



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 XXVII Issue 9

September 2023

## Greetings from the East



Hello all,

Masonic humor:

Two experienced Master Masons were enjoying a flight in a hot air balloon when suddenly a thick cloud formed between them and the ground. Being without instruments, after half an hour they realized that they were well and truly lost.

A short time later there came across a large hole in the cloud and spied a gentleman below walking his dog across a field. They had time to exchange pleasantries and found that he too was a member of the Craft.

The chaps in the balloon enquired of him as to their location and received the reply, "About 200 feet up in a balloon."

Just then the cloud closed the hole and they were alone again. One turned to the other and said, "I bet he's the Secretary of his Lodge!"  
"Why do you say that?", the other asked.

"Well what he has told us is absolutely true – but in our present predicament is totally useless!"

I hope to see you all soon,

Fraternally,

Ryan Marrett

Worshipful Master



From the West,

Hello Brethren and greetings from the West.

I hope you are all well. I would like to write about the ever-changing situation of a lodge. As we all know the lodge over time changes in dynamics and people. It has too, to keep up with the changing times. Sometimes we are the cause and other times outside influences change the lodge without knowing it. This was the case of Maui Lodge located on the island of Maui.

There was a destructive forest fire and although the lodge was not harmed in structure, several of its members lost everything to the fire. They lost houses, cars, clothes and furniture. The lodge has opened its doors as a shelter to not only the lodge brothers, but to the public at large. They are providing temporary shelter and other necessities that are needed in life.

I was so proud of the brethren of Las Palmas – Ponderosa Lodge when they voted to help Maui Lodge with a financial donation. This truly shows that brethren are there to help one another. Now all we have to do is inform the Secretary that the lodge is not going to pay for a flight over to Maui to deliver the check in person!

I will see you in Lodge!

Fraternally,  
Chuck Bersani PM  
Senior Warden



From the South:

Greetings Brethren,

September has arrived and the summer will soon be closing out giving way to the fall. I know I am ready for the cooler part of our year. I am quite pleased to be conferring so many degrees, it is a true honor for me to do so. For me our Lodge is a deeply special place, it's the only place outside of my house I feel comfortable being. Thank you to all the brothers who have stepped up to help out with a degree or three, your assistance is always appreciated.

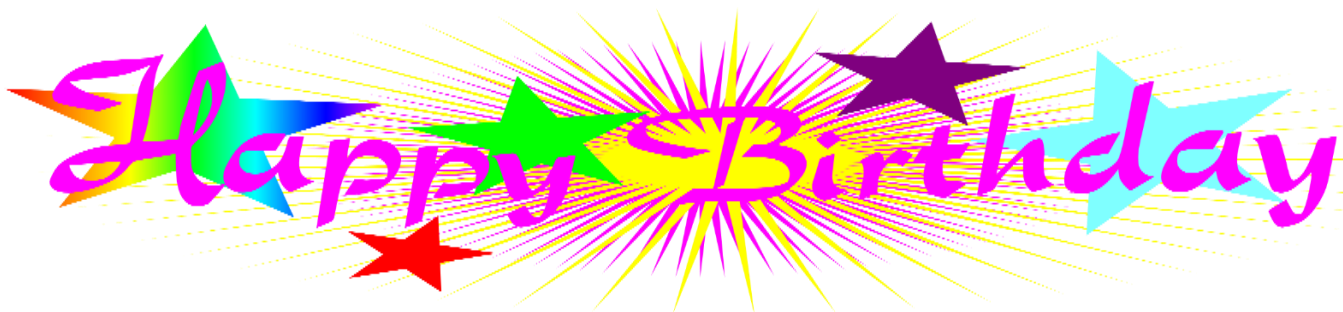
I will end this this month's article with this quote. "The Society or Fraternity of Freemasons is more in the nature of a system of Philosophy or of moral and social virtues taught by symbols, allegories, and lectures based upon fundamental truths, the observance of which tends to promote stability of character, conservatism, morality and good citizenship." H. W. Coil

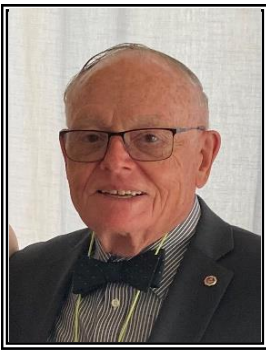
Joshua Barkley  
Junior Warden

## September Birthday's

Frederick	Richburg	II		2
Stephen	Harrelson		PM	3
David	Doll			6
Peter	Wilson			6
James	Carney			8
Steven	Clifton			8
Gary	Garant			9
Donald	Kauffman			9
Sonny	Mehrtash			12
Thomas	Young		PM	12
Allen	Charles			14
Richard	Tarango			15
Craig	Constance			17
Bruce	Symmonds		PM	17
Devin	O'Connell			20
Kurtis	Docken			21
Kasra	Monazzami			22
Robert	Thomason	Jr.		22
Ara	Karkazian			24
Paul	Locker			24
Bruce	Morrow			25
Charles	Oliver			25
William	Kidd			27
Christopher	Meyer			28
Thomas	Musto	Jr.		28
David	Orrantia			28
Gerard	Gulgulian			30
Gary	Lewis		PM	30
James	Meeks			30

