



**DAMASCUS**  
**290**  
F. & A.M.

# The TrestleBoard

*Making Good Men Better*

Volume XII, Issue IV  
April 2015



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## Our Love for Our Ladies

As an annual tradition to celebrate the women in our lives who help make us the good men we are and allow us to enjoy fellowship and time in Lodges, the members of Damascus Lodge and invited guests celebrated a Sweetheart brunch on Feb. 8. Guests enjoyed food and fellowship, taking time to bring special recognition to the ladies who bring us all joy and happiness, and put up with our time away from them to do Lodge work.

We honor them with love, food (we always seem to have food to share), and roses for each to show them we truly do care about everything they do for us on a daily basis, bringing enjoyment to our lives. It's our special Lodge Valentine's gift for them, to make sure they know that behind all us good men are the great women making us so.

For the second year in a row,

*Continued on pg. 2*

## *From the Secretary's Desk*

Your dues for 2015 went out in November, and there are some who have not yet paid. Remember, your dues were due on December 31, 2014, and prompt payment assures the Lodge has the funds it needs to function during the year.

If you are in a difficult financial situation and are unable to pay your dues, please contact the Worshipful Master:

Curt Campagna, PM  
414-698-8874

Anyone interested in a Perpetual Membership, please contact me at [secretary@dl290.org](mailto:secretary@dl290.org).

Pat Militzer, PM  
Lodge Secretary

### **Our Love for Our Ladies (cont'd)**

bacon made its way into the chocolate fondue, and several members enjoyed chocolate-covered bacon for dessert. We even had a kiss shared with bacon. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and food, and it was a wonderful event.



# The Master's Message

by Curt Campagna, Worshipful Master

April: it's finally getting warm, and the days are getting longer. Life seems to be waking up from a long winter sleep. The four walls we have been looking at in our houses have been driving us nuts, but are being replaced by fluffy clouds and warming sunlight. The summer is right around the corner, filled with new adventures and so much to do.

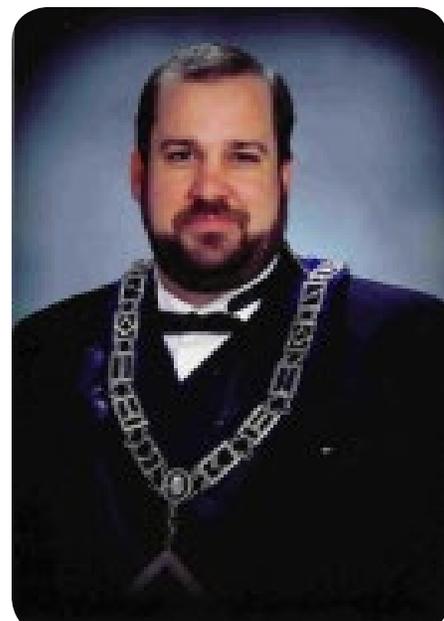
In Wisconsin we seem to have such short summers that we pack every weekend with activities in fear that we might run out of them and dive right back into the winter. Barbecues will be firing up, along with grass greening and the birds singing in the trees. Talk will be of outdoor concerts, outdoor sports like fishing and golf, and family reunions. Church festivals will be announced, and picnics will be planned. Gardens will be planted, and pools will be cleaned in anticipation for cool swims on hot days.

Let us tap into some of that energy and get excited about all the great things happening in your Lodge. We have a large number of potential candidates looking at joining our Lodge, and we

have a number of fun activities planned for the summer. The cooking team and trap shooting team are practicing for the season. How about a movie? The Lodge will be transformed into a theatre along with real movie popcorn with butter on April 28. The Knife and Fork Degree will be performing on April 29 with the profits going to the WI Masonic Foundation – Service and Assistance Fund (**tickets at <http://dl290knifeandfork.brownpapertickets.com>**).

A continued dedication to Masonic education is being upheld in Lodge meetings, along with a special night on the fourth Tuesday in May. In June we participate in the elections of the Grand Lodge and celebrate in the new staff and their exciting ideas for the new Masonic year. We also have a family picnic planned on the 11th of July that should be a lot of fun!

Get excited because summer is almost here, and your Lodge is healthy and has planned a lot of fun and engaging activities. It's a good time to be a Damascus Lodge member!



Curt Campagna, PM  
Worshipful Master  
[worshipful.master@dl290.org](mailto:worshipful.master@dl290.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### April

14th – Stated Communication

Masters Board Meeting

Dinner at 6 pm

Lodge at 7 pm

Dress code: jacket and tie

28th – Lodge Movie Night

Starts at 6 pm

Dress code: casual

29th – Knife and Fork Degree

Starts at 7 pm

Dress code: jacket and tie

### May

12th – Stated Communication

Dinner at 6 pm

Lodge at 7 pm

Dress Code: TBA

20th – Presentation of  
scholarships at the high schools

More details coming

26th – Lodge Special

Masonic Education for  
the Membership Night

TBA – May Bowling Social

### June

June 5-6 – Grand

Sessions in Madison

# MOVIE NIGHT

**Get your movie on – April 28th!**

Popcorn provided by our popcorn  
master chef, Pat of Butter Miltzer!

Bring a perspective member

We're sure it will be Best In Show!



Dinner will be hot dogs with all the  
fixings, chips, and finger food.

Dessert will be ice cream  
and root beer floats.

