

JULY 2023

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

2244 Westwood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064

(424) 273-1054 / ioniccomposite.com

Dear Brethren,

I was honored and privileged at this past Stated Meeting to present the Isadore Moore Ionic Composite Service Award to Worshipful Timothy Shiner, who has dedicated years of energy and effort into our Lodge. The website will be updated with a recap of the event in the near future, so stay tuned for that. On June 12, our Lodge resumed having social/info nights at the Lodge. A few brothers came and hung out, having a discussion on a relevant topic of the day (this time it was on the impact of technology on youth for good or ill) and simply enjoying each other's company. It was amazing how fast over an hour and a half went. I honestly can say it felt like much less time. But, as they say, time seems to fly when you're having fun.

Which brings me to my main point for this month: Why did you become a Mason in the first place? More importantly, why did you continue coming to Lodge for whatever period you were most active? Was it the education, or was it the people? Chances are – and Grand Lodge surveys and statistics back me on this to an overwhelming degree – it was the people. Brothers come to Lodge to be with their friends. To be with the Brethren, and have a good time. It's the Fellowship and friendships that keep us coming back to Lodge, regardless of the reason we first joined. That said, I want to take a moment to remind you of the last time you came to a Lodge event. Did you enjoy it? Did you enjoy the company and the discussions, the program and the fellowship? If the answer to those questions is yes, ask yourself why you aren't coming more often?

If the answer to that last question was something like not having a ride, not liking to drive at night, or other trivial issues like parking or logistics, I would like to hereby unilaterally dismiss those concerns. Any brother who wants to come to Lodge or a Lodge event need only pick up the phone or send an email and I give you my word that we will find a way to get you to and from Lodge if you are anywhere nearby. (Obviously, out of State brethren are special cases). If you want a ride to and from Lodge, all you have to do is ask – it's never a burden to help out a brother, it's an honor and a privilege.

If the answer to the previous question about why you don't come is more along the lines of being too busy and not having time, or not wanting to take time away from your family, I would like to offer this as a response for your consideration: what's stopping you from bringing your family to a Stated meeting? If you have children, have a talk with them about considering joining one of our youth orders? I've heard members of this Lodge complaining about how their teenaged children are always on their phones and never seem to interact with human beings, and how they don't know how to change that. The answer is simple – put them in a youth order! Enroll them in DeMolay, Job's Daughters, or Rainbow. They'll make friends, have activities to go to with actual people, learn valuable leadership and teambuilding skills, become even closer to the Masonic family, and, best of all, be instilled with our greatest values. It's a win-win for you and the Fraternity, as well as society at large.

The Surgeon General recently put out a Health Advisory about the effects of Social Media on youth. Kids are spending way too much time on their devices these days, and the kinds of things they are being hit with is causing a mental health crisis of epic and unprecedented proportions. Masonry and our Youth Orders are the ready-made solution to this issue. If your children are searching for a community, give them one! It need not be on a phone, and it can come pre-loaded with our core values and teachings, as well as being safe and affordable. In fact, why not go one better and get involved with the Youth Orders yourself? That way, you can even spend time with them in an environment where you can learn about each other not as parent and child, but as people. All the data shows that this is only to the good for both children and adults when done right – and you can trust our Masonic family to do it right and safely.

So, as we wind down a bit for the upcoming summer months, let's remember that not all solutions to complicated problems need be complicated. Sometimes, the easiest way to fix a problem is to give people a good, viable alternative, and Masonry has you covered! I look forward to seeing you all more in Lodge.

Fraternally, Jacob Gershbock, PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 3, 2023

LODGE DARK IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

JULY 10, 2023

Dinner 7:15pm

Stated Meeting 8:00pm

Menu

Coleslaw

Mixed BBQ Chicken, Beef Ribs, Hot Dogs

Baked Beans Apple Pie

Please RSVP to Jacob Gershbock jgershbock@gmail.com for headcount

Cost is \$15 payable at the door.

JULY 17, 2023

2ND DEGREE PRACTICE

JULY 24, 2023

SOCIAL NIGHT

JULY 31, 2023

2ND DEGREE CONFERRAL FOR EDUARDO CORTES

AUGUST 7, 2023

August Stated Meeting & First Responders Night

Open Lodge 6:45pm

Dinner 7:15pm

Program 8:00pm

Stated Meeting to Follow

Menu

Three Bean Salad

Sloppy Joes

Cajun Steak Fries

Lemon Bund Cake

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There is no waiting list! The Masonic Homes is here for you.

