

JANUARY 2018

TRESTLE BOARD

IONIC COMPOSITE LODGE NO. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brethren, families and friends.

What constitutes a Mason?

You have listened tonight to the ceremony that installed this year's line of officers. Parts of this ceremony date back many hundreds of years. Perhaps it is the ritual that makes us a Masons?

You have seen the charter that was issued to this Lodge over 95 years ago. Does that make us a Masons?

You see the jewels and aprons the officers wear, along with the many symbols you see about the lodge room. Perhaps that makes us Masons?

While all those things are important and distinguish us from other organizations, there is an intangible that makes us more than a building that houses a men's organization and everything within it.

The thing that makes us Freemasons are the obligations that we freely take at the altar to act as brothers, and maybe even more than brothers, towards each other, as well as the manner in which we should conduct ourselves in our dealings with all men and women.

If we fail to conduct ourselves as Freemasons then, while we have beautiful rituals, hold our meetings and ceremonies in beautiful buildings with many symbols, have a charter issued from the Grand Lodge of California, and our fraternity goes back more than 300 years, we are not Masons.

It is by the brotherhood we share together, that willingness to help one another and share in each other's joys and sorrow, that distinguishes us.

Each lodge that I have gone to has treated me not as a stranger who has crossed their threshold or a relative that they feel obliged to act nicely towards, but as a brother whom they dearly missed and are

happy to see.

If we act that way to a visiting brother, should we not act the same way towards our own lodge brothers and those who would join us? Let us come together at meetings and events and share our love for each other and the craft. It is easy to find excuses not to attend lodge or activities. But think how much your brothers miss you, and join us.

Thank you, and see you in lodge.



Festive Board

In Honor of Wor Kerin and Suzan Surents

Saturday March 10, 2017 - \$40 per person

Please join us for what has always been one of our most fun and well attended events.

The menu (possible revision) will include a four course meal provided by Froma of Melrose.

Appetizers, salad, beef bourguignon and grilled chicken breast with chutney glaze.

Followed by dessert.

Please pay your 2018 dues by 1/1/2018!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please make a special effort to join us for these events. We really value your participation in the running of the Lodge.

- **January 3, 2018**
Reservations Due for Stated Meeting
- **January 5, 2018**
Trestle Board Articles Due
- **January 7, 2018 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm**
Culver City Foshey Installation
- **January 8, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
Stated Meeting
Menu:
Lasagna
Eggplant Pasta
Chicken & Mushroom with Light Cream Sauce
Agenda:
Budget, Committee appointments
Speaker: Rob Holms on "Online Scams: Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them"
- **January 15, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
1st Degree Practice
- **January 20, 2018 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**
Installation--Santa Monica Pallisades
- **January 22, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
Movie Night "Inside the Freemasons" produced by the United Grand Lodge of England. Dress: Casual. Refreshments.
OPEN TO ALL. Invite a friend or two.
- **January 29, 2018 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**
Building Association
- **January 29, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
Officers Planning
Other interested brothers may attend!
- **January 30, 2018 7:15 pm - 7:45 pm**
OSI--Beverly Hills
At Beverly Hills Lodge. Officers School of Instruction, Stated Meeting, Reception of Grand Lodge Officer, Flag, all officers required to attend. Master Masons only. Dress: Casual.
- **January 31, 2018**
Reservations Due for Stated Meeting
Stated Meeting Reservations due for the February 5 Stated Meeting and Sweethearts Night.
Entertainment.
- **February 2, 2018**
Trestle Board Articles Due
- **February 5, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
Stated Meeting-Sweethearts Night
Stated Meeting and Sweethearts Night.
Entertainment. Lodge open
6:30p.m., Dinner and Open Portion 7:15p.m., Tiled portion to follow.
- **February 12, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
1st Degree Practice
Officers and interested brothers.
Casual.
- **February 17, 2018**
Nethercutt reservations CUT OFF!!
- **February 19, 2018 7:15 pm - 7:45 pm**
Star Wars 1st Get Together
Star Wars Study in the 3*, Invited brothers only.
Casual. Contact Tim Shiner, P.M. for more information.
- **February 21, 2018 7:15 pm - 7:45 pm**
OSI--Culver City
At Culver City Foshey Lodge. Officers School of Instruction. 3* complete. Officers mandatory. Interested Master Masons may attend. Casual.
- **February 24, 2018 10:00 am - 11:00 am**
Nethercutt Collection
- **February 26, 2018 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**
Building Association
- **February 26, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
Fellowship Night
Invite a friend or two. Refreshments.
- **March 2, 2018**
Trestle Board Articles Due
- **March 5, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
Stated Meeting
- **March 10, 2018 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**
Festive Board
- **March 12, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
1st Degree Practice
- **March 19, 2018 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**
1st Degree

Saturday, February 24th
We're Going To The Nethercutt!

