



DAMASCUS LODGE No. 290 F. & A.M.

THE TRESTLEBOARD

Volume VIII, Issue 1

January 2010



SANTA HITS THE BEACH !!

At the Lodge Christmas meeting the members once again did Santa proud! We collected 6 big bags of toys and \$215.00(!) in cash for the Marine Corps' Toys-for-Tots program. What a great response! We are proud to support this great cause and even more proud of the young men and women who protect our country and our freedom. Please remember them in your prayers and thank them for keeping our Country the best in the world!

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Please mark your calendar for 3:00 pm, January 23, 2011 to join us for the installation of the 2011 Damascus Lodge Officer's Corps. This is your chance to show your support and get the year started off right. Great fellowship followed by great food will mark the day at Damascus Lodge! Come and start off your year with your new officers!

SANTA'S DING-A-LINGS

On December 18th members of Damascus Lodge picked up the little red bells and rang their hearts out for the Salvation Army. It is great to see the Brethren turning out to support this very worthwhile cause. It's a very busy time of year and the Lodge extends our thanks to all the Brethren who gave their time to help. It was wonderful seeing you all there! Thank you for supporting the Lodge and our community.

ATTENTION SWEETHEARTS !!

Ladies of Damascus, mark your calendars for February 13th . We would be honored to have your company at the annual Damascus Lodge Sweethearts' Brunch. Please join us for a wonderful meal, nearly as sweet as you are! As always, the ladies of the Lodge are 'guests of the Lodge'. If you want to bring 'the old man', he'll have to pay. See the flyer in this issue for details.

NEW FELLOWCRAFTS

On December 28, 2010 the Damascus Lodge Degree Team passed two new Fellow-crafts into our ranks. Congratulations Brothers Jason Williams and Paul Peacock. It was a great night and the degrees were excellent! Thank you to the Officers and all the Brethren who attended to support our candidates during a busy holiday week.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

-  *Lodge Installation*
-  *By the Plumb*
-  *Upcoming Events*
-  *New Members*
-  *SweetHearts' Brunch*
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January 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	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					

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 1/11 - Stated Meeting - 6pm Dinner, 7pm Lodge
- 1/14 - Jobie Bethel #6 Installation, 7:30pm
- 1/23 - Lodge Installation - 3-pm
- 1/25 - School of Instruction
- 2/13 - Sweethearts' Brunch

TOYS FOR TOTS - PICTURE OF GIVING



BY THE PLUMB

“The Future”

How often, as children did we hear “You are the future of America” and how often have we said these very same words to our own children?

While my children were growing into young men and women they were reminded many times how they would be responsible for America when they took their place in society. Sometimes this would backfire when one of them were being chastised or disciplined as they would remind me that not only was I looking at the future of America but I was looking at the one who would choose my nursing home.

Our sons and daughters will indeed someday step into the shoes we have left for them to fill. It will be up to them to keep the ship we call America afloat and on course. Over the past three years I have attended multiple Job’s Daughters and DeMolay functions. Every time these functions come to an end, there is no doubt in my mind that our children will step up to the helm of America and guide her into the future with even more success and pride than we, as their parents, had when it was our turn to steer the ship.

These young men and women are as dedicated to the fraternity and their “Lodge” as we are to ours. Their work and efforts are reflected in their knowledge of history, ritual, and memorization of their parts. Their devotion to their beliefs and to each other permeates the air; indeed there is an electric charge of excitement in the air as soon as you walk into the room.

Rather than criticize or ridicule one another for mistakes they rally around each other and are the first to lend a hand or stand by the other’s side in solidarity. Does this sound familiar, Brethren? “I will aid and assist all poor, distressed, worthy...” Well, our Job’s Daughters and DeMolay get it. They understand and practice it with a fervor and zeal that many of us have long forgotten.

As parents, adults, and Masons, we are charged, as we should be, with raising and supporting our children. This means that we should have an interest in their lives and associations; be at their events, encouraging them in their endeavors, and supporting them when they stumble. In short, until they reach that age where they are on their own, with their own families, they will continue to need our support.

