

# TRESTLE BOARD

October 2024

## Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520

2244 Westwood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064  
(424 273-1054) / [ioniccomposite.com](http://ioniccomposite.com)

Dear Brethren,

I am thrilled to announce that our inaugural Public Schools night partnering with Charnock Road Elementary School went wonderfully! The teachers and staff were incredibly grateful for the supplies, pleased with the welcome, and reported being excited to continue building a working relationship with our Lodge. For this first year, I was thrilled to be able to present their Principal, Ms. Kari Lee, with a check for \$1,500, which will go to funding a grade-level field trip, as trip budgets have recently been slashed by the district. We will see how else we can help support them in the future.

The theme for this year was (and remains) “Building Community”, and we are making good progress on that front. Stated meetings are becoming better and better attended, even when there is not a program scheduled such as First Responders or Public Schools nights. Grand Lodge is still working diligently on our list of Lodge widows and Sweethearts, helping us sort through it and remove those entries that represent those already deceased, and help us establish valid contact information for the remainder so we can properly reach out to offer them help and support to those who may wish or need it. I will, of course, keep the Lodge posted as to Grand Lodge’s progress on this front.

Meanwhile, this month, we will be honoring our own Worshipful Steven Resnick with the prestigious Hiram award. I strongly encourage all our members to attend, as Wor. Steve has done quite a lot for the Lodge and deserves our support as he receives this once-in-a-lifetime honor. Click on the following link to RSVP now for the October Stated Meeting and Steve’s Hiram! <https://www.ioniccomposite.com/wp-admin/post.php?post=4150&action=edit&classic-editor>

As the summer ends and the year begins to wind down to a close, I again encourage everyone to start getting back in the habit of setting aside your Monday nights for the Lodge as often as you can. If that’s just once a month, you’ll find that you’re doing yourself a favor. If it’s more, all the better! Masonry gives so much more back to us than we put in, but we still must show up to reap those benefits.

Finally, to our Jewish members, with the Jewish New Year just around the corner, I wish you all Shana Tova – a happy, healthy, and joyous new year.

I sincerely hope to see more of you in Lodge in the coming months.

Fraternally,  
Jacob Gershbock, PM  
Master

## 2024 Masons4Mitts Recap

Thank You Ionic Composite Lodge brothers and others who contributed to this year's campaign. The Masons donating to the LA Dodger Dream Team raised a record \$75,757 or 3788 mitts. Our Media Central Titans came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place also setting a new record this year with 862 mitts. The winning South Bay Spartans team had 1309 mitts.

Bernie Morse PM

Media Central Titans Co-Captain

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

### **Monday, October 7th: Stated Meeting and Hiram**

#### **Presentation to Steve Resnick, P.M.**

Everyone is invited to our October Stated Meeting to witness the presentation of the prestigious Hiram Award to Wor. Steve Resnick, PM.

Dress: Officers Black Tie, others are optional.

Closed business meeting to follow.

*Click this link to rsvp:*

<https://www.ioniccomposite.com/wp-admin/post.php?post=4150&action=edit&classic-editor>

#### MENU

*Greek salad*

*Smoked Beef Brisket burnt ends*

*Impossible Burger-V*

*Coleslaw*

*Fried Okra*

*Fudge Brownies*

### **Monday, October 14th: Masonic Discussion Night**

**Topic:** Ciphers: The Value of Codebooks and their and Place in Masonry  
Open to all - Masons and non-Masons. Drinks and light snacks provided.

**October 21st:** Hold for possible Degree.

### **October 28th: OSI at Ionic Composite Lodge**

All Officers Required to attend or request exemption in advance

All Master Masons may attend.

***October 7, 2024***

**Dinner: 7:15p.m.**

**Ceremony: To follow**

**Wor. Steven Resnick, P.M.**

**Has been selected to receive the prestigious Hiram Award**



**The Hiram Award is the highest California Freemasonry's Award that a lodge can bestow upon a brother for his outstanding support of the fraternity.**

**Greek salad, Smoked Beef Brisket burnt ends, Impossible Burger-V, Coleslaw, Fried Okra, Fudge Brownies**

**Your attendance will be appreciated**

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

**Save The Date**

**At the December 2, 2024, Stated Meeting Dinner, 7:15pm**

**Our dedicated Tiler,  
Wor. Roy Steinfeld, P.M.**



**Will receive the Golden Veteran's Certificate from  
The Grand Lodge of Florida, using Florida Ritual  
Dinner and the ceremony are open to all.**

