



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 XXVI Issue 3

March 2022

Greetings from the East



With Spring coming it is time to readjust our lives and get back to lodge. I am sorry I had to miss Installation, but my work duties have to be met. We are looking for great things to come out of this year and I hope that you will all step up to make that happen.

We will be doing a Second degree for Brother Contreras on the 24th, therefore we need to get together and practice on the 10th. We will need the officers to attend the practice so that we will be sharp and ready to go for the degree. Please plan on attending.

We will be having Corned Beef and Cabbage for our stated meeting, it should be fantastic, and we are inviting everyone back to dinner.

We will work hard and work together and get our lodge back to what it was prior to the pandemic. Hopefully, we can all do it together.

I am hoping to see more brothers in Lodge in the near future.

Fraternally,
Mark Stroup
Worshipful Master



From the West,

March is a great month. It is a time of rebirth for nature. It is like being allowed a second chance. It is time to give the lodge a little attention and reopen it back to pre-covid status.

We had our Installation and while it was different from years past, it was an installation. We had a less than stellar turnout, but it is done. I want to thank you for the confidence instilled in me by allowing to once again serve as Senior Warden.

I hope that I get to see more of you in the lodge in the near future and I look forward to getting back to degree work. It is the hope of the Officers that you will attend and show them your support in their efforts.

Fraternally,
Andrew Miller PM Senior Warden



From the South:

Hello brothers, greetings from the South. First, I wanted to thank you for trusting me to fill the position of Junior Warden for this year and I look forward to serving you. With the new year, we see the Covid restrictions lifting, and while I know that many enjoyed the remote format of lodge, I hope to see many of your faces back in lodge for meetings and degrees.

Speaking of degrees, we will be having a Second Degree on the 24th of March and we need as much attendance as possible, so please come out and support our brother as he is passed. We will continue to provide you exceptional meals prior to meetings and I hope to see you there as well. These dinners are a wonderful opportunity for brotherhood and fellowship, so please come out and take part in the set-up, cooking, and/or cleanup. Again, thank you for all you contribute to this lodge and Masonry in general, let's have a great year.

Fraternally yours,

Jeremy Kern, Junior Warden

March Birthday's

Franklin	Lewis		3
Jordan	Bachman		3
Mike	Hamzy		4
Robert	Crossland		5
Michael	Garrett		6
Robert	Rohan		7
LeRoy	Foote	PM	8
Stephen	Harlan		12
Jeffery	Whitener		13
Ronald	Letterman		17
Michael	O'Connell		17
Trenton	Smith		17
Gerald	Peloian		18
Denton	Hollifield		18
Clifford	Carrigan		18
Timothy	Jurkowski		18
Glen	Ream		19
Norman	Meachum		19
Herbert	Spencer		21
Michael	Chapman	PM	24
Sean	Rutledge		25
Boyd	Whitener		27
Donald	Pribble		28
Joshua	Crane		31





From the Archives:

Have you ever sat in Lodge with a famous person?

My father told me that his brother-in-law, Floyd Sloan Sr. once sat in Lodge with General Douglas MacArthur. Since my Uncle Floyd was a civilian welder and engineer in the Philippines during WWII, I presume that this occurred in a Lodge in the Philippines.

While stationed in the Philippines, MacArthur was made a Mason "at sight" by the Grand Master of the Philippines, an incredibly high honor reserved for exceptional cases. He was raised a Master Mason on January 14, 1936 and had received the 32nd degree of Scottish Rite by March 28th of that same year. Despite his numerous duties MacArthur managed to maintain an active Masonic career.

In the mid-1970's, I was a junior officer and as such, attended Las Palmas Lodge every Thursday evening. I clearly remember the Sr. Deacon frequently introducing a man who always sat on the north side of the Lodge Room. His name was Victor Maghakian.

In March of 1975, Brother Maghakian petitioned Las Palmas Lodge for dual membership. Prior to that he was a visiting brother from Daylite Lodge No. 44 in Las Vegas where he was raised in 1962. In his application to Las Palmas he indicated that he was a retired Captain in the United States Marine Corps.

Unbeknownst to some of the members of Las Palmas Lodge at the time, Brother Maghakian was the most decorated US Marine in WWII and one of the most well respected soldiers in that war.

A native of Chicago, Brother Maghakian moved to San Diego with his family in 1930. Nine years later, he moved to Fresno. He first served in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Philippines and throughout China and was familiar with foreign bases throughout the Pacific. After Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7, 1941, he re-enlisted in the Marine Corps and was selected to work with the so-called suicide unit of crack soldiers. These tough Marines were known as Carlson's Raiders.

As a gunnery sergeant, Maghakian led his troops through what was believed to be some of the bloodiest fighting in seven South Pacific campaigns. During one mission, he even made himself a human target so that a sniper, who had wounded one of his buddies, would give up his hiding spot. The enemy was shot, but not before Maghakian was wounded by the sniper's gun-fire.

Maghakian's bravery allowed him to continue undaunted through numerous battles. In 1944, during the battle of Eniwetok, he eliminated the last four Japanese soldiers on Mellu Island and went on to rescue a platoon by destroying the enemy flank with grenades. In the battle, he saved the life of a young man who went on to be one of Hollywood's best known actors--Lee Marvin. He also became the first officer to raise the American flag on Tinian Island.

After leaving active duty in 1946, Maghakian retired as a captain, with full honors. He received the Navy Cross, two Silver Stars, a Bronze Star, and two Purple Hearts. He returned to Fresno where he owned and managed the Mid-Valley Beer and Wine Wholesale Distributing Co. and the Victor Mobile Service. He later joined the State Department as a security officer in Morocco before settling in Las Vegas. He eventually moved back to Fresno.

Brother Maghakian died in Fresno on August 17, 1977 at the age of 61.

When I first heard of Brother Maghakian's military achievements, I thought they were more folklore than the truth. Now I wish that I had gone up to him while at Lodge, introduced myself, and thanked him for his service to our Country.

Welcome March!



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.

**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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March
2022

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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,

March is upon us and it is starting to stay light longer. All of the plants are starting to bloom and the look of new growth is upon us. Just like nature, the lodge needs new growth. We need to get out of the hibernating mode we have been in with Covid, and start attending lodge once again. So far, our numbers have been small and we need to work to correct that.

Hope to see you all soon,

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

March Calendar

3-3	Dark	7:00 pm
3-10	Degree Practice	7:00 pm
3-17	Stated meeting	6:30 Dinner 7:30 pm
3-24	Second Degree	7:30 pm
3-31	Practice	7:00 pm



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