

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2017

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brethren, ladies and friends;

This is the final issue of the Trestleboard for 2017. I urge everyone to please make sure that the Lodge has your current information including your email address and phone numbers. Don't assume what we have is current. To make it easy for you, there is a space to do so on the letter being sent to you with your 2018 dues notice. Please pay your dues promptly. The lodge needs your dues to operate and it makes it difficult to do so when brothers are not current on their dues.

If you cannot afford your dues, please write me a letter explaining your circumstances and the Charity Committee may be able to confidentially remit your dues. This must be done each year you are requesting remittance.

I also urge you to sign-up to be on our lodge app. It's a great way to stay in contact with your lodge brethren, see what's happening, check for any last-minute information, and post your latest achievements or news you want your brothers to know about. Email the lodge to get them. Also, sign-on to the lodge Facebook page.

Having recently returned from the annual Grand Lodge Communication, I want to tell everyone how wonderful it was to attend this gathering. Brothers whom I haven't seen for a year or more greet each other with great emotion. The business of the Grand Lodge is conducted with civility, which has been so lacking in the public discourse these last several years. Ah, if the general public and Masons could only act in their daily lives as Freemasons do in our gatherings, there would be so much less stress and anger between people. If you are a Master Mason you are able to attend this great event. You will be impressed.

Due to extenuating circumstances, the Festive Board has had to be moved to March 10, 2018. It will be a great event, so put it on your calendar.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Reservations for November 6, Stated Meeting dinner must be received by Lodge Secretary. See notice.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER, 6,

Stated Meeting Honoring Lodge Veterans, Drawing for Dodger Memorabilia, and Election of Officers. Wear your uniform. Bring clothing for The Midnight Mission Lodge open 6:30p.m., Dinner and Open Portion 7:15p.m., Tiled portion to follow.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13,

7:15pm, Officers Planning Meeting and 2* Practice. Interested brothers may attend. Casual.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

7:15pm. OSI at Beverly Hills Lodge. Master and Wardens' Written Qualification. Other interested Master Masons may attend.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

6:00pm, Building Association
7:15pm, Individual practice to qualify

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

7:15pm. Fellowship Night Movie: "Inside the Freemasons". Open to all. Dress Casual. Refreshments.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

Reservations due for December 4, Stated Meeting dinner. See notice for details.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Stated Meeting. Entertainment. Lodge open 6:30p.m., Dinner and Open Portion 7:15p.m., Tiled portion to follow.

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SAVE THE DATES

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10
**95TH ANNUAL INSTALLATION
OF OFFICERS**
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017
LODGE OPENS 5:00PM
CEREMONY 6:00PM SHARP
BLACK TIE OPTIONAL
FREE DINNER TO FOLLOW
**PLEASE RSVP TO LODGE
PHONE OR EMAIL**

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018
**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
FESTIVE BOARD**
**ALL MASONS AND INVITED
GUESTS.**
DETAILS TO FOLLOW

PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE NEW TIME

The time for our Stated Meeting and dinner will be changed for the balance of this year. The tiled opening will occur at 6:30pm. Dinner will be at 7:15pm and the open portion of the meeting will be held in the dining room. Visitors and ladies are cordially invited to attend these portions of the meeting. Following this, the tiled business portion will be in the lodge room. This should allow for more fellowship time after the business portion.



STATED MEETING



MONDAY NOVEMBER 6TH, AND DECEMBER 4TH

Open Lodge: 6:30 p.m. | Dinner: 7:15 p.m.

W.M. Michael Bear presiding

RSVP NO LATER THAN THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE AND INVITE A FRIEND.

Dinner is \$20.00

MENU

TBD

RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY

Reservations must be made on sign-up sheet, or (310) 657-2628, or ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net, and may be made and paid for on the lodge website: <http://ioniccomposite520.com>

If you do not make a reservation extra meals will not be available. Brothers, if you make a reservation and don't cancel by the date specified, you will be billed.

* Guests of the Master, and widows of Ionic Composite Lodge, who have not remarried, are free. Menu is Subject to Change.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Installation of Officers. Lodge opens 5:00pm, Ceremony starts at 6:00pm sharp! Free dinner to follow. Please make reservations to the Lodge Secretary so we will have enough food. Officers Tux, others, black tie optional.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

6:00pm Building Association
7:15pm Officers planning meeting. Other interested brothers are welcome.