J. B. Nethercutt, a Mason and Past Master (1947) of Santa Monica Lodge No. 307, was the cofounder of Merle Norman Cosmetics. In 1974 he built a museum in Sylmar, California, which he named "San Sylmar," to house his wife's and his various collections.

On Saturday, February 24th Ionic Composite will be touring San Sylmar and the Nethercutt Collection. We will view automobiles dating from the early 1900's to the late 1950's. On display will be perfectly restored and preserved Dusenbergs, Delahayes, Maybachs and other vehicles. We will see and hear the world-class collection of mechanical pianos, nickelodeons, cylinder & disc music boxes, orchestrions and the "Mighty Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ.

After touring San Sylmar, Ionic Composite will spend a few minutes wandering among the rest of the collection then gathering at the 1912 Pullman Private Car #100 "California," previously owned by Clara Baldwin Stocker, the eldest daughter of Santa Anita Race Track founder, E.J. "Lucky" Baldwin.

To learn more about the collection go to <http://www.nethercuttcollection.org>

After viewing the world class museum we will drive to Buon Gusto Ristorante for lunch of either a chicken or meat ball panini, lasagna or "Cesare" salad. Lunch is \$20.00.

Reservations by February 17, 2018 are a must. Mail your check payable to "Robert L. Sills" to 12490 W. Fielding Circle, No. 631, Playa Vista, CA 90094. For information contact Bob at (310)945-9631 or rlsills@rlsills.com.

SEE DETAILS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.



Sweethearts Night

Monday February 5, 2017

Sweethearts free
otherwise \$20 per person

Persian Cuisine

Chicken kebab, beef koobideh, shirazi salad, grilled veggies, rice and pita bread

Entertainment by Song Stylist Tony Rogers a singer of many genres including audience participation.

Get Social!



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**Up to date information, Calen-
dar, Degrees, Activities. Need
help?--call or email:
ioniccomposite@gmail.com**



FROM THE WEST

Wow, how fast the time flies by. Another year has come and gone. At the end of 2017, I was both honored and humbled to become the Senior Warden of our Lodge. This year will definitely be devoted to preparing myself to become Master of the Lodge, if I am so elected. When I first became Junior Warden and contemplated that I might one day be lucky enough to also become Master, I was pretty much terrified. Luckily, I have been receiving a ton of guidance from Past Masters at our Lodge and others. I have also gotten some sound advice from Stu Wright, the man that is scheduled to become Grand Master of Masons in California at October of this year. However, most importantly, I have been directly under the tutelage of Wor Mike Bear, a man that is serving as Master of our Lodge, for what I believe is his fifth time performing this function.

Heading into the current Masonic year, I am very much excited by the impressive batch of candidates that are currently visiting our Lodge on a fairly regular basis. While we only initiated a single candidate during 2017, I am still hopeful for this year's activity. We must continue to make every potential Mason feel at home at our Lodge, by seeking them out for conversation, rather than hanging out with our current Brothers. Whenever, you see a new or existing candidate at the Lodge, please do step up and make the proper introductions, followed by regular greetings and inquiries whenever they return to the Lodge for a visit. I know that whenever I enter into conversation with candidates, I always mention what Masonry has done to improve my life and go on to describe what I think makes our Lodge so special.

Usually, this centers around about our history of and also ongoing diversity. This being a diversity not only of race, but also of age, career paths and political beliefs. I believe that due to a decline of civility in both the social and political spheres, this will be one of our greatest selling points. The

coming together of such a variety of like-minded individuals, regarding acceptance, civility and the overall betterment of both self and society, has always lightened my heart, after a day of seeing so much turmoil wherever else we look.

Yes, let's make this a banner year for Ionic Composite Lodge #520 by improved Lodge attendance, enhancing the candidate experience and the overall Lodge experience as well.

