

JUNE 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

As you should all be aware by now, our old building at 1122 La Cienega Blvd. has been sold. However, we will still be meeting there for the remainder of the month of June. I want to invite everyone to come to our final stated meeting in our old lodge on June 6, and even more to our final degree conferral at the La Cienega lodge, which will be the second Monday of June, on the 13th. We will be having either one or possibly two first degrees that evening (depending on how the lodge ballots on the second application at the June stated meeting). I encourage everyone to bring your Mason friends, your old brethren, and see if you can help get someone else to lodge who might wish to attend but no longer drives at night.

At my installation, I stated that my theme for this year is Rebirth; a new beginning to hundred-year-old story. This Lodge is more than the building it has inhabited for the last several decades. It is the people and the stories, the history and the legacy, the charity and the brotherhood that span the years and which endure throughout time that make our lodge what it has been, is, and will continue to be in the future. I know that there are apprehensions about our move. I know that there are concerns, ranging from parking issues to the fear that being a renter lodge will cause us to lose our unique identity. I wish that you could all see what I have already seen of some of the great history that our assistant secretary and effective lodge historian, Wor. Tim Shiner, has already put together. Large segments of it will be featured at our 100th anniversary Gala on the 19th of November, at which I hope to see as many of you as can possibly attend. Formal invitations will be forthcoming through the mail at the tail end of August or early September. In the meantime, I want to assure you once again that this is by no means the end. For the first time in years, we have active prospects lined up, we have applicants ready for degrees, and we have EA's and FC's getting back into coaching and looking to get back into Masonry and advance in their Masonic journeys. Practical issues like parking have

practical solutions, and I will be personally looking into several possible solutions when I return to Los Angeles at the end of May.

The age of the mega-lodges is over. The advent of other forms of social networking and the decline of fraternal organizations in general makes that a certainty. I do not believe we will in my lifetime ever again be a lodge of 1400 or more members, but then, we never were in my lifetime to begin with. And frankly, that is okay. It isn't the number of members on the roster that defines the worth of a lodge, but the strength of the ties that bind the members one to the next. Masonry at this time needs to be the beacon of Light it was always intended to be - a way for men to learn to improve themselves. To learn how to exist and speak to others who differ in opinion, sect, race, religion or creed, but who share a love of virtue and a belief that we can, by constant, conscious acts of brotherly love, relief, and truth, slowly but surely help the lives of others, both Masons and non-Masons alike. We show the world that civility between those who disagree is possible, even in this highly divisive time and social climate. We show people that you can talk, discuss, and even heatedly argue a point, but still be willing to accept the vote of the majority and abide by their decision peaceably at the end, and embrace even those with whom you were arguing before heading out the door. Some people say that Masonry isn't relevant anymore. I say that those people don't understand just who and what we are. Let's show them brethren - together. Remember my brothers - home is not a place; it's a feeling that we create by being together. Join us and come home. We'll be there, ready to welcome you back where you belong.

Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock
Master

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 6, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Stated Meeting + Dinner
Catered by Rut's Hawaiian BBQ
Hawaiian BBQ Chicken & Teriyaki Beef
7:15pm Dinner / 8:00pm Stated Meeting
Please RSVP by 12pm on Friday 6/3.

RSVP to: brokyleware@gmail.com

*This is our last Stated @ the Ionic Composite Building.
As such, dinner is being offer at no cost to you, but RSVP is required!*



JUNE 7TH, 2022 7:00PM (IN PERSON)

First Degree Practice

JUNE 13TH, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

First Degree

JUNE 20, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

**Executive Committee Planning meeting
for Move and future 2022 Events
All Masons Invited**

JUNE 27, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Dark

JULY 4, 2022 7:15PM

Dark for Independence Day

JULY 11, 2022 7:15PM

Stated Meeting
First meeting at **Liberal Arts** location
2244 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90064
Inspector Visitation
Golden Veterans Award Presentation to Marshall Krupp
Ladies Invited
Valet Parking will be available

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

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,

Don't know about you, but I am finding it harder and harder to read the newspaper these days. 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 about mass shootings, the war in the Ukraine, climate change issues, etc. 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.

