

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brothers, ladies and friends;

I am always very excited this time of year because it means that Annual Communication at Grand Lodge is just around the corner. At least it is at the time that I write this because once you read it, I shall already have attended. I am actually lucky enough that this will be my fourth attendance of this most Grand event. As I have told you twice before, attending Grand Lodge and all the related activities during the weekend is truly both a humbling and enjoyable experience.

So just what makes this weekend so much fun? Lots of things, like observing the ritual of the Grand Lodge Opening, hearing the debates on the Grand Lodge resolutions, and ultimately voting on them. Not to mention hearing the latest Jurisprudence cases and their outcomes. Of course, one of the most enjoyable items is attending the Grand Master's Banquet. The fun wraps up on Sunday by taking in the Grand Lodge Installation and then getting the chance to shake hands with all the newly installed officers in the reception line.

Even though this is perhaps the grandest and most important Masonic event, I must confess that for me, the Lodge, and world of Masonry beyond, is a refuge I can retreat to pretty much anytime to escape the pressures of the outside world. I think that if you take a minute and compare and contrast the Masonic environment to your everyday experiences, you too will realize that due to our shared values and civility, the Masonic world is definitely a place we should attend as often as possible.

Beyond this, the lessons and experiences received in Lodge will also carry over to make the non-Masonic world more enjoyable as well. The more we

spread our Masonic values in everyday life, the better the outside world will become. This is because the tenets of Masonry are very infectious, and the more that we spread them, the better even non-Masons will treat one another. I know that for me personally, carrying my Masonic values wherever I go, makes even the non-Masonic world a better and friendlier place.

Fraternally,

Steve Resnick
Master

2019 MASONS4MITTS RECAP

We want to thank all our brothers who supported the 2019 Masons4Mitts campaign.

Here are some final numbers:

The Grand Master presented a check for **\$47,985!** That's **2,399 mitts** for kids in the Dodgers RBI Program!!!!

Our Media Central Titans team came in 3rd with **498 mitts**.

Ionic Composite came in 2nd among our team lodges with **158 mitts**. However among individual donations rather than lodge donations our lodge came in 1st with **108 mitts**.

The Prince Hall lodges on our team contributed **48 mitts**.

Fraternally,

Bernie Morse

Michael Bear

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 4, 2019

Stated Meeting - Election of officers

Open Lodge 6:30 pm
Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow

NOVEMBER 11, 2019

Lodge Dark Veterans Day

NOVEMBER 18, 2019

2nd Degree Practice & Building Association Meeting

6:00 pm - Building Association Meeting
7:15 pm - 2nd Degree Practice

NOVEMBER 25, 2019

2nd Degree

7:15 pm

NOVEMBER 26, 2019

OSI Hosted by Beverly Hills Lodge

7:15 pm

DECEMBER 2, 2019

Stated Meeting

Open Lodge 6:30 pm
Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow

DECEMBER 4, 2019

Installation Practice

7:15 pm

DECEMBER 7, 2019

Annual Installation of Officers

3pm – Officers set-up and pictures.
5pm – Reception and hors d'oeuvre.
6pm – Installation Of Officers.

Open to all Masons, family, friends, and public.
RSVP to the lodge office for dinner. Tuxedo for the officers, formal for their ladies. Suit for men, dressy dress for the ladies.

JANUARY 6, 2020

Stated Meeting

Open Lodge 6:30 pm
Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow

Save the Date 98th Installation of Officers

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Reception: 5:00p.m.
Ceremony: 6:00p.m. Sharp
Dinner buffet to follow

Dress: Officers: Tuxedo, Ladies:
Cocktail

Men: Suit, Ladies: Dressy dress
RSVP for dinner reservations by
November 29, 2019

ioniccomposite@gmail.com
(310) 657-2628

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

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

FROM THE WEST

It was fifteen years ago this month that I submitted my Petition For The Degrees Of Masonry. On one hand it seems that I have been a Mason much longer than that, but, on the other hand, much shorter. Some of you already know my story of asking my brother for a Petition (although I didn't know that was what I was doing), but it bears repeating for those of you who have not heard the story.

The family was attending Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) services at Temple Emmanuel. Michael was in his usual position as Head Usher diligently attending his duties. We came to a part of the service where the prayer is essentially an alphabetical list (in Hebrew) of every sin known to mankind coupled with asking forgiveness for the sins known as "Al Chet". It crossed my mind that many of these sins applied to my conduct over the years. While I had had the same thought over the years, I had never done anything about it after the High Holidays passed. I just trotted along my merry way, kind of like we do with New Year's resolutions. We mean it when we make the resolutions, but life just seems to go on and we fall into our same old way of doing things. Fifteen years ago I decided it was time to actually do something about becoming a better man.

Ilooked over to the aisle to my left and saw my brother standing there. He was the kind of man I wanted to emulate, so I got up and walked over to him and said, "So, what do I have to do to get involved in that thing?"

