

SEPTEMBER 2022

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

2244 Westwood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064

(310) 657-2628 / ioniccomposite.com

Dear Brethren,

Yesterday, August 23, 2022, was an emotional day for me. It was the day that the vast majority of our old Lodge's accoutrements were placed in storage. Not the ritual paraphernalia, of course, but much of our artwork, most of the upstairs memorabilia from Most Worshipful Mel Nahin, and even our freestanding dais chairs, such as the ones in the East, West, and South. It was, at the end, especially hard to watch the G in the East being taken down and wrapped up, as well as the Point Within a Circle that graced our Northern wall. It was hard to see the Lodge room no longer look like a meeting place for Masons, but just a large, empty hall where we once had been.

But then something happened that gave me hope. Brother Daniel Ben-Ari, who lately affiliated with our Lodge, finally agreed to commit to qualifying for Junior Warden for next year, and indicated that he would likewise make the progressive commitment to becoming Senior Warden and Master in due course. I had asked him if he was willing to do so a while back, and he had said he would get back to me. During our conversation last night, he asked me an interesting question to help him decide - one which bears mentioning here. He asked me if it was worth it, becoming Master? If it was actually something worth doing, instead of spending the time traveling to other Lodges and focusing on just being a Mason?

I told him that I was probably atypical in my own Masonic Journey, and that because of the nature of this, my first year as Master, it made things even more complicated. At the same time, however, I told him that it was most definitely worth doing in several respects. First of all, you find out just what kind of a person and leader you are when you put on that top hat and pick up the gavel in the East. The Oriental chair is a crucible, and in many respects, it burns away some of the masks we wear, distilling us down to our essential selves. The weight of command, of leadership, of responsibility, is such that you find out if and how you can command, lead, or even inspire others.

I also pointed out that being in the East offers you a chance to help guide the Lodge, especially now during these times of change. To preserve that which is best about us, to maintain old traditions while starting new ones, and to set an example for the next generation of Masons to come. Over the course of this month, for example, I instituted a set of refresher courses for EAs, FCs, and Master Masons, to help those who hadn't been in Lodge for some time to reacquire themselves with the craft and resume their journeys. I'm glad to say that we actually had some decent success in these endeavors, and therefore it is something I intend to plan on doing again in the future. I also have an upcoming Prospect BBQ which I am hosting at my home, in conjunction with both Liberal Arts Lodge and Culver City Foshay Lodge, and I am proud to say that we have 7 prospects from our Lodge alone who indicated that they would come. Another new tradition in the making.

Finally, I told him about my theme and some of my plans for next year. If you're interested in hearing about them or helping out with them, come to the planning meeting on September 19 at 7:15 pm and you'll hear all about it.

Brethren, one chapter of our Journey together is finally ending. It's time to start the next one in earnest. See you in Lodge.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock
Master

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 5, 2022

Dark in observance of Labor Day

SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Stated Meeting
Dinner Details are Forthcoming.
Keep an eye out for our email blast!

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Planning Meeting for 2023 Masonic Year - open to all

SEPTEMBER 26, 2022

Dark for Rosh HaShana (Jewish New Year)

OCTOBER 3, 2022 7:15PM (IN PERSON)

Stated Meeting



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



**WE HAVE BEEN REDISTRICTED & ARE NOW PART OF
THE 626TH MASONIC DISTRICT. OUR NEW INSPECTOR IS
WOR. JHAIRO ECHEVARRIA P.M.**

September 22 Masons Night at Dodger Stadium

There are 2 tickets still available for Masons Night on September 22. Seats are in the Reserved level near 1st base. Cost is \$35/ticket.

If interested contact Bernie Morse at (310)704-2262 by September 10th.



