

NOVEMBER 2022

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

2244 Westwood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064

(310) 657-2628 / ioniccomposite.com

Dear Brethren,

As I mentioned in the last Trestleboard, our Jewish members recently celebrated the start of the new Jewish year. During the first month of the Hebrew calendar, there are several holidays, three of which are major and one of which is often considered much less significant. It is this last one that I wish to mention. It is called Simchat Torah, and is basically the day on which the final readings of the Torah are read, immediately followed by the reading of the first verses of the beginning of the Torah. The Torah, for reference, is the collective name given to the first five books of the Bible (aka the 5 books of Moses: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy). Over the course of the year, the entirety of these books are read, portioned out week by week, and on Simchat Torah we both finish the last chapters of the last book and then immediately begin the first chapter of the first book all over again.

The reason I mention this is that Simchat Torah is about cycles and continuity. Much like the concept of rebirth, which is of course my theme for the year, it is a celebration of the end of one cycle and the beginning of a new one. The important thing to note here is that there is no major pause between the ending and the beginning; it goes from one reading right to the next. Likewise, we continue our journeys from stage to stage, without pause. There are many symbolic reasons for this, but one I would like to focus on is that it teaches us that despite returning again and again to the same texts, to the same source material, there is always something more to learn, something more to discover, and something more to connect to. We are not the same from year to year, and thus, our understanding changes over time. Though the words of the text – be it religious texts like the Torah or be it the ritual texts and ceremonies of Masonry – do not themselves change from year to year, our reading of that material and our understanding of it does.

One of the key yet unwritten lessons of

Masonry is that there is no one true way. That is why our ancient landmarks insist that we be bound only to those moral laws upon which all reasonable men can agree, rather than to any one sectarian opinion or interpretation. Masonry acknowledges that truth can be found in many places and from many points of view, and that no one has an absolute monopoly on the truth save for the Great Architect himself. As we move from one cycle to the next, and as we return to where we began, we do so differently than before. Our core values – the texts, if you will – remain the same, but our reading of those texts and our interpretations of how best to learn from them can and will change over time. We are not doomed to repeat the exact same thing over and over again, but rather we are given the opportunity to grow and evolve even as we return once more to the familiar and well-known.

The name Simchat Torah literally translates as “Joy of the Torah”, because we take joy in the continuity of the cycle it represents. We dance with the scrolls, hugging them closely to our bodies and parading around with them in song. We do so in acknowledgement of great gift we have been given; the chance to return to the beginning with fresh eyes and understanding, with new hope and vigor, and with the intention that we should never stop learning and growing. As we finally approach the date of our 100th Anniversary Gala, and as we approach the end of this year, I hope that we can all recommit ourselves to taking advantage of the chance that we are being given to improve ourselves and our communities with the light of Masonry. May we, each one of us, be granted a renewed sense of purpose to extend and embody those teachings that we hold dear in our lives, and thus help others to see the light and joy that we as Masons have to show to the world. I look forward to seeing you all in Lodge and our Gala Celebration.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 7, 2022 7:15PM

Stated Meeting

Dinner by Poquito Mas

\$20 for Dinner.

RSVP required for dinner. All Masons welcome to the Stated Meeting

RSVP to brokyleware@gmail.com no later than Friday!

NOVEMBER 14, 2022 7:15PM

3rd Degree Practice for Past Master's 3rd Degree.

NOVEMBER 19, 2022 6:00PM

100th Anniversary Gala at Del Rey Yacht Club!

NOVEMBER 21ST, 2022 6:15PM

Past Master's 3rd Degree for Bro. Koorosh Moshtahedian

(Catered dinner will be served in advance of degree, which will start at 7:15) pm)

NOVEMBER 28, 2022 7:15PM

Office Setup and Art Hanging at Lodge

(Come lend a hand and have a say on where to display our historic artwork!)

DECEMBER 5, 2022

Stated Meeting



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



PAST MASTERS NIGHT

For our upcoming Past Masters 3rd Degree Night on Monday, November 21st, we hope to have Past Masters take all the stations in the degree. If you would like to take part in the ritual please contact

Bernie Morse PM at (310)704-2262.



SAVE THE DATE

OUR 101ST ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
TO BE HELD AT LODGE ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10TH AT 6:00PM.
PGM LARRY ADAMSON PRESIDING AS INSTALLING OFFICER.

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

Please return your Gala Invitation response cards as soon as possible!

(Enclose a check payable to Ionic Composite Lodge with the return of your RSVP.)
Space is limited and we need an idea of numbers.

