

There are many pleasures that we can get from Masonry. Fellowship with members of our own Lodge is one, but fellowship with members of other Lodges is another. Recently, I was in Salem, Oregon visiting my daughter and her girls when I found out that Vista Lodge was going to put on a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree. Last November I had visited Vista Lodge when they had their annual election of officers and I found them to be very cordial. To be courteous, I arrived a little early and spoke with several of the Brothers before Lodge started.

Oregon is AF & AM so their ritual is different from our F & AM ritual in some places. When I was supposed to do something and I did not know what to do, a kind Brother guided me. As to their 2<sup>nd</sup> degree when compared to ours, it was like the same story, but by a different author. If you are out of state and have a chance to visit a Lodge, particularly on a degree night, by all means do it. I am sure you will thoroughly enjoy yourself.

One of the most important duties of a Master is to appoint a member to the Officers Line. When I was going through the line, a Master normally got only one opportunity to make this appointment. This appointment is normally made before the new Master is installed so the appointee can be installed with the rest of the officers. The tradition was that you would then follow your appointee and his appointee and so forth. You were, in essence, following your "children" and "grandchildren" etc.

My appointment to the office of Marshall was David Ellis Leslie. Brother Leslie had received his degrees of Masonry in Warren Lodge No. 33 in Warren, Arkansas and he had affiliated with Las Palmas in 1971. David was a patent attorney in Fresno and showed much enthusiasm as a junior officer. In 1982 he was our Sr. Stewart until cancer attacked him. Tragically, he passed away on December 26, 1982. This loss means we not only lost a brother, but we lost a potential Master who, I am sure, would have been a good Master.

In January of 1983 Eldon Cole was installed as our Master. WM Cole was one of the many Greyhound drivers who were active members of Las Palmas Lodge. From day one, I remember seeing Brother Eldon fill in for just about all of the officer positions in all three degrees. In the early days, I also remember Brother Eldon using a special cane to help him walk. He then had surgery on his back and after that; the cane was nowhere to be seen. Brother Cole was my Sr. Deacon and was very good with his ritual.

In his March Trestleboard message, WM Cole expressed a problem that every Master would like to have: "The only problem we seem to have is finding enough nights to confer all the Degrees that our candidates are working to attain. Keep it up, coaches and candidates, we will find the time." Wouldn't we love to have that problem today.