



DAMASCUS
290
F. & A.M.

The TrestleBoard

Making Good Men Better

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Grand Master Visit

On the 8th of October the Grand Master of Masons in Wisconsin, Franklin J. Struble, came to Lake Lodge for a special listening session for all the area Lodges. We had a very good representation from Damascus. The conversation was lively, and all who attended shared many great ideas.

The Wisconsin Grand Master is taking all those good ideas that are being shared in these sessions and compiling them into a program to



share with Wisconsin Lodges. He is also getting a pulse of the craft to better lead us.

Again, our Lake Lodge Brothers were excellent hosts, and it was a great experience.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

10th – Election Night
Lake Lodge, 7 pm

13th – Honor Masons Night
with Bethel No. 6
Lake Lodge, 7:30 pm

24th – Movie Night

28th – District Meeting
Palmer Lodge, Time TBA

December

5th – Salvation Army Bell
Ringing
Pick 'n Save – Whitnall Ave,
9 am - 4 pm
RSVP to Bro. Nathan Butts

8th – Stated Meeting
Bring your Toys for Tots!

TBA – Installation

February

14th – Sweethearts Brunch



Movie Night!

by Bro. Curt Campagna, Worshipful Master

So, would you let this guy run our next movie night???

Yes, I am leaving my Secretary Brother Pat Militzer, PM, in charge of the movie night on **November 24th**. He has had to put up all year with me, and has been a huge part of our success this year. So many just assume that Lodge work just gets done on its own, but Brother Pat's dedication and organization is how it all gets accomplished.



I will be out of town on this social night, and I have full confidence that he will pick out a great movie (just look at his smile) and meal plan for the evening. So, come on out before Thanksgiving, and have a fun night with your Lodge Brothers!

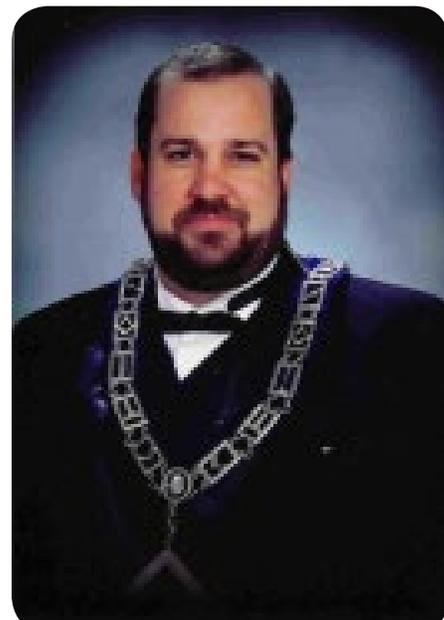
P.S. Another great event to bring a prospective member!

Just a reminder:

November 10th is elections for the 2016 Officers!

The Master's Message

by Bro. Curt Campagna, Worshipful Master



Greetings:

Many happy fall blessings to all, for this is a magical time of year. It is a time of transitions. The world works its magic in so many ways. For example, plants that gave us food, ground cover, and some that blessed us with bright flowers now end their cycle of life. Many of these plants, in their last farewell until next year, gift us with an explosion of bountiful colors. Hues that work into a sort of tapestry that covers the earth like a fine oil painting. In their transition we find that even in death there is a beauty that can overwhelm us. Such is life: we are born in innocence, and move

through maturity, growing and defining ourselves in who and what we chose to be. Following through age toward wisdom and contemplation, and ending our lives joined again with our creator. It is a beauty that can only be mirrored by life's tapestry exposed during the fall season.

Such is the master plan that has been laid out for all of us. Enjoy all the beauty that has been given to you. Make your life a life that will give others a pause and say, "look at the beauty and enjoyment that he has given to us all."

Curt Campagna, P.M.

Worshipful Master

worshipful.master@dl290.org

Traveling Gavel Delivered

by Bro. Brian Bertram, Senior Deacon



District Meeting

Our winter District Meeting will be held on **November 28th** at Palmer Lodge (time TBA).

All Officers should be in attendance to learn what's going on with the other Lodges in our District. There will also be education and updates from the Grand Lodge. Our Sr. Warden, Brother Nathan Butts, will be in charge of the group this night, so contact him with any conflicts or questions.

On September 23, Worshipful Master Curt Campagna, Sr. Deacon Brian Bertram, and David Menke, a Fellowcraft from our Lodge, delivered the traveling gavel to Freemasons Lodge #363 at the Scottish Rite center. We received the gavel from Lake Lodge #189, and delivered it to Freemasons Lodge before another Lodge could get it from us, thus obtaining some LEA points for Damascus! Freemasons Lodge was very courteous and welcomed the Damascus brothers with open arms.

As we delivered the gavel, Freemasons Lodge was conferring a double Fellowcraft degree. Worshipful Master Campagna assisted as Chaplain, and Sr. Deacon Bertram filled in as Jr. Steward. It is always beneficial for any newer mason to witness

another Lodge confer a degree, as it only reinforces their own experience in their home Lodge, and I would like to thank Bro. Menke for joining us. I would encourage all members of our Lodge to be traveling men, not only when delivering the traveling gavel, but also at any time another Lodge is meeting. Just remember to notify the Lodge you intend to visit as a courtesy.

