



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

Happy Summer Anoka Masonic Family! I hope everyone has some great plans set out for the next few months as we enjoy our brief stint with the warmer weather.

In this month's article, I would like to put out an official call to everyone to participate in various events we have coming up this summer. We need to get the participation level up in some of these events, one in particular, the Renaissance Festival. Brothers and family, our lodge building is in need of some rather serious repairs due to water damage. Shekinah Chapter Royal Arch, has provided us with the opportunity to make some serious cash, helping them out at the Renaissance Festival later this summer and early fall. If we do not get the participation level we need to run the booths, we will lose this opportunity to make thousands of dollars this year. Many people have whispered wise council in my ear to remind me we need another decent fund raiser; well Brothers, this is it. I Hope to see you there. See or contact Brother Brian Dimatteo for details and sign up information. Also, you can find links to the sign up sheet on our Facebook page.

That Anoka County Fair is coming up at the end of July. This has become a

favorite of mine each summer, talking to people as they stroll by and checking out some of the fun fair displays. My family always comes out on that Wednesday so we can all watch the fireworks at the end of the night, a Hansel family favorite. SW Lee Kielblock is the man to talk to for more information and sign up. I am not sure if he has all his shifts filled up yet, but it can't hurt to ask. There are usually one or two that go unfilled every year.

On Saturday, July 12th, the Bones Brothers will be cooking up a storm at Anoka Riverfest. This festival is a fun day of crafts, food and people watching. It is also a great opportunity for us to get our face out in the community. Come on out and spend some time helping out at the booth! See Brother Tony Heimer for details.

Lastly, even though it is only 6 months away, Breakfast with Santa is back for another year! We did so well at this event last year (thanks WB Wayne Lamusga, WB John Aguilar and countless others!) we have decided to make this an annual event! The date is Sunday December 13th from 8 am to Noon. Your corps of officers is busy searching the ranks for someone who would like to take the ball on this and run it for at least 2 years.

It is an easy event to set up and the morning goes by pretty quick. If you are interested, contact myself or any of the line officers to put your name in the hat for consideration.

So, as you can see, we continue to keep a very busy schedule. I did not even mention Ribs, Bibs and Blues, or the Anoka Halloween Parade. But these events are well attended every year and participation is not as much of an issue. If you can spend the time, won't you please consider helping out at some of these other events as well?

Sincerely, Dave



From the West

Greetings Brethren of Anoka Lodge #30,

Well, Summer is finally upon us. At least it seems so between the rainstorms. We had a wonderful day on the Summer Solstice for our outdoor Master Mason Degree where we raised two new Master Masons. Another great day that occurs in June is on the 24th, St. John the Baptist day. This is a day when we honor and celebrate the life of a man who through his zeal and passion preached repentance and humility. He is also represented by one of Masonry's most famous symbols.

As an Entered Apprentice, we learn of a point in a circle with two parallel lines, one

of which represents St. John the Baptist. The other parallel line represents St. John the Evangelist. This is only one of many symbols used in Masonry to teach us about Masonic philosophy.

During the months of July and August, Anoka Lodge does not confer degrees. During this time the Lodge is still active with many events in the community and our Stated Meetings. This gives us plenty of time to still enjoy the social aspects of the Lodge. The summer is also a great time to continue studying our Masonic traditions and philosophy. While you sit on the porch at your cabin or in the air-conditioned comfort of your home, reading a good book or researching on your computer is a great way to learn about Masonry. If you only learn about the symbol I mentioned above, you will have gained a new understanding about our Fraternity and its philosophy.

Learning about our symbols helps us all become better Masons and better men. I encourage all of my Brethren, from our newest Master Masons, to our wise Past Masters, to continue learning about our symbols and Masonic philosophy. And come back in September to our next set of degrees to continue learning as we accompany new Brothers through their initiation into our great Fraternity. I look forward to seeing you there. Enjoy your summer!

Fraternally,

Lee E. Kielblock

Senior Warden



Greetings from the South!

Summer is here and hopefully we'll all dry out soon. Most of the bodies at our Lodge are dark during these months, but there are still events and other happenings going on. One such event is the Anoka County Fair coming up July 22-27. We need people to work shifts at our booth. It doesn't need to be just brothers as our sisters in the OES are also cordially invited to help be in the booth to speak to interested parties. Our Masonic youth are also encouraged to come and assist as they are our future and just might help bring in people to their organization as well as ours. I would be remiss if I didn't mention Riverfest coming up July 12th as well, where the Bones Brothers will be making pork chops. The Coon Rapids Mom's club whose members include some Brother's wives (also one who happens to be an OES member too), and their children will be marching in the Coon Rapids Fourth of July parade on July 3rd. Plenty going on this coming month for all to enjoy, remember to stay safe and have fun!

Love and Respect from the Junior Warden – Paul Agustin



Chaplain's Corner

Father Thomas is the Anoka Lodge Chaplain and Chairman of the Sunshine Committee. If you or someone you know in the Masonic Family are in need of support, please contact Father Thomas (612) 702-4770



Stewards Corner

July 2nd, 2014 Stated Meeting - It's summer boys, and that means it's Hot... Baseball is in the air and Hawaiian Shirts are the dress of the day. That said we will be having Hot Dogs and Brats, Beans, Potato Salad and Chips! (Not on the Grill)

Traditionally this is a smaller turn out (24 or so people) or course last year we ended up with over 70 at this meeting, so if you do plan to come let us know as I will only be making food for 40!

