



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

Nov. Dec. 2009

FROM THE EAST

Brethren and Ladies,

Last month I opened my article with a question. This month I have another one: If you were arrested for being a Mason, would there be enough evidence to convict you?

Masonry is not about wearing a ring or having an emblem on your car. It's not even about coming to stated meetings or memorizing the Ritual. It's about living every day Masonically...putting its teachings and precepts into daily practice, or as P.G.M. Larry Adamson called it, "Applied Freemasonry." Do you apply our tenants of "brotherly love relief and truth" every day? Do you apply our cardinal virtues of "temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice" every day? Do you do something "Masonic" every day? I suppose few of us actually accomplish this level of perfection, but we nonetheless must travel on a path that will smooth and shape our lives into the perfect ashlar that is our goal.

This is the last article I will write as Master of our Lodge for 2009. As this journey comes to an end, I am grateful for the aid and support of so many of my brethren. My officers were of particular assistance to me and I want to publically thank Rob Gordon, Joseph Eshaghian, Daniel Seidner, Axel Del Cid, Kerin Surrents, Carl Washington, Evan Weiss and Tony Napoli for their support. Bill Miller provided especial assistance in so many ways, not just as Senior Warden, but acting as Officers' Coach and Webmaster as well. Tim Shiner indeed shined. In addition to being a great Junior Warden, he was "the main man" in putting on so many events that it's impossible to count. His support was instrumental in the success of this Lodge this year.

If you have ever been in this position, then you know that there are two pillars (I don't mean this ritually) upon whom every Master must rely: The Treasurer and Secretary. I was particularly fortunate to have had my brother, Michael Bear, and Howard Steinore in those positions. They were, indeed, my trusted advisors and my right and left hands this year. As a result of their efforts, we have reorganized our financial and business records and practices and now have accurate up-to-date information available upon which run the Lodge.

I also want to extend special thanks to Bob Sills, who, in addition to his wise counsel to me, extended his considerable talents in chairing two of our very successful events, the Grand Master's Reception and the Mel Nahin Charity Roast which were such a big part of our Lodge's success in supporting the Masonic charities this year.

As this article was being written, I was informed of some very special news by Scottish Rite: Wor. Ron Koretz has been named to be coroneted with the 33rd Degree Inspector General (Honorary) and Wor. Bob Sills will become 32nd Degree Knight Commander Court of Honor.

It is custom to thank Past Masters at every Stated Meeting. This custom is born out of the fact that our Lodge would not exist but for their efforts. I want to extend special thanks to P.G.M. Mel Nahin for his friendship and mentorship over the years and to Past Masters Norm Crosby, Jerry Freeman, Harry Golden, Jeff Gordon, Ron Koretz, Bernie Morse, Bill Nemoy, Jay Richards, Stan Schway, Ron Stein and Roy Steinfeld for their advice, help and participation over the years.

As always, I close by thanking my wife, Trisha, who means so much to me and has gone above and beyond the "duties" of the First Lady". This year and this Lodge are so much better due to your energy and efforts. I could not have done my job without you.

The hard work of these wonderful people has given us a truly remarkable year. Our Lodge is "Guilty" of being Masons. We initiated 7 Entered Apprentice Masons, Passed 5 Masons to the Degree of Fellowcraft and Raised 3 Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, for a total of 15 degrees. We continued our tradition of receiving Grand Masters of Masons in California for the 39th consecutive year and we were visited by 7 Past Grand Masters during the year. We had several social gatherings and enjoyed the good fellowship that is so much a part of Masonry, including our extraordinarily successful Mel Nahin Charity Roast. We fulfilled our obligation of charity to our brothers and their widows and orphans and accomplished our goal of being Number 1 of the Big 15 for the third consecutive year and set a new "personal best" by becoming the Number 2 of all Lodges in contributing to Masonic charities. Finally, we are charging into 2010 with a great new Officers Line who, after next year, will be made up of motivated young men who have not previously sat in the East.

Trisha and I are enthused by the prospects for next year and look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

Fraternally,
Jeff Bear, Master

Oct 28 NOON *Dinner reservations must be received by the lodge (310) 657-2628. Please don't call in late.*

November Calendar

Nov 2 - Stated Meeting. Past Masters Recognition Night and Election of Officers. Open: 5:15pm. Dinner: 5:45pm. Program: 7:00pm.

Nov 9 - 7:15pm First Degree. All Masons of all degrees are encouraged to attend. Let's welcome our new brother 5:30pm. Dinner at Norms on La Cienega Blvd. north of Beverly Blvd.

