

MAY 2021

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

It's official, straight from the Grand Master himself, we now have clearance to return to in-person Masonry!!!! This is due to the fact that the State of California has stated that indoor private events are allowed with limitations effective 4/15/21.

Just what are these limitations? 1) We must have a defined guest list. 2) A seating chart or assigned seating is required. 3) Attendees must show proof of full vaccination or a recent negative Covid-19 test. (Full vaccination means that you have received all required shots and have gone through the recommended period after the final shot to obtain full vaccination). 3) All businesses and facilities (yes, facilities refers to Masonic gathering places) are required to have a site-specific plan. 4) All attendees must wear face masks.

Based on the above, MW Art Weiss has decreed that Masonic organizations may resume in-person meetings and events with the same above limitations. However, this is optional, and Lodges may continue to have virtual meetings if they so wish.

Right now, the Executive Board of Ionic Composite Lodge is working on preparing our required written Covid-19 Site Prevention Plan. As such, we plan to return to live in-person events beginning with the June Stated Meeting on 6/07/21. The May Stated Meeting on 5/03/21 will still be a virtual one.

Looking forward to seeing you back in Lodge, face to face!!!

Fraternally,
Steve Resnick
Master

FROM THE WEST

Dear Brethren,

With the rollout of the vaccines continuing and the end of isolation in sight, it's time to start thinking again about Masonry and its impact on our lives out in the world. During isolation, it was enough to give charitably, log in to Zoom with the brethren if one wished, and generally follow the rules of the pandemic: stay socially distant, wear a mask, don't put others at risk, etc. With the easing of those restrictions on the near horizon, however, it behooves Masons to remember that we are all Ambassadors of the Craft when out and about in the world.

What, pray tell, does that mean, exactly? In the broadest sense, it means that Masons are examples, individuals held to a higher standard of civility and morality, not by force but by personal choice. Masons practice courtesy and civility, they are considerate and understanding, and they are the people others can turn to when in distress. As we venture back out into the world, let us remind the world who we are and show them what we stand for, not just by following the rules but by being good examples for others to emulate.

Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock
Senior Warden

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 3, 2021

Zoom Stated Meeting

7:00 pm

MAY 17, 2021

Zoom Fellowship Meeting

7:00 pm

Training on in-person lodge reopening requirements.

Mason Speaker Series: Restoring Order with Freemasonry an excellent and timely talk by Past Grand Master Russ Charvonia

JUNE 7, 2021

IN-PERSON!!! Stated Meeting

7:00 pm

JUNE 21 17, 2021

Zoom Fellowship Meeting

7:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE!

September 13: Ionic Composite Reception Of the Grand Master.

Up to date events and Zoom login information will be available on the Lodge website or sent to members' personal email. <https://www.ioniccomposite.com/events/>

GRAND MASTER ANNOUNCES BACK TO LODGE REQUIREMENTS

On Wednesday April 14 Most Worshipful Arthur Weiss sent out the requirements for a lodge to meet in-person for meetings and events. This will require our submittal of a Site Inspection Plan (SPP) to our Inspector Wor. Gary Pealer and his approval. Work on this plan is underway and we expect our first in-person stated meeting to be on June 7. This plan must adhere to all California and Los Angeles County requirements.

Among the lodge requirements for each meeting is to have a guest list and seating chart. This means that RSVPs will be required so that an appropriate seating chart can be produced.

For each attendee it is mandatory that:

- Attendee is fully vaccinated at least 2 weeks before the meeting and brings the CDC COVID-19 vaccine card or other documentation to the meeting
- Or attendee brings a document showing a negative COVID-19 test result within the last 72 hours before the meeting
- Face masks are worn throughout the meeting

Two brothers will be assigned to check documentation at the door and no one will be admitted without it.

2021 MASONS4MITTS CAMPAIGN TO KICK OFF



As of this writing the 2021 MASONS4MITTS campaign will kick off sometime in May. We are awaiting instructions from Grand Lodge. For every \$20 donation a boy or girl in the LA Dodgers RBI program will receive a quality leather baseball glove worth over \$50.

Be on the lookout for more details as they come.

Bernie Morse PM
Michael Bear PM

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MASONIC SPEAKER SERIES

<https://freemason.org/speakerseries/>

May 20, Noon

Tony Harvey: Freemasonry and Scouting: Two Parallel Organizations

What historical connections does Freemasonry hold to the Scouting movement? Is the relationship still relevant? And what can each organization learn from the another? On May 20, join Tony Harvey, the 2012 Prestonian Lecturer, as he discusses the historical, current, and future relationship between Masonry and the Scouts. Harvey is an author and founder and developer of the Members' Pathway program for the United Grand Lodge of England, a lifelong Scout, and has served in a variety of Masonic capacities around English Freemasonry.



SAVE THE DATE - SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Los Angeles Masonic Service Bureau's Breakfast Reception for the Grand Master of Masons in California



Hilton Los Angeles Airport
5711 W. Century Blvd, Los Angeles

This will be an in-person reception for Most Worshipful Brother Arthur H. Weiss, Grand Master of Masons in California and other family of Freemasonry leaders.

