



DAMASCUS
290
 F. & A.M.

The TrestleBoard

Making Good Men Better

Volume XIII, Issue IX
 September 2016



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Entered Apprentice Degree

On August 23rd, Damascus welcomed our newest Entered Apprentice (EA) into our Lodge, Jake Kingstad. He received great degree and everyone had a great time. We had visitors from Nathan Hale, Wauwatosa Lodge, as well as our District Deputy Grand Master, Todd Krohn.

The members of Wauwatosa Lodge, consisting of their Senior Warden and two newest Entered Apprentices, came to capture the gavel, keeping Damascus from gaining any LEA points by delivering it to another Lodge. We will have another EA coming in October.

(Additional pictures on next page)

 **UPCOMING
EVENTS**

September

13th – Stated Meeting

27th – DL 290 Slot Car Race

Lucky Bob's

October

8th – Wisconsin Freemason's

Day, Events TBD

11th – Stated Meeting

23rd – Halloween Party

Lake Lodge, 4 p.m.

25th – EA Degree

November

8th – Stated Meeting

and Elections



Entered Apprentice degree (from left to right): Richard Kingstad, Jake Kingstad, Nathan Butts W.M.



Members of Wauwatosa Lodge No. 267 capture the gavel: (from left to right): Antwayne Robertson, Matthew Bramm, Joshua Riewe S.W., with Damascus W.M. Nathan Butts.

The Master's Message

by Worshipful Master Nathan Butts

Greetings Brethren,

I hope this edition of our Trestleboard finds you well. This month I would like to focus on what we learned as an entered apprentice, and I want to refer to the Lodge education that we had at our last meeting, as they go hand in hand. One of the discussion questions was, *what is the difference between a working tool and a symbol?* Everyone will have a different answer as we are all different, we all see things differently, and we all have varying points of view. But what brings us together is that common thing: that common gavel, that 24-inch gauge, the holy writings, the square and compass. All these things are a working tool, something you can use and see as physical things. But what they represent to us as Masons: that is where they become symbols. Why do we use the square to square our actions, or the compass to circumscribe us in how we act? Why do we use the 24-inch gauge to represent the hours in the day, or the gavel to chip off the rough edges of our inner being? Why are we taught to seek out our own holy writings? To improve ourselves and help others do the same.

Think about that for a minute. Think about that and look around you. Look at the politics, the violence, the corruption, anger, hatred, and destructiveness in the world and think, how would it be different if some of these folks had something like Masonry in their lives before now? Would there be as much of that destructiveness?

Now take it a step further. Look around you, and who can you affect now that will start to turn this around? Maybe they won't join or are not right to join, but you can affect them, maybe help them find a path, and do what we learn as entered apprentices. We can divide our time up helping others and serving our own supreme being. We can do our normal work, and relax and refresh with family, using the gavel to chip away the personal vices we have to make ourselves better, so others see the improvement in us. That can help them seek to find the same in themselves. Maybe we can't make big differences today, but in the long haul, we can make this a better place for everyone if we work together and try.



Nathan Butts
Worshipful Master
worshipful.master@dl290.org

So I challenge all of you to go back and think about, read, or review what you learned as an entered apprentice. Find one thing each day to work on, to review internally, and to display externally. To be the brighter light in the times when light tends to fade and vices take over. Shed those vices and superfluities of life, and make everyone around you have a better day today and tomorrow.

Tuesday, Tuesday, Tuesday!
 Meet all your favorite drivers at the
“Damascus 290”



Our meeting on Sept. 27th will be held at:

Lucky BOBs 
RACEWAY

5822 West Forest Home Ave.

Join us for a night of Racing and Fellowship!

Exciting racing from 6-8 p.m.!!
Enjoy PIZZA after the Main Event!!

Entry fee is only \$10.00!!

Call Bro. Dale Graeven (treasurer@dl290.org) or
 Bro. Michael Fairbanks (senior.warden@dl290.org) by
 September 20th to reserve your car!
 Bring a prospective member!!



BE THERE!!



Master's Wages, if Any Be Due ...

by Bro. Brian Bertram, Junior Warden

Have you wondered what the Master's wages are or how we earn them?

An excerpt from the Masonic Lodge of Education website states the following:

Operative Freemasonry Wages:

Master of the Work: In ancient operative times, the Master of the Work received the highest wages. His wages were corn, wine, oil and sometimes the coin of the realm.

Fellowcraft and Entered Apprentice wages were less than the Master, but they were kept in "mete and drynk" (meat and drink).

Speculative Freemasonry Wages:

In Speculative Freemasonry, Masonic wages are not earned in coin. They

are the rewards earned through acts of kindness, good deeds of service, and the gift of your time to others.

They are earned by mentoring other brethren, helping others, remembering the widow and the orphan and visiting the sick. In short, wages are earned much as the biblical verse says:

"Do unto others as you would HAVE them do unto you."

I try to adhere to this quote by C.S. Lewis:

"Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching."

We, as Masons, are held to standards, from our obligation to our own personal standards, to our community standards. We must

meet, work and act as Masons. We do not earn Master's wages in monetary or material form; we earn them in our own hearts and maybe small recognition from our Lodge with a "that-a-boy."

Most of all, we earn our final wages when we leave this world and travel to "that House not made with hands," where we will receive our Masonic wages for a life of proper morals, good deeds, and high integrity.

So, the next time you see a person in need, do your best to help. It doesn't have to be a monetary donation. Sometimes a smile and a "thank you" is all that is needed to brighten someone's day, and thus contributing to your own "Master's wages."



Hiram's Hotshots – Damascus Lodge 290 Trap Team

by Bro. Brian Bertram, Junior Warden



The Damascus Trap Shooting team, Hiram's Hotshots, is about ready to wrap up our summer league season.

The season started with a challenge for the team with a new venue, new rules and a new shooting backdrop. We started

strong, lapsed a bit, and after getting used to the host of new challenges, finished (at the time of this article) in fourth place. We still have a couple of rounds to go, but we overcame the obstacles, and when finished, well within our capabilities.

The team consists of (from left to right in the above photo): Bob Bertram, David Menke, Nathan Butts, Paul Graeven, Brian Bertram and Mike Fairbanks.

Thanks to the entire team for representing Damascus. See you next year!

DAMASCUS LODGE 290

FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY



4 P.M.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016

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 16, 2016

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

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 (Vacant)

Senior Steward Don O'Kray

Junior Steward Chris Balke

Counselor Sean Schult, P.M.

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.



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