

JANUARY 2023

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

2244 Westwood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064

(310) 657-2628 / ioniccomposite.com

Dear Brethren,

First, I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Master for a second term. I promise to do my best to be worthy of the trust you have placed in me by electing me to this position. To that end, I wish to announce several plans for this upcoming year.

As I mentioned at the 100th Gala, had reprinted in the December Trestleboard, and spoke about at Installation, my theme for this year is "Making Connections." This encompasses connections both within ourselves to Freemasonry, to each other as brethren, to other lodges, and to our wider community. We have a number of events lined up this year, including multiple Golden Veteran presentations, starting with one at the January Stated meeting, through Public Education night and First Responder night, where we will be honoring teachers and police/firemen respectively, an Isadore Moore award for Wor. Tim Shiner, a festive board, our annual reception of the Grand Master at the March Stated Meeting, and several other major events. We will also be having regular out-of-lodge social events for those that wish to come and attend, at different venues ranging from the theater (plays, etc.), to restaurants, to bars and other places. Not everything will be scheduled for Monday nights, so please keep a close eye on the Trestleboard Schedules and look out for email blasts. Also, we will over the course of the next few months be redesigning our website (www.ioniccomposite.com), which is currently fairly out of date for everything except the Trestleboards. We will be correcting that problem, and beginning to add new and improved content on a regular basis. Stay tuned for more on that.

This past year was a time of Rebirth, of starting over anew. This year is about growth and expansion, becoming rooted and connected to our new home and our new community. Generally speaking, we have a lot of plans this year to help us manage and encourage this growth, but they require something from the brethren to work. Not something extraordinary: rather, a number of simple things. Five little things from each of us, to be exact. They are as follows:

1) Come to Lodge. Be it for the monthly Stated Meetings or for degrees, or even just for social events, come spend time with us and with each other.

2) Keep your eyes and ears open for opportunities where we could reasonably make an impact for good.

3) Commit to making one phone call a week to another Brother, just to say hello and check in. Maybe a Past Master who was a mentor? Maybe a friend from Lodge you haven't seen in a while? Whoever it is, just one phone call a week can help strengthen all our bonds. You can access our roster data through iMember (sign up on Freemason.org).

4) Help out where you can. I'm not asking anyone to do everything; we all have different strengths and play different roles, and that's perfectly fine. But if you are passionate about something that we do, or something you think we ought to be doing, let us know and help out with it, however you can. (Be on a committee, give a brother a ride, etc.)

5) Stay connected with the Lodge! I cannot stress this one enough. Keep us informed; if you get sick, if you want or need help, if you have a major life-cycle event, if you have ideas that you think we should act on, or even if you just need someone to talk to. No matter the reason, let us know about it. My contact information is available in the Trestleboard, and I am always willing to talk to a Brother, even if it means a call-back a bit later, or an email that evening or the next day. Helping is not a burden - it is a privilege.

I wish you all a good holiday season and a happy, healthy, safe, and prosperous new year. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge and at our events this year.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock PM
Master

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 9, 2023 7:15PM

Stated Meeting & Dinner

Dinner is \$15 / Please RSVP for Headcount

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

Arugula Salad
Honey Mustard cranberry Vinaigrette, strawberries, candied walnuts
Chicken Pot Pie
Bechamel, mixed vegetables, puff pastry
Apple Cobbler

Golden Veteran presentation to Marshall Krupp

Ladies and friends invited for dinner and open portion of meeting.
Closed portion of the stated meeting will follow

JANUARY 16, 2023 7:15PM

First Degree Practice

JANUARY 23, 2023 7:30PM

Officers School of Instruction (OSI) -Refreshments at 7:00, OSI starts at 7:30 sharp.
Open to Master Masons. (1st degree is part of agenda)

FEBRUARY 6, 2023 7:15PM

Stated Meeting & Dinner

Dinner is \$15 / Please RSVP for Headcount

Wedge Salad
Blue cheese, red onion, hard boiled egg, bacon
5 cheese Fondue Mac and cheese
Pecan pie

FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Sweethearts Night!

More info to Follow

NEW LODGE CATERER

We now have a new caterer Matt Albright who will be providing 3-course dinners for our stated meetings. We are also lowering our dinner charge to \$15 with advanced reservations. Menus for the current stated meeting dinner and following month will be published in the Trestleboard. Remember to RSVP to Secretary Kyle Ware.