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MASONS4MITTS DODGER DREAMTEAM FACT #3

1. COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

Dodgers Dreamteam is about bringing families, volunteers, recreation departments, non-profit organizations, advocates, resources, and donors together to support youth development through sports.

2. ENRICHING YOUNG LIVES

Providing necessary resources for partners to deliver valuable social services, wellness, education, and sport-based youth development resources to youth and families.

3. BIGGER THAN BASEBALL

Helping kids reach their goals in school, at home, and in their communities through sport-based youth development.

DONATING IS EASY! JUST SCAN
THE BAR CODE!!!



BATTER UP!

Be a Supporter by Funding a Child's Mitt

For the 2023 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

Our Lodge has a block of tickets for Masons Night at Dodger Stadium

Dodgers vs San Diego Padres

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Similar to last year tickets are in Reserved Level Aisle 28 just beyond 1st base

Price \$42 including \$1 service charge

We have a block of 33 tickets; 4 remain

For reservations and information contact Bernie Morse PM at (310)704-2262

Check is payable to Bernie Morse 2142 Century Park Ln #114 LA, CA 90067

Graphic / Print Designer Needed

Beginning ASAP the Lodge is in need of assistance with monthly Trestleboard Editing. Please contact Lodge Secretary Kyle Ware if you can lend a hand brokyleware@gmail.com

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Morton Devor	7/4 Stephen Fenster	7/18 Carmel Levy	7/27
William Ellison	7/11 Thomas Ortiz	7/20 Howard Hallis	7/28
Eduardo Cortes	7/15 Robert Nelli	7/21 Richard Ellman	7/29
Timothy Slone	7/16 Jacob Smerling	7/23 Theodore Blumenfeld	7/30
Paul Troy	7/16 Glenn Ardizzone	7/24 Barry Charles	7/30
Michael Bear	7/17 Howard Brandes	7/25	

THINK ABOUT IT

Over the past decades, there seems to have been a gradual shift in our society as our politicians, followed by the people they represent, have become more and more polarized. It has reached the point where many of us are reluctant to even consider having a discussion about anything with which we fear the other person will disagree, as we are afraid that one of us will say something that will upend a long-time friendship.

Thus, it was with some gratitude that I viewed two events last week that ran counter to this trend. The first, and more publicized, one was the vote in Congress to resolve the pending debt-ceiling crisis. I do not know what would have happened had that vote not occurred, but many people feared that our entire economy was at risk because the two sides could not come to an agreement. Then a rare thing took place; the Republicans and Democrats both compromised and a bipartisan bill was presented to the House of Representatives.

Of course, those representatives who were at the extremes on both sides threatened to do whatever they could to derail the legislation, but at the end of the day over 70% of the House membership voted “aye”. The bill then moved on to the Senate, where, after a similar period of bickering (again led by the extremists on both sides), it passed 63-36. Of course, even a week later, various Representatives and Senators are still complaining. But that actually may be a good sign, as the best compromises are those where nobody is happy.

In that same week, a public outcry occurred at a local elementary school, where a group of parents protested a planned assembly in which students would hear about the different types of parental combinations exist in the community (including two fathers or two mothers). The protestors claimed that their children were too young to be exposed to the existence of gay relationships and the LGBTQ+ counter-protestors believed that this was an important message for all to hear. When some more violent behavior started to occur, the police were called in. Not surprisingly, the media followed.

A scene that was caught on television, but unfortunately not widely publicized, was an interaction between one participant on each side of the debate. A woman from the LGBTQ+ was telling one of the parents why she thought the assembly was important. The aspect of this that caught my attention was that she was talking in a calm manner and the parent on the other side was quietly listening to her explanation. Two people who had come out to protest were just having a simple discussion without any overt evidence of anger.

Thus, in both incidents, I witnessed what our Past Grand Master Russ Chervonia would refer to as civil behavior by people who clearly had passionate and opposing feelings about the subject. Wouldn't it be nice if we could all see this more often?

Think About It

Ron Koretz, P.M.

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

Jackie Mannheim

Donna Golden (Wife of Past Master Harry Golden)

On the mend following a recent fall.

Recently Deceased.

Wellness Calls And Funeral Notification List Please Contact Bro. Stan Sax
stan_sax53@yahoo.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.

BEWARE...

of scam / phishing emails asking for money or personal information.
Scammers are pretending to be Masons, even the Worshipful Master!
We'll never ask you to send money or gift cards via email.
Reach out to Lodge Leadership directly or by phone.

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