



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 XXVIII Issue 4

April 2020

Greetings from the East



My friends and brothers, greetings from Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge for the month of April. With the outbreak of COVID-19 in the United States, no one's life has been unaffected by the challenges we face today. All Masonic activities along with our routine Masonic functions including our Stated Meetings, and future degrees, have been temporary halted. I would like to report that due to difficulties with students obtaining school transcripts, the Lodge has extended the scholarship application time frame through April 24th.

For many Americans right now this global virus has keep us contained in our homes, reorienting our relationships with the outside world and even each other. Will our country remain essentially closed? Will handshakes become taboo? What will become of restaurants?

But this crisis might also present opportunity. A more sophisticated and flexible use of technology, less division, a revived appreciation for the outdoors and life's other simple pleasures. No one knows exactly what will come, but I pray we support each as we move forward into the unknown ways that our society, government, healthcare, the economy, our lifestyles and more will change. Some changes these experts expect to see in the coming months or years might feel unfamiliar or unsettling.

I pray that the coronavirus will not permanently change our society, other than in our preparation to respond to future national emergencies. May brotherly love prevail.

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

Fraternally,
Joshua Harmon
Worshipful Master



From the West,

Per Grand Master's orders, we have suspended all Masonic meetings until further notice due to COVID-19. The silver lining to this dark cloud is that we're having the HVAC system installed during this time.

During these moments of darkness, let us not forget our Masonic virtues. As with all crises, people are presented with increased inclination to act on their vices due to their survival-based anxiety. The bottom region of the brain connecting to the stem is what we call the Reptilian brain and it is here where many of our PASSIONS are stored - many of them linked to primitive animal impulses and survival in general.

We might blame this region of the brain for much of the hoarding that is happening at stores. We might also blame this region of the brain for any increased crime or inclination towards vice.

What might Masonic conduct look like at this time? I have a few ideas:

1. Let us have compassion for those in darkness.
2. Let us practice self-sacrifice by extending our charity and relief to brothers, neighbors, etc. - by doing so, we will be combating our own ego (separateness) and experiencing a sense of oneness that will spread to others. We are all divine sparks from that one being who is in all things and whom all things have come from.
3. Look to the East for hope, the Great Book of Nature shows us that Darkness of night must sooner or later be overcome with Light of the morning, or the rising sun. This dark night must also eventually finish its cycle with the rising of the sun or Light.

Stay safe and make sure you wash your hands.

Fraternally,
Mark Stroup
Senior Warden



From the South:

Well this has certainly been an interesting past few weeks, hasn't it? Ordinarily in my monthly articles I would speak on our monthly dinners and degree functions but given these awkwardly precipitous times I won't even attempt to tease you with the notion of what could be our future activities.

The Fresno area and the Central Valley as a whole has been fortunate thus far not to swept by this persistent virus, however for some they have not been so lucky. Even my family has had friends and coworkers who have come into contact with those who have been exposed to this virus and are self-isolating out of an abundance of caution, and hopefully caution will prove successful.

Our fraternity is one of every age and demographic but so many are in some of the highest risk groups. I would urge you all to take care and not regard your own personal health lightly no matter what political punditry incite or homebound aggravation may taunt, stay home, stay safe, stay well.

Fraternally,
Andrew Miller PM
Junior Warden

April Birthday's

Robert	Sloan		01
Matthew	Ford		02
Joshua	Harmon	PM	02
Timothy	Taylor		02
Michael	Bowman	II	03
Daniel	Koontz		05
Richard	Iknoian		06
Charles	Bersani	PM	07
Howard	Pickle		07
Jeffrey	Banks		08
Scott	Fichtner	PM	08
Chad	Schmidt		08
Kenneth	Crum	Jr.	09
Clifford	Henderson		10
Robert	Scott		11
Newell	Dodd		12
Fred	Lindeman	Sr.	12
Steve	La Ferrera		14
Douglas	Finks		16
Shawn	Erwin		18
James	Keeton		19
Hans	Holt		21
Herbert	Johnston		22
Edward	Brown		23
Harry	Dyck	Jr.	23
Earl	Jennings		23
Ervin	Kinchen	Jr.	23
David	Helwig		25
Gary	Pullings		25
Mark	Stroup		26
Thomas	Crossland		27
Kurt	Martin		27
Shane	Burkhart		28
Walter	Hibbard	D.D.S.	29
Gary	Jacobsen		29
Troy	Johnson	Jr.	29
Glynn	Polacek		30

101 years later, back to same situation

Thursday, November 7th, 1918

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF KELOWNA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in order to prevent the spread of Spanish Influenza, all Schools, public and private, Churches, Theatres, Moving Picture Halls, Pool Rooms and other places of amusement, and Lodge meetings, are to be closed until further notice.

All public gatherings consisting of ten or more are prohibited.

D. W. SUTHERLAND,
Mayor.

Kelowna, B.C.,
19th October, 1918.

From the Archives:



Since we are in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, many in the news media are making comparisons to the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918. I thought I would do the same for Las Palmas Lodge.

With this thought in mind, I read the minutes of Las Palmas Lodge for 1918 and 1919. While the Spanish flu started in the spring of 1918, we know that the majority of deaths occurred in the late fall and early winter of 1918.

By the end of 1918, Las Palmas Lodge had between 400 and 425 members. Las Palmas-Ponderosa's current membership is 415 so our size today is about what it was in 1918.

In these two years, there is no mention in the minutes of the Spanish flu or the cause of deaths of our members. Deaths of members were reported at both the Stated Meetings and if Lodge opened to perform a Masonic Funeral. (Back then, Lodge had to open in the 3rd degree, go to refreshment, perform the funeral at either the Lodge, funeral home, or church and then go to the cemetery. The officers then had to return to Lodge and close.) Since we were actively involved in The Great War, there is no way to tell if the deaths of two of our members were from the flu or other military related matters.

We lost the following members:

April 3, 1918: Monroe Erza Johnston

May 15, 1918: Oswald Sylvester Scholz

June, 1918: Benjamin F. Sliter

September, 1918: Herbert P. Robinson died in Canadian Army in France

October, 1918: Ernest Thomas Payne, A. O. Walthall, and R.W. Thorp

(Con't)



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.

From the Archives: (con't)

January, 1919: Burr Franklin Scott

February, 1919: Joel H. Call died in New York while in U.S. Navy

April, 1919: Charles Sheldon Pierce

May, 1919: Harry Phillips Beaser

November, 1919: Jesse E. Tarbell

While it is not possible at this time to know if any of these deaths were due to the Spanish flu, when we look at the deaths for our Lodge Members of 1915 we have 5, for 1916 we have 1, for 1917 we have 3, for 1920 we have 2 and for 1921 we have 3. From this, it is most likely that Las Palmas Lodge did suffer some deaths of members from the Spanish flu.

Let us hope and pray that with the current pandemic that we do not lose any of our members.



While on the subject of deaths at Las Palmas Lodge, I am pleased to inform you that the name marker for our Las Palmas-Ponderosa plot at Mt. View Cemetery is now installed.

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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



April
2020

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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 hope you are all well and staying safe. I have been coming to the lodge daily to answer communications and taking care of the HVAC project. I am glad to hear reports of you all staying in place and slowing down this ugly virus. If you need anything email the office and I will do my best to take care of the problem. Wash your hands!

Hope to see you all soon,

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

April Calendar

All meetings are canceled until further notice.



Credit card payments:

PayPal at www.lpp366.org
2020 Dues: \$130.00
PayPal Dues: \$134.25
Credit Card: \$134.25