LODGE DARK: DECEMBER 18, 25, AND JANUARY 1.

Happy Holidays.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3,

Reservations due for January 8, Stated Meeting dinner. See notice for details

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

Stated Meeting. Stated Meeting. Lodge open 6:30p.m., Dinner and Open Portion 7:15p.m., Tiled portion to follow.

FROM THE SOUTH

Come to the Lodge, you will not be disappointed. Instead, you will be refreshed and nourished in both mind and body. Words simply cannot describe what Masonry has done for me in my relatively short three-year Masonic life. Such concepts as fraternity, civility, charity and gaining knowledge sound like some very good things to aspire to. If only we had one stop shopping for all of those, life would be so easy. Hey, wait a minute, all of these things are available right here at the Lodge. Luckily, I figured that out just a brief time after my first attendance at the Lodge.

I also happen to be a sucker for pizza and scotch, to which I was first exposed when I was obligated as an EAM. I will never forget Wor Kerin calling me over to his side and pouring me a shot of whisky to toast my admission into the Fraternity. This of course was followed by pizza. I surely thought that I had entered nirvana. Now that I am Junior Warden and I am in charge of refreshment, I have endeavored to continue and further solidify this tradition and am always comforted when walking out of the Lodge to the dining room, I am greeted by the fragrance of hot pizza.

Okay, so while pizza and scotch are some very good things, we also get a chance to learn and practice civility. Again, this was one of my early exposures at the Lodge, when I was lucky enough to attend MW Russ Charvonia's talk on civility. It was a real pleasure to be in the company of a Past Grand Master and be exposed to ways to subdue my passions and improve myself in Masonry. I still use those tools every day, especially while commuting on our lovely but very crowded streets and freeways. Thanks to MW Russ's guidance, driving, as well a bunch of other things, are now much more enjoyable.

We all want to be charitable individuals, but it is not always simple to find the way. Fortunately, the Lodge again makes this very easy for us. We have constant exposure to simple and not very painful ways to make contributions to Masons 4 Mitts, Masonic Homes, other Masonic charities and various non-Masonic ones as well. What could be more fun than attending a Dodger Game, or winning some Dodger memorabilia, while also supporting this worthy charity. I should also mention that once again, our Lodge was awarded with a certificate during Annual Communication, for 100% officer giving.

Yes, we are very lucky indeed to have the Lodge for one stop shopping on all things necessary to be a Mason and to nourish both our bodies and souls. I guess that is why I am always there. You should be also.

Steve Resnick – Junior Warden

THINK ABOUT IT

In 1984, a 24 year-old single mother of two children pled guilty to second degree murder. The crime occurred after her roommate told her that a man owed her some money and they then robbed him. During the event, this woman did hit the man over the head with a beer bottle and the roommate stabbed him multiple times. In exchange for her plea and for testifying against one of her co-defendants (and the story in the LA Times did use the plural, although the other perpetrators were not identified), the woman was offered a prison sentence of 7.5 years.

Unfortunately for her, the plea agreement was never put into writing. It was subsequently discovered in court that the law demanded a minimum sentence of 10 years and, when that fact was realized, she received the longer sentence. Her mother hired a lawyer to challenge the longer sentence; that lawyer was eventually successful in overturning the conviction and a new trial was ordered. The retrial occurred in 1994, shortly before she was to become eligible for parole after being in prison for nearly 10 years. The new trial turned out to be even more disastrous for her. When she was tried as a single defendant, she was found guilty of first degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. Thus, her co-defendants wound up with shorter sentences than she did.

The case has been reviewed on various occasions, most recently in 2016 in a federal appeals court. The three judges who heard the case that time ruled 2:1 that she had committed a "gruesome and senseless crime" and that the law dictated the penalty. However, the judges also thought that the subsequent sentencing events were troubling. These events included an initial denial by the prosecutor that any bargain had been offered, but a transcript proved that statement not to be true. The now 57-year-old wom-

an is appealing to the governor to commute her sentence to second degree murder and make her eligible for parole.

