

MARCH 2019

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brothers, ladies and friends;

For this writing I should definitely begin by reflecting on the passing of Worshipful Ronald J Stein. Ron started his Masonic journey as a DeMolay. Almost to the minute that Brother Stein reached the age of 21, he applied for membership to Ionic Composite Lodge on June 21 1963 and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 24 1965.

Ron served Grand Lodge as an Inspector from 1997 to 2003, received the Hiram award from two different Lodges, was awarded the Golden Veterans Award during 2015 and Verling Kersey Award in 2008. Our Lodge was also lucky enough to have him serve as Master during 1987.

During my just over four years of Membership at Ionic Composite, I noted that Ron attended the majority of Stated Meetings and was always available to fill in for various officer positions during our ritual. As my installation as Master recently approached, I was truly happy to know that Ron would still be attending Lodge and providing ritual support. Unfortunately, before this happened, Ron began developing health issues which kept him from attending Lodge and ultimately culminated in his passing at February 1 2019. Ron was a truly distinguished Mason and he will be missed, both for his service to the Lodge and for his presence that always made our events a little more special.

We should all honor Ron by reconfirming our commitment to Ionic Composite Lodge in attending as many events as possible, performing ritual and just enjoying the overall Masonic journey.

And speaking of attending Lodge events, the Grand Master's Reception is just around the corner, more actually on Monday, March 4. Of course, this is perhaps our Grandest event of the year. We will be offering either tri-tip, sea bass or a vegetarian entrée, followed by our ever famous sundae bar. The cost is just \$45/person.

On Monday, April 15, we will have Jordan Yelinek speaking at our Lodge. Jordan works at Grand Lodge and I have heard his presentations at the retreats that I have attended. I can say hands down, that he is just about the most dynamic speaker that you will ever have the pleasure of listening to. Jordan plans to present "Tools of the Craft, an introduction to Masonic History and Symbolism", which will be open to both Masons and non-Masons. An event that you will definitely not want to miss.

Regarding our long awaited scotch tasting event, this will be on Saturday, May 11 and will feature the scotch collection of Worshipful Shawn Donohugh. Accompanying the scotch will be sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and a nice selection of wine. The cost is just \$15/person, and I can say that Shawn is definitely known for these events and it should be an awesome evening.

Let's do what would have made Worshipful Ron happy and be certain to attend these events and also resolve ourselves to greater Lodge attendance and the performance of meaningful ritual.

Fraternally,

Steve Resnick



UPCOMING EVENTS

March - May, 2019

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

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

Follow this link to make a reservation

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/events/reception-of-the-grand-master-of-masons>

MARCH 11, 2019

Fellowship Night / Pool Table Inauguration

7:15 pm - 10 pm

Come to the lodge to hangout with your Brothers. We will be inaugurating our new pool table! Bring a drink or two to share with your Brothers and friends.

APRIL 1, 2019

Stated Meeting

Open Lodge 6:30pm,

Dinner 7:15p.m,

Open and Tiled portion to follow.

APRIL 15, 2019

Tools Of The Craft, An Introduction To Masonic History And Symbolism

7:15 pm - 10 pm

Presentation by Jordan Yelinek who works at Grand Lodge.

Open to both Masons and non-Masons. An event that you will definitely not want to miss.

MAY 11, 2019

Scotch Tasting

7:00 pm

Scotch collection of Worshipful Shawn Donohugh.

Accompanying the scotch will be sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and a nice selection of wine.

Our New Pool Table

Join Your Friends and Brothers for the Fellowship Night on March 11

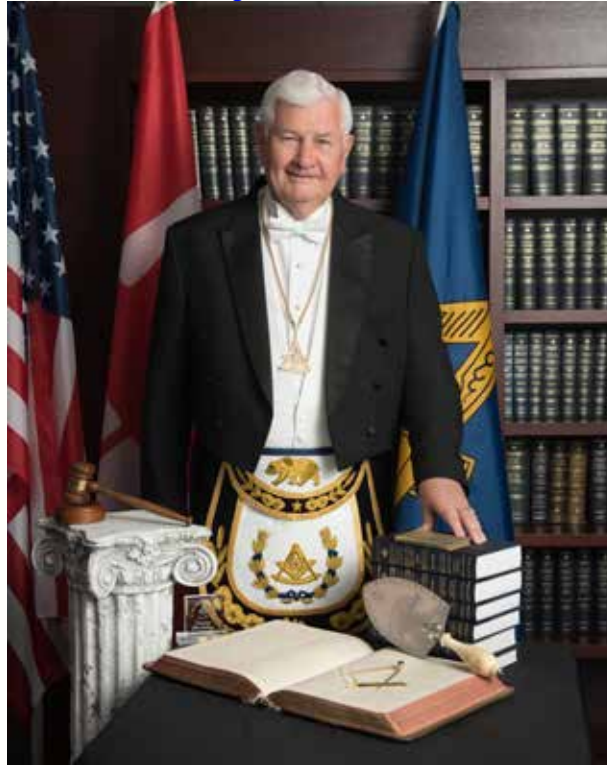


PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO JOIN US FOR THESE EVENTS.

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

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

Pay via PayPal on the Lodge website

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/events/reception-of-the-grand-master-of-masons>

or contact Lodge Secretary @ 310-657-2628

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

**Tools of the Craft, an introduction to
Masonic History and Symbolism
Presentation by Jordan Yelinek**



Monday 4/15 at 7:15 pm

Open to both Masons and non-Masons.
An event that you will definitely not want to miss.



Saturday May 11

Featuring the scotch collection of Worshipful Shawn Donohugh.
Accompanying the scotch will be sumptuous hors devours and a nice selection of wine.
The cost is just \$15/person.

PAGEANT of
the MASTERS



ROW SEAT

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.

