



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

# THE TRESTLEBOARD

Volume IX, Issue 5

May 2012



## FIRST EVER KNIFE AND FORK DEGREE

You won't want to miss this day as it will surely live on in infamy. Mark your calendar for May 29, 7:00pm for the first annual, Damascus Lodge Knife and Fork Degree. Come and join us at Lake Masonic Center for a great meal as we poke fun at ourselves and join together for some wonderful brotherhood and food. Did I mention food? The menu includes bacon wrapped filets, baked potato, vegetable, dessert and beverages, including a choice bovine wine. Did I mention bacon?

What does this wonderful evening cost you ask? Why, a mere \$25 will give you a night to remember, full of food and fellowship...and bacon. All proceeds for this event benefit the Sheila Cares Fund; our favorite lady, and our favorite charity. See the flyer in this issue and make your reservations with Mick before May 14th. If you snooze, you go hungry. Did I mention bacon? See you in the dining room!

## FORE!!!

True, not too often do you hear the word "Fore" yelled on a mini-golf course, but then again, anything is possible when the Damascus boys come to play. On June 10th at 2:30 pm, come and be amazed at the...eh hem – skills displayed by the boys of Damascus Lodge. Of course, if history remains consistent this year as it has in the past, the ladies of Damascus will kick our tails all over the course; but as the professional mini-golfers say, "that's all water underneath the bridge, through the tunnel, over the Ferris wheel and into the clown's mouth." To translate, "Watch out ladies – this year we mean business!" So come on down to the River Falls Family Fun Center at 5401 W. Layton to see who will be victorious. No matter who wins, we will all have some championship pizza at the Organ Piper afterwards. The price for this event will be the same as last year, \$10 for Damascus members and immediate family and \$20 for guests. Give Brian Bertram a call at 414-486-0806 for tickets and info.

## PLAY BALL!!!

Being fine pillars of the community, on April 14th a few members of Damascus Lodge, along with their better halves, thought it necessary to check out Miller Park and make sure everything was in working order before the Milwaukee Brewers fully kicked off their 2012 season. After polishing off a few hamburgers at Sobelman's Pub, we met one of the highest ranking officials in the Brewers organization – highest ranking in our opinion – our own brother, Lou Montgomery. Lou gave us a spectacular tour of the facility and assured us that he has been staying on top of things, everything is in order and the Brewers should have another record season. Good job, Lou! And thank you for the spectacular tour!

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

-  *Mini Golf*
-  *Master's Message*
-  *Upcoming Events*
-  *Counselor's Corner*
-  *Knife & Fork*
-  *Chapter Sweetheart*

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### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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May 3rd – Onion purchase from Tripoli Temple / Donation to Hunger Task Force

May 6th – Robert Ross Table / BBQ – Leave your tie at home, bibs will be provided. 6pm Social, 6:30pm Dinner, cost is \$25.

May 8th – Damascus Stated Meeting – Dinner starts at 6pm.

May 10th, 11th and 12th – Spring Reunion, Valley of Milwaukee, AASR

May 22nd – Damascus Special Meeting – FC degree for Brother Chris Balke – Dinner starts at 6pm

May 29th – Knife and Fork Degree – 7pm

June 1st through the 2nd – Grand Lodge of Wisconsin Annual Communication

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### MASONIC MILESTONES

Ted R. James – 50 years

Louis W. Montgomery – 30 years

Mick Olson – 29 years

Stephen L. Montgomery – 28 years

Curt A. Campagna – 16 years

Dale A. (Ayyyyy) Graeven – 31 years

Tom Lang – 29 years

Loren R. Salsman – 29 years

James J. Janczak – 23 years

Congratulations Brothers!!!!

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### DEMOLAY'S DORIC CHAPTER SWEETHEART



Congratulations to our own Samantha Campagna on being selected Doric Chapter DeMolay's 'Chapter Sweetheart'. We are very proud of you.

## THE MASTER'S MESSAGE



The past few weeks have been busy and fruitful. We have definitely lived up to one of the main tenets of this wonderful fraternity – Charity; and it warms our hearts each and every year. As in years past three scholarships, sponsored by Damascus Lodge, have been given to hard working and outstanding high school students in the Milwaukee area. Education is something that can never be taken away from you – whether you learn it on your own or at an institution – and because of that, it's invaluable. Personally speaking, going back to school changed my entire life for the better and I sincerely hope these scholarships will in some way help do the same for the young people that have received them.

In April, Damascus Lodge also showed support for a couple of youth groups dear to our hearts. The International Order of Job's Daughters loves to play the game of softball and if you have ever seen one of their games – they are darn good at it! But this year a call for help was sent to the different Masonic Lodges around Milwaukee, because the price of playing their favorite game increased dramatically. From what I hear, along with Damascus Lodge, a few of the other lodges have stepped up and helped out with what they could. The Jobies of Milwaukee are not out of the woods yet, but support continues to trickle in.

