



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



FROM THE MASTER

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:
 April 4: Stated Meeting
 April 6: Shrimp Dinner
 April 12th - 14th : GRAND LODGE
 (see pg 3 for details)

Apparently, a Lamb is 70 degrees and sunny with light breezes from the west. It would appear that Spring has finally Sprung. I hope this edition of the Star and Compass finds you all in an equally pleasant season.

I recently had the opportunity to take witness of the Installation of the Robbinsdale Chapter of DeMolay. Several of the young men in the new Officer Line are the sons of Brothers from Anoka Lodge; all of them were very proud Dads. Being a Mason, and the Father of two sons of my own, I find myself curious about the Order and what role it might play in the lives of my boys. When I was a young man, I never had the chance to join the Order of DeMolay. At that time, there was no active Chapter in the Anoka area. Had there been one, I am sure my Father, a Past Master Councilor himself, would have encouraged it. And, I would likely have joined.

Over the past few months, I have been in discussion with several of the Dads from the Robbinsdale Chapter. Our goal is to begin a long-term plan to bring DeMolay back to Anoka. This is not a new idea; it was attempted only a short few years ago, but lacked a sufficient number of young men to warrant the reactivation of the old local Charter. Today, we hope to build upon the work of those Dads to reignite local interest in this great organization. It is our opinion that there may well be enough young men interested who live in the Anoka area, but the obstruction lies in the lack of information the general population has regarding the Order of DeMolay; its functions and benefits.

Our idea is to start with informal meetings, held here at the Lodge, so that young men, and their families, who are curious about the Order can meet with the Officers and members of the Robbinsdale Chapter and learn about what DeMolay is all about. These meetings will be supervised jointly by the Dads of the DeMolay Chapter as well as members of Anoka Lodge. In time, these meetings will help to open up opportunities for our Job's Daughters and the Scout troops as well by becoming a platform for the members of our youth groups to share their experiences with their fellows. It is my hope that this project can help, aid, and assist our Anoka Masonic Family to become more involved in the growth and well-being of all our members, young and old alike.



Newly installed DeMolay Officers and members

There is a lot of talk in the air about the future of Masonry; where are we going as a Fraternity. As we strive to retake an open place in our communities, let us also strive to retake a place for our children; ours sons and daughters. The future of who and what we are is not just found in the recruitment of new members; it is also found in our children.

As plans progress, I will keep the Lodge informed.

Fraternally,

Rob Naeve
Worshipful Master





FROM THE WEST

Why do men choose to knock on the door of the preparation room, spend three months with us, be raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, and then we never see them again?

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota recently had a Membership Seminar held down at the Minneapolis Scottish Rite. I was happy to see that most chairs were full. We want to know how to grow our Lodges. Membership has fallen every year since 1959. There are many reasons for that. Retention is a one of them.

In years past, many used the Blue Lodge to get to appendant bodies. The lure of the Shrine, Grotto, or either of the Rites gave men what they were looking for, whether it was philanthropic opportunities, educational pursuits, or fellowship events. I think that that argument does not hold water for Anoka Lodge. We fill the bill for all of the above items.

Maybe men joined because of a family connection, or they were curious due to a movie or a book. Once they were raised, they satisfied that need from the family or could now say they were a Mason and could wear the ring just like so and so in the movie. It is my hope that they learned a little more about Freemasonry and chose to stay for what opportunities it could offer them.

Some have not shown up because they have not paid their dues. Times are tough, and some have found themselves in a position they have never been in before. We expound Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. It is great and good for us to help out a Brother in distress, but not as easy to ask for that help. Anoka Lodge has the 30 Fund to assist Brothers in paying their dues due to economic hardship. Only the secretaries need to know, but they cannot help if they do not know. Sometimes, all they know is that you have not paid your dues.

The more disturbing reason is one that is usually not figured out. Something happens to a Brother that has offended him and has soured his view of the Craft. We never see him again, and we do not know why. We are all, from the newest Entered Apprentice, to the most elder Master Mason, trying to carve out our Perfect Ashlar. However, as we are still striving for that perfection, we are all innately flawed and human. It is my wish that a Brother in this situation would come back and give the Lodge another try, or contact one of the officers and let him know his concerns.

This article is timely, as next month we will be reading the list of Brothers who could be dropped because of non-payment of dues. It is a requirement of Grand Lodge that all members must be in good standing. As we read those names, it is one of the saddest days in Lodge, second only to the Lodge of Sorrow. For some reason, maybe one of those above, the Brother has not chosen to renew his association with Anoka Lodge.



Br. Todd Mayer with WB Don Nolley at the 2012 Past Masters Degree

For those who personally know someone whose name is being read, give them a call. I know this happens, as people are frantically writing names as they are read.

