

JUNE 2019

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brothers, ladies and friends;

As you may recall, when I wrote last month, I was about to head off to the Master & Wardens retreat in Irvine. As promised, there was the highest level of Grand Lodge Officers attending, and it was a truly inspirational weekend. I was particularly moved during Right Worshipful John Trauner's talk on Saturday. His talks are always extremely entertaining due to his expertise in public speaking, as well as his sense of humor. At the end of his presentation, he asked all Masons to stand up. He then said, repeat after me, "I am proud to be a Mason." We repeated this phrase three times. Hearing hundreds of Masons repeat this mantra in unison was indeed moving, and everyone in the room felt the genuine pride of us Masons. The next morning, I approached RW John and told him that I really was proud to be a Mason and how much I enjoyed announcing it to all attended. I then went on to say how much I was looking forward to his upcoming year as Grand Master. To which his reply was, "I hope that I meet your expectations." My response, "You already have."

I feel myself particularly lucky to have had the chance to attend such a gathering of hundreds of Masons, including the Grand Lodge Officers, and also my brief but meaningful talk with our next Grand Master. I mention this because this opportunity is open to any Mason willing to take the time and effort to explore Masonry outside the Lodge.

I am truly thankful to Masonry for the lessons taught to me and the exposure to such a worthy and welcoming fraternity. I love serving our Lodge and am also highly rewarded in my ventures to retreats and Annual Communication.

Let's all stand together at the next Stated Meeting and follow Right Worshipful John Trauner's lead and proclaim how proud we are to be Masons!!!!

Fraternally,

Steve Resnick

Master



Wor. Bill & Bonnie Miller

We wish you good health and fun times in your retirement to Sun City, Arizona.

Thank you for your service to our lodge.

We will miss you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 3, 2019

Stated Meeting - GV Presentation

Golden Veteran Presentation to Wor. Bill Miller

Open Lodge 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow

JUNE 10, 2019

Building Association Meeting

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

2nd Degree Practice

7:15 pm - 9:00 pm

JUNE 17, 2019

2nd Degree

7:15 pm

JUNE 24, 2019

Fellowship Night

7:15 pm

JUNE 25, 2019

Officers School of Instruction

Beverly Hills Lodge #528

3rd Degree complete + Proficiency

7:15 pm

JUNE 30, 2019

**An Evening of Service at the
Midnight Mission**

3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

The Midnight Mission,
601 San Pedro St, Los Angeles, CA 90014, USA

Please join us in serving dinner to those less fortunate at
the Midnight Mission.

Many of them on the road to sobriety and a return to join-
ing the society.

We will also be going to dinner afterward.
Dinner location TBD.

Must RSVP to Michael Bear, P.M. to get attendance form.

JULY 1, 2019

Stated Meeting

Open Lodge 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow

JULY 13, 2019

**Cornerstone for the new Skilled Nursing
Facility on the Covina campus**

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

AUGUST 4, 2019

Laguna Pageant of the Masters

Only 2 tickets remain!

We have purchased 16 tickets for the Amazing Laguna Art
Festival Pageant of the Masters Where Art Comes to Life
"The Time Machine"

8:30PM-10:30PM

\$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.

AUGUST 5, 2019

Stated Meeting

Open Lodge 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow



**We mourn the passing of
Golden Veteran
Leo Seidner**



Father of Bro. Marc Seidner and Grandfather of Bro.
Daniel Seidner

"Soft and safe to thee my brother"

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

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



The 2019 Masons 4 Mitts Fundraiser

Be a Supporter by Funding a Child's Mitt

For each \$20 donation a quality baseball glove will be provided to a needy youth in the LA Dodgers RBI program.

Support your lodge's participation in this great program.

Go to www.masons4mitts.org

Click Los Angeles Region > Click Media Central Titans > Click Give a Mitt

MASONS NIGHT AT DODGER STADIUM

Tuesday, September 17

LA Dodgers vs Tampa Bay Rays

\$42/TICKET

Our lodge has a block of 24 (regularly \$54)

Reserved Level Seats near Home Plate

RSVP: Bernie Morse (310)556-4463

Send checks payable to Ionic Composite Lodge to:

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

1122 S. La Cienega Blvd

Los Angeles, CA 90035

FROM THE WEST

I have been practicing to sit in the East for the exemplification of the First Degree at the May O.S.I. It has been quite a while since I last took this part. This passage of time gave me the opportunity to look at this Degree from a new perspective since I am now looking at it after having been a Mason for several years, rather than as a relative “newbie”.

Masonry teaches its lessons through allegory and symbols. The stories we tell and the symbols we use all mean something. In Masonry we have three Degrees and three Pillar officers, each of whom is associated with one of the Degrees. The Junior Warden is the Pillar officer associated with the First or Entered Apprentice Degree and his Jewel is the Plumb. In my view, it is not an accident that the Plumb is the Jewel of the officer associated with the Entered Apprentice Degree.

