

ANOKA MASONIC LODGE #30 A.F. & A.M



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS: September 5th, 6pm: Dinner and Stated Meeting September 8th, noon-4pm: Ribs, Bibs and Blues!! September 19th, 6pm: Table Lodge/EA Degree

Summer is starting the slow fade into autumn and with it comes school. My oldest, Henry, is gearing up towards kindergarten and is showing a remarkable apathy towards his pending education. Mainly, I expect, due to the staggering lack of Super Mario World, Disney films, and general running around like a goof found in our local schools. I have been trying to encourage in him a love of books and learning. He likes books well enough, but that learning thing just earns me groans and rolled eyes. I know he is young and because of this youthful innocence towards self-improvement, I have been letting it slide a tad. He is still in the dawn of his life and has years to go before the weight of maturity starts to force decisions on him, but I still have this impatience to see him become a student.

Learning is an important part of who I am; as a person and as a Mason. A principle part of Masonry is learning and self-improvement, so much so that it is the cornerstone for many of us. For me, the most frequently walked paths are books and contemplation. I love the scent of an old bookstore; an honest to God bookstore, not some warehouse superstore, but a place where the owners pet is roaming the aisles.

Did you know we at Anoka Lodge are working on a real nice Masonic Library? We inherited some of the vast collection of books from the late WB Rod Larson. Our esteemed LEO, WB John Freeburg, has been working diligently with many Brothers to compile the collection into an accessible form. If you get a chance, swing by

the Lodge sometime and take a peek. I am sure our LEO would be happy to make a suggestion or two. In our modern world of instant world-wide information, there is a simple pleasure in holding and opening a real book. There is a great deal of wisdom to be found in the written words of our Masonic forbearers. It is my hope that once the library is fully realized, even before then, we can look into forming a Masonic Book Club. There is a great deal that can be learning from books, but more is learned from reading and then sharing a book.

Until then, keep the Light burning bright.

Robert Naeve WM, Anoka 30



### TABLE LODGE SEPT. 19TH

The Dinner tickets are \$15 each and need to be purchased prior to the end of the September Stated Meeting on September 5th.

Contact Tim Carney if you need to make other arrangements.

Tim Carney: 612-801-4843



## FROM THE WEST

School is here and the kids are being whisked away by bus to read, do math in a way that I never learned, and spell. I look forward to school time, mainly because it gives me a breath of peace with them being home all summer with me. Don't get me wrong, I do miss them, but parents everywhere understand that dichotomy.

One of the necessary evils is school shopping. With Audrey being eight and in third grade, clothes shopping is now relegated to Laura. I just do not have it in me. Molly and I can go to Target and get everything, but the older one is starting to get picky. Maybe it is the emerging Jobie in her ;-) But I do enjoy filling the list of school supplies. Searching for it all, finding a sale, and making sure everything is checked off, it gives me a sense of accomplishment. Now everything is in the bag and ready for them to learn. Their tools are ready for them to be a better schoolgirl.

Are your own working tools ready to go for the fall? They are not in a Trapper Keeper or an Angry Birds pencil box. You cannot get them at Target, and they for sure are not on sale. They are within all of us.

Is your plumb allowing you to walk uprightly? Are you living virtuously according to the square? Are you improving yourself with the common gavel, breaking off vices? Are you keeping yourself within due bounds of your own compass? Are you living knowing that we are traveling upon that level of time to that undiscovered country? Are you spreading the cement of Brotherly Love with the trowel of your passion for the Craft?

Lastly is your 24 inch gauge. It is the first working tool that we were introduced to, and I think one of the most important, especially today with our busy lives. It teaches us balance. This lesson is easier said than done. Taking time for your work, yourself, and service to others is a herculean task. But if you are able to take time for all, your life takes on more meaning. You need a job to provide for your family, but it does not necessarily define you. Without taking care of yourself, you are not able to do anything else. It is the service to God and a distressed worthy Brother that is key to this balance. We are altruistic beings, and helping others is in our nature. Helping others makes the community better, and we in turn get something back. Whether it is thanks, a smile from those you have helped, or just knowing that you have given of your time and energy for something greater than yourself. Balance is the key to all things in life, and, just as our ashlar is not perfect, we need to continually strive to create that balance.

I look forward to seeing you in the quarries this fall with your working tools. Too bad they do not have an apron to hold the tools that has Yoda or Batman on the front. That would be sweet.

Yours in the Gentle Craft,

Todd A. Mayer Senior Warden



#### Scottish Rite News

Thursday Night is Rite Nite!

The Scottish Rite has started up again. On August 23rd, Master Masons have begun their journey to become Masters of the Royal Secret. The calendar is found at: http://scottish-rite-mn.org/minneapolis-valley/event-calendar. Come down with your cap if it has been a while and support those receiving even more light, and maybe learn a couple of things yourself. Our SD Lee Kielblock is the Director of Degrees down at the Rite, so if you want to get involved, he is the one to see.

Lastly, the Minneapolis Scottish Rite has a newly overhauled website: http://scottish-rite-mn.org/. Take some time (members and non-members) to peruse the site and learn more about Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

Todd A. Mayer Double Eagle for Anoka Lodge #30 Scottish Rite – Minneapolis Valley

# Appendant Masonic Bodies

#### Grotto News

Our Stated Meeting is September 7th with a Jewish-inspired meal afterwards at 7pm. Anyone interested in attending should contact Todd Mayer. You do not need to be a member of the Grotto for dinner. We would love to show you what the most family-friendly Masonic organization is all about. We do need accurate numbers for ordering, though.

