

AUGUST 2022

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

2244 Westwood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064

(310) 657-2628 / ioniccomposite.com

Dear Brethren,

It is with mixed feelings that I report the first meeting of our Lodge in its new location at Liberal Arts. On the one hand, we had our familiar altar, our own pillars flanking the preparation room, our Senior and Junior Wardens' pulpits. We had so much that was familiar, and yet, it was not only the room that was different. I am sad to have to report that there were a sizable number of things missing, for a reason that I am loathe but duty-bound to express.

On at least two occasions during the process of our move, items were either moved or taken from our Lodge back at La Cienega by a person or persons unknown. Unlike the thefts from the beginning of the year, when burglars literally broke a hole in the roof of the lodge room and climbed down to steal from us, this time, there was no evidence of a break in. I have, of course, checked with all of our officers, our handyman Isaias, and even the new owner of the building, who in turn checked with his people, but none of them had moved or taken the items. Thus, it is with a heavy heart that I am forced to relate the theft of parts of our history. The suitcase in which we kept our officers collars and jewels, as well as our Marshall's baton was taken, as was the large Masonic Bible donated to us by Worshipful Sol Marco. Inside the Bible at the time were our gilded Square and Compass. Our engraved common gavel was taken, along with both of our Tiler's swords. The box of wooden working tools donated to the lodge by Worshipful Bernie Morse was also taken. While all of these losses hurt, as much for the loss of history and sentiment as for the significant monetary value (replacing a single officer's collar of the type we had costs \$175 before adding in the cost of the jewel, tax, and shipping, and 13 were taken), the worst losses were losses of history. Our original Ionic silver Square and Compass, along with the original Ionic officers' jewels, which had been saved and framed by Worshipful Bob Sills, were taken right off the wall where they hung, and, in some ways most painful of all, Most Worshipful Mel Nahin's PGM apron was stolen right out of

its display frame which we had in the prep room. These are items that literally cannot be replaced, for any price.

I promised when we voted to sell the building and in my articles since then that we would not abandon our history as we moved, and while I personally am doing my best to hold to that, I nevertheless feel like I have failed in that trust. What bothers me most is that if one considers the list of items taken, most if not all would only be of value to other Masons. Who but a Mason would need – or take – a box of wooden Masonic working tools? Even the thieves from the start of the year had no interest in MW Mel's apron, taking only his golden jewel. Who would steal one Holy Bible, while leaving several other holy writings sitting within easy reach? I don't know if these thefts were done for monetary gain or from sheer spite, but I know that whoever did this stole a great deal of history from us, and for that, I am both sorry and furious.

If by any chance, you have any information on where any of these items are, please contact me or Worshipful Bernie immediately. In the meantime, rest assured that we are taking steps to make sure that nothing else is lost during the final phases of our move. By the same token, remember that for the seed of some of the great trees of the world, it takes the intense power of a forest fire to induce germination, and that while the old trees may burn above them, their buried seeds sprout anew, and the forest endures. So too shall we.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock
Master

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 1, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Stated Meeting - **Casual Night (no suits!)**
2244 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90064
Dinner by Poquito Mas - \$20

Please RSVP by 12pm on 7/31 - brokyleware@gmail.com / 323-300-4609

AUGUST 8, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Entered Apprentice Refresher Night
All EA's invited! Coaching available

AUGUST 15, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Fellowcraft Refresher Night
FC's Invited! Coaching available

AUGUST 22, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Master Mason Rusty Trowel Night
Master Masons invited to refresh on all things Masonic
Get back to lodge!

AUGUST 29, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Executive Committee meeting

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

DARK FOR LABORDAY

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Stated Meeting

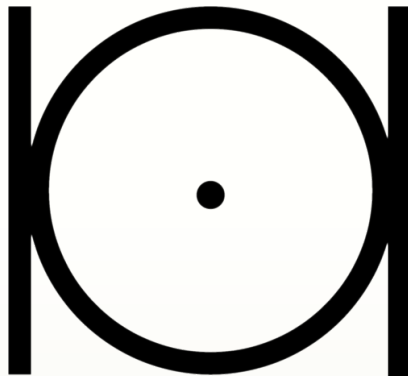


ALL MEETINGS ARE NOW HELD AT
LIBERAL ARTS LODGE
2244 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90064



NEW MASONIC-RELATED MOVIE

If you get Starz check out 12 Mighty Orphans. It is based on the true story of Rusty Russell a football coach who coached a football team in 1938 from residents of the Ft. Worth Texas Masonic Home for Children.



SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2022 6:00PM

IONIC COMPOSITE NO.520

100th Anniversary Gala

1922 - 2022

At the Del Rey Yacht Club

**Choice of Prime Rib, Salmon or Vegetarian
\$19.22/person**

**Watch for your formal invitation.
For any questions or suggestions contact:
Bernie Morse PM (310)556-4463 or
Ron Koretz PM (818)360-2708**

Black Tie Optional



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,

Well, it is now official, as we had our first Stated Meeting at our new Westwood Boulevard location. Except for a few behind the scenes issues, the evening went off flawlessly. I can truthfully say that I already feel right at home in our new venue.

It was additionally a noteworthy evening, as we read the affiliation applications for both Worshipful Chay Wright and Brother Daniel Ben Ari. Worshipful Chay is a Past Master from Beverly Hills Lodge #528, while Daniel was also an Officer there. I have shared time with these two gentlemen, both at Annual Communication and Master & Warden retreats and have always enjoyed their company immensely. I know that both Chay and Daniel will be awesome additions to our Lodge and will be solid candidates for leadership roles, should they so desire.

