



A N O K A M A S O N I C L O D G E # 3 0 A . F . & A . M .

GREETINGS FROM THE EAST!

Here it is December already, where did the year go? This has been a very fun year as Master of Anoka #30 for me. We have had so many great motivated and active new Brothers join us here.

We finally got all those nagging details left over from the elevator project wrapped up and have a sparkly new entryway and stairways to use, and our very own Bones Brothers had a banner year on the fund raising side. Speaking of which I want to thank all who helped us reach a \$10,000 lever of matching funds grant from Masonic Charities from the RB&B event this year and the phenomenal \$66,000 raised for We Can Ride!

Finally, thank you so much to my Officer team for all you have done to make this year such a joy for me and the ongoing leadership you have shown will be in store for our Lodge in the coming years. A very special thanks goes out to our Secretaries Jay and Chris, you are the ones who really keep this machine running so smoothly and made my job so pleasurable. Congratulations to all the new Officers for 2012 and may your year be as much fun as mine was.

Fraternally,

Steve Braun
Worshipful Master



The Bones Brothers unleashed

October 13th marked the culmination of a rather breath-taking year for The Bones Brothers. What began the year as a plan “to begin working more with some of the local charitable organizations”, ended with The Bones Brothers and Anoka Lodge #30 helping to raise a total of \$77,600 for local charitable organizations.



Initially, the plan was to work with some smaller organizations so the team could learn how best to help them. Co-creator of The Bones Brothers (with Br. Don McGuire), Br. Kirby Olson had been in contact with Pageant of Hope, an organization which puts on beauty pageants for special-needs girls. With the assistance of Br. Chris Berglund and visits by members of the Anoka Masonic family, The Bones Brothers were able to help

(cont. on next page)



WB Steve Braun presents the Minnesota Masonic Charities match for the Make The Impact event to Brad Thorsen, Director of We Can Ride.

GREETINGS FROM THE STAR!

Hello to all our Sisters, Brothers, and friends.

What a terrific time of year as we celebrate the holidays with parties, beautiful decorations, wonderful music, gift giving and receiving, food, food, food, family gatherings, and fun, fun, fun!

Our Eastern Star month is also full of great things:

- December 1st we will be initiating two new members at our regular meeting. Please come and see the great work that our officers do.

- Martha Club will meet on the 8th 6:00pm at Dottie Lilliquist's apartment complex, 14351 Dysprosium St, Ramsey, for their Christmas Pot Luck party, gift exchange, and cookie packaging extravaganza. Bring those baked goods for the

- Craft and Bake Sale, which is the next day (9th) at the Court House.

- December 15th meeting will be our Official Visit of the Grand Family with possible initiation again of one or more new members.

- Christmas Caroling at Northridge Masonic Home (date to be announced)

- Next we hope you will enjoy your wonderful Christmas weekend.

- We finish up the year with our 5th Thursday social on December 29th. We will be having a fund raiser for the Star Cancer Project. It will be at 6:00pm:

Brats and Bingo for Bucks

\$10 includes the meal and two bingo cards.

RSVP to Garland Lundquist – 763-427-7666

Open to everyone. Star, Masons, Jobs, etc. So bring your friends and family for a fun evening of bingo for small prizes and funds raised for the Cancer project.

Thanks to all who attended the Harvest Dinner and Craft Sale. The food was delicious and the company delightful. Our workers are so dedicated at helping with any thing that is asked of them. Thanks to the great cooks and wonderful helpers. I don't dare name them all for fear of forgetting someone but all your work is much appreciated.

My personal THANKS for all the cards and well wishes from all my fraternal sisters, brothers, and friends on the passing of my mother. Your expression of support means so much during this time of loss.

Safe travels to all those who will be on the road/air for the holiday season. We leave you with our wish for you.....

A Very Merry Christmas to all
and a happy and safe New Year!

God's blessings to all,

Denise Emery, Worthy Matron

Dave Emery, Worthy Patron

Attention Everyone

We are Missing 10 Fondue Pots

Which belong to the Grotto, and had been stored in the back storage room.

Please contact:

Denise Emery, Worthy Matron

At 763-755-2431 or

quiltingdenise@gmail.com

with information about where these are or what happened to them.

I am looking for donations of fondue pots to replace these. If you have one in your storage cabinet that you wish to part with, please bring it to the lodge building or contact Denise to pick up the item.

Our sincere apologies to the Grotto for this inconvenience at your meeting.

bring in \$4,600. It was a great event even though it rained throughout. The best part was being able to meet some of the young ladies that participated in the event. That pretty much set the hook as far as The Bones Brothers were concerned.