*"The good men who come to our meetings invest life's most valuable asset: their time. We must welcome all of them, especially our new members, and we must speak to them as brothers. Every member, not just officers, should see this as a duty. Our members pay attention. It matters."*





### **From the Archives:**

If you have taken a Covid 19 home test, you know that you are positive when the second line shows up. If you were positive on the first test and several days later when you were feeling better, you took a second Covid 19 home test you may have still found the second line. This is because even though you may no longer be contagious, Covid 19 stays in the body for some time after the most obvious symptoms go away.

By April of 2020, all Masonic Lodges in California were suffering the effects of Covid 19 and we definitely had two lines on our Lodge at home test kit. Las Palmas and all other Lodges in California were not only in the hospital, but were definitely on a respirator. We could not receive any applications for either the degrees or affiliation, hold stated meetings, or confer degrees. Candidates who had learned their proficiencies could not give their proficiencies in open Lodge as there were no Lodge meetings of any kind. Most of the coaches stopped coaching to avoid the spread of Covid 19. To pay our essential bills, the Master, Wardens, Secretary and one or two members would hold a conference call on the phone to approve the bills that had to be paid.

In October of 2020, our Grand Lodge held its annual communication via skype. On November 5<sup>th</sup>, Las Palmas held its first Zoom meeting. Of course, Lodge could not be opened as there was no way to tile the meeting, but it did give us a chance to see and chat with a few of our brothers. Our Stated Meeting for November was the first to be held via Zoom. Since Lodge could not be formally opened, we could still not receive petitions, vote on candidates or hold proficiencies. Our 2021 Installation of officers was also held via Zoom.

On July 29, 2021 we had our first-degree night after fifteen months of Covid darkness. Bro Daniel Valdez was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. There were 18 Masons present for this degree. Since then, we have been holding our regular Stated Meetings and have conferred seven 1<sup>st</sup> degrees, three 2<sup>nd</sup> degrees and three 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees. We currently have scheduled two 1<sup>st</sup> degrees and 1 second degree.

**If you think that Las Palmas is over its Covid 19, THINK AGAIN!** For one of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees, we barely had sufficient Masons present to confer the degree and several of those Masons had never partaken in a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree before. At our August, 2023 Stated Meeting, we only had the minimum number of Masons present to open Lodge in the 1<sup>st</sup> degree. In fact, all of the Entered Apprentice Masons present had to take an officer's chair so we could open Lodge and pay our bills. Our Lodge Covid 19 home test kit still shows two lines because we are still suffering the long effects of Covid. While we may not still be on the respirator or contagious, we have not been discharged from the hospital. What does our doctor say we need to do to get out of the hospital; we need Masons to show up for our degrees and Stated Meetings.

## **From the Archives con't.**

If I did not attend all meetings of Las Palmas when I am in town, I would not be asking Masons to come to Lodge. But I practice what I preach. We need you there to show support for our Lodge and to show support for our candidates. Except for July and August, there was a dinner for Masons and their significant other starting at 6:30 on our Stated Meeting nights. Our Stated Meetings last less than 30 minutes so you should be able to leave for home around 8:00 pm. If you come for a degree, there is an optional free light dinner at 6:30 followed by the degree at 7:30. Lodge will normally close around 9:00.

What is your excuse for not attending? As many of you know, I have been doing Masonic funerals for our fallen brothers for over 40 years. I even risked my health by doing them during the pandemic. At your funeral, if I am asked by a family member or friend how well I knew you; do you want me to say that "I didn't know you as you never showed up in Lodge once you got your degrees". I hope not. If you want to be a Mason, then act like a Mason and support your Lodge with your attendance. **Bring Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge home from the hospital by attending your Lodge.**

Hello September!



*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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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



September  
2023

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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 want to start out by telling you that dues notices will be sent out by the end of October. In keeping with that, many of you have still not paid your 2023 dues and some of you haven't paid your 2022 dues either. Please get them caught up! We will again start having stated meeting dinners in September, I hope that we have a great meal. Please check your dues card and make sure you are current.

See you in lodge.

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

**September Calendar**

9-7	Dark	7:30 PM
9-14	2 <sup>nd</sup> degree	6:30 PM dinner
9-21	Stated Meeting/Dinner	6:30/ 7:30 PM
9-28	1 <sup>st</sup> degree	6:30 PM dinner



Credit card payments

[PayPal at \[www.lpp366.org\]\(http://www.lpp366.org\)](https://www.paypal.com)

2023 Dues: \$140.00

PayPal Dues: \$144.75

Credit Card: \$144.75