



Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520 Trestle Board



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

Meets Every Monday

Stated Meeting on First Monday @ 7:00pm

May 2010



FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

At our Stated Meeting on April 5th, we received the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Kenneth G. Nagel. This was the 40th consecutive year our Lodge has received the Grand Master. Also that night, we presented awards to the McBride School Teacher and Administer of the year. Entertainment was furnished by the McBride School, a concert pianist who entertained us with a selection of Gerschwin melodies. Following the ceremonies, and before the business portion of the Stated Meeting, the brothers and guests were treated to an ice cream bar by Baskin Robbins.

Dinner that night was Beef Short Ribs, and I am happy to report that the dinner was excellent, our new caterer very well received, and the food greatly praised. Now we need more people to enjoy it so we can keep him. We had a full dining room that night, with almost a capacity crowd. It was a pleasure to see so many tables filled. I wish I could see more of you more often. Your presence is missed.

We will not have our usual Open Discussion this month, as the district Officers School of Instruction is on the 3rd Wednesday. However, we are planning a very interesting open meeting next month because of the program on DVD (not shown last month) called "The Freemasons: The Mystery, Myth and Truth." One of the people interviewed is John J. Robinson, author of Born in Blood. It should be fun to watch, and even more fun to discuss afterwards.

My message this month is rather shorter than usual, because I have been busy at home. As you will read elsewhere, my wife had a knee replaced, and I have had to take care of her. She hopes to be with us at the May Stated Meeting, but that is far from certain. Meanwhile, Time and Joseph are doing great things for the Lodge. Come and let them know their hard work is worthwhile.

I will see you all in Lodge.

Fraternally,
Bill Miller, Master.

Ionic Composite Lodge No. 520
1122 S. La Cienega Blvd. Ste. 108
Los Angeles, CA 90035-2500

Office: (310) 657-2628
Email: ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net
Web: <http://www.calodges.org/no520/>

Wednesday, April 28th, NOON

Dinner reservations **must** be received by the Lodge (310) 657-2628 Please don't call in late!!

May Calendar

May 3rd, Stated Meeting. Youth Orders Night.

Open: 5:15p.m. **Dinner:** 5:45pm. **Program:** 7:00p.m.

May 10, 7:15p.m. First Degree Practice. All Officers **MUST** attend. Any Master Mason who wants to take part in the degree should also come.

5:30p.m. We will have a no host dinner at Factor's Deli on Pico Blvd, east of Beverly. We will be practicing for the First Degree, and for the Ritual Competition if it has not yet been held.

May 17, 7:15 First Degree, 5:30p.m., Dinner at Elatburger on Pico west of La Cienega. Joseph Eshaghian, Junior Warden, in charge. Come out and welcome a new Brother to the Fraternity. I would like to see him supported by two great pillars.

May 19, 7:15 p.m., Officers' School of Instruction at Culver City - Foshay Lodge on Venice Boulevard. **All Officers MUST attend.** All Master Masons may attend.

May 24, Degree Practice. All Officers MUST attend. This may be a degree if we have a candidate who is ready to advance.

May 31, Lodge Dark, Memorial Day. We will be assembling in the character of Masons at the National Memorial Cemetery in the morning. See the article elsewhere in this bulletin.

June 7, Stated Meeting. Open: 5:15p.m. **Dinner:** 5:45pm., **Program** at 7:00p.m

BRETHREN

**** Help wanted ****

Brethren, due to other Masonic time commitments, I must step down from the office of Treasurer. I need someone to replace me. If you know basic check-book accounting or use Quicken or Quick Books you will be able to do the job.

Please contact me for additional information.

Michael Bear, P.M.
(310) 391-5308
michael.bear@mac.com

**PLEASE READ THIS
ANNOUNCEMENT!!**



FROM THE WEST



From The West

In March we had an incredible concert in the lodge. There is a photo from it elsewhere in the trestleboard. The event was very successful; made so not only by the number of folk who attended but also by some incredible help I had. Michael and Rise Glaser were invaluable! Rise ran the concession stand and Michael was at our Masonic Information Booth. The Traditional Irish Session after the concert lasted until 1:15am! The comments about our building and our hospitality were glowing. Many wanted to know if we held other events there...

In April, we received the Grand Master, introduced by the incomparable Most Worshipful Melville H. Nahin. The evening also included Public Schools Night and our continued support of The McBride School. This evening was also a great success and not possible except with the help of many, not the least being Melville H. Nahin, PGM; Alice Nahin, Bob Sills, PM; A. Jeffrey Gordon, PM; I. Howard Steinore, PM; Evan Weiss, PM; Mike Bear, PM; Joseph Eshshaghian, Bernie Morse, PM; and Carolyn Morse. Thank you all for your incredible support! We have a few programs left from that night, on the back of which you will find a commemorative 'pop-up' lodge!