Nov 12 - TABLE LODGE, Open to Masons of ALL degrees. See insert. in conjunction with Southern California Lodge. 7:00pm at Westchester Masonic Center. 7726 West Manchester Ave., Playa del Rey

Nov 16 - 7:15pm Past Masters Third Degree, Bro. Zack Lodmer. All Master Masons encouraged to attend. 5:30pm Dinner at Factor's Deli on Pico Blvd. at Beverly Dr.

Nov 18 - 7:15pm OSI: Liberal Arts Lodge. 2244 Westwood Blvd, LA 90064-2018. (310) 474-9376. Installation and Master and Warden elect written work. All officers must attend or be excused by the Inspector and inform the Master.

Nov 23 - 7:15pm First Degree. All Masons of all degrees encouraged to attend. Let's welcome our new brother. 5:30pm Dinner at Jan's on Beverly Blvd. east of La Cienega Blvd.

Nov 30 - Lodge Dark.

December Calendar

Dec 2 - NOON *Dinner reservations must be received by the lodge (310) 657-2628. Please don't call in late.*

Dec 7 - Stated Meeting: Holiday Party. Honoring Golden Veterans. Open: 5:15pm Dinner: 5:45pm Program: 7:00pm.

Dec 9 - 7:15pm Installation Practice. All participants need to attend. 6:00pm Dinner at the lodge. Dress casual.

Dec 13 - 6:00pm 89th Annual Installation of Officers. OPEN TO ALL. Please contact the lodge Secretary by December 9th so we know how much food to order. No charge. Light dinner to follow the program.

**IONIC COMPOSITE LODGE No 520
F. & A. M.**

Cordially Invites You, Your Family and
Friends to
The Eighty-Ninth Installation of
Officers

Sunday, December 13, 2009

Installation Starts at 6:00pm

AT THE IONIC MASONIC CENTER

1122 S. La Cienega Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90035

Light dinner to follow

No charge

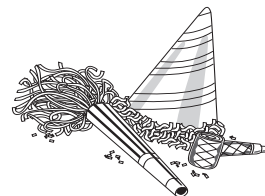
Please RSVP by December 9, 2008

(310) 657-2628 Jeffrey L. Bear Master,
2008-2009

BIRTHDAYS

November

Julius Mischel	2	Harry W. Tepper	10	Nathan Adelman	24
Laurence Fried	3	Sidney Mantell	12	Ralph Manzer	25
Louis Dalesandro	3	Moscha H. Locketz	15	Riccardo Sanchdonado	25
Jeffrey K. Bodner	4	Sheldon Lodmer	15	John B. Rasor	26
Lester A. Riskin	5	Bob Platt	15	Jerry King	27
Albert Canter	6	Lawrence Lebowsky	16	Robert Alexander	28
Gene Pira	8	Timothy Shiner	17	Richard Mednick	28
Clarence Neal	9	Michael Pecius	21	Harvey L. Jessel	30
Alvin J. Canter	9	Phillip M. Torf	21	Zachery Lodmer	30



Christopher A. Vargo	1	Arnold E. Feuerlicht	13	Michael C. Maroko	23
Milan R. Weiss	4	Charles R. Fond	15	Melvyn Snidman	24
Joseph Parker	4	Antoine Sfeir	15	Albert M. Lapides	25
Lutfallah Hay	4	Bernard Rabins	15	Sheldon Sloan	25
Morris Lazar	4	John T. Peterson	16	Stanley Ziegler	27
Ariel Abraham Afar	5	Harry G. Golden	16	Jordan Maxwell	28
Larry Madick	7	Stuart Barnett	17	Clifford Dektar	29
Wesley D. Challacombe	7	Jay Yerrnolenko	17	Terry Jones	29
Gabriel N. Hanover II	7	Norman Langer	19	Orlan Herrick	29
Sanford B. Gerber	10	Bruno V. Samuel	20	Herbert Tobman	29
Samuel Flatte	11	Michael Adler	20	Edgar Friedman	31
Michael Kaye	11	Harold Forster, Jr.	22	David Stein	31
Bernard Diamond	12	Roy E. McGinnis	22	Thomas Brown	31

December

For The Ladies Only

Dear Ladies of Tonic Composite Lodge,

I can't begin to say how completely impressed I am with how quickly and accurately the ladies have learned in 2 nights, what interpreters often need months to accomplish. Your ability to use American Sign Language musically is astounding. I thank you for your efforts and the excitement you have generated! I am so proud of all of you!!