FROM THE WEST

As I hope everyone knows by now, 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. What some of you may not know is that the day before our Reception, the Grand Master will be attending the annual Men's Breakfast honoring him at the Los Angeles Airport Hilton put on by the Masonic Service Bureau of Greater Los Angeles. This event is considered to be the largest gathering of California Masons other than the Annual Communication and is attended not just by our Grand Master, but by his Officers Line and all of the leaders of the many concordant and appendant Masonic bodies.

I'm sure that many of you are unaware of the Bureau, let alone the many important functions it performs, other than throwing a major event every year, that is.

Service bureaus are organized pursuant to Part 11 of the California Masonic Code and may be formed by Lodges pursuant to a compact agreed upon among themselves with the approval of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. Our own service bureau was founded in 1881, being originally called the Los Angeles Masonic Board of Relief.

The most obvious, if not the most important, responsibility of service bureaus is to make investigations requested by Lodges of this or any other Jurisdiction. Lodges are required to investigate every new applicant for the Degrees and for dual or plural membership by affiliation. Pursuant to CMC section 804.29, this investigation must include notifying every Lodge within 10 miles of its meeting place of the name, address and occupation of every applicant and provides that this duty may be fulfilled by a Masonic Service Bureau which operates under the direction and supervision of the Grand Secretary a clearing house for applications in the area in which the Lodge is situated. As a member of the LAMSB, this is how our Lodge complies with this mandate.

To relieve the distressed is a duty incumbent on all men, but particularly on Masons. This was the basis upon which service bureaus were founded. Service bureaus provide relief, when proper, to Masons of Lodges of this or any other Jurisdiction, as well as their widows and orphans, while residing or visiting in the area assigned to their assigned area. Of course, the Mason's Lodge is expected to reimburse the Bureau for these expenses.

Service bureaus also visit sick sojourning Masons and arrange and conduct funerals for Masons residing or visiting in the area assigned to their assigned area when their own Lodge is unable to do so. Our service bureau also provides California Masons with information about the services offered by the Masonic Homes and Masonic Outreach Services.

Our service bureau also provides many additional services to the Craft. Each year it hosts a reception for the Deputy Grand Master so he can share his vision for the future with the Brethren. We provide a yearly forum for a detailed discussion of the legislation that will be voted upon at the upcoming Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge so its members can intelligently exercise their ballots on your behalf. Our service bureau also provides support to our Youth Orders and the Midnight Mission. Our service bureau is also a central location for sojourning brethren to call for meeting times and locations of Lodges and related Masonic groups and hosts a bulletin board for notifying Lodges in the area of upcoming events.

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

THINK ABOUT IT

Deneen Kuhlman worked at Desert Hot Springs High School as a financial clerk for 20 years, from 1997 to 2017. During that time, she embezzled almost \$350,000. This prolonged theft was discovered during a routine audit in late 2017. Shortly after that, she sent a letter to the school principal in which she confessed to the crime and then was hospitalized because of a suicide attempt. In December 2017, she did resign her position and, as a condition for that resignation, she agreed to pay back the full amount, making payments of \$300/month. Interestingly, and not explained in the newspaper story, she initially paid back more than she agreed, namely \$20,000.

In January 2019, she appeared in court for final sentencing. At that time, her attorney told the judge that Ms. Kuhlman, whose salary was about \$46,000 per year, had been struggling financially and only spent the money on necessities such as food and medical bills. He also noted that she had a child with special needs. To quote him, "At some point, the guilt was so overwhelming - this is coming from a woman with no records whatever, who is loved and respected in the community - and she decided to confess what she had done."

The lawyer's arguments apparently fell on a judge's friendly ears. Ms. Kuhlman was

sentenced to five years of probation, thereby not having to spend any time confined behind bars. She still has to pay back the remaining money from the theft, even though the school district has filed an insurance claim for the loss. She was instructed to find another job and to return to court in six months, at which time, the monthly payments would probably increase.

Ms. Kuhlman is probably fortunate that I was not the judge. Assuming that she still owes \$330,000, it would take almost 92 years to pay off that debt at \$300/month. Even if she could continue to pay \$20,000 per year, the payback would take over 16 years. Furthermore, both of these calculations assume that there would not be any additional interest or correction for inflation. A rationale that she needs to be home to care for her special needs child seems belied by her effort to commit suicide. Given her proclivity to steal, I wondered who would be willing to hire her and at what salary? Finally, her "overwhelming guilt" seems closely tied chronologically to her being caught.

From my perspective, it appears that Ms. Kuhlman will escape any incarceration for her crime and will likely die before she pays all of the debt back. For her, crime did pay.

Think about it.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Jay Richards, PM	01	Marvin Marshall	11	James Petersen, PM	20
Steven Shapiro	02	Irving Simon	13	Myron Roberts	21
Yefim Ben	03	Nir Hanien	14	Richard Sharpe, PM	21
Leonard Kanner	04	Kirtland Ash	16	Earl Hellum	22
Karen Meymaryan	05	Irvin Puskin, PM	16	Arthur Levy	23
Sanford Climan	10	Bill Miller, PM	17	Ronald Lawrence	24
Michael Silverman	10	Kevin Silver	18	Daniel Seidner	24
Joseph Epstein	11	Robert Thomas	19	Spence Bilkiss	29
Paul Firestone, PM	11	Jean Claude Aghadjanian	20		

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

We Wish Everyone a Full and Complete Recovery

Mike Bear ... Home with several medical problems

Irv Kierman ... Home recovering from surgery

Len Cohen ... Home with several medical problems

Jay Richards ... At home with multiple problems

Ruth Davis ... Recovering from hip fracture

Bruce Shaphran ... Recovering from knee surgery

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

Joseph Fisch ... Home with 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 –

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