



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 3

March 2025

Greetings from the East



The blossoming almond trees herald the arrival of spring, a season traditionally associated with rebirth. In the spirit of this renewal, let us reaffirm our commitment to the principles of Freemasonry and strive for a revitalization of our fraternal bonds. I extend a warm invitation to all brethren, particularly those who have been unable to attend lodge recently, to rejoin us and strengthen our fellowship.

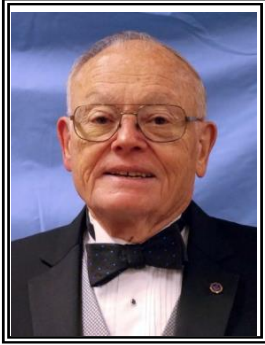
We extend sincere congratulations to our newest Entered Apprentices, Brothers Eugene Morales and Gabriel Benard.

I wish to express my deep gratitude to all the brethren, their wives, and our widows for their invaluable assistance with our stated meeting dinners.

Our Brother Secretary has informed me that we have achieved a full officer line for the first time in six years. This is a significant accomplishment, and I commend each officer for their dedication and diligent performance of their respective duties.

On March 13th, we will host an Officer School of Instruction at our lodge. This session will focus on the proper presentation of the Flag, the recognition of Grand Lodge Officers, and the effective utilization of the Grand Lodge website. To enhance the efficiency and focus of the instruction, all future OSIs will be conducted at our lodge with our officers exclusively, as directed by the Inspector. Additionally, the Inspector's official visit will take place during our March stated meeting.

Fraternally,
Joshua Barkley
Worshipful Master



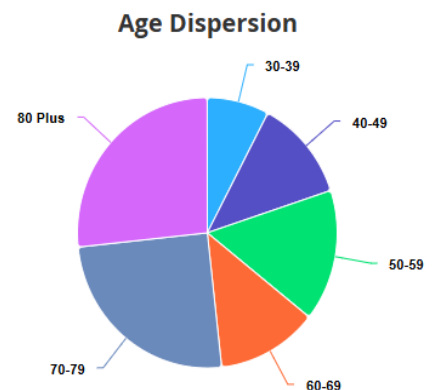
From the West,

On my birthday several weeks ago, I got a Happy Birthday e-mail from our Grand Lodge. Besides wishing me a Happy Birthday, it suggested that I click on a link to open up my account on the GL website, which I did.

To my surprise there was a pie chart with the age of member statistics for Las Palmas lodge. In the largest group, were those members over 80 years of age; there are 83 members. In the next largest group, age 70 -79, we have 78 members. For the 60 to 69 age group, we have 39 members. There are 49 members in the 50-59 bracket and 38 in the 40-49 bracket and only 24 in the 30-39 age bracket.

While these statistics are probably similar for most Masonic Lodges in California, and perhaps in the United States, the numbers are alarming. Over 50% of our members in Las Palmas Lodge are now over age 70.

When I petitioned Las Palms Lodge in 1967, you had to be age 21 before you could petition a Lodge in California. Subsequently, this was changed to age 18 and at our February Stated Meeting we favorably voted on the petition of a man who was only 20 years old.



In my February Sr. Warden message to you, I said that I would be starting a coaching session for our candidates every Monday evening at 7:00. In order to get the word out about these coaching sessions, Brother John Wilson and I attempted to personally contact every one of our 36 Entered Apprentice and 6 Fellow Craft Masons. We personally made a phone call to everyone on our list for whom we had a valid phone number. A couple answered the phone directly and a few more returned our calls. Most, by far the greatest majority, never responded.

From the West Cont.

I then sent out personal e-mails to those whom we were not able to contact by phone and got a total of 3 e-mail responses and one phone response. When I got a reply that the e-mail address was no longer valid, I personally mailed a letter to these 5 or 6 Entered Apprentice Masons. Again, no replies to me.

Of those who did reply, one met with me at the Lodge and asked what his options were as he no longer wanted to be in Masonry. Since he was paid up on his dues, I suggested that he ask for a Demit, which he did.

3 EA's wanted to be suspended for non-payment of dues. NPD

2 FC's wanted to be suspended for NPD

7 said that they would be there on Monday night, but only 3 showed up.

2 wanted to be coached over the phone as they were living out of state, but agreed to come back to Fresno to give their proficiencies and get their FC and MM degrees.

2 said that they were moving

1 said that due to family matters he wanted to wait until April before he decided if he wanted to proceed. He had a Life Membership which was given to him by his father many years ago.

21 did not respond in any manner

On our first Monday, February 3rd, coaching session we had a total of 3 EA's, 1 FC and one MM show up.

On our second Monday night, February 10th, we had 1 EA, 1 FC and 1 MM show up.

On our third Monday night, February 17th, we had 1 EA and 1 FC.

On our last Monday for February, we had 1 EA and 2 MM's. I was also notified, in advance, that two of our EA could not make it due to work related matters.

We will continue these Monday night coaching sessions with the hope that more will show up and get coached so that we can eventually make more Master Masons in our Lodge.

I submitted a list of names to our Secretary that 17 EA's who failed to respond, or asked, be suspended for NPD. This list also included 2 FC's to be suspended for NPD. In addition, I asked that the two who are current be granted their wish for a demit.

