

January 2017

TRESTLE BOARD

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

FROM THE EAST

Before I get into this month's message, I want to wish all of the brothers and their families, along with our Lodge's sweethearts, a healthy and happy 2017! Let peace prevail in our Lodge, our country, and the world.

I am writing this message in December as 2016 is coming to a close and 2017 has yet to begin. The Thanksgiving turkey leftovers have finally been finished and I am working with those brothers who have been elected and appointed to lead Ionic Composite in the new year.

As I was thinking about the responsibilities of being the Master of this Lodge, I turned to what our ritual so wisely counsels us to do when we are looking for guidance, wisdom and support. I turned to the Holy Writings and, found myself looking in Genesis. As I am looking at the start of my year as Master, it seemed the natural place to turn to. When I started to read, I said to myself that if people only acted with the principles that was laid out in the beginning of this first section how different the world would be. When the Great Architect created Man and Woman, he did not create them as a member of any particular faith, race, country, or culture. HE created them, and us, in HIS image. Can you think of anything that would make the world a better place than if we all acted as if everyone else was our brother and sister instead of looking for that which makes us different? How differently would you act if you thought of yourself and everyone else as being made in the image of the Divine and was a part of your family?

No, I am not saying that we should all be and act the same like millions of clone robots. Not only would that be boring, but it would be impossible. Think of your own family and the many differences in their appearance and behavior. Yet, even though we may have disagreements with them, they are still our family and that binds us together.

We, as Freemasons, are brothers, and need to always act towards each other as family. I may disagree with a brother's politics or some other things he believes in. I may not even like an individual brother for whatever reason. But that doesn't mean I should not treat him as a brother. Think of this: during the Civil War, Masonic brothers from opposing sides, would help each other, when possible, and sometimes even have lodge meetings in the evenings after a battle.

Continued on pg. 4

January 9th Stated Meeting

Doors: 5:30 p.m. | Dinner: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting: 7:15 p.m.

W.M. Michael Bear presiding
Presentation by Tim Shiner, P.M.
"Masonry and Social Media".

Reservations are Mandatory

Extra meals will not be available. Brothers with If you make a reservation and don't cancel by the state specified, you will be billed.

Dinner is \$20.00

SALAD

Shirazi Salad

ENTREES

Chicken Breast Kebob

- or -

Beef Koobideh

SIDES

Rice, broiled tomato, pita bread, grilled vegetables.

Kosher, but not Glatt Kosher

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

JANUARY EVENTS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Jan.
2

Lodge is Dark

Jan.
4

Stated Meeting Reservations DUE!!!

Jan.
5

Budget Meeting
7:15pm

Jan.
9

Stated Meeting Dinner
See insert to left for times and more details

Jan
16

Building Association Committee meeting.
6:00-7:15p.m. Light dinner
Social Media Committee
7:15-9:00p.m.

Jan.
21

Beverly Hills Lodge Installation.
4:00pm Let's support our brothers

Jan.
23

First Degree Practice
7:15pm ALL OFFICERS MUST ATTEND

Jan.
24

O.S.I.
7:15p.m. Jewel march, Stated Meeting, flag reception, G.L. officer reception.
ALL OFFICER MUST ATTEND.
All Master Masons may attend. Dress: Casual.

Jan.
30

Lodge Executive Board Meeting
7:15p.m.

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

FROM THE WEST

This year I had the honor to represent our lodge at the Grand Lodge of California's Annual Communication. It was a great experience, where I ran into many familiar faces I had met during my Masonic journey, as well as a chance to meet many new brothers. I got an opportunity to participate in our Grand Lodge's business sessions and see how decisions are made. All this was very illustrative and interesting.

During the event, the Henry Wilson Coil Library and Museum of Freemasonry unveiled a new exhibit, "Diverse, Yet United: California's Masonic Mosaic." This exhibit celebrates the rich cultural heritage in our state. This reminded me one of the reasons I became a Mason, which is to belong to a fraternity of good men trying to improve the world by improving ourselves. Good men, not good men of "this kind", not good men of "this religion", not good men of "this or that country", not good men of "this color", but just good men; all of the other adjectives really don't matter. As good men and as good Masons is something we should always celebrate and guard with all our strength.

I'm a proud California Mason and a proud member of Ionic Composite Lodge; a diverse lodge proud of that fact and where we will celebrate and protect that diversity.

Mauricio León
Senior Warden

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 6, Stated Meeting, Sweethearts' Night. Dinner reservations due by February 1.

March 4, UCLA Conference "The Origins of Freemasonry". Special Banquet. More information to follow.

March 5, 8:00-11:30a.m. LAMSB Grand Master's Breakfast, LAX Hilton. See Secretary for tickets

March 6, Stated Meeting. Reception for the Grand Master, M.W. John Heisner

April 8, 5:30p.m (tentative). Reception for the Grand Sword Bearer, Jeffrey Bear, P.M.

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

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 transportation, please inform the lodge office and we will make arrangements for you to be there!

