

This last Thursday night we held our annual election of officers. In the old days, the election was held at our December Stated Meeting and due to our Stated Meeting being so late in the month along with Christmas and New Year's Day, most of our installations were held in January or early February. Several years back Grand Lodge changed the month for elections to November so that it would be easier for Lodges to have their installations before the actual new year began.

At the December, 1979 Stated Meeting, Las Palmas Lodge was opened in the third degree at 6:30 and then went to refreshment so our members and their wives could enjoy a roast pork dinner prepared by Mary Perch. Following dinner, the children present were given candy canes by our own Santa Clause, Danny Dake.

Members and their wives then returned to the Lodge room where Bro. Sam Pablovich PM as inspector of the 416th Masonic District presented three members with 50-year golden veteran awards.

Lodge was then called from refreshment to Labor at 8:20 for the purpose of the transaction of business and the election of officers for 1980. The flag of our country was presented in due form.

Bros Ralph James, Ed Carpenter PM and John Perch were appointed as tellers.

At that point in time at Las Palmas Lodge, it was the honor of the PM who appointed the upcoming Master to the line to nominate him to be Master. For some reason, Bro Phil Lewis, who appointed me to the line in 1973, was not in attendance and Bro. Ralph Saroyan nominated me to be Master after which I was duly elected.

Gary Starr was nominated Sr. Warden by Craig Shaw PM and Jim Kleinknight was also nominated Jr. Warden by Craig Shaw PM. Both were duly elected. Gary Starr took a part in our last Past Master's Night, but Jim Kleinknight is no longer with us.

Also elected that night was Bill Wharton as Treasurer and Bob Paden as Secretary.

When it came to the election of Lodge Trustee, Ralph Saroyan PM and George Posson PM were both nominated. A written ballot was taken and the tellers informed us that Ralph Saroyan was elected to the three-year term.

As the newly elected Master-elect I informed the Lodge that I would be appointing the following brothers as follows:

Eldon Cole, Sr. Deacon; Larry Hopper, Jr. Deacon; Larry Duba, Sr. Steward; Robert Wendel, Jr. Steward; Paul Shelly, organist; Wally Scott, chaplain and Walter Wright, tiler. I also appointed David Leslie to the line as Marshall. (Bro David Leslie passed away several years later and was never able to serve as Master.)

After the elections were concluded, Lodge then held its yearly necrology service at which the names of 18 Brothers who had passed to the Celestial Lodge above were read and a rose for each one was placed on the altar.

Lodge closed at 10:15 pm.