I was a bit disappointed that no one contacted me with regards to last months riddle. I will leave it open for another month...

And last, but not least, I am supposed to put some educational wisdom in the article. Well, I am continually reminded and challenged by the 24 inch gauge and time management! Even with all the wonderful technologies we have available to us, there just doesn't seem to be enough time in the day. Instead of trying to fit in one more email, get one more paragraph written, or respond to a text, I would like each and every one of you reading this to stop, take a breath and do something RADICAL! I would like everyone to sit down and *write* a letter. No, not *type* a letter, take out a pen or pencil and print or write at least a one page letter. Please send it to a member of the lodge whom you haven't talked with in a while, don't know very well or have even met – if you need contact information, email me. Send the letter by Snail Mail! I swear, you will find enjoyment in the simple task of writing long-hand and the person receiving the letter will be amazed that they received an honest to goodness letter, not just junk-mail.

Fraternally,
Tim Shiner

The 21st Century is Here!

Brethren, the 21st century has caught up with Masonry! You can now not only access lodge information online at www.calodges.org/no520/, but can have it brought to you in real-time! Join our lodge in cyberspace on Facebook.

Our Junior Warden has been doing a fantastic job getting the word out about new events and new ways to get involved with the lodge. If you want up-to-the-minute information about what is going on, what's coming up, or how to get more involved, please send your email to Junior Warden Joseph Eshshaghian at

shahriare@hotmail.com

or by calling:

(310) 447-4202

Join the Fun!!

Saturday, June 19th, at 6:30 Sharp

Casa Sanchez Mexican Restaurant
4500 S. Centinela Avenue,
(2 blocks south of Washington
Blvd.)



With a full floor Mariachi show with lots of Musicians,
Singers and Dancers

...Not your usual wandering musicians...

NO COVER CHARGE

The varied Menu includes Mexican and American dishes, non-spicy food available, and a full bar. We will be getting separate checks, so that you get your individual bill

Attire is casual

Meal includes free refillable Guacamole.



Please make your reservations with the Lodge Office at 310-657-2628 or by email at ionicomp@sbcglobal.net. There is a \$2.00 reservation fee, Payable to the Grand Lodge Masonic Charities.

Think About It

Ron Koretz, P.M.

Liz Pulliam Weston writes a financial column in the Los Angeles Times. Apparently she recently responded to a question regarding a decision that a reader had to make, namely whether to tap into retirement savings of \$250,000 to pay off a \$50,000 credit card debt or to declare bankruptcy. Her response was to do the latter. This in turn elicited a letter from another reader who, in his or her own words, described Ms. Weston's response as "advice with which I strongly disagree". The crux of the disagreement between this second reader and Ms. Weston related to the obligation that borrowers have to be accountable; in this case, the borrower did have the means to pay off the debt but was being advised not to do so.

Ms. Weston responded with a lengthy defense about why premature withdrawals are heavily penalized and why retirement funds are protected from creditors in Bankruptcy Court. She claimed that lawmakers have decided that there are worse things than renegeing on debts, such as an "impoverished old age".

Unfortunately, Ms. Weston seems to have missed the point of the irate letter writer. The issue was not that renegeing on one's debts and declaring bankruptcy is illegal or even that it is not discomfoting. The issue was the rightness of breaking promises. When one borrows money, one makes at least the tacit, if not the overt, promise to pay that money back. As the king said in the stage play, *The King and I*, "a promise is a promise".

Too often we take comfort in just doing the legal thing, even if it is not the right thing. Curiously, in that same issue of the Times, there was a story about an executive who took a great deal of money from a public agency and then quit before the job was done. Again, there was nothing illegal about what this executive did, but various inferred promises were not kept.

Doing the right thing often requires us to answer to a higher standard than the legal code. Whenever we fail to do it, we tarnish our own reputations and we make society a poorer place in which to live.

Think about it.

Brethren,

First, we have a problem. On one hand, it's a good problem, but it's a problem nonetheless. We need candidate coaches. We simply have too many candidates for the small number of Brethren who are willing to coach our new Brothers. When a man completes a Degree, the Worshipful Master informs him that, before he can progress, he must commit a portion of the Lecture to memory and promises on behalf of the Lodge that suitable assistance will be provided. We are currently failing in keeping that promise.

If we cannot find sufficient coaches, we will have to formalize the Monday night coaching sessions at the expense of the one-to-one coaching that has helped build relationships in lodge since time immemorial. I envision having formal coaching sessions every Monday night. On Degree nights, the candidates will attend the Degree they are learning and the others will meet in class where the squiggles will be taught and esoteric subjects discussed. I am sure that most of us would prefer to continue our one-to-one tradition, but we have to put up or shut up. Please contact me with your opinions and advice, but also with an offer of your services. My detailed contact information is elsewhere in this Trestleboard.

