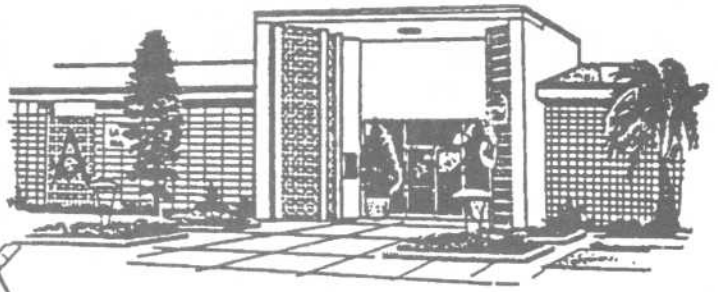


The Las Palmian

of Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge
#366, F&AM

2992 East Clinton Avenue • Fresno, California 93703

(209) 268-2303



Vol. VIII

February 1998

Number 2

From the East

We have completed January and now that we are in February I would like to wish all those sweethearts out there the happiest of Valentines. February being the shortest month of the year we have an above average schedule. We will have two applica-

tions to vote on at our stated meeting, which hopefully means we will be performing some first degrees by the following Thursday. We did one third degree in January which keeps us on schedule for doing one third degree each month this year. We have another one due in February. Remember brethren that doing degree work is the blood that keeps this fraternity alive and without it pumping through our veins we could cease to exist.

On February 5th, the State Center DeMolay will do the DeMolay degree at Las Palmas Ponderosa Lodge at 7 p.m. All the lodges in the district have been invited and the masters have promised me a good turn out. Let's try to do the same for our lodge. Please mark this important date on your calendar. We will be having refreshments at the close of this degree. All Masons are cordially invited.

Many of our members are getting close to their fifty year celebration. In achieving fifty years of active membership in a Masonic Lodge, it behooves all of us to give these brothers the respect which they so duly and richly deserve. We could be doing as many as eight fifty year pins in February and all these brothers achieved this goal in the year 1997. If you're eligible for your fifty year pin, please contact our brother the secretary, and he will verify it with Grand Lodge. Our Inspector Douglas Cairns will be presenting these fifty years pins, so please plan on attending our February stated meeting.

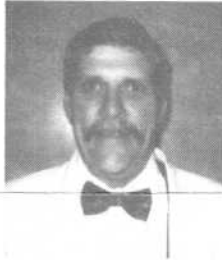
If you haven't heard, Mary Perch has been ill since December and was unable to prepare our January stated meeting dinner. It would be nice if you would give her a call and tell her you're looking forward to seeing her at the February stated meeting dinner. I would like to thank all those that came out for my first stated meeting and dinner. I realize the rain and the flu kept a lot of you away. Seems like we're all had our share.

I'd like to thank all the brothers who showed up for our Super Bowl Party at Fresno Lodge on the 25th. I guess you all know who won. The big screen T.V. was again a success and the DeMolay chicken dinners were delicious. I'd like to thank the Masters from the other local lodges for making this such a success and I'll see you all next year on Super Bowl Sunday.

Fraternally Yours, John Steven Bjorge, Master

NOTICE

The Worshipful Master John S. Bjorge had the unpleasant task of suspending six of our brothers for non-payment of dues at the stated meeting on Jan 15. If you know of any reason why these brothers did not or could not pay their dues, please let the secretary or some body know. It is not the intent nor the desire of the Master to suspend any one.



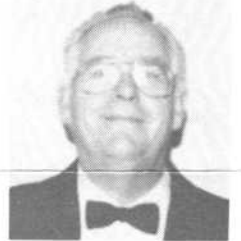
From The West

Hello friends, and greetings from the West.

Our year is in high gear now, with degrees planned for most of our regular meeting nights or officers' practices on any night that doesn't have a degree conferral planned.

For the 29th of January, Bro. Silva will be receiving his Master Mason degree, it is our master's first conferral, so come and support Worshipful John. On February 5th, (our regular meeting night), State Center Order of DeMolay will be presenting the conferral of the DeMolay Degree to their candidates in our Lodge. This is in preparation for a competition that they will be participating in at a later date. This is a real show, so don't miss it. Show your support of these fine young men who are the Masons of tomorrow. The 12th will be a 1st Degree practice. The 19th of February will be our regular Stated Meeting for the month. On the 26th of the month we will probably be having 2 - 1st Degrees, which will be our Junior Warden's maiden voyage. Please attend and support Bro. Bill. Brother Don George will be receiving his Master Mason's Degree soon, look here for the future date.

Thanks from the West, Ted Sorge, Senior Warden



From The South

I would like to start this article by letting the brethren know that Mary Perch was sick for the later part of December and through our stated meeting on January 15. To my knowledge this is the first dinner that Mary has missed in her 37 years at Las Palmas/Ponderosa. She is feeling better and plans to be putting on our dinner in February on the 19th. Mary says that the menu should be a repeat of the one in last month's menu.

