



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

THE TRESTLEBOARD

Volume VI, Issue 6

June 2009



PUPPY POWER!

On May 17th the members of the Damascus Lodge Kennel Club gathered for an afternoon of food and fun at Dairyland Greyhound Park. The event was very well attended and we thank everyone who was able to join us.

We had some great seats and enjoyed the buffet. Of course, the highlight of the afternoon was watching those little puppies running their hearts out, all for our enjoyment.

I still don't understand para-mutual betting, but I've got a pretty good idea of how it works. I gave the man my money, he gave me some pieces of paper, I yelled for my dog to win and... I don't know how the rest works cuz my dog never won. There's always next time...

FORE

Get your foursome ready for the Damascus Lodge Mini-golf Open. Come and challenge the Masters from Damascus Lodge on the challenging links of Green Fields Golf Center. Tee time is 3:00 PM.

To restore your energy after the grueling competition, we will repair to Organ Piper Pizza to rest and refresh ourselves. Great Pizza, Great music and even better fellowship are the order of the day. See the flyer in this edition and make your reservations with Brother Lloyd NOW!!

CONGRATULATIONS BROTHERS!

A hearty "Welcome Home!" and congratulations to our newest Entered Apprentice, Nathan Butts. We hope that you enjoyed your initiation into the mysteries of our art and have no doubt you will become an active participant in the life of our Lodge. We are honored to call you Brother!

Congratulations once again to our degree team. We are getting spoiled by the caliber of work our members are presenting. The degrees are truly beautiful when well presented, and we thank all of the team members for their hard work and dedication.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

-  *Puppy Power!!!*
-  *Lodge Calendar*
-  *Echo's from the West*
-  *Jobie Softball!!!*
-  *Master's Message*
-  *Upcoming Events*
-  *At the Right Hand*

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ECHO'S FROM THE WEST

Greetings Brethren,

This month I am citing from The Pocket Encyclopedia of Masonic Symbols.

Cable Tow: Symbol of so many meanings to so many authorities none can attempt logically to distinguish between them. Ritualistically, a symbol of a method of control of an initiate. This somewhat drab and practical idea gives way in many minds to the thought that the cable tow is symbolic of the umbilical cord, necessary to begin life, cut when love and care replace the need for it as a means of growth and nourishment. The cable tow is removed when love and care replace the need for physical control.

Rope, cable, cord, string, bond, thong, are interwoven with a thousand religions and ceremonies. The use of a tie is as ancient as any known art. Authorities have written pages on the suggestive meanings to read into this universal symbol. (Freemasonry's own, only in her special application of its use.)

Good English usage places the emphasis on the first syllable of a compound word composed of two nouns: a "dog house" is a house for a dog; a "house dog" is a dog for a house. According to good English, then it is the "cable" which is important. Ritualistically, the cable can be used to "tow"-draw, pull, compel-but spiritually it is the "cable"-strong tie-which unites.

It is possible that the phrase comes from the German; whatever its origin, its Masonic use seems to have a nautical flavor. A cable-a very strong rope-and tow, to pull a great weight or mass. The length of a cable tow differs for various brethren. It is almost universally now considered to be the "scope of a brother's ability."

Until next month,
Larry Chadderdon
Senior Warden

MOVIE NIGHT!!!

It's been a while, so make sure you get to our meeting on June 23rd as we will be holding a good ole' Damascus Lodge Movie Night! We've been working hard and the "Honey Do" list is getting long. So we need a night to fun and brotherly love to gear up for the long summer ahead.

Speaking of gear, as usual, the movie and menu are a surprise. But do wear your best WWII GI issue gear to participate in a night of food and fun and a really great movie.

YOU'VE GOT VISITORS!

Or maybe it's "Lock the doors, here they come!" Damascus is not only busy at home, but we have been 'traveling to foreign countries'! Okay, not really foreign countries, but we have been visiting several lodges. Several of our members have taken up the challenge to travel, visit and support other lodges in the area. We have been attempting to support area lodges conducting degree work and have even filled a few chairs during our travels. It's a great feeling supporting new candidates and visiting old friends. Come out and join us. We're having a great time spreading Damascus cheer!

JOBIE SOFTBALL

On June 30th at 7:50 pm we will once again do our best to embarrass our Job's Daughters Bethel by screaming and cheering them to victory. Last year was a blast and this year should be even more fun as we've had time to think of more ways to cause trouble...I mean, show our support... for these fine young women.

As usual, we'll be bringing the ice cream for the victory celebration after the game. Bring your noise makers and pom-poms. See the flyer and let's show our support for the fairest in the land, our own Jobies!! Rain date is July 7th at 6:40 pm.

THE MASTER'S MESSAGE

Don't Touch that Dial ...



Worshipful Master
Mick Olson

Brethren,

WoW!! What a month we've had! Milwaukee Iron Football and a Puppy Party. Five newly initiated Entered Apprentices and three more petitioners in waiting. How much fun and work can one lodge have???

