

TRESTLE BOARD

May 2025

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

2244 Westwood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064
(424 273-1054) / <https://www.ioniccomposite.com>



Dear Brethren,

Spring is often described as the season of renewal. It is when new life blossoms after the harsh cold of winter; when the fruits of one's long toil in the colder months begin to take shape and become visible. Spring is when newborn animals first peek their heads out of nests, burrows, and dens, blinking in astonishment and wonder at the wide world around them. The later part of spring is often when these same young ones take their first hesitant, tentative steps outside their comfortable dens, venturing forth into the wider world for the first time.

As you may have noticed, it's Springtime right now. But that is not only true of the outside world, but of our Lodge as well. We recently raised a new Master Mason, and as I write this article, we are set to raise another tomorrow evening. We have a newly elected candidate to initiate, another brother ready to pass to the degree of Fellowcraft, and several more working on their respective journeys and making steady progress in their studies. We also have a number of interested prospects who have been regularly attending who are intending on submitting petitions for membership in the near future.

In the coming months, we have a whole host of events and activities planned at Lodge. In addition to the Degrees for the various brothers and candidates aforementioned, we have our annual Festive Board coming up on Sunday, May 25 th at 6:00 pm, this year honoring our Grand Lecturer, the Very Worshipful Matthew Vander Horck and his wife Kimberly, the next in our Masonic Speaker series scheduled for mid-June, and our 55 th annual Reception of the Grand Master on Sunday, July 20 th at 1:00 pm, honoring the Most Worshipful Arthur L. Salazar Jr.

See

the inserts in this month's Trestleboard for more details on those events.

I encourage each of you to consider making this year's Spring season a season of Masonic renewal for yourself. If you haven't been coming to Lodge, commit to coming for a Stated Meeting or a Degree. Meet our newer members and prospects. Renew your ties with our fraternity and our Lodge, it's activities and members. We have events and activities to appeal to

a

wide variety of interests, from social and fraternal nights to educational speakers and service opportunities, as well as ritual work and community involvement. It has taken a long time, brethren, but as I have now said on several occasions, our Lodge has come back to life.

The only thing missing is you.
I hope to see you all soon at Lodge.

Fraternally,
Jacob Gershbock, PM
Master, Ionic Composite Lodge no. 520

May Calendar

Monday, May 5, 6:30pm: Executive Committee Meeting

All Executive Committee members are required to attend.

Monday, May 5, 7:15pm: Stated Meeting

Menu:

In the spirit of fellowship and cultural appreciation, we will honor *Cinco de Mayo* with Mexican cuisine at this stated meeting.

Use the link below to RSVP:

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/lodge-events/stated-meeting-2/stated-meeting-rsvp/>

Monday, May 12, 7:15pm: 1st Degree Initiation of Mr. Stanislav

Terekhov

Masons of All degrees are invited to attend as we initiate Mr. Stanislav Terekhov into the mysteries of Freemasonry. Everyone is encouraged to come and show support for the new initiate as he starts his Masonic journey. Sideliners are always welcome.

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/lodge-events/upcoming-events/non-stated-meeting-rsvp-form/>

Friday, May 16-18 Masonic Leadership Retreat in Palms Springs

Lodge Officers from Ionic Composite will be in attendance at the Masonic Leadership Retreat in Palm Springs.

Monday, May 19 Lodge Dark

In observance of Mason Night at Dodger Stadium

Wednesday, May 21, 7:00pm: OSI

Liberal Arts hosting

Topic: 3rd Degree Open 2nd section. Officers are **required** to attend without prior approval from the Master and the Inspector.

Sunday, May 25, 6:30pm: Annual Festive Board
Honoring Very Worshipful Matthew Vander Horck, Grand
Lecturer, and his wife Kimberly

Join us on Sunday, May 25 at 6:30pm for our Annual Festive Board, a special evening of fellowship and celebration. This year, we are honored to recognize Very Worshipful Matthew Vander Horck, Grand Lecturer, and his wife Kimberly for their dedication and service. Dress code is Suit and Tie for men and equivalent for ladies, and the cost is \$65 per person.

RSVP NOW!!! ALL RSVPs MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MAY 17, 2025

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/lodge-events/upcoming-events/upcoming-special-events/special-event-rsvp-form/>

Monday, May 26, Lodge Dark

In observance of Memorial Day

June Calendar

Monday, June 2, 7:15pm: Stated Meeting

Menu: To be determined.

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/lodge-events/stated-meeting-2/stated-meeting-rsvp/>

Monday, June 9, 7:15pm: Held for degree practice

Monday, June 16: Masonic Speaker Night

More information to follow. STAY TUNED!

Thursday, June 19, 7:00pm: OSI

Culver City Foshay, Anchor Bell Lodge Hosting

Topic: 1st Degree. Officers are **required** to attend without prior approval from the Master and the Inspector.

