



# Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520 Trestle Board

WEB SITE: [www.calodges.org/no520](http://www.calodges.org/no520) • E-MAIL: [ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net)

Meets Every Monday Stated Meeting First Monday 7:00PM

July/August 2008

## From the East

### *Master's Message*

Small Acts of Common courtesy,



Brethren, Masonry teaches us that truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. We are taught to be good and true. Hence while influenced by this principal, it is said the hypocrisy and deceit are unknown among us; sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us; and with heart and tongue, we join in promoting each other's welfare and rejoice in each other's prosperity.

I heard these words for the first time in my life on January 19, 2004. The thought came to my mind was wow, what a powerful statement? What does it takes to truly live up to these words. Some of the brothers, by their simple acts have displaced the characteristics of a true Mason. As master of the ionic composite I like to recognize the following brethren for their brotherly love and affection.

I believe we should recognize the people with these good moral qualities who are among us. I have the pleasure of identifying couple of brothers who I had personal experiences with.

May 12, 2008 we had two third degrees. We had a long night and I came out to my car planning to go home. One of the brothers had a flat tire. The time must have been close to 11 at night. I came back into the Lodge room to solicit a ride home for the brother with the flat tire. I announced the trouble to the remaining brothers and not a second later, brother Tony Napoli offered to change the tire. He removed his jacket and tie and few minutes later, with the help of Brother Tim Shiner, he changed the tire. Now we got home late, but we all felt good about this small deed of courtesy. What a wonderful gesture?

June 1, 2008 we had a pick nick at the West Covina Masonic Campus. To entertain the crowd I invited Worshipful Brother Leonard Cohen. He is a very talented Magician and performs professionally. The lodge traditionally pays for the entertainers for the Masonic events. Worshipful Brother Cohen respectfully refused the compensation and sends the check back to the Lodge as a gift to Masonic homes. How wonderful I thought. These are small acts of kindness and respect but massive statements of distinction.

I like to thank Most worshipful Mel Nahin for making a special effort in generating funds for the Masonic Homes and other Masonic Charities. I like to urge brethren who have not yet made a donation to our charities. The last day for giving for the Masonic year 2008 is June 30, 2008. Brethren we have a membership of over 500 and so far only 17% of you have contributed. So please make a donation according to your ability.

Thank you.

See you all at the July Stated Meeting.

Don Wijesinghe  
Master

## 2008 Officers

**Master: Don S. P. Wijesinghe (Summer)**  
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slschway@aol.com R: (818) 782-0021

**Treasurer Emeritus:**  
Harry G. Golden, P.M. (Donna)

**Chaplain Emeritus:**  
Albert Brinhendler C: (818) 632-8508

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### **Trestle Board Staff**

**Ron Koretz, PM**

Think About It  
Sick and Visitation  
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**Photographers**

Daniel J. Seidner  
&  
Alan Ackereisen

**Plus all contributing  
members**

**Wed. July 2, NOON. Dinner reservations must be  
received or canceled to the lodge Secretary:  
(310) 657-2628**

### **July Calendar**

**Mon. July 7- Stated Meeting. 25-Year Pin Presentations  
and Entertainment.** Open: 5:15p.m. Dinner: 5:45p.m.  
Program: 7:00p.m.

**Wed. July 9- 7:15p.m. Officers Practice First Degree.**  
Officers in new stations. Open to Master Masons who want  
to learn ritual. Dress casual. Coaching available.

**Mon. July 14- 7:15p.m. First Degrees.** All Masons are  
encouraged to attend. Coaching available. **Dinner:** 5:30pm  
at Norm's on La Cienega Blvd.

**Wed. July 16- 6:00p.m. Past Masters Third Degree  
Practice. Dinner provided.** Must RSVP to Wor. Bernhard  
Morse, (310) 556-4463.

**Wed. July 16- 7:30p.m. Masonic Discussion Group. Hear  
from Past Masters on how being a Masonic leader has  
helped them in their lives.** Dress casual.

**Mon. July 21- 7:15p.m. Past Masters Third Degree.** All  
Master Masons are encouraged to attend. Wor. Bernhard in-  
charge, (310) 556-4463. Coaching available. **Dinner:**  
5:30pm at Factor's Deli, Pico and Beverly Dr.

**Mon. July 28- 7:15p.m. Officers School of Instruction,  
3rd degree, 1st section** at Ionic Composite Lodge. No  
coaching available. Only Master Masons may attend.  
**Dinner:** Fu's Palace. Pico east of Robertson Blvd.

