



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 7

July 2019

Greetings from the East



Summer has begun! July celebrates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and don't forget to raise the flag on the 4th. It was on July 2, 1776, when the Second Continental Congress voted for independence from Britain and making its decree for freedom. The alarm for freedom was sounded at Independence Hall with the ringing of Liberty Bell. Therefore, John Adams believed that July 2 would be the day, when Americans would celebrate their independence. On July 3, 1776 he wrote to his wife, Abigail: *"The second day of July 1776, will be the most memorable epocha in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival."*

It was on July 4, the Congress approved the final draft of the Declaration of Independence, which had been written by Thomas Jefferson and edited by John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. On July 8, the first public reading of the Declaration took place at the Pennsylvania State House (now Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It wasn't till August 4, 1776, after delegates of the Continental Congress had signed the document, that The Declaration of Independence was made official.

Of the 56 men that signed the Declaration of Independence, it appears that only nine were Freemasons, or masons with verifiable records of association. While the nature of the declaration is consistent with the ideas of Freemasonry, it may be a stretch to say that the fraternity influenced directly the creation of the document. It is, however, likely that as the ideas of the freedom, independence, liberty, equality and fraternity were at hand in its creation. Whatever the case, these men and the 47 others who penned their names to this document, had the foresight to be brave.

The Lodge will be going dark for much of the summer except for our Stated Meetings. Don't forget to celebrate the 4th safely and with fireworks, a barbeque and as much patriotism as possible. So, until I see you again, please ponder how you would complete this sentence, "This I will remember when the rest of my life is through, the finest thing I've ever did is..."

I look forward to your responses.
May the blessing of heaven rest upon us and all our loved ones.

Fraternally,

Joshua Harmon
Worshipful Master



From the West,

Brethren, it is my honor and my privilege to have been selected once again to serve our lodge as your Senior Warden for the remainder of the year. This year has brought about many unforeseen bumps in the road for our officers line but in finest Masonic fashion we have all come together and used these as opportunities to adapt and grow, learning from past misfortune and seeking new avenues of enlightenment for future endeavors.

Our lodge will be mostly dark in the summer months ahead but I would like to take that as an opportunity to encourage all our Candidate Coaches to meet more frequently with your assigned Entered Apprentice and Fellowcrafts to prepare for possible advancement. If we work diligently we can have a fruitful fall season of degree work ahead.

I wish all of you a safe and fun Fourth of July season among family, friends and brethren and don't forget to light a firecracker for me!

Fraternally,
Andrew A. Miller
Senior Warden



Bike and Tablet Giveaways at end of school year.



From the South:

We were honored to host our Assistant Grand Lecturer at our OSI this past month who was very enlightening and gently corrected us about common errors in ritual.

The lodge will be going dark for a while and I suggest that officers and candidates study their work during this time. Specifically, officers should be looking at the work for their expected officer position next year. If you are unclear about your next officer position, please speak with Worshipful Harmon. If we divide our time appropriately then we should also have time for a rest as well. As the book of nature shows us that the sun must sooner or later set and retire, so should we also.

As always, if you're interested in an officer position please talk to Worshipful Harmon about this. If you're an EA or FC and need help with the work, please talk to Worshipful or Wardens of lodge.

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

From the Archives:



I was raised a Master Mason in April of 1968 so the first Stated Meeting that I could attend would have been in either April or May of 1968. I tried to attend every Stated Meeting and in doing so I have etched in my memory the comments from our then Secretary, Price Robinson PM about Rachel Browne. For many years Rachel Browne was our only guest at the Masonic Homes in Docoto (Union City). Every April, the Lodge would send Rachel a birthday card signed by as members as we could get to sign it as well as a small monetary gift. A similar thing would also be done for Christmas. Rachel always responded with a thank you letter which Brother Price Robinson would read along with a letter from the director of the Masonic Home informing us of how Rachel was doing.

In the spring of 1974 we had an Easter Egg hunt at the Lodge for the children and grandchildren of members. We also had a Lodge picnic at Woodward Park. Brother Green Young, being a Greyhound Bus driver, arranged for the members to charter a bus and go to a SF Giants game at Candlestick Park.

During the summer months when the Lodge was dark but for the Stated Meetings, we had Nationality dinners before our Stated Meetings. The meals were prepared with the assistance of members who were of different ethnic groups. For the other ten dinners, Mary Perch and her group of dates always prepared a great dinner.

In 1974 through at least my term as Master in 1980, we had an Officer's Coach for each degree. It was their job to teach the officers the ritual and floor work for their assigned degree. Today we have a cipher to help with the ritual, but the actual coaching is done by Chuck Bersani who was Master of Ponderosa the same year that I was Master of Las Palmas. Chuck coaches the officers on all three degrees.

After the September, 1974 Stated Meeting Dinner, all Masons and their wives were invited into the Lodge Room where Bethel 49 Jobs Daughters exemplified the Majority Degree for all to observe.

Today, dues are payable in advance for the whole year. Back in time, dues were payable in advance quarterly. While most paid for the full year, those who paid quarterly created a lot of extra work for the Lodge Secretary and eventually this method of payment was dropped.



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
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**July
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,

Happy Independence Day! I hope you all have a safe holiday enjoying yourselves, families and friends. Be safe but have fun. It is always great to celebrate America's Birthday! We are dark for July and August, but we will still have our stated meeting dinners and meetings. Have a great summer.

Hope to see you all soon!

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

July Calendar

June 18, 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