

MAY 2022

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

1122 S. La Cienega Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90035

(310) 657-2628 / ioniccomposite.com

FROM THE EAST

Dear Brethren

I am pleased to announce that we held our first degree conferral since the onset of COVID during this past month. Brother Michael Mosbach, who is personally responsible for our being able to hold our November 19th gala celebration at the Del Rey Yacht Club, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on April 11, 2022. Special thanks to several members of Culver City Foshay Lodge no. 467, especially their Senior Deacon, Brother Jason Berry, who assisted in the work. We always appreciate it when our brethren from other lodges join us for our events, and I encourage you all to do the same for them as you can.

Next, a word on our building. At the April Stated meeting, I formally announced the close of escrow on the sale of our Lodge building, and we voted to amend our charter and bylaws to move our meeting place to 2244 Westwood Blvd (aka: Liberal Arts Lodge). PLEASE NOTE: this move will not take effect until our July Stated Meeting. Meetings in May and June will still be at 1122 La Cienega Blvd. as before. We currently have two candidates going through the clearing and investigation phases of application, and we hope to ballot on one of them at the May Stated meeting, and hold the degree conferral in June. The reason for the delay is that certain senior officers (myself especially) will be out of town for most of the month of May. I will be leaving the day after the Stated meeting on May 2nd to be with my brother in Washington, DC, for the arrival of the newest member of the family, a little girl. My mother and I will be there to help with their firstborn (Samuel) and help his transition to being a big brother, as well to help with the newborn, etc.

While planning and coordinating move items have already begun, they will continue throughout April and May, and the final move out of our current building will occur towards the end

of June. Please keep your eyes peeled for the last Stated Meeting and Degree conferrals in our old building, and make a point of showing up, both to support our new brother, and to say goodbye to our longtime home.

Finally, I want to be clear regarding something many have expressed concerns about. We are not throwing out our history during this move. The pictures of the Past Masters, for instance, have been taken down from the walls in the dining room, but this was done so that we could digitize them, as well as prepping them for storage. Similarly, much of our art will be moving with us to our new home (be it short or long term) at Liberal Arts. The rest will be placed in storage. Likewise, any chairs in the lodge room that bear the names of brethren will have those name plaques removed, and the plaques will be stored unless the brethren or their families specifically request their return. Plaques attached to the large, freestanding dais chairs will not be removed, as those chairs will either move with us or be stored.

This is the season of new beginnings, of Re-birth. It is a time when we embrace the future without sacrificing or forgetting the value of the past. It will take adjustment. It will take work. There will be challenges, but we will face them together as Brethren, and we will come out stronger for having met them. I am confident that, as a Lodge, we will not only survive, but thrive in the next chapter of our shared Masonic journey. For everything there is a Season, and a Time for every Purpose under Heaven. This is the season of change, and we will remember in whom we put our trust, and we will not be afraid.

Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock
Master

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 2, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Stated Meeting + Dinner - \$20 at the Door
Lemon Pepper Chicken or Sirloin Steak Dinner - By Norms
7:15pm Dinner / 8:00pm Stated Meeting
Please RSVP by 12pm on Friday 4/29.
Include your entree preference: brnhrd18@yahoo.com



MAY 9, 2022 7:00PM (ZOOM)

Zoom Fellowship Night
California Masons Major Benefit - Masonic Outreach Services
Presented by Camille Salinas MSW
Lodge & Outreach Educator

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 848 7267 5107

Passcode: 220568



MAY 16, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

1st Degree Practice

MAY 23, 2022 7:30PM (IN PERSON)

Officers School of Instruction - 1st Degree
Hosted by Ionic Composite Lodge

MAY 30, 2022 7:15PM

Dark for Memorial Day

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

We are planning an

All Day Summer Sightseeing Tour of LA

Conducted by Roy Steinfeld PM

Watch for details!