OFFICAL NOTICE

Stated Meeting dinners will be 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 on the sign-up sheet, or (310) 657-2628, or ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net, and may be made and paid for on the lodge website: <http://ioniccomposite520.com>

FROM THE SOUTH

First let me say that I am truly humbled and honored to have the opportunity to serve you as Junior Warden. When I attended Lodge for the first time just over two years ago, I had no idea as to what that first visit would lead me to. As much as I enjoyed coming to the Lodge as an Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft, the joy I experienced at my raising elevated the membership experience to a sublime level. I will never forget that night of my raising, when after the ritual, Wor Kerin beckoned me to his side, poured me a whisky and toasted my full and complete admission into the Fraternity.

Soon after, I was elected Treasurer and was allowed the privilege of attending the Secretaries' and Treasurers' retreat. I had always enjoyed all my visits to our Lodge, and now found the Fraternal experience to be equally fulfilling among the multitude of Masons at this gathering. Not only was I impressed with the civility of all in attendance, but also with the quality of the courses that I took. Every lesson was completed on time by the instructors and each provided a ton of useful information.

However, I would have to say that my recent trip to the 167th Annual Communication was by far the pinnacle of my Masonic experiences outside of the Lodge. It was an awesome sight to behold the ritual, presentation of proposed changes to California Masonic law and the resulting balloting. When this is added to the ambience of the Grand Lodge auditorium, I can say this was indeed a very moving experience. Besides this, you could tell that Wors Mike Bear, Jeff Bear and Bernie Morse were doing everything possible to ensure that both Mauricio and I had a fantastic Fraternal, as well as Masonic experience during that epic weekend.

To sum it up, even though I have only been a Mason for just about two years, the experience has been building and building. The good times will be continuing, as I know that Wor Mike is working very diligently to provide one of the Lodge's best year ever for 2017. Please do come and join us at the Lodge, for what certainly is looking to be a great time for everyone throughout 2017 and into the future.

Steve Resnick – Junior Warden

FROM THE EAST

Continued from cover

I love this Lodge, not because we are all the same, but because the differences each of us brings to Ionic Composite Lodge makes all of us better men. Here, in this Lodge, I have met and become close friends with brothers and their families from so many different countries, faiths and cultures, that I could never have had this good fortune even if I had travel around the world.

This year we will be implementing several changes to make meetings and events more interesting. Your ideas and participation are encouraged.

See you in Lodge!

Michael Bear, P.M. – Master 2017

LADIES VOICE

As this New Year dawns, I want to send my best wishes for a happy and successful year to all of our Masons and their extended families.

Starting my fourth term as First Lady, I would like to see all the Ladies, especially those that haven't been around for a while, to attend and participate in the Stated Meeting and events we will have this year. Each Stated Meeting there will be a special time for the ladies to get together. We may plan events, learn from each other, or some other activity. If you have a particular talent or interest you would like to share, please let me know. Your presence will help the lodge.

The Lodge can only be active and successful with the participation and involvement of its members and their ladies.

Feel free to contact me if you have something you'd like to do at one of the ladies' meetings or if there is an activity you'd like to have, or just to talk.

Sincerely,
Debbie Bear

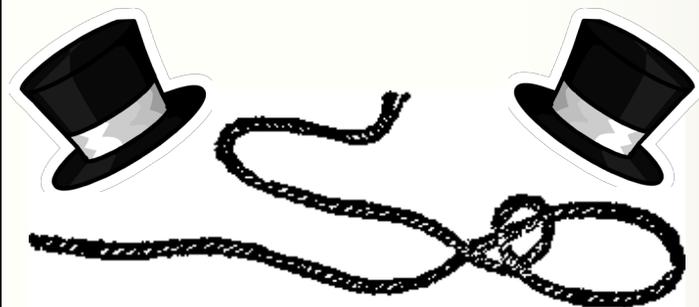
Have you joined the digital Lodge community yet?

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!

"It is the Masters will and pleasure that all brothers of ionic Composite Lodge attend the January Stated Meeting, if it is at all possible, for a special Masonic discussion to be held after the close of regular business."

Fraternally, Michael Bear, P.M., Master.



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 reservations
lease contact Bernie Morse PM

FOOTSTEPS OF MASONRY LECTURE 9

Spring 2015 we traveled to Israel on the Grand Master's Footsteps of Freemasonry Tour. Past Grand Master John L. Cooper III was the scholar-in-residence and delivered many lectures at historical sites. Over the next year we will feature his lectures in our Trestleboard. Enjoy!!!

Bernie Morse PM

Joseph Esshaghian PM

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

John L. Cooper III, Ph.D.

Freemasonry - The Legends Continue:

- The Gothic Constitutions and Masonic History
- The Degree of David and Jonathan

In an earlier lecture I stated that Freemasonry had its origin during the Middle Ages in the British Lecture 10

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

John L. Cooper III, Ph.D.