Visiting another Lodge not only gives Damascus positive exposure to other Lodges, but also adds a sense of true brotherhood to yourself by getting to know other masons. I am doing some traveling myself, and if you are interested in joining me in my travels, just let me know.



TOYS FOR TOTS

Come on out to our **December 8th** meeting where we will be collecting Toys for Tots. Bring your unwrapped gifts for needy kids. We will also be passing a hat for cash donations! 'Tis the season for giving!

Apple Picking!

by Bro. Matthew Hanchek, Senior Steward

In 2015, a key focus of Damascus Lodge and of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin has been emphasizing family-friendly Freemasonry.

Damascus has held a number of formal and informal family events and gatherings throughout the year. This continued in October as the Graeven, Campagna, Hanchek, and Bender (prospective member) families gathered at Elegant Farmer in Mukwonago for some Fall fun. The families enjoyed a hayride, apple picking, and other activities. The younger kids also participated in pony rides and a bunch of tree-climbing, while the big kids (Brothers Matt, Curt, and Dale) focused on apple-eating, and appreciated the convenience of having the donut shack located right next to the checkout line.

At Damascus, we truly are a big family ... keep an eye out for other upcoming family events!





Honor Masons Night with Bethel No. 6

Honor Masons night with Bethel No. 6 is coming up on **November 13th** with the legendary dessert action to follow the meeting. We have always shown up in big numbers to support these daughters on this night. Let's make sure we don't disappoint, and flood the girls with numbers and support!! The meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

Sweethearts Brunch

February 14th

11am • Silver Spring Country Club

Cost is \$25. Ladies free.

RSVP to Bro. Nathan Butts • 414-405-6383 • nb290@wi.rr.com



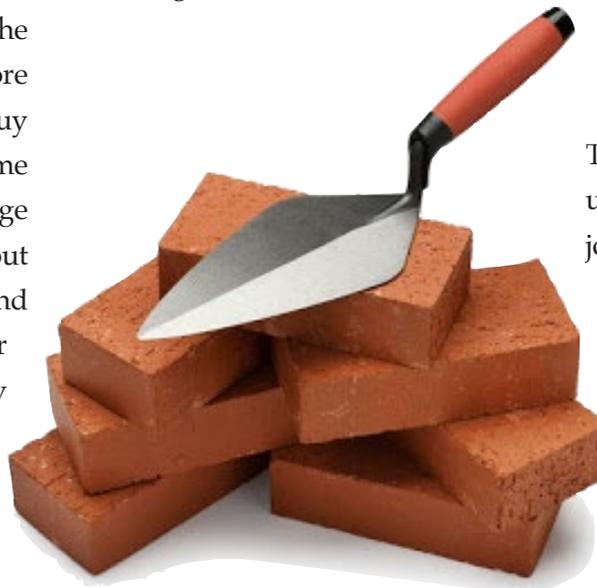
On the Level

by Bro. Nathan Butts, Senior Warden

This month, I wanted to ask you all a question: are you a mentor? I would like all of you no matter how far along you are on your Masonic journey, look back, and stop and think, am I a mentor? Then also think about who is your personal mentor. Who is that one guy who really gave you the strong bond with the lodge, made you want to get more involved and come back, that guy you really like to see every time you come to lodge or any lodge sponsored event. Think about what it was that made you bond with that guy, what he did for you along the Masonic journey you are on, that so impressed you that you were excited about everything you do now. Doesn't it make you feel good to know someone cares about you and what you are doing?

Now take that and look at yourself. Is there anyone you have done this for, anyone who pointed it out to you? That guy who sees you and always gives you that firm handshake and pat on the

back, always feeling welcomed by you at Lodge. Think about them, and the things you have done for them, the things you continue to do for them, and give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done. You deserve it. Doesn't it make you feel good to know you are making a difference?



Still new to lodge? Don't see yourself as a mentor? That is OK. You might not even notice the things you are doing to mentor other guys. Whispering good council, being the attentive ear, providing the instructive tongue

when it's called for, these things can quickly get you mentoring even without you knowing its happening. Something to think about, just because you are new, does not mean you are not influencing others at lodge. We all feed off the energy of the others around us, influencing us to make better, more positive decisions in our lives.

The lodge is the "key", it just unlocks the door to your Masonic journey, just think about all those who influence you and make you think about the obligations you took and encourage you, pointed you down the path to improvement of everyone around you by your actions, making this world a better place. So next time you see your mentor, new or old, give them an extra pat on the back and say thanks, everyone benefits from it with the positive light you will shine on them, and them on you in return. Spreading the cement of brotherly love, let's keep it always growing and spreading to others.



Ring in a Season of Giving!

We're looking for expert bell ringers to support the Salvation Army on **December 5th**. Slots will be available from 9 am to 4 pm for bell ringing at the Pick 'n Save on Whitnall Ave. (St. Francis). Contact Bro. Nathan Butts to sign up.



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**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.
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Treasurer

Dale A. Graeven, P. M.
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Senior Warden

Nathan Butts
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Secretary

Patrick J. Militzer, P.M.
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Michael L. Fairbanks, P.M.
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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.