

MARCH 2018

# TRESTLE BOARD

IONIC COMPOSITE LODGE NO. 520

## FROM THE EAST

Brothers, Ladies and Friends,

In the interest of full disclosure, reading an article from Wor. Adrian Fulle, Master of Santa Monica-Palisades Lodge, and some articles from Grand Lodge workshops, inspired me to address this issue.

Freemasonry knows the importance of time and time management. One of the working tools in the First Degree is the 24-inch gauge. It teaches us to divide our time into three parts: "A part for our usual vocation, a part for the service to G-D and a distressed worthy brother, and a part for reflection and repose." Note, it doesn't say three equal parts. One can be more and another less, but we should endeavor to include all three in our day. Attending Masonic events certainly would help us fulfill this teaching.

*"I'm tired, I'm not going to lodge tonight. I had to work late and anyways, they won't miss me. I didn't come last month and no one called or emailed me to see why I wasn't there."*

How many times have you made an excuse for not coming to lodge, be it a stated meeting, degree, or an event? After a while you don't even think about going to lodge.

What's just as bad is when the brothers who were there don't contact a missing brother to see why he wasn't there. I know, I'm as guilty as so many of the brothers of this lodge, and every other lodge. If you're at a meeting or event and don't see someone you know who has come to other events, call or email him and find out why he missed it, that you missed seeing him and is everything okay?

I would like each of us to make a commitment to call a brother and ask him to join you at a lodge function. Offer to give him or get him a ride. We have been having some great activities and there are more yet to come. The official visitation of The Grand Master of Masons in California is one of the two top

events we will have this year and it is something that is talked about and anticipated by the Grand Lodge officers and brothers all around Southern California.

If you have some friends or coworkers who you think would be good Masons, invite them to attend a stated meeting, fellowship night, education night or other open event. You're not asking them to join, just showing them what we are about. Be sure and make a reservation for them and let us know if he is a first-time visitor.

See you in lodge!  
Michael Bear, P.M.

## Please Welcome our new Entered Apprentice!!!



Alperen Guman was initiated on March 12, 2018. Please welcome our new brother to our Lodge.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Monday, April 2, Stated Meeting.** Lodge open 6:30p.m., Dinner and Open Portion 7:15p.m., Tiled portion to follow. Deadline for Grand Master's Reception Reservations

**April 9,** Official RECEPTION of the Grand Master, M.W. Bruce Galloway and his line. See insert below.

**Monday, April 16,** 7:15p.m. Practice

**Monday, April 23,** 6:00p.m. Building Association  
7:15p.m. Fellowship Night.  
Refreshments. Bring a friend. Casual.

**Tuesday, April 24,** 7:15pm, Officers School of Instruction, 2\*complete with 1\* proficiency. Beverly Hills Lodge. All officers expected to attend. Master Masons welcome. Casual.

**Monday, April 30,** 7:15p.m., 1\*. Let's welcome our newest brother. Open to all degrees.

**Wednesday, May 2,** Dinner reservations due for the May 7, Stated Meeting.

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

**Monday, Monday, 14,** 7:15 p.m. Degree or practice

**Monday, May, 21,** 7:15 p.m. Officers School of Instruction, 1\* in full. Ionic Composite Lodge. All officers expected to attend. Master Masons welcome. Casual.

**Monday, May 28,** Memorial Day. LODGE DARK

**Wednesday, May 30,** Dinner reservations due for the June 4, Stated Meeting.

# Get Social!



**Get online and get social  
with our Social Media Apps!**



**Up to date information, Calendar, Degrees, Activities. Need help?--call or email:**

**[ioniccomposite@gmail.com](mailto:ioniccomposite@gmail.com)**





***The Master of Ionic Composite Lodge  
Urges You to Attend Our Lodge's 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Reception  
Honoring***



**Bruce Galloway  
Grand Master of Masons in California**



**April 9, 2018**

**Social 5:30 pm Dinner 6:00 pm Program 7:00 pm**

**\$35.00 per person**

Gr. Lodge Officers, PGMs, Past Grand Officers, Inspectors & Committeemen: Tuxedo

Other men: Business attire

**RSVP a must and by March 26, 2018**

Choice of beef tri-tip or sea bass with our famous Sundae Bar

Bob Sills, PM, Asst. Secretary 310-945-9631 [trialreview@rlsills.com](mailto:trialreview@rlsills.com)

Make payment to "Ionic Composite Lodge" with memo "GM Reception"

Mail to *Ionic Composite Lodge, 1122 So. La Cienega, Los Angeles, CA 90035*



**Festive Board**

**Saturday, October 13, 2018**

**7:00pm**

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

**Honoring Wor. Kerin and Suzanna Surents  
and  
celebrating our 96th anniversary**

Open to All Masons, ladies, and guests.

Multicourse buffet dinner including beef bourguignon and chicken breast with sun dried chutney glaze, beverages, and more.

Dress: Men: suit and tie

Ladies: Cocktail attire

By Reservations only

\$35.00 per person

to Lodge office no later than October 8, 2018

## FROM THE WEST

Yes, Ionic Composite Lodge is our anchor in the Masonic world. However, while there is so much that we derive from our Lodge visits, it is also equally rewarding to venture out and explore the outside Masonic world.

During the past three months, I have been totaling enjoying my journey outside the Lodge. While it was more than a pleasure to be part of our Officer Installation during December, Sheelah and I also had the pleasure of attending the installations of both the Beverly Hills and Santa Monica – Palisades Lodges. Must say that it was both fun and interesting to compare and contrast the subtle variations of each. It was also a solid learning experience that has given me some ideas regarding my own upcoming installation later this year, should I be lucky enough to become Master of our Lodge.

