



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

THE TRESTLEBOARD

Volume XI, Issue VI

June 2014



CONGRATULATIONS BRO. MIKE!

On Tuesday, May 27th Damascus Lodge welcomed and initiated a new Brother, Michael Corso. We are very pleased to have Mike with us and look forward to his progression in Masonry; and his attendance at our meetings and events. Welcome aboard, Mike!

Congratulations are also in order for the Officers and other members of the ritual team who conferred an excellent degree. The hard work and preparation paid off as Brother Mike received an excellent degree, as Damascus continues to excel in ritual work, giving our candidates the degree they deserve, and our members have come to expect. Well done, Brethren!

ALOHA!

The June 10, 2014 Stated Meeting will be Hawaiian Shirt Night. Put on your favorite multi-hued shirt and join us for an evening of comfort as we celebrate the arrival of Summer. (We hope it's here by then.) We've got a lot of work to do, but plan to have a fun night to kick off the Summer in fashion...perhaps poor fashion, but fashion none the less! Come out and join us for a night of food and fun!

We've got a busy Summer planned! We started off with Mini-Golf on June first and outings to The Chinooks (July 17th) and Ren Faire (August 9th) are just ahead. Three Family Fun Events is three months! Check out the flyers in this edition and make your reservations to be a part of the Summer Fun we have in store for you and your family, as we strengthen the bonds of our Damascus Family.

We've got 'guy time' covered as well, with a movie night on June 24th and our third Knife & Fork Degree on June 30th. This year we have Brother Kristian Kay giving a presentation on the 47th Problem of Euclid. Get those reservations in soon for an incredible meal and great Masonic fellowship.

Summer wraps up with the annual Lake Lodge Picnic on September 4th. Mark your calendar and watch for details.

Where do you find all this Summer fellowship and fun? Right here at Damascus Lodge! Book 'em Dan-O!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

-  *Go Fish*
-  *Master's Message*
-  *Awesome!*
-  *New EA*
-  *Like Us*
-  *DL Mini Golf Open*
-  *Chaplain's Corner*
-  *Knife & Fork*
-  *Ren Faire*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 2014

Date	Event		
Jun 10	Stated Meeting 6pm Dinner 7pm Lodge	Jul 17	Go Fish!! Baseball Game (F&F)
Jul 8	Stated Meeting 6pm Dinner 7pm Lodge	Aug 9	Renaissance Faire (F&F) (F&F) family and friends invited

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER: "HONORING FATHERS"

As we head into June, it occurs to me that Father's day is around the corner. As such, a few verses from my personal trestle board come to mind: "A just man walks in his integrity; his children are blessed after him. (Proverbs 20:7). "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6).

I've been very fortunate to have had a father who took the time to teach me throughout my life about what it means to be a good man. A righteous man (in his own very odd way), but never self-righteous, he instilled in me a moral compass that guides me to this day. He taught me to be true to my word, so that I could always look another man in the eye. He built in me a quiet, yet stubborn confidence in myself, my faith, and my convictions that helps me to focus on what matters, and disregard what does not. He taught me about hard work, sacrificing for family, and coming to the aid of friends and neighbors. I hope to pass these traits down to my girls.

In my short time in the lodge, I've been similarly blessed with a combination of big brothers, mentors, and fatherly figures who have taken the time to teach me about what it means to be a Mason. Whether it be Bro. Sugar teaching me (at length) about the history of our fraternity and opportunities it provides, Paul and Curt guiding me through the ashlar program, Don and Burt giving advice and encouragement as I took on a role that I wasn't entirely comfortable with, or Pa instilling a sense of family with a crooked smile and undisputedly genuine greeting, all have taught me something whether they've realized it or not.

As we get closer to Father's Day, in addition to the literal intention of celebrating with your family, take it as an opportunity to be appreciative of the brothers that have helped to guide you, and be mindful of the impact that you have as a mentor to new brothers. Help to teach them the way, so that later they will not depart from it.

Bro. Matt Hanchek
Lodge Chaplain

AWESOME!

That's the only word to describe the Damascus Lodge Mini Golf Open on June first. The day looked iffy as we gathered at tee time. Storm clouds loomed overhead, but not a drop fell. The clouds actually parted and we had a great day for golf. What a joy seeing 32 of our Damascus family enjoying a day of fun in the sun; joking, playing and building the bonds.

Then it was off to Organ Piper Pizza for great food and even more camaraderie. The pizza was great, the Music was great, and everyone enjoyed stories of hole-in-ones and the one that should have been. Much thanks to Brother Scott Fairbanks for setting up a great event for our family. Even more thanks to those who came and participated in a fabulous day, especially the wee ones who made the day that much brighter. Awesome!



What is a Mason?

What is a Mason?" I was recently asked by a waitress as she noticed my ring. Many people ask that question every day. Some are trying to form an opinion of our fraternity. Some are simply curious.

We can cite many of our distinguished brothers: Harry Truman, John Wayne, Bart Star and the immortal George Washington. The list is long and distinguished. Truly great men who are fine examples of what Masons should be.

But, our detractors point to: Jean-Claude Duvalier, also known as 'Baby Doc', the Haitian dictator known for his graft and corruption; George Ryan, former Governor of Illinois convicted of racketeering and fraud; Paul Bernard, Canadian serial rapist; and of course our own Benedict Arnold. All Masons, but men who stained our fraternity through selfish actions. Sadly, there have been many others.

