

February 1st, 2026

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master

Mike Cornell

Senior Warden

Dom Cavalco

Junior Warden

Nolen Swendrowski

Senior Deacon

Winston Hermann

Junior Deacon

Eric Vesel

Senior Steward

Greg Neal

Junior Steward

Kelly Clingaman

Secretary

Michael B. Meyer PM

Treasurer

Jake Harycki PM

Chaplain

Byron Borck PM

Counselor

Nate Butts PM

Tiler

Larry Chadderdon PM

Master's Message

Hello Brothers! Hope your January was decent. With the start of our new "Masonic Year," I would like to let you all know what my aim is for this year. My passion for the craft is hard to contain and I'd like to share it with as many brothers as I can. Our ritual work has been well known to many other lodges and I would like to strive to continue this as well as take it up a notch. Brethren, prepare yourselves. Look at your ritual. You never know when we may "take up the pass" or call down to another degree for our newer brothers. That also means we'll close in that degree. I also hope that we as a lodge can visit other lodges in and around our district.

We have a lot of events planned for the year and my hope is that you can come out and participate in them. Our lodge is as successful as you want. Looking ahead, we will be heading to a Milwaukee Admirals game in March and a Past Master's Dinner in April. Details to follow!

I am looking forward to seeing you in lodge too!

See you in lodge!

Mike Cornell WM



Laurence Baird

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Greetings All,

As the new year is upon us, so is the new batch of officers, and that means, new questions, new directions, and more learning. It's time to put your head in the ritual book and see what you should be learning and doing, if you are an officer. If you are an EA, FC, or MM, and haven't completed your postings, it's time to get together with those can instruct you as you are willing to learn and advance to the next level, and be able to fully participate in everything available to you. We have a great group of officers here to help with that as well.

Questions or concerns? Talk to one of the principal officers for guidance, if not one of them, talk to me, or any other member who has been around a while for guidance or advice. We are all in this together, heading in one direction, working to improve ourselves and those around us by the way we walk, act and speak. We are a family of brothers with different mothers, but all working towards the same goal. Learning your ritual or your examination information, puts you another step in that direction. Taking it and learning from it to improve yourself is what it's all about.

Every day you can make a difference, choosing to be part of the fraternity, has helped enable you or added to your ability to do just that, look around and you can see it.

See you in lodge, ready and eager to teach and learn,
Nathan





Admirals game

UWM PANTHER ARENA
RSVP TO BR WINSTON HERMANN

\$15 PER PERSON
5:30 PM
21, MARCH, 2026

Open to family!



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



DISTRICTS 11 & 12 PRESENT: A MASONIC DAY OF EDUCATION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026
LAKE MASONIC CENTER
1235 E. HOWARD
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207

COFFEE & CARBS 9:00 AM EDUCATION 10:00 AM

Please join District 11 Education Officer W. Brother Dan Johnson
and District 12 Education Officer W. Brother Napoleon Sneed-
Janczak in a morning of learning and fellowship.

Special presentations by:

W. Brother Napoleon Sneed-Janczak (DEO-12)

Have you ever wondered what the proper etiquette in Lodge is?
Want to get a deeper understanding of clandestine or irregular
masonry? Then you will enjoy this discussion with Brother Napo-
leon as we gain a better understanding of what both of these top-
ics offer us.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Will be giving us an inside look at Conservation in Wisconsin

W. Brother John Pettigrew (DR-12)

Brother John will be discussing the role of District Representative

Casual Dress No RSVP Required Questions?... Contact:

Napoleon at deo12@wimasons.org
or Dan at deo11@wimasons.org

Vendors:

Silas H. Shepherd Lodge of Research #1843
Topaz Apothecary and Collective

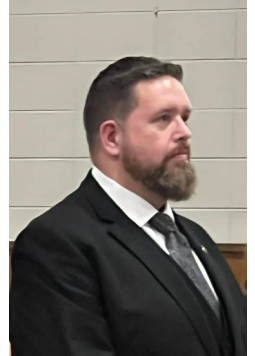


“In the West”

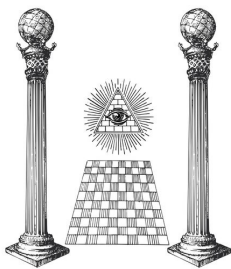
Brethren,

I am deeply honored and humbled to have been elected as your Senior Warden. Your trust and confidence mean more to me than I can fully express, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this lodge in the year ahead.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the many brothers who have supported me along the way. Your guidance, encouragement, and shared insights, have helped shape my journey in Masonry, and I am thankful for the time and care you have invested in me. I have learned a great deal from your example, and I look forward to continuing that learning together.



As we move into the coming year, I am excited about the opportunities before us. Our lodge events, degrees, and gatherings provide more than just a schedule on a calendar — they offer moments to strengthen our bonds, welcome new brothers, and renew the friendships that make this fraternity so special. I am especially pleased to welcome back brothers who have been away for a time. Your presence enriches our lodge, and we are better for having you among us.



To those who are able to join us regularly, thank you for your dedication and commitment. Your steady participation is the heartbeat of our lodge, and it does not go unnoticed. Together, we create an atmosphere of fellowship, respect, and purpose that reflects the true spirit of Freemasonry.

I am grateful for each of you and look forward to serving alongside you in the year to come. May it be a year filled with growth, harmony, and brotherly love.

Fraternally,
Dominic Cavalco



I emailed some brothers for articles to add to the Trestle Board. WB Fairbanks replied that he had sent one already. I looked but found nothing, so I reported as such. This was his reply..."

Microsoft sent out a security update that very nearly killed all outlook user performance. I just finished that article and hit send on the email and everything not only went South, it went so far South that it crossed the South Pole and wound up coming North again. As it passed the Australian Outback on the return trip, my computer and the email with the article attached hit a high jumping Kangaroo in the Outback and crashed. That poor Kangaroo landed in a small pool in the Outback and was immediately attacked by a huge crocodile, which accidentally swallowed the email and the article, then choked.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it."

That has to be the BEST excuse I have ever seen! Thank you brother Mike for putting a smile on my face.

WM Mike

Lodge Birthdays

February

Dominic Cavalco 2/7, Matthew Wright 2/16
Christopher Balke 2/20, Gerald Jordon 2/24

March

Dennis D. McNulty 3/1, Byron E. Borck 3/1
Kevin P. Hart 3/9, Dale A. Graeven 3/11
J. Todd Roseman 3/11, Michael Cornell 3/16
John H. Pellman 3/16, Matthew A. Schmidt 3/21



Upcoming Dates

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)

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

Mar. 21st Admiral's Game and tour. 5:30pm (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 in to the WM by the 15th of the month .

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