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY 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,

Come to the Lodge, you will not be disappointed. Instead you will be refreshed and nourished in both mind and body. Words simply cannot describe what Masonry has done for me in my relatively short eight-year Masonic life. Such concepts as fraternity, civility, charity and gaining knowledge sound like some very good things to aspire to. If only we had one stop shopping for all of those, life would be so easy. Hey, wait a minute, all of these things are available right her at the Lodge. Luckily, I figured that out just a brief time after my first attendance at the Lodge.

I also happen to be a sucker for pizza and scotch, to which I was first exposed when I was obligated as an EAM. I will never forget Worshipful Kerin calling me over to his side and pouring me a shot of whisky to toast my admission into the Fraternity. This was followed by pizza. I surely thought that I had entered nirvana. Yes, a very memorable evening both for its Masonic as well as gastronomic delights.

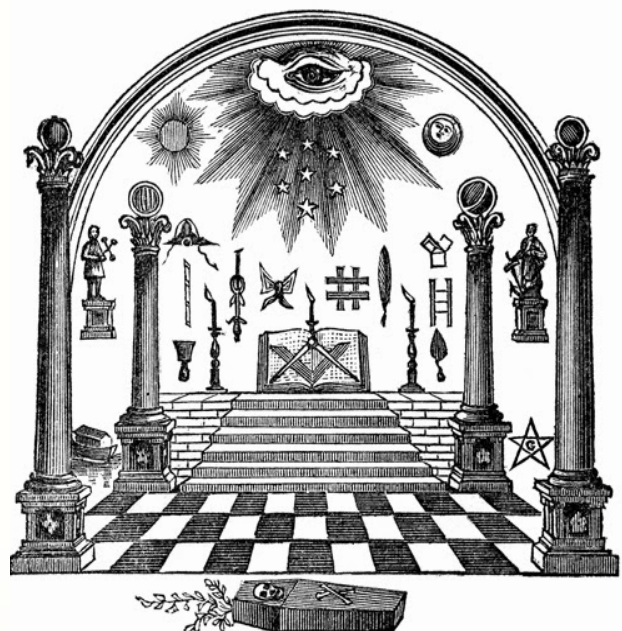
Okay, so while pizza and scotch are some very good things, we also get a chance to learn and practice civility. Again, this was one of my early exposures at the Lodge, when I was lucky enough to attend MW Russ Charvonja's talk on civility. It was a real pleasure to be in the company of a Past Grand Master and be exposed to ways to subdue my passions and improve myself in Masonry. I still use those tools every day, especially while commuting on our lovely but very crowded streets and freeways. Thanks to MW Russ's guidance, driving, as well as life in general, are now much more enjoyable.

We all want to be charitable individuals, but it is not always simple to find the way. Fortunately, the Lodge again makes this very easy for us. We

have constant exposure to simple and not very painful ways to make contributions to Masons 4 Mitts, Masonic Homes, other Masonic charities and various non-Masonic ones as well. What could be more fun than attending a Dodger Game, or winning some Dodger memorabilia, while also supporting this worthy charity. I should also mention that our Lodge has a long history of being awarded certificates during Annual Communication, for 100% officer giving.

Yes, we are very lucky indeed to have the Lodge for one stop shopping on all things necessary to be a Mason and to nourish both our bodies and souls. I guess that is why I am always there. You should be also.

Fraternally,
Steve Resnick, P.M.
Senior Warden



THE 100 CORNER

Answer to August question:

What are “Bens”? Bens are \$100 bills and are so-called because Benjamin Franklin’s face is on them.

Question:

“A coward dies a hundred deaths” is a misquote from what literary work?

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.



Last Call for Masons4Mitts Donations

Campaign closes September 15



**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.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Arthur Vanetek 5

Shaharam Namdaraghi 9

Daniel Ferszt 10

Roberto Morales 11

Patrick Levy 12

Allen Steiner 12

Sanford Paris 14

Arnold Gooze 16

Seymour Roberts 17

Bernhard Morse 18

Barry Hinden 21

Jack Revel 21

Ken Duke 24

Stanley Getz 24

Ehron VonAllen 27

THINK ABOUT IT

It is not unusual to pick up a newspaper and read that some well-known person has passed away. Most of us will just file that information away or, at most, stop and reflect for a moment on how we remember him or her. Almost all of the time, by the next day, we have already gone back to our day-to-day business.

