesday of each month.

All Masonic Widows are welcome to attend. If you have questions or would like to participate please contact;

Bobbi Carter 322-6851

Ethel Day 276-2631



2012 Officers

Worthy Matron.....	Lena Cook
Worthy Partron.....	John Herring
Associate Matron.....	Susan Quinville
Associate Patron.....	Gordon Keeton
Secretary.....	Donna Herring
Treasurer.....	Kurt Docken
Conductress.....	Cathy Lee
Associate Conductress.....	Becky Davis
Chaplain.....	Garrett Rickman
Marshall.....	Jim Wilson
Organist.....	Virgins Bergeron
Adah.....	Jeannette Foote
Ruth.....	Kay Docken
Esther.....	Judy Wallace
Martha.....	Ruth Sterry
Electa.....	Lynn Haggerty
Warder.....	Robert Davis
Sentinel.....	Bill Phelps



*January 4, 2012; Obligation Night-Auld Lang Syne
Attire; Formal; Chairman, Frieda Cazier
Co-Chairman; Lena Cook*

*January 18, 2012; He's Got the Whole World in his Hands
Attire; Formal; Chairman; Donna Haggerton*

*January 22, 2012; 8:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M. Leadership Workshop
Attire; Business
Las Palmas Masonic Center*

Happy Holidays from the Officers and Members of La Sierra-Venus Chapter 555. Order of Eastern Star.

Our installation for the 2012 Officers was a beautiful evening, and we appreciate so much everyone who came to see our new officers installed. We all carried "Toys for Tot's" instead of the usual carry-ins, all were given to help some children have a toy at Christmas time. We will be doing several charitable projects in the coming year. We say Thank you to all visitors who brought toys to help.

The Worthy Grand Matron's watchwords are -HUMILITY-OPTIMISM-RESPECT-SINCERITY-ENTHUSIASM. The Worthy Grand Patron's are-UNITY-SERVICE-NAVIGATION. My Worthy Patron, Bro. John Herring 7 I plan to use all these words this year with great ENTHUSIASM. Our chapter is very proud to have 7 (Seven) Brothers gracing our floor as officers, and several other Great Brothers doing all the unseen jobs that sometimes do not get credit for, like Host, Electrician, Go-fer, already showing RESPECT AND UNITY, as we Sisters & Brothers work together for the "Good of our Order"

The Worthy Grand Matron has chosen an Angel as one of her emblems & I have chosen to do "Angels Among Us" certificates. Our first "Angel" to receive the award was Sister Hilary Brogdon Chartier, for her Service and Dedication for the welfare of Others. Our chapter is blessed with many Angels, so this should Be a good year. We have several other things planned, have already started the "TRAVELING GAVEL"

And it is bringing in visitors and interest already, it has traveled all the way to Merced in the first couple of meetings. We will be promoting other projects as the year progresses. We need all our members to attend our meetings, and welcome new members, if interested, just ask one of our members. WE WANT YOU.

Remember we meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday, here at Las Palmas Center. Food and Friendship at 6:30 P.M. & Chapter starts at 7:30 P.M.

As we NAVIGATE on life's busy thoroughfares
We with OPTIMISM meet with Angels unawares
So, Father make us RESPECTFUL, Kind and Wise
So we may with HUMILITY always recognize
The SINCERITY of the blessings that are ours to take
The UNITY of Friendships that are ours to make.
If with ENTHUSIASM we open our heart's door wide
To let the SERVICE of Love inside.

Please join us at chapter. Lena Cook: Worthy Matron John Herring: Worthy Patron, & Officers of 2012

*Sharon Temple No. 92
2011-2012
Officers*

*Queen Dale Obernolte
Jr. Past Queen . . . Cheri Detweiler P.Q.
Princess Royal Bonnie Gorden
Princess Tirzah. Jeri Rouch
Princess Badoura. Lenore Stork
Princess Recorder . . . Marilyn DeCamp
Princess Banker . . . Susan Morris P.Q.
Princess Marshall JoAnn Evans
Princess Chaplain . Jeanne Esheim P.Q.
Lady of the Keys . . Barbara Lockwood
Lady of the Gates Jo Ann Morse
Princess Zulieka Brenda Matais
Princess Zenobia. Carol Rea Littleworth
Princess Zora Adrienne Cantrell
Princess Musician . . Virginia Bergeron
Attendant Eria Hildebrand
Attendant Louisa Bowron*



December 14, 2011, Nile Stated Session, an evening with Santa

Calendar:

*January 4, 2012, 11:30 A.M.
Tulare-Kings Nile Club
TBA*

*December 11, 2012, 7:30 P.M.
Nile Stated Session
Las Palmas Masonic Center
Memorial
Banquet Room, Elective Patrol*

*December 18, 2012, 9:30 A.M.
Tehran Shrine Center
Hostesses; Cheri Detweiler, P.Q.
Pr. Nancy Meeks*



**LAS PALMAS-PONDEROSA
LODGE NO. 366, F & A M**

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JANUARY 2012

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

A REQUEST TO THE FAMILY OF THE ADDRESSEE
Please notify the Lodge if our Brother is hospitalized, in a Nursing home, change of Address or incapacitated in any way.



Happy New Year !!

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U.S. POSTAGE
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From the Desk of the Secretary



Grand Lodge has made a change in the Application for Degree's and Application for Affiliation forms effective January 1, 2012. All applicants and out of state affiliations will be required to sign for a back ground check. Please destroy any forms that are blue, yellow or white as we cannot except any old forms after January 1, 2012. Our degree fee will increase \$15.00 to \$230.00.

Everyone enjoyed Santa and pictures at the December Stated Meeting Dinner and the great Prime Rib Dinner

prepared by Richard Vitz and his crew and the fine wine provided by Don Williams.

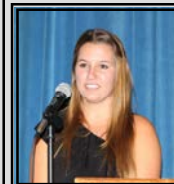
Join us for Coffee weekday mornings .



January Lodge Calendar of Events

- January 5, 2012 6:30 P.M. Dinner
7:00 P.M. Second Degree, Trevor Clark
Installation Practice to follow
- January 8, 2012 11:00 A.M. Installation, Reception to follow
- January 10, 2012 6:00 P.M. Hall Association Board Meeting
Officers meeting to follow
- January 12, 2012 6:30 P.M. Dinner
7:00 P.M. Third Degree, Smart
- January 19, 2011 6:00 P.M. Appetizers
6:30 P.M. Dinner
7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting
Master presents 2012 Budget
- January 26, 2012 6:30 Dinner
7:00 P.M. Second Degree

Scholarship Applications are now available, must be returned by March 31, 2012 There will be a \$1000.00 and \$500.00 Scholarship for graduating seniors in 2012.



2011 Scholarship Awards