My brother replied, "Go talk to Scott (one of the Ushers) and he'll find something for you to do."

I said, "No, I don't want to be an usher. I'm talking about that Mason thing you do."

This was the last thing that my brother expected from me. He had been patiently not asking me about becoming a Mason for years and I always made it clear that it was just not for me. My brother scraped himself off of the floor and made sure I was given a Petition. Now my brother is also my Brother along with all of you.

We were all asked where we were first prepared to become a Mason. We all gave the same answer. We all had to be first prepared to be Masons in our hearts, because until our hearts are so prepared we can never be a Mason.

While the same proposition is true throughout our lives, this is particularly true in Masonry, which is purely voluntary. Unlike our jobs and home lives, we don't have to do anything in Masonry. We don't have to join and, once we join, we don't have to attend Lodge, learn the Proficiencies, attend events, or become active Brothers or officers.

Why did you become a Mason? I would very much like to hear your story, if you care to share. If you are one of the Brethren who are not attending Lodge and event or not learning the Proficiencies, I would also like to hear those stories as well. I look forward to seeing you all in Lodge.

Fraternally,

Jeff Bear, P.M.



**Make your gift today to support
The Midnight Mission's fight against poverty
and homelessness.**

Bring your gently used clothes to lodge so they can be donated to The Los Angeles Midnight Mission.

Men's, Women's, and children's clothing are needed.

THINK ABOUT IT

Nicholas Green was a 7-year-old boy who was traveling in Italy with his parents and sister in 1994 when an attempt was made to hold them up on the highway. His father was able to get away with his family in the rented car, but the assailants fired several shots. One of those bullets struck Nicholas in the head and he was declared brain dead 2 days later (October 1, 1994). In the midst of their grief, his parents made a decision to donate his organs and corneas to seven different people.

Fast forward to 2019, 25 years later. Five of those 7 recipients are still alive and his heart functioned for 23 years in another boy. Perhaps more importantly, his story spread through Italy. Over the next decade, the rate of organ donation in that country tripled. A town in Sicily named one of its squares after Nicholas. Numerous streets, parks, playgrounds, bike paths, and even a bridge in Italy bear his name. His father (Reg Green) is still approached by people who tell him that they went to a Nicholas Green School.

The teenage girl who received his liver emerged from a coma shortly after the transplant, went on to get married and, in 1999, had a baby boy whom she named Nicholas. Other families in Italy have also named their sons Nicholas (and used the American spelling rather than Nicolas). Newspaper stories were published around the world. The Winter

World Transplant Games even has an event in which organ recipients compete for the "Nicholas Cup".

This information all came from an editorial written by Reg Green in the September 29, 2019 issue of the Los Angeles Times entitled "The enduring legacy of the Nicholas Effect". While it was primarily an appeal for people to become organ donors, Mr. Green made a very poignant observation. He noted that organ donation "leaps the barriers between us". Donors and recipients are of different races, genders, and religions; those categories are not relevant for transplantation.

The story was particularly noteworthy for me because I have a friend who received a living kidney transplant earlier this year from an unrelated stranger whose husband was an organ recipient and who believed that she had to pay the favor forward. It is comforting to me to see such humanity at a time when many people seem more preoccupied with tearing other people down. I do not know if Reg Green is a Mason in fact, but he and his family, as well as countless others who provide organs, are certainly examples of masonic philosophy and practice.

Think about it.

Ron Koretz, P.M.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Louis Dalesandro	11/03	Michael Pecina	11/21	Marshall Krupp	12/13
Laurence Friedman	11/03	Steven Bailin	11/22	Etan Goldman	12/16
Matthew Wilson	11/04	Morris Darnov	11/22	Maverick Brown	12/19
Albert Canter	11/06	Mauricio Leon	11/25	Norman Langer	12/19
Alperen Guman	11/06	John Rasor	11/26	Bruno Samuel	12/20
Gene Pira	11/08	Leonard King	11/27	Harold Forster	12/22
Clarence Neal	11/09	Peter Gordon	11/30	Yukihiro Matsumoto	12/22
JohnRobert Wilson	11/09	Zachary Lodmer	11/30	Michael Maroko	12/23
Sheldon Lodmer	11/15	Lutfallah Hay	12/04	Ezra Ozer	12/24
Lawrence Lebowsky	11/16	Morris Lazar	12/04	Stanley Ziegler	12/27
Timothy Shiner	11/17	Wesley Challacombe	12/07	Jordan Maxwell	12/28
Edward Trabin	11/19	Jason Louv	12/11		

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

We Wish Everyone a Full and Complete Recovery

Len Cohen .. Home with several medical problems

Geri Edelman.. Home with a variety of medical problems

Earl Hellum.. Home after some recurrent symptoms from his previous illness

Bruce Shaphran.. Home after knee surgery and other 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