Monday, June 23: Hold For Social Night

More information will be forthcoming. All brothers, prospects, spouses/partners, and guests are most welcome!

2025 IONIC COMPOSITE ANNUAL FESTIVE BOARD

MAY 25, 6:30PM

GUEST OF HONOR: VERY WORSHIPFUL MATTHEW VANDER HORCK, AND WIFE, KIMBERLY

The Festive Board is a formal, multicourse dinner with scripted toasts, responses, and much fun and fellowship. It harkens back to the meals held after Lodge meetings in the days when Lodges met above pubs and inns.

This year our Guest of Honor will be Very Worshipful Matthew Vander Horck, Grand Lecturer, and his wife, Kimberly.

The menu for this momentous evening will be as follows and includes an **OPEN BAR**:

1st Course

Chicken and Vegetable pot-stickers

2nd Course

Chicken Noodle Soup

3rd Course

Caesar Salad

4th Course

Grilled Chicken Breast with Marsala Wine Sauce served with Rice Pilaf and Mixed Vegetables

5th Course

Beef Tenderloin with Peppercorn and Merlot Wine Sauce served with Garlic Mashed Potatoes and French Cut Green Beans with Roasted Almonds

5th Course

New York Cheesecake With Raspberry Sauce

Dinner Rolls and Butter

Cost is \$65/person, payable by cash, check, or credit card (by using the forthcoming link) RSVP REQUIRED no later than May 17th

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/lodge-events/upcoming-events/upcoming-special-events/special-event-rsvp-form/>

SAVE THE DATE!!!
55TH ANNUAL RECEPTION OF THE GRAND MASTER OF CALIFORNIA
GUEST OF HONOR: the Most Worshipful Arthur L. Salazar Jr.

Our Lodge has long held the signal honor of having an annual reception for the Grand Master of Masons in California. Historically, this event has followed the Los Angeles Masonic Service Bureau's Men's Breakfast in the Grand Master's honor. This year, by request of the Grand Master, the reception will be a business-casual attire lunch on the same afternoon as the Men's Breakfast (July 20th, 2025), starting at 1:00 pm. The lunch will be catered by the "First Mom" of the Lodge, Faith Gershbock. The Menu will include a salad bar, a pasta bar (with both regular and gluten-free pasta), assorted side dishes, and homemade ice cream cake in flavors requested by the Grand Master and his wife. The cost is \$20 per person.

Reception/Social at 12:00pm, Lunch 12:30 pm.

12pm
Sunday, July 20, 2025

RSVP IS NOW OPEN! RSVP TODAY!

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/lodge-events/upcoming-events/special-event-rsvp-form/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE!

**Ionic Composite 520's Annual Festive
Board!**

Join us on Sunday, May 25th at 6:30pm for our annual
Festive Board where we will be honoring the Very
Worshipful Matthew Vander Horck and his wife

Kimberly. Masons, Ladies, Friends, and Guests are all
welcome! See full page ad above!

**55th Annual Reception of the Grand
Master of the Grand Lodge of
California!**

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, July 20th as we
come together to honor the Most Worshipful Arthur L.
Salazar Jr. See advertisement above!

Think About It – Ron Koretz, P.M.

Think About It

Ron Koretz, P.M.

Dr. Bryant Lin has been a primary care physician and educator at the Stanford University School of Medicine for almost 20 years. During that time, he also founded the Center for Asian Health Research and Education and pursued research into diseases that particularly affect Asians.

He also is the director of the Stanford Medical Humanities and the Arts program. He is almost 50 years old. In May 2024, he was diagnosed with stage IV non-small cell lung cancer, a malignancy that is not due to smoking but is associated with a genetic mutation that is disproportionately found in Asians. Unfortunately, at the time of his diagnosis, he was found to have metastases in his bones, liver, and brain.

Most people, including doctors, would very likely turn inward, step back from their careers, and try to make the most of their remaining time with their family and friends. Dr. Lin chose a different path. He created a course in the medical school, MED 275, which consisted of a series of discussions about aspects of his disease.

He began the first session of the course by reading a letter that he received from a patient some two weeks after that patient had died. It read: “Dear Dr. Lin: I wanted to thank you for taking such good care of me in my old age. You treated me as you would treat your own father, with humor and care and great professional skills.” The fact that it arrived posthumously suggested to Dr. Lin that the patient had spent some of his last hours writing it. The implication of this letter was that Dr. Lin was going to spend the last months of his life making a message to those who would remain after him.

