

In the process of scanning all of the Las Palmas Lodge minutes of meetings, I am currently working on the minutes from the 1920's. As I scan them, I also get a chance to glance at what was taking place during the Roaring Twenties after WW I.

At our November, 1920 Stated Meeting the following resolution was read:

A petition signed by twelve Master Masons requesting this lodge to recommend to the Grand Master that a charter be granted for the purpose of forming a new lodge was read and on motion the W. M. was authorized to appoint a committee to investigate the matter.

At our December Stated Meeting the following appears in our Minutes.

The Committee appointed on the Petition for the formation of another Masonic Lodge in the City of Fresno reported unfavorable and on motion the report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

The Committee must have changed their minds as in 1922 Sun Garden Lodge No. 530 was formed.

Today our main source of revenue comes in the form of dues from our members. Back in the 1920's this was not the case. In January of 1920 dues received were \$888.00 (You could pay them quarterly then if you so desired.) Fees for degrees received were \$1,140.00. At this time Las Palmas Lodge was in the process of increasing the fees for the degrees to \$100. In today's dollars it would be over \$1,600.

I have no way of knowing exactly what the candidates' proficiencies consisted of in the 1920's, but I imagine that it was similar to what we have today. My Uncle Ray Frey was initiated on May 26, 1927 and gave his 1st degree candidates proficiency in open Lodge on June 16. Later in the year he was passed to a Fellow Craft and one week later he gave his 2nd degree proficiency. If we didn't have TV, cell phones or internet today, I wonder how fast our current candidates would learn their proficiencies.