



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

THE TRESTLEBOARD

Volume XI, Issue XII

December 2014



ELECTIONS

At the November Stated Meeting, elections were held for the 2015 Officer Corps. Congratulations to those elected to serve Damascus Lodge for the ensuing Masonic year: WM, Curt Campagna, PM; SW, Nathan Butts; JW, Michael Fairbanks, PM; Treasurer, Dale A. Graeven, PM; Secretary, Patrick Militzer, PM. Dale will also join Matt Wright, PM and Nathan Butts as Trustees. W. Bro. Curt will be announcing his Office Corps soon.

We wish all these Brethren good luck and much success in the upcoming year. But the Officers remind us that while they will do their best to serve Damascus, to be truly successful we need the participation of our membership. We hope to see everyone at our meetings and events. As we strengthen the bonds of fellowship and brotherly love, so do we strengthen our Lodge.

INSTALLATION

The installation of officers who will serve Damascus Lodge for 2015 will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at the Lake Masonic Center. Time to be announced. Desserts will be served following the installation ceremony. Please come and support your new Corps of Officers.

'STEP UP' FOR 'TOYS FOR TOTS'



Our Decem-burrrrr Stated Meeting is on the 9th. This will be a 'Step-up Night', with all officers advancing to the next highest 'chair' for the evening. Time to break out the ritual and study so you are ready for next year!

We will also have our annual 'Toys for Tots' collection. Please bring unwrapped toys or a cash donation to put under the Lodge Christmas Tree. Bro. Nate has volunteered to deliver the donations to the Marines, who will see that they get to Santa in time for delivery. Thank you in advance for bringing Christmas joy to a needy family.

RINGING IN MY EARS!

Calling all Lodge Ding-a-lings!! Time to break out your bells and ring in the Holidays for the Salvation Army. Damascus will continue our Christmas tradition ringing bells at the Pick-n-Save store on Whitnall Avenue in St. Francis on December 6th. We need two Brothers there at all times during the day. Contact Brother Nate and sign up for a time that works for you. We need your assistance to support this very worthwhile cause. Be sure to dress for the weather. Santa hats are encouraged!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

-  *Elections*
-  *Master's Message*
-  *Xmas Party*
-  *Installation*
-  *DeMolay*
-  *Jobs Daughters*
-  *A ChilliWin!!*
-  *Sweetheart's Brunch*

DEMOLAY!

Join us on December 4th as we visit Doric Chapter, DeMolay. The night begins at Senor Sol's, 8129 W. Greenfield Avenue where we will gather for fellowship and food at 5:45pm. We will then caravan to West Allis Lodge and join the boys for their December meeting. While we are there we intend to drop off a check. Come and join us for a night of Brotherhood as we support our Masonic Youth.

THANK YOU DAUGHTERS!

On November 14th the brothers of Damascus visited Job's Daughters, Bethel No 6 as they held an Honor Masonic Bodies Night. All of the girls impressed us with their ritual work and we were very pleased to see new Daughter Anna rock her part! Honored Queen Miranda was a great hostess and we enjoyed a great meeting with the 'fairest in the land'.

Following the meeting was a great meal and of course, the word famous Desert Auction. Bidding was intense and dollars were flying around the room as all present tried to make off with the goodies. To wrap up the night, the brethren of Lake Lodge took home 'the pie'. What a great night!

A CHILLI WIN!!



Congratulations to Brothers Nathan Butts, Jason Williams, and Kevin Hart for their award winning Chilli. They took home the first place trophy at the Henry L. Palmer Annual Chilli Cookoff. Thanks to the other Brothers and family members for attending and supporting our Lodge!!



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!!



Brethren,

2014 is nearly over and so is our Masonic Year in Lodge. As we wrap presents for the holidays, so too are we wrapping up the loose ends and preparing to pass the mantle of leadership to next year's corps of officers. This is a busy time for everyone, and WE still have much work to do.

I want to thank all of our officers and the many other Brethren for their dedication and hard work this past year. Many of you have 'stepped up' and it is MUCH appreciated. We have made great strides and the Lodge owes you our gratitude for a job well done. You certainly have mine.

The hard work is paying off. Together we have charted the course for our Lodge. We have seen a renaissance, a reawakening of Damascus. We are growing and we have many active members. The sidelines are filling in! An increase of active Brethren means more activity in the lodge. And with the added activity, we are having more FUN!

But that also means a significant increase in the amount of work that needs to be done. There is no Master who can run a Lodge without the full support of the Brethren. Officers must fulfill their obligations to the Lodge and those who have taken on duties must see them through. This is critical! You can't hold back! We often read that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. If only one link fails, the whole chain has failed. Damascus is at a point where we can realize great things. WE cannot afford a weak link! We need everyone's work to be strong and complete.

Brethren, we are ALL busy! But that can never be an excuse. If you don't have time to do a job, please don't take it on. The Lodge needs 100% effort from everyone. That doesn't mean 100 hours per week, but it does mean we need you to follow through on the tasks you have accepted. If you don't, someone else is then saddled with the responsibility to do YOUR work. Or the work simply goes unfinished. And that leads to missed opportunities.

Brethren, Damascus Lodge is a TEAM! WE work together! WE play together! WE are Brothers who depend on each other! Together, WE will enjoy the many happy rewards of a job well done!

Speaking of play, make sure to get your reservations to Bro. Bert for the Lodge Christmas Party on December 14th. This is a chance for our Damascus Family to gather and celebrate the Holidays. Don't settle for a lump of coal. Come and enjoy a great day with us.

I hope to have a recognition night at our January meeting. Some of you guys have been working extra hard or have reached a Masonic milestone and it's time to brag about you. You've earned it!

Finally, to you and yours, Jewel and I wish you a Blessed Holiday Season. Lodge will be dark on December 23rd. Take time to relax and enjoy family and friends. Of all the riches in the world, of all of God's gifts, nothing is more precious than family and friends. And we are ALL blessed to be Brothers!

Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah! Happy New Year!

See you in Lodge!

Mick Olson,
Worshipful Master

DAMASCUS LODGE 290

MEMBER CHRISTMAS GATHERING

DATE: **SUNDAY** **DECEMBER** **14TH**

TIME: **4PM**

COST IS \$5/PERSON
OR \$10/FAMILY

PLACE: **LAKE** **LODGE**



CHRISTMAS DINNER

Gifts/Cookie Decorating for Children
12 & under,
Yankee Swap for Adults
and kids 13 and up.

Each person wishing to participate in the
Yankee Swap, please bring 1 wrapped,
non gender specific gift worth \$5 or less.

**RSVP to Brother Bert at
(414)486-0806 or bsbert290@att.net
by December 7th, 2014**





You're Invited!!

Damascus Lodge's Annual

Sweetheart's Brunch

Sunday, February 8, 2015

11:00 A.M.

Silver Spring Country Club

756 W21318 Silver Spring Drive

Menomonee Falls



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



R.S.V.P. Note before January 31st.



Happy Valentine's Day!



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 Louis Montgomery, P.M.