One of the main lessons in the First Degree is secrecy. We take an obligation that makes it quite clear that we are to keep our ceremonies secret at all costs or suffer dire symbolic consequences. Why is it so vital to keep our ceremonies secret when they have been published in open sources almost as long as the Grand Lodge of England has existed? Today anyone can easily learn the details of our ceremonies by a simple Google search or buying any one of several exposés on Amazon. In fact, I have several versions of our Ritual on Kindle, including the infamous

exposé by Captain Morgan.

In Masonry, the Plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man. As M.W. Heisner noted at page 435 of his book *In Search Of Grand Master Hiram: Understanding Masonic Symbolism*, “The plumb is symbolic of the necessity for each man to carefully select moral and spiritual values as his ideals from which he will not deviate even in the face of adversity. It is the matter of the ideal that is most important to Freemasons, because it serves as the blueprint around which each man will, or should design his respective attitudes.”

You see, it really does not matter that our secrets aren’t really secret. It matters that we ourselves as upright, that is, honest, trustworthy men, keep the secret. If we can’t be trusted to keep something so simple a secret, how can we be trusted as men and as Masons?

It is my view, therefore, that the lesson of the Entered Apprentice Degree is not so simple as being of secrecy, but, when we peel away the layers, the lesson is integrity.

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.

Cornerstone Ceremony for Covina’s New Skilled Nursing and Memory Care Building

July 13, 2019
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join Grand Lodge Officers, civic leaders, friends, and family for this time-honored ceremony to dedicate the cornerstone of our newest building. Before the ceremony enjoy a buffet breakfast, fun and Masonic family time on the Covina Campus.

For more information, contact Judy Figueroa at JFigueroa@mhccov.org

THINK ABOUT IT

On Sunday April 7th, the Los Angeles Times used almost half of the front page and 3 full pages afterward in section A to present a story about car chases involving vehicles transporting individuals attempting to cross our southern border. The story was based on a survey of 9000 criminal complaints filed against suspected human smugglers between 2015 and 2018.

The survey was conducted by reporters from the Times in cooperation with ProPublica, an organization based in New York that specializes in investigative journalism. The survey tallied the incidence and severity of car chases and subsequent crashes that were documented in those reports. It was calculated that a crash occurs every 9 days and that about 250 people have been injured, including 22 deaths, during those four years.

The story detailed several of the crashes, in particular when actions of the Border Patrol were precipitants, such as the use of tire spike strips and continuing high-speed pursuits. The story began and ended with a story about one involving 11 “immigrant” men crammed into a pickup truck. (In the story, all individuals who were attempting to enter the United States without permission or proper paperwork were identified as being “immigrants”.) The incident occurred on a rainy November afternoon in 2018, when the truck was spotted and the driver sped up. Speeds in excess of 100 mph were reached, and the chase ended

when the truck ran over a spike strip, swerved, climbed up an embankment, and flipped on its side.

The story was largely critical of the Border Patrol and their tactics. A purported expert claimed that other techniques are available, but the ones described in the article appeared to be expensive and unproven. While paying some lip service to the role of the smugglers themselves, calling them a “part of a dangerous ecosystem that takes advantage of vulnerable people”, the reporters went on to state that the Border Patrol’s “loose pursuit policies only made matters worse”. Furthermore, the article quoted experts as saying that the “Border Patrol has the power to stem the damage”.

It is unfortunate when someone is maimed or killed during a car chase. However, the primary cause is almost always a consequence of somebody breaking the law, not the law enforcement response. It is sad that the staff of the LA Times does not understand this simple fact. I have yet to see a chase in which the driver of the pursued vehicle has not had the power to stem the potential damage. He or she just needs to stop the car.

Think about it.

Ron Koretz, P.M.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Robert Abelson	02	Joseph Mayesh	14	Michael Berner	26
David Golde	02	Axel Del Cid	15	Norman Feinstein	26
Irving Kierman	05	Robert Black	18	Justin Koretz	27
Jerome Zerg	07	Martin Levine	18	Milton Berman	28
Jacob Gershbock	08	Don Wijesinghe	18	Aaron Ganz	29
Yuriy Kotlyar	09	Hyman Walter	19	D'Angelo Jones	30
Alan Wax	09	Robert Thomason	21		
Trevor Nathaniel	10	Sol Marco	22		
Lazlo Borsai	12	Daryl Bristol	23		
Alvin Livingston	12	Lloyd Robinson	24		

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 and Felicia Richards ..** Both home with multiple problems

Geri Edelman.. Home with a variety of medical problems

Bruce Shaphran.. Recovering from knee surgery

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