

FEBRUARY 2019

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brothers, ladies and friends;

Wow, almost too many fun upcoming events to mention. First and foremost, I am happy to announce that Yuriy and I will be donating a pool table to the Lodge and that it should be arriving sometime during February. This was Yuriy's idea and I was happy to jump on board and provide one half of the funds, along with Yuriy's, for the purchase. It will be on wheels, so that we can move it in and out of the dining area whenever we have the urge to get some game on.

Our Super Bowl Party, of course, will be on Sunday February 3rd at 3:00PM. We will be serving pizza and all the other normal Super Bowl food and snacks. I also am pretty certain that some Worthy Brothers will be donating beer for the event. Should be a great time and the cost is just \$10 per person.

On Sunday February 17 we all have the chance to see Los Angeles like he have never seen it before, in a Starline LA City and Celebrity Home Tour, with the outing being directed by our own Roy Steinfeld PM. This is how Roy makes his living and I am certain that he will do an awesome job for us. The standard Starline tour price is \$79, but we are offering it at just \$45 per person. Count me and Sheelah in? – Most Definitely!!!!



As always, our Grandest event of the year, the Grand Master's reception will be on Monday March 4th beginning with a social at 5:30 and dinner at 6:00. The cost is just \$45 per person with a choice of either tri-tip or sea bass, followed by our ever famous sundae bar. Wor Ron Koretz is famous for his take on Masonic introductions and I am certain that he will be more entertaining ever for the upcoming reception. If I was you, would get my RSVP in as soon as possible.

We have been talking about a Scotch tasting for quite some time and we have finally placed it on the calendar for Saturday May 11th. Wor Shawn Donohugh of Los Angeles Harbor Masonic Lodge will be providing both the Scotch and his well-known knowledge of the art of tasting. We will also have wine for the ladies, as well as the proper appetizer accompaniments. Should be a very memorable evening indeed.

I must say that I am very excited about all of these events, but also know something that will make them all the better, and that is your attendance. Looking forward to seeing you there!!!!

Fraternally,

Steve Resnick

Master

UPCOMING EVENTS

February - March, 2019

FEBRUARY 3, 2019

Super Bowl Party at Lodge

3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Watch the Super Bowl with Brothers, family and friends.
Piza and all the other normal SB snacks. Bring a drink or two to share with your brothers and friends.

FEBRUARY 4, 2019

Sweethearts Night Stated Meeting

7:15 pm - 9:45 pm

Open Lodge 6:30 pm, Dinner 7:15 pm,
Open and Tiled portion to follow.
Golden Veteran Presentation to Bill Bilkiss

FEBRUARY 17, 2019

Starline Tour of LA

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

A FUN Lodge Event for Native and Non-Native Angelenos
"See LA like you have never seen it before" in a
Starline LA City and Celebrity Home Tour
With your tour guide Roy Steinfeld PM

Only 25 seats available

Meet at the Lodge
The standard \$79 tour price has been slashed
Our Price \$45

To reserve your place, contact
Bernie Morse (310) 556-4463

FEBRUARY 25, 2019

OSI at Ionic Composite

7:15 pm - 9:45 pm

Mandatory for all Officers. Master Masons may attend.
3rd degree complete, call down and 2nd degree candi-
date proficiency

MARCH 3, 2019

Masonic Service Bureau Breakfast

8:00 am - 10:30 am

LAX Hilton

Our Lodge has reserved a table of 10. No charge if you
take a ticket and attend.
All officers should attend.

MARCH 4, 2019

Grand Master Reception

5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

**PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL
EFFORT TO JOIN US FOR
THESE EVENTS.**

**WE REALLY VALUE YOUR
PARTICIPATION IN THE
RUNNING OF THE LODGE.**



STATED MEETING



MONDAY FEBRUARY 4

Sweethearts Night Stated Meeting

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

W.M. Steve Resnick presiding

Open and Tiled portion to follow.

Golden Veteran Presentation to Bill Bilkiss

Dinner is \$20.00

*Sweetheart's
Dinner*



RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY

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

Reservations are Mandatory

Reservations must be made on sign-up sheet, or (310) 657-2628, or 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.

