



Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge No. 366, F. & A. M.



The Las Palmian

Legacy Chapter No. 555 Order of Easter Star
Sharon Temple No. 92 Daughters of the Nile

Heart of the Valley Assembly No. 217 International Order of Rainbow for Girls

Volume XXIII Issue 8

August 2019

Greetings from the East



August is here, named in honor of Augustus Caesar. In earlier versions of the Roman calendar, August was called Sextilis, the sixth month. It consisted of 31 days. It later became the eighth month with a length of 29 days when January and February were added to the year. Julius Caesar added two days to the month around 45 BCE. It was later renamed to honor Augustus Caesar in 8 BCE.

More importantly this month on the 4 August in 1753, George Washington received his Master Mason degree in his Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 in Virginia. One of the oldest Lodges in the Commonwealth of Virginia and one of the most historic in the world. The earliest meeting of the Lodge for which records still exist was held on September 1, 1752. These records are in the form of the Lodge's first Minute Book, which has been preserved and covers the years 1752 to 1771. The Lodge was then known as the "Lodge at Fredericksburg," as the system of numbering Lodges was not in existence prior to action of the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1787.

Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 is considered one of a few 'time immemorial Lodges,' meaning the Lodge cannot trace its operating authority to a charter from any Grand Lodge. Competing theories are that the Lodge may have been self-congregated by Masons who lived nearby, that it may have been formed by traveling military Lodges attached to the British Army, or that it may have been organized under a dispensation by Thomas Oxnard, Provincial Grand Master of Massachusetts. The exact authority for and date of its organization remain a mystery.

What is known, two months after the first known meeting, George Washington was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason on November 4, 1752 and was passed to the Degree of Fellow craft on March 3, 1753. Brother Washington remained a member of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 until his death on December 14, 1799, as indicated in the Grand Lodge proceedings for that year. Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 also has the distinction of having the earliest recorded conferral of the Royal Arch Degree in the world, on December 22, 1753. At the time, the Degree was conferred under the auspices of Symbolic Lodges, rather than a separate Royal Arch Chapter.

For the month of August Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge will remain primarily dark, with the exception of our stated meeting and I hope to see everyone in attendance. Enjoying the rest of your summer.

May the blessing of heaven rest upon us and all our loved ones.

Fraternally,

Joshua Harmon Worshipful Master



From the West,

In the summer months as usual we take a brief respite from our usual and often times rather crowded calendar of lodge activities to spend time with family, travel and above all else attempt to avoid the valley heat. This is a excellent time however for our newer members to get to know one another and socialize, just because the lodge doors may not be open every Thursday doesn't mean fraternity has the day off. Take time to call a brother and see what's going on, plan an outing or a bbq and embrace the reality that Masonic bonds are about more than degree work.

I'd like to remind everyone as well that this month on August 10th is the annual Scottish Rite dinner auction to benefit the children of our local Childhood Language Disorders Clinic. If you haven't already please consider buying a ticket or donating this worthy Masonic cause and help the children in our local community.

Have a great summer and stay cool,

Fraternally,
Andrew A. Miller
Senior Warden



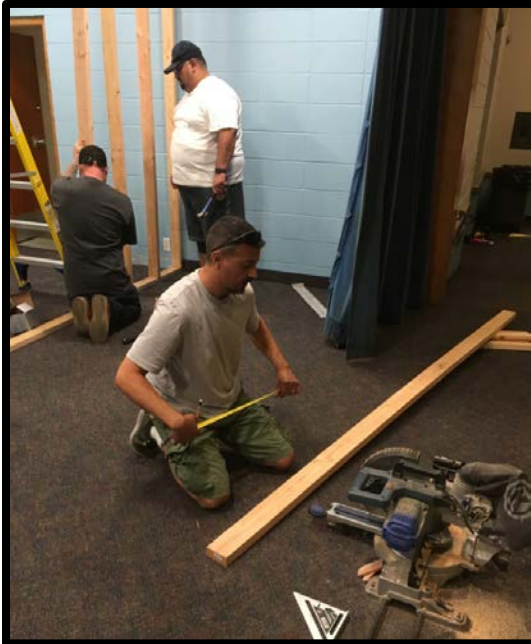
From the South:

We're almost done with being dark so if you're an officer then it's time to crack open that lil blue book and start reviewing your new part when we go into advanced stations.

