



Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520 Trestle Board

WEB SITE: www.calodges.org/no520 • E-MAIL: ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net

Meets Every Monday Stated Meeting First Monday 7:00PM

July/August 2009

FROM THE EAST

Brethren and Ladies,

I am sitting here writing this article shortly before Trisha and I leave for a week in Maui in the midst of selling her house and buying our new home. Pretty hairy schedule, isn't it?

Well today also happens to be the night before Mel Nahin's Charity Roast and only a few days after we had the honor to present the Vierling Kersey Award for service to youth to M.W. Richard Wakefield Hopper. In the past few months we have had five Past Grand Masters visit our Lodge in addition to M.W. Mel, of course, who we number amongst our members. We also recently celebrated our Chaplin Emeritus Albert Brinhendler's 100th birthday. In short, over the past few months we have had the opportunity to associate with men who truly walk the walk of being Masons: that is, of being the kind of men we should all aspire to be.

June 24 is St. John the Baptist Day. St. John the Baptist was a man of strength and fire, uncompromising with evil or expediency, and yet, courageous, humble, sincere and magnanimous. On June 24 we observe the festival of the summer sun and on December 27, we observe the festival of the winter sun, which honors St. John the Evangelist. St. John's Day in June marks the summer solstice, when nature attains the zenith of light, life and joy. St. John's Day in winter, December 27, symbolizes the turn of the sun's farthest journey---the attainment of wisdom, the rewards of a life well-spent and love toward one's fellow man. Indeed, the first Grand Lodge, organized in England, was formed on St. John the Baptist Day in 1717.

Where am I going with all this rambling---the talk of great men, past and present. Simply this. Let us pause and commit ourselves to follow the example of these men in our daily lives: Commit ourselves to the three principal tenants of Masonry: Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth; to our four cardinal virtues: Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice and to walking uprightly before G-d and man, dealing with all men on the level and squaring ourselves by the square of virtue.

As of this writing, our Lodge remains Number 1 in charitable giving amongst the Big 15. Other Lodges have noticed us and have us in their sights. We can and will maintain our position as Number 1 amongst the Big 15.

Please remember that the Masonic Charities operates on a fiscal year (not a calendar year) that ends on June 30, so it is necessary for all of us to assure that our contributions are received in advance of that date. To be sure that we are properly credited with your contribution please put "Ionic Composite #520" on your check or in the designated field on the web page. It would be best to mail your check to the Lodge so we can handle that for you and be sure proper credit is given. You can also contribute on the Grand Lodge website by going to www.Freemason.org Remember, we are NOT a "com"!!!

Many thanks to Phillip G. "Phil" Elam, Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri (1999-2000) for my liberal use of his words on the Saints John.

Trisha and I are looking forward to seeing you and making Ionic Composite Lodge "The Place To Be"!

Fraternally,
Jeff Bear, Master

July Calendar

July 1 - NOON. Dinner reservation due for July Stated Meeting to lodge office: (310) 657-2628

July 6 - Stated Meeting Western Theme. Open Lodge: 5:15pm. Dinner: 5:45pm. Open program: 7:00pm. Dress casual.

July 13 - 7:15pm First Degree, ALL brothers are encouraged to attend and welcome our new brother into the lodge. 5:30pm Dinner at Sizzlers on Wilshire Blvd. west of Fairfax.

July 15 - 7:30pm Discussion Group. Open to all men and women. Bring your friends and ask those questions that you have always wanted to know about Masonry. Casual dress.

July 20 - 7:15pm Third Degree. All Master Masons are encouraged to attend. 5:30pm Dinner at Jan's on Beverly Blvd. east of La Cienega Blvd. Coaching available for Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts.

July 27 - 7:15pm Second Degree. All Fellowcraft and Master Masons encouraged to attend. Coaching available for Entered Apprentices. 5:30pm Dinner at Factor's Deli on Pico and Beverly Dr.

July 29 - NOON. Dinner reservation due for August Stated Meeting to lodge office: (310) 657- 2628

July 30 - 7:15pm. O.S.I. at Southern California Lodge. Third degree, first section. All officers MUST attend or contact the Master and Inspector. Master Masons interested in learning ritual may attend. Dress casual. 5:30pm Dinner at Alejo's Pesto Italian Restaurant 8343 Lincoln Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045.

August Calendar

Aug. 3 - Stated Meeting. Golden Veteran Award to Brother Phil Torf. Secretary and Treasurer's reports. Casual Dress. Dinner: 5:45pm, Open program: 7:00pm.

**The rest of August will be Dark.
No Discussion Group.
Have a nice Vacation**

For lodge information or lodge
room rentals
Contact Howard Steinore, PM
(310) 657-2628.