Also, in October, we are having our annual 70's Fondue Party. Last fall, all of our fondue pots were thrown away. If you have a fondue pot that you would like to donate to replace them, or are garage saleing or Goodwill hunting, there is a box for them in the basement of the Lodge. We had 15 of them, and only have about 6 right now. You help would be appreciated.



All for the Realm,

Todd A. Mayer Monarch Selim Grotto



## FROM THE SOUTH

Once again, its time for

I ran across a quote the other day about wisdom; "Despise not counsel. A man is never nearer to ruin than when he trusts too much to his own wisdom". This quote is from Thomas Fuller, a 17th century churchman and historian. Immediately upon reading it I thought of our Past

Masters and the treasure trove of wisdom and advice they have to offer our lodge.

As I progress through the line I have come to value the wise counsel whispered in my ear form time to time. I may not always heed the advice, but certainly dwell upon it and consider it at some length. None the less, I have come to realize that this counsel and wisdom is a resource for all of us, which we should be thankful. Where else does one have such easy access to wisdom and experience than within the walls of our own Lodge? Can you find it within the body of your church? How about your workplace? Can you find it in other civic organizations? Maybe so, but that advice is usually limited to just the work of that organization, not necessarily life in general.

So, when you need some advice, why not seek out the wise counsel of a Worshipful Brother? It just makes sense to use the connections so graciously afforded to us by our association as friends and Brothers as we consistently strive to reach perfection. And, when wise counsel is offered, unsolicited, at least listen and contemplate the advice before coming to any conclusion. Do not take this resource for granted. It is a priceless commodity in an era of confusing messages and information overload.

On another topic altogether, a quick reminder that the Halloween parade is coming up at the end of October. We will need heads of bodies to ride on the float and hand out candy, as well as people to man the weenie booth operations, inside and outside the lodge, so mark your calendars for that Saturday before Halloween!

Sincerely,

Dave Hansel Junior Warden







# OB'S DAUGHTERS

# UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:

September 17th: Masonic Honoring September 22nd: Kids ID

## **Upcoming Events:**

Sept. 8 - Ribs, Bibs, and Blues Sept. 9 - Masonic Family Twins Game at 1:10 Sept. 17 - Meeting and Masonic Honoring at 7 pm Sept. 22 - Kid's ID Sept 30 - Go to Church Sunday

We are looking forward to JDU and the Halloween Parade in October!

See you there. **Jobie Love** Bethel 48



## EASTERN STAR

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS: J Sept. 6th 7:30 meeting honoring founder Rob Morris Sept. 11th 12:00 noon Martha Quilters craft sewing Sept. 20th 7:30 meeting "Back to School Night" bring a childhood picture to share Sept 25th 6:00 Martha Quilters craft sewing Sept 27th 7:00 Martha Club at Walker Plaza

#### Happy Summertime!!

We hope you are all enjoying the wonderful summer breezes here in Minnesota, as warm as it has been! As the season winds down, we are looking forward to Fall and getting back together with old and new friends.

Its like going Back to School, which we will celebrate on September 20th. Be prepared to bring in a favorite school photo to our first meeting in September! On the 6th will be honoring our founder, Rob Morris. We were saddened to lose our dear sister and friend, Doris LeRoy in July. Our hearts and prayers are extended to their families.

We are so excited to continue celebrating viewing life through the eyes of children. So far, we have enjoyed the sayings, spontaneity and colors!!

See you this fall!!

Lyla Aaland Worthy Matron and **Donly Arnsdorf Worthy Patron** 

#### FEROM THE LIEO

Welcome back to lodge and our fall lecture season kickoff. At the September stated meeting I will be talking about some of the books that I have had a chance to read over the summer. One of the most interesting was "The Key to Modern Freemasonry" The Hidden Mysteries of Nature and Science by Prof. Charles C. Lawrence. At 436 pages of small type this was not an easy read especially since it was written by an academic. But I must say that it did hold my attention and I did learn a lot from it.

The question that the author poses is, Who is responsible for Freemasonry emerging from a semi operative orientated organization (conferring two degrees) in the early 1720's in London to a social club for the British Royal Society by 1730 and conferring three degrees, He spent twenty years answering that question. I will do my best to give you the answer in 30 minutes. Hope to see you after dinner at the September stated.



WB John A. Freeburg and Bro. Ernie Ridens at Anoka County Fair Booth

Fraternally,

John A. Freeburg Lodge Education Officer

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9 Janet Hansel 763-862-5352
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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.

#### **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.

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#### Need to make an address change?

Please contact the secretaries office: 763-421-3557 or secretary@anokamasons.org

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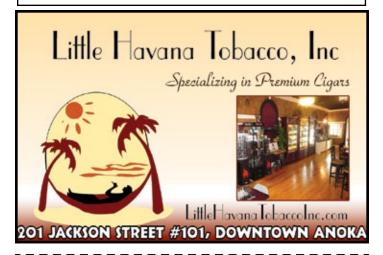


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## ANOKA LODGE #30 A.F. & A.M. 1900 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH ANOKA, MINNESOTA 55303

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Anoka's Curt Speller appointed as Worthy Grand Patron of Minnesota with Beth Brown