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

100th Anniversary Gala Reception

Saturday November 19, 2022

Watch for details

TO OUR LIFE MEMBERS

To help the lodge finances it would be most appreciated if you could donate
this years Per Capita of \$57.50 by check through PayPal on our website.

If you have already done so, we thank you.

Check Out Our Website for Up to Date Information

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/>

FROM THE WEST

Dear Brethren,

As I have mentioned previously, since completing my third term as Master of this Lodge, I have been able to devote additional time outside the Lodge. My biggest focus here has been the Los Angeles Scottish Rite, where I now serve as an Officer and have been taking part in the ritual.

I originally joined the Pasadena Scottish Rite, back in 2017 and while I did enjoy it immensely, the almost 2 hour drive to get there by 6PM on Friday evenings and my commitments as Master, vastly reduced the amounts of my visits there, with my finally making the switch to the LASR during the summer of 2022.

While going through the degrees at Pasadena, the Guthrie OK Scottish Rite was brought up several times as the Valley best known for both performing all 29 degrees and doing the best job at ritual. Needless to say, when the LASR offered me, 5 other Officers and a Candidate the opportunity to attend the Annual Spring Reunion at Guthrie from April 8 to April 10, I jumped on it immediately.

There was just one minor hiccup in the planned trip, as I soon learned that I would have to share my room, shower, and bathroom facilities. This quickly took me back to 1978, when I had the chance to attend Cambridge University in England, for a summer educational program offered by UCLA, where I was a student. I was totally determined to go but backed out when I learned of a similar shared facility scenario. I have always regretted that decision.

With the upcoming trip to Guthrie, I now had the chance to redeem myself for my very bad move of not going to Cambridge. Now armed with my Masonic values, it was actually no problem to give up my previously required privacy. Besides that, being exposed to perhaps the finest Scottish Rite ritual being performed in this country was truly a moving experience that will long be etched in my Masonic memory.

If you think that you might be interested in Scottish Rite Masonry as well, the LASR will be having their Spring reunion during the weekend of 4/29/22 and is still seeking out Candidates.

Looking forward to seeing you in Lodge and perhaps at the Los Angeles Scottish Rite!!!

Fraternally,
Steve Resnick, P.M.
Senior Warden



A ZOOM MEETING YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS!

California Masonic Outreach Services (MOS)

What you need to know about this amazing benefit

Monday, May 9 @ 7pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Click the Link Above or Enter the Meeting and ID Below into the Zoom App!

Meeting ID: 848 7267 5107

Passcode: 220568

CAMILLE SALINAS MSW

LODGE & OUTREACH EDUCATOR

Masonic family members can access a variety of resources to address their needs:

- **Information and referral services**

MOS can recommend helpful services and resources right in your own community, including legal aid, employment support, programs for special needs children, food stamps and other public assistance, and support for economic issues, such as foreclosure.

- **Care management**

For families who require additional support, MOS care managers can provide ongoing care management for as long as needed. We work with you to develop a care plan that is flexible and specific to your situation, including home visits and hands-on help connecting to local resources.

- **Financial assistance**

In certain situations, Masonic Family Outreach Services can provide one-time financial support for eligible Masons and their wife or widow. This support is offered as a bridge to self-sufficiency, and as part of a larger care plan.

THE 100 CORNER

Answer to April question:

When was the Hundred Years War fought, who fought in it, and who won? It was a series of battles between England and France that occurred between 1337 and 1453. At stake was the French crown, which was claimed by both the English (House of Plantagenet) and the French (House of Valois), although a number of other countries and powers became involved. The French ultimately prevailed.

Question:

What is Lawler's Law in basketball?

Editor's note: The 100 Corner will be, for most of 2022, an ongoing feature in the Trestleboard. It is designed to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Ionic-Composite Lodge. A grand celebration of this occasion will occur on November 19, 2022. Save the date.

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. 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.





Batter Up!

