



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 5

May 2020

Greetings from the East



My friends and brothers, greetings from Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge for the month of May. As we continued to exercise social distancing the Lodge has been rather quiet. A few conference calls in the past month to approve Lodge bills and discuss the progress of our new HVAC system, have been the extent of the Lodge activity.

I can't help wondering whether the spring and summer months will bring some kind of break from the COVID-19 virus. Before social distancing can be eased, the number of new cases needs to decline. Large gatherings such as baseball games and Lodge meetings would still have to wait. Adjustments will be made as long as we are keeping everyone safe. There is a lot we can do to help make reopening the country and our community a reality.

I encourage everyone to continue their relaxation and social distancing measures.

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

Fraternally,

Joshua Harmon

Worshipful Master



From the West,

As we continue to shelter in place, not much has changed at lodge. I hope our entered apprentices and fellowcrafts are studying well their proficiencies with the time that has been allotted by being out of Lodge.

Otherwise, now is a great time to improve your Masonic education. There are many fantastic books written by masonic scholars that go into great depth and investigation of our mysteries. For many brothers, reading this extracurricular material reignites the spark of encouragement and motivation to watch degrees portrayed over again, thus improving our attendance and fellowship. It might cause us to think twice about a small detail in our degrees and perhaps discover that this simple detail has a profound symbolic expression beneath it. We could probably spend a lifetime investigating our 3rd degree.

We are given explanation for many of our symbols. However, philosophers, mystics, and psychoanalysts like Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung, etc. have taught us a great deal about the complexity of symbolism. Symbolism impregnates into the deepest recesses of our subconscious mind, invoking within us particular thoughts, feelings, urges, or even sensations. There's a reason why so many fast food chain restaurants have their logos in the colors red and yellow (McDonalds, In and Out, etc.). We know that red stimulates increased drive, motivation, sexual feelings, hunger, and other survival-based drives, red may even cause our heart rate to beat faster than usual. That's probably why we pull off the freeway to eat there after we told ourselves we wouldn't.

Centuries ago, men spent day and night contemplating the mysteries associated with their fraternal group. They studied by candlelight and even turned away from worldly affairs just so that they might discover a clue to bring them closer to themselves and ultimately God. Of course, times have changed and most of us aren't afforded that option.

Let us contemplate our great mysteries, never to take them for granted. You might be surprised at how the symbol unfolds before your eyes to "reveal" to you one thing and to "re-veil" to you another. I'd be happy to share with brothers some of my favorite books on Freemasonry.

Fraternally,
Mark Stroup
Senior Warden



From the South:

Brethren, I hope you are all feeling well and continuing well during these unusual times of limited fraternal contact. We continue to see day by day the repeated question of when will life get back to normal for most, and the stark reality of the answer is who knows?

We all want to be back at lodge dinners, degrees, and fundraisers not having to be overly cautious, it can be overly tempting to rush back to carefree habits, but for now please just look after yourselves and those you care for so that when things are back to a more activate social calendar in masonry the results may be even more rewarding.

For our officers, candidates and just members in general please use this time to better yourself somewhat in your Masonic knowledge and abilities. Feel free to contact myself or other brothers to practice degree roles or proficiency via phone, zoom or other means which may work for you. Remembers that Lodges are groups of men, not physical buildings and that should fraternal contact be desired all one need do is ask.

Fraternally,
Andrew Miller PM
Junior Warden

May Birthday's

Jonathan	Pierro			03
James	Tarver			03
Frank	Gann	Jr.	PM	04
James	Schultz			05
Alan	Burnham		PM	06
Robert	Davis		PM	07
Andrew	Peerson			08
Jerry	Tabor			08
Phillip	Ford			11
Gaby	Nakad			11
Shawn	Clark			12
Larry	Finfrock			12
Bert	Flores			12
Allan	Melikian			12
John	Schmidt			12
Richard	Payne			13
Gordon	Keeton		PM	14
Eldon	Garrett			17
James	Vaughan		PM	17
Warren	Sonnenburg			18
Ryan	Marrett			20
John	Gahvejian			21
John	Lamborn			21
Nathan	Williams			21
Alejandro	Chavez			23
Nikhil	Kohli			24
David	Clark			25
H.	Weldon			25
Donald	Milligan			26
Dean	Walker			28
Anthony	Barba			30
Gary	Starr		PM	30

From the Archives:



As I write these articles about Las Palmas Lodge in the mid-1970's, it seems to me like it was just yesterday. In 1975, I was Sr. Steward. Two years earlier as Marshall I had memorized the Marshall's part in the Candidate room, the first-degree charge and by September of that year the second-degree charge. I gave the second-degree charge as Jr. Steward and as Sr. Steward I gave the third-degree charge. I had also learned all of the floor work in the second section of the third degree. I sure wish that my memory was that good today. Therese and I had been married for three years, we were living in our own home and I had been practicing law for just over two years. It is hard to believe that it has been 45 wonderful years. What great memories of life I have from these 45 years.

In the August, 1975 Las Palmian, there appeared an article about how many top U.S. executives belonged to fraternal organizations and which organizations had these members. "Out of 60,000 surveyed, just over 25% claimed memberships in any Lodge."

Organization Members

1. **Masons** 10,199
2. Ben. Protective Order of Elks 3,394
3. Knights of Columbus 941
4. Lions International 415
5. Knights of Pythias 199
6. Loyal Order of Moose 198
7. Independent Order of Odd Fellows 159
8. Order of Eastern Star 88
9. Fraternal Order of Eagles 55
10. Woodmen of the World 31

I am sure if this survey was made today, many of these organizations would not have any representation and that far less than 25% of the executives surveyed would have any fraternal membership. How sad this loss is to all fraternal organization's.



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)

Through October of 1975, Las Palmas, and other local Masonic Lodges placed notices in the classified section of the Fresno Bee to inform their members what degrees were taking place. This ad appeared every week. Due to costs, Las Palmas ceased this practice, but continued to post the notices in the Monday and Thursday editions of the Fresno Guide. How many of you currently subscribe to the Bee and how many of you remember the Fresno Guide?

The Las Palmas Dates prepared each of the dinners before our Stated Meeting. If, at the end of the year, there was a profit, the outgoing Master was to designate how the profit was to be spent to help the Lodge. WM Green Young wanted to start a library in our Temple. He, therefore, designated that the profits would be used to purchase a book cases and a showcase which we now use in our library/card room.

How many of you remember the Freedom Train? To help celebrate the bicentennial of our Country, old passenger cars and a steam locomotive were brought back to life and the cars were filled with exhibits about our country and its history. This train traveled across the country and on December 18th to the 20th was open for tours at the Santa Fe Depot in downtown Fresno. I remember going through this train and viewing all of the exhibits and the large crowd.

**LAS PALMAS-PONDEROSA
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May
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,

Good morning, I know that it seems this virus is never going to go away, but it will. Our lives will go back to somewhat normal and we will be meeting again and sharing meals, but I think it will mean more to all of us. I think we will see more compassion and more feelings than before. That is my sincere hope. Stay safe.

Hope to see you all soon,

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

May 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