Steve Resnick, SW



STATED MEETING MONDAY JANUARY 8

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

W.M. Michael Bear presiding

RSVP by Wednesday of the prior week and invite a friend.

Dinner is \$20.00

Menu:

Lasagna, eggplant pasta, chicken & mushroom

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://ioniccomposite.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.

Ionic Composite Will Visit and Tour

The Nethercutt Collection & Museum



15200 Bledsoe Street, Sylmar, California
Saturday, February 24, 2018 10:00 a.m.

Lunch to follow

Duon Gusto Ristorante

15535 Devonshire St., Mission Hills, California
Approximately 1:00 p.m.
\$20.00 a person

**Space is limited, reservations
by Feb. 17, 2018, are a must!!**

Email or call Bob Sills, PM
rlsills@rlsills.com
310-945-9631

THINK ABOUT IT

In principle, college athletics is supposed to teach its participants about life skills in a greater sense. It should encourage the players to learn self-responsibility, a work ethic, competition, playing by the rules, strategy, teamwork, and even how to lose gracefully. In practice, that frequently is not what happens. Consider the case with the UCLA Athletic Department.

The football team recently lost a close game to their crosstown rivals at USC after having a less than spectacular season in general. At that time, they had then lost six of eleven games with one more to go (which they did ultimately win). A day later, and with the season not yet over, they fired the head coach who still had two years more on his contract. In order to get rid of him, the school had to pay him about \$12 million. While the money allegedly came from private sources, it appears that it had been a donation that, technically speaking, was the property of the university, not the athletic director. In these days of rising tuitions, certainly there were loftier things that could have been done with that money.

A few weeks earlier, the basketball team traveled to China to play an exhibition game. While there, three of the players were arrested for shoplifting. In

China, such a crime is a serious matter and it is likely that the players were facing significant jail sentences. However, due at least in part to the US government, the players were allowed to return home. Unlike the immediate action taken over the football coach, several weeks later there has still not been any official punishment given to the players other than not allowing them to play basketball for the time being (but the regular season has not yet begun). Furthermore, the father of one of them viewed the entire shoplifting incident as no big deal.

Lose a game, lose a job. Commit a crime, be quiet and hope that the situation will go away. Is losing a bigger offense than stealing? After all, the loser had to leave the campus but the criminals did not. What has the UCLA Athletic Department taught its players, other students, and the world at large about losing gracefully? Playing by the rules? Self-responsibility? If college athletics is simply a way to make money functioning as a minor league for the NFL or NBA, then just set it up that way and separate it from the educational process. If it is about building character, then build character.

Think about it.

Ron Koretz, P.M.



Dennis Irwin Goldberg	02	Kerin Surents PM	13
William Allan Weiss	05	Steven Wayne Kierman	14
Richard Lawrence Weiss PM	06	Mario Meer Sherman	16
Jay C. Markoff	07	Edwin Barton Siegel	16
S Zachary Samuels	07	Vrej Fred Eskandarian	17
Myron Zev Chlavin	09	Bernard Kentor	17
Richard Arnold Friedman	09	Donald Gordon	19
David Lars Green	11	Nazareth Guluzian	20
Ronald Lee Koretz PM	11	Ronald Eugene Spencer	21
Phillip Kash	12	Jonathan Ronn Rackman	25
Flavio Augusto Medeiros Pereira	12	Stuart Fred Horwitz	27
Andre Lamont Richardson	12	Bradley Steven Zalben	29

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 Reed
Home with medical problem

Joseph Fisch
Home with multiple medical problems

Jay Richards
At home with multiple problems

Bonnie Miller
Receiving physical therapy after knee
replacement's

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

2018 OFFICERS

Master – Michael Bear PM (Debbie)

Senior Warden – Steve Resnick (Sheelah)

Marshal – Kevin Silver (Katherine)

Junior Warden –

Senior Steward – Luis Tananta (Maria)

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

Junior Steward – Varun Dadabhoy

Secretary – Daniel Ferszt (Shannon)

Tiler – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Chaplain – Roy Steinfeld PM

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

Senior Deacon –

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

Junior Deacon – Yuriy Kotlyar

Trestleboard Editor – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Trestleboard Layout – Yuriy Kotlyar

Head Candidates' Coach – Jeffrey Bear, P.M. (Trisha)