

When I was raised a Master Mason in 1967 I immediately started to visit other local lodges to view their work. I soon found out that if the candidate was employed by either PG&E or So. Cal Edison, they were conferred their 3rd degree by a degree team made up of their fellow employees. This practice started many years ago and the following list is of the degree teams that participated in conferring 3rd Degrees at Las Palmas Lodge in the 1920's and up until the mid- 1950's: **Pacific Telephone, Southern California Edison, San Joaquin Power and Light (now PG&E), Standard Oil Company, employees of Fresno County, employees of Fresno City, Fresno County Public Schools, Fresno Realty Board, Kiwanis Club, Fresno Lyons Club, California Grays of San Francisco, Shaver Lake Fishing Club. Sun Maid Raisins, Fresno Bar Association. Superior Ct. Judges and attorneys, Greyhound Bus Lines, Santa Fe Rail Road, Fresno Bee, California Highway Patrol, Langendorf Baking Co., Belmont Christian Church, North American Aviation, Sears Roebuck & Co.**

Currently, when a candidate receives his 3rd Degree, Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge presents him with a Masonic Bible. When I was raised, the practice was a little different; you got the Masonic Bible when you gave your 3rd Degree proficiency. The presentation of a Masonic Bible by Las Palmas Lodge didn't start until January 24, 1929 when "copies of the Holy Writings" were presented to several members who had just given their 3rd Degree proficiency.

Our Lodge has always been a good neighbor. September 18, 1930 "The American Tree Association asked our cooperation in planting ten million trees throughout the country in memory of Geo. Washington whose two hundredth. Anniversary of his birth will be celebrated February 22, 1932."

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