

October 1st, 2025

Master's Message

Thank you everyone for all the understanding with the new meeting format. We will use the new format for our next meeting in Oct. I think that it went really well encompassing the new guys into the meeting. This year we changed up the DL290. For those that missed it, it was a great time to see each other trying to race. Thanks to your pit boss Mike all 4 cars had their drifting tires on. I don't know what was more fun watching guys drive in circles or racing itself. Congrats to our racing champion Matt!

Thank you all who came to the lodge cook-out. A special thank you to Brother Eric for hosting us for the afternoon. It was a great time of food and fellowship. Thank you to all that brought a dish to pass. We look forward to Sean's EA degree coming up in Nov. Brother Mike will be taking the East for the night. Upcoming events are: Stated meeting October 14th, Social night October 28th, Fireside event with the ladies November 2nd, EA degree on November 4th, and stated meeting November 11.

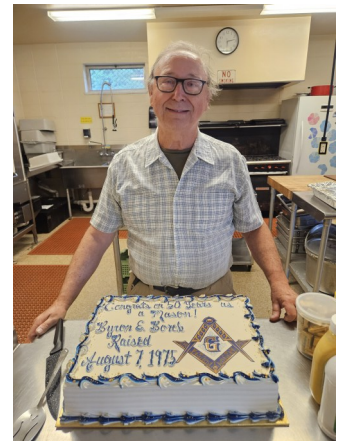
See you in Lodge,



Meet your Officers

This Month is Chaplain Byron Brock PM

I am Byron Borck PM your current Chaplin. I was raised in Medford lodge back in August 7th in 1975 so I have been around for a time. I am a past master of J. M. Rusk #259 from the late 90's and the last past master of Kilbourn #3. I was a member of Chapter and Council but resigned to concentrate on the blue lodge. I currently live in South Milwaukee an am semi retired from Quad and am considered a 36 year employee. I have played Dungeon & Dragons since the late 1970's. I enjoy doing carpentry projects and watching Sci-Fi movies.



2025 Lodge Officers

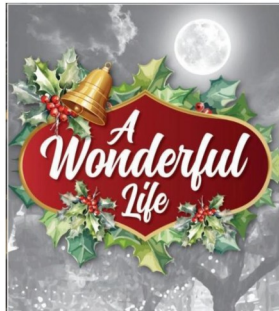
- Worshipful Master
Jake Harycki PM
- Senior Warden
Mike Cornell
- Junior Warden
Dom Cavalco
(pro-tem)
- Treasurer
Matt Schmidt
- Secretary
Mike Meyer PM
- Senior Deacon
Nolan Swendrowski
- Junior Deacon
Winston Herman
- Senior Steward
Greg Neal
- Junior Steward
Eric Vesel
- Tiler
Larry Chadderdon PM
- Chaplain
Byron Borck PM
- Councilor
Nate Butts PM

DAMASCUS LODGE No. 290
FIRESIDE DINNER THEATER SUNDAY NOV 2, 2025

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

MEET AT LODGE AT 8:45, BUS LEAVES AT 9:00
 ARRIVE AT THE FIRESIDE AT 10:15, BRUNCH BEGINS AT 11:15
 SHOW BEGINS AT 1:00, BUS RETURNS TO LODGE ABOUT 5:00
 BROTHERS ARE \$25, LADIES ARE FREE
 PLEASE RSVP BY OCTOBER 1 AND PAY BRO. SCHMIDT

The story of George Bailey and his wonderful life in Bedford Falls has brought hope and inspiration to every heart with its celebration of the goodness in all of us. The Fireside is proud to bring you this stunning, live stage version of Frank Capra's beloved film. Written by Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winning lyricist Sheldon Harnick, one of the creators of FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, and Grammy and Emmy Award winner Joe Raposo whose music from SESAME STREET inspired generations of young people, A WONDERFUL LIFE captures all the magic of the film as it shines with the spirit of Christmas.



Sunday Matinee Brunch

Brunch begins with an assortment of Quick Breads and Pastries from our Bakery to enjoy with a Fresh Fruit Smoothie. Each show our Chefs will prepare a Beef Tenderloin dish and select one of our popular Breakfast Potatoes for our Brunch Buffet which includes two Chef-Carved Meats, Eggs Benedict on Jones Canadian Bacon, Scrambled Eggs, Jones Bacon and Sausage Links, Chicken Tenderloin Tempura with Brandied Apricot Sauce, Biscuits and Sausage Gravy, Fresh Atlantic Salmon, Buttermilk Pancakes, and Steamed Farm Fresh Vegetables. Bailey's Irish Cream Cheesecake for Dessert. Coffee, Tea and Milk are included with your Brunch.

