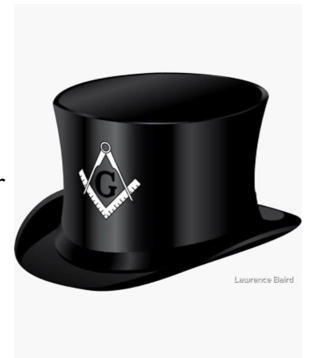


Date September 1st, 2025

Master's Message

Double EA on August 5th was great. It was truly a special night to have not only to EA degree's but to have a father and son. I don't know that I have seen one in my time. For those that joined us for the night of Cornhole we had a great time. The weather was perfect and we were able to play outside. Congrats to Matt and Mike being our champions. Larry and Dom for 2nd place, Nate and myself taking 3rd place. We do have the open house/welcome back party/cookout coming up Thursday September 4th. Please feel free to join all the groups that meet at Lake Lodge for food and games from 6pm to 8:30pm. Stated meeting will be September 9th; dinner is at 6pm. We are working on a new order of events during the stated meeting to be able to call down and have our new EA's invited into the meeting. Some business will still have to be done in the MM degree. I know that this will be a change and we will navigate this new journey together. This year for the DL290 we will not be doing Slot cars but will be having the event at the lodge. You won't want to miss this one of a kind of event. It will be held September 23rd 6pm at the lodge. Lodge cookout will be on the 27th, Brother Eric is hosting us. BYOB and please RSVP to him for those that are interested.



See you in Lodge,

Jake Harycki

Meet your Officers

This Month is Secretary Mike Myer PM

Michael Bruno Meyer

Secretary

Born in Milwaukee, WI at Misericordia Hospital. I must have broken the place because they closed it down after I was born. (That's a Story for Another Time) (TaSfAT)

Mother would not allow me to be named Bruno. (TaSfAT)

Attended John Marshall High School graduating in 1978. In my senior year, my Guidance Counselor told me it was too late for me to apply to college. I didn't listen to her. (TaSfAT)

Worked at Camp Long Lake in Ecology. Met Scoutmaster Roger Behlke. He gave me my first glimpse of Freemasonry. (TaSfAT)



2025 Lodge Officers

- Worshipful Master
Jake Harycki PM
- Senior Warden
Mike Cornell
- Junior Warden
Brian Bertram PM
- Treasurer
Matt Schmidt
- Secretary
Mike Myers PM
- Senior Deacon
Nolan Swendrowski
- Junior Deacon
Winston Herman
- Senior Steward
Greg Neal
- Junior Steward
Eric Vesel
Michael Bruno Meyer
- Tiler
Larry Chadderdon PM
- Chaplain
Byron Borck PM
- Councilor
Butts PM

Nate

Continued on page 6

A Fun Day Outdoors

Saturday, September 6th, 2025

Rain Day: Sunday, September 7th 2025

Open to All Sportsmen and Women



Nature's Way Game Farm
W2995 Washington Road
Neosho, WI 53059

Sporting Clay's \$25

Trap \$10

Shooting Ranges \$15

Archery 3D \$20

Tower Shoot (Winner wins a gun)

Gun rental available

Food & Beverage

Gun Boards

100 Square Boards

**Lots of Raffles!!
WIN!! WIN!! WIN!!!**

Presented by CS Giving Foundation
Proceeds to Benefit:

Wisconsin Masonic Foundation

Contact Don at (414) 258-8600 to reserve your spot!

CS Giving Foundation
11333 West Becher Street, West Allis, WI 53227

Damascus Lodge cookout

**Bro. Eric's
Farm**
655 92nd St.
Franksville, Wi.

Sept 27, 12-5p

Hot Dogs, Burgers and Chicken
wings! BYOB and Chair!

RSVP @ 262-822-9552

LAKE MASONIC CENTER OPEN HOUSE & COOKOUT



Sept 4 | Thursday | 6:00 - 8:30 PM
1235 E Howard Ave, Milwaukee



FREE FOOD & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Come meet all our Freemason Lodges, Masonic
Bodies & Youth Groups!