Br. Scott Franz had accepted the role as Charitable Activities coordinator at our annual meeting in January. Together with Br. Kirby, he arranged to help Stable Pathways. This organization provides therapeutic riding programs to special-needs individuals and works out of Bunker Hills Stables. Another rainy day saw a disappointing turnout, but we succeeded in raising \$1,800; enough for Stable Pathways to purchase a horse, which has been a great addition to their program. Stable Pathways were so grateful for the Masons help; they gifted a hayride for members of the Lodge, that 18 members of Anoka Lodge took advantage.

Ribs, Bibs and Blues is the team's chance to have a good time with our Brothers, Sisters and their families. While it is a Lodge event, the idea was hatched by Br. Kirby three years ago and was the seed that started The Bones Brothers working with charities.

With the whole Lodge participating in some way, Br. Kirby handling logistics and the added cooking horsepower of WB Jerry Oliver and his wife PWM Peg, Anoka Lodge was able to raise over \$5,000 (before any matching funds) for the ACBC Food Shelves. It was an amazing day with excellent music, good fellowship and all for an excellent cause.

While all this was going on, Br. Scott had been working with another therapeutic riding organization called We Can Ride. After discussions with the Lodge officers, and the membership, it was decided that Anoka Lodge would take over the running of an already established

event called Make The Impact. Br. Scott and WB Jordan Stradtman joined the MTI committee and the ball started rolling. After 2½ months of planning, The Bones Brother provided a full meal consisting of pulled pork, pulled chicken, our special baked beans and coleslaw to the largest crowd the event had seen since its inception. Members of the Anoka Masonic family acted as table captains and attendees of the event. Anoka Lodge's newest members filled a table and new Br. Jon McNeil helped out on the serving line. When all was said and



WB Steve Braun, The Bones Brothers and the Make The Impact Committee presenting the total amount raised during the annual We Can Ride Employee/Volunteer meeting

done, Anoka Lodge helped raise \$66,200, far exceeding previous donations and expectations.

It should also be mentioned that The Bones Brothers were also participating in BBQ competitions during this time, pulling off a first place trophy for their chicken at Ribapalooza in Sauk Rapids.

All around, it's been a busy, busy year for the team. They've learned quite a bit in the process and look forward to taking that forward into the new year. There have also been some new ideas bounced around that they hope to try. The Bones Brothers would like to remind the Brothers of Anoka Lodge that this is their barbeque team. If you're interested in helping out or just hanging out, please let one of the current team members know. The team would love to have more Brothers in the mix.

GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH!

Seasons Greetings from the South!

As I write my last article from the Meridan Height, I ponder the term "Seasons Greetings." There has been a lot written over the years about this terms as well as "Happy Holidays." In our era of political correctness, these are the terms that we are to great one another after Thanksgiving. These terms are there as not to offend anyone and not push a particular agenda. I would argue that as Freemasons, we would not be offended by a religious greeting. That if anyone offers you a greeting from their particular religion, that you take it in the spirit it was given.

As one of our cornerstones, we champion the idea of religious tolerance. Although we all pray together to the GAOTU, we all have our personal idea of our God. Taking the time to learn about someone's views and their celebration is what tolerance is all about.

So let me wish all of my Brethren a Merry/Happy Ashura (Muslim), Bodhi (Buddhist), Hanukkah (Jewish), Yule (Pagan), and Christmas this December. Oh yeah Happy Festivus too (Costanzas).

See you from the West in 2012!

Lastly, if you did not get a copy of the new Lodge Committee Structure document for what we want to do for next year and how you can help, drop me a line and I will e-mail you or send you a copy.

Yours in the Gentle Craft,

Todd A. Mayer
Junior Warden - Anoka Lodge #30 AF&AM



*'Twas the Night before Christmas,
and down at the lodge not a gavel was stirring, and in
the hodge-podge.*

*Of aprons and jewels and chairs East and West
You could savour the silence, most gladly divest*

*All metal and mineral, it mattered not,
Since Christmas was nigh and the coals were still hot.*

*In the hearth of your home place, all Masons abed,
As visions of trestle boards danced in their head;*

*When up on the roof there arose such a clatter
Our Tyler jumped up to see what was the matter!*

*He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door,
Three knocks shook the panels - he wondered 'What
for?'*

*He answered the knocking with raps of his own,
And once the door opened he saw, with a moan*

*Of delight it was Santa, all jolly and red
Except for one notable feature instead!*

*Upon his large finger he wore what we knew
Was compass and square on a background of blue!*

