

April 2017

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Brethren and ladies:

I sometimes think that one of the hardest duties of the Master of the lodge is to write his article for the Trestleboard. What can he say to inspire, educate or encourage the lodge members? I do not claim to be the most knowledgeable brother in matters of Masonic esotericism or history. I only can try and bring you some of my thoughts of how I see things in our lodge, Freemasonry, or in society in general. I also believe that I can help guide and teach those who want to be future officers or committeemen so that they can lead our lodge beyond the time I will serve as Master.

In case you haven't picked-up on it yet from my past articles, my goal is to revitalize Ionic Composite Lodge, not to be the thousand plus member lodge we were in the past, but to return that feeling of brotherhood and tolerance among the brethren, and their active planning and participation in lodge meetings and activities. Some brothers only came to be waiters at the Stated Meeting, while others, were involved in the different committees of the lodge. Some only came for social activities, while others were solely involved in ritual.

I have often said that Freemasonry should think of itself in a similar manner to the Marine Corps. The Marines do not say that everyone should become a Marine, they say they are only looking for "A few good men". They also have a bond amongst themselves as brothers because they share the common experience of boot camp, that takes them from individual to "Marine". They also say, "once a Marine, always a Marine". Our initiation experience should take those who seek to join us from a "normal" person to an individual who should always be seeking to improve himself as well as help his brothers and community. This sentiment should not only be when the brother is in the lodge room or active in Masonic life, but should change him in how he acts and thinks in everything he does for the rest of his life.

Continued on pg. 5

APRIL 3th Stated Meeting

Youth Orders Night

Doors: 5:30 p.m. | Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

Meeting: 7:15 p.m.

W.M. Michael Bear presiding

RSVP before March 1st
(310-657-2628) or from our website

Dinner is \$20.00

Reservations are Mandatory

If you do not make a reservation extra meals will not be available. Brothers if you make a reservation and don't cancel by the date specified, you will be billed.

SIDE

Green salad

ENTREES

*Lasagna Napoletana (beef lasagna)
and
Rigatoni Norma (fresh tomato sauce,
eggplant, basil, dry ricotta)*

DESSERT

TBD

* Guests of the Master, and widows of Ionic Composite Lodge, who have not remarried, are free. Menu is Subject to Change.

APRIL EVENTS

Mar. 27 6:00pm Building Association.
7:15pm Executive Board Meeting.

Mar. 29 Reservations must be received by Lodge Secretary, (310) 657-2628, for April Stated Meeting.

Mar. 31 Reservations must be received by Lodge Secretary, (310) 657-2628, for Grand Sword Bearers Reception.

Apr. 3 **Stated Meeting Dinner**
See insert to left for times and more details

Apr. 8 **Reception and Dinner Dance for The Grand Sword Bearer Jeffrey Bear, P.M.**
Social 6:30pm, Ceremony 7:00pm, Dinner 8:00pm.
Dress: Black tie optional.
Cost: \$35.00 per person. Tri-Tip or Sea Bass.
RSVP by March 31 to (310) 657-2628
or ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net

Apr. 10/17 **Lodge Dark**
For Passover and Easter Monday

Apr. 24 6:00pm Building Association meeting.
7:00pm Executive Committee
7:30pm Second Degree practice

Apr. 25 **"Effective Candidates Coaching" and Officers School of Instruction**
7:15p.m. at Southern California Lodge. All officers required to attend. Let Master and Officers Coach know if you can't attend. Open to Master Masons.

Apr. 26 Reservations for May Stated Meeting dinner must be received by Lodge Secretary. See notice below.

Note: Additional Events can be found on our website or Lodge App.

IONIC COMPOSITE LODGE NO. 520

We have purchased 22 tickets
for the Amazing

Laguna Art Festival Pageant of
the Masters
Where Art Comes to Life
"The Grand Tour"
Sunday, July 23
8:30PM-10:30PM
\$52/person

For information and reserva-
tions lease contact Bernie
Morse PM by email
brnhrd18@yahoo.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 1, Stated Meeting. Open Lodge:
5:30pm, Dinner: 6:00pm, open program to fol-
low. Dinner by reservation only. \$20.00. Invite
a friend.

June 11, 3:00-6:00pm. Tour and serve dinner at
The Midnight Mission. Contact: Kerin Surents,
P.M. (818) 335-8223 or airsupremeac@yahoo.com

Sunday, July 23, Laguna Beach "Pageant of the
Masters", limited tickets. Bernie Morse, P.M. in-
charge. It's a "must see" event. See insert.

OFFICAL NOTICE

Stated Meeting dinners are by reservation only and must be received no later than the Wednesday before the Stated Meeting. If a reservation is made but not used, you will be billed for the amount due unless canceled no later than Friday, 4:00pm before the Stated Meeting.

