

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master
Mike Cornell

Senior Warden
Dom Calvalco

Junior Warden
Nolen Swendrowski

Senior Deacon
Winston Hermann

Junior Deacon
Eric Vesel

Senior Steward
Greg Neal

Junior Steward
Kelly Clingaman

Secretary
Mike Meyer PM

Treasurer
Jake Harycki PM

Chaplain
Byron Borck PM

Councilor
Nate Butts PM



Date January 11th, 2026

Master's Message

Happy New Year to the brethren! Thanks to all that came the Lodge Officers Installation and or helped. If you couldn't tell, I was very moved by it. We have an exciting year ahead of us and I can't wait to get to work. I hope that this goes for you too! Our lodge is only as successful when we all roll up our sleeves and work. The coming events, degrees and meetings can't happen without the support of our brothers. Even just your attendance can make or break these events. If you haven't been to lodge in awhile, come back! We'd love to see you. Our first stated meeting of the year is just a few days away. Let's fill up those chairs, spread the cement of brotherly love and be ready to get to work. We all have a role to play in the success of our lodge and I'm ready. Are you?

See you in lodge!

Mike Cornell WM

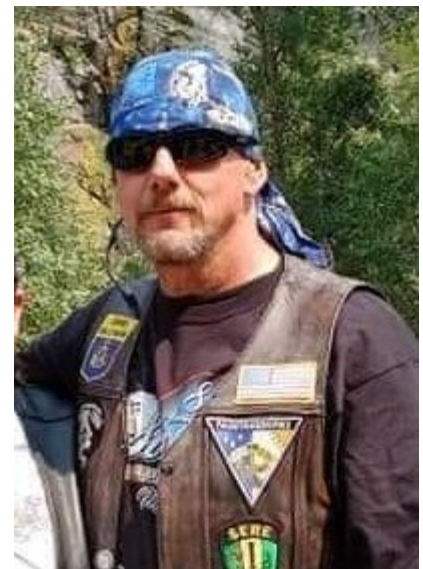


Laurence Baird

Meet your Officers

This Month is Junior Steward Kelly Clingaman

I was born in 1967 with a twin sister, in Defiance Ohio, and given up for adoption. We were adopted by the Clingaman family and lived a fairly normal life growing up. I was in Golden Gloves and Wrestling High School. Joined the Army in 1984, transferred the Navy in 1986, retired as an E8 in June Of 2007. I got married in 1989 to a devil woman in San Diego, we had 3 children, got divorced in 1999 - but got full custody of my kids! I met Jennifer in 2000 and we got married in 2002, have been happily married ever since. We have 8 grand kids. As a Mason. I started attending a Lodge in Kabul Afghanistan, that was setup by the NATO Forces, but got cut short when I had to return to the Pentagon. Back In Wisconsin, I resumed my Masonic effort in 2016 with the Anchor & Ark Lodge out of Zion, IL and was raised as a Master Mason in 2017. I left that Lodge on 2022 for personal reasons and pretty much gave up. Then Brother Matt Schmidt helped me get back on track and I joined the Damascus Lodge in 2023.





George Washington Masonic Memorial

May 1st through May 4th, 2026

Exact times TBD

You and a guest are invited to come with Damascus Lodge to visit our capitol as we tour the George Washington Masonic Memorial and Arlington Cemetery in Alexandria Va. Open to the first 30 people (1 mason and 1 guest or 2 masons to a hotel room). RSVP's **MUST** be made by email (kilteddaddy@yahoo.com) for time stamping purposes. Trip includes: Transportation to and from airport, flight, hotel stay and tour costs. 1 welcome meal will be provided. Cost for this trip is \$300 per person. RSVP due by Sept. 1st and deposit of \$150/person due at Nov. 11th stated meeting.

SPONSORED BY DAMASCUS LODGE NO. 299 WI. F & A.M.



ROBERT BURNS TABLE LODGE

hosted by Lake Lodge 189
1235 S Howard Ave, Milwaukee

6pm - JANUARY 22ND

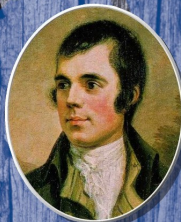
Ceremonial toasts & Poetry
PQM Don's Famous haggis
Special Guest Speaker
Bagpipes, Raffles,
&
Toasting Cannon sale

\$35 per Mason

Reservations Due 1/13

- SEND CHECKS
(ADDRESS ABOVE) OR
PAY VIA GROUPABLE
CONNECT

- LIMITED SEATING - NO
WALK UPS



DAMASCUS LODGE

Presents

Wine and Chocolate

With our Ladies

Come spend your Valentines Day with your sweetheart

At our first Wine and Chocolate pairing event for our

Ladies of Damascus. Here you will try different wines from around the world

As well as chocolates.

