



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 8

August 2025

Greetings from the East



Brethren,

As August arrives, bringing most of summer to a close, we've been fortunate to avoid any major heatwaves. I apologize for my recent absence: my wife has been in and out of the hospital but is now, thankfully, on the road to recovery, though she still has a long journey ahead. I hope you have all had a good summer filled with fun and good times.

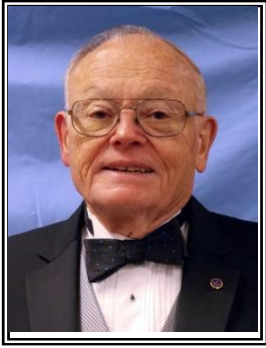
This marks our final "dark" month before we resume normal lodge activities in September. While August doesn't have any holidays, it does herald the exciting beginning of a new football season, which always brings a smile to my face!

I want to encourage members who haven't paid their dues or attended lodge in a while to please reach out to our secretary. We'd love for you to become current with your dues and rejoin us as a regularly attending brother. We've had to suspend some members who haven't paid dues in a while or who haven't been able to contact. Masonry thrives when we all practice it together.

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Fraternally,
Joshua Barkley
Worshipful Master



From the West:

On the evening of Thursday July 24th, we had our second BBQ on the patio. There were about 30 members and guests present for this fun time of food, drink and conversation. The main question that I was asked was when was our next BBQ on the patio. Since we have had conflicts with Shrine events on our first two Thursday night BBQ's we decided to try a Monday night BBQ on the Patio. Our next event will be on Monday August 18th. The time will be the same which is 6:30. Again, this event is for Masons and their male guests. I want to personally thank our Temple board for paying for the food and those members who helped out, especially Bro Ruben Rios.

Brother Dylan Oak is doing a food drive for Military Families. There is a collection box for shelf stable foods and bath items in the lobby next to the tiler's desk. If you get a chance to drop off some food for this valuable cause, this will be great. Our temple building is open Monday-Friday from about 8:00 to 5:00. Even if Bro. Kincade is not in his office, the parking log guards keeps our building open. If you will be attending the next BBQ on the patio, this will be a good opportunity to bring something for the food drive. The last day to donate is Thursday, August 21st which is the day of our August Stated Meeting.

Starting this last April, Brother Rios cooked some great dinners for our members and guests before our Stated Meetings. Even though I tried to let as many of our members as possible know of these great meals, the attendance ran only between 15 and 18 for each of these three meals. I looked back at some of the pictures of these dinners before Covid and observed at least 3 times as many people present at these earlier SM dinners.

It is not right for us to expect Bro. Rios to spend several days in planning, shopping for, and preparing each of these delicious Stated Meeting dinners and so few people to partake. With this thought in mind, I discussed the matter with the Master and some other officers and we have decided stop having a prepared dinner before our Stated Meeting. It truly bothers me to be part of the decision-making process that stopped our Stated Meeting Dinners which started when we moved into our new temple in January of 1961. But times have changed and we must be strong enough to make those tough decisions. For those of you have attended these SM dinners I thank you for attending. For those of you who did not attend, you missed some great food.

Because of the popularity of our BBQ on the patio, we will continue to have them with the hopes that weather will permit us to have about 8 per year. We will also try to have dinners before 3rd degrees.

Fraternally Richard Frey PM
Senior Warden



Greetings from the South,

The lodge, having recently been dark, has provided time to reflect on my Masonry in my life. I can help but feel thankful for all the new relationships and friendships I've made, due to my involvement in Masonry. The good men around me, engaging with me, give me the ability to build a stronger sense of myself and understanding of others. I am lucky to have the opportunity to participate in degrees at other Lodges, discovering the tremendous value in getting out there. It's been such a great experience uniting with other brothers in my travels. Learning I've only begun to comprehend the scope, and size of our fraternity. Finding at every Lodge I've visited, brotherly love, respect, and open arms curious to know about my life and background.

For me when I travel, it's not about seeing new landscapes, but finding those lessons I've not yet learned. Finding how Masonry has remained relevant in the world, in every state and country I have visited. We are all one family, regardless of our position in life, religious beliefs, or any cultural differences. Masons everywhere are truly always willing to lend a hand. We should encourage all our brothers to travel and study the craft, further strengthening our fraternal bonds.

Until next month may the blessing of heaven rest upon us and all our loved ones.

