



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

THE TRESTLEBOARD

Volume VIII, Issue 8

September 2011



CONGRATULATIONS BROTHERS!

As you are aware, our by-laws change to NOT go dark over Summer was approved, so we continued our usual meeting nights and spent the summer preparing for and conferring degrees. Our Degree Teams continue to perform outstanding work. "Well done!" to the Brethren on our degree teams and "Congratulations" to our newest Brother, Jacob Harycki.

RACING INTO THE SECOND HALF!

As we put summer behind us and enter the last stretch of 2011, our "Social Meeting" on September 27, 2011 will be held at 'Lucky Bobs Raceway'. To continue a Damascus tradition, we're going racing!

We'll start the night off at 6:00 p.m. when the flag drops for the Damascus Lodge 290! Prepare yourself for nail biting action and horrific crashes during this grueling display of inept slot car racing. Every year at 'Lucky Bob's' proves to be a blast and you won't want to miss the crashes... er...action this year!



After we've all totaled our cars we'll retire at 8:00 p.m. for the 'Winners Banquet' where the menu will be delicious HOT PIZZA! Sosh it down with your choice of Soda and enjoy the fellowship of your fellow 'drivers' as we brag and prove we are legends in our own minds.

All this can be yours for the mere cost of \$10.00. A small price for a great night! See the flyer in this TrestleBoard and make your reservation...NOW! Don't HOG the night, bring a prospective member.

PAST MASTERS DINNER

This year's Past Masters dinner will be held at 6:00 pm on October 16, 2011 at Dobies' Steak House. There will be a cash bar available from 5:00 to 6:00. Everyone is invited, and as is the custom here at Damascus, all Past Masters will be the guests of the Lodge. See the flyer in this TrestleBoard and make your reservations with Bro. Mike Fairbanks. You can choose your favorite entrée and enjoy the fellowship as we honor those men who have led our Lodge. Through their efforts, Damascus is as strong today as it ever was. Let's thank them for their service.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

-  *Past Master's Dinner*
-  *Master's Message*
-  *Upcoming Events*
-  *Chaplain's Pew*
-  *"The Damascus 290"*

September 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	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

- 8/23 - Special Communication - EA Degree - West Allis Lodge 7pm
- 9/13 - Stated Meeting - 6pm Dinner. 7pm Lodge
- 9/27 - Social Night - Damascus 290 - Lucky Bob's Raceway 6pm
- 10/11 - Stated Meeting - 6pm Dinner, 7pm Lodge
- 10/16 - Past Masters Dinner - 5pm

FORE!

July 24th, a date that will live in infamy...okay, maybe not. But we had a blast at the annual Damascus Lodge Open! Several families turned out to challenge the links. Regrettably, the links won. But we worked up an appetite!

So then it was off to Organ Piper Pizza for great pizza, great music, great fellowship and more great fun! Thanks to all who came out to enjoy the day! Thanks to Bro. Stach for organizing this great family event.

ACTION!

On August 2nd Bro. Kyle Olson hosted a 'Red Carpet Movie Premiere' at the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center. Kyle has returned home from Hollywood every summer since graduating High School to teach an 'Entertainment Summer Camp'. Each year has focused on a different area of the entertainment industry.

This year's focus was 'The Silver Screen'. Each student wrote, directed, filmed and edited a three minute movie during the two week 'camp'. All the movies were then 'screened' at the premiere for an audience of nearly 200 family and friends. There was even a red carpet and paparazzi!

Several Damascus families attended to support Kyle and his students. The movies were great and we had a terrific time. Well Done Kyle! We're proud of your service to the youth in our community.



THE MASTER'S MESSAGE

“The Craft is called from Refreshment to Labor”



Summer is nearing its end and normally the Brethren of Damascus Lodge are shaking off the fog and fun of summer, preparing to return to Lodge and continue the work of making Master Masons after being dark in July and August. This year, however, we changed our bylaws and stayed light so that we could continue our work throughout the summer.

After being raised, I once heard a Grand Master say the reason Lodges exist is to make Master Masons. At that time, in my mind, I disputed the Grand Master's assessment as to why a Lodge exists. I thought the reason for a Lodge was for the Brethren to meet, learn about the craft, and have fun. In my short sightedness, I didn't see that meeting, learning, and having fun was all part of making a Master Mason.

I had thought the Grand Master was advocating actively and aggressively recruiting men to become Masons. After regularly attending Lodge, enjoying the fellowship of the members, and going to the outings and events, it dawned on me what it really means to make a Mason. Making a Mason is not inviting your friend to join Lodge, which we are not allowed to do. It's not handing a petition to someone you work with. Making a Mason truly is taking a good man and making him better.

How do we make Masons? Start with a good man who asks what a Mason is, answer all of his questions, receive his petition, and confer the three degrees upon him. Encourage him to grow as he learns and gains knowledge with the help of the Brethren. Stir in the rule and guide of the Holy Writings. Enhance and infuse even stronger morals, values, and stronger principles and bake in a Lodge Room once or twice a month. Voila! Herein is the recipe for making a Master Mason.

Receiving the three degrees of Blue Lodge does not make one a Mason. Being initiated, passed, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason only begins the Masonic journey; a rich and rewarding journey of fellowship, fun, hope, charity, and brotherly love. Somewhere along this journey, and without even realizing it, a Mason is made.

My Brothers – Be there AND be square.

Bro. Michael Fairbanks - Worshipful Master

NOTICE OF MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

Damascus Lodge will be on the move this summer. Lake Lodge will be doing renovations and the Lodge building will be unavailable for part of the Summer.

Aug23 - At West Allis Lodge - 6pm Dinner, 7pm Lodge opens -

Sept 13 - At Damascus Lodge - 6pm Dinner, 7pm Lodge opens - Stated Meeting

Damascus Lodge No. 290
Past Masters' Dinner

*Please join us as we honor those who have served
our Lodge as Worshipful Master.*

Sunday, October 16, 2011

Social Hour 5:00-6:00 P.M.

Dinner 6:00 P.M.



Dobie's Steak House
4136 Kinnickinnic Avenue
St. Francis



Past Masters are the guests of the lodge.
The cost for all others is \$23.00.

Entrée Selections:

New York Strip Steak

Pork Chops (broiled or breaded)

Chicken Breast (broiled or breaded)

Baked Cod

Please make your reservations by October 9th!

Call Brother Nate Butts at 414-727-9772

Or nb290@wi.rr.com



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. (2011) 414-469-9804
Mick Olson, P.M. (2012) 414-397-3076
Dale A. Graeven, P.M. (2013) 414-764-8187

SICK AND VISITATION CHAIRPERSON

Mathew Wright 414-254-5677

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.

2011 LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master Michael Fairbanks (Sandra) 2169 W. St. Johns Way, Oak Creek, WI 53154	worshipful.master@dl290.org H 414-304-0260 C 414-397-0330
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Chaplain Brian Bertram Junior Deacon Tom Stachowiak Junior Steward Pete Czechorski Tiler Dale R. Graeven, P.M.	Senior Deacon Nathan Butts Senior Steward Steve Manthey Counselor Mick Olson, P.M. Degree Director Michael B. Meyer, P.M.