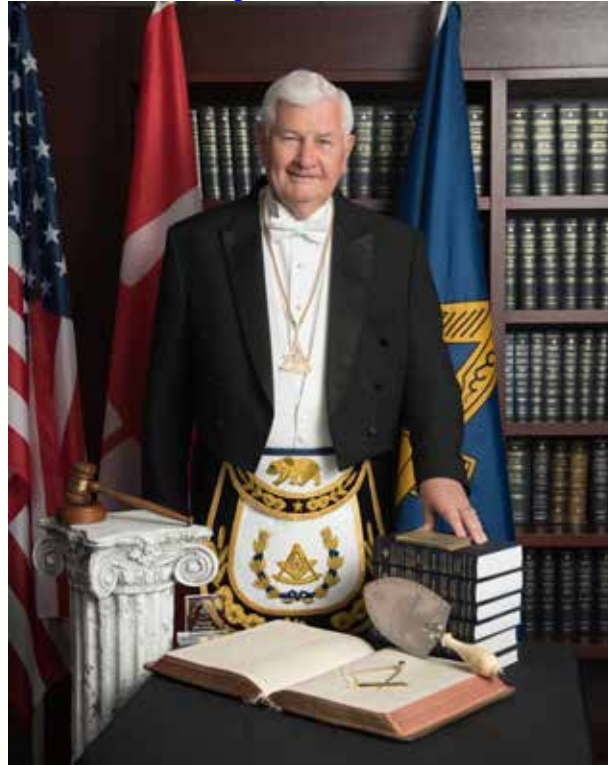
* Guests of the Master, and widows of Ionic Composite Lodge, who have not remarried, are free. Menu is Subject to Change.

Brother Bernie Morse, P.M.
Receiving Vierling Kersey Award



IONIC COMPOSITE LODGE No. 520

1122 South La Cienega Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90035



*The Master, Officers and Brethren
Invite You To Attend Our Lodge's 49th Consecutive Reception
Of The Grand Master of Masons.*

Stuart A. Wright, Grand Master of Masons

March 4, 2019

Lodge Opens: 5:00 pm

Social: 5:30pm

Dinner: 6:00pm

Reception 7:30pm

Menu is choice of Tri Tip or Sea Bass and includes our famous Sundae Bar

Welcome: All Masons and Non-Masons, families and friends

Attire: Grand Lodge & Lodge Officers: Tuxedo.

Other men: Dark suit and tie

\$45.00 per person

Reservations Required

RSVP by February 22, 2019

Tim Shiner, P.M., Secretary 310-657-2628

ioniccomposite@gmail.com

PAGEANT of
the MASTERS



ROW SEAT

ADMIT ONE
8:30 PM

Admission
to Festival
Art Show
is included

FESTIVAL
of ARTS

Amazing Laguna Art Festival Pageant of the Masters Where Art Comes to Life “The Time Machine”

Sunday, August 4

8:30PM-10:30PM

We have purchased 16 tickets

\$52/person

Attending the Pageant of the Masters should be on everyone's bucket list

For information and reservations please contact

Bernie Morse PM at (310)556-4463 or email brnhrd18@yahoo.com.



A **FUN** Lodge Event for Native and Non-Native Angelenos

“See LA like you have never seen it before “ in a
Starline LA City and Celebrity Home Tour
With your tour guide Roy Steinfeld PM
Only 25 seats available

Sunday February 17, 9:30 am
Meet at the Lodge

The standard \$79 tour price has been slashed
Our Price \$45

To reserve your place, contact Bernie Morse (310) 556-4463



SUPER BOWL PARTY

Sunday, Feb 3, 2019

3:00 PM



Pizza and all the other normal Super Bowl food and snacks.

Bring a drink or two of your choice to share with your friends!



FROM THE WEST

On March 4, we will be celebrating the 49th annual Reception of the Grand Master of Masons in California, the Most Worshipful Stuart A. Wright. He will be formally escorted into the Lodge with full public honors by the Marshall and Deacons, presented to our Master by the Marshal, who will then escort him to a seat in the East. Our Master will then immediately offer M.W. Wright his gavel as a token that he is presiding over our Lodge. If M.W. Wright follows the pattern of his predecessors, he will then return the gavel to our Master, but it is the Grand Master's prerogative to keep the gavel and preside over our Stated Meeting.

How can this be? What gives him the right to take over and run our Lodge? There's nothing in the California Masonic Code that permits this intrusion into the government of our Lodge by our duly elected Master.

Wrong.