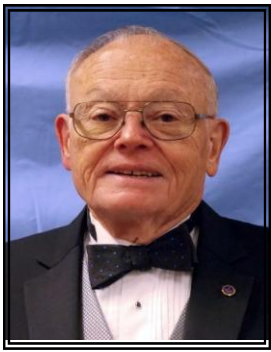
Sincerely yours,

Joshua Harmon PM
Junior Warden

August Birthdays

Charles	Vaughn			1
Brian	Richburg			2
Jack	Mattox			3
Tony	Delumen			4
Richard	Sherrod		PM	4
Linley	Cole			5
Dick	Manoogian			7
Benny	Contreras			8
Andrew	Miller		PM	8
Robert	Preston			10
James	Keeton		PM	11
Jeffrey	Woods			11
Henry	Alcantara			12
Howard	Ford			15
Gary	Frey			17
James	Wilson	II	PM	18
Richard	Avila			19
Walter	Kron			21
Wayne	Newquist			23
Milton	Snively			24
Jack	Afonin			26
Derek	Olsen			26
Bernard	Hollenbeck			28
Rian	Bowman			31





From the Archives:

As I read through our old minutes, I would occasionally see where members were suspended for non-payment of dues "NPD". The number varied each year with the highest numbers being during the great depression and the fewest during and shortly after WW II. Some of these suspended members would petition for reinstatement and were required to pay some, or all, of their previously unpaid dues.

For several years, Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge has tried to keep its dues as low as possible so that the number of NPD members was kept at a minimum. About 10 years ago, we changed our dues formula so that what we got to keep was kept constant and the yearly amount was only raised when the Grand Lodge assessment went up. About every 3 years, the GL assessment increases would accumulate to at least \$10. At that time, we would raise our dues by \$10 to cover what we had to pay to Grand Lodge. For the past few years, we have skipped some of these \$10 dues increases to keep our dues affordable. This caused our net dues to shrink over time.

About 7 or 8 years ago, our Grand Lodge started a program whereby a suspended member could get reinstated without vote of the Lodge or having to pay his unpaid dues. For \$100 he would be reinstated and we got to keep the \$100. We voted to opt into this program with the hopes that we could easily reinstate some previously suspended members.

While Grand Lodge did get some of our members to pay the \$100 and get reinstated, we found that over half of these men quickly got behind on their dues so each year that they did not pay their dues, we still had to pay the Grand Lodge assessment of over \$60. To suspend again, we had to send them a registered letter with return receipt which cost us over \$20 per person to be suspended. In addition, we had to have a minimum of two years without any dues and we still had to pay the GL assessment. In sum, it turned out to be a financial loss for our Lodge. Several months ago, we voted to withdraw LPP from our GL \$100 reinstatement program.

Several months ago, I was sitting in the east for our Stated Meeting and I read the names of about 20 members who we were suspending for NPD. About half of these had taken advantage of the \$100 GL reinstatement program. Grand Lodge, seeing a potential decrease in their yearly assessment, performed an audit on these suspensions for NPD. We just got word that we passed their audit that made sure we dotted every "i" and crossed every "t".

For at least the last 100 years, a candidate had to complete his three degrees within 3 years of being initiated. Several years ago, I was told that this was no longer the case so we allowed over 20 Entered Apprentice Masons and a couple of Fellow Crafts to exceed this 3-year time limit. It turns out that this 3-year time limit is still in the California Masonic Code and we are currently in the progress of suspending about 20 EA and FC's for failure to advance. Let us hope that we do not get another GL audit on these suspensions.

Lodge Night Out

Red Caboose Café, 5054 N. Academy Suite E, Clovis, Ca. 93619



Next Lodge Night Out will be August 12, 2025, and will be at:
Red Caboose Café, 5054 N. Academy Suite E, Clovis, Ca. 93619

The time will be at 5:30 PM.

Notify the Secretary for a reservation.

Happy August!



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**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



August
2025

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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 hope you are all having a great summer. We have sure been blessed with the weather. The heat has been staying away and the nights are fantastic. The lodge is still running and doing well, and if you haven't made a BBQ on the patio, you're missing out. This month we had about 30 people and it was a great night. I will keep everyone posted on the next one. Enjoy the rest of your summer and take care.

Hope to see you all soon,
Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

August Calendar

8-7	Dark	
8-12	Lodge Night Out	5:30 PM (read above)
8-14	Dark	
8-21	Stated meeting	7:30 PM
8-28	Dark	



Credit card payments:

[PayPal at www.lpp366.org](http://www.lpp366.org)

2025 Dues: \$151.00

PayPal Dues: \$156.00