**Wed. July 30, NOON. Dinner reservations must be  
received or canceled to the lodge Secretary.  
(310) 657-2628.**

### **August Calendar**

**Mon. August 4- Stated Meeting. Verling Kersey Award to  
Ron Stein, P.M. and Entertainment.** Open: 5:30pm  
Dinner: 5:45pm. Program: 7:00pm.

**Wed. September 3, NOON. Dinner reservations must be  
received or canceled to the lodge Secretary.  
(310) 657-2628.**

### **Lodge Dark Balance of Month**

**STATED MEETING RESERVATIONS OR GENERAL  
INFORMATION CONTACT RALPH DUNN, P.M.  
(310) 657-2628**

**FOR LODGE HALL RENTAL OR OFFICE RENTAL  
CONTACT: HOWARD STEINORE, P.M. BUILDING  
MANAGER. (310) 657-2628**

# JULY BIRTHDAYS



Earl M. Rogers	1	Arthur Eberstein	8	Arnold Leanse	20
Gary Brazina	1	Reuben Payne	9	Robert Nelli	21
Jack L. Abrams	1	Kenneth Bourguignon	10	Leigh M. Greest	21
Bernard L. Levy	1	William J. Dankers, III	10	Robert Hughes	24
Julian R. Black	2	Bahram Raeen	10	Glenn Ardizzone	24
Alex Narayan	3	Arnold B. Bristol	11	Bernard Rein	25
Joao Dos Santos	3	Irving Garfunkel	14	Howard M. Brandes	25
Morton Devor	4	Paul Troy	16	Jacob Rakita	26
Harry Karpman	4	Timothy Stone	16	David Miller	26
Albert Frankel	4	Sidney Richlin	16	Alan Nisperos	26
Robert Golden	5	Gilbert Silverman	17	Mortimer Swartz	27
Herbert Reff	5	Michael Bear	17	Arthur Berman	28
Ralph S. Dunn	6	Stephen M. Fenster	18	Dean T. Haglund	29
Ramesh Raghaven	7	Michael Cohen	19	Gerald Miller	29
Melvin Bayer	7	Melville H. Nahin	19	Barry Charles	30
Barry Bierman	8	William Weinberg	19	Theodore Blumenfeld	30

# August BIRTHDAYS

Stanley Schway	3	Richard A. Green	10
Jeff King	3	Clifford Wolosin	11
Daniel Davis	3	Robert P. Craig	16
Albert Solnit	4	Alvin Rosenthal	18
Ronald Stiles	5	Harry Barron	22
James G. Selimos	5	Gene R. Horst	25
Max Paster	6	Sarkis Babian	25
David Gursky	6	William Eisenberg	25
Herbert H. Jaffe	6	Vic Varjabedian	27
Leslie Light	7	Marc A. Seidner	28
Fred A. Gross	8	Damian Dymtrykoudkyy	28
Allen Sackler	8	Philip Roman	31
		Rudy Corber	31

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*The grand show is eternal. It is always sunrise somewhere; the dew is never all dried at once; a shower is forever falling vapor is rising. Eternal sunrise, eternal dawn and gloaming, on sea and continents and islands, each in its turn, as the round earth rolls.*

*John Muir*

## *FROM THE SOUTH*

Brethren,

It is no secret that there has been a certain wrangling and dissension in our ranks for the last two years, and it is with great pleasure that I can now report that this problem has been resolved. Let us now put this problem behind us, so that we can move forward with “no contention but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work and best agree.”

Unfortunately, I was ill, and could not attend the Lodge picnic in West Covina on May 24<sup>th</sup>. I understand from the brethren that did attend that not only was it educational and informative, but also enjoyable. Everyone said they had a good time, and that they were impressed with the care taken of our elderly brethren and widows. They also commented on how well the children who reside there, both from Masonic and non-Masonic families, were looked after. Our charity dollars are indeed going to a worthy cause, as was evident to all who were there.

And speaking of which, the fiscal “Grand Lodge Giving Year” extends from July through June, so any contributions made after July 1 2008 will be counted in the 2008-2009 giving year. That is, we are starting over. We can be very proud of the records set by our Lodge, and I can only ask that you “keep up the good work.” This is indeed “Masonry in Action”.

On that same note, as Webmaster for our Lodge, I have added a link on our home page (<http://www.calodges.org/no520>) to the Grand Lodge Big 15 Lodges page, where we are prominently shown and praised for the good work we are doing. This is a great “atta-boy”. Pat yourselves on the back for this.

