



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 6

June 2026

## Greetings from the East



Brethren,

As we enter the month of June, we once again approach the season when our Lodge traditionally goes dark during July and August. This pause in our degree work offers us a moment to reflect on the progress we've made, the Light we've shared, and the bonds we continue to strengthen as Brothers.

Even as we go dark, our Stated Meetings will continue throughout the summer. These gatherings remain an important anchor for our Lodge—an opportunity to stay connected, conduct our necessary business, and enjoy the fellowship that defines our Craft.

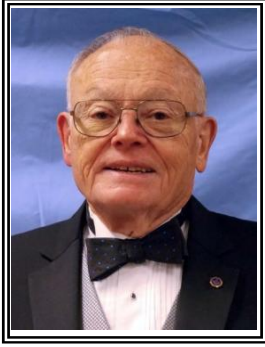
Our **BBQ on the patio** will also continue during the summer months. These evenings have become a highlight of our Lodge's culture: relaxed, welcoming, and filled with good food and better company. I encourage every brother to join us, bring a friend, and enjoy the warmth of both the season and our fraternity.

This June, we have the distinct honor of celebrating a remarkable milestone. On **June 20, 2026**, we will recognize and pay tribute to those brothers who have reached **50 years in Masonry**. Their dedication, perseverance, and lifelong commitment to the Craft stand as an inspiration to us all. Please join us as we honor their service and express our gratitude for the Light they have carried and shared for half a century.

As we enter the quieter months ahead, may each of us take time to reflect on our personal journey in Masonry. Let us return in September renewed in spirit, sharpened in purpose, and ready to continue the great work we share.

May the Great Architect watch over you and your families during this season of rest and fellowship. Until we meet again, may peace and harmony prevail.

Fraternally,  
Worshipful Master  
Curtis Jack PM



From the West,  
As your Senior Warden, our Master put me in charge of membership.

The fun part of this job is to respond to local prospects who contact our Grand Lodge via their website. I try to send them an e-mail within a day of our GL notifying me of a prospect and invite them to our next BBQ on the patio. I also offer to answer any of their questions; either by return e-mail or over the phone.

At the BBQ, I introduce myself and introduce them to the brothers who are present at the BBQ. At some time during the evening, I invite the prospects into our Lodge room and explain the layout of our Lodge room, what Masonry is, what is required to join the fraternity and what is expected of them as a candidate. If there is one of our EA's or FC's available, I have them come into the Lodge room so they can tell what it is like to memorize the candidates' proficiencies and how long it takes.

After answering all questions, we return to the card room or patio for more socialization.

My experience is that about 1 in 4 of those who show an initial interest will actually submit an application.

There is another part of being in charge of membership which is not pleasant at all. Once our 2026 Masonic year started with 321 members, we had unpaid dues totaling over \$50,000.

As Masons and officers of Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge, we hope that our brother Masons will continue to show enough interest in Masonry that they will pay their dues. We also hope that if they become financially unable to pay their dues that they will contact our secretary so we can help them with their dues. We also hope that if they no longer want to be a part of the fraternity, they will have the courtesy to ask for a demit or withdraw from membership. Lastly, we also hope that Masons will ask their family to notify the Lodge upon their passing.

(Senior Warden cont.)

The problem is that approximately half of our annual dues must be sent to Grand Lodge as the GL assessment.

If you are on our books as an active member, even if you are behind on your dues, GL charges us for the GL assessment. Out of the \$50,000 in unpaid dues, Las Palmas-Ponderosa Lodge has paid over \$22,000 to our GL as the assessment.

In going through the list of members who are behind on dues, we did find some who had died within the last 4 to 5 years. If the families had notified us of their death, we could have marked them as deceased and not had to pay the GL assessment for the years from their death until we were able to verify their death and mark them as deceased.

We always have hope that after receiving a delinquent dues notice, a member will suddenly realize that he owes back dues and will make arrangements to catch up or asked to be dropped from our rolls.

At the March Stated Meeting, the Master announced that 45 members would be suspended for NPD if they did not make arrangements with us. All of these 45 members had been sent yearly dues notices as well as special notices from our GL about being suspended for NPD.

**NOT A SINGLE ONE OF THESE 45 MEMBERS CONTACTED OUR SECRETARY!**

At our May, 2026 Stated Meeting, the Master announced their names and declared all of these 45 members suspended for NPD. This reduced our total membership to 276.

We still have members who were not dropped because they were only two years, plus the current year, behind on their dues. If you are one of these members, stand up, be a Mason and take care of this matter by immediately contacting our Lodge Secretary.

Fraternally,  
Richard Frey PM  
Senior Warden



Greetings from the South,

When we go to Lodge, we usually (instinctively) look across the room and see the letter "G". Then we sit down and start to notice who is present and who is not.

We count officers at their stations. And, perhaps without even realizing it, we quietly measure the health of our Lodge by the number of occupied chairs.

I haven't been a Mason that long, compared to some of our other brothers. But to me, Masonry has never truly been about filling seats.