We have our annual overnight trip to Columbia coming up on April 18 and I am writing in advance for you to put this date on your calendar. For those who want to just come up for the day that is also highly encouraged. It is a pretty drive up into the foothills. It's fun to travel to another lodge, especially to a historic lodge like Columbia. Families are welcome to come inside and see the lodge up until the time we open. We usually start the degree around 11:00 to 12:00, and finish between 2:00 to 3:00. There is a barbecue at the Marble Quarry Trailer Park after the degree, put on by Las Palmas. The park is located about a 10 minute walk from the lodge or just a short drive. If you're interested you can contact the Secretary for directions and reservations. Also there is plenty for the spouses to do in Columbia. There are antique shops, ice cream and food. There are museums and other historical things to see and do. Also Sonora is only a 10 minute drive away. For the more adventurous 20 minutes from Columbia is the Moaning Caverns.

Remember to call Mary or Marvin with your reservations for the stated meeting.

Bill Freeman, Junior Warden

Your Life Speaks for Masonry

The message of Masonry is directed to the individual. It speaks to the heart and mind. It is in this sense that every brother becomes the Messenger of Masonry to the world outside.

It is incumbent upon every brother that he listen with mind and heart when the Ritual of Masonry speaks with beauty and eloquence, when it reveals the INFINITE WISDOM, the INFINITE JUSTICE and the INFINITE MERCY of the Creator, and when it expresses the fervent hope that Masons will build their Temples of Character on the strong foundation of moral principles.

The responsibility of being the Messenger of Masonry in the profane world is one that should cause every Mason to weigh carefully his every thought, act and deed so that he will present to the world a true picture, a true image, of Masonry.

We must be sensitive to the vital urgency of making the teachings of and the principles of Masonry so much a part of our lives that we will react under any conditions according to the unerring laws of morality.

To represent in our lives all that is Masonry is not to have a false sense of superiority, nor to make vain comparisons between our standards and those of others, but it is to reflect the teachings of Masonry, to go about without fanfare, content to know that within the extent of human limitations, we are being faithful to our sacred trust by being constantly aware of the truth, that because of our advantages and discipline, more is expected of us.

(The Masonic Messenger)

COLUMBIA

April 17 1998 Las Palmas Ponderosa Masonic Lodge will be making the annual trek to Columbia. There will be a 3rd degree on Saturday April 18. The gavel will sound at Hi Twelve. RV reservations for Marble Quarry RV Park is for two nights. The RV sites with full hook up is \$25.00 a night for April 17 and 18 depart by 12:00 April 19. Make and pay your reservations to Las Palmas Ponderosa Masonic Lodge in advance 209-268-2303.

LADIES...

Since everyone had such a good time at the last stated meeting... we will play BINGO again at the next stated meeting, on February 19th. Please bring a "White Elephant" for prizes. All Ladies are invited to join in the FUN while the men are in their meeting. See you then!

Janice Bjorge

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 5th - DeMolay Degree, State Center Chapter, 7:00 p.m.
- 12th - First Degree Practice 7:30 p.m.
- 14th - Happy Valentine's Day
- 17th - School of Instruction, 2nd Degree
Madera Lodge, Host 7:00 p.m.
- 19th - Stated Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Dinner, 6:30 p.m.
- 24th - Building Association, 7:00 p.m.
- 26th - First Degree, 7:30 p.m.

SCHOLARSHIPS

This year our Lodge will again be awarding scholarships to deserving students. Applications are available from the Lodge Secretary. The completed forms MUST be returned by APRIL 1, 1998. The presentation of these scholarships will be at our Public Schools Observance at the April Stated Meeting. These grants are open to all Lodge members, children, grandchildren, etc. of present and deceased members of Las Palmas, Ponderosa and Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodges.

Scholarship Committee

NOTICE

BETHEL 49 OF THE JOB'S DAUGHTERS has arranged a 1-day shop-hop to Nordstrom's, Stoneridge Mall in Pleasanton on Saturday, February 21, 1998. The bus leaves Abby Bus Company, 4588 W. Shaw, (across from Levitz) at 7:30 a.m. and returns to Fresno about 6:30 p.m.

The cost is \$20.00 which includes lunch at Cafe Nordstrom. If you wish to attend, please send your check to Mrs. Elsie Meyers, Bethel Treasurer, 927 W. Brown, Fresno, CA 93705 by the deadline of February 1, 1998. Any questions, call Mrs. Campbell, 227-9923.

Masonic Service Bureau

One of the important duties of the service bureaus is to administer Blood Ranks for the member Lodges and for others. All of the blood is donated by volunteers. This is an outstanding way to provide needed assistance to our Masonic Brothers and their families.

The need to replenish these blood supplies is ongoing and your help in donating to this cause is gratefully appreciated. When giving blood, please designate it to the "FRESNO MASONIC" Account. If you have any questions about the Blood Bank donations or any other about the Service Bureau— please call Warren Carr at (209) 291-7316.

OFFICERS FOR 1998

Worshipful Master	JOHN S. BJORGE	431-3820	Treasurer	CHRIS U. PATROPULOS	298-7181
Senior Warden	TED SORGE	275-9734	Secretary	MARVIN WALLACE	439-9111
Junior Warden	BILL FREEMAN	297-4968	Chaplain	BILL M. ENNIS SR, P.M.	439-0746
Senior Deacon	CURTIS C. JACK	299-3699	Marshal	ROBERT L. MOORE, P.M.	485-3543
Junior Deacon	CARL H. WILCKEN, P.M.	432-2550	Tiler	SAM LINARES	224-5164
Senior Steward	JAMES CLARK	233-3507			
Junior Steward	TOM HANSEN	252-1154			

Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge #366 F&AM

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