NOTE: Current COVID19 restrictions will apply and attendance will be limited.

More detail will be available via our website at LAMSB.org/calendar, and future mails from our Executive Secretary to participating lodges.

SAVE THE DATE - JUNE 13, 2021 AT 9:00 AM

Los Angeles Masonic Service Bureau presents A VIRTUAL program honoring our Masonic Youth Orders



Because of the lingering effects of the COVID19 pandemic, this will be a VIRTUAL event to honor the leaders of our Masonic Youth Orders. More details, including the Zoom link, will be available via our website at <http://lamsb.org/calendar/>, and future emails from our Executive Secretary to participating Lodges. Please save the date.

THINK ABOUT IT

The development of the COVID-19 vaccine has been an extraordinary example of how far medical science has advanced. At the same time, the supply has not yet caught up with the demand. This has, in turn, created a number of ethical and legal problems in the United States, where most of us are not accustomed to having to wait for our healthcare to be delivered. In the past two months, I have commented on a situation in San Jose where a hospital executive preferentially provided the vaccine to a selected school staff and on a San Francisco doctor's anger over the difficulty encountered in obtaining vaccine for her parents. These issues are not confined to the state of California.

Hasan Gokol is an emergency room physician in Houston, Texas, and was in charge of distributing vaccine doses in his area. One day he was left with 10 doses in an opened vial of the Moderna vaccine, no eligible recipients being immediately available to receive the vaccine, and less than 6 hours before the vaccine would expire and have to be thrown away. He tried to find other potential recipients in his institution (e.g., healthcare workers or police officers), but they all had already been vaccinated or had refused. He called around and found 9 other eligible individuals whom he vaccinated and, after running out of candidates with 15 minutes still present, gave the last dose to his wife, who was eligible because of a chronic lung disease.

Dr. Gokol did inform his supervisor

about what had happened, only to be informed a few days later that he should have returned the 10 unused doses, even if they would have been destroyed. Because of his actions, he was dismissed from his job. To make matters even worse, a few weeks later he was charged by the Harris County district attorney, Kim Ogg, with theft and with breaking the county protocol. According to Ms. Ogg, Dr. Gokol "abused his position to place his friends and family in line in front of people who had gone through the lawful process to be there". When Dr. Gokol's lawyer subsequently asked for a copy of the protocol, a prosecutor in the case told him that no protocol existed.

His case did go to court. The judge, Franklin Bynum, dismissed the charges, finding that the county had failed to show that Dr. Gokol, who was the medical advisor for the county's COVID-19 response, did not have the authority to decide whom to vaccinate. The district attorney, dissatisfied with that finding, is planning to bring the case before the grand jury.

Bureaucratic thinking, as demonstrated by a rigid interpretation of the rules by a hospital administrator and a district attorney, often does not work well when novel solutions are required. Dr. Gokol seems to be a classic example of an instance when no good deed went unpunished.

Think about it.
Ron Koretz, P.M.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Arthur Obrand	01	Evan Weiss	12	Max Solomon	19
Joseph Reinke	01	Joseph Brewer	13	David Israel	23
Harold Kirman	02	Mark Crugnale	13	David Philips	23
Bob Sills	02	Robert Goldman	13	Robert Weissman	26
Robert Gordon	04	Richard Kaplan	13	Jeffrey Platt	27
Barry Sporn	05	Edward Novshad	14	Mark Ameli	29
William Bilkiss	11	Stephen Rennick	14	Neil Sherman	29
Peter Kaplan	11	Matthew Rodman	17	Dale Effren	30
Errol Stambler	12	Michael Savage	17	Zev Vered	30

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

We Wish Everyone a Full and Complete Recovery

Len Cohen	Home with several medical problems
Earl Hellum	Home with long-standing medical problems
Bonnie Miller	Recovering at home
Arnie Schoenfeld	Hospitalized in January for severe infection; home now and much improved



In Memoriam

Brother Arnold Bennet "Bud" Bristol

July 11, 1924 - March 25, 2021

"Soft and Safe to Thee Be Thy Resting Place"

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**

2021 OFFICERS

Master – Steve Resnick (Sheelah)	Marshal – Yuriy Kotlyar
Senior Warden – Jacob Gershbock	Senior Steward –
Junior Warden – Jeffrey Bear, P.M. (Trisha)	Junior Steward – Renato Garcia (Minerva)
Treasurer – Bernie Morse, P.M. (Carolyn)	Assistant Secretary – Michael Bear, P.M. (Debbie)
Secretary – Kyle Ware	Tiler –
Chaplain – Roy Steinfeld, P.M.	Officers' Coach – Bernie Morse, P.M. (Carolyn)
Senior Deacon –	Inspector for the 622nd Masonic District O. Gary Pealer PM (Lelah)
Junior Deacon – Luis Tananta (Maria)	Trestleboard Layout – Yuriy Kotlyar



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