Brethren, in a time when people are quickest to point to our faults and shortcomings, it is essential that we set the example in our daily lives. We must live our lives demonstrating to all who see, the great Masonic principles revered by our fraternity. While we do not physically wear our aprons during our daily routine, we must do so symbolically. We should envision ourselves as wearing our aprons every moment of every day. Not to show the world who we are, but to remind US of our Masonic duty.

When, as a newly raised Master Mason we were presented with our white leathern apron, we were told "May you so wear this emblem of spotless white, my Brother, that no act of yours shall stain its' purity or cast reflection upon an institution which has outlived the fortunes of kings and the mutations of empires." We all know that "At the building of King Solomon's Temple, the workmen were distinguished by the manor in which they wore their aprons."

Our challenge Brethren, is to distinguish ourselves as the kind of man our Brothers can proudly hold up as an example to the world. The kind of man we can proudly say "This is a Mason." The kind of man we can proudly call "Brother"; to 'put on our apron' every morning and wear it throughout the day, being very attentive to our actions that we do not sully its brightness, that our actions may shine as an example for all. And if we are doing it right, someone will notice and say, "That's what a Mason is."

We have many great summer activities planned for our Damascus family. Make sure to check your calendar and save the dates. Make your reservations and get in on all the Summer fun. Happy Father's Day!

See you in Lodge,

Mick Olson, Worshipful Master

LIKE US !

Just a reminder for all you techies on facebook...so are we!! DL290 has our very own facebook page. Check in to find out the latest Lodge news, see what's for dinner, or just see some pics of our latest escapades. Whatever you need to know about Damascus Lodge, you'll find it on our page. Just search for our group page, Damascus Lodge #290 F&AM and request to join. One of our administrators will grant you access, and you're in! Simply knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Just don't break your monitor screen....

Also, if you are not receiving the TrestleBoard via Email and would like to, contact Bro. Secretary, and have him update your lodge contact information, including your new email address! Then you will receive the TrestleBoard via email!!

DAMASCUS LODGE NO. 290

(Being Uniquely Qualified)

Announces the Conferral of

THE KNIFE AND FORK DEGREE



7:00PM JUNE 30, 2014

LAKE MASONIC CENTER

\$30.00 PER PERSON

\$25.00 LIFE MEMBERS

Price includes 'one time', life membership fee, pin and card.

Open to EA and above.

LE' MENU

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

RSVP Brian Bertram at bsbert290@att.net or 414-486-0806 before June 16th.

Payment is due on or before June 30th. No tickets sold at the door.

Proceeds to benefit ALS Association Wisconsin.

*We Lords and Ladies of Damascus,
Join us for a day of Feast
And Festivity!*

**BRISTOL
RENAISSANCE
FAIRE**

*Sunday, August 9, 2014
10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.*

Tickets are \$10.00 for ages 13 and up, \$5.00 for ages 5 to 12,
Damascus Lodge members and immediate family.

Come when you can and leave when you must! Some activities
and shows will be planned for the entire group.
A schedule will be provided to those attending.

Contact Brother Scott Fairbanks at
478-442-6779 for info and tickets.

Deadline for tickets is July 21, 2014!!
Bring the whole family!!



*Come Join Us at
The Faire!!*

NEW ENTERED APPRENTICE



DL290 MINI GOLF

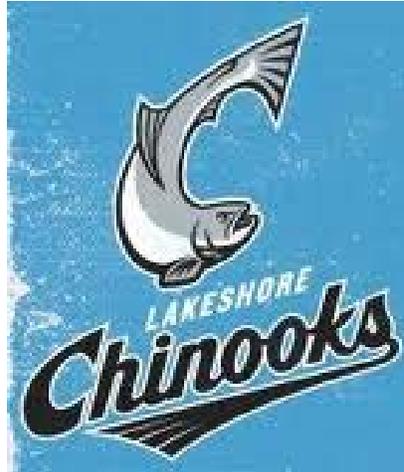


Go Fish!

**Join us for an evening of hot dogs, peanuts,
cracker jack and ...**

Baseball !

**Only
\$5.00
Per person**



**Kids
17 & Under
FREE!**



July 17, 2014 @ 6:35 pm



Kapco Park

**Concordia University
12800 N. Lake Shore Dr.
Mequon, WI**

<http://www.lakeshorechinooks.com>

RSVP to Bro. Nate at

414-405-6383

Ticket Deadline: July 1st, 8:00 am



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

Patrick J. Militzer, P.M. (2014) 414-469-9804
Matthew Wright, P.M. (2015) 414-254-5677
Nathan Butts (2016) 414-727-9772

SICK AND VISITATION CHAIRPERSON

Curt Campagna 414-698-8874

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.

2014 LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master
Charles 'Mick' Olson, P.M. worshipful.master@dl290.org

Senior Warden
Curt Campagna, P.M. senior.warden@dl290.org

Junior Warden
Nathan Butts junior.warden@dl290.org

Treasurer
Dale A. Graeven, P.M. treasurer@dl290.org

Secretary
Michael B. Meyer, P.M. secretary@dl290.org

Chaplain Matthew Hanchek
Junior Deacon Scott M. Fairbanks
Junior Steward Don O'Kray
Senior Deacon Paul E. Peacock
Senior Steward Brian Bertram
Tiler Dale R. Graeven, P.M.