

For many years, Las Palmas Lodge had a practice of having the Master who first appointed a member to the Officers line; nominate that person seven years later to be Master. At the December, 1979 Stated Meeting, I was nominated by Phil Lewis to be Master for the 1980 Masonic year.

On Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, Grand Master Vernon Gordon was our Installing Officer and the Master of Ceremonies was our own Sam Pavlovich who would be our Grand Master ten years later. A close family friend and longtime member of Las Palmas, Coyle Chambers, was our installing Organist. Other elected officers were: **Sr. Warden** - Gary Starr, **Jr. Warden** - Jim Kleinknight, **Treasurer** – Bill Wharton, **Secretary** – Bob Paden. The appointed officers were: **Chaplain** – Wally Scott, **Sr. Deacon** – Eldon Cole, **Jr. Deacon** – Larry Hopper, **Marshall** – Dave Leslie, **Sr. Steward** – Larry Duba, **Jr. Steward** – Robert Wendel, **Organist** – Paul Shelly, **Tiler** – Frank Wright.

In the 40 years since I served as our Master, we have lost both Grand Masters Vernon Gordon and Sam Pavlovich plus Jim Kleinknight (Master in 1982), Eldon Cole (Master in 1983), Bill Wharton, Bob Paden, Wally Scott, Dave Leslie, Dr. Robert Wendel, Paul Shelly and Frank Wright.

Gary Starr followed me as Master in 1981. Larry Hopper served as our Master in 1984 and is still very active in Masonry as he is a Trustee of Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge and is also the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Masonic Properties Committee. Larry Duba served as our Master in 1985.



Time has taken its toll on all of us and certainly I have aged a little as you can see from a picture of me taken with Grand Master Vern Gordon on the night of my Installation.

1980 was not only my year as Master of Las Palmas, it was also the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Las Palmas Lodge. Because of this, I decided to have a sit down dinner for up to 300 of those who attended my Installation. Mary Perch, along with the dates and several members, prepared a Shish Ka-bob dinner with all of the trimmings.

In the forty years that I have been a Past Master, I have filled every position in our Lodge, even if only once or twice, except Installing Officer at an Installation, and Organist. Since I do not play the organ, that opportunity will never be mine. However, Worshipful Mark Stroup selected me to be his Installing Officer and even though it was a virtual installation, I have now achieved this honor. Thank you Worshipful Stroup.