Many of the groups our children join or belong to will very likely ask for your support as a parent. As a parent you will usually step up and drive to a function or event, taking others with you. Perhaps you will give a ride to one of the children who needs to get to the meeting. You might even be asked to chaperone an event or provide food for a dinner. No matter what the need, as a parent you are likely to ‘jump in’ because your son or daughter is involved. After all, you’re going to be there anyway.

Here is my challenge for those of us whose children are grown and out of the house. Why not come to the occasional DeMolay and/or Job’s Daughter’s meeting? Get an inside look at the dedication, devotion and hard work they invest to make their “Lodge” a success. Have a look at the future of America, and I promise you will not be disappointed, but will come away with a renewed respect and confidence in our youth. Come to a meeting show your support for our youth as they prepare themselves to grow into adults, and take over the helm of this great ship we call America.

Bro. Michael Fairbanks
Junior Warden - Worshipful Master Elect

JOBIE GIFT BASKET WINNERS !!

Hey, we have some winners!! A couple of Damascus Lodge members have daughters who are members of Job's Daughters Bethel No. 6 that meets at Lake Masonic Center. The Honored Queen this term Megan Bertram (daughter of our Brother Brian Bertram) raffled some Gift Baskets as a fund raiser for the Bethel. Two of our members who bought tickets won two of the baskets. The first basket was won by Brother Sean Schult, who won the "Man Basket" filled with: Silver Tail Spinner Lure, a Grave Digger Deep Diver Lure, a package of Bleeding Tube Lures, along with a Thunderstick Musky Lure and other manly fishing items.



The other winner is Brother Mick Olson who won a gift basket with: Bubble Bath, Cucumber Lotion, Body Spray, a Bath Glove, a Jar Candle, Green Tea Body Lotion, and other "unmentionables" (Way to go Mick????). At least we will smell Brother Mick when he comes to lodge; he will be the one smelling like a lilac bush.





You're Invited!!

Damascus Lodge's Annual

Sweetheart's Brunch

Sunday, February 13, 2011

10:00 A.M.

Packing House Restaurant

900 East Layton Avenue

Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Ladies of the Lodge will be our guests. The cost for all others is \$25.00.



R.S.V.P. Mick 397-3076 before February 7th.





DAMASCUS LODGE No. 290 F. & A.M.

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WE ARE ON THE WEB AT
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THE REAL SECRET OF FREEMASONRY

MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

LODGE TRUSTEES

Dale A. Graeven, P.M. (2010) 414-764-8187
Patrick J. Militzer, P.M. (2011) 414-469-9804
Jon Syverson (2012)

SICK AND VISITATION CHAIRPERSON

Lloyd Wilson 414-315-0136

MASTER'S BOARD

Keep those petitions coming in. The Master's Board Chairman and Master's Board Secretary would like to remind you to keep an eye out for new candidates for the Lodge.

Remember to carry a petition with you in your travels because you never know who you will meet.

If you do not have a petition or you need more, please contact any lodge officer and they will make sure you receive a couple.

MISCELLANEA

"The values and ideas, the profound principals of religion, morality, and honour for which Masonry stands, mean much to me as an American.

There is, as I see it, nothing like Masonry. It is unique in its fellowship which spreads over much of the earth, in addition to our own country. Moreover, this in-depth fellowship spans the years, even the centuries, running back into antiquity. To me it means a personal relationship with great historical personalities and, taken by and large, also with about the finest body of men whom it is possible to assemble anywhere.

Attending Lodge and participating in Masonic activities gave me confidence. I learned to work with people. I found that everyone, every single brother, had a special talent. All I had to do was bring it out. The Brother, then, saw quickly enough how to put his talent to use.

And his success at Lodge work gave him confidence too! He passed it on to others, and they still to others. It wasn't necessary to repeat a self-help motto like "I believe in me." Just doing the work and seeing the results were enough.

Confidence in self, in the Lodge, in Masonry, in the community and nation - it caught on, and I have seen it spread farther and farther as I continue my Masonic journey in life, meeting ever more Brothers and sharing with them the confidence Freemasonry can give.

Ever since I became a Mason, the work has not only charmed me, but also impressed me. I can further add that, as a public speaker, it has also given me enhanced perception of the nobility of words and their inspirational power when used in skillful combination and for the expression of lofty thoughts."

Norman Vincent Peale
Minister and Author