

AUGUST 2021

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

Don't know about you, but I am finding it harder and harder to read the newspaper these times. I remember back in the old days before the internet, nothing would give me as much pleasure as finding a newspaper to read. Now all I have to do is open my iPhone and I can select from a multitude of news sources. The only problem is that the news is well, kind of depressing. The last few days' edition of the LA Times has featured stories detailing the massive west coast brushfires burning out of control, the explosion of the Corona virus among the unvaccinated and dire climate predictions becoming a reality around the globe. On other days you can always find stories about the totally divisive nature of both our politicians and their constituents, as well as other important social issues.

Fortunately, there is also a positive news source that I can always turn to. This would just happen to be any news sources regarding Masonry, whether it be the California Freemason magazine, the Scottish Rite Journal or a communication from the Grand Lodge of California.

Actually, I must confess that for me the Lodge, and the world of Masonry beyond, is a refuge I can retreat to pretty much anytime, to escape the bad news in 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 2, 2021 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Stated Meeting + Hawaiian Dinner
Dress is Hawaiian Casual, Cost is \$20.00
RSVP Required for Dinner

AUGUST 16, 2021 7:15PM (IN PERSON & ZOOM)

Fellowship Night + Light Refreshments

SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

51st Annual Reception Of The Grand Master Of Masons In California at Ionic Composite

5:00 p.m.: Open Lodge
5:30 p.m.: Social
6:00 p.m.: Dinner
7:30 p.m.: Program

(Welcome to attend even if cannot join us for dinner)

Menu choices: Choice of Tri-Tip or Sea Bass. Traditional Sundae Bar
Cost: \$35.00 per person - Paid in advance (Reservations Required)

SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 7:15PM (IN PERSON & ZOOM)

Fellowship Night + Light Refreshments

RSVP for Stated Dinners: brokyleware@gmail.com / 323-300-4609

IonicComposite.com



FROM THE WEST

Dear Brethren,

In Masonry, we say that Harmony is the strength and support of all societies, especially of ours. This is true not only in the peaceful running of a lodge during normal times, but also when tempers flare and when arguments grow heated. It is with Harmony and subdued passions that we approach even the most volatile of subjects (those allowed in lodge, anyway). One such subject was the recent vote to sell the building at the July Stated Meeting.

Nearly every brother present had something to say, and opinions were diverse. Thankfully, the brethren remained, if not united in opinion, then at least united in agreement that we all had good intentions and that we all believed we represented the best interests of the lodge. When it was over, and the final votes had been counted and the results announced, no

one stormed out of the room in anger, no one made nasty comments about those who voted one way or another being wrong or stupid or foolish. Instead, hands were shaken, pictures were taken, and friendships renewed with brethren long unseen.

As we head into a new chapter for our lodge, let us remember that moment proudly. Whether you agree with the sale of the building or not, you can be proud that we faced the vote as brethren. After all, there can be no Harmony if everyone is already singing the same note – it takes diversity to create harmony, and I am glad that we had it.

Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock
Senior Warden

Dodgers RBI is a youth development program that uses the power of sport to provide critical resources and services to communities who are experiencing social injustices.

For each \$20 donation a quality baseball glove will be provided to a needy youth in the LA Dodgers RBI program which now has 9,000 kids.

Support your lodge's participation in this great program.

Go to www.masons4mitts.org
Click Los Angeles Region
Click Media Central Titans
Click Donate

We will be holding an auction including MLB authenticated Justin Turner & Walker Buehler jerseys. Watch for details.

Contact Bernie Morse at (310)556-4463

if you have any questions.



TO OUR LIFE MEMBERS

To help the lodge finances it would be most appreciated if you could donate this years Per Capita of \$55.25 by check or \$57.15 through PayPal (which includes the Service Fee) on our website.
If you have already done so we thank you.

