



DAMASCUS
290
F. & A.M.

The TrestleBoard

Making Good Men Better

Volume XII, Issue IX
September 2015



Special Sections

A Helping Hand for the Hunger Task Force	1
Upcoming Events	2
The Master's Message	3
Farewell to Our Friends	4
The Masonic Dirge	5
Just for Laughs	5
Thank You, Volunteers!	5
Keep Calm and Ride On	6

A Helping Hand for the Hunger Task Force

Each year, Damascus Lodge buys onions from the Shrine and donates them to the Hunger Task Force. This year the onions sold out in a day, and we were unable to do that.

Instead, we took the checks that were going to be used to buy the onions directly to the Hunger Task Force and made a cash donation. The Lodge donated \$500 this year!

In the above photo, Worshipful Master Curt Campagna (second from right), Senior Warden Nathan Butts (left), and Junior Warden Michael Fairbanks (right) present the donation to Raeanna Johnson, Community Relations Manager from the Hunger Task Force (second from left).





UPCOMING EVENTS

September

3rd – All Bodies Picnic

Lake Lodge, 5:30 pm

Welcoming all the groups that
went dark for the summer

Food provided by Lake Lodge

13th – 110th Anniversary

Tripoli Shrine Center

Social at 5 pm

Dinner at 6 pm

RSVP online by Sept. 7 at noon

October

24th – Wisconsin Masonic College

Lake Lodge

See the Masonic Journal or the
Grand Lodge website for more
info

25th – Halloween Party

Lake Lodge, 4 pm

Full details on Pg. 7

RSVP to Brother Brian Bertram
by Oct. 17

Damascus Lodge No. 290

110th Anniversary

You are invited to help us celebrate our 110th
Anniversary and honor the Past Masters of
Damascus Lodge who have guided us.

*"Love one another with brotherly affection.
Outdo one another in showing honor."
(Romans 12:10 ESV)*

We look forward to honoring our Past, Present
and Future. In celebration and fellowship
we will be hosting a dinner on:

September 13th, 2015
at the Tripoli Shrine Center

5 p.m. Social Hour (Cash Bar)
featuring a Barbershop Quartet

6 p.m. Dinner

After Dinner A Program with guest speaker
M.W. Grand Secretary
Michael A. DeWolf, PGM

\$25 per Attendee

Past Masters and any widows of Damascus Lodge
are free to attend.

Register online by noon on September 7 at:
<http://dl290.brownpapertickets.com>

The Master's Message

by Curt Campagna, Worshipful Master

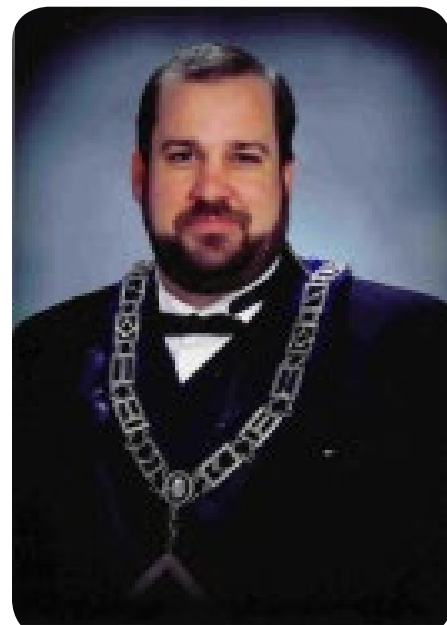
Do you have an old car in your garage? Sometimes when I channel surf I find programs with guys looking for old cars sitting in the back of the barn, or stored in an old pole shed or garage. While most of these vehicles are classics needing a lot of work, some are in great shape and just need a little tender loving care.

There always seems to be a story about when the owner obtained the car, or memories of driving or riding in it. Even though it is nice to know that you have, and own, a classic car, it just sits in a space in storage. Take that same car and give it the love it needs, and find out how great it is to ride it on the road.

Let us presume that you have not been to Lodge for a while like the car in storage. Your Lodge holds memories of when you used to be active and visited often. It holds

a sense of pride being a member of this wonderful fraternity with all the rites and benefits. Your love for the Masonic organization is the reason you have kept your membership for so long.

Now, take your Lodge out of that dusty storage place and come back for a visit to reengage with the Brethren. Amazingly, I believe, you will find that excitement again that first brought you into your Degrees. The more involved you get in Lodge, the more fun and fulfillment you get back from the Lodge. It is a true adage that what you put in, you get back tenfold.