Damascus Lodge also paid a visit to the hard working young men of Doric Chapter of DeMolay. Every time we visit I am more and more impressed with these young gentlemen. Considering that many youth, the same age as the boys in Doric Chapter, are getting into trouble and ruining their futures, the young men of Doric Chapter are the living definition of potential. For each and every meeting they're sharply dressed, they know their lines and you can tell that they are proud to be members of DeMolay! Every time we visit we are greeted and thanked for the visitation by each member; and each young man stands up straight, looks you in the eye and shakes your hand like a man...or at least tries. The counselors of those young men need to be commended; but if you ask them, all they really want is continued support from the Masons, in any shape or form because it means that much to the boys. As many of us visit the other Lodges around town, we always try to remember to talk about our youth groups and how important they are to all of Masonry, not just the individual lodges who support them.

In May Damascus Lodge will be supporting the Tripoli Shrine with our annual Vidalia Onion purchase and donation to the Hunger Task Force of Wisconsin. We seem to be the fortunate ones during this charity event, because we get to help two different organizations at one time.

On May 29th Damascus plans to shift gears from giving donations to raising some funds, and we plan on having a darn good time while we're at it! Of course I'm talking about the first ever Damascus Lodge Knife and Fork degree, to be conferred by members of Damascus Lodge. If you're not sure what a Knife and Fork degree is, well...come find out. I have never received the Knife and Fork Degree and I can't wait for this event. My mouth is already watering over the thought of bacon wrapped tenderloins and an entire desert table – not just one desert – a whole table of deserts!

I couldn't be prouder of each and every member of Damascus, especially the job being done by the Officer Corps. They are working hard for all of us and it seems everyone is having a good time during each event. As we continue throughout the year, I hope every member makes an effort to support the Lodge by attending at least one of these fun filled events. You'll be glad you did!

Matt Wright  
Worshipful Master



**Coming Sunday**  
**June 10, 2012**  
**2:30 P.M.**

**Bring the whole family!**

**Join the Damascus Lodge family as we spend the afternoon with the Masters, the missing links... I mean join the Masters ON the links!!**

**River Falls Family Fun Center**  
**5401 W. Layton, Greenfield**

**We'll play golf, then go have pizza at**

**Organ Piper Pizza**  
**4353 S. 108<sup>th</sup> St., Greenfield**



**Tickets:**

**\$10.00 for DL290 Members and immediate family.**  
**\$20.00 for guests.**

**Deadline for tickets: June 4th**

**Contact Brother Bert at**  
**414-486-0806 for tickets and info!**

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RIP-ROARIN' GOOD TIME HAD BY ALL

The Damascus Hoedown was a fun time had by all and what can we say about the food? Cookie and his crew out did themselves that's for sure! The music, the games, the families and the fellowship – what could be better? Well...let's add a few more games, a beautiful picnic area and even more food into the mix? On July 29th the Damascus Family will be having a family picnic at Wilson Park, Picnic Area #1, from 11 am till...whenever we get done. This is a Pot-Luck event and we would love for all the families to dust off those old family recipe books and brings a dish that is not only good, but meaningful to your particular family. I'm sure all of us have a favorite family dish that we either love to make or eat, so bring it for your extended family to try. We will also have a signup sheet for those "recipe-challenged" folks and for volunteers who are willing to bring some of the "necessities" along. Give Tom Stach a call at 414-207-5668, or send him an email at [tstach@wi.rr.com](mailto:tstach@wi.rr.com) to let him know you'll be coming and what you plan on bringing.

# Damascus Lodge No. 290

(Being Uniquely Qualified)

## Announces the Conferral of The Knife and Fork Degree



7:00pm May 29, 2012

Lake Masonic Center

**\$25.00 per person**

### Le' Menu

Ze Bacon Wrapped Filet vis all de trimmin's,  
Dezzert, und beverages (Including 'Bovine Wine').

RSVP Mick Olson at [mick290@att.net](mailto:mick290@att.net) or 414-397-3076 before May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Proceeds to 'Sheila Cares' Fund.



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

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WE ARE ON THE WEB AT  
[HTTP://WWW.DL290.ORG](http://www.dl290.org)

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*THE REAL SECRET OF FREEMASONRY*

*MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER*

## LODGE TRUSTEES

Mick Olson, P.M. (2012) 414-397-3076  
Dale A. Graeven, P.M. (2013) 414-764-8187  
Patrick J. Militzer, P.M. (2014) 414-469-9804

## SICK AND VISITATION CHAIRPERSON

Sean Schult 414-469-0305

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## 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.

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## 2012 LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master  
Matthew Wright

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Chaplain Brian Bertram  
Junior Deacon Pete Czechorski  
Junior Steward Paul Peacock  
Tiler Dale R. Graeven, P.M.

Senior Deacon Steve Manthey  
Senior Steward Jason Williams  
Counselor Michael Fairbanks, P.M.