In case you didn't read my column last month, the California Masonic Code, like the Constitutions of the other Grand Lodges all over the world, is not the supreme law of our jurisdiction. It is subordinate to the General Regulations of Freemasonry (the written laws of Freemasonry as it existed prior to 1721), which are, in turn, subordinate to the Ancient Landmarks (the unwritten law of Freemasonry that preceded the General Laws of Freemasonry). In other words, the Ancient Landmarks are the supreme laws of Freemasonry and no law (theoretically, and I may write about this later) can conflict with them.

Mackey's Landmark Fifth prescribes, "THE PREROGATIVE OF THE GRAND MASTER TO PRESIDE over every assembly of the Craft, wheresoever and whensoever held is the fifth Landmark. It is in consequence of this law, derived from ancient usage, and not from any special enactment, that the Grand Master assumes the chair, or as called in England, 'the throne,' at every communication of the Grand Lodge; that he is also entitled to preside at the Communication of every Subordinate Lodge, where he may happen to be present."

Assuming M.W. Wright returns the gavel to our Master, he will take a seat so that the Master is on his left. This is in consequence, not of an Ancient Landmark, but of the First General Regulation adopted in 1721, which provides, "The Grand Master . . . hath authority and right, not only to be present in any true Lodge, but also to preside wheresoever he is, with the Master of the Lodge on his left hand."

I hope that when you come to Lodge to welcome our Grand Master on March 4 and witness our impressive ceremony that you will appreciate the rich history of the traditions of our gentle Craft and be proud to witness our ancient Ritual which is dates back more that 1,000 years.

As always, we look forward to seeing you in Lodge: Not just at stated meetings and degrees, but at all our social and educational events.

Fraternally,
Jeff Bear, P.M.
Senior Warden

Follow Your Lodge on Social Media



THINK ABOUT IT

During the Christmas season, it is easy for us to get caught up in the gift buying and parties to the point where we lose sight of the real meaning of the holiday. One of those fundamental values is just being with family.

Hal Vaughn is a 65 year old man who resides near Ocean Springs, Mississippi. In June of 2018, he was trimming a tree when he fell off the ladder and broke his neck. This accident left him immobile for a couple of weeks until he began to regain his strength. In November, he was finally able to walk without a cane, just in time for the holiday season which his family spends together.

Pierce Vaughn, Hal's daughter, is an airline attendant for Delta Airlines. She got the unfavorable assignment in December 2018 of having to fly six legs on the days surrounding Christmas. In order to make sure that his daughter would not spend the holiday alone, Hal Vaughn arranged to be a passenger on all six flights. Thus, the two of them flew from New Orleans to Detroit, then to Fort Meyers, and then back to Detroit on December 23rd, to Hartford Connecticut on December 24th, to Atlanta on Christmas, and back to New Orleans on December 26th. The traveling was made even a little more cum-

bersome because Mr. Vaughn refused to accept any rides at the airports in the official airline "golf cart". It was apparently a tiring experience, because he slept for 14 hours when he finally got back home.

On the return flight to Detroit from Florida, Hal told his story to another passenger, Mike Levy. Mr. Levy took pictures of both Hal and Pierce, and then posted them, as well as a summary of the adventure, on Facebook, describing Hal as "a fantastic father". The Facebook posting got a great deal of attention and resulted in all of the parties being interviewed by various news agencies. According to both of the Vaughns, they did not view any of this as anything particularly special, but just an opportunity to spend Christmas together. However, I certainly did think it was something special when I heard, and then read, the story. It solidified my belief that the best presents are not the things that you buy for others, but the things that you do for them.

Think about it.

Ron Koretz, P.M.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Harry Sussman	01	Benson Turner	12	Eugene Fink	22
Robert Malinow	03	Charles Francis	13	Victor Pinkerton	22
Richard Shapiro	03	Bruce Gary	14	Robert Rosenstein	26
Joseph Michael	05	Amir Jandaghi	14	Robert Feiles	28
Joseph Fisch	06	Stanley Sax	14	James Kraus	28
Varun Dadabhoy	10	Norman Weinstock	15	Ira Steinore	29
Carl Smith	10	Robin Silverman	17		
Joshua Jason	11	Tony Napoli	21		

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

We Wish Everyone a Full and Complete Recovery

Mike Bear ... Home with several medical problems

Len Cohen ... Home with several medical problems

Ruth Davis ... Recovering from hip fracture

Geri Edelman ... Home with a variety of medical problems

Joseph Fisch ... Home with multiple medical problems

Irv Kierman ... Home recovering from surgery

Jay Richards ... At home with multiple problems

Bruce Shaphran ... Recovering from knee surgery

Ron Stein ... Multiple medical 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**

2019 OFFICERS

Master – Steve Resnick (Sheelah)

Marshal – Yuriy Kotlyar

Senior Warden – Jeffrey Bear, P.M. (Trisha)

Senior Steward – Roy Steinfeld, P.M.