Next, at our Wednesday night Masonic Discussion Night on June 16, 2010, we will be showing a movie produced with the cooperation of the Grand lodge of Illinois entitled "The Freemasons, The Mystery, Myth And Truth" which features interviews with John J. Robinson, the noted author of *Born In Blood: The Los Secrets Of Freemasonry*, and well-known Mason historian Jerry Marsengill, the editor of *Philalethes Magazine*, interwoven with dramatic recreations of Masonic history performed by professional actors in full costume on dramatic sets. This film traces the history of Freemasonry and addresses many of the myths and rumors concerning our Craft. This film was designed and very suitable for Masons and all non-Masons, so feel free to invite your ladies and friends. More information about the film is available at www.freemasonsfilm.com. We will begin at 7:15 p.m. After the film, we will have time for discussion. Light refreshments will be served.

Fraternally,
Jeff Bear, P.M.

May Menu

Salad, Bread and Butter

Choice of:

Chicken Enchiladas

or

Fish Tacos

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 will be charged. Dinners are prepared by your reservation only. Dinner costs are \$15 per person for all members and guests except those who were invited by the Master. Masonic Widows of Ionic Composite Lodge will also not be charged for dinner. A Masonic Widow is a widow of a member of Ionic Composite Lodge who has not remarried.



May Birthdays

Arthur Obrand	1	Alfred Spivak	10	Leo Seidner	19	Mark Ameli	29
Roland Sarlot	1	Jordan Robinson	11	Max Solomon	19	Neil Sherman	29
Harold Kirman	2	Peter Kaplan	11	Cedric Malambu	20	Philip Shubb	29
Richard Kahn	2	William Bilkiss	11	Sidney Miner	20	Mark Effren	30
Robert Sills	2	Evan Weiss	12	Earle Goodman	21	Zev Vered	30
Allan Orner	3	Harvey Cohn	13	David Israel	23		
Frank Tellis	3	Mark Crugnale	13	David Philips	23		
Sam Pakin	3	Richard Kaplan	13	Marvin Dunn	24		
David Snyder	4	Robert Goldman	13	Charles Harris	26		
Robert Gordon	4	Sylvan Summers	13	Sherman Margoles	26		
Barry Sporn	5	Stephen Rennick	14	Abe Perel	27		
Lawrence Kaplan	6	Matthew Rodman	17	Irvin Kauffman	27		
Julius Bovill	7	Stafford Bennish	17	Jeffrey Platt	27		
Krikor Hazarshahian	9	Jacob Spiegel	19	Arthur Manheim	28		

From the South

Dear Brethren,

I'd like to start this month's article with an apology and a mea culpa. I was supposed to have information for a gala event available to you by this month's trestle board. Unfortunately due to a number of factors including my being ill and also my underestimating the amount of preparation and effort such an event would entail I was not able to secure a location for the event. As a result it has been decided that it would be best to save this event for next year where we will have ample time to prepare and publicize such an event. Please forgive my shortcomings; I have a lot to learn and will make some mistakes along the way.

I'm writing this article while attending the Junior Warden's Retreat in Ontario, California. It has been a most enlightening and informative event. The Grand Lodge has put together a phenomenal program in order to inform and prepare our lodge's wardens for their year as master. I can tell you that through the various seminars I've attended thus far and will be attending tomorrow I have gained invaluable information as to how a lodge can be better run and organized, hot to reach out to brethren more effectively, how to better embody the tenet of Masonic relief and how to embrace the incoming generation and to cater to their needs more effectively just to name a few.

I have already begun to prepare for my year as Senior Warden and master. As I'm sure most incoming senior officers of the lodge do, I have a lot of plans, dream and hopes for these upcoming years. But none of these plans will be possible without the support and assistance of my brothers in the lodge. I'm reaching out to you today and asking you for counsel, suggestions and most importantly your support. If you have abilities in technology, web design, art, music, lighting, operative masonry, carpentry, upholstery, painting, or if you simply can offer time to make phone calls to brethren and widows of our lodge please let it be known. We all have busy schedules but the time we dedicate to our fraternity is what makes us better masons and better men. We need you!

Let me know what we can do to make lodge a better and more fulfilling experience for you.

Fraternally,

Joseph Esshaghian



Top Right:

Worshipful Bill Miller presents Most Worshipful Kenneth G. Nagel and his wife Kathy presents from the Lodge

Top Left:

On March 29th, Ionic Composite Lodge hosted a traditional Irish Session for the community - a night of music, fun, and laughter. (See the From the West for more)

Bottom Left:

Worshipful's Bill Miller and Jeffery Gordon join (from left to right) Steven Clark, Alison Hart, Wyn Tunnicliff, and Tim

Bays - the Classified Employee of the year, Teacher of the year, Pianist extraordinaire, and Principal of the McBride School. Congratulations and thanks for all the hard work you do for the children.