It is certainly easy to find sympathy for this woman's predicament, as was obviously felt by Maura Dolan, the reporter who wrote the newspaper story. However, I also had some other thoughts. There does not seem to be any question about the woman's guilt; some man was murdered and deprived of who knows how many years. How is that to be atoned? Certainly this woman must bear her share of the penalty for the wrong she did; maybe the number of years she has spent in jail represents the number of years lost by the man? I also could not understand why, when the woman was almost eligible for parole, she chose to have the case retried? What was to be gained? If there is a need to spread some blame around, what about the questionable advice that her lawyers provided to her? It was curious to me that no action was being filed against them challenging their legal practices.

Think about it.
Ron Koretz, P.M.

Continued from Cover

Please attend and invite a friend or two, to the up-coming Stated Meetings and Fellowship Nights. In November, we will be honoring our Veterans as well as having a drawing for some Dodger memorabilia. Wear your uniform. At the December meeting we will be having a fun night, either entertainment or a game. Be sure and attend the November 27th, Fellowship Night when we will have a showing of "Inside the Freemasons". Lastly, on December 10th we will be having our installation of officers. Please make RSVPs to all events so we can order enough food.

Remember, you will get so much more out of your membership by attending activates. Let me know of what you would like to do be it community outreach, social, educational or fraternal. You are the Lodge!

SEE YOU IN LODGE!

Michael Bear, P.M., Master

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Louis Roman Dalesandro	03	Harry William Tepper	10	Morris Hyman Darnov	22
Laurence J. Friedman	03	Sheldon Ira Lodmer	15	Mauricio Javier Leon	25
Matthew Langston Wilson	04	Lawrence Michael Lebowsky PM	16	John Bell Rasor	26
Albert Paul Canter	06	Timothy Joseph Shiner PM	17	Leonard Jeremiah King	27
Gene V. Pira	08	Edward Albert Trabin	19	Peter David Gordon	30
Clarence Neal Jr.	09	Michael Anthony Pecina	21	Zachary Harris Lodmer	30
JohnRobert Paul Wilson	09	Steven L. Bailin	22		

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lutfallah Hay	04	Etan Boaz Goldman	16	Michael C. Maroko PM	23
Morris Irving Lazar	04	Maverick Brown	19	Ezra Oz Ozer	24
Wesley D. Challacombe	07	Norman Harris Langer	19	Stanley Ziegler	27
Jason Frederick Louv	11	Bruno Verghese Samuel PM	20	Jordan Maxwell	28
Marshall Bennett Krupp	13	Harold Maurice Forster	22	Edgar Liebes Friedman PM	31
Bernard Rabins	15	Yukihiro Matsumoto PM	22		
Harry G. Golden PM	16	Roy Evans Mc Ginnis PM	22		

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

We Wish Everyone a Full and Complete Recovery

Geri Edelman
Home with a variety of medical problems

Robert Faries, M.D.
At home (hospice care) – can talk to wife (Brenda)

Joseph Fisch
Home with multiple medical problems

Leonard Hess
Confined mostly to home because of stroke

Robert Reed.
Home with medical problem

Jay Richards
At home with multiple problems

Brethren Please, a Telephone call from you could brighten their day

If you know of a Brother or a member of a Brother’s family who is ill, please contact the Lodge Office: Tel: 310. 657.2628

Funeral Telephone list: Any brother who would like to be placed on the funeral notification call list, your presence would be deeply appreciated. Please contact the Lodge Office

2017 OFFICERS

Master – Michael Bear PM (Debbie)

Junior Steward – Varun Dadabhoy

Senior Warden –

Tiler – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Junior Warden – Steve Resnick (Sheelah)

Officers’ Coach – Bernie Morse, P.M. (Carolyn)

Treasurer – Bernie Morse, P.M. (Carolyn)

Inspector for the 622nd Masonic District
O. Gary Pealer PM (Lelah)

Secretary – Daniel Ferszt (Shannon)

Chaplain – Roy Steinfeld PM

Trestleboard Editor – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Senior Deacon –

Trestleboard Layout – JohnRobert Wilson (Sanae)

Junior Deacon – Yuriy Kotlyar

Marshal – Kevin Silver (Katherine)

Senior Steward – Luis Tananta (Maria)