

If you have attended any of our recent Lodge installations, you probably saw a red and black toy metal steam roller and heard the "Steam Roller Talk". There is a long history of this unusual Masonic emblem at Las Palmas Lodge. It started in December, 1932 when Brother Roy Leighton Winters, the father of Dan Winters, presented the Lodge with a "bright red steam roller."

Brother Dan Winters father had observed that in some of the other Masonic Lodges there were men who had worked their way through the chairs but when it became time for them to be elected a Warden or Master, they were denied this privilege. Since harmony is one of the strengths of our Masonic society, he did not want this to ever happen at Las Palmas Lodge.

To accomplish this, he presented Las Palmas Lodge, at their December, 1932 stated meeting, "a bright red steam roller which was to be put in the archives of the Lodge and brought out each annual election night." As the steam roller smoothes the ground for further development, so will the steam roller smooth out the progression of junior officers as they develop into the Wardens and the elected Master.

Brother Roy, and later his son Dan, gave a prepared speech about how the steam roller was a "Masonic Emblem and important Working Tool of the Fraternity" at the annual stated meeting immediately preceding the election of officers. Since the steam roller was adopted as a Masonic Emblem at Las Palmas Lodge, it has performed its duty every year.

Brother Dan Winters was the Master of Las Palmas Lodge in 1940. If it took 7 years of being in the "line" before being elected Master, then this steam roller may very well have been presented at the beginning of Brother Dan's progression in the officers line. Our annual election of officers took place at the December stated meeting until it was moved to the November stated meeting a few years ago. I do not know why the "steam roller speech" was moved from election night to the installation but perhaps someday it will be moved back to election night so that it can help serve its original purpose.

4/20/1933 A communication was received from Grand Lodge recommending that we do not cut our initiation fees. It looks like the fee at this time was \$105.00, an amount equal to \$1,800.00 today. What a financial bargain Masonry is today.

6/15/1933 Communications were received from the Grand Master respecting unemployment situation, also admonishing the membership not to serve 3.2 beer at any Masonic gathering. It took many years before Lodges could serve beer or wine.

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