

"In Good Company"

By Bro. Mike Cornell

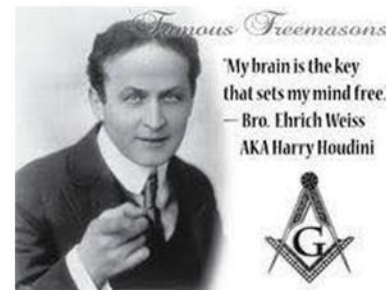
Do you have any idea what **Jim Bowie, Alexander Flemming** and **Harry Houdini** had in common? They were all Brothers. Brothers in bond in our wonderful fraternity. We (fraternity) have had quite a few notable men that all have passed through the west gate. There have been 14 U.S. presidents, many Nobel laureates, as well explorers,



scientists, actors and even a few astronauts. But what do all these men **really** have in common? Their character. All these men had a fortitude of integrity. They all were men who would do "the right thing" even when no one was witness to it. All of these men found worth in surrounding themselves with like minded individuals and hoped that through their actions, a better community and world would come of it. Its no different today. I look out at my brothers at lodge as well as brothers in the world and see a familiarity. I sense a kinship to all of these men through our actions and morals. If I ever have a doubt of what I should do

or say in a situation (outside our ritual because that's pretty well spelled out in black and white for us, HA!) I can go with WWBD. What would a Brother do. Would brother General **Omar Bradley** be afraid to speak up for what he thought was right? Would brother **Jack Dempsey** stay down when the fight got too hard?

We are all challenged every day to prove our character in speech, disposition and actions. We all have obligated ourselves to living our lives by certain codes. If you think about it, it makes an aspect of life easier for us. We don't need to wonder what we should do in a situation. We should know what to do. Our morality points us all in the same direction. Yes, it can be hard sometimes. But know this. You are in good company.



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

Happy New Year Brothers!



Last stated meeting, the brethren were instructed that the lodge attire that night would be "Ugly Christmas Sweaters". The members did NOT let the WM down!



On December 10th, Damascus was paid a visit from Bro. **Ahmad Ayyash** of South Shore Lodge. While thanking the lodge for its hospitality, Bro. Ahmad informed the members that his degree program required a civil improvement project. His idea of a "Chess Park" was introduced as well as a request for support from our lodge. WM Craig asked for more information as it would be a proud moment to support such a great undertaking. More updates will be made as they come. Stay tuned!

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