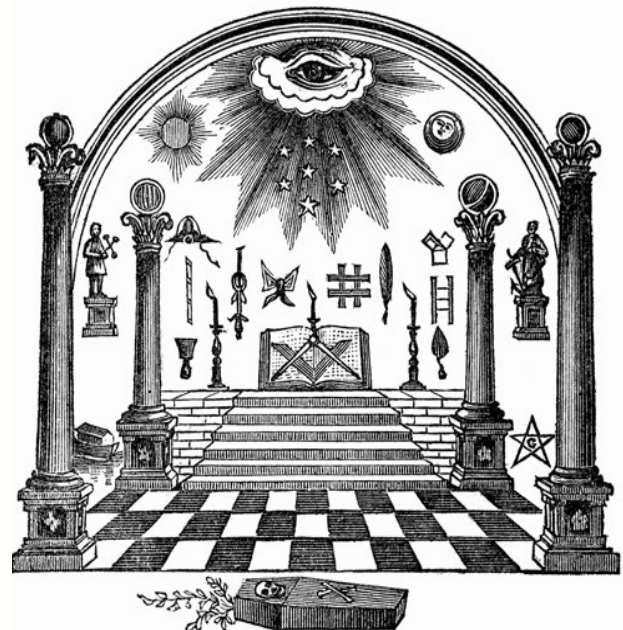
As I mentioned last month, we also had a double 1st Degree for Thomas Ortiz and Eduardo Cortez. Having recently seen these new Brothers at either our Stated Meeting, Grand Master's Breakfast or elsewhere in the Masonic world, it certainly does appear that they are both committed to making that ascent to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Eduardo has even already attended his first Table Lodge at Santa Monica Palisades Lodge #307. I know that he thoroughly enjoyed this event as I was sitting next to him the whole time. Should probably mention that I had a great time as well. But then it would be pretty hard

to find any Mason that was not enamored with the Table Lodge experience.

If you have not been to Ionic Composite Lodge recently, I strongly urge you to come and check out the vibe of our new Lodge and the attendance of these new and exciting Brothers.

Fraternally,
Steve Resnick, P.M.
Senior Warden



THE 100 CORNER

Answer to July question:

What is the Hotter 'n Hell Hundred? This is an annual bicycle race held in Wichita Falls, Texas every summer and attracts thousands of bicyclists. It was initially created to coincide with the Wichita Falls centennial in 1982 by Roby Christie, who was a member of the local bicycle club. It was intended to be a grueling experience, so summer was selected (when the temperature would be 100° or higher) and the race is 100 miles long. In some years, it features the Hundred Pace Group, individuals who want to complete the race in less than 5 hours.

Question:

What are “Bens”?

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 (black tie optional) of this occasion will occur on November 19, 2022 and will be held at the Del Rey Yacht Club in Marina Del Rey. The cost for this dinner and evening, which will be attended by the Grand Master, will be \$ 19.22 per person. Save the date and we hope to see you there.

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.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

THINK ABOUT IT

I first talked to Irv Kierman in 2015.

At that time, I was making phone calls to sick brethren and Irv had just been released from the hospital. Irv was already in his 90's, but you would not know that over the phone. He was mentally very sharp. He could talk about anything and asked very specific questions. Over the next six years, I spoke with him every month or two and, along the way, discovered his remarkable Masonic history. His father, David, was one of the early members of Ionic Lodge and Irv followed him, being raised in 1947. His son Steve continued the Kierman legacy, being raised in 1972. All three were raised by Isadore Moore. Because of his age and some infirmities, Irv did not attend lodge in his later years, which is why most of us never met him in person. However, in March 2022 we had the unusual privilege of awarding Irv his 75- year Diamond Jubilee pin and awarding Steve his 50-year Golden Veteran pin on the same day at the lodge. Even then, Irv provided a clear vision of what life in general, and Masonry in particular, meant to him.

Unfortunately, Irv died on July 4, 2022. His family requested a Masonic funeral, so several of us attended that event a few days later. It was at that time that we discovered what a profound Mason Irv had been, thanks to relatives, friends, neighbors, and clergy who spoke about their interactions with him. While I cannot begin to do justice to everything that they said with these few paragraphs, let me try to mention some highlights.

Irv and his wife Jo were married for 77 years. They lived in the same house for most of that time. That house became a welcoming home for countless cousins (including some whom I thought were likely related by acceptance rather than genetics) and others who came to visit Los Angeles for various amounts of time. Whatever somebody asked from them, it was just done without question. Virtually all of those who spoke referred to him and "Irv and Jo" because the two were inseparable in their minds. He supported a number of charitable organizations, doing so in a private fashion without any particular notoriety because these were all good causes. This support was more than just financial; he and Jo also provided their time and leadership. Irv had a successful business; in fact, I discovered that his company had manufactured the ejection seats that I sat on when I was in the Air Force. He was a student of history and several people noted that it was appropriate that he died on the Fourth of July, because that was the day that his favorite president, Thomas Jefferson, also passed away. Irv was a role model for numerous younger people, inspiring them with his values of honesty, reliability, humility, and optimism.

The funeral service led all of the Masons in attendance to independently realize that Irv Kierman represented what Masonry tries to create. Coming to lodge is not what ultimately makes a man a Mason; it is simply living a life practicing Masonic values and doing so without even thinking about it.

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

Recently hospitalized with pneumonia.

Earl Hellum

Home with long-standing 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