

JANUARY 2020

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brothers, ladies and friends;

In my other writings, I have always tried to be upbeat and rosy. Actually, the fact is that the Lodge needs a little more help from its members. Probably just the simplest help of showing up more often. When I first started coming to the Lodge around June 2014, even before I was an EAM, I asked Wor Jeff Bear what I should do. His response was to keep showing up on Mondays. And I did. To this date, unless I am out of town on business or sick, you will always see me on Mondays, not to mention OSI, other Lodge Stated Meetings, fundraisers, Dodger Games, Festive Boards, etc. – Should I keep going on? I think you got my point.

At most of the Masonic functions that I attend, about one half or more of the attendees are Past Masters. If it weren't for the Past Masters, I would be horrified to think of what would become of the Fraternity. Does anyone actually realize how hard these guys work? They are the planners, enablers, and just plain doers of just about everything that is required to keep non-Past Masters and the Lodge itself going. While they do have honors and recognition, it is nothing compared to their hard efforts to keep everything from coming to a grinding halt.

Yes, we owe the Past Masters for our very existence. There is a very simple way to pay them back, and that is just to show up more often. In these days of ever-worsening traffic in Los Angeles, expanding job pressure, family obligations, and at times just some plain exhaustion, yes, sometimes it is very difficult to get ourselves to Lodge. Ah, but what you find when you finally get here, that is the reward.

Hey, I just realized that I am writing this right as I am about to become a Past Master myself. Am I patting myself on the back? Well, no, not really, as I have only just first embarked on my journey as a Past Master. I only hope that I am up to the task of emulating the Past Masters currently delivering their wise counsel to this Lodge. Please join me in supporting these untiring leaders and do come to Lodge. Once here, you will be glad you did.

Fraternally,

Steve Resnick
Master



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 6, 2020

Stated Meeting

Open Lodge 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow

JANUARY 13, 2020

1st Degree Practice

7:15 pm

JANUARY 20, 2020

1st Degree

7:15 pm

JANUARY 27, 2020

OSI - Hosted by Ionic Composite Lodge

7:15 pm - 9:15 pm

FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Stated Meeting

Open Lodge 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow

MARCH 2, 2020

Stated Meeting

Open Lodge 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:15 pm

Open and Tiled portions to follow



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*Check for updates
Post your pictures
Meet brothers*

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

As you know, our Lodge like most others has experienced many Brothers failing to pay their dues and, accordingly, being suspended for non-payment of dues. Grand Master Trauner has caused an investigation into this situation to be conducted and found that many of these suspended Brothers would like to return to active Masonry, but for a variety of reasons, have not done so.

In order to address this situation, Grand Master Trauner has adopted a program for the Grand Lodge, at the request of constituent Lodges, to actively seek out suspended Brethren and offer them an opportunity to return to Masonry. Here's how this program will work.

In order to participate in the program, our Lodge will be required to pass a Resolution by a two-thirds vote of those members in good standing in attendance at the stated meeting requesting the Grand Lodge to act on its behalf in locating and contacting suspended Brethren, who would be offered an opportunity to return to Masonry as active Brothers. This Resolution must include a list of suspended Brothers who the Lodge wants to have restored to membership.

Each suspended Brother will be required to pay a \$100.00 Restoration Fee in lieu of his outstanding dues arrears. All of the \$100.00 Restoration Fee would be turned over to our Lodge on a monthly basis by Grand Lodge together with a report of those members who have paid the required fee. The re-

stored Brethren will then be required to thereafter keep their dues current.

The Executive Committee of our Lodge believes that it is in the best interests of our Lodge to participate in the Grand Master's Restoration Program and that we should be one of the "early adopters" of the program to maximize its potential benefits. Accordingly, our Master has scheduled a vote on the Restoration Resolution for the February stated meeting.

It is, therefore, urgent that you contact me before the February stated meeting to identify any suspended Brother that you want included on the Resolution list. It is equally urgent that before that date you advise me of any suspended Brother who is either deceased or to whose reinstatement you object. Your attendance in Lodge on the night of the vote is also especially requested.

This is a one-time opportunity for us to return suspended Brothers to our Lodge. Please contact me with your input as soon as possible.

I look forward to seeing you all in Lodge.

Fraternally,

Jeff Bear, P.M.
Senior Warden

Brethren

Please don't forget to pay your dues!

THINK ABOUT IT

Almost all of us have grown up celebrating the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving and as the day that begins the Christmas season. We likely do not think about the fact that, while Christmas is observed throughout the world, Thanksgiving is a uniquely American holiday. Beyond our borders, the fourth Thursday of November is just a day that precedes a Friday.

For instance, consider what happens in England. Although most of you are not old enough to remember those days, the United States of America began as a group of English colonies; the Pilgrims who came to this land 500 or so years ago and began the Thanksgiving traditions were largely English. There are about 200,000 Americans residing in England (people referred to as “ex-pats”) and shopping for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner is not as easy as it is for us who live in the USA. Whole Foods, which operates 7 markets in the United Kingdom, claims that Thanksgiving is the busiest time of the year for that food chain because of the demand for specialized foods.

Now picture yourself as a person who, for some reason, has to be in London on Thanksgiving and flies into Heathrow Airport on the day before. Typically these flights land in the morning and weary passengers such as yourself work their way off the plane and through passport control, and then go to claim their baggage. On Wednesday, November 27, 2019, the baggage carousels did not contain

any luggage when those passengers arrived, although the belts were moving. Instead of bags, the carousels contained ribbon-wrapped wicker baskets containing boxed slices of pumpkin pie. It turned out that Heathrow officials, in cooperation with Whole Foods UK, realizing that many of those passengers were missing the holiday at home and, as a token of that understanding, provided a welcoming gift of a slice of pie. Furthermore, there were English “baggage ambassadors” who were walking around the baggage claim area with cans of whipped cream to top off the pie. Oh, yes, the luggage then did come out as well.

Some of you more pessimistic readers will probably find fault with this action, and will claim that there were many people who were probably in a hurry to get out of Heathrow and into London for some reason. For you, this is a “Bah, Humbug” story. For me, this was a delightful tale of people with a different culture who consciously tried to make a positive message about that diversity. Even for the Brits who were just coming home, pumpkin pie (with or without whipped cream) is still pumpkin pie. Sharing and compassion for other people is what the upcoming season is all about. In fact, it is what we should be all about for the entire year.

Think about it.

Ron Koretz, P.M.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|------------------|----|-------------------|-----|
| Dennis Goldberg | 02 | Mario Sherman | 1 6 |
| William Weiss | 05 | Edwin Siegel | 1 6 |
| Jay Markoff | 07 | Vrej Eskandarian | 1 7 |
| Zach Samuels | 07 | Bernard Kentor | 1 7 |
| Richard Friedman | 09 | Donald Gordon | 1 9 |
| David Green | 11 | Nazareth Guluzian | 2 0 |
| Ronald Koretz | 11 | Stuart Horwitz | 2 7 |
| Andre Richardson | 12 | Bradley Zalben | 2 9 |
| Kerin Surents | 13 | Kyle Ware | 3 1 |
| Steven Kierman | 14 | | |

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**

2020 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 -

Secretary – Michael Bear, P.M. (Debbie)

Tiler – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Chaplain – Kyle Ware

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

Senior Deacon – Jacob Gershbock

Inspector for the 622nd Masonic District
O. Gary Pealer PM (Lelah)

Junior Deacon – Luis Tananta (Maria)

Trestleboard Layout – Yuriy Kotlyar