**Be a Supporter by Funding a Child's Mitt
For the 2022 Masons4Mitts Fundraiser
supporting the LA Dodgers Dreamteam Program**

For each \$20 donation a quality baseball glove will be provided to a needy youth in the LA Dodgers Dreamteam program. This program is more than just baseball and softball. Kids and parents attend programs about leadership, teamwork, health, safety, finances and good citizenship.

Support your lodge's participation in this great program.

Go to www.masons4mitts.org

Click LA Dodger Logo

Click Media Central Titans

Click Give a Mitt

Click Donate

Contact Bernie Morse at (310)556-4463
if you have any questions.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Joseph Reinke 1
Harold Kirman 2
Robert Sills 2
Robert Gordon 4
Barry Sporn 5
William Bilkiss 11
Peter Kaplan 11
Errol Stambler 12
Evan Weiss 12

Joseph Brewer 13
Mark Crugnale 13
Robert Goldman 13
Richard Kaplan 13
Edward Novshad 14
Stephen Rennick 14
Michael Savage 17
Matthew Rodman 17
Max Solomon 19

Cedric Malambu 20
David Philips 23
Jeffrey Platt 27
Mark Ameli 29
Neil Sherman 29
Dale Effren 30
Zev Vered 30

THINK ABOUT IT

According to a story in the Los Angeles Times, community colleges have a chronic problem with students dropping out because of stresses over trying to maintain a good grade point average (or GPA) while also having to work and/or deal with social or health issues. In an effort to maintain enrollment, they are now offering students an option to forego a letter grade and just be judged as having passed or not passed a particular course. Furthermore, the student can delay his or her decision as to which system (letter grade or pass/no pass) to use until the last day of class instruction. This grading method was originally introduced to deal with the COVID pandemic, but it is now a permanent change in community college practices.

The Times story began by describing the plight of a 20-year old man who had to take a biology course in order to fulfill the requirement to transfer to a 4-year university. In this case, he wanted to obtain a bachelor's degree in political science at the University of California at Berkeley. However, biology was clearly not a subject in which he excelled and a low grade would adversely impact his GPA and his prospects of being accepted at Berkeley as well as his underlying anxiety and depression. For him, the ability to opt for a pass grade made a big difference in his decision to stay at the community college.

While I do have sympathy for his plight, I am more concerned about how the entire post-high school educational system in California will be affected by this policy. Allegedly the

pass/no pass grading system will not be available for courses that would be critical to a student's ultimate major, but it is not clear what these precise restrictions are or why these particular ones were created. In fact, if specific courses are not deemed to be important, why are they even in the curriculum?

The various University of California and California State University campuses have already decided to abandon SAT scores when considering high school applicants for admission, relying on what they claim is a better standard, GPAs. Now they will have to decide which community college transfer applicants to accept without the benefit of complete GPAs. It is likely that the pass/no pass option will be exercised only by students who are doing less well than they hoped. While some may employ it only to protect a very high GPA by avoiding a B grade, many may be on the border of failing. How is an Admissions Committee to know which is the case? If a student is expected to master particular courses, why make evidence of such mastery more obscure? Are we even going to see the pass or no pass criterion become the standard of grading throughout our entire educational system?

Life creates stressful situations for all of us. When will our educational system accept this fact and let students learn how to handle it instead of lowering expectations?

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/>

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

Len Cohen

Home with several medical problems

Earl Hellum

Home with long-standing medical problems

David Philips

At Masonic Home in Covina; has some medical problems

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

Officers Needed

We currently have openings for 3 officers: Senior Deacon, Marshal, and Chaplain. 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.

2022 OFFICERS

Master – Jacob Gershbock

Marshal –

Senior Warden – Steve Resnick, P.M. (Sheelah)

Senior Steward – Varun Dadabhoy

Junior Warden – Jeffrey Bear, P.M. (Trisha)

Junior Steward –

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 – Kyle Ware