



DAMASCUS
290
 F. & A.M.

The TrestleBoard

Making Good Men Better

Volume XIII, Issue II
 February 2016



Special Sections

EA Degree	1
Upcoming Events	2
Sweethearts Brunch	2
Admirals Hockey	2
The Master's Message	3
Knife & Fork is Coming!	4
Echoes from the West	5

EA Degree

On January 26th the Brothers of Damascus Lodge conferred the Entered Apprentice (EA) degree upon Brian Wozack. The brethren did a wonderful job, and it was an excellent degree. We had visiting Brothers from George Washington 1776 also in attendance; Worshipful Master Joe Fahrenkopf, Senior Warden Alan Soriano, and their newest Entered Apprentice Paul Borta, saw the degree for the first time "from the other side of the fold," as Worshipful Master Joe Fahrenkopf so eloquently put it.





UPCOMING EVENTS

February

9th – Stated Meeting/
Masonic Education Night

14th – Sweethearts Brunch

23rd – Movie Night

March

5th – Admirals Game Family
Outing
RSVP by February 15th
to Bro. Jason Williams

8th – Stated

13th – MM Degree practice

22nd – MM Degree

April

9th – Community Blood
Drive at Lodge

26th – MM Degree

28th – Community Spaghetti
Dinner at Lodge

May

31st – Knife and Fork Degree

June

25th – Chinooks Baseball
Game Family Outing



Sweethearts Brunch

February 14th

11am • Silver Spring Country Club

Cost is \$25. Ladies free.

Last chance! RSVP by February 7

to WM Nathan Butts

414-405-6383 • nb290@wi.rr.com



**LET'S WATCH
SOME HOCKEY!**

MARCH 5TH

7PM • BMO HARRIS BRADLEY CENTER
TICKETS WILL BE AT WILL CALL

ADULTS \$10 • CHILDREN 16 OR UNDER \$5
GUESTS \$20

RSVP TO BRO. JASON WILLIAMS
414-333-8163 • JUNIOR.DEACON@DL290.ORG

DEADLINE FOR SIGN-UPS IS FEBRUARY 15TH.

The Master's Message

by Worshipful Master Nathan Butts

February brings with it the usual cold of winter, the shortest month of the year, the end of the installation and holiday seasons, and a time for learning and growing as Lodge members continue to learn and grow with new parts. It is also a time for family, the month of "love" represented by Valentine's Day.

We take this time to thank our wives and significant others for the time they give us to spend time in Lodge. We thank them for the love they give us every day and choosing to spend their lives with us. Remember to give them an extra hug and a kiss before you leave for Lodge this month, and remind them how much they mean to you. We will, as a Lodge, celebrate the love we have for our ladies with the Sweethearts Brunch, to be held on Valentine's Day. Contact me if you want to sign up for the event.

Family is the key to a successful Lodge, balancing time, learning and growing as a Masonic family. Having successful friends and family events will also lead to growing our Masonic family, and we will be doing more of that this year. We will be having our usual charity events and adding more

events open to the public, where we will do what we do best at Damascus: we meet, we eat, and we have a great time. So with the help of other Masonic families, we will be hosting community food service — one in April and one in October — open to the public, with the hopes that we will show the community how we help, and how they can be involved and not fear the fraternity. Just good men doing good work in the community to make everyone have a brighter day and better place to be. March will bring degree work with new parts. As one of the Past Masters once told me, 20 minutes a day, and we can learn it all. Practice, prepare, and we will do good work. See you in Lodge.



Nathan Butts
Worshipful Master
worshipful.master@dl290.org



**Damascus Lodge No. 290
(Being Uniquely Qualified)
Announces the Conferral of**

The Knife and Fork Degree

An enjoyable evening of food, fun and fellowship

May 31, 2016

Doors open at 6 pm; Event starts at 7 pm

Lake Masonic Center
1235 E Howard Ave., Milwaukee

Lê Menu

Ze Bacon Wrapped Filet via
all de trimmings, desserts,
and beverages (including
a fine 'Bovine Wine')

Guest Speaker

Robert Johnson
from "Whence Came You" and
Masonic Roundtable Podcasts
www.wcypodcast.com

\$33.00 - First Timers (including a Pin and Card)

\$28.00 - Alumni

Open to all MM, FC and EA if properly vouched for

Seating is limited, so reserve your seat today!!