Please join us for the Stated Meeting on November 2, 2009. As always, we will have a delicious meal with our men and join them for the open part of the meeting in the lodge. Then.....

Please stay for our wonderful women's portion of the evening when I have a delightful speaker arranged who will enlighten us with her knowledge and insight. The rest will be a surprise as per the wishes of all the ladies who have participated in the "Ladies Only" part of our meeting all year long.

December 7th will be the last stated meeting of the 2009 year. Please join us again as another wonderful speaker will be coming to teach you and impart some invaluable tools for survival in today's world.

December is the end of Jeff's tenure as Master of Tonic Composite Lodge and as such, the end of my time as your "first lady." Jeff and I have enjoyed planning and participating with you in all of our numerous activities this year. We hope you have had fun with the many joint events and establishment of our "ladies only" time each stated meeting. Please give your support to Bonnie Miller, wife of Bill Miller, your Master-elect for 2010, as she carries on with our Ladies Only events, and in continuing to have us known as Tonic Composite Lodge "The Place to Be!"

I thank you for the opportunity to become real friends with you, from our first "Ladies Only" event in Jan. '09 and each month all year, to our cocktail party at Grand Lodge and continuing through the end of this year, and especially, for all of your support and love.

Sincerely,

Trisha Bear

Wife of Jeff Bear, Master of Tonic Composite Lodge

**Notice of Dues Increase for 2010
PLEASE READ**

Brethren:

At the August Stated meeting, after proper notice, the motion to increase the annual lodge dues was approved. The Lodge dues for the calendar year 2010 will be \$65.00 plus the Grand Lodge per-capita. The per-capita from Grand Lodge will be \$31.00, so the total dues for 2010 will be \$96.00. Remember that the annual dues are due and payable by January 1, 2010. Please save the lodge a significant amount of money by paying your dues by January 1, 2010. Re-billing is expensive and takes a great deal of time. As always, those to whom paying dues would be a substantial hardship are encouraged to apply to the lodge for remittance of their dues. Please follow the instructions on your dues notice.

One way of significantly saving yourself money over the years, and helping the lodge, is to purchase a "Perpetual Membership". By doing it in 2009 the amount will be based on the current dues amount. See how much you will save by looking at the charts below. By purchasing this membership now you will also avoid any further dues or per-capita increases over the years to come. The money is kept in a separate account and only the interest may be used. If you have any question about this please feel free to talk to me, the Secretary, the Master or Senior Warden.

Fraternally,
Michael Bear, PM
Treasurer

2009 amounts, good until 12/31/2009

Age	Dues	Fee
49 or Under	21 times \$81.00 Annual	\$1,701.00
50 to 54, inclusive	19 times \$81.00 Annual	\$1,539.00
55 to 59, inclusive	17 times \$81.00 Annual	\$1,377.00
60 to 64, inclusive	14 times \$81.00 Annual	\$1,134.00
65 and over	11 times \$81.00 Annual	\$891.00

Effective 01/01/2010 the fees for Perpetual (Life) Membership will be as follows:

Age	Dues	Fee	Difference
49 or Under	21 times \$96.00 Annual	\$2,016.00	\$315.00
50 to 54, inclusive	19 times \$96.00 Annual	\$1,824.00	\$285.00
55 to 59, inclusive	17 times \$96.00 Annual	\$1,632.00	\$255.00
60 to 64, inclusive	14 times \$96.00 Annual	\$1,344.00	\$210.00
65 and over	11 times \$96.00 Annual	\$1,056.00	\$165.00

Display your lodge pride

Order an Ionic Composite Lodge

Polo Shirt TODAY!

New Navy Blue Polo shirts

with Gold Lodge Emblem

\$25 (Sizes S-XL - \$27

(2XL) - \$30 (3XL)



Make check payable and send to:

Bernie Morse

2142 Century Park Lane #114

Los Angeles, CA 90067

(310) 556-4463 for questions

Think About It

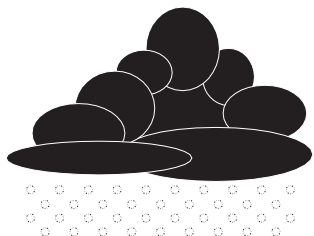
Ron Koretz, P.M.