Reservations must be made by either using the sign-up sheet, by calling (310) 657-2628, by email-
ing ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net, or made and paid for on the lodge website: <http://ioniccomposite520.com>

FROM THE SOUTH

MY FIRST MASONIC FUNERALES

Okay, so is a funeral really a good thing to write about? Funeral and memorial services are fact of life, so they might as well be done correctly. There will not be another chance to do it again any better. So, a funeral ceremony done Masonically is indeed a very beautiful thing.

I was actually looking forward to my attendance of the Masonic Funeral of Max Paster a Past Master of Ionic Composite Lodge #520. This was going to be my first exposure, after all. I proceeded to Eden Memorial Park in Mission Hills on Friday morning 2/24/17 and met with Wors. Ron Koretz, Mike Bear and Bernie Morse. Whenever Masons go anywhere and can be clearly identified as such, people will notice and be drawn in to ask questions. We were immediately questioned about our aprons, to which Mike stated that their significance would be shared during the formal ceremony.

When the four of us proceeded into the Cha-

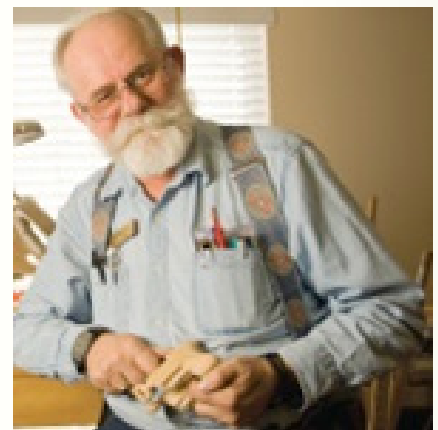
pel wearing our aprons as Masons, I definitely felt both proud and honored to be able to say a final farewell to a Brother. Ron was assisted by Mike as he performed the funeral service. Of course Ron was eloquent, warm and brotherly as he delivered his words. Having been to quite a lot of funerals, it was a pleasure to see one performed by an individual that was a knowing Brother, rather than someone having just asked the family for some background information on the deceased before proceeding.

When the ceremony was concluded, there were many warm thanks from the family and friends to all Masons present. Just as in all other things Masonic, I was deeply moved by this experience. Just one of many more steps to come on the Masonic journey.

Steve Resnick – Junior Warden

HIGHLIGHT ON RELIEF: MASONIC SENIOR OUTREACH SERVICES

Masonic Senior Outreach Services (MSOS) provides ongoing geriatric care management, at no cost, to California Master Masons, their wives, widows and mother with a demonstrated need. Needs include, but are not limited to: social isolation and lack of local social support, health and wellness issues, unsafe plans for aging and confusion about care planning. MSOS Care Managers work regionally, maintaining regular visit schedules and telephone contact to continuously assess elders' health, financial, social and mental status. Financial aid is also need-based and offered to California Master Masons in Good Standing for the five consecutive years prior to applying for aid, who are age 60 or older, 55 or older and permanently disabled. The amount of financial aid is determined by need and will change as needs change. In establishing your budget, MSOS considers public benefits and support available from family and lodge. Masons and their families receiving MSOS financial aid sign an Agreement to Repay, which states that monies expended will be repaid if circumstances change and they have the financial means to do so. Repayment monies are placed back into a general fund for the future relief of Masons and families in distress.



IONIC COMPOSITE

LODGE No. 520

1122 South La Cienega Boulevard.
Los Angeles, CA 90035

*The Master, Officers and Brethren
Invite You To Attend a Reception For*

Jeffrey L. Bear

Grand Sword Bearer

Free & Accepted Masons of California

Saturday, April 8, 2017

Social Hour: 6:30 pm – Program: 7:00
pm

Dinner, Entertainment & Dancing

8:00pm

Black Tie

\$35.00 per person

Reservations Required - RSVP by March
31, 2017

Choice of Tri-Tip or Sea Bass

Howard Steinore, Secretary 310-657-2628

FROM THE EAST

Continued from Cover

Note, I didn't say that we should accept as applicants only those who are the same as we are. The Marines don't accept only one particular race, religion, national origin or sexual preference. They accept those men and women who are willing to make the commitment to the standards and ideals of the Corps. Likewise, we should accept those good men who are willing to commit to living by the standards and ideals of Freemasonry.

I hope to see you more often at lodge and to hear from you as to what you want to see this Lodge involved in or what your thoughts on Freemasonry are. If you haven't been to lodge in a long time, know that we will welcome you back with open arms. You will find a room of friends and brothers you just haven't met yet. If you need a ride, or assistance, let me know.