**Dinner: \$15.00/person by reservation**

**Arugula Salad-(v)**

**Chimichurri Picanha Steak**

**Roasted Red Potatoes**

**Apple Cobbler**

**RSVP link to follow soon**

## **Think About It**

**Ron Koretz, P.M.**

**In early 2022, the city of Los Angeles introduced a one-year program known as “Basic Income Guaranteed: Los Angeles Economic Assistance Plan”, or BIG:LEAP. 3200 residents of Los Angeles with at least one child and who were living at or below the federal poverty level were “randomly” selected to become the recipients of \$1000 per month for a year. There were no restrictions on how the money was to be spent. In the July 31, 2024 issue of the Los Angeles Times, reporters Rebecca Plevin and Dakota Smith provided the results of that program. The article stated that this exercise was a “randomized control trial” (RCT) in which 5000 non-recipients were also followed. It was claimed that the recipients of the money experienced financial benefits, believed that they had a safety net for better health behaviors, and suffered less household violence. Instead of providing the details of all the recipients, the reporters used the testimony of one participant (Ashley Davis) and several people who undertook the study as well as a councilmember whose district included some of the participants.**

**One of the questions that I had after reading the story was what happened after the money stopped. In this regard, I found an earlier story by Rebecca Plevin (January 12, 2024) entitled “These LA residents got \$1,000 a month. What happened after the cash stopped?” Unfortunately, again there were no overall results presented. Instead, three participants (one being Ashley Davis) spoke glowingly about the benefits received, including one who was able to purchase annual passes to Legoland. Only one of the three seemed to have realized any long-term benefits, namely being able to start her own business. An outside consultant, Amy Beth Castro, said that many participants in such programs “see their finances drop back to**

previous levels”.

RCTs, while being considered the best way to evaluate the effectiveness of an intervention, are rare in the social sciences, and I was not convinced that BIG:LEAP was one. RCTs are typically listed in [clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov), an international registry; my search of that registry was unrewarding. The details of this “random selection” were not provided. On the other hand, there is a true RCT currently going on (“Baby’s First Years”) that was registered. In that trial, poor people were randomly assigned to receive \$333 or \$20 monthly for 76 months. The hypothesis of the investigators was that the extra money would translate into improvements in a child’s health, sleep, or health care utilization. As reported in the September 2023 issue of JAMA Open, at three years no differences have been seen in these conditions, although in one survey the children of the higher income recipients did eat more fruits and vegetables.

There are about 150 guaranteed-income pilot programs going on in the United States, and it is likely that most of them are not RCTs. Guaranteed-income programs are very expensive undertakings; BIG:LEAP cost \$40 million. We should require that such programs be proven to be effective (ideally in RCTs) before we make these large investments; we cannot be swayed by the testimonials of a few grateful recipients

## **Save the dates!**

### **Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:15pm**

At the October 7 Stated Meeting, Past Master Steve Resnick will be presented the prestigious Hiram Award for his many years of outstanding service to the lodge and Masonry.

The dinner and ceremony are open to everyone.

Please RSVP to the lodge website reservation site

### **Stated Meeting - Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:15pm**

Annual election of officers.

The dinner is open, but the meeting is open to Mason only.

Please RSVP to the lodge website reservation site when posted

### **Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:15pm**

Roy Steinfeld, PM is receiving his Golden Veterans award for his 50 years of membership in Florida and California lodges.

Roy will receive his Florida 50 award using the Florida ceremony

The dinner and ceremony are open to everyone.

Please RSVP to the lodge website reservation site when posted

### **October Birthdays**

Richard John Ameny	10/04
Daniel Ben Ari	10/16
Alan Robert Block	10/5
Arthur E. Dakessian	10/9
Albert Kaplan	10/14
Jonathan Scott Klein	10/5
Rafael Vivtor Montejano	10/24
Robert W. Nairin	10/28
Mark Charles Neander	10/9

## CASTING CALL

### **Wannabe Actors, Thespians And Those Who Want Great Ritual**

**You** can help enhance the Masonic degrees for our candidates by taking part in the ceremonies. We want to put together ritual teams in all three degrees that will create memorable experiences. Note that Entered Apprentices can take part in the 1<sup>st</sup> degree, Fellowcrafts in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degrees, and Master Masons in all three.

We are also looking for Master Masons who want to be officers. We have openings for 2024. We want and need your involvement. If interested, please contact:

Bernie Morse, PM  
Officer's Coach  
(310)556-4463

## BRETHREN AND FAMILY MEMBERS

### Sick and Visitation Committee Report

*Brother Errol Stambler is recovering at home from an injury  
Evan Weiss, PM, heading back to the Masonic Homes in Union City after a series of  
seizures*

Fraternally,  
Stan Sax

## 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.



## 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](http://www.member.freemason.org), select “Composite Lodge” bar, then select Virtual Card.
2. Send an email to our lodge Secretary Mike Bear PM ([michael.bear@mac.com](mailto:michael.bear@mac.com)) requesting that it be mailed to you.

If you need help registering for iMember contact the Secretary.

<b>2024 OFFICERS</b>	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
	Senior Deacon – Chay Alexander Wright, P.M	Tiler – Roy Steinfeld, P.M.
	Junior Deacon – Luis Tananta (Maria)	Inspector for the 626th Masonic District Gevork Asatryan P.M.
	Treasurer and Officers Coach Bernie Morse, P.M. (Carolyn)	Trestleboard Layout – Michael Mosbach
	Secretary and Head Candidate Coach Michael Bear, P.M. (Debbie)	
	Assistant Secretary - Michael Mosbach	