Junior Warden –

Junior Steward – Renato Garcia (Minerva)

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

Assistant Secretary – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Secretary – Tim Shiner

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

Chaplain – Jean-Claude Aghadjanian (Christina)

Inspector for the 622nd Masonic District

Senior Deacon – D'Angelo Jones

Trestleboard Editor – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Junior Deacon – Luis Tananta (Maria)

Trestleboard Layout – Yuriy Kotlyar

V.W.Bro. Mike Salem,

Worshipful Master Grand Lodge of Israel

A Masonic Thought

Most of us have now been in the Fraternity for over 20 years, seen many Apprentices initiated, and their transition to the Master Mason degree. Have we ever stopped to think of what this new beginning is? What does it mean? Where does it lead? To define this may years after guides us, or at least myself, as means of opening the way to the mystery of ones' nature, to search the inner center that knows no circumference.

The initiation itself leads to a greater understanding of the true self, leading us by allegories and symbols to a new, more spiritual way of understanding, and of knowledge. But what of the ritual itself? What effect does it have on both the Brethren involved, and on the candidate? Of what actually, should an initiation consist?

The initiation ceremony itself may be a dramatized recognition of a new beginning, or the finalization of a long, and may be arduous apprenticeship.

An initiation is also a rite of passage, a passage from one phase of life, now at an end, to another phase, now at its beginning.

The very word *degree* signifies step, step by which the candidate ascends from a lower to a higher condition of knowledge.

This ascension is entirely subjective, but demands action, a real desire to want to know. I repeat these wonderful words:

Seek and ye shall find. Ask and it shall be given unto you. Knock and it shall be opened unto you. Matthew 7:7-8 King James Version (KJV).

The Entered Apprentice leaves the darkness, destitution and the helplessness of the world, to find light and warmth in his new existence, and to be a different man.

He learns that every act has a consequence in the form of a reward or a penalty. He sees the importance of discipline, where making vows will remain a powerful method for setting ones direction in life, and for the building of character. We should constantly look into the mirror to check our self-image, our charges in this degree, realize the truth that is expressed by the symbolic actions or tools.

From the spiritual birth we moved to the adult phase.

The Fellow Craft Mason has to acquire knowledge and apply it to the building of his character and improving the society in which he lives.

He has to advance his education in liberal arts and sciences.

The Second Degree addresses the mind and its faculties. He has to develop and perfect his mental nature. It is aimed to prepare the mind for spiritual truths.

The Second Degree of Fellow Craft symbolizes the methods of developing and progressing in the Craft, and the emergence into spiritual manhood.

The message of these working tools teaches us how to develop the faculty of judgment, the ability to hear these allegories in the building of personal “inner temple”.

Once the candidate has balanced his inner nature, with the higher spiritual forms of himself, then he can proceed to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

In this state, the Third Degree Mason is well aware of the life hereafter and is fully prepared to meet his Creator, whenever that time might be.

The germ of truth that the initiation plants within the spirit of a Freemason, is a perpetual one that will remain intact through life, growing stronger as the person rediscovers his moral and spiritual ideals within himself.

Brotherhood is the cornerstone of our Fraternity. Treat others with the same respect and consideration, with which you would like to be treated. In all your actions, be an example of Brotherly love.

Be not hastily to condemn others. Offer your hand without judgement, or harsh criticism.

Brethren, there is no end to the depth and wonderful teachings in our Order, but it starts here, as an Entered Apprentice Freemason, a neophyte, at the beginning of a journey filled with challenges all the way – but once again, I say:

Seek and you shall find!

V.W.Bro. Mike Salem

Worshipful Master

Grand Lodge of Israel

A few activities of some of the Craft Lodges since our last Newsletter.

June 2018

Houdini Lodge No 83

Brethren of this Lodge of Magicians held a show for young people at a school, depending on the psychiatric ward of a hospital, during the summer holidays.

They also held a fundraising show for *Gan Hayered*, (kindergarten), in Haifa.



Ya'acov Caspi Lodge No 56 in Haifa, and *Mount Carmel* Lodge No 44 in Haifa, held a volunteering afternoon at the *Carmit* Kindergarten.