920-563-9505
 FiresideTheatre.com
 1131 Janesville Avenue
 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

The Fireside



BE THE GOOD IN THE WORLD

Masonic Day of Light

Saturday February 7, 2026

Tripoli Shrine Center

Contact dd12@wimasons.org to register.



DONATE BLOOD

**Lake Masonic Center
 Blood Drive!!!**



LOCATION
 Fellowship Hall
 1235 E Howard Ave
 Milwaukee, WI 53207

We will be featuring our sixth Pint for Pint campaign in October 2025. Mobiles across WI will thank blood donors with a coupon for a free drink at local partnering breweries, distilleries, and taprooms

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED
 Call 800.BE.A.HERO or visit
https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedule/s/drive_schedule/11533889

Saturday
**October
 18th**
 08:00am-12:00pm



Helpful tip:
 Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.





Our lodge trap team Hiram's Hotshots have finished another season. This year, our team finished 3rd in the competition. Picture right are our team's High Shooter Bro. Eric Vesel (with a season score of 355) with team captain Brian

Bertram PM. Other members of the team were Bro's . Greg Neal, Gerry Arnholdt and Mike Cornell. The team is looking to attempt a fall/ winter league this year as well. If you have interest, please let one of the forementioned know. We'd love to shoot with you!



DL290 was a success! This year we brought the race to the lodge. The brothers raced 4 remote control cars in different heats. Each heat was one minute and laps were counted and tallied. At the end, it was Bro. Matt coming in first, Bro. Craig second and Bro. Brian coming in third out of 12 racers. Stay tuned for next years DL290 as we just take the race off road!

Racers in one of the heats of DL290. Inside the track are Bro.'s Larry, Nate, Brian and Greg. Bro. Mike may have "forgotten" to mention to the drivers that **drifting tires** were installed on these cars. Completing 1 single lap proved to be more difficult for some.....tee hee.



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

A SHORT LOOK BACK DAMACUS LODGE 290 100 YEARS AGO

Damascus Lodge was celebrating its 20th anniversary in 1925. It was the height of the Roaring 20's. Jazz was king of the music scene, and the flapper dress ruled fashion. At 20, Damascus was in a growth mode as eight new Master Masons were raised during the year.

The Lodge met in a building called the Asylum, for which they paid the sizable rent of \$102.5 a month. Meetings were a high-class event, including an organist and a soloist (each paid \$15 - \$20 per month)

The biggest scandal of the time was the Case of Brother Seymour Bennett. He was expelled from the Lodge after being convicted of defrauding the city of Milwaukee by filing false expense reports. As he was in prison, he could no longer attend the meetings.

Outside the Lodge, the major news stories of the day were Red Grange joining the Chicago Bears and the Scopes Trial in Tennessee, charging a local school teacher with teaching evolution in school. Clarence Darrow vrs, William Jennings Bryant.

The first motel was opened in California, heralding the arrival of the automobile and interstate travel.

Eggs were \$0.47 a dozen, a loaf of bread was \$0.09, and milk was \$.46 a gallon.

Submitted by Bro. Rich Cummings

Lodge Birthdays

October

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

November

Stephen L. Montgomery 11/6,
Kyle C. Olson 11/8



Upcoming Dates

October 7th, EA Rehearsal 6pm

October 14th, Stated Meeting (dinner at 6pm, Gavel drops at 7pm)

October 21st, EA Rehearsal 6 pm

October 28th, Social Night

November 2nd, Fireside trip (see flyer on pg 2) **AND** EA Rehearsal 6 pm

November 4th, **EA degree** (dinner at 6pm with degree to follow)



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 .

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



Lodge Cookout

On September 27th, some brothers and their families invaded the Vesel Farm in Franksville for the purposes of devouring “Chef” Eric’s delicious grilled meats. Being men of 290...we were up to the challenge! A bounce house was provided and there in Bro. Dom was seen to be practicing his WWE moves on the poor, unsuspecting children. WM Jake’s daughter Savannah was interviewed for this article saying “It was a good match but in the end, I tickled the beard and was the victor!” Bro. Paul Graeven made an appearance and showed us all that he was on the mend from his accident earlier this year. Also in recovery, was Bro. Greg whose arm was in a sling after losing to his lady Niki at arm wrestling. We hope that Eric invites us back next year as this was a fun day for our members and their families. Thanks Eric!



Remember!

September through July

Lodge Dress Code:

Jacket and Tie

Summer months are casual, not year round please.

Expiration Date: 00/00/00

