

2024 Lodge Officers

- **Worshipful Master**
Craig Leonhardt
- **Senior Warden**
Jake Harycki PM
- **Junior Warden**
Mike Cornell
- **Treasurer**
Matt Schmidt
- **Secretary**
Kevin Hart
- **Senior Deacon**
Dom Cavalco (Trustee)
- **Junior Deacon**
Fernando Topete
- **Senior Steward**
Noloan Swendrowski
- **Junior Steward**
Winston Herman
- **Tiler**
Rich Cummings (Trustee)
- **Chaplain**
Byron Borck PM
- **Councilor**
Nate Butts PM (Trustee)

Trestleboard 290



Date December 1st, 2024

Master's Message

I would like to start off my final message of the year with a thank you. Thank you to everyone that has helped and supported me this year. It was definitely a learning experience. I have most definitely grown as a person and as a leader. There were many fun events and great conversations over the year. I look forward to seeing what next year and the future will bring. To all of the new masons, the journey has just begun. Remember it is a journey and not a sprint. I look forward to seeing how you will learn and grow along the way. Happy Holidays. Enjoy it with your families.

Thank you,
Craig Leonhardt
Worshipful Master 2024



Despite the inclement weather on Sunday, November 3, there were 20 hearty souls who attended brunch and the show at the fire-side theater in Fort Atkinson. We enjoyed a miracle on 34th St.



Pictured Left are Bro. Matt Schmidt and Joanne Seidita.



Pictured Left are Bro. Kelly Clingaman and his Lady Jennifer.

Sideline Scribbles

Michael Fairbanks

As my time in Milwaukee Metro and Milwaukee proper ends, I have looked back at my Masonic journey here and all I can say at this point is “Wow”. Just “Wow”.

The number of bonds and friendships formed, the advice, guidance, and good council whispered in my ear continues to serve me well no matter where I attend Lodge. The doors that have been opened that I never knew existed is mind blowing. For example, while on my annual pilgrimage to Northern Ireland, I once got to hold, and have my photo taken with the U.S. Open Cup that Rory McIlroy (an IRISH lad) won. I have kissed the bricks at the Indianapolis Brick Yard, and have been a part of a team that took home an international championship in 2015. I could go on and on but it would take 10 years for me say all the good things, but my point is that the first door I walked through was Damascus #290 where it all started. Have I mentioned that Rory McIlroy is an IRISH lad?

Compared to some, my journey is young, being in the youth of a Fellowcraft by age. Compared to others, my journey is old being in the age of a Master Mason. In whatever way my journey is viewed, I will say that I am, and likely will ever be an Entered Apprentice. I still look to my Brethren and friends for advice and guidance.

Service to our Lodge and the community has been rewarding and at times somewhat challenging. Bonds and friendships have been formed and it is through those bonds and friendships that I was able to serve and then lead Damascus #290. The Brethren and Past Masters advice and guidance is how I was first able to serve then lead. Lessons that will stay with me, regardless of where I sit in Lodge.

While I have applied for a plural membership at Hartford #120, I will be retaining my primary membership at Damascus #290. Rest assured that, as Hartford is only 40 miles away that I will be attending at Damascus as well as Hartford.

Brethren, THANK YOU. As I continue to travel the road of Freemasonry, I will ever keep in mind and remember this journey through Damascus Lodge #290. If our newer Brethren gets 1/10 out of Masonry and Damascus, then they will receive their Masonic wages and be rich indeed.

See you at the next meeting.
Be there AND be square.

P.S. In case I didn't mention it before – Rory McIlroy is an IRISH lad!



Damascus Lodge No. 290 F. &A.M. 1235 East Howard Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Working with Deputy B. Rios I was able to coordinate the donation of 150 Masonic teddy bears for the entire Milwaukee County Sheriff Department to give out to kids in traumatic situations to help give them a bright light during a difficult time and show that Masons Care.



L to R: Worshipful Master Craig Leonhardt, Deputy B. Rios, Deputy D. Thomas, Deputy Q. Ridgeway, Deputy Romero-Sanchez.

Lodge Birthdays

December

Thomas Tinney 12/17, Eric Vesel 12/20, Kelly Brown 12/27

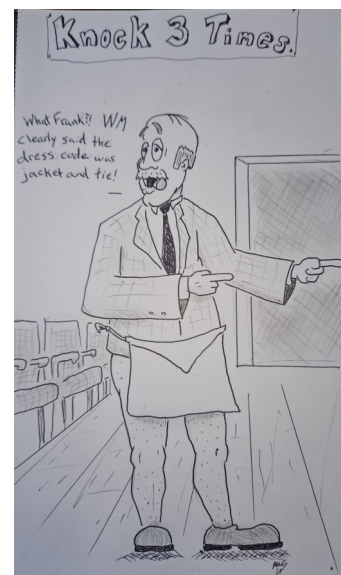
January

Kevin Burgey 1/4, Tim Bauer 1/5, Mike Clinnin 1/6, John Kosidowski 1/17, James Schneider 1/26.

Upcoming Dates

December 10th Stated Meeting dinner at 6pm, gavel drops at 7pm..

January 7th. Installation of 2025 Lodge Officers. Dinner at 6pm and ceremony at 7pm. Please RSVP with incoming JW Bro. Brian Bertram so he can plan accordingly.



Trestleboard
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If you have any questions, edits and or suggestions for this newsletter, please contact Bro. Mike Cornell .

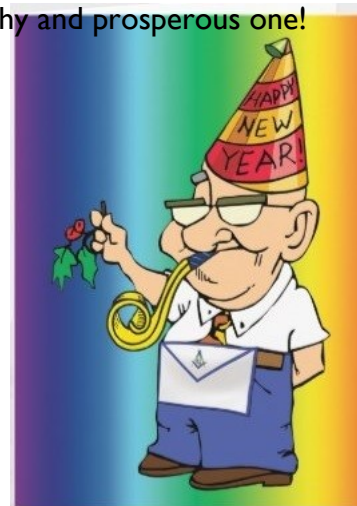
If you have an article that you would like to see published, please have them into the WM by the 15th of the month .



On November 23rd, Damascus members attended the Shrine's "Festival of Trees." Over 20 different Christmas trees all with different themes were found with numerous "presents" under each tree. Each tree and its presents are raffled off as a fund raiser for the shriners. A good time was had by all!



Happy New Year to all our brothers and the families. May it be a healthy and prosperous one!



Damascus Lodge No. 290 F. &A.M. 1235 East Howard Ave. Milwau-

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Brothers!



"Santa doesn't knock 3 times. You're lucky I didn't try the chimney!"

Officer Installation is at Lake Masonic Center on January 7th. Dinner at 6 and Ceremony at 7. Please RSVP with Bro. Brian Bertram so he can plan accordingly.



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