The curriculum for MED 275 consists of various aspects of lung cancer, including its impact on mental health, the activities of caregivers, spirituality, ethics, nutrition, available treatment, and the epidemiology (including the possible genetic influences). Speakers include his wife, his oncologist, a surgeon who runs the lung cancer screening program, his primary care physician, a spiritual panel composed of representatives from four different religions, and, finally, scientists developing cutting edge research into lung cancer treatment.

The class was actually opened to undergraduates as well as medical students. One such person, who is majoring in computer science and has no intention of going to medical school,

said “We all know someone who has experienced cancer, but we wish we could understand that experience better...knowing that he [Dr. Lin] has a limited time on earth, he was doing the things he loved...it helps guide me as I get closer to graduating and figuring out my next steps in life.”

A first year medical student noted “We focus a lot on therapeutics and science and sometimes forget there is a human being on the other side...to hear Dr. Lin’s human perspective, then look at it from an epidemiological level, really helps contextualize the conversations we’re having.”

I assume that Stanford is recording MED 275, as the course is not likely to be repeated, at least with Dr. Lin. I can only extend my own personal admiration and support to a courageous man.

Think about it.

HOW TO GET YOUR DUES CARD

With the installation of the iMember 2.0 online system a few years ago that all brothers can access upon registration, lodge secretaries no longer receive all the dues cards to mail out after payment.

The dues card is now online and can be printed or downloaded in an 8 ½ x 11 format which can be printed or downloaded to a phone.

There are 2 ways to get you dues card:

1. Login to www.member.freemason.org, select Imposite Lodge bar, then select Virtual Card.
2. Send an email to our lodge Secretary Mike Bear PM (michael.bear@mac.com) requesting that it be mailed to you.

If you need help registering for iMember contact the Secretary.

BRETHREN 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.

From the Secretary

Brethren

This being the start of a new year, I want to remind you that your 2025 lodge dues are due to the lodge. By now you have received several mailings reminding you of this and how to pay them.

If you have any questions about this or, if you have any situation whereby you would have difficulties in paying them, **please** contact me and we can discuss the options you may have. Being a member of this lodge and Freemasonry has many benefits even if you are unable to attend lodge meetings.

To those of you who have not been advancing in your degree proficiencies, **please** contact me and I will find someone to work with you, I know that it may have been a long time since you took your degrees, again, together we can get you back of the road of becoming a Master Mason!

If you have any changes to your contact information, **please** contact me, or make your changes on your iMember page. If you are not on iMember, you guessed it, contact me and I will help you create your account.

Lastly, if you have ideas for programs, activities, speaker topics, or things you would like to see your lodge get involved with, contact the Master or me. We want your input. This is your lodge!

Fraternally yours and best wishes to you and your family and friends for a great 2025.

Michael Bear, P.M.

Secretary

michael.bear@mac.com

C: 310-962-4346

Sick and Visitation

Since the last publication, the following Brothers are known to be in ill health:

Evan Weiss – Recently diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer and is under the care of the Masonic Homes in Union City.

Let's remember our ill, homebound, and bedridden brethren by calling, visiting, or sending notes of encouragement.

May Birthdays

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Joseph	Reinke	1
Harold	Kirman	2
Robert	Sills	2
Robert	Gordon	4
Barry	Sporn	5
William	Bilkiss	11
Peter	Kaplan	11
Errol	Stambler	12
Evan	Weiss	12
Joseph	Brewer	13
Robert	Goldman	13
Richard	Kaplan	13
Edward	Novshad	14
Stephen	Rennick	14
Matthew	Rodman	17
Michael	Savage	17
Cedric	Malambu	20
David	Philips	23

2025 OFFICERS	Master – Jacob Gershbock	Marshal – *
	Senior Warden – Jeffrey Bear, P.M. (Trisha)	Senior Steward – Kerin Surents, P.M. (Suzanna)
	Junior Warden – Steve Resnick, P.M. (Sheelah)	Junior Steward – Michael Mosbach
	Senior Deacon – Chay Alexander Wright, P.M (Virian)	Inspector for the 626th Masonic District: Gevork Asatryan P.M.
	Junior Deacon – Luis Tananta (Maria)	Trestleboard Layout – Cody Blair (Adair)
	Treasurer – Bernie Morse, P.M. (Carolyn)	Piano –
	Secretary – Michael Bear, P.M. (Debbie)	Tiler – Roy Steinfeld, P.M.
	Assistant Secretary – Cody Blair (Adair)	

CALIFORNIA MASONIC MANIFESTO

Masons are builders. Where once we built wonderful structures, today we build character. Steeped in tradition and ritual, our values are based on a bedrock of friendship and philanthropy. We believe that harmony between diverse individuals is a powerful force for good. Just as ancient stonemasons perfected their craft, we employ timeless lessons that create meaningful change in ourselves, stronger communities around us, and a better world for all.



Batter Up!

**Be a Supporter by Funding a Child's Mitt
For the 2025 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

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