For information about Freemasonry or
our lodge go to:
<http://www.calodges.org/no520>

JULY BIRTHDAYS



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

August



BIRTHDAYS

Mike Thorpe	2	Richard A. Green	10
Stanley Schway	3	Clifford Wolosin	11
Jeff King	3	Robert P. Craig	16
Daniel Davis	3	Alvin Rosenthal	18
Albert Solnit	4	Harry Barron	22
Ronald Stiles	5	Gene R. Horst	25
James G. Selimos	5	Sarkis Babian	25
Max Paster	6	William Eisenberg	25
David Gursky	6	Vic Varjabedian	27
Herbert H. Jaffe	6	Marc A. Seidner	28
Leslie Light	7	Damian Dymtrykouskyy	28
Fred A. Gross	8	Philip Roman	31
Allen Sackler	8	Rudy Corber	31

Summer Is Here



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FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

Firstly, I would like to thank the Lodge for sending me to the Senior Wardens' Retreat the last weekend in May. It was too late not only for the last bulletin, but even for me to prepare a report for the Lodge. I will have one for the July Stated Meeting.

This seminar was extremely interesting and helpful for me if you elect me to the Oriental Chair next year. There were 23 lecture hall presentations, some of which were jointly with our Ladies. In addition, we had 5 "breakout sessions" where we discussed what we had learned with other Senior Wardens. Besides the lecture sessions they hosted, we had a chance to meet with several Grand Lodge officers and discuss how they might help us. From Right Worshipful Ken Nagel through all of the other representatives, they are gracious and helpful. I left with the feeling that our Grand Lodge is in good hands.

This is not meant to be a comprehensive report, as you need to come to Lodge for that. I am only trying to hit the highlights for those of you who cannot do so. The major topics discussed were "Leading Freemasonry Today", which discussed the state of the Fraternity in California and around the world. This was followed by a presentation on the "Lodge Ambassador Program", for which our Ambassador is Most Worshipful Mel Nahin. We then had a discussion on our "Vision for the Lodge", and how important it is to take action to make that vision a reality. One of the most important sessions was on "Lodge Finance", concerning both the various sources of income and the difference between income and expenses with suggestions on how to control them. This year, 2009-2010, there will be no increase in per capita, but there will be 2010-2011 year.

Just to wrap this up, I believe this was lodge money well spent, as it will result in a better Ionic Composite Lodge and also in more cooperation among the local lodges.

Remember that the increase mentioned above affects your dues so think about buying a Life Membership now. This would protect you from not only an increase in per capita, but also from the inevitable lodge dues increase. Also, although 21 years dues seems a lot, most Masons remain in the fraternity for life, and paying now represents a large savings. Consider that I have been a Mason for over 40 years, and what a savings a life membership represents to me.

One additional thought; remember that the Masonic Homes charity year runs from July through June. We can be very proud of the record our Lodge has set in the year just ended, and it is now time to start on the next. Give no more than you feel you can, but please give something.

I will be looking for you in Lodge.

Fraternaly,
Bill Miller, PM,
Senior Warden.

"Why can't I be Master?" Reagan Holme, daughter of Sr. Deacon Christopher Holme and his wife Heather, trying on the Master's top hat at the reception for M.W. Larry Adamson.



From the South

If you missed the Mel Nahin Roast...you missed a tremendous evening! We had a lot of good laughs—albeit at the expense of Most Worshipful Nahin, but we also raised a significant amount for charity. Over the past few weeks, I've been looking into a variety of events and social gatherings for the lodge. I've had scant few suggestions! So I'd like to get some input on a few ideas I'm putting forth.

For our more athletic members, I'd like to set aside a morning for Horseback Riding, an evening for Bowling, perhaps an afternoon of Bocci Ball? Am I striking any cords of interest?

How about an evening of Family Game Night? Every one can bring in a pot-luck style snack and their favorite board game. I know our Master would like to start a Movie Night—where we just gather, get some jiffy-pop and enjoy each other's company while taking in a DVD.

We have a lot of degrees coming up, which is important, but let's not forget we are a Fraternity. During this hard economic time we all can get a bit depressed and a little out of sorts—getting together doesn't mean we have to spend a lot (or anything really), but the camaraderie, friendship and good times can help.

If I may borrow a well used quote, "ask not what your lodge can do for you, as what you can do for your lodge."

One last thing I'd like to address this month is the invaluable contribution a committee chairman adds to all our events. He organizes the event, secures entertainment, works with just about everybody to make sure it goes without a hitch and rallies the troupes to attend. I'd like to extend a special thank you to Worshipful Bob Sills for the Grand Masters Reception and Most Worshipful Nahin's Roast. Without him and the support of his Lady, Robin, the lodge would be a much duller place.

So, I am putting a challenge out there—if you think you can match the organizational skill of Worshipful Sills, I'd like to put you to the test. Have an idea for an event? Bring it on!

Tim Shiner, JW

For The Ladies Only

Dear Ladies of Ionic Composite Lodge,

*It's hard to believe but June 1st became the 6th month that we have been meeting for our "Ladies Nite."
Wow!!!*

We have had so many varied programs and made many new friends. We have had the Grand First Lady, Lynn Adamson, grace us twice as well as other Grand Ladies. This past Stated Meeting, Judy Hopper, wife of Junior Past Grand Master Richard Wakefield Hopper, delighted us with her presence also.

Our own Wonderful Ladies of Ionic Composite have enjoyed our evenings together and become a closer family of Masonic Women.