For any other 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,

When I wrote last month, I was very excited due to my upcoming trip to the 173rd Annual Communication at Grand Lodge. Just got back from that yesterday and it was all I was hoping for and more. Through my experiences with now Most Worshipful Randy Brill at last year's Ionic Composite Grand Master's reception, Masters & Wardens retreats and elsewhere in the Masonic world, I always knew him to be extremely entertaining, in addition to his other obvious Masonic attributes. Needless to say, seeing Randy be installed as Grand Master of Masons in California, was of course extremely entertaining and quite a bit different from previous Grand Master installations. This is probably related to the magician & entertainer portion of his very lengthy resume. While no magic was employed during the proceedings, the entertainer was definitely on full display.

If you want to see just how accurate my description of MW Randy's more humorous attributes is, all you have to do is attend his Reception at our Lodge on Monday 3/06/23. If I was you, I'd mark my calendar right now.

Speaking of calendar marking, just check out the events that Worshipful Jacob has in line for us as we head into the Holiday Season.

First of all, we will be having our 100Th Anniversary Gala on Saturday 11/19/22 at the Del Rey Yacht Club. I am very excited about this event both for its implications of having obtained 100 years of history and the very enticing venue of the Del Rey Yacht Club, not to mention that the Grand Master will also be in attendance. Should be an awesome event that you

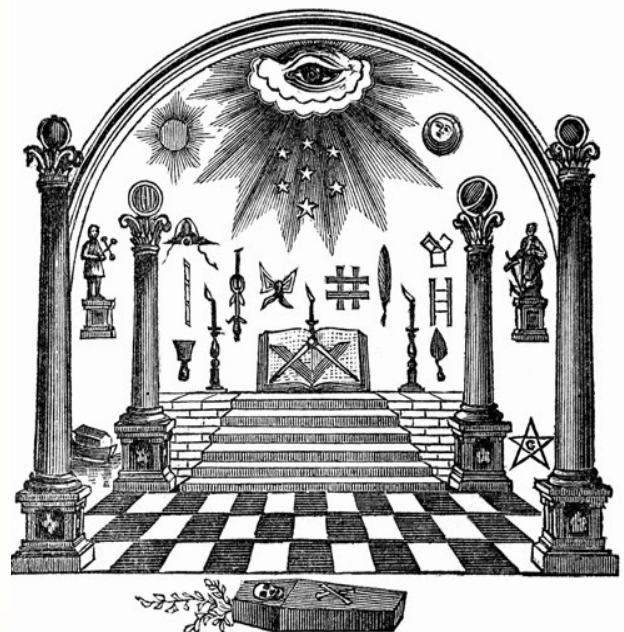
will not want to miss.

On Monday 11/21/22 we will be having a Past Masters 3rd Degree for Brother Koorosh Moshtahedian. I have to admit that this is my first Past Master's Degree and I am really looking forward to seeing it.

Of course, you also will not want to miss our 100th Installation of Officers on Saturday 12/10/22.

Looks like a really nicely rounded lineup of some awesome events as we head into the Holiday season. Looking forward to seeing you in Lodge!!!

Fraternally,
Steve Resnick, P.M.
Senior Warden



THE 100 CORNER

Answer to October question:

How many other 100s have you thought about? There are an unlimited number of answers that could be provided. Some of the ones we thought about were 100% (perfect score or complete total), "100 bottles of beer on the wall", "a coward dies a hundred deaths", "never in a hundred years", centipede, the first 100 days, "You miss 100% of the shots you do not take" (Wayne Gretsky quote), 100 yards (football field), 100 US Senators, 100 yard dash, A Hundred Million Miracles (music from Flower Drum Song), "I've told you a hundred times", and "If you want someone to agree with you 100% of the time, go home and look in the mirror" (Chris Christie quote).

Question:

Have you made your reservation yet for Ionic-Composite's 100th Anniversary celebration?

Editor's note: The 100 Corner will be, for most of 2022, an ongoing feature in the Trestle-board. 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.





Record Set for **Masons4Mitts Contributions**

A new record of \$70,453 (or 3,526 mitts) was set this year for Dodger Dreamteam baseball gloves donated by Masons. Our Media Central Titans team came in 3rd place with \$12,833 (641 gloves).
We want to thank all who contributed.