Thus, I was impressed with the impact that was felt all around the country when it was announced on Thursday evening, August 4, 2022, that Vin Scully had died. It was as if all of us had suddenly been stopped in our tracks. People who were not even sports fans felt the loss. Radio and television stations replayed many of his calls ("We're going to Chicago", "The impossible has happened", Sandy Koufax's final strikeout in his perfect game, Clayton Kershaw's no hitter, and, of course, "It's time for Dodger baseball"). Many people, including myself, knew ahead of time that he was seriously ill and the announcement did not come as a surprise. Nevertheless, as I am sure it did for millions of others, it brought tears to my eyes and a lump to my throat when I heard it.

This outpouring of attention did not happen because Vin Scully had made some singular contribution to the world of sports or entertainment or science or politics. Unlike what happens when other celebrities have died, the conversation was not about some movie that he or she had been in or some historical event that he or she had caused. In fact, most of the expressions related to how Vin Scully had made people feel. Vin Scully was a comfort zone for them; his 67 years of baseball broadcasting was a constant in Los Angeles and his stories became warm memories throughout the United

States, and perhaps throughout the world. He was the embodiment of Maya Angelou's famous 2014 quote: "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

On Saturday, August 6th, a colleague of mine in Baltimore Maryland whom I only occasionally see texted me asking how I was and telling me that he thought of me when he heard about the death of Vin Scully (since I like baseball and live in southern California). It was a striking example of what Vin Scully was all about, namely the importance of all of the people who interacted with him on a regular (or even irregular) basis. Likewise, we need to treat those who interact with us the same way. All of them deserve our attention and our care. Each of their lives is important and should be so recognized. We owe them humility, respect, and love.

For me and for all of the others who knew of (albeit not knowing) Vin Scully, it was not that some celebrity had died. Rather, it was that a member of our family had and we all felt the loss personally.

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/>

Per the proclamation of the Grand Master at the beginning of this year, our Public Schools Month has been moved to September. This is a chance for us to celebrate the start of the new school year, and to support the public schools in our community with volunteer or charity opportunities.

As part of Public Schools Month, the local San Gabriel Valley Public Education Advisory Committee (PEAC) has scheduled a celebration event in the region. It will actually take place in October, in Altadena. Here are the details (also attached):

Thursday October 6th at 8:30am – 9:30am at

Jackson STEM Dual Language Magnet School

593 W Woodbury Road, Altadena, CA 91001

Pasadena Unified School District

Principal: Rita Exposito

If it is not too late, hopefully you can add this event to your upcoming September Trestle Boards. You can use the simple flyer attached, or just include the information as you see it here.

We would like to drive as much attendance as possible to the event. It is important for Masons to show our support, and have a presence in the community. Since this will be our first time doing school events in two years, it is a good reason to celebrate. The AGL and District Inspectors have been notified separately. There will also be direct invitations sent from our GL Communications team, with a link to an RSVP page.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments (to me only, no need to copy all). Thank you, brothers, for your support and leadership. I appreciate it. And I hope to see some of you at this event.

Fraternally,

Greg Cherry

California Masonic Foundation

Director of Philanthropy

Mobile: (310) 968-8369

www.masonicfoundation.org



BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

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

Deceased Brethren

Leonard Cohen, P.M. - Entered into Rest on August 15th, 2022
1993 Master and Officer's Coach
Hiram Awardee
36 Years of Masonic Service

Soft and safe to the my brother be thy resting place.

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 626th Masonic District
Jhairo Echevarria P.M.

Junior Deacon – Luis Tananta (Maria)

Trestleboard Layout – Kyle Ware