

In preparation for this month's article, I did a scan of my notes and found the following: "In 1969 a fund in memorial to Eugene Draper Kelly was established for the upkeep and repair of our Lodge Building. Bro Kelly died July 9, 1969.

Further research revealed the following: Bro. Kelly took his degrees of Masonry in Las Palmas Lodge in 1947 and 1948. In 1964, he demitted and joined Consuelo Lodge No. 325 in Escondido. In 1966, he demitted Consuelo Lodge and rejoined Las Palmas Lodge even though he was then residing in Kings County. In his petitions to join Las Palmas, he indicated that he was a salesman for Westinghouse Electric in Fresno. Bro. Kelly was never an officer of Las Palmas Lodge.

In his will, he designated "The Secretary of Las Palmas Lodge" as the executor of his will. He also specified that 1/3rd of his estate was to go to the "Las Palmas Building Association" for construction of or repair of our Lodge Building. 1/3rd of his estate was to go to the California Masonic Homes and 1/3rd to the Fresno Elks Lodge. He had no surviving relatives and he was divorced.

Our Lodge Secretary at that time was Norm Foley and in Bro. Kelly's Lodge file folder are copies of all of the probate documents that Bro. Foley had to sign off on as the Executor. When all was said and done, including the payment of estate taxes, our Las Palmas Building Association received \$5,666.38 and Bro Foley got about \$700. as statutory executor fees. I do not know what our Temple Board used this money for, but in today's dollars it would be about \$42,000.

I took my degrees in late 1967 and early 1968, was appointed to the Officer's line in 1972, was Master in 1980 and have never been on the Temple Board, but have attended some Temple Board meetings. I have been a Trustee since 2009. In all those years I have never heard of this fund for upkeep and repair of our Lodge Building. I wonder what ever happened to it and if there is something physical in our Lodge Building which acknowledges this memorial gift from Brother Kelly.

By the front door entrance to our Temple there are several plaques honoring those who gave to our Lodge, but Bro. Kelly's name is not on any of these plaques.

In my notes, I also found: "There is a T. D. Moyer fund for our DeMolay boys."

I do remember Brother T. D. Moyer. I remember sitting in Lodge with him on many occasions and I also attended his Masonic funeral in our Lodge. I also remember when Las Palmas sponsored the Las Palmas DeMolay Chapter. I do not know what year this DeMolay Chapter folded.

For those of you who did not know, Bro Moyer and his wife Gilma gave us the land upon which our Temple was built in the late 1950's. He also helped pay for many items that are part of our beautiful Temple.

To let future generations of Las Palmas members know of the generosity of Bro. Moyer, there are plaques on both of the pillars that he gave to us when we moved to our new Temple in 1960 and there is a portrait of him in the foyer.