Curt Campagna, PM
Worshipful Master
worshipful.master@dl290.org

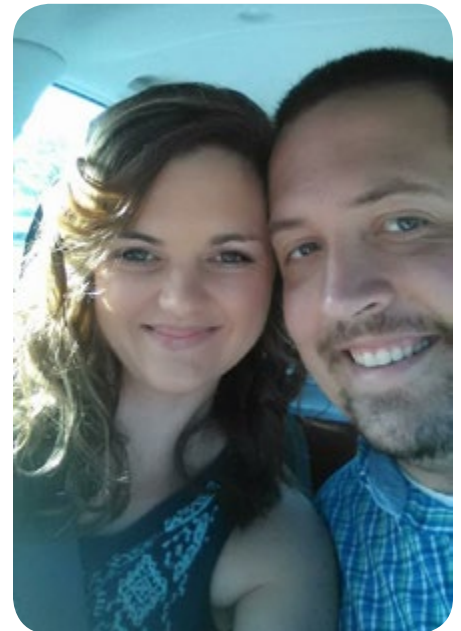


Farewell to Our Friends

We have to say that we will miss our Chaplain Kirby Timm, and his wife, Anna, who are moving to Tennessee. You both will always be family to all of us. Visit often!



We will also have our Senior Deacon and Lodge model Scott Fairbanks, and his wife, Ashley Marie, leave us for Georgia and new adventures. Our love and hopes for happiness goes with you both, but we will always keep the light on for both of you.



The Masonic Dirge

That which was lost is now found: The Masonic Dirge. If you open your cipher and thumb through the second section of the Master Mason degree, you will find something peculiar. In there you will find a lost part of the ritual not practiced anymore – a three-verse song with accompanying lyrics.

According to research done by Masonic author Robert G. Davis, the music was composed by Ignaz Joseph Pleyel, a composer who was a student of Brother Joseph Hayden, and also a Mason himself. It is a hymn from Pleyel's 4th Quartet published in 1791 and commonly referred to as "Pleyel's Hymn." The beautiful dirge lyrics were written in 1813 by Brother David Vinton who was a Masonic lecturer in



North Carolina and Georgia.

In the past, music was considered an integral and inseparable component of our ritual. In fact, several pieces of music and lyrics were written specifically for use in ritual and can be found in several ancient craft degrees, from the Entered Apprentice, all the way to the Royal Arch.

In the spirit of Masonic restoration, we here at Damascus Lodge look forward to fully re-incorporating this beautiful piece of our ritual. It will be re-introduced and played at our next Master Mason Degree. Be sure to check the lodge calendar for the date. This is an exciting first step towards bringing music back into our Ancient Craft.

Just for Laughs

A salesman walked into the post office in a small town and started to talk to the Post Master. In the course of their conversation, the topic of Freemasonry came up. The man started to berate and criticize the Craft.

He then asked the Post Master if he wanted hear a very funny joke about Masons. The Post Master told him that he was a Mason, as was the man standing in line behind the salesman, as were three of the mail carriers at the front desk. Now in the company of five Freemasons, did the man still want to tell the joke? To which the salesman replied, "Not if I have to explain it five times!"



Thank You, Volunteers!

Guess who has been volunteering?

Jacob Harycki, Sondra Graeven, and the DeMolay boys from Doric. They were directing cars where to park at the Three Pillar's Friends and Family Picnic on August 2.

Keep Calm and Ride On

Take a look at these cool pictures of Masons customizing their motorcycles.



DAMASCUS LODGE 290

FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY

4 P.M.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25th, 2015

AT LAKE LODGE



Bring the whole family for

**Dinner: "Ghoul-ash" (elbow mac and spaghetti meat sauce)
Assorted goulish and creepy dinner treats**

in lodge trick or treat

**The LEGENDARY scavenger hunt
games for young goblins and older ones too
halloween arts and crafts
Plenty of photo ops**

**Family Appropriate Costumes optional but encouraged
for all, you may even win a prize!**

**Cost is \$5 per person, \$10 per family,
Under 12-free**

Contact Brother Brian Bertram at 414-486-0806 or bsbert290@att.net

**Please RSVP No later than
October 17, 2015**

Hope to see you all there for a howling good time!



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

1235 East Howard
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Phone:
414-297-9193

Website:
www.dl290.org

Email:
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 President Mick Olson and Master's Board Secretary Brian Bertram would like to remind you to keep an eye out for new candidates for the Lodge.

2015 Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master

Curt A. Campagna, P. M.
worshipful.master@dl290.org

Treasurer

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

Senior Warden

Nathan Butts
senior.warden@dl290.org

Secretary

Patrick J. Militzer, P.M.
secretary@dl290.org

Junior Warden

Michael L. Fairbanks, P.M.
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.