Wor Tim Shiner also sent me on a recruiting mission to visit the Downtown Masonic Lodge to possibly find some cast members for the upcoming Star Wars Third Degree, and I attended their February Stated Meeting. This Lodge is a rather small one, meeting at the Los Angeles Athletic Club. As in the form of more historic Masonic gatherings, this one includes a meal together in one of the intimate lounges of the club. The closed portion is conducted in a private bar room, that is converted to a Lodge via Wor Chris Holmes' "Lodge in a box" containing all the required tools and regalia to conduct a Stated Meeting. Although the Lodge is small in membership, it's members are quite large in Masonic stature, including a Past Grand Master and some current Grand Lodge Officers, as well as the Commander of the Pasadena Council of Kadosh (Pasadena Scottish Rite). Needless to say the meal, conversation and ritual were all highly enjoyable and I plan to return here in the near future.

As I write this today, am looking forward to taking in the Spirit of Hiram at the Pasadena Scottish Rite. This is a performance of the second section of the third degree, performed in full costume. When I was getting my 32nd degree here last year, I really enjoyed watching this group performing enactments of various degrees. As such, am certain that this should be another satisfying Masonic experience.

Will also have the pleasure of sharing tonight's spaghetti dinner and performance with Wors Mike and Jeff Bear.

In closing I am thinking of that Frank Sinatra standard, "I get a kick out of you". How you may ask. Well actually – "I get a kick out of Masonry!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!".

My advice to all you out there, come to the Lodge and also take the time to discover the big, beautiful world of Masonry outside the Lodge. You'll get a kick to.



### STATED MEETING MONDAY APRIL 2

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

#### **April 2 menu:**

Mediterranean food including chicken shawerma, beef & chicken kabob, roasted chicken and falafel.

W.M. Michael Bear presiding

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

Dinner is \$20.00

Reservations are Mandatory

Reservations must be made on sign-up sheet, or (310) 657-2628, or [ioniccomposite@gmail.com](mailto:ioniccomposite@gmail.com), and may be made and paid for on the lodge website: <https://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.



# THINK ABOUT IT

The State Bar of California is considering lowering the score needed to pass the bar examination. Apparently the percentage of law school graduates who have been able to pass this examination has fallen dramatically over the past decade (from over 60% to 43% in 2016). While the score needed to pass the exam is higher in California than in most states, that has been the case for a longer period of time, so it is difficult to blame the decreasing percentage on that factor. Law school enrollments have been dropping and one reason may be that less qualified individuals are now able to get into those schools. Nonetheless, regardless of the reason, it will now become easier to pass the exam. By law, in order to graduate from high school, it was necessary for students to pass the California High School Exit Exam (CHSEE).

This requirement was put in place to make sure that students actually learned basic information during their school career instead of just being passed along. The test is not that difficult; for example, only 8th grade math skills are assessed and the student only needs to score 55% to pass. However, in the past few years, thousands of high school seniors were unable to pass the test (perhaps suggesting that they were just being passed along) and were denied

diplomas. This problem was remedied by the California legislature with the passage of another law that suspended the CHSEE requirement.

In the past couple of years, the California State University system removed the requirement that students had to pass intermediate algebra in order to graduate. More recently community colleges have also dropped that requirement to get an Associate of Arts degree. I had a personal experience with this issue, as I tutored a young man last fall and watched him struggle through it; however, in the end, he overcame his fear of math and went on to earn an A.

I wonder about the wisdom of lowering the bar to make it easier to get what you want. I do believe that people, especially younger ones, will rise or fall to the expectations that are placed upon them, as did the young man I tutored. By catering to the lowest common denominator, we will discourage self-responsibility and hard work, and instead encourage mediocrity. Is this what we want for our society?

Think about it.

Ron Koretz, P.M.



## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Jon Michael Wax .....	01	Ronald Burton Grant .....	11
Mark Allen Mischel .....	03	Arnold B. Fazekas .....	13
Koorosh Moshtahedian .....	03	Clayton Barclay Jones .....	13
Alan Gediman .....	04	Harold Wilfred Wax PM .....	13
Andre Torosyan .....	04	Harvey Arden Glaser .....	14
Marc Adam Behun .....	05	Michael Lane Turner .....	14
Michael Joshua Katz .....	07	Jeffrey Lewis Bear PM .....	16
Brandon Kelly Koretz .....	07	Edward Eddie Segal PM .....	27
Shahriar Joseph Eshaghian PM .....	08	Michael Christopher Leiaghat .....	28
Renato Sagun Garcia .....	09	Jack Rapke .....	28
Adam Stephen Pontrelli .....	09	David Harris .....	30
Luis Enrique Tananta .....	10	Morris M. Wolfred .....	30

# 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

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

To get the contact information of those listed please contact the lodge Secretary or Master.

If you know of a Brother or a member of a Brother's family who is ill, please contact the Lodge Office.

Funeral Telephone list: Any brother who would like to be placed on the funeral notification call list, your presence would be deeply appreciated. **Lodge Office telephone: 310. 657.2628**

## 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 – Tim Shiner

Tiler – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Chaplain – Roy Steinfeld PM

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

Senior Deacon –

Inspector for the 622nd Masonic District

Junior Deacon – Yuriy Kotlyar

Trestleboard Editor – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Trestleboard Layout – Yuriy Kotlyar

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