

As many of you know, we recently lost our Marshall, Joshua Crane, due a tragic accident. The



death of any person is unfortunate, but when it is of a young man who has a wife and young daughter, it is devastating. I first met Joshua in 2015 when I was part of his investigating committee and went to his house to interview him. He told me that he had served his country in Afghanistan and later on worked for a U.S. contractor over there.

I watched Bro Joshua go through his degrees and also saw him serve his lodge by doing tasks around our building. I also observed some of the ongoing pain that he had from serving his country. I was happy to see him appointed Senior Steward in 2017 and Marshall in 2018, 2022 and 2023. Thank you for your service to our Country and to our Lodge. Bro Joshua, you will be deeply missed by all of us at Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge. My deepest condolences go to your wife and daughter.

From the very start, Las Palmas Lodge always held its Stated Meeting on the third Thursday of the month. In my reading of the old minutes, I can find no reason why we held this important meeting so late in the month. Most Lodges hold their Stated Meeting during the first week of the month. There can, however, be problems with holding our Stated Meeting so late in the month. Since our Grand Lodge holds its annual communication in October, sometimes this can take place on the third Thursday. When this happens, Grand Lodge will direct us to hold our Stated Meeting on the second Thursday. In 1984, Maunday Thursday was on the third Thursday and to allow all of our Brothers who were in Scottish Rite to attend Maunday Thursday services, we got a dispensation to hold our Stated Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in April.

As a side note, Clovis Lodge was one of the Lunar Lodges in California. A Lunar Lodge held its Stated Meeting on a specific day of the week (Thursday for Clovis Lodge) but the week of the month was the one with the Stated Meeting closest to the full moon. This was to allow the members to have the aid of a full moon to travel to and from Lodge. Eventually, Clovis Lodge did away with its Lunar Lodge schedule and converted to a specific Stated Meeting schedule. I understand that there are a handful of Lunar lodges still operating in California. The closest one to us is Mariposa Lodge.

In our April, 1984 Trestleboard, Jr. Warden John Denton reported "Brother Tip Banks, Chapter Dad for our Las Palmas DeMolay Chapter has informed me that the Chapter is steadily growing and wishes to thank all the brethren of the Las Palmas Lodge for their support of all the Chapter activities.

Unfortunately, our Las Palmas DeMolay Chapter is no longer in existence.