For the Ladies

I am sorry, but the Lodge has no activities planned for the May 3rd Stated Meeting. Following surgery to replace her knee, Bonnie has been unable to do any planning, although she hopes to be there if she feels well enough. She also cannot sit at the computer to prepare a message, so it comes from me.

Bonnie and I would appreciate any suggestions for activities that might encourage more of you to stay and take part while the men have their meeting. At this point, she also needs help in presenting it. We hope she will be back in form in a few months, but until then, all bets are off.

We very much appreciate the support of the Ladies of the Lodge, and hope to see many of you at the Stated Meetings.

Bill Miller, Master.



ATTENTION BRETHREN

Worshipful Michael Bear, our Treasurer, has expressed a desire to step down from his position and turn the Treasurer's keys over to his successor. The problem: we don't yet *have* that successor.

Please! No in-depth financial knowledge is required - if you can manage Quick Books and balance a checkbook, you can do this job. Please help our brother Bear, who does so much as it is. See the ad on page 2.

For Lodge information or Lodge room rentals
Contact Howard Steinore, P.M.
(310) 657-2628

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

Brethren and Family Members Sick and Visitation Committee Report

Brother And Condition	Phone
Jerry Freeman At Pacifica Assisted Recovery Facility in Newhall.	Cell (818) 634-8278
Jay Richards At home – limited to wheelchair for ongoing weakness	(818) 769-2301
Bob Edelman Several problems – Home now	Home (310) 202-0115
Nate Shafran At home recovering after a fall	Home (310) 559-8877
Harold Block At home after undergoing below the knee amputation in January	Home (310) 553-1485
Jack Kalman Hospitalized for 3+ months at Cedars for variety of problems – Now home and making slow but steady recovery	Home (310) 476-5004
Oscar Hall Home now with kidney problems after having surgery	Home (323) 653-0698
Bonnie Miller (Bill) In physical therapy after a knee replacement surgery.	Home (805) 579-8650
Lucy Matsumoto (Yuki) Recovering from a car accident	No calls, please

Secretary's Corner

Worshipful Evan Weiss and I are still in the process of cleaning and updating all the personnel files and ask your assistance by way of sending me any updated information, including telephone numbers, e-mails, and change of address information.

I am also writing a courtesy reminder to everyone who is past due with their dues payment. If you have any question in regards to the amount you owe please do not hesitate to contact the office either by e-mail or telephone. **The payment is due *no later than May 1, 2010*; the next step is to write an Intent to Suspend letter which I do not want to do. I know deep down you love masonry so please pay your dues.**

Sincerely,
Howard Steinore, P.M.
Secretary

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

<u>Name of Brother</u>	<u>Date Called From Labor</u>
Rudy Corber	March 1, 2010

FUNERAL TELEPHONE LIST

ANY BROTHER WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE PLACE ON THE FUNERAL NOTIFICATION CALL LIST, *YOUR PRESENCE WOULD BE DEEPLY APPRECIATED.*

PLEASE CONTACT:

Lodge Office
Telephone: (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 a Brother or a member of a Brother's
family who is ill, please contact

Lodge Office: Tel: (310) 657-2628
or Ron Koretz, P.M. R: (818) 360-2708



**1122 S. La Cienega Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90035-2592**

**Secretary, Howard Steinore, P.M.
Office Phone: (310) 657-2628**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

May 2010 Issue

Dated Material

Memorial Day Ceremony

Monday, May 31, 2010
10:30 a.m. to noon
LOS ANGELES NATIONAL CEMETERY
950 S. Sepulveda Blvd.

(1 block north of Wilshire Blvd. at Constitution Ave.)
(Free parking at VA Medical Center, Park & Ride across the street)

Mark your calendars for this special event, which honors our country's fallen heroes. The ceremony is put on by the National Cemetery and the Los Angeles National Cemetery Support Foundation. This year's theme, "The War Correspondent," will be highlighted by reading excerpts of Correspondent articles from the Spanish American War to the present. This will be accompanied by costumed re-enactors and is sure to be an interesting and solemn presentation. The invited MC is Academy Award winner, Jon Voight and the invited keynote speaker is War Correspondent Gordon Dillow. There will be color guards, fly-overs, great guns, magnificent music, civil servants and elected officials.

We are again fortunate to be allowed to support this ceremony with our presence as Masons. Those of us who can will serve as greeters and ushers, along with the other Lodges in the 705th Masonic District, to the VIP breakfast, then head out to the ceremony area to help seat the audience and guide the color guards. For this we will request dispensation to dress in Masonic regalia. Masons helping out should arrive at the Cemetery Chapel by 8:30 a.m. If you would like to help out or just attend, please contact our Lodge Secretary at 310-657-2628 or by email at ioniccomp@sbcglobal.net.

Bill Miller, Master