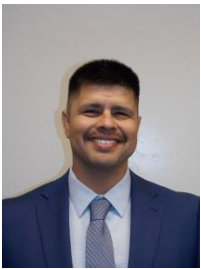


Last night (October 26) we had the honor and privilege of Making John Wilson a Master Mason in Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge.

I have been writing this article for over 10 years and I have never singled out a new Master Mason before, but I think it is time that I do. John Wilson grew up in Selma and attended high school in Fresno. He has been married to his wife Danielle for 13 years and they have two boys ages 11 & 12 and a girl age 8. He and his wife run a family company that installs and repairs fire sprinklers.

When our Chaplain, Stan Walker, was absent from Lodge due to medical problems, who was our acting chaplain for 1<sup>st</sup> degrees and Stated Meeting? It was Brother Wilson who was a newly initiated Entered Apprentice Mason. When I and Brother Larry Hopper put on Brother Mike Reynolds funeral at the Fresno Convention Theater, I was very impressed that in the audience were Brother Wilson and his wife, Danielle. It was Brother Wilson who took the picture of me performing the Masonic Funeral Service that I previously posted on our Lodge website home page.



We all know that Lodge attendance is way down for all kinds of reasons. The fact that Brother Wilson has young children at home and runs his own business did not create an excuse for not attending virtually every meeting that he was eligible to attend. The same possible excuses might have kept him from quickly learning the long form candidate's proficiencies, but not Brother Wilson. Brother Wilson is the kind of person that makes me proud to be a Mason. Congratulations on being the newest Master Mason member of Las Palms-Ponderosa Lodge.

In the June, 1986 Trestleboard message as Sr. Warden, Brother Jim Hall wrote an article that I think needs repeating.

Medical experts that deal with the mind inform us that one of Modern Man's most pressing problems is feeling of alienation from society. We are told by various groups that to be accepted by society we must wear certain styles of clothes, drive specific types of automobiles and eat only those foods specified by them. They even go so far as to tell us that our views on common behavior are outmoded and we should excuse the worst criminals for reasons which defy understanding. It is small wonder that the average person is confused. Your Masonic Lodge, however, has not surrendered to "modern" thinking. It still maintains that it is the internal and not the external man that is important. That Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are the mainstays of our Lodge and honesty and respect toward each other are essential. Masonry is still a place where true friendship exists and each of us can find peace and harmony.