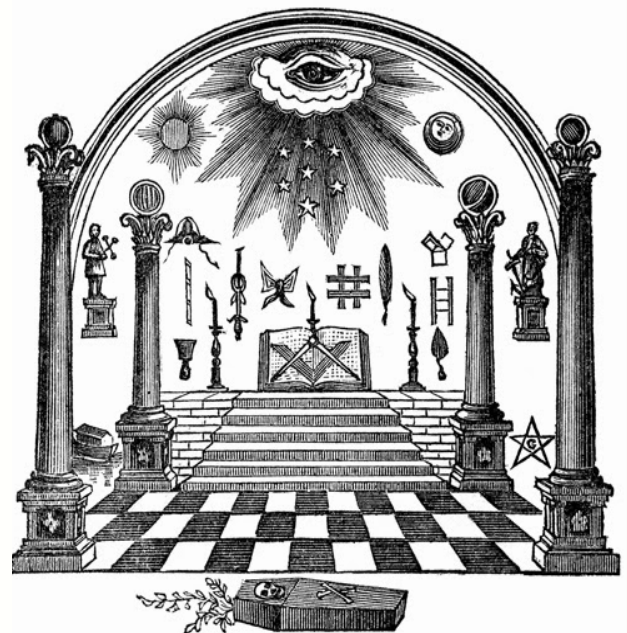
Fortunately, there is also a positive news source that I can always turn to. This would just happen to be any news sources regarding Masonry, whether it be the California Freemason magazine, the Scottish Rite Journal, or a communication from the Grand Lodge of California.

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, P.M.
Senior Warden



THE 100 CORNER

Answer to May question:

What is Lawler's Law in basketball? Ralph Lawler was the basketball announcer for the San Diego, and then the Los Angeles, Clippers from 1978 to 2011. He made the observation that "First to 100 wins. It's the law." It turns out that the first team to score 100 points in an NBA game wins over 90% of the time. The observation became known as Lawler's Law.

Question:

Why should we consider Winnie the Pooh in this column?

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.



MASONS NIGHT AT DODGER STADIUM

Thursday, September 22, 2022

LA Dodgers vs Arizona Diamondbacks

**We will be purchasing a block of seats for our
lodge after the June 6 stated meeting**

Reserved Level Seats near 1st Base \$35

RSVP: Bernie Morse (310)704-2262 by June 6



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.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

David Golde	02 Lazlo Borsai Jr.	12 Sol Marco	22
Robert Abelson	02 Robert Goldman	13 Daryl Bristol	23
Henry Koffman	03 Joseph Mayesh	14 Lloyd Robinson	24
Irving Kierman	05 Axel Del Cid	15 Norman Feinstein	26
Jacob Gershbock	08 Don Wijesinghe	18 Justin Koretz	27
Ernest Dancy	09 Martin Levine	18 Milton Berman	28
Yuriy Kotlyar	09 Robert Black	18 Aaron Ganz	29
Trevor Nathaniel	10 Hyman Walter	19 D'Angelo Jones	30
Alvin Livingston	12 Robert Thomason	21 Howard Fabrick	30

THINK ABOUT IT

It is yet another election season and politicians around the country who are seeking to retain their offices or obtain somebody else's are trying to convince the electorate about how concerned they are over the current state of affairs, especially inflation and the plight of poorer people. However, something seems to happen to them once they get into a position of power. For example, no matter how much surplus has been collected in California from various taxes and fees, there is never a shortage of ideas in Sacramento about how to raise more.

Since 2015, California has had programs for people who work but make less than \$30,000 per year to apply for tax credits. These are known as the California Earned Income Tax Credit and the Young Child Tax Credit. These programs can return hundreds, or even thousands, of dollars to a person. In principle, this money would be helpful for these individuals to get by in troubled economic times. All one has to do is to file the appropriate forms along with his or her tax return. These tax credits have been described by the governor as "the largest anti-poverty cash assistance program in the country".

However, there is also another program in California that allows the state to divert money from any tax return, including those derived from federal tax payments, to pay outstanding debts owed to any local or state agency, even parking tickets. In 2021, California diverted a total of \$92 million, of which \$35 million came from low income taxpayers. This money is even taken from people who are already paying back

these debts through other channels. The policy remains in effect for 20 years after the debt is incurred. Interestingly, the statute of limitations for consumer debt in California is four years.

Various state officials have been approached to see if they can at least suspend this diversion program in the short term. While they have all paid lip service to the problem, as of this time no state lawmaker has taken up the task of writing the appropriate legislation and no elected state officer has provided public input to push such a suspension or even to discuss it publicly. In fact, I only learned about all of this because of a single article in the newspaper.

Government is typically viewed as a non-profit entity, often as a very inefficient one with regard to how it spends money. However, it does appear that, at least for the state of California, it is relentless in its ability to collect, and then hang on to, the profits that it seems to be making.

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