This past meeting was an educational one providing the knowledge and practice of Cardio-Pulmonary-Resuscitation (CPR). All of us had an opportunity to practice on "Resusi Annie" and her baby. Who knows, maybe the life we have learned to save, might be one of our Masonic own? Most importantly, we were afforded the time to develop our skills. Hopefully we will never need to use them, but it sure feels good knowing we can help someone in need.

I look forward to continuing our "tiled" programs for the next 6 months. Let's continue to make Ionic Composite Lodge "The Place to Be."

*Sincerely,
Trisha Bear, wife of Jeff Bear, Master of Ionic Composite Lodge*

Think About It

Ron Koretz, P.M.

When I was growing up, I spent many hours at Gilmore Field, sitting in the bleachers in right field with my baseball mitt and hoping that I would catch a baseball sometime. It never happened and then, suddenly in 1958, the Hollywood Stars disappeared forever, being replaced by a major league team that I initially resented and wished would go back to Brooklyn.

Over that baseball year, which was disastrous for the Dodgers, I did start to take an interest in the team. However, the major reason for my new-found loyalty was not any of the players, but rather a baseball announcer who really seemed to understand what the game was all about. In today's light, this is particularly surprising, because he never played major league baseball.

Vin Scully has been the Dodger announcer since 1950. It is clear when one listens to him today that his voice and probably his body are not as strong as they used to be. I do not know how much longer he will even remain in the announcers' booth. But his 6-decade career continues to inspire me in a way that no other person in professional sports has been able to do. He is certainly not in the habit of putting his personal life on public display. We never read that he was arrested for drunk driving. We do not hear about family spats that result in police calls to his house. No, the only thing that we have ever heard from Vin is the description of the game.

It is not just his technical knowledge about what is going on at field level that sets Vin Scully apart from other sports announcers. He has an innate understanding about the limitations of baseball. To Vin, it is a sport, period. How many times has he interrupted his own play-by-play to acknowledge a particular world crisis?

As many of you know, I have, for the most part, abandoned professional and high-level college sports because of the value system that they have come to espouse. The major sacrifice that not listening to sports has been for me is not being able to hear Vin Scully on a regular basis.

I suspect that I am not alone in my feelings about the man. I will be sorry to see him go when he is no longer able to do the job. He has been a valuable role model for me. So, while he is still active, I am writing this column to thank him for his decades of exemplifying what life is really all about.

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Secretaries Corner

I would like to open this article by thanking the Wor. Don Wijesinghe for appointing me as Secretary; he was taking a big risk in me. I would also like to thank Wor. Jeff Bear and the lodge for electing me to this honored position.

I take this position very seriously and I know I have very big shoes to fill. My goals will be very hard to achieve but with the help of all the brethren we can achieve anything. I would like to have 100% of the dues paid, I would also like to set up a committee of willing brethren to assist me in calling some of the elderly brothers who might be delinquent in the payment of their dues and see if the lodge can be of assistance to them. I would like also to continue our status as the number one lodge of the big 15 and ultimately take over as the number one lodge in the state.

Once again I want to thank the lodge for the confidence they have in me, and I promise the lodge I will do the best job I can.

I wish everyone a great Masonic year and would like to thank everyone whose assisted me or has offered to assist me.

Finally let me thank Tony Napoli for being a great Assistant Secretary and helping to organize the office. I also want to thank Tim Shiner, JW, who has helped me with the computer.

Sincerely,
Howard Steinore PM
Secretary

Brethren and Family Members Sick and Visitation Committee Report

JULY MENU

Salad, Bread and Butter

Choice of:

BBQ Tri-Tip

or

White Roughy

Potatoes, Vegetables

Dessert

&

Beverages

AUGUST MENU

Salad, Bread and Butter

Choice of:

Rosemary Chicken

or

Salmon

Potatoes, Vegetables

Dessert

&

Beverages



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.

Brothers Name & Lady

Phone

DARYL BRISTOL Fighting Myeloma cancer He is improving	[310] 869-7259
BOB EDELMAN NEEDS KIDNEY TRANSPLANT	[310] 202-0115
EDGAR FRIEDMAN Lung problems	[818] 501-5878
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
STAN SCHWAY Had some skin cancer removed	[818] 782-0021

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

Lodge Office Tel: (310) 657-2628

"E"mail: ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net

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

FUNERAL TELEPHONE LIST

ANY BROTHER WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE PLACED
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PLEASE CONTACT

Lodge Office

TEL:(310) 657-2628

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1122 S. La Cienega Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90035-2500



1122 So. La Cienega Blvd.
 Los Angeles, CA 90035-2592
 Secretary, Howard Steinore, P.M.
 Office Phone: 310/657-2628

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
 July & August 2009 Issue

DATED MATERIAL

JULY 2009						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Stated Meeting	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 First Degree	14	15 Discussion Group	16	17	18
19	20 Third Degree	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Second Degree	28	29	30 O.S.I.	31	

AUGUST 2009						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Stated Meeting Golden Veteran Award	4	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					