Lastly, think about those who were in your class when you were raised, no matter how long ago. If you have not seen them in a while, dial them up. Invite them for a cup of coffee or a beer and catch up. Invite them back to Lodge. Your raising class is a bond that you have with no other Mason. Think about how much more we could do for our community and the Craft if one Brother from each class that we have not seen for a while started coming back. Think about what coming back to the Craft could do for that Brother.

For those who have not been to Lodge in some time for whatever reason, come on by. A great meal is prepared. An educational topic is presented as we are munching a desert. A friendly grip is waiting for you. Your Brethren are ready to welcome you. Opportunities are waiting for you to help yourself and your community.

Yours in the Gentle Craft,

Todd A. Mayer
Senior Warden



FROM THE SOUTH

As whatever snow we had this winter melts down to its last remaining miniature mounds in the parking lots and the sounds of song birds once again begin to fill the air with their joyful musings, my thoughts turn to spring and the renewal which accompanies the season each year. Bright colors, annuals beginning to show life once again and giant rabbits hopping around delivering baskets of goodies are all signs that winter is probably behind us once again. Although we are accustomed to these familiar signs of spring and have been our whole life, there is another sign that I have come to enjoy as well, which is the Annual Grand Lodge Communication of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. This year the event will be held at the Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park from Thursday, April 12th through Saturday, April 14th.

Every year, our Lodge fills with talk and stories of Grand Lodge of years gone by. The stories of much (sometimes too much) merriment and good fellowship is the stuff of legends. Our "hospitality room" has become a mainstay in the hours of refreshment for several years now. In fact, I have heard that we are building quite the reputation for good fellowship. But this aspect of the event should not be seen as the sole reason for attending this year's session, in fact, there is much, much more to be gained by your attendance.

There is much work to be done in our state with the motions brought to a vote every year, not to mention, the numerous educational break out sessions, accessibility to literature and appendant bodies. And let us not forget, the chance to connect with our fellow Brothers around the state and in some cases, our neighboring states and Canada as well. The exchange of ideas and thoughts with our neighbors is something to treasure.

As Masons of Anoka 30, we owe it to ourselves to take advantage of the networking opportunities the Grand Lodge provides every year. One distinct advantage to membership in our Craft is that it affords us the opportunity to learn from one another, not just from those within the walls of 1900 3rd Avenue South in Anoka. I can certainly say that, for those who have

attended Grand Lodge in the past, have made numerous connections with Brothers from other lodges allowing them to better take full advantage of the wages made available to us. For lack of a better term, membership has its privileges.

So if you have length in your cabletow, come on out to the Northland Inn next month and join me at Grand Lodge. As the one who looks over the Craft during times of refreshment, I would certainly enjoy your company in the hospitality room. But, more than that, if nothing else, I would rather see you come on out and take advantage of what Masonry has to offer. If your "Masonic flower" is in need of some springtime renewal, Grand Lodge is a great place to let it bloom once again!

Sincerely,

Dave Hansel
Junior Warden



ROYAL ARCH

Companions of Shekinah 52 UD - we just had as a growth spurt in our membership! Remember to mark your calendars for the fourth Wednesday of each month to make sure we have a strong attendance record. The April meeting will be the last meeting for a few months as we need to send in our records to Grand Chapter to hopefully receive our formal Charter in June at the Grand Chapter Communication of Royal Arch. Please make sure that all members have their 2012 dues paid by the April meeting, as we need to have our books in order to send them in the day after our April meeting. Any questions feel free to call me or Secretary Chris Berglund.

Fraternally yours in the Craft,

Steve Braun
High Priest
Shekinah 52 U.D.



Traveling Man

Next Road Trip:

April 3

Mound Lodge #320

2372 Commerce Blvd

Mound, MN 55364

Have you seen this Gavel? It is ours. It is known as the BFG. It is the Traveling Trophy for Anoka Lodge. It is currently at Mound Lodge. To that end, we will be road tripping to their Lodge to get it back. We will need two elected officers, a Past Master, a MM who is under two years in the Craft and two others. Come along, join the fun and see a new Lodge.



Meeting starts at 7:15. There is no dinner beforehand. We will be carpooling from Anoka Lodge at 6pm. Let SW Todd Mayer know if you are planning on attending, so that we can accommodate everyone, and make sure that we have enough to get the gavel back.

Date: Tuesday April 3rd, 2012

Where: Mound Lodge #320
2372 Commerce Boulevard
Mound, MN 55364

Plan Ahead:

May 3rd – Robbinsdale DeMolay

Hope to see you there!

**Feel free to contact me for inquires
or requests regarding future road trips:**

jeditodd@comcast.net
763-413-0764
Todd A. Mayer

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JOB'S DAUGHTERS

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:
April 2 - Jobies meeting and Friendship
(please come and enjoy the games and food!)

February was a fun and busy month. On February 12th, the Jobies had a Fun Event. We went bowling at Classic Bowl. About 18 people attended to bowl, eat pizza and have FUN! The Jobies had four friends who also attend. We all had a great time and so did the friends. Marietta stated that it was fun. Her friend started off really behind her, but in the end beat her.

