

As many of you know, I was initiated in the fall of 1967. Whenever I would look at the list of organizations that met at Las Palmas, which was posted just outside the door into the building from the parking lot, there were listings for Jobs Daughters, Rainbow for Girls, DeMolay, Daughters of the Nile, more than one Eastern Star, The Parlor Lecture Club and Las Palmas Lodge. Our Temple was a busy place six, and sometimes seven, days a week.

When I became Master in 1980, our Temple was just as busy. At this time, my two children were too young to join a Masonic youth group so I was somewhat unfamiliar with these organizations and their ritual. I, therefore, asked all of the youth groups that shared our Temple to hold a meeting on a Thursday night at our Lodge so that Master Masons and their wives could attend. On Thursday October 23 at 7:30 the Jobs Daughters initiated two of their candidates for us. I was very much impressed with the ritual of all of the Masonic youth groups that joined us. This was the last time that I had the opportunity to witness the ritual of our Masonic youth. Perhaps now is the time to resurrect the invitation to our youth groups.

Our beautiful Temple is now over 60 years old. In the beginning it had lots of tenants



and now, not so many. When the building was new, members made various contributions to the building and its furnishings. The apron box was the work of Bro. Ed Carpenter who was our master in 1970. He also made the special traveling apron box in a suitcase for use at funerals. Ed made our secretary's key cabinet and the frame for the Master's picture above the tiler's desk. Several past masters, including myself, are appreciative of the gavels made for them by Ed. The

only time that I have used this gavel, since leaving the east, was for our virtual Installation in January of this year.

In the December Trestleboard, I gave my farewell message. Although it is 41 years since I gave this message, every word of it is still applicable today:

"As your Master, there are only so many things that I was personally able to do. The majority of the work was done by others. For this reason I am taking this opportunity to thank all of you that worked for the betterment of our Lodge. I do, however, desire to give special mention to the following: All the officers of Las Palmas Lodge and especially Gary Starr. As Master, I had to have a right-hand man to help me out with funerals and with the business of running your Lodge. Gary was always there when I called him. To you Gary, I wish you a fantastic year as Master. Special mention is also needed for Bob Paden. As secretary, Bob was excellent. There are a lot of chores that must be done for the efficient operation of our Lodge and Bob did all

that I requested of him. Your Temple was effectively operated as a Masonic Temple and as a business. This was possible because of Temple Board President Jake Cannon and the other members of the board. My thanks also go to Bro. John Kinsey who will be retiring as Treasurer. During my year as Master there were sixteen dinners served. This was made possible by Mary Perch and the "Dates". My sincerest thanks go to all of you. One thing that makes Las Palmas so great in its attendance and spirit is the fantastic food which we serve every month. This was our seventy-fifth anniversary year and I believe that we had the most proper of birthday celebrations. This was made possible by a lot of people, but special thanks go to Worshipful Wayne Hearne, PM who was chairman of the seventy-fifth anniversary committee. Wayne, your program was not only a tribute to those before me, but it will be an important part of Las Palmas Lodge when it celebrates its one hundredth anniversary in 2005. My wife, Therese, has been a Masonic widow for the past eight years. My young children have also learned that "Lodge" means daddy won't be home tonight. To Therese I say thanks for letting me be Master and for the help that you gave me. To Erica and Wesley, daddy will now be home on Thursday nights."

I kept my promise to Therese and my children and during 1981 I only attended Las Palmas Lodge on one occasion; Past Master's Night. This way our Lodge could be run by its new Master, Gary Starr, without input or obstruction from the junior Past Master.