



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 XXV Issue 11

November 2021

Greetings from the East



No Article Submitted.

I am going to use this space to provide information on reintroducing food to our meetings. We will begin having food at our November Stated Meeting. We are going to limit this to members only until we can safely find a way to cook and serve food with the least number of hands touching it as possible. We are trying to keep everyone as safe as possible.

We will open it up further in our February Stated Meetings and Sweetheart dinner. The meals are going to be cooked by our members for a bit so that they can work together and get to know one another in the process. It is nice having things done for you however there is a cost. The cost being that no one gets to know the other and we are hoping that this problem may start to diminish by our brothers working together on a common goal.

Fraternally,
Mark Stroup
Worshipful Master



From the West,

I was pleased and honored to be your representative this past month at our Grand Lodge Annual Communication, I know many in the valley did not attend due in part to the increased restrictions of San Francisco regarding COVID policies, vaccinations and the like. I would be remiss if I did not say it is disappointing to see so many of those we call brother refusing to participate in these types of events because of political hype and medical misinformation.

Never the less it was a rewarding experience and we accomplished the necessary business before us as a Grand Lodge, not much new legislation passed and certainly nothing that would drastically alter our day to day lodge experience.

We will soon restart many more of our lodge social activities including stated dinners having worked our way up this somewhat slowly following lodges in person reopening.

While I know we are all eager to get back to "*normal*" we still must be diligent and these functions will not be exact as before. The officers will be developing a strategy over the next few weeks exploring how best to wade into this and still keep us all healthy.

I'm sure many of you have heard of some recent scares with individuals unknowingly contracting COVID and yet still attending concordant body functions prior to official diagnosis. We don't want you to have worry about these sorts of things in the future and feel safe at your lodge.

We must ask if you are feeling ill in any way please be upfront and honest, it's alright not to attend no matter your position if it serves the greater good and health of all, and it's alright to mask when you attend even though no longer required.

If we all work together as a brotherhood we can get back to "*normal*".

Fraternally,

Andrew Miller PM Senior Warden



From the South:

Greetings Brethren,

To my friends and brothers' greetings and salutations from Las Palmas-Ponderosa lodge. Tumbling COVID-19 case counts have some schools around the U.S. considering relaxing their mask rules, but deaths nationally have been ticking up over the past few weeks, some rural hospitals are showing signs of strain, and cold weather is setting in.

The number of new cases nationally has been plummeting since the delta surge peaked in mid-September. The U.S. is averaging about 73,000 new cases per day, less than half of the nearly 173,000 recorded on Sept. 13. And the number of Americans in the hospital with COVID-19 has plummeted by about half to around 47,000 since early September.

Las Palmas can remain open with in person meetings and normal Lodge business as we continue to exercise preventative measures to avoid contracting the virus, as cases of COVID are rising again among the vaccinated. As always please look out for those in need. Continue social distancing measures in the interests of keeping everyone healthy and safe. We have a First Degree coming up Nov 11th so I look forward to seeing everyone in Lodge.

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

Most sincerely,

Joshua Harmon PM
Junior Warden

November Birthday's

Lawrence	Hagopian		1
Jeremy	Kern		2
Brenton	Weiner		3
John	Sorge		3
Donald	Williams		5
Karekin	Khatchadoorian		5
John	Denton	PM	6
Michael	Jensen		6
Scott	Pearce		8
John	Lane		8
Thomas	Morris		9
William	Lyons		9
William	Bissell		10
John	Herring	PM	11
Joseph	Catania		11
Billie	Pool		12
Tyler	Faruzzi		12
Gene	Page		15
Sean	Ford	PM	16
Thomas	Ewing	III	18
George	Knapp		18
Ryan	Barnes		18
Garroll	White		21
Richard	Ehorn		22
Joseph	Perry	Jr. PM	24
Michael	Bowman		25
Brandon	Munsey		26
Jon	Acosta		28
Brian	Rowland	PM	28
Stuart	Hoskins		28
David	Hiatt		29
David	Mc Coy		29





From the Archives:



In January of 1981, Brother Gary Starr was installed as the 77th Master of Las Palmas Lodge. Jim Kleinknight was our new Sr. Warden and Eldon Cole was Jr. Warden. To me this seems like it was just yesterday. Actually, it was 40 years ago.

