



Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge No. 366, F. & A. M.



# The Las Palmian

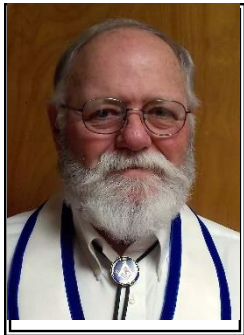
Legacy Chapter No. 555 Order of Easter Star  
Sharon Temple No. 92 Daughters of the Nile

Heart of the Valley Assembly No. 217 International Order of Rainbow for Girls

Volume XXVIII Issue 2

February 2024

## Greetings from the East



I would like for everyone to go with me back in time for a few minutes. Back before we had computers, cell phones, cable TV, internet etc. Everything that we wanted to learn was either from the newspaper, books or television. I myself was partial to the TV, and one of my favorite programs was On the Map, with Bob Long, KSEE 24. He would report his 15 minutes of fame regarding places or towns you may have never heard of otherwise. I always thought that to be interesting that someone would dig into the past and present it to the public. Well, it just so happens that we have a historian of our own within the lodge at Las Palmas - Ponderosa. His name is Richard Frey, Past Master LPP. Brother Frey has been writing articles on the past history of our lodge which includes history of our building, past events and about masons in general for many years now. I cannot wait for the Trestle board to go out every month so I can read his articles. This is not a task that the lodge or Master has asked for him to do. It is something that he took upon himself to provide to the lodge. He also coaches, conducts funeral services, lectures, investigate candidates and sits in a chair when needed. So, it is brothers like this that keeps the Craft alive. I wished we had more like this. Can't wait to read your next article and keep up the great work Brother Frey!

The month of January has come and gone. Practices, degrees, Stated Meeting and proficiencies filled the calendar. But you need to check out what is happening for February. We will be having our first Masters Night Out. It will be at Westwood's at 6:00pm. Unless something else comes up. Remember that this is Masters Night Out and all masons are invited! Please read the calendar of events in the Trestle board.

Let's show support and fill up the seats in the lodge!

Fraternally,

Bill Lyons PM

Worshipful Master



From the West,

I want to congratulate to our newly initiated brother Ryan Luna! I am pleased to say that we are having a better turn out not only for our stated meetings but our degrees as well, I think we are finally rebounding from Covid closing us down.

It is so wonderful to see so many brothers coming back to Lodge. For the newer Brothers, when we hold our officer practices if you are of the degree and want to come please do.

It is a great opportunity to learn.

Fraternally,  
Joshua Barkley  
Senior Warden



From the South:

Greetings Brethren,

The Lodge has been a busy place. It reminds me of past years like in 2017 & 2018, when we were turning out degrees every Thursday it seemed. I can't help noticing, that the Officer line is experiencing a recycling of the same Principal Officers, without the addition of new leadership in the Lodge chairs.

It seems we used to have more time and manpower to wait for a brother to work his way through his studies, but now it seems we cannot afford for our brothers to delay or procrastinate in their progress, needing them to make more rapid progress through their degree work, so they can be utilized to fill roles in the Lodge degrees and ceremonies.

New Leadership in the Officer line is crucial, without it our Lodge will not see growth and perhaps more important, we will not hear the voices nor see the talents of each man. Finding ourselves in a drought, I hope to encourage those good men to step up and take on the duties and responsibilities of an Officers chair, so you may develop your skills, make your own important contributions to the greater good.

The Masonic Fraternity has long been, and I feel continues to be a leadership academy. A place that has taught me how to speak in public, enhanced my communication skills, and methods for motivating people. I am truly thankful of the opportunities the Fraternity has brought me.

Look forward to seeing you soon.