# Damascus Lodge No. 290

(Being Uniquely Qualified)

## Announces the Conferral of The Knife and Fork Degree



7:00pm April 29, 2015  
Lake Masonic Center  
1235 E Howard Ave. Milwaukee

**\$30.00 - First Timers**  
(including a Pin and Card)

**\$25.00 - Alumni**

### Le' Menu

Ze Bacon Wrapped Filet vis all de trimmin's,  
Dezzerts, und beverages (including a fine 'Bovine Wine').

For more information and to get your seat at the table  
Goto: <http://dl290knifeandfork.brownpapertickets.com>  
Seating is limited, so reserve your seat today!!

Proceeds go to the WI Masonic Foundation - Service and Assistance Fund

## 2015 Trap Team

2015 brings with it a new year for the trap team. The Lodge has graciously decided to sponsor a trap team this year for Lodge members. The Lodge Team is called Hiram's Hotshots, and we will be shooting at the Cudahy Sportmen's Club.

The team this year will consist of Nathan Butts (Captain), Brian Bertram, Bob Bertram, Michael Fairbanks, Dale Graeven and Paul Graeven. We have a full team, and patches are being made for the team members, paid for by the Lodge. For 20 weeks starting April 7/8, the team will be hitting the clays. The club is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Sunday. As the

team coordinates, we will try and let the Lodge know so if anyone wants to come and



watch, you will know when we will be there. Nathan will post our team shoots on the Lodge calendar on the Lodge website.



## WANTED

**Good men who have a belief in God and are of good character.**

We do not make "bad men into good men." Freemasonry stresses honor, personal responsibility and personal integrity. This distinction is critical, so we look to you to invite the quality of men we are looking for.

So, if you know one of these men with good character that you can vouch for, invite him to one of our friends' events or talk to our counselor!

## Calling All Cooks!

We have shown we like to eat – now let's show them we know how to cook. We know many of you enjoy cooking, and we need you to join the team. The team will enter every Masonic cooking contest that we find out about. The Lodge will outfit the team and will take care of the supplies.

*"When we no longer have good cooking in the world, we will have no literature, nor high and sharp intelligence, nor friendly gatherings, no social harmony."*  
-Marie-Antoine Carême

So, for all who want to be part of this culinary club, be sure to sign up at our next meeting. Let's represent our Lodge and have some fun.



## Lodge Inventory

Damascus Lodge has been around for 110 years, and we have some items that have been in storage for many years. We are looking to purchase a display case to share our history with the Lodge and with the public. There are so many parts of our history that we are still uncovering, and by performing an inventory, we hope to add to the pages of our Lodge's story.



Brother Brian Bertram will lead our Lodge inventory with help from his crew. Our Lodge cabinets will be reorganized, and we will be taking stock of our needs for the future.

If any members have memorabilia that you would like to donate back to the Lodge to enrich its history, feel free to contact Worshipful Master Curt Campagna at [worshipful.master@dl290.org](mailto:worshipful.master@dl290.org), or call 414-698-8874.



## Gentlemen – START YOUR ENGINES!

Or in this case, plug them in and pull the trigger. The DL290 open slot car race was the main attraction on March 31. At stake were bragging rights and the ensuing abuse from the Brethren of Damascus 290 for the next 12 months.

Our Lodge champion from last year, Worshipful Brother Dale Graeven, was there and in full form as he attempted to defend his title against a dozen or more wannabes out to take it away.

Notice the photo. His eyes feverishly wide, his only thought on winning, his hands are dangerously clutching with all his strength the one item proving him to be last year's winner ("look ma, no hands!"). We still haven't figured out how he got into that

slot car, nay, we still haven't figured out even how Worshipful Brother Sean fit in the slot car, but Dale?

The long, blurry streams of color behind Worshipful Brother Dale are not photography magic. No, it is indeed, and in fact, the blur of the building as he races around the track, no hands on the steering wheel. How does he do that and not crash?

Because this article has been written prior to the race, stay tuned for the May Trestleboard to find out the results of the race, the answer to the questions, and perhaps discover the secrets of how to fit oneself into a slot car. To be continued ...



## **Damascus Lodge No. 290 F. & A. M.**

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Milwaukee, WI 53207

Phone:  
414-297-9193

Website:  
[www.dl290.org](http://www.dl290.org)

Email:  
[worshipful.master@dl290.org](mailto:worshipful.master@dl290.org)

**The Real Secret of  
Freemasonry – Making  
Good Men Better**

### **Lodge Trustees**

Matthew Wright, P. M. (2015)  
414-254-5677

Nathan Butts (2016)  
414-727-9772

Dale A. Graeven (2017)  
414-852-4838

### **Sick And Visitation Chairperson**

Nathan Butts  
414-727-9772

### **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.

## **2015 Lodge Officers**

### **Worshipful Master**

Curt A. Campagna, P. M.  
[worshipful.master@dl290.org](mailto:worshipful.master@dl290.org)

### **Treasurer**

Dale A. Graeven, P. M.  
[treasurer@dl290.org](mailto:treasurer@dl290.org)

Patrick J. Militzer, P.M.

### **Senior Warden**

Nathan Butts  
[senior.warden@dl290.org](mailto:senior.warden@dl290.org)

### **Secretary**

[secretary@dl290.org](mailto:secretary@dl290.org)

### **Junior Warden**

Michael L. Fairbanks, P.M.  
[junior.warden@dl290.org](mailto:junior.warden@dl290.org)

### **Chaplain Kirby Timm**

**Senior Deacon** Scott M. Fairbanks  
**Junior Deacon** Brian Bertram  
**Senior Steward** Matthew Hanchek  
**Junior Steward** Don O'Kray  
**Tiler** Larry Chadderdon, P.M.