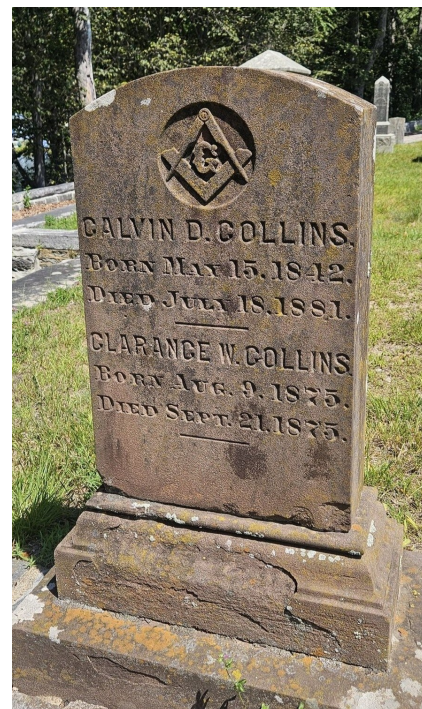
August 5th Damascus Lodge had the honor of initiating two men; a father and son. Mr. James Szczewski (left) and Mr. Mark Szczewski (right) became our newest members under the watchful eye of our other Entered Apprentice Bro. Jason Yoblin. The degree(s) went great and were well attended. Thank you to all that helped on our degree team!



Cornhole tournament on August 26th. "I haven't handled bags like these since college." was noted by our lodge treasurer. Just kidding. A good time a was had by all. Bro. Matt's unconventional tossing style carried his team mate Bro. Mike to victory.

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

On a recent trip to my home town in Connecticut; we took a look in the Nathan Hale Cemetery. Found was a headstone of Bro. Dalvin Collins. In Connecticut as well as most New England states, masonic lodges are dark in July and August. Also, they are known as “Moon Light Lodges.” This means that they only meet on or near the full moon of the month. Traditionally, our ancient brothers would meet on or near a full moon to facilitate the ease it would be to travel to and from lodge at night. Some masons in Connecticut of note were Oliver Wolcott Jr.: Secretary of the Treasury under President John Adams and later Governor of Ct . Also, Samuel Colt, inventor of the Colt revolver.



Lodge Birthdays

September

Paul Peacock 9/4, Michael A. Corso 9/5, Gregory P. Neal 9/7,
Pete Czechorski 9/8
Jacob C. Harycki 9/16, Kirby A. Timm 9/19, Fernando Topete
9/19, Jon S. Syverson 9/21
Michael B. Meyer 9/26, Brian J. Waszak 9/29

October

Patrick Militzer 10/2, Scott Fairbanks 10/4, Nolen Swendroski
10/17, Christopher Wuehr 10/24, Chris Mihos 10/28, Matt
Hanche 10/31



Upcoming Dates

Sept 4 Lake Masonic Center open house (see pg 2 flyer)

Sept 9 Stated Meeting.. Dinner at 6pm and Gavel drops at 7pm. (Back to formal lodge attire)

Sept 23 DL290 at lodge building at 6pm.

Sept 27 Lodge cookout (see flyer on pg. 2)



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 .



August stated meeting was a celebration of two of our brothers. JW Brian Bertram PM received his 15 year pin. Our Chaplain, Byron Borck PM was awarded his **50 Years** certificate from Grand Lodge as well as award from Damascus. Thank you to both brothers for what you have done for the craft over the years.



August stated meeting was the last of our summer meetings with a more casual attire. WM Jake had put out that the dress code for the meeting would be “Jackets and Shorts” and the members didn't let him down. JD Winston Hermann by far had the best looking knees of the night!



Remember!

September through July

Lodge Dress Code:

Jacket and Tie

Summer months are casual, not year round please.

Expiration Date: 00/00/00



Attended UW Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources. Wanted to be a Forest Ranger. (TaSfAT)

Met Scoutmaster Charley White. On the spot, he made me one of the Assistant Scoutmasters of Troop 299, BSA, and later handed me a petition for Freemasonry. At the time, he was Worshipful Master. (TaSfAT)

Petitioned Evergreen Lodge No. 93 while attending college. Interviewers turned out to be 3 fathers of boys in the Scout Troop. (TaSfAT)

Was initiated, passed, and raised in February, March, and April 1983. I could proceed so quickly because I loved posting, even the optional parts. (TaSfAT)

Met my friend and Brother, Lee Sherman Dreyfus as he attended Evergreen Lodge. (TaSfAT)

Met my wife, Deborah, in a bar. Married her 2 years later on September 10, 1983, now nearly 43 years ago. I'd say we're happily married, but Deb might disagree. For putting up with me, some in the Fraternity call her "Saint Debbie." (TaSfAT)