DATE: FEBRUARY 14TH AT 7PM

LOCATION: LAKE MASONIC CENTER

COST: LADIES ARE FREE, BROTHERS ARE \$10

Sample 5-6 different wines and Chocolates



RSVP by January 31st.

or text





From left to right: Bro. Kelly Clingaman JS, Bro. Mike Cornell WM, WM Napoleon Sneed-Janczak of West Allis No. 291 and Bro. Rich Cummings.

On Dec. 5th, Damascus traveled to West Allis Lodge No. 291 to secure the "Traveling Gavel." Damascus was well received by the brethren and was able to witness the close of the year for a lodge that came close "to the brink" and came back strong.

The "Traveling Gavel" fosters inter-lodge visitation and must be picked up by 3 lodge members one of which must be an elected officer. The district is then notified so that other lodges know to come visit us and take it away!

THE SEASON OF GIVING

LEST WE FORGET, SOME OF THE BASIC TENENTS OF MASONARY ARE CHARITY AND BROTHERLY LOVE. OUR LODGE IS VERY FORTUNITE TO BE IN A POSITION TO BE ABLE TO SHARE OUR GOOD FORTUNE WITH THE LESS FORTUNITE IN OUR COMMUNITY. LOOKING BACK OVER 2025, WE HAVE DONATED OVER \$44,000 TO THE NEEDY IN OUR AREA. LET'S KEEP UP THE GOOD WORKS IN THE COMING NEW YEAR.

THE FOLLOWING IS A SAMPLING OF THE RECEIPTIANTS OF OUR 2025 CHARITABLE GIVING AFFILATED ORGINAZATIONS:

THREE PILLARS / DEMOLAY / BETHAL 6

WAUKESHA FOOD PANTRY (ONIONS)
PROJECT CONCERN
SHRINERS CHILDRENS HOSPITAL OF CHICAGO
FAITH HOPE AND LOVE
BACKPACKS

MASONIC FOUNDATION
FIRE SUPPRESSION UNITS DONATED
TO THE FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

SOUTH MILWAUKEE POLICE K-9 UNIT
TOYS FOR TOTS



Missie Beabe from "Project Concern" accepting a check for \$5000 presented by Bro. Rich Cummings



Heather Lojeski from "Faith Hope and Love" accepting a check for \$5000 presented by Bro. Matt Schmidt

WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ABLE TO EXTEND ASSISTANCE TO SEVERAL OF OUR BROTHERS IN NEED AND HAVE SENT FLOWERS AND GIFT TO MULTIPLE MEMBERS DURING THEIR TIME OF ILLNESS AND DISTRESS. FAITH HOPE AND LOVE'S OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHEER IS AN EFFORT TO REACH AS MANY CHRLDREN IN CRISIS AS POSSIBLE. THE PROGRAM DISTRIBURES SCHOOL BACK PACKS FILLED WITH THE BASIS NECESSITIES TO KIDS IN FOSTER CARE, GROUP HOMES OR HOMES WITH AN INCARSERATED PARENT. EACH BACKPACK HAS PAJAMAS, A BLANKET AND A CHRISTMANS PRESENT. THE BACKPACKS ARE DISREIBUTED AT AN EVENT WHERE THE CHILDREN ENJOY FACE PAINTING, CRAFTS, CHRISTMAS MUSIC, PIZZA, COOKIES AND GAMES.

Submitted by Bro. Rich Cummings

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

Your 2026 Damascus Officers

Bottom Row: SW Dom Cavalco, WM Mike Cornell, JW Nolen Swendrowski.

Middle Row: Councilor Nathan Butts PM, SS Greg Neal, Chaplain Byron Borck PM, JD Eric Vesel.

Top Row: Tyler Larry Chadderdon PM, Treasure Jake Haryki PM and Secretary Mike Meyer PM.

Let's have a great year brothers!!



Lodge Birthdays

January

Time Bauer 1/5, Mike Clinnin 1/6,

John A. Kosidowski 1/17, Jim Schneider 1/26

February

**Dominic Cavalco 2/7, Matthew Wright
2/16
Christopher Balke 2/20**



Upcoming Dates

Jan. 13 Stated Meeting. Dinner at 6pm and Gavel drops at 7pm.

Jan. 27 Officer's Meeting

Feb. 10th Stated Meeting.. Dinner at 6pm and Gavel drops at 7pm.

Feb. 14th "Wine and Chocolate with our Ladies"
7pm at Lake Masonic Center (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 .

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