**We have a block of seats for The Band's Visit Sunday, December 5, 2021 6:30PM
\$84/person at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood**

THE BAND'S VISIT was the winner of 10 Tony Awards, making it one of the most Tony-winning musicals in history. It was also the 2019 Grammy Awards® winner for Best Musical Theater Album.

In this delightfully offbeat story, set in a town that's way off the beaten path, a band of musicians arrive lost, out of the blue. Under the spell of the desert sky, and with beautiful music perfuming the air, the band brings the town to life in unexpected and tantalizing ways. Even the briefest visit can stay with you forever.



With a score that seduces your soul and sweeps you off your feet, and featuring Tony-winning performances and thrillingly talented onstage musicians, THE BAND'S VISIT rejoices in the way music makes us laugh, makes us cry, and ultimately, brings us together.

**For information and reservations please contact Bernie Morse PM at
(310)556-4463 or e-mail brnhrd18@yahoo.com**

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.

THINK ABOUT IT

Bill Cosby was known as “America’s dad” for decades until revelations about his interactions with a number of women became public several years ago. At that time, society again learned the difference between image and reality. In 2018 Cosby was sentenced to serve 3-10 years in a Pennsylvania state prison for drugging and sexually assaulting Andrea Constand in 2004. Apparently some of the evidence used against him in his trial was his own admission, given as part of a deposition in a civil suit filed by Ms. Constand.

In June 2021 the Pennsylvania Supreme Court not only overturned the conviction, but barred any retrial on the charges. The basis for this decision was a promise made in 2005 by the District Attorney of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, Mr. Bruce Castor, not to file any charges. Ms. Constand had reported the incident to the police and it was investigated, but, according to Mr. Castor, there was not enough evidence to prove the accusation beyond a reasonable doubt even though he believed Ms. Constand’s story. His decision not to file charges was designed to prevent Mr. Cosby from citing his Fifth Amendment right in the civil action. He believed that this decision would “get some justice for Andrea Constand”. Mr. Cosby did admit in a deposition taken for the civil suit that he had given qualudes (a type of sedative) to women to try to have sex with them. Ms. Constand settled her case for over \$3 million.

Years later, a different District Attorney decided to charge Mr. Cosby and subsequently convicted him of sexual assault on Ms. Constand. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that the original promise by Mr. Castor was a valid one, so charges should never have been filed. That court found that, when a prosecutor unconditionally promises not to prosecute and a defendant relies on that promise to his detriment, fundamental fairness requires that the promise be enforced. While the ruling only applies to the Constand case, it is unlikely that any other charges will be filed because the statute of limitations has run out in those cases.

Needless to say, there has been an uproar about this ruling, especially in the #MeToo community. Since Mr. Cosby did admit to the behaviors for which he has been accused, it is easy to understand this anger. However, Mr. Cosby paid a civil settlement and spent about 3 years in prison before the conviction was overturned, so he has already suffered some penalty. More importantly, his claim of innocence will never be accepted by society and, like O.J. Simpson, he is likely to spend his remaining years being viewed as a social pariah by most people. Perhaps those protesting this court ruling should get past their anger and be satisfied that Mr. Cosby’s life has been ruined.

Think about it.
Ron Koretz, P.M.

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/>

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Albert Solnit	4	Clifford Wolosin	11	Sarkis Babian	25
Steven Resnick	5	Jesse Rivas	13	Gene Horst	25
Allen Sackler	8	Robert Holmes	19	Marc Seidner	28
Fred Gross	8	Harry Barron	22	Philip Roman	31

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	Is in care facility to build up strength
Robert Smerling	Home after COVID infection
Arnie Schoenfeld	Hospitalized in January for severe infection; home now and much improved

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

Officer Volunteers Needed

We currently have openings for 3 officers: Senior Deacon, Senior Steward, and Tiler. If you are interested or have questions please contact Officers' Coach Bernie Morse PM at (310)556-4463 or email him at brnhrd18@yahoo.com.

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 – Roy Steinfeld, P.M.
Chaplain –	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