I'm thankful for all the brothers that took time out of their weekend to help us build the wall behind the stage. Thank you Brother Treasurer Richard Ehorn for cooking us huge, juicy, delicious steaks and Brother Secretary Bryan Kincade for his super-cheesy potatoes and getting so much of all this prepared for us.

Work didn't feel like work, as it became fellowship of good discussions, laughter, silliness, and me falling down just in time for some brothers to catch me. Phew! I'll see you at August stated meeting!

Fraternally and Sincerely from the South,
Mark C. Stroup
Junior Warden



Working in Harmony!

From the Archives:



Las Palmas Lodge, like other Lodges in the Fresno area and many other fraternal organizations, has a dark history that we are certainly not proud of. After WWI, and for many years thereafter, quality men who had names or ties to Germany were routinely denied membership at the ballot box. In Fresno, men of Armenian descent were treated in a similar way.

At our Stated Meeting in August of 1959 a man named Archie Nahagian was the first man of Armenian descent to be elected to receive the degrees of Masonry in Las Palmas Lodge. One month later, Leon Peters was the second man of Armenian descent elected to receive the degrees of Masonry in Las Palmas Lodge. Brother Peters was raised a Master Mason in Las Palmas Lodge in January of 1960 and in March of 1960 Brother Nahagian was raised a Master Mason.

While these two Brothers opened the door for many future Brothers of Armenian descent to become members of Las Palmas Lodge, the story does not end there.

Brother Peters set up a philanthropic foundation known the Leon Peters Foundation and after his death in 1983 this foundation has given many millions of dollars to worthy causes in the Fresno area. Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge is a recipient of Brother Peters good will in that we receive support for our Bike giveaway program for two, and soon to be three, local elementary schools. Students in these schools with perfect attendance for the quarter are eligible to receive a new bike, back packs and other school related items. Sixth grade students with perfect attendance for the whole year receive a tablet computer. This last June we gave away 11 table computers.

For over 20 years, we have been giving these perfect attendance incentives to Powers-Ginsburg and Wilson Elementary Schools. Recently, our Lodge decided to add Birney Elementary to the list. Birney is located about 3 blocks north of our Lodge. This means that instead of having to purchase, store, and assemble 24 bikes a year, we will now have to do this for 36 bikes. Storage in our Lodge building is at a premium and our Brother Secretary, Bryan Kincade, came up with the plan to build a wall on our stage so that there would still be room for use as a stage and also be a secure place to store all of these bikes, back packs and other prizes. While we receive money from the Leon Peters Foundation, we still need tax deductible donations from our Las Palmas-Ponderosa family to maintain this good program.

On Saturday, July 27 the following Brothers got together and built this wall: Brandon Camarena, Brandon Munsey, Christopher Guillen, Daniel Valdez (EA), Mark Stroup (JW), Richard Ehorn, Richard Frey and Bryan Kincade. Brother Ehorn didn't do any building of the wall, but he did barbeque us a great steak for lunch along with potatoes prepared by Donetta Kincade.



We have many brothers who need your support, be it their wives or family members, a call, a note or stop by just to remind them we are there for them in their time of need.

**LAS PALMAS-PONDEROSA
LODGE NO. 366 F & A M**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**August
2019**

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A REQUEST TO THE FAMILY OF THE ADDRESSEE
Please notify the Lodge if our Brother is hospitalized, in a
Nursing home, change of Address or incapacitated.

From the Desk of the Secretary ,

Hello all,

I know I sometimes sound like a broken record, but, please check your dues card, and if it doesn't say 2019, you are in arrears. We still have a lot of members who haven't paid their dues. Dues are due and payable by January 1st each year. It is almost time for me to send out the 2020 dues notices and then if you owe 2019 you will owe for 2 years.

Hope to see you all soon,

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

August Calendar

August 15, 2019 6:00 Appetizers, 6:30 Dinner, 7:30 meeting



Credit card payments:

PayPal at www.lpp366.org
2019 Dues: \$120.00
PayPal Dues: \$124.00
Credit Card: \$124.50