Recently, the Today Show had a segment devoted to the issue of body image. The story began with an observation about the cover of the current Self Magazine. It featured a digitally altered photograph of a pop singer named Kelly Clarkson. In that picture, Ms. Clarkson was seen to be much thinner than she actually is. This story continued with interviews of two other women. The first was the editor of the magazine, Lucy Danziger, who defended the decision, likening a cover magazine photograph to a poster. A woman named Emme, the host of a TV program called "More To Love" that promises the life-styles of fuller-figured women, was more critical of the editorial decision. Emme believed that there is too much pressure being put on women to achieve some body image that is simply out of their reach. From my perspective, the moderator of this portion of the show, Meredith Vieira, seemed to challenge Lucy Danziger to put more realistic pictures on the cover. All of the discussants did seem to agree that the goal should be for people to feel good about themselves.

The curious thing about this particular show was that the very next segment was an interview with a woman who makes her living selling mock-ups of expensive clothes and accessories. The woman eagerly explained to the audience how easy it was to purchase these things and how one could fool friends and neighbors into thinking that much more money had been spent than had actually been expended.

I do not normally watch the Today Show. Seeing these two stories in sequence reminded me why I should not bother in the future. To follow a plea for people not to worry about their external image but just feel good inside with an inside look into how one can look richer than one really is was a dichotomy that I did not understand. I am not sure exactly what the producers of the show were trying to tell their audience. More importantly, I am fearful of the message that their audience received, namely that looking good is more important than feeling good. Regardless of what the Today Show thinks, it is biologically more satisfying to feel comfortable with what you have than to spend your life chasing the image that Madison Avenue tells you is the only way to be happy.

Winter Is Here



It's time to check your
heater or furnace.
Now that you will be indoors more,
why not consider an air purifier?

Do you want to save **energy** and **\$\$money\$\$** ?

Install a new programmable thermostat and wake-up to a warm house

* Mention Ionic Composite Lodge for **special pricing** *

Heating and Air Conditioning Service and Installation

Kerin Surents
(818) 257-2222
Or
(888) 383-0202



Southern California Lodge No. 529 And Ionic-Composite Lodge No. 520

Cordially Invite All Masons to the ANNUAL TABLE LODGE

to be held at Westchester Masonic Center 7726 West Manchester Ave. , Playa del Rey
On

Thursday, November 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of Fraternal Good Will, Brotherhood, Good Food, Wine, (or non-alcoholic beverage), and
Song With Brother Masons from Entered Apprentices on up.

(Sorry, ladies, this is a stag event.) Dress: Coat and Tie, Please

A Table Lodge is a traditional, tiled, formal dinner
Accompanied by seven Formal Toasts, Responses and Singing
That goes back to the days when lodges met above public houses or taverns.

Cost is \$50.00 and includes a 4-course dinner (beef or vegetarian),
wine, Table Lodge booklet and custom-etched commemorative Firing Glass.

Seating is limited, Reservations are by check in advance no later than Nov. 5th and made payable to:
Ionic Composite Lodge: 1122 S. La Cienega Blvd. #108, Los Angeles, CA 90035-2500

Please specify Meat or Vegetarian

Questions? Contact event co-chairman
Ionic-Composite Lodge: Wor. Jeff Bear, P.M. (310) 429-3007
Southern California Lodge: Nick Mitchell, P.M. (310) 242-7121

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Dec. 7 - Stated Meeting: Holiday Party
Honoring Golden Veterans.

Dec. 10 - at 7:15 pm Installation Practice
Dinner at 5:30 pm

Dec. 13 - at 6:00 pm Annual Installation
of Officers

FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

This being my last article as Senior Warden, I would like to thank all who read my monthly commentaries. I hope you all found them to be interesting and entertaining. I also want to thank you for indulging my constant requests for donations to the Masonic Charities. We can all be very proud of the fact that our Lodge was recognized as the most charitable among the 15 largest Lodges in California. I also want to thank the brethren for sending me to Grand Lodge in October. There were many significant issues for us to vote on, so it was important to be there.

The month of November should be a busy and interesting time for our Lodge. Besides the Stated Meeting on November 2nd, which will be both elections and the annual Past Masters Recognition Night, we have a First Degree on the 9th, and the annual Past Masters rendition of the 3rd Degree on the 16th. The candidate that night will be Brother Zach Lodmer, son of long time Brother Sheldon Lodmer. I hope we have a large turnout that night to honor both the candidate Zach, and his father.

December features the Stated Meeting at which we will honor Golden Veterans, followed by the installation on Sunday, December 13th

I do need help in some areas. We need more candidate coaches. It is important to have brothers who can help bring along our candidates to learn about Masonry I would also like to have an Assistant Web Master. Just keeping the site up to date is not that big a job, but I also need to make some changes so that Grand Lodge can again recognize us having the top site in the jurisdiction.