Your officers are, to a great extent, ready for next year, and we have full calendar for next month of degree meetings. We really need more sideliners to support us in welcoming our new brothers, and in raising our new Master Masons. Also, we will help any sideliner that wants to learn a part in the ritual. We need your support. When a new Entered Apprentice is shown the light by which Masons work, it is great for him to see that two great pillars of his brothers support him.

Until next month,

Fraternally,  
Bill Miller, JW

## *Think About It*

Ron KoretzP.M.

In the past few years, individual incidents have tarnished liver transplantation in the state of California. The transplant team at St. Vincent's Hospital in Los Angeles were unable to use a donor liver for a patient from Saudi Arabia and, rather than go to the next potential recipient on the list, went further down that list to identify another Saudi patient and used the liver there. This might seem like an unusual decision until one realizes that Saudis pay the full charges for the transplantation procedure; those dollar amounts are far more than the discounted rates that insurance companies receive.

Then there was the situation at the University of California at Irvine. The system kept patients on a transplant list for months or years in order to keep a program in existence that did have a functional transplant surgeon.

More recently, a transplant surgeon in San Francisco “harvested” a donor organ after allegedly hastening his demise with medication. That doctor is currently facing criminal charges and the loss of his license.

Now the Los Angeles Times is reporting about events that happened at the UCLA Medical Center a few years ago. Allegedly, four Japanese patients were transplanted even though they were heavily involved in gangs in Japan; at least, they are all on a list of Japanese individuals who are no longer allowed into the United States because of suspected gang or other criminal activity. Those patients also paid the full charges. Two of them even went further by donating an additional \$100,000 each to support research and education in the liver transplant unit. UCLA stated that there was no reason to question the donations at the time and the transplant surgeon denied any knowledge of these patients' backgrounds. He went further by stating that he did not make moral judgments about patients and only dealt with their medical needs. During this time, more than 150 other patients died while waiting for a liver transplant in the greater Los Angeles area.

A liver transplant generates hundreds of thousands of dollars to the institution. Money does tend to bring out mischief in people. It is probably not coincidental that these things have happened at liver transplant centers. While a few people may have made some short-term profit from their actions, the long-term losses, in terms of the images of organ transplantation, and medicine in general, have been substantial.

## FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

What a turnout we had at our June Stated Meeting! It was great to see our dining room filled nearly to capacity for a Stated Meeting dinner.

We began the open portion by honoring our 60 and 65 year veterans. As you know, our Grand Lodge honors Master Masons who have attained 50 and 75 years of membership. That's a long time between honors, especially since a Brother would have to be at least 96 years old to receive the 75 Year Veteran award. Recognizing this situation, our Lodge recently instituted awards for 55, 60 and 65 years of membership, with a special lapel pin being awarded at the 60 year mark. [fill in names] received pins and certificates recognizing their having attained 60 years of Masonic service. [fill in names] received certificates recognizing their having attained 65 years of Masonic service.

We were then honored to have Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca as our guest speaker. Sheriff Baca spoke about the strong connection between the values of his office and our Craft as well and recognized that Sheriffs Eugene Biscaluz, Peter Pitchess and Sherman Block were all Masons. In fact, all of these Brothers were Vierling Kersey Award winners in 1959, 1961 and 1988, respectively.

While we're talking about our veteran Brothers, we will be having a special Masonic Discussion Night on Wednesday, July \_\_, beginning at 7:30 p.m., when several Past Masters will be present to speak about the history of our Lodge and its affiliates as well as what Masonry has meant to them. This promises to be a special evening.

On a different note, I enjoy perusing the Grand Lodge Administrative web site. There is a wealth of educational information there. This evening I read several articles, one of which was entitled "The Undivided Craft: Freemasonry In The Civil War". The article is a recapitulation of several vignettes of acts of brotherly love and relief given by Brethren on one side of the conflict to Brethren on the other side. I'm sure that some of the stories would not be new to you, but the conclusion of the article bears repeating here:

"These lessons of the past are most important for us to remember. Our Brethren of the Civil War could have been forgiven if they had turned their backs on those in distress—but they did not! They helped the Mason and non-Mason whenever and wherever they could—and were better men and Freemasons for it—and our Fraternity and the world are better because of them.

"Unfortunately the past is far too often forgotten. Countless people consider freemasonry's First Tenet, Brotherly Love, as just so much sentimentality. Group is fighting group, section is antagonizing section, and competing ideologies and political opinions are running rampant.

