

OCTOBER 2021

# TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

## FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

As I am writing this, it was just one week ago that we had our 51st Annual Reception of the Grand Master of Masons in California, the Most Worshipful Arthur H. Weiss. And wow, what an event it was.

I would like to take the time to thank Worshipful Bob Sills for all his hard work in the many preparations that had to be performed ahead of this most successful event. My gratitude also goes out to Worshipful Jeff Bear for serving as the Committee Chairman on this event.

It has from time immemorial, at the Reception of a Grand Master by Ionic Composite Lodge, to have a special and unique introduction of the Grand Lodge officers in attendance, in the form and style initiated by our own M.W. Mel Nahin. This long honored tradition is now being continued by Worshipful Ron Koretz. As per his usual performance at this event each year, Ron hit it out of the ballpark, with a most memorable performance.

It was truly an honor to welcome Most Worshipful Art, his wife Barbara, and his Grand Lodge Family to our Lodge. Without the efforts of Worshipfuls Sills, Bear and Koretz, this would not have been possible. So again, I offer my heartfelt thanks to all of them.

When we as a Lodge met a few months ago at our Stated Meeting to vote on the original building sale proposal, there was a group of Brothers that were opposed to the sale. However, we did reach an over two thirds majority and the motion carried. Unfortunately, that transaction fell through, as the buyer dropped out at the last moment.

At the October Stated Meeting we will be voting on a number of possible sales transactions, so that if our favorite buyer drops out, we can move on to the next preferred offer. Looking forward to seeing you at the next Stated Meeting when we vote on this most important matter.

Fraternally,  
Steve Resnick

## UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 4TH, 2021 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

**Stated Meeting + Kebab Dinner**

**RSVP is Required for Dinner. Cost is \$20. All are welcome to attend the stated meeting  
6:00pm Tour of the Downstairs, 6:30 Dinner, 7:15 Stated Meeting**

**NOTICE: THERE WILL BE A VERY IMPORTANT VOTE ON APPROVING  
ADDITIONAL OFFERS FOR THE BUILDING SALE**

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



OCTOBER 18, 2021 7:15PM (IN PERSON & ZOOM)

Fellowship Night + Light Refreshments

OCTOBER 25, 2021 7:30PM (IN PERSON)

OSI - Hosted by Ionic Composite (Master Masons Only)

NOVEMBER 1, 2021 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Stated Meeting + Dinner

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

Fellowship Night + Light Refreshments



IonicComposite.com

# FROM THE WEST

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Dear Brethren,

As I write this article, we are in the middle of the Jewish holiday of Sukkot, during which it is customary to invite guests to one's sukkah, or temporary dwelling place. While it might seem a bit strange, this actually reminds me of one of the duties of the Senior Deacon; namely, to introduce and accommodate visiting brethren. In essence, visiting brethren are choosing to make our lodge their home during their visit, and it is incumbent upon us as the hosts to see to their needs and to help them in any way possible. Just as we invite friends and family into our homes, we invite brethren to our lodge, for events, such

as the visitation of the Grand Master we just enjoyed, or for everyday meetings and simple brotherhood.

May we always be reminded of the simple truth of how good it is to see brethren dwelling together in unity, even if only for a short time. I look forward to seeing many of you in lodge.

Fraternally,  
Jacob Gershbock  
Senior Warden

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## THE 100 CORNER

Why is October 12, 2021, an important day for Ionic-Composite Lodge?  
(Answer next month)

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### *Are You Receiving Our Email Blasts?*

If not please provide your email address to our Secretary Kyle Ware. You can email him at [brokyleware@gmail.com](mailto:brokyleware@gmail.com). Currently we only have 81% of our brothers' addresses in iMember and 77% of their home phones.

If you are not signed up for iMember the California Mason online system which has many valuable features, he can help you. You can update your personal information and set preferences plus even print our your dues card.

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### **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.

# CASTING CALL

**Wannabe Actors, Thespians  
*And Those Who Want Great Ritual***

**You can help enhance the Masonic degrees for our candidates by taking part in the ceremonies. We want to put together ritual teams in all three degrees that will create memorable experiences.**

**Note that Entered Apprentices can take part in the 1st degree, Fellowcrafts in the 1st and 2nd degrees, and Master Masons in all three.**

**We are also looking for Master Masons who want to be officers. We have openings for 2022.**

**We want and need your involvement. If interested please contact:**

**Bernie Morse, PM  
Officer's Coach**





**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](mailto:brnhrd18@yahoo.com)**

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Richard Ameny	4	Mark Neander	9	Bruce Shaphran PM	26
Jonathan Klein	5	Jorge Gutierrez	11	Ray Friedman	28
Alan Block	5	Albert Kaplan	14	Robert Nairin	28
Paul Schiek	6	Robert Smerling	15	Roy Steinfeld PM	30
Alfred Sapper	7	Sanford Gage	21	Arnold Schoenfeld	31
Thomas Currie	9	Lawrence Phillips	23		
Arthur Dakessian	9	Rafael Montejano	24		

# THINK ABOUT IT

David Lazarus writes a business column for the Los Angeles Times. He recently commented on a decision made by Delta Airlines to charge COVID-19 unvaccinated workers an additional \$200 per month for their health coverage. The company estimated that each case of COVID cost \$50,000 and that, by declining the vaccine, those employees were creating an additional financial risk. Mr. Lazarus recognized the logic of a decision to have people who are more likely to get sick pay more for health insurance. However, he then went on to observe that this philosophy represents the top of a dangerous and slippery slope. After all, he pondered, where should it end?

Many medical ethicists would agree that it is inappropriate to make sick people pay more, viewing healthcare as an inherent human right. In their eyes, health insurance is not comparable to auto, fire, life, or almost any other type of insurance, situations where such coverage is almost always priced based on the risk(s) that the insuree faces.

Having spent a career in medicine, I avoided this problem entirely by working in a public hospital, where payments and/or having insurance were never issues for patients. Of course, I then had to deal with a different conundrum, namely managing the costs of healthcare. In the case of COVID-19, however, the price of vaccination is not the reason why some

Delta employees decided not to obtain one, but that decision did create economic problems for their employer. Why shouldn't they pay for that choice?

Mr. Lazarus worried about the slippery slope of a practice that forces individuals with chronic illnesses to pay higher insurance and other healthcare costs, but he included in those illnesses ones that are related to unhealthy lifestyle habits such as smoking. Even in these circumstances, he believed that "turning the screws on the sick or potentially sick...is just bad public policy". He concluded that penalizing the sick or potentially sick was "inhumane".

In addition to the value of compassion, another value comes into play, namely personal responsibility. People do have to be responsible for the decisions that they make and even for adverse situations that are out of the realm of their decision making. While society can (and, in many cases, should) provide assistance, society cannot fix all of the ills that befall people. If we have to draw a line somewhere (i.e., put up a barrier on the slope to prevent further falling), one place to start would be to provide less support for those who choose to get into trouble. Such a policy seems logical, not inhumane.

Think about it.  
Ron Koretz, P.M.

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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/>

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# BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

## Sick and Visitation Committee Report

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
David Philips	At Masonic Home in Covina; has some medical problems
Robert Smerling	Home after COVID infection
Art Vanetek	Home after hand surgery; another one scheduled
Kyle Ware	At home after orthopedic surgery in July

Note: Brother Stan Sax will also be keeping track of our sick and ailing brethren and family members.

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](mailto: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