Brethren, we are truly blessed! I look out from the East and see ten, fifteen or even twenty smiling Brothers sitting on the sidelines. Our events are very well attended by 'old' members and 'new' alike. Our degree work is outstanding and it seems every time I ask Brother Secretary if we have any petitions, he answers "We do!"



At a time of year when most Lodges are saying "See you after summer." I have the pleasure to announce to you that not only are we NOT going dark this Summer, we are now scheduled to have the lodge EVERY Tuesday night throughout July and August!! Thank you to our hosts and Brothers at Lake Lodge for allowing us to continue our labors throughout the summer.

While the schedules are not yet etched in stone, the designs are drawn on the trestleboard. This summer will be full of fun and work. As for the fun, see the flyers in this edition for information on Mini-golf, Renaissance Faire and Jobie Softball events.

As for the work, we will be very busy! Tuesday nights in July and August will be for degree work. We'll have a light dinner at 6:00 pm with the degrees beginning at 6:45 pm or as soon after as possible. As some of the degree work will depend on how fast our new Brethren are able to complete their examination for advancement, there will have to be some flexibility. We will keep the web-site calendar up to date regarding these important evenings and the July Trestleboard should have some tentative dates to help you plan.

To say that I am proud is a gross understatement. I am extremely proud of our officers for all the excellent work they are doing. And I am so very proud of our Lodge! Damascus Lodge is becoming an example of what our fraternity is and can be. Just look in this Trestleboard! We are doing good work in our community and good work in our Lodge. People are taking notice and want to be a part of what we have built. I hope that you are as proud as I am. Together we have made Damascus a home. A home for brothers to enjoy friendship and brotherhood. A home for good men to call their own!

Please come out to support our Lodge events. We'd love to have you join us for some summer fun. We hope that you will have time to support our candidates as well by coming out for the degree work. It will be a busy summer for Damascus. But the caliber of our candidates makes it all worthwhile. These men are excited to join us. Let's show them we are excited to have them!

So, don't touch that dial! We're not going anywhere this summer, except to Lodge. Same bat time, same bat place, same bat channel! We'll keep a plate warm for you.

See you in Lodge!

Mick Olson
Worshipful Master

2009 LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

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Junior Deacon Sean Schult

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MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations on the Anniversary of your having been raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Your love for our Fraternity is made apparent by the cheerful continuation of your long-standing association with it.

Visit Lodge when degrees are being conferred — you just may be reminded of the way you felt when you were initiated, passed, and raised.

Harold Lewitzke - 6/17/1938 - 71 years

Richard Feest - 6/13/1958 - 51 years

Hertbet F. Walther - 6/6/1958 - 51 years

Col. Robert Acton - 6/20/1958 - 51 years

Irvin Behrendt, P.M. - 6/20/1975 - 34 years

"Masonic labor is purely a labor of love.

He who seeks to draw masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed.

The wages of a mason are earned and paid in their dealings with one another; sympathy that begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a mason. "

Benjamin Franklin
(1706-1790)

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

We wish you a very Happy Birthday and many more to come. In our hearts we raise a glass and make a toast, "To your continued long life!"

John Immel, P.M. - 6/2

William Metzen - 6/11

Richard Feest - 6/12

Larry Chadderdon - 6/21

Dennis McNulty - 6/30

AT THE RIGHT HAND

“If Within the Length of My Cable Tow”

From my Dad, I received many lessons of ethics, honesty, and personal integrity. My mother played no less a role in our lives as she also taught her own valuable lessons for her children to follow through life. My parents were ones who always kept a promise or commitment made. Both worked two jobs.

My parents had promised, in fact committed to a family outing at least once per year. Mom worked as a waitress as her second job, for the sole purpose of saving her tips throughout the year for our annual family outing. The only way the outing could be paid for was Mom's tips.

Our outing usually consisted of a day trip to Chicago's Brookfield Zoo on a Saturday, where my brother and I invented new ways to get into trouble and be asked to leave the Zoo grounds. But that is another story for another time.

As we grew older Mom began to take any and all hours on her second job and we began to have family vacations. Something my parents promised we would do, especially after the last time we were asked to leave the Zoo! The only thing that could keep my mother away from being a waitress at night would have been a lack of transportation, or illness. I recall only one time when she was not within the length of her "cable tow", meaning that her car had broken down. One could say that Mom and Dad's cable tow was the distance their vehicles could take them to work in order to fulfill their promise and commitment to the family.

When we obligate as Masons, we make the commitment to answer all due signs and summonses from the Lodge "if within the length of my cable tow". How long exactly is your cable tow?

Regular attendance in Lodge, while not required, is certainly solicited. At Lodge, we as Masons have work to perform, whether it is work for our charities, or work practicing and conferring degrees. We report on sickness and distress so that no Brother or Brother's family is ever forgotten during difficult times

For the candidates that come through our Lodge and receive their degrees, it's a wonderful feeling to be brought to light and see the support of a Lodge full of Masons on the sidelines. For our 'newer' Brethren who have recently earned degrees; the opportunity to further Masonic knowledge by talking with and listening to the 'elder' Brethren is a golden and priceless opportunity that should not be missed.