A lot has happened in those 40 years, especially with Masonry. I am afraid that most of what has happened to Masonry has not been for the best. If Ponderosa and Clovis Lodge had not consolidated with Las Palmas, the current membership of Las Palmas would only be about 20% of what it was just 40 years ago. Back then, our newly initiated candidates eagerly learned their work and we heard candidate proficiencies several times each month. We had sufficient candidates to hold degrees just about every Thursday night except for our Stated Meetings. Lodges all over the United States are now having problems with candidates learning their proficiencies. In some jurisdiction, proficiencies are no longer required. I hope that never happens in California.

Attendance at Lodge meetings was somewhat better than today but just about every issue of the Las Palmian had some officer pleading for members to attend a meeting. Our Lodge was filled to capacity at our installations. The Fresno-Clovis area had a total of 6 Masonic Lodges and today we have only 2. Our Grand Lodge has made some effort to solve the problem of candidates not wanting to spend the time and effort to learn their work. The candidate proficiency has been substantially reduced in length. There are two problems with this. If a newly raised Master Mason wants to become an officer, he has to learn the long form 3rd degree proficiency as well as much of what he should have learned in the long form proficiencies for the 1st and 2nd degrees. Thus, we do not have a good pool of potential officers to keep our Lodges alive and well.



On May 21, 1981, Bro Bill Wharton received the Hiram Award from Las Palmas Lodge. I am sure that some of you will remember Bro Bill. He was a true masonic scholar and regularly gave talks to our candidates about the history of masonry and how it applied to Masons today. Bro Bill was also our Treasurer for many years.

In July, Bro George Posson PM got the ash wood and Bro. Ed Carpenter PM made the picture frames for our Past Masters in our club room. In 2015, I purchased more ash wood and together with a friend made the picture frames for all of the Past Masters of Clovis Lodge.

Ten Master Masons, happy, doing fine;
One listened to a rumor, then there were nine.

Nine Master Masons, faithful, never late;
One didn't like the "Master," then there were eight.

Eight Master Masons, on their way to heaven;
One joined to many clubs, then there were seven.

Seven Master Masons, life dealt some hard licks;
One grew discouraged, then there were six.

Six Master Masons, all very much alive;
One lost his interest, then there were five

Five Master Masons, wishing there were more;
Got into a great dispute, then there were four.

Four Master Masons, busy as could be;
One didn't like the programs, then there were three.

Three Master Masons, was one of them you?
One grew tired of all the work, then there were two.

Two Master Masons with so much to be done;
One said "What's the use," then there was one.

One Master Mason, found a brother -- true!
Brought him to the Lodge, then there were two.

Two Master Masons didn't find work a bore;
Each brought another, then there were four.

Four Master Masons saved their Lodges fate;
By showing others kindness, then there were eight.

Eight Master Masons, loving their Lodges bright sheen;
Talked so much about it, they soon counted sixteen.

Sixteen Master Masons, to their obligations true;
Were pleased when their number went to thirty-two.

So we can't put our troubles at the Lodges door;
It's our fault for harming the Lodge we adore.

Don't fuss about the programs or the "Master" in the East;
Keep your obligation by serving even the very least.

Author Unknown

Which one are you?

Happy November!



Thankful



Life Members,

Please consider donating your per capita to the lodge. Per capita has risen to \$55.00 per person and is very taxing on the Lodge's budget.

Thank you for your consideration.



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.

Charles Bersani PM- Injur

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

**2992 East Clinton Avenue
Fresno, CA 93703-2320
Phone: 559-268-2303**

E-mail: lppmasoniclodge@comcast.net

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2021

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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,

Welcome to Fall! As the leaves start to turn and the morning air is crisper than it was, its nice to see the changing of the seasons. As we get into winter hopefully things will start slowing down with viruses. It is my hope that one day we will be able to get back to a normal society once again. Stay safe brethren!

Hope to see you all soon,

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

November Calendar

11-4	Degree/Practice	6:00 pm
11-11	Degree	7:30 pm
11-18	Stated meeting	7:30 pm
11-25	Thanksgiving	



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2021 Dues: \$130.00

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