For more information and to get your seat at the table,
go to: <http://knf2016.brownpapertickets.com>

Proceeds go to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission

Contact Bro. Brian Bertram with questions • bsbert290@att.net • (414) 486-0806

Echoes from the West

by Bro. Michael Fairbanks, Senior Warden

I really like the title of this year's Senior Warden's Article. It has been fully plagiarized and taken from one of our three-time Past Masters – Worshipful Brother Curt Campagna. It was very easy not to have to think about a title for this year's articles, and I like that Past Master Campagna would say "Hey, it's for the good of the Lodge; therefore, it's not plagiarism."

January is gone and February is in full swing. The Sweethearts Brunch is fast approaching. Work is in full throttle for the Lodge as well, and so it goes exactly as WM Butts has predicted – "Man, we are going to have a busy year." Indeed, Worshipful Master, and the year has only just begun.

Many events have been planned for the Lodge this year. The officers have met and taken the lead on all of the events. Now all that remains is to have members of the Lodge, especially those who have aspirations of becoming an officer, to fill the secondary roles as organizers and planners for these events.

Officers of the Lodge will fill the primary lead on planning and organizing. Secondary roles are to support the officers, to assist in seeing things are on track, and to learn how the events work – well, okay, he will also learn a wee bit about the duties of the office in which he is assisting.

Oh wait, you really are not interested in becoming an officer, but would like to aid and assist in planning events and being active? No problem – step right up, fill the role of the secondary, and we will make sure you have something to do. Since it takes an entire village to raise a child, wouldn't it also take an entire Lodge of Brothers to ensure the success of the Lodge?

This also means that your regular appearance at the meetings is earnestly solicited. While meetings and Lodge in general is strictly volunteer, attending Lodge is informative, relaxing, and a place to catch up on Lodge happenings and doings. It's an opportunity to reconnect with long-time brothers and friends, and to meet new brothers. Besides,

to fill any kind of role, a primary or secondary one really needs to be present.

Brethren, we have all heard the catch phrase, "Sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride." I say to you, "Get active in Lodge." Then there will be no sitting back. Get active, and there is no relaxing. When you are active in Lodge, the ride is out of this world, and it is one that you will never forget.

If you haven't been to Lodge in a while, come back. Feel the friendship, the zeal, and union of your brothers. Only when you attend Lodge can you receive the full benefit of "Friendship and Brotherly Love." Come for the meal at 6:00 pm every 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, reconnect, attend the meetings if you would like, but come; come and see for yourself what we are doing.

For those who have been in Lodge, keep it coming.

And as always – be there AND be square.

2016 Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master

Nathan Butts
worshipful.master@dl290.org

Senior Warden

Michael L. Fairbanks, P.M.
senior.warden@dl290.org

Junior Warden

Brian Bertram
junior.warden@dl290.org

Treasurer

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

Secretary

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

Chaplain Michael Meyer, P.M.

Senior Deacon Matt Hanchek

Junior Deacon Jason Williams

Senior Steward Don O'Kray

Junior Steward Chris Balke

Tiler Larry Chadderdon, P.M.

Degree Director Mick Olson, P.M.

Lodge Trustees

Matthew Wright, P.M. (2016)
414-254-5677

Dale A. Graeven, P.M. (2017)
414-852-4838

Matt Hanchek (2018)
414-418-8229

Sick and Visitation Chairperson

Michael Fairbanks, P.M.
414-397-0330
senior.warden@dl290.org

Master's Board

Keep those petitions coming in. The Master's Board President Mick Olson and Master's Board Secretary Curt Campagna would like to remind you to keep an eye out for new candidates for the Lodge.



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

1235 East Howard Ave., 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*