

When our Grand Lodge met in October of 1979 it adopted a new form of recognition for a brother who had freely given many years of service to his Lodge. This recognition was called The Hiram Award. There were no specified requirements for the recipient, just that he had given years of faithful service to his Lodge. In 1979, I was the Senior Warden and together with Master Bobby Bingham we selected Paul Chandler Shelly as our first Hiram Award recipient. Brother Paul had been our Lodge Organist since 1955 and had also served on our Public Schools-Education committee for many years. The following year I, as Master, selected our second Hiram Award recipient—Wallace Raymond Scott. Brother Wally had been our Chaplain since 1970 and had served on many Lodge committees including the Bicentennial and Public Schools-Education. You can check out all of our Hiram Award recipients by going to our website [www.lpp366.org](http://www.lpp366.org) and clicking on the tab on the left side of the page for Hiram Award Recipients.

In the ensuing years, the selection of a Hiram Award Recipient at Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge has gone from the Master to a committee. One thing has not changed; however, the recipient has always given much to his Lodge. In the 33 years since its inception, Las Palmas and Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge have bestowed only 28 Hiram Awards. At our last Stated Meeting, I was placed in that distinguished group of Brothers as our Lodge's 29<sup>th</sup> Hiram Award recipient.

I believe that I can speak for all 29 of us in saying that we gave our service to our Lodge not in anticipation of receiving a Hiram Award, but out of love and respect for our Lodge and the Brother Masons who make up our Lodge.

For those of you who did not attend the dinner and presentation, you missed a great steak dinner and a wonderful presentation by Master Richard Sherrod. For those 70+ brothers, friends, and family who attended I thank you!

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