Freemasonry and the Land of Israel:

- Recap of the Lectures
- Freemasonry in Israel Today: The Hope of the Future

A copy of each day's lecture has been handed out, so there is no need here to repeat any of that material. Suffice it to say that Freemasonry is bound up with the Holy Land, and with the Scriptures which Judaism and Christianity revere. It is from the historic material that make up these Scriptures that Freemasonry has drawn many of its stories, legends and symbols. This material has, in turn, ended up in Masonic degrees, which are the primary means by which Freemasonry teaches. While Freemasons no longer believe that their actual history began in the Holy Land, we were glad to celebrate the continued existence of Freemasonry in its modern form in Israel today. The Grand Lodge of Israel is one of the important mainstream grand lodges in the world today, and its lodges continue to exemplify the teachings of Freemasonry in this ancient land.

One salient feature which anyone who visits Masonic lodges in Israel today will quickly notice - that brotherhood extends across religious and ethnic boundaries so that Freemasonry "becomes the Center of Union, and the Means of conciliating true Friendship among Persons that else have remain'd at a perpetual Distance," to quote from the Masonic Constitutions of 1723. I trust that as we have shared with them the true universal brotherhood which animates us all, that we will take their example home with us to our own Masonic lodges. As all Entered Apprentices in California are taught, "By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, who, as created by one Almighty Parent, are to aid, support and protect each other." Amen. So Mote It Be!

“Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.” – Benjamin Franklin

THINK ABOUT IT

Sergeant John Perry was stationed at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan when he became a victim of a suicide bomber in November, 2016. He was a resident of Stockton, California, and was honored at a memorial service in Lodi a few days later. His remains were sent to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware and he was to be buried subsequently at Arlington National Cemetery. His parents, who live in Stockton, were traveling back east, taking a plane from Sacramento to Phoenix and then planning to connect in Philadelphia to a plane going to Philadelphia, to claim the body and participate in the interment.

Unfortunately, the flight from Sacramento was delayed for about 45 minutes. The flight crew, being aware of the situation, attempted to help the Perrys make their connection by asking the other passengers on the plane to remain seated so “a special military family” could exit the plane first. However, that request was met with a round of boos and complaints from passengers in the first class compartment. Comments such as “This is just baloney” and “I paid for first-class for this” were heard. The flight crew, no doubt embarrassed by this behavior, still did their best to ensure that the Perrys got to the Philadelphia plane; in fact, the pilot in Phoenix stayed at the gate for 40 minutes to

make sure that the Perrys got on board.

At about the same time period, vice-president-elect Mike Pence attended the hit Broadway show Hamilton in New York. As you may be aware, the tickets for this show are quite expensive. As he was walking to his seat, he was initially cheered, but then loudly booed. The booing continued intermittently during the performance of the show and, at its end, and as he was leaving, the cast on stage lectured him about diversity.

There is nothing illegal about booing, whether it be on an airplane or in a theater. (In fact, Mr. Pence referred to it as the sound of democracy.) However, booing is certainly a sign of disrespect. While there may be a proper time and place for it (perhaps at an athletic event), it is often inappropriate and, as in these two cases, certainly rude. Given all of the events that feature public shouting and protest that we have seen in our so-called “civil society” in the past few years, rudeness is becoming a way of life for many people. As these two examples demonstrate, money can buy you classy seats, but it cannot buy you class.

Think about it.
Ron Koretz, P.M.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Dennis Irwin Goldberg	02	Phillip Kash	12	Donald Gordon	19
William Allan Weiss	05	Flavio Augusto Medeiros Pereira	12	Nazareth Guluzian	20
Richard Lawrence Weiss PM	06	Andre Lamont Richardson	12	Ronald Eugene Spencer	21
Jay C. Markoff	07	Kerin Surents PM	13	Jonathan Ronn Rackman	25
S Zachary Samuels	07	Steven Wayne Kierman	14	Stuart Fred Horwitz	27
Myron Zev Chlavin	09	Mario Meer Sherman	16	Edward Harmon Silverman PM	29
Richard Arnold Friedman	09	Edwin Barton Siegel	16	Bradley Steven Zalben	29
David Lars Green	11	Vrej Fred Eskandarian	17		
Ronald Lee Koretz PM	11	Bernard Kentor	17		

BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Sick and Visitation Committee Report

We Wish Everyone a Full and Complete Recovery

Geri Edelman
Still having swallowing difficulties, and other medical problems.

Jay Richards
At home – limited to wheelchair for ongoing weakness.

Leonard Hess
Confined mostly to home because of stroke

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)

Marshal – Kevin Silver (Katherine)

Senior Warden – Mauricio Leon (Renata)

Senior Steward – Luis Tananta (Maria)

Junior Warden – Steve Resnick (Sheelah)

Junior Steward – Varun Dadabhoy

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

Tiler – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Secretary – Howard Steinore

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

Chaplain – Mike Leiaghat

Inspector for the 709th Masonic District
O. Gary Pealer PM (Lelah)

Assistant Secretary – Daniel Ferszt (Shannon)

Trestleboard Editor – Evan Weiss, P.M.

Senior Deacon – Arsen Melkumyan (Julia)

Trestleboard Layout – JohnRobert Wilson (Sanae)