Bernie Morse PM

Michael Bear PM

Media Central Titans Co-captains

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Louis Dalesandro	3 Sheldon Lodmer	15 Morris Darnov	22
Laurence Friedman	3 Lawrence Lebowsky	16 Bernard Talmas	24
Saul Larner	3 Timothy Shiner	17 Mauricio Leon	25
Matthew Wilson	4 Edward Trabin	19 John Rasor	26
Gene Pira	8 Michael Pecina	21 Zachary Lodmer	30
JohnRobert Wilson	9 Steven Bailin	22	

THINK ABOUT IT

In October 2021, three members of the Los Angeles City Council, Nury Martinez, Kevin DeLeon, and Gil Cedillo, as well as a county labor leader, Ron Herrera, all met privately to discuss the redistricting process. During that conversation, a number of racially sensitive comments were made. Unfortunately for the participants, the conversation was also secretly recorded. That recording was made public about a year later and has created a political firestorm in the city. Large numbers of people and various organizations are calling for the resignation of the three council members; Mr. Herrera had already stepped down from his post. Ms. Martinez first resigned as the president of the council and then resigned her seat. The other two are still members of the council at this time.

Apparently other city council members are planning a series of “reforms”. These include increasing the size of the council, creating a committee to find ways to limit corruption, and to turn the redistricting process over to an independent committee. The state attorney-general has announced plans to investigate the redistricting process. From my perspective, however, all of these proposals focused on redistricting and missed the point of the offenses that had been committed.

It is not clear if these three Latino council members were even considering some illegal way to redistrict. However, that is not what the angry public

response was all about. In fact, if the various racial comments had not been made, I suspect that anybody who heard the discussion would have just viewed it as business as usual between politicians. What created the anger were the words uttered by people who have built their reputations on claiming to bring different racial and ethnic groups together. It turns out that, in their private lives, they are just as racially insensitive as those whom they decry for similar behavior. The words that they used, as distasteful as they may have been, were protected by the principle of free speech. My question from this incident is how many of the legion of these self-righteous detractors would be guilty of the same sin if somebody just secretly followed them around and recorded everything that they said. I do not understand how legislation will fix what people feel or think.

Mr. Cedillo defended himself by denying making any of the comments; he just listened. I wonder how that excuse would be accepted in a Masonic lodge. Our Masonic practice is more than just not doing bad; it also requires us not to tolerate the bad actions of our Masonic colleagues. A long-term solution to eliminating racism will more likely be achieved by setting the example ourselves and expecting similar behavior from others than by creating laws to make it more difficult or even to outlaw 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/>

Los Angeles Masonic Service Bureau Presents The Annual Clothing Drive for the Midnight Mission



November 6, 2022

START COLLECTING NOW for our NOVEMBER 6, 2022, ANNUAL CLOTHING DONATION TO THE MIDNIGHT MISSION.

(Clothing collection will start at 7:30 am, full buffet breakfast at 7:45 am, and Meeting at 9:00 AM.)

Every year Lodges that make up the Los Angeles Masonic Service Bureau (LAMSB) do their very best to fill a Midnight Mission truck with new and slightly used clothing, shoes and other personal items. -

Start collecting new and slightly used clothing now for our annual clothing donation to the Midnight Mission that will take place at our **November 6, 2022** meeting at the Pasadena Scottish Rite, 150 N. Madison Ave, Pasadena. ***A special full buffet breakfast is being offered by the Midnight Mission starting at 7:45 am as a thank-you for your Masonic support of the Mission and its services.*** All Masons and their adult guests are invited, with hope that they will contribute to the clothing drive, to demonstrate our concern and aid to this worthy organization.

The new items you buy, and/or the slightly used clothing you have outgrown or no longer desire, can warm the lives of those less fortunate. Let's make this year's donation the largest ever. In addition to used clothing, here is a list of items Lodge members might want to purchase and donate to the mission.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath Towels & Wash Cloths • Deodorant (men & women) • Diapers (all sizes for men, women & children) • Disposable Razors (men & women) • Face Wipes • Feminine Soap & Spray • First Aid Kits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hygiene Kits (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, soap, etc.) • Socks & Underwear/Bras (NEW – men & women's) • Shaving Cream • Soap • Toilet Paper • Twin Size Bed Sheets (new or used, flat or fitted)
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At the meeting, we will hear from Bro. Mike Arnold, the head of the Mission, and will also be presenting him with a financial contribution in further support of their charitable work.

Your support will allow The Midnight Mission to provide a path to self-sufficiency to men, women and children who have lost direction.

All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the tax code. Midnight Mission staff can supply a receipt upon request (Federal Tax ID 95-1691293).

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

2023 Officers Needed

**If you would like to serve your lodge as an officer in 2023 please contact Officer's Coach
Bernie Morse PM at (310)704-2262**

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