Every empty chair we see can tell us a story. I'll show you how:

- \* One chair may belong to a brother who has a terminally sick wife who he cannot afford time away from.
- \* Another chair may sit empty because his daughter has her first ballet recital that night.
- \* One may even belong to a brother who is simply burned out on Masonry.

Life has a funny way of placing burdens on our shoulders we did not expect to carry.

It can be easy to assume that absence means indifference. It can be easy to wonder why a Brother has not attended in months or even years. Yet, our obligation does not bind us only to the brothers who sit beside us at Lodge. It binds us to those we do not see. A brother does not cease being a brother because life has pulled him away from Lodge.

Brotherhood exists outside of a tiled Lodge room. It exists in phone calls or texts asking, "How you doing, Brother?" It exists in an invite to a home BBQ or going out for a cigar and whiskey. It exists in remembering someone's birthday, checking on widows, or simply reminding someone that he has not been forgotten.

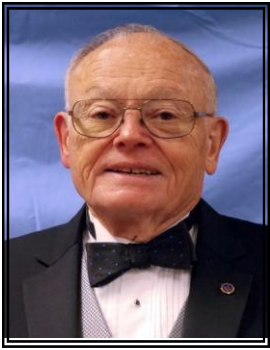
For those of you out there who we do not see at Lodge... You are not forgotten.

Respectfully,  
John Wilson  
Junior Warden  
559-244-9582

## June Birthdays

David	Pitts		1
William	Lee		2
Raymond	Reyes		2
Justin	Robinson		2
Vernon	Gaylord		5
Richard	Hopper	PGM	5
Devin	Hanson		7
Curtis	Jack	PM	8
Henry	Howard		10
Timothy	Bezzerrides		11
Dwayne	Farrow		14
Terrance	Haun	II	15
Richard	Mets		16
Allen	Munroe	Jr.	16
Nicholas	Ionescu		17
William	Lyons	PM	17
Michael	Sahakian		17
Alan	Steven		17
James	Welch		18
Elie	Choufani		21
Daniel	Valdez		25
Dennis	Claborn		26
Brian	Lee		26
Albert	Petersen		27
Christopher	Cody		29





**From the Archives:**

Our Master for 1981 was Gary Starr. Gary followed me in the Master's chair and while I was Master in 1980, he was the Chaplain for most of the Masonic funerals that I gave to our fallen brothers.

During my year as Master, our daughter, Erica, turned 4 years old and our son, Wesley, turned 2. Therese supported me in going through the chairs and especially when I was Master. This allowed me to be away from home sometimes several nights a week. Our agreement was that once I became a Past Master, I would stay home in the evenings to be a good father. For a good number of years, the only Lodge functions that I participated in were Past Master nights.

It was not until the early 2000's that Sam Pavlovich asked me to join him and do an audit of the books of the newly consolidated Las Palmas-Ponderosa lodge. When John Herring personally called and asked me to attend his installation as one of the two remaining members of the night when he got his 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, this sealed the deal and I returned to Las Palmas Lodge. Richard Ehorn was the other and this invite also brought him back to Lodge.

Upon my return to Lodge and by attending all of the degrees, the ritual came back to me and it was common for me to mouth the words as the officers gave their parts. With the help of Larry Bennett, I re-learned the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Master's lecture and even gave it several times over several years.

When Bro Chuck Bersani passed away, WM Bill Lyons suggested to our inspector that I be appointed the Officer's coach. This is a job that do enjoy, but I do wish that Brother Bersani was still alive as his memory of our ritual was far better than mine.

As I was holding several practices for our 2025 Past Master's night, I asked Brother Starr if he was willing to participate and he agreed. Since it had been many years since he had last seen a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, he questioned his memory of our ritual. Because of this I gave him an easy part. While we were practicing the parts that came before his part, I noticed that he was mouthing the ritual. When I mentioned this to him, he acknowledged that his memory of parts that he had not seen or repeated in decades was quickly coming back to him.

While our Masonic Ritual has been around for several hundred years, it is so impressive that our minds will just not let us forget it.

## Lodge Night Out

Come join us!



### 500 Club OLD TOWN CLOVIS

500 Clovis Avenue, Clovis, CA 93612

June 9th @ 6 PM. Notify the Secretary for a reservation.

#### Calendar:

- June 4- 2nd Degree 7p.m.
- June 8- BBQ on the Patio 6:30 p.m.
- June 9- Lodge Night Out (See above)
- June 11- 1st degree 7 p.m.
- June 18- Stated Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- June 20- Golden Veterans Presentations 10:30 a.m.
- June 25- Special Meeting (Summons) 7 p.m.

Happy June!



*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**



June  
2026

NON-PROFIT ORG  
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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 can't believe that the year is almost half over. I hope you had a well-deserved Memorial Day. I am not quite sure who has made Mother Nature mad, but would you kindly apologize? The lodge is moving right along and we will be having three different degrees in the coming month. If you haven't been here in a while, now would be the time. Many of your brethren would love to see you.

Hope to see you all soon,

Bryan Kincade PM, Secretary

**See you in Lodge!**



Credit card payments:

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

2026 Dues: \$155.00

Paypal dues: \$161.00