We have the best Masons ever!! On the 15th we were able to serve them beef stew, sour dough bread, and salad. Not only was the food wonderful, we were able to raise \$184 to aid in purchasing traveling crowns. Thanks so much for your generosity!!

Next on the 18th we went to the annual Sno Ball dance. Eight young ladies were able to come with four friends. Fun was had by all!! Kristen stated that we were at the St. Paul Lodge with drinks and cookies. After the dance Cara reported that we went to Perkins in Anoka with another Bethel and the Jobies were wild.

On February 26 the Jobies were able to replace the traveling crowns. Kristen reported that they went shopping for the crowns. They visited the Beauty Supply store, and it was hard to make up their mind on which crown purchase. There was makeup for only \$.99 that distracted them, but now they have crowns.

March brings spring, and roller skating. Cara reported that the Jobies were at the Roller Garden in St. Louis Park for about 1 1/2 hour: "we skated, skated and skated. We were able to have 3 friends who enjoyed themselves as well."

On March 7 we kidnapped Father Tom from the Masonic stated meeting. We took him to North Town Mall. The Jobies put makeup and perfume on him. Then walked around the mall. Can you believe he tried to run away? The Jobies had to chase him around the mall to make sure we did not lose him. Next the Jobies bought a pink boa and had him kiss a puppy. The first ransom term was that we have 10 masons attending the next Masonic honoring.

The ransom note was an Arby's bag, which they filled with money so they could get Father Tom back before the close of the meeting, which we did not make it. With this donation we are able to help the Jobies with fun events, friendships, and Grand Bethel. Thanks so much!!

Check out the Masonic calendar! We are on the calendar, please check it out, and come and have your daughters join us at our events.

It is Spring!!!! Our fundraiser for this term is selling flower bulbs. Please help the girls with this fundraiser so that they can increase their points account. This account helps the Jobs' to pay for their fun events, member dues, and camp. <http://www.go-green-fundraising.com/downloads/fundraising-flower-bulbs.pdf>

Upcoming events:

March 30 - April 1 Grand Bethel in St. Cloud.

April 2 - Jobies meeting and Friendship (please come and enjoy the games and food),

April 16- Jobies meeting and Proficiency

April 22 - we will be attending a church, having brunch, fun and games.

Respectably submitted

Cassie Carney

Bethel Treasure



Father Thomas gets a makeover by the Jobies

FROM THE LEO

Thank You's are due to Mr. Doug Agustin for his enlightening and informative presentation on cult organizations at our March stated meeting. He discussed a cult organization's inner workings, and how to identify them. Freemasonry sometimes gets accused of being a cult, but we were informed that cults discourage Free-thinking and critical thinking which is the very heart of Masonry!

Our April stated meeting will feature The Director of Fund Development for Masonic Charities, Brother John Schwietz, as our guest speaker. Br. Schwietz will present not only integral information on the Masonic Charities, but important information on the Masonic Home and the protocols and procedures of becoming a resident. This is definitely a subject that will prove to be of great interest and aid to our brethren.

Fraternally,

Trent B. Gilbertson
Assistant LEO

Shrimp Dinner

The annual shrimp dinner is upon us. All-you-can-eat shrimp with all of the sides. Tickets are \$15 or 4 for \$50. This is one of the major fundraisers for the year. Share this with your friends and family. The more the merrier!

Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 6:00pm
Anoka Masonic Lodge #30 AF&AM



Our Newest Master Masons! — Sean Novack, Hash Handapangoda. and Julio Antonio Herrera.

2011 CONTACT LIST

ANOKA MASONIC LODGE

Master- Rob Naeve	612-386-2218
Senior Warden- Todd Mayer	763-413-0764
Junior Warden- Dave Hansel	763-862-5352
Treasurer- Don McGuire	763-422-4507
Secretary - Jay Lenz	763-786-6178
Asst. Sec- Chris Berglund	763-807-5727
L.E.O.- John Freeburg	763-360-9783
Sr Deacon- Lee Kielblock	763-213-3753
Jr. Deacon- Paul Agustin	612-810-1018
Sr. Steward- Tim Carney	612-801-4843
Jr. Steward- Trent Gilbertson	612-306-6222
Tyler- Rick Remme	612-597-4409
Marshall- Terrance M Schaffer	763-755-5854
Chaplain- Fr. Tom Knopf-Bigelow	612-702-4770

SELIM GROTTO

Monarch- Todd Mayer	763-413-0764
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SHEKINAH 52 U.D.

High Priest- Steve Braun	763-412-9004
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OES MARTHA CHAPTER

Worthy Matron Denise Emery	
Worthy Patron Dave Emery	763-755-2431
OES Secretary - Peg Oliver (Jerry)	763-449-9067

JOB'S DAUGHTERS

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

President - Ken Roush	763-421-9749
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Chaplain's Corner



*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.*



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