Fellowship amongst Brother Masons is absolutely vital and Lodge is an excellent opportunity for the Brethren of Damascus #290 to meet, have fun, and just 'hang out'. Our Lodge happens to be one of those special places where Brothers meet, joke, cut up, and then work. In our Lodge, we plan many events and functions throughout the year and many of our outings include family and friends.

Brethren, there are many of us who will happily extend our "cable tow" to those who have a difficult time coming to attend Lodge. Call if you need help getting to Lodge. We are growing, adding new members on a monthly basis. This is a very exciting and wonderful time to play a part in the rights and benefits of this Lodge.

If you are attending Lodge on a regular basis, then you know what is happening at Damascus #290. You have shared in the fun, the laughter, and hard work. If you have not attended in a while, please come. Have a great dinner with friends and see what you have been missing.

Michael Fairbanks
Senior Deacon

JUNE 2009

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				

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

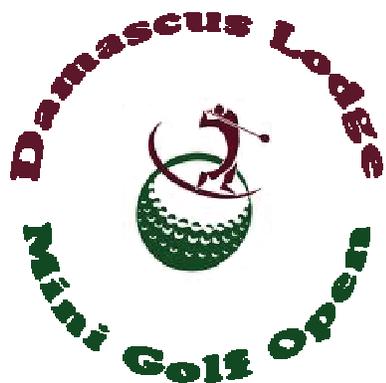
- 6/5-6 - Grand Lodge - Madison Wi
- 6/9 - Stated Meeting - 6pm Dinner, 6:45pm Master's Board 7pm Lodge, 7:45pm 2 EA Degrees.
- 6/23 - Movie Night - 6pm Movie and Dinner
- 6/30 - Jobie Softball - 7:50pm
- 7/7 - Special Degree Nights
- 7/12 - DL290 Open - Mini-Golf and Pizza
- 7/14 - Special Degree Nights
- 7/21 - Special Degree Nights
- 7/28 - Special Degree Nights
- 8/4 - Special Degree Nights
- 8/9 - Renaissance Faire
- 8/11 - Special Degree Night
- 8/18 - Special Degree Night



Sunday, August 9, 2009

**Mark your calendars now to save the date.
Times and pricing will be announced in July.
Bring the whole family!!**

Come join us at the Faire!!



Coming Sunday
July 12, 2009
3:00 P.M.

Bring the whole family!

Join the Damascus Lodge family as we spend the afternoon locked in mortal combat!! Okay, it's just mini-golf... But this is SERIOUS!!

Green Fields Golf Center
10600 W. Layton, Greenfield

We'll play golf, then go have pizza at

Organ Piper Pizza
4353 S. 108th St., Greenfield



Tickets:

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

Deadline for tickets: July 7, 2008

Contact Brother Lloyd Wilson at
414-315-0186 For tickets and info!

NOTICE OF SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS

Special Communications will be held on the following Tuesday nights: July 7th, July 14th, July 21st, July 28th, August 4th, August 11th, August 18th and August 25th. Degree work will be held on these nights at 7:00 PM. A light meal will be served at 6:00 PM. If degree work is not needed on any of these nights, a social night will be held instead.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Thoughts from the Chaplain;

Here it is the first week of June and some of us are going to Grand Lodge, some are representing the Lodge as we give our annual scholarships to deserving graduates, and some are holding down the "fort". All our good works are a reflection of that higher power that guides us, even when we don't realize our work as the handiwork of the Supreme Architect. We need to make sure and take time to divide ourselves by the twenty four inch gauge. Some time for work, some time for family and ourselves. And we definitely need to give due time for deity, without whose help nothing else will happen.

Our Masonic lives are so busy we won't go dark this summer, but the great part is adding new personalities to the Damascus family. We are fortunate to have found some grand new members. As we move on into this new month, may you all be blessed and guided in the path prepared for us.

PUMPING FOR THE IRON

On May 1st members of Damascus and their families descended on the Bradley Center to pump up and cheer on Milwaukee's newest Arena Football team, The Milwaukee Iron. Everyone had a great time cheering and talking and...eating. Check us out on the IRON website! Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for this night of family fun.





JOBIE SOFTBALL!!



JUNE 30, 2009

7:50 P.M.



WEST MILWAUKEE PARK, FIELD #1

5000 W. BURNHAM AVENUE.

*Come and join the fun as we cheer the
Daughters of Bethel #6*

TO VICTORY!!!

Build your own Sundae after the game!!

Please RSVP Mick at

mick290@att.net

IT'S FREE!!!





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)

THE REAL SECRET OF FREEMASONRY
-
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

LODGE TRUSTEES

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Dale A. Graeven, P.M. (2009)	414-764-8187
Patrick J. Militzer, P.M. (2010)	414-469-9804

SICK AND VISITATION CHAIRPERSON

Larry Chadderdon	414-421-9624
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MASTER'S BOARD

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

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

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

CURT SLEPT THROUGH PAT'S SHORT TALK!!!!