Joshua Harmon PM  
Junior Warden Elect

## February Birthday's

Robert	Papazian		4
Gene	Pattee		4
John	Baird		6
Jerome	Thormann Jr.	PM	9
Richard	Donaldson		10
Byron	Pretzer		10
Timothy	Tyler		10
Ruben	Rios		14
Gerald	Sharp		14
David	Sorge		15
Richard	Childs		16
John	Scott		16
Jason	Weiner		17
Bryan	Kincade	PM	18
James	Mc Cown		18
Ali	Hatamaria		19
Richard	Frey	PM	21
Rodney	Rowlett		21
Cline	Jack Jr.	PM	23
Larry	Lee		27
Jared	Lyons		29
Joshua	Skunca		29





### **From the Archives:**

We know that inflation over the years has brought about higher costs for our personal expenses as well as those of Las Palmas Lodge. In his November 1978 Trestle board message, WM Paul Ford said that he had just returned from the annual communication of our Grand Lodge and that the annual GL assessment to individual lodges was raised from \$3.75 to \$5.00 per member. In response, Las Palmas increased its yearly dues from \$25 to \$30. In today's dollars that \$5.00 would be \$22.65. However, our GL assessment for 2024 is \$65.50. In 1979 our GL assessment was 17% of our dues. For 2024 it is 44% of our dues. In 1979 we had about 800 members, today we have about half of that.

On September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1978, W.M. Paul Ford had the honor of conferring the Third Degree upon his son, Phillip Craig Ford, in the historical lodge in Old Town in Los Angeles. While some Past Masters have helped confer the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree on their son, this may be the only time in LPP history that an acting Master had that privilege.

On April 5, 1979, Las Palmas held its first "Layman's Night" dinner. The Layman's Night program was started by our Grand Lodge and was a way for a Mason to bring a friend to our Lodge and have a speaker talk about Masonry. Obviously, it was intended to acquaint non-Masons with Masonry so that they might ask to be made a Mason. Our first speaker was a Judge from Merced who was an active person in Masonry and a good speaker. The dinner was free for both the Mason and the friend. I brought my brother-in-law and I think he enjoyed the occasion, but he never asked to be a Mason although he did have an uncle who was a Mason. I know this program was repeated in 1980, but I do not know if it continued on past 1980. For the 1979 dinner there were 41 Brothers and 29 guests present.

In his April, 1979 Trestle board message, WM Bobby Bingham reported on the March Stated Meeting dinner. "This was attended by approximately 230 persons, including 70 members of our Las Palmas Widows Club. The roast beef dinner served by the "Dates" was outstanding, as usual. Now you know why there are so many tables in the closet of our banquet room.

Our Secretary, Bob Paden, reported that "the 1979 Lodge Roster has been published and is at the lodge office for distribution. This year we will not mail the roster to everyone. Those desiring a copy should call the office or drop us a card and we will mail it to those persons only. They will also be available on the tiler's desk each meeting night and you can pick one up. The high price of postage has temporarily precluded a general mailing of this booklet. However, we wish to get one to all those wishing one." How many of you remember the roster which had the name, phone number and home address of all of the Masons in the 6 Masonic Lodges in Fresno and some editions had the members of Sanger Lodge? It was not published every year. I still have them from 6 or 7 different years with the last one from 1992. They have not been published in several decades, most probably due to the cost.

In the May 1979 Trestle board, Bro. Paul Ford PM reported that the Central California Research Lodge needed a typewriter. Bro. Paul was the Master of the CCRL at that time. I believe that this research Lodge met quarterly where papers were presented by members on various Masonic subjects. The CCRL is no longer in existence. Not all Grand Lodges allow research Lodges. The Oregon GL does not sanction them so some members in Oregon formed a regular Lodge with the intent of having its members present research papers. To do this, the dues were nominal, but the cost to take the degrees was over \$500. The Oregon Grand Master ruled that this Lodge had to reduce its fee for the degrees and start conferring degrees. I believe that the Lodge returned its charger to the GL.

Happy February!



*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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February  
2024

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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,

Valentines Day is going to be here soon, don't forget! The Master is restarting the Master's Night out once again, the first being at Westwood's on the 13<sup>th</sup>. You need to make reservations with the lodge so that the Master can make sure they have enough room for everyone. Please email the lodge for spots. We are again busy and we would like to see all of you in lodge so we can catch up, some of you I have never met!

Hope to see you all soon,

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

**February Calendar**

2-1	Third degree practice	7:00 PM
2-8	2 first degrees	6:30 / 7:30 pm
2-15	Stated meeting	6:30 Dinner 7:30 pm
2-22	Third degree practice	7:00 pm
2-29	Third degree	6:30/7:30 pm



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2024 Dues: \$148.00

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