See you in Lodge!

Michael Bear, P.M., - Master

Have you joined the digital Lodge community yet?

Find out what you've been missing by
download it to your smartphone here:
<http://ourapp.link/ionic-composite-520>

**if you have any problems, please call me at
(310) 497-4408 and I can walk you through or meet
up with you!

DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO LODGE?

No brother should be unable to come to lodge
because he can't get a ride! If you'd like to
attend lodge on any night and need transpor-
tation, please inform the lodge office and we
will make arrangements for you to be there!

THINK ABOUT IT

We live in a society that is filled with numerous special interest groups that compete with each other for attention, privilege, money, and whatever other advantages they can gain. The downside of these activities is that, whatever is gained for that particular group becomes a loss for some other group or for other individuals.

As most of you know, I am a retired physician who spent over 30 years practicing academic medicine as a gastroenterologist in a public teaching hospital that is part of the UCLA training system. I recently received a letter from a special interest group composed of gastroenterologists and known as AGA PAC. This group was asking me to contribute at least \$250 to allow them to continue their mission of representing gastroenterologists in Washington, D.C.

AGA PAC claimed to be the voice of gastroenterologists and that having a strong PAC (presumably standing for political action committee) would allow us to maintain our role as the "trusted voice" for federal legislators. I was puzzled by this last statement, as I could not understand how a lobbying group that spends time and money courting politicians could ever be viewed as being trustworthy.

Medicine is a unique occupation; in how many other situations do customers voluntarily come in and take off their clothes? Our trust-

worthiness should not be to politicians, but to patients. If there is a conflict of interest, our decisions always have to fall on the side of those patients, even if it costs us personally.

AGA PAC does not represent patients directly, although it would have me believe that it does so by supporting gastroenterologists' goals. I say this because some of the competition that AGA PAC faces are other similar physician PACs lobbying for their special interests. I do not understand why all of these various medical PACs do not unite as PATIENT PAC, decide and prioritize what would be best for overall healthcare, and then lobby for that agenda. Gastroenterologists might find that some of their objectives had to give way to other more important ones because of the limitation of resources, but that then becomes one of those personal costs that doctors are obligated to bear. If medicine loses the confidence of patients, no PAC will ever get it back.

Think about it.
Ron Koretz, P.M.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Jon Michael Wax	01	Renato Sagun Garcia	09	Jeffrey Lewis Bear PM	16
Mark Allen Mischel	03	Adam Stephen Pontrelli	09	Edward Eddie Segal PM	27
Koorosh Moshtahedian	03	Luis Enrique Tananta	10	Michael Christopher Leighat	28
Alan Gediman	04	Ronald Burton Grant	11	Jack Rapke	28
Andre Torosyan	04	Arnold B. Fazekas	13	David Harris	30
Marc Adam Behun	05	Clayton Barclay Jones	13	Morris M. Wolfred	30
Michael Joshua Katz	07	Harold Wilfred Wax PM	13		
Brandon Kelly Koretz	07	Harvey Arden Glaser	14		
Shahriar Joseph Eshaghian PM	08	Michael Lane Turner	14		

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

We Wish Everyone a Full and Complete Recovery

Gerl Edelman
Home with a variety of medical problems

Leonard Hess
Confined mostly to home because of stroke

Robert Reed
Home with medical problem

Jay Richards
At home with multiple problems

Howard Steinore
Hospitalized with weakness; to have cervical vertebral surgery in March

Millie Torf
Home recovering from broken leg

Brethren Please, a Telephone call from you could brighten their day

If you know of a Brother or a member of a Brother's family who is ill, please contact the Lodge Office: Tel: 310. 657.2628

Funeral Telephone list: Any brother who would like to be placed on the funeral notification call list, your presence would be deeply appreciated. Please contact the Lodge Office

2017 OFFICERS

Master – Michael Bear PM (Debbie)

Senior Warden – Mauricio Leon (Renata)

Junior Warden – Steve Resnick (Sheelah)

Treasurer – Bernie Morse, P.M. (Carolyn)

Secretary – Howard Steinore

Chaplain – Mike Leiaghat

Assistant Secretary – Daniel Ferszt (Shannon)

Senior Deacon – Open

Junior Deacon – Yuriy Kotlyar (Azadeh)

Marshal – Kevin Silver (Katherine)

Senior Steward – Luis Tananta (Maria)

Junior Steward – Varun Dadabhoy

Tiler – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Officers' Coach – Bernie Morse, P.M. (Carolyn)

Inspector for the 622nd Masonic District
O. Gary Pealer PM (Lelah)

Trestleboard Editor – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Trestleboard Layout – JohnRobert Wilson (Sanae)