**ALL MEETINGS ARE NOW HELD AT
LIBERAL ARTS LODGE**

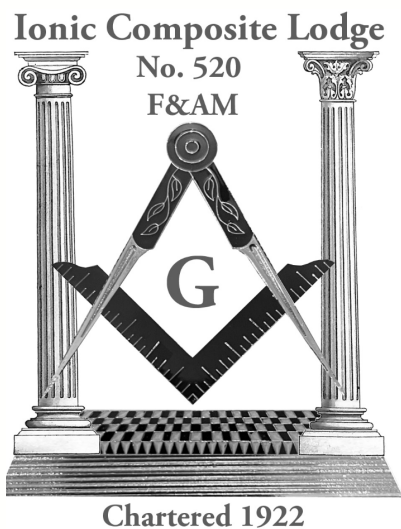
2244 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90064
**If you need a ride to Lodge, please contact the
Master or Secretary so that it can be arranged.**



SHOW YOUR LODGE PRIDE

BY ORDERING AN

IONIC COMPOSITE LODGE NAVY POLO SHIRT WITH OUR NEW LOGO



ORDER WILL BE PLACED BY THE MARCH 1 STATED MEETING.
(MINIMUM QUANTITY - 20)
\$36 (SMALL-XL); \$38 (2XL); \$40 (3XL)

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
BERNIE MORSE
2142 CENTURY PARK LANE #114
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067
OR BRING TO LODGE

CALL (310) 704-2262 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

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 SOUTH

Dear Brethren,

In my previous message, I mentioned that after becoming Master Masons, we are told to convince the world by our acts that on becoming a Master Mason, we have become better men. What is one of the versions of a better man? Why a gentleman of course!

Even before becoming a Mason, I always wanted to be able to think of myself as a gentleman. The question is, has Masonry helped me to accomplish this? Of course, my first action was to Google "definition of a gentleman". The first things that popped up were the old world definitions: a man of good social position, especially one of wealth and leisure, followed by a man of noble birth, attached to a royal household.

As the above definitions didn't quite work for me, I continued my search for something more befitting today's world. On visiting the Leadership Matters website, I discovered the 10 qualities of a gentleman. Let's look at some of these and determine if the teachings of Freemasonry help in the journey to becoming a gentleman.

"A gentleman is generous with his time, wisdom and resources. He willingly serves others and extends a hand to those in need." We know that this ties into Masonic values and that the obligations of each degree include such responsibilities.

"A gentleman is a lifelong learner. He maintains a teachable posture and embraces change for the better." Masonry is a progressive science, taught by degrees only. Even after obtaining the sublime degree of Master Mason and we receive all the light that can be conferred upon us in a Masonic Lodge, a true Mason continue his Masonic education through Lodge attendance and service.

"A gentleman models civility in how he treats others. He demonstrates respect, restraint, and personal responsibility in all his interactions. He is honorable, and values

and respects others." Masons are not only schooled in civility but also practice it all times. I first learned this when I attended a presentation on civility by MW Russ Charvonja when I was just an EA. Years later I furthered my education on this matter by reading his most enlightening book "The Civility Mosaic".

"A gentleman is well mannered and knows what is appropriate. He is able to navigate various social and professional settings. He embraces all people – those from other cultures, as well as from various social and economic backgrounds." Go to just about any Masonic event and you will see this amount of diversity and appropriate conduct.

"A gentleman possesses a strong work ethic. He takes pride in his labor and strives to give his very best." We are constantly told in Lodge, that we will receive the necessary instruction to pursue our labors, and we take pride in coming to Lodge and carrying them out.

"A gentleman is known for his integrity. He is a man of his word and follows through with his commitments, whatever the cost." Commitments is just another word for obligations. We take our obligations at each Masonic degree and our Lodge attendance and conduct further cement these.

I think that after reflecting on these definitions of a gentleman and comparing them to Masonic teachings, there is absolutely no doubt whatsoever that being a true Mason also allows us to consider ourselves to be true gentlemen. As such, I heartily encourage you to come to Lodge to even further the transition.