Fraternally,
Richard Frey PM
Senior Warden



From the South:

Greetings from the South,

My brothers it is my honor to be installed in the South of Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge for the ensuing masonic year. It is truly wonderful working with all of you and our current Lodge Officers. We are lucky this year to have Worshipful Joshua R. Barkley serving and comprising his role as Master of Las Palmas for 2025. We are also proud to see Past-Master Richard Frey is once again installed in the West as Senior Warden, and our Brother John Wilson is taking on the role of Senior Deacon for the ensuing Masonic year.

Our remaining Officers are a terrific group for gentleman who have been so supportive of me and the Lodge. We look forward to multiple first degrees in the coming months, which we hope to see every member in Lodge for these men's initiation into our ancient and honorable fraternity. Stay tuned for times and updates for future events.

May we all enjoy the festivities this month and continue to grow in Lodge.

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

Sincerely yours,

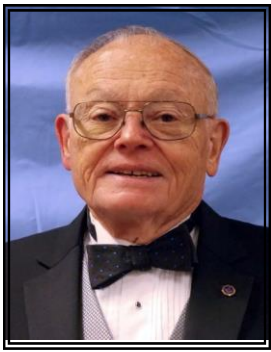
Joshua Harmon PM
Junior Warden Elect

March Birthdays

Jordan	Bachman	3
Franklin	Lewis	3
Mike	Hamzy	4
Robert	Crossland	5
Lyle	Evans Jr.	6
Michael	Garrett	6
Bee	Her	9
Stephen	Harlan	12
Jeffery	Whitener	13
Ronald	Letterman	17
Michael	O'Connell	17
Trenton	Smith	17
Clifford	Carrigan	18
Denton	Hollifield	18
Timothy	Jurkowski	18
Gerald	Peloian	18
Norman	Meachum	19
Glen	Ream	19
Jack	Ouzounian	20
Gabriel	Benard	22
Michael	Chapman	24
Andrew	Kincaid	25
Sean	Rutledge	25
William	Woolman	26
Donald	Pribble	28

PM





From the Archives:

At our stated meeting on February 21st, 1980, my birthday, I, as Master, read a written memorial for two of our members. These memorials were then placed in the Lodge minutes with a copy being sent to the family of the fallen Brother. This is a photocopy of the memorial for

RALPH WILLIAM BOUCHER, age 85, passed to the Celestial Lodge Above on Wednesday, February 20, after a long series of illnesses. In his earlier years Ralph was very active in masonic organizations, especially the Shrine. He was born in Murphysboro, Illinois on June 19, 1894 and was in the U.S. Army during World War I, after which he was a salesman for Hobbs Parsons Co., a local produce firm. Later he and his wife, Mary, operated a flower shop on Fulton Street in downtown Fresno, which they later sold to Phil Lewis. Bro. Boucher was raised in Las Palmas Lodge June 20, 1928, and received his Golden Veteran Award on July 20, 1977.

The irony of this memorial is not that I ever met Brother Boucher, but his flower shop was across the street from my father's business on Van Ness in downtown Fresno. Brother Lewis then moved his flower shop to Ashlan and Fresno Street which was close to where we lived in 1973. Bro Phil Lewis appointed me to the officer's line when he was Master in 1973 and taught me all of the ritual for the Master Mason degree as the 3rd degree Officer Coach for Las Palmas. On most Saturday's I would go over to Bro Phil's shop and talk to him and his wife Evie. Before I could leave, he had to give me a bouquet of flowers to take home to Therese. These not only pleased Therese, but all of the women who would see me walking to our apartment in the complex would get jealous because they would have loved to have had their husbands bring them flowers weekly from a florist.

Personally, I like the idea of having a committee prepare a written memorial for a fallen brother so that it can be given to his family, read in open Lodge and then placed in the Lodge Minutes.

On March 13, at 7:30 p.m., Bethel 243 conducted the Jobs Daughters ritual. Wives of Master Masons were invited (no pant suits or slacks). On April 3, at 7:30 p.m. Las Palmas DeMolay put on the DeMolay degree for us. On April 24, at 7:30 p.m. Rainbow for Girls exemplify their ritual (only wives of Master Masons who are members of the Order of Eastern Star or are senior member of Rainbow could visit with us).

Lodge Night Out

Santa Fe Basque



Next Lodge Night Out will be March 11, 2025, and will be at:
Santa Fe Basque Restaurant
3110 N. Maroa Ave
Fresno, CA 93704
(Southeast corner of Maroa and Shields)

The time will be at 5:30 PM.

Notify the Secretary for a reservation.

Happy March!



Our Thoughts
and Prayers
are With you

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



March
2025

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 159
FRESNO, CA 93706

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 inform everyone that the monthly breakfast is discontinued. We averaged just about 20 people per Sunday and having to get up at 4:30 in the morning to come down here to prepare a meal and only get that turnout was not worth it. I have the unpleasant duty of my office to send out registered letters to people who are behind on their dues. They are coming soon, if you are getting notices of owing dues, you will receive a letter and be suspended at the stated meeting following. If you want to work something out, please get ahold of me.

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

March Calendar

3 -6	First degree	6:30 PM /7:30 pm
3-11	Lodge Night Out	5:30 PM (read above)
3-13	OSI	7:00 PM
3-20	Stated meeting/Dinner	6:30 PM /7:30 pm
3-27	Practice or degree	7:30 PM



Credit card payments:

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

2025 Dues: \$151.00

PayPal Dues: \$156.00