"I will leave you with this challenge: Would you as Masons today act as our Civil War brethren, and put aside political and personal differences for the sake of another Brother known only to you as a Mason?"

Fraternally,  
Jeff Bear, Senior Warden

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## Congratulations to Lodge Award Recipients

The Vierling Kersey Award  
Ron Stein, P.M.  
August Stated Meeting

The Hiram Award  
Ronald Koretz, P.M.  
September Stated Meeting

The Isadore Moore Award  
Jeffrey Gordon  
October Stated Meeting

Dear LADIES and Masons of Ionic Composite Lodge,

It's amazing to realize that this year of Masonry is at its halfway mark.  
With that in mind, and looking toward the future, I would like to enlist your help!

Please let me introduce myself.

I am Trisha Zagma, the fiancée of your Senior Warden, Jeff Bear. In anticipation of his being elected and installed as your Master next December, Jeff and I have discussed our desire to make a change regarding the lack of activities for ladies at the Lodge. To begin with, during the closed portion of the Stated Meetings, I would like to calendar activities, presentations, workshops, discussions, games, or whatever interests the women of Ionic Composite.

Please contact me by phone (818) 716-8806, or email: [trishagz@yahoo.com](mailto:trishagz@yahoo.com) with any and all of your suggestions, recommendations and contacts so that I can begin now to plan for our future together.

I am looking forward to working together to create a fascinating, fulfilling and fun atmosphere for all of us at Ionic Composite Lodge.

Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Sincerely,  
Trisha

## Congratulations to Ionic Composite Lodge's 60 and 65 Year Veterans



From L to R: Irving Kerman, Bernie Diamond, Julian Black, Wor. Don Wijesinghe, M.W. Mel Nahin, Nathan Adelman, Wor. John Biron, John Anderson, Reuben Payne, and Leo Seidner. Not present: Richard Anderson, Jr.



Sheriff Lee Baca addresses our Lodge.

Bro. Daniel Seidner pins 60 year veteran pin on his grandfather Bro. Leo S. Seidner.



## JULY MENU

Salad, bread and butter

Choice of:

Beef Stir Fry

or

Red Snapper

Starch & Vegetables

Dessert

## AUGUST MENU

Salad, bread and butter

Choice of:

Lemon Dill Chicken

or

Mahi Mahi

Starch & Vegetables

Dessert



*Menu subject to change.*

*Dinners are by reservation only and must be made or cancelled no later than 12 NOON the Wednesday before the Stated Meeting. Reservations made and not cancelled by that date will be charged. Dinners are prepared by your reservation only. Dinner costs are: \$15.00 per person for all members and guests except those invited by the Master. Masonic widows of Ionic Composite Lodge will not be charged for dinner. A Masonic widow is a widow of a member of Ionic Composite Lodge who has not remarried.*

## Brethren and Family Members Sick and Visitation Committee Report

**Brothers Name  
& Lady**

**Phone**

**JACK ABRAMS**

Chronic health problems  
living in San Jose, California

[408] 998-8209

**OSCAR HALL**

(Bess)  
Chronic medical condition  
that keeps him at home

[323] 653-0698

**LEONARD HESS**

(Muriel)  
At home with  
disabling illness

[310] 472-3212

---

### ***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  
RALPH DUNN, P.M.  
TEL: (310) 657-2628  
"E"mail: ionicomp@sbcglobal.net  
1122 S. La Cienega Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90035-2500

We Wish Everyone on this List a Full and Complete Recovery

Brethren "Please"

A Telephone Call from You Could Brighten Their Day  
If You Know of Brother or His Family Who Are Ill

Please Notify

For Details of the Brethren and their wives-  
please contact

Ralph Dunn, P.M. Tel: (310) 657-2628

"E"mail: ionicomp@sbcglobal.net

or Ron Koretz, P.M. R: [818] 360-2708

Soft And Safe To Thee  
My Brethren  
Be Thy Resting Place

Brother

Passed

Orlan Herrick

December 23, 2007



1122 So. La Cienega Blvd.  
 Los Angeles, CA 90035-2592  
 Secretary, Ralph Dunn, PM  
 Office Phone: 310/657-2628

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**  
 July/August 2008 Issue

**DATED MATERIAL**

July 2008						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Officers Practice First Degree	10	11	12
13	14 First Degree	15	16 Past Masters Third Degree Practice & Discussion Group	17	18	19
20	21 Past Masters Third Degree	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 O.S.I.	29	30	31		

August 2008						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Stated Meeting Verling Kersey Award	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						