Fraternally,
Steve Resnick, P.M.
Junior Warden

IC520 THEATER NIGHT

We have a block of 24 seats for



Sunday, May 28, 2023

6:30PM

\$92/person

at the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood

SIX is a modern musical comedy retelling of the lives of the six wives of Henry VIII presented as a pop concert, as the Queens take turns singing and telling their story to see who suffered the most due to Henry and should, therefore, become the group's lead singer.

For information and reservations please contact Bernie Morse PM at (310)704-2262 or email brnhrd18@yahoo.com.

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.



IMPORTANT: 2023 DUES ARE DUE BY JANUARY 1 ALTERNATIVES FOR PAYMENT

This year there are 3 methods of payment for your 2023 dues of \$185.00. Grand Lodge this year prefers credit cards and not checks.

1. Check payable to Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520.

Mail to Treasurer: Bernie Morse
2142 Century Park Lane #114
Los Angeles, CA 90067

OR bring check or cash to stated meeting

2. Pay Grand Lodge directly by logging into www.member.freemason.org and use either Mastercard or Visa. Processing fee is \$6.03. If you have not already logged into this system click Member Registration. You will need your Member ID, your lodge number, and your email address to register. Follow prompts to Pay Dues.

3. Pay via PayPal. Processing fee is \$7.23.

If you are unable to pay your dues or can only afford to pay a portion of your dues, please contact
Kyle Ware Secretary at brokyleware@gmail.com



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

William Weiss 5	Kerin Surents 13	Nazareth Guluzian 20
Jay Markoff 7	Steven Kierman 14	Stuart Horwitz 27
S Zachary Samuels 7	Edwin Siegel 16	Bradley Zalben 29
Ronald Koretz 11	Vrej Eskandarian 17	Michael Mosbach 31
Andre Richardson 12	Donald Gordon 19	Kyle Ware 31

THINK ABOUT IT

According to an article in the November 21st issue of the New York Times, sports betting has become the fastest-growing expansion of legalized gambling in the United States. This phenomenon was made possible in 2018 when the Supreme Court issued a ruling that states could legalize wagers on live sports events. The article was largely directed at criticizing the gambling industry for failing to live up to expectations about how much money this endeavor would raise for some state and local governments. However it was another aspect of this practice that caught my attention.

A year earlier, Sports Illustrated dedicated an entire issue to the topic of sports betting. One commentator reflected on earlier pronouncements by various sports representatives. He noted that, in 2012, David Stern, commissioner of the National Basketball Association, was critical of Chris Christie, the governor of New Jersey, saying "New Jersey has no idea what it's doing and doesn't care because all it's interested in is making a buck or two". Bud Selig, who was then the commissioner of Major League Baseball, was appalled by the idea of liberalizing sports betting beyond Nevada, saying that such gambling is "evil, creates doubt, and destroys your sport".

Now fast-forward a decade or so. The National Football League, which would not allow Tony Romo to host a fantasy football convention in Las Vegas in 2015, now has created betting

partnerships with a number of sportsbooks and airs commercials for DraftKings and FanDuel during their games. Many major league baseball teams have similar arrangements. For example, the Chicago Cubs collect at least \$100 million dollars from DraftKings every year.

With this as our current environment, consider the case of Pete Rose. Mr. Rose had a 24-year career (1963-1986) as a major league baseball player. During that time, he became (and remains) the all-time leader for total base hits (4,256), games played (3,562), at bats (14,053), and even outs (10,328). He was widely known as "Charlie Hustle" for his practice of never letting up on the field. From 1984 to 1989, he also managed the Cincinnati Reds. However, in August 1989, Major League Baseball placed him on its "Permanently Ineligible" list and ended his baseball career. In 1991, the Baseball Hall of Fame officials adopted a policy that anybody on that list would be banned from admission. Over the intervening years, he has lost multiple appeals for reinstatement, the last one being in 2020. Thus, to this day Pete Rose cannot be so honored. What was his crime? He bet on baseball games!

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

Earl Hellum

Home with long-standing medical problems.

**Wellness Calls And Funeral Notification List Please Contact Bro. Stan Sax
310-429-6785 / stan456sax@gmail.com**

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.

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**

2023 OFFICERS

Master – Jacob Gershbock

Marshal –

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

Senior Steward – Varun Dadabhoy

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

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 – Chay Alexander Wright, P.M

Inspector for the 626th Masonic District
Jhairo Echevarria P.M.

Junior Deacon – Luis Tananta (Maria)

Trestleboard Layout – Kyle Ware