As I noted above, this year at Grand Lodge we received an award as "The Best of the Biggest" for our contributions to the Masonic Charities. Unfortunately, we were only second in the state overall, and only needed a few more members to contribute to be number one. Next year, I would like to see that happen. The Masonic Giving Year is from July through June, so if you contribute now, it will be credited for the 2010 Grand Lodge year. Any amount, however small, (one less coffee or pack of cigarettes a month), will really add up. If you have already given, thank you, if not, please consider doing so. The need is great.

I am busy planning for next year, but as I have not been elected, announcements would be premature. Besides, I need your input. Please come to Lodge and talk with me. If anyone has suggestions for next year, I will listen to all I receive. I am always available by email, which you can send to: b2miller@pacbell.net,

Finally, on a personal note, I received a First Award for an Orchid (C. Intermedia) that I entered in the monthly contest at the San Fernando Valley Orchid Society. It is my first time winning, so I take this opportunity to brag about it.

See you all soon.

Fraternally,
Bill Miller, PM,
Senior Warden.

From the South

I saw an honest to goodness community a few weeks ago. It shocked me! I had no idea that they still existed. This was a small town in South California, not influenced by the Hollywood scene. There was a town square, a library, a Masonic Lodge (with a banner over the main street announcing "Constitutional Observance" month with a special program at the library!) They had a teen center—and it had teens actually congregating in it! Playing ping-pong. The nostalgia of the experience re-awakened old memories of growing up in a similar place.

Our Masonic membership is so dispersed that it is almost (and I must qualify that)—almost impossible to connect with our own community. These thoughts then led me to ponder the word "Community". What I had seen was a locality, with all that one would expect in a 'small town.'

So I looked up the definition of 'Community'—there were 2 definitions with the word "location" in it, but the one that caught my eye was this:

Dictionary.com Community

A social, religious, occupational, or other group sharing common characteristics or interests and perceived or perceiving itself as distinct in some respect from the larger society within which it exists (usually prec. by *the*): *the business community; the community of scholars.*

It seems our organization is, indeed, a community. A community, albeit separated by distance, but one joined by our distinct beliefs in equality, brotherhood, truth and relief.

What we seem to be lacking, in my humble opinion, is that part of the community in which we get to "commune" or get together. Sure, we go to lodge every once in awhile; we might even show up for a degree. I have noticed that our Stated Meetings and degrees are much lighter than previous years. Yet we continue to pay our dues, receive our Trestleboard, and go about the business of life. The ebb and flow of our days bring us in to lodge, take us away and bring us back again.

As Masons, we know that nothing in lodge is done in a hurry. Every thing has a time and place; the floor work must be done before one speaks his part (See Bill, I was paying attention!). With this in mind, I would like to officially invite you all to come back to lodge, slow down, and breath and enjoy a degree or two. Let the outside world wait for a few hours. Stop and smell the roses—or stop and commune with your brothers, relieve some stress and just hang out. Ping-pong anyone?

Fraternally,
Tim Shiner

NOVEMBER MENU

Salad, Bread and Butter

Choice of:

Turkey Breast

or

Salmon

Vegetable

&

Dessert

DECEMBER MENU

Salad, Bread and Butter

Choice of:

Pot Roast

or

Orange Roughy

Vegetable

&

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.

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

Lodge Office

TEL:(310) 657-2628

“E”mail: ionicomp@sbcglobal.net

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

Brethren and Family Members Sick and Visitation Committee Report

Brothers Name & Lady

Phone

DARYL BRISTOL Getting more treatment at UCLA	[310] 869-7259 Cell Phone
BOB EDELMAN NEEDS KIDNEY TRANSPLANT	[310] 202-0115
EDGAR FRIEDMAN Lung problems	[818] 501-5878
OSCAR HALL (Bess) Oscar at home with chronic medical condition	[323] 653-0698
LEONARD HESS (Muriel) Home with lengthy disabling illness	[310] 472-3212
JAY RICHARDS Several problems	[818] 769-2301

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: ionicomp@sbcglobal.net

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

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>

**Soft And Safe To Thee
My Brethren
Be Thy Resting Place**

Brother

Herbert Hyman Jaffe

Passed

September 28, 2009



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
 Nov. Dec. 2009 Issue

DATED MATERIAL

November 2009						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Stated Meeting	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 First Degree	10	11	12 Table Lodge	13	14
15	16 Past Masters Third Degree	17	18 OSI	19	20	21
22	23 First Degree	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2009						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Stated Meeting Holiday Party	8	9 Practice for Installation	10	11	12
13 Installation of Officers	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		