September 2018

Brethren from *Galil* Lodge No 31 built a soccer field at a cost of 150,000 NIS, (USD 40,540), for sick and orphaned children.

Brethren from Lodge *Menora* No 19 in Haifa, played their part in cleaning the waste and refuse, which penetrated into the depths of the sea and on the seashore.



In the beginning of the school year, Brethren from *Kadima* Lodge No 34, in Hadera, bought 60 school bags for children, from families who did not have sufficient financial resources.

October 2018

On the Jewish Festival of Tabernacles, on Tuesday, September 25th, a joint and unique masonic work took place in the *Zedekiah Cave*, where our Lodge *Holy land* #50 hosted an important delegation of Brethren from Iceland.

The delegation included 96 Brethren, most of them from Lodge *St Joh. Hamar* No 6 in Reykjavik .The total delegation, with the wives was 185, and Brethren represented 11 Lodges, out of 16 Lodges in Iceland.

This amazing group was headed by Bro. Olafur Magnusson who chartered a plane and personally arranged this visit over a year.

The joint work also included some 60 Brethren from Israeli Lodges and Grand Lodge members.

The work took place in the *Zedekiah Cave*, also known as King Solomon's' Quarries, from which the stones of the Temple in Jerusalem were hewn. The location, its symbolism and the special atmosphere of Brotherhood has left an intense impression on everybody.

The work was opened by V.W.Bro. Mike Salem, WM of Lodge *Holy Land* No 50, who also spoke of Freemasonry in Israel. He was followed by R.W.Bro. Elkan Levy from *Gardens of Netanya* Lodge No 67, who spoke eloquently of the history of Freemasonry in Israel and the *Zedekiah Cave*.

The ceremony was continued by W.Bro. Olafur Magnusson, WM of Lodge *Joh Hamar*, who spoke of Freemasonry in Iceland, the Swedish Rite and their visit to Israel.

Bro. Jonas Thorir has presented several musical pieces, with his choir, which resonated in the ancient cave. I can personally testify that these parts, and especially an ancient Icelandic hymn from early 13th century, have made this nothing short of a spiritual experience in the inner space of this historic cave.

W. Bro. Bragi J. Ingibergsson spoke of their quest to the Holy Land and its symbolic resemblance to the journey of Abraham to the Promised Land.

For Brethren from Iceland, this visit was a pilgrimage to the origins of both Christianity and Symbolic Freemasonry, and a dream come true for the organizer Bro. Olafur Magnusson.

At this meeting, two Brethren were affiliated to the *Holy Land* Lodge, one from Iceland, one from Australia.





Working in the Zedekiah's Cave of Holy Land Lodge No 50 and of Lodge St *Hamar* No 6.

Alumim Lodge No 58 - Havradim Lodge No 52

Brethren from Lodge *Alumim* No 58, and from *Havradim* Lodge No 52 participated in entertaining activities for Holocaust Survivors, in the Beer Ya'acov Holocaust Survivors old age home.

November 2018

In October, a group of Canadians from Alberta, led by Right Worshipful Brother Murray Pay, and including thirteen Freemasons, came on tour to Israel, covering most of the country from North to South.

In the North, they met with Lodge *Ya'acov Caspi* N°56, in an official meeting. Their tour ended in Jerusalem, where they enjoyed a social evening with the Brethren of the Lodge *Holy City* N°4.

Most Worshipful Brother Christopher, (Chris), Batty, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, delivered an enlightening lecture on making ourselves more useful to society, and leading more constructive lives entitled: "*We need to pay the rent before we save the world*".

The W.M. of *Holy Land* Lodge N°50 gave a brief talk on the history of Freemasonry in Israel, from the 19th century till today, which included a period when the Grand Lodge of Ontario held jurisdiction in Palestine.

Following the lectures, Worshipful Brother Brian Poltorak and Mr. Khaled Ammar presented a Canadian flag to the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, W. Bro. Yehuda Miklaf.

The flag, together with pertinent material relating the flag to Masonic symbolism by W. Bro Tobias Terrill, are preserved in an archival box housed in the Lodge Library.



Lodge *Reuven* No 1

Brethren from our Lodge *Reuven* No 1 in Haifa, donated 5 toy cars to *Eshkol Ganei Flora*, a kindergarten for mentally handicapped children, autistic children, Down syndrome children, or children suffering from cerebral palsy.

They taught them how to drive in security, in an interactive way, when children drove the toys cars and sowed seeds for personal security on our dangerous roads!