*'Why Santa!' he shouted and lowered his blade,
'I see you're a Mason!' the Tyler relayed.*

*He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair
And said, voice near trembling, 'Most Worshipful there*

*Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!'
The Master replied, 'Let's allow him - but wait!*

*You tell me a Gentleman, but I don't see
His Apron beneath that red suit, can it be*

*Our visitor hasn't been properly raised?
Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?*

*'I do beg your pardon,' ol' Santa said quick
As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick*

*But a cane with engraving, two balls did appear
And oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear!*

*Adorned like the Master's, complete with a sign
Of "Lodge Number One, the North Pole" on one line!*

*"Now let this man enter," the Master declared,
And once in the Lodge room, the Brethren all stared,*

*For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen
For many a century - there in between*

GREETINGS FROM SHEKINAH!

We have had a pretty good year this year, we managed to complete a few degrees and made good progress as a Chapter. We have been granted the honor of being the Chapter to host the One Day Royal Arch Festival coming February 11th, 2012. Shekinah #52 will be putting on the Mark Master and Virtual Past Master degrees so I need to here from all of you as to which part you wish to take on. We will be holding rehearsals on January 3rd and 17th at 7:00 at the Lodge and need everyones' participation to make this a successful event. (This also couldn't hurt our chances af getting out of U.D. status this coming June at Grand Chapter.) Happy New Year to all and have a safe and great holiday season!

Keep traveling well,

Steve Braun
High Priest

(CONT.)

*The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar
Gleamed two golden reindeer that shone line a dollar!*

*"It's Donner and Blitzen, who I must confess
"Are actually images brought from the West*

*By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the world!"
And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled*

*An ear of fine corn, and some oil from the East,
"My friend I have plenty, tonight we will feast*

*On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!"
A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a stir,*

*As presents and promises flew from his sack!,
A Mason, showed he had a knack*

*For making this Christmas the best you could glean,
And soon even Deacons were laughing, they'd seen*

*On this very night only happiness reigned!
This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained*

*That only a Mason could be so inclined
To make all kids happy, make all people find*

*A Christmas so special, yes, Santa was right!
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!*

FROM THE TRUSTEES:

Thank you for the confidence you placed in me for the last three years. We have come a long way in taking care of Lodge projects but have a long way to go. All the help we have had was great. We are all members of the greatest lodge in the state. When we asked for help even prospective members showed up and helped. Shows the quality of members we attract. WB brother Al will be the new chairman of the trustees. He always has the best thing for the lodge in mind.

Welcome Don Sorenson to the board. If you have a Fondue pot you no longer need, we could use it to replace the ones that Salem Groto had. If you can't deliver it to the lodge just call and we will have it picked up. Again thank you for your help.

Dave Emery
Board of Trustees
Chairman 2011



*Father Thomas is the Anoka Lodge Chaplain
and Chairman of the Sunshine Committee.*

*If you know of someone in the Masonic
Family in need of support, please contact
Father Thomas at (612) 702-4770.*

FROM THE LEO

Great news, The Anoka Lodge #30 Library is now open for business. About two years ago we received a very generous donation from Max Larson consisting of the Masonic Library of her late husband PGM Rodney M. Larson. It took us some time to catalog and mark all the books and then we had to build a storage cabinet for the collection.

All of this work is now done and we are ready to loan out books. To borrow a library book see either L.E.O. John Freeburg or brother Kirk Nelson. I will be talking more about this at the Dec. stated meeting.

Fraternally
John A. Freeburg
Lodge Education Officer



It's official , Anoka Lodge now has an Assistant Secretary. From L-R Grand Master Tom Hendrickson, Asst. Sect. Chris Berglund, Master of Anoka # 30 Steve Braun

Some of the brothers who helped at our brat stand for the Halloween Parade.



Everyone enjoyed the Oyster stew , especially the cooks!

FROM THE EDITOR

Please send in your submissions, articles, photos, and calendar info to me no later than the 15th of the month!

sandc.editor@gmail.com

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Bethel Guardian - Janet Hansel	763-862-5352
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SHRINE CLUB

President - Ken Roush	763-421-9749
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GHOST STORIES

I am compiling a collection of ghost stories from the Lodge, so please contact me if you have had an strange experiences in or around the Lodge.

Ryan



EDITOR CONTACT INFO:

Please contact Ryan Dawson if you would like to submit an article, purchase advertising space, or if you have any comments or suggestions.

612.817.7537 sandc.editor@gmail.com

Need to make an address change?

Please contact Jay Lenz or Wayne LaMusga. We are always working to update our Lodge records to ensure that we have the most current information.

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