If you do the math, you'll see why Deb sometimes reminds me that I was a Mason before I was her husband. (TaSfAT)

Wound up graduating with a double major and multiple teaching certificates in 1985. (TaSfAT)

For a time, I worked for the Boy Scouts in Marinette. A year later, Deb got a job with the Girl Scouts in Sheboygan. (TaSfAT)

I landed a teaching contract in Cudahy. Moved to Greendale and lived on Dendron Lane, where less than a block away, an apartment building blew up in a natural gas explosion. (TaSfAT)

Moved to New Berlin in 1991. Joined Damascus Lodge in 1992. Served as Worshipful Master 4 times. (TaSfAT)

Joined York Rite, Scottish Rite, and Shrine. I've been the:

Worshipful Master of Damascus Lodge, No. 290, F & AM

Excellent High Priest of Rusk Chapter, No. 111, RAM

Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter of WI

Thrice Illustrious Master of Kilbourn Council No. 9, R & SM

Recipient of the title Ish-Sodi

Commander of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24, KT

Sovereign Prince of Council, Princes of Jerusalem, Scottish Rite

Recipient of the Meritorious Service Award (MSA)

Governor of York Rite College No. 21, YRSCNA

Recipient of the Order of the Purple Cross

Sovereign Master of Great Lakes Council No. 273, AMD

Deputy Grand Governor, WI, YRSCNA (TaSfAT)

Since I had some free time on the weekends, I taught years of Sunday School, Confirmation Class, and twice I was a Confirmation Mentor. I attended numerous retreats and a couple mission trips. (TaSfAT)

Meanwhile, we raised 2 beautiful daughters, Heather and Lauren, and did some Foster Care to boot. Our Golden Retriever was named Autumn. I sometimes called each of our daughters "Autumn" by mistake. In my defense, I really loved that dog. (TaSfAT)

In case you wondered, I once paid \$90 for an apple pie at the Jobies dessert auction. (TaSfAT)

Heather was steeped in Jobies and became Honored Queen of Bethel 6. We have pictures of that night, but the video that was shot has yet to surface. (TaSfAT)

Heather married Connor surrounded by the elegance of the intricately tiled Tripoli Shrine. They've given us a wonderful granddaughter, Maija, who will turn 3 in October. We enjoy being grandparents, and Deb looks forward to her weekly "Gramma Day." Probably, in part, that she leaves me at home. (TaSfAT)

For a time, Lauren was also a Jobie. But her real passion was playing the violin, which she did at Heather's installation. It grieves us to this day that we lost Lauren to an aggressive form of Leukemia 10 years ago. Heather and Connor gave Maija the middle name Lauren. We all think of her daily. (TaSfAT)

Deb and I have both retired from teaching – me after 25 years, her after 15 due to her worsening physical limitations. (TaSfAT)

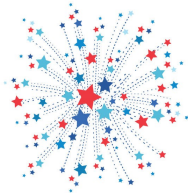
My hobbies include birdwatching, camping, hiking, swimming, fishing and gardening – which really became serious during the pandemic. To assist Deb, I've constructed a variety of raised beds and trellises, and even 2 squash walls – OK, the squash walls are for me. (TaSfAT)

We have over 50 tomato plants, 18 kinds of winter squash, peppers, eggplants, brassica, root crops, melons and cukes, and a green's garden just for Deb. We even have a 5-tiered "strawberry hill." (TaSfAT)

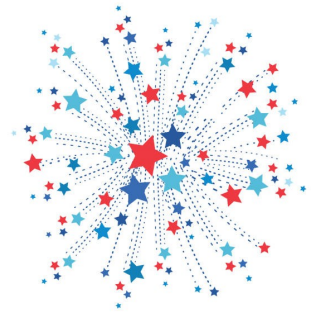
One year, recently, we canned over 200 pounds of tomatoes. (TaSfAT)

If you'd like to know more of any story, I must warn you – I tend to go on and on – mind you, nothing like a certain "Irishman" – but I have been told that I was vaccinated with a phonograph needle. (TaSfAT)

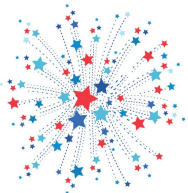
I look forward to seeing you in Lodge.



HAPPY



LABOR



DAY!