Brother Terrance M Schaffer

Anoka DeMolay

We have talked about this for years, and finally it is happening! I am excited to announce that DeMolay is coming back to Anoka! We have been given the approval to begin forming the chapter. The first step to a new chapter is to form the adult Advisory Council. We have put together an incredible group for our Advisory Board with the following advisors: Paul Agustin, Ross Eichele, Aaron Brendel (Senior DeMolay and a Deputy member of the International Supreme Council), Brian Dimatteo, Lee Kielblock, Sara Golder, WB Dave Emery (Senior DeMolay and an Active DeMolay Legion of Honor), Sean Novack, Terrance Schaffer, Nick Kingdon, and Joel Spry (Senior DeMolay). The advisory board will be meeting later this month for our first Council meeting where we will formalize many of the necessary details and begin formulating our vision and roadmap.

Of course, there is great concern what a chapter in Anoka might do to the success of the chapter in nearby Robbinsdale. Robbinsdale DeMolay has about 40 years of history as a chapter and letting that tradition fade away would be a shame and not in the best interest of DeMolay. Thus, our goal is to see two successful chapters which will allow for even greater brotherhood and competition between the them. To this end, we are working to put together a success plan for both chapters to follow over the next 18 months.

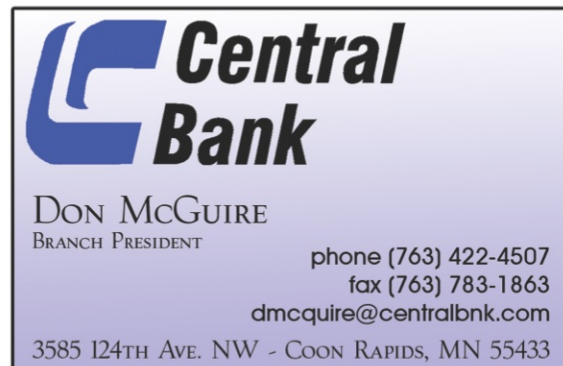
To receive our official Charter (and ultimately to be a successful chapter), we will need to have at least 15 DeMolay on our books. Initially a few will transfer over membership from Robbinsdale, but nonetheless growing our membership will be critical. We will be holding a couple of Open Houses in the next few months and I would ask that if you have a son, nephew, grandson, neighbor, or friend ages 8-18, that you please keep your ears open for our Open House dates and come hear about all that DeMolay has to offer these young men.

Anyone who knows me, knows that I have a passion for our Masonic Youth. I am extremely excited that Anoka Lodge #30 will be sponsoring both a Job's Daughters Bethel -and- a DeMolay Chapter. I believe, without a doubt, that we are "Stronger Together!"

Fraternally,

Aaron Brendel

Father of two Job's Daughters, one DeMolay, and one Jobie ToBee Deputy Member of the DeMolay International Supreme Council





Eastern Star

Upcoming events:

- Dark – July and August
- July 14 – Anoka Riverfest
- August 16 – Martha Chapter Picnic at the Vokovan's

Even though the Chapter goes dark in July and August, we are still busy in the community. On July 14 we will have a booth at Riverfest. Stop by our booth and try our strawberry shortcake!

Martha Chapter Sewing Unit

Our own Martha Chapter Sewing Unit continues to meet in the summer. The sewing unit meets twice a month (second Tuesday at noon and third Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.) at the Anoka lodge. This group puts together lap top quilts. No sewing skills are required. If you can talk, tie, sew, or iron – you're hired! The Minneapolis Sewing Unit meets the fourth Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at the Acacia #272 Chapter in St. Louis Park. This group consists of sewing units from various chapters throughout the Twin Cities. They also work on many projects including lap top quilts, cathihats and knitted and crocheted hats for the hospital and walker and wheel chair bags for the Masonic Senior Care in Bloomington. Martha Chapter distributes the quilts and other items to the Masonic Cancer Hospital in St. Paul (part of Fairview Hospital) on the second

Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. (lunch and parking provided by the hospital). The goal is to distribute a quilt to every patient on the floor. Men are always welcome to attend any of these events. In 2013, Martha Chapter made and donated 800 lap top quilts to the Masonic Cancer Hospital. If you have would like to help out on the sewing nights, distribute the quilts, or have any questions, please contact Garland Lundquist, Raquel Ridens, or Denise Emery.

RiteCare® Update

Greg and I are fortunate to have been asked by the Grand Chapter to co-chair a project which will allow us to work with RiteCare® Minneapolis-St. Paul. All the Chapters in Minnesota will have a chance to help children in need of language and speech therapy through any of the Valleys. We hope we can count on your generosity and we look forward to working with all of the Chapters state-wide.

Save the date – On Saturday, August 16, we will host the Martha Chapter picnic at our house. More details to follow.

Enjoy the summer as it will go by fast!

Be blessed, life is good!
Goody and Greg Vokovan

Blast from the Past...Master

The idea of this is to not only give the editor of the newsletter more content (always appreciated), but to hear from the Past Masters of Anoka Lodge. They may be out of the East, but still have wisdom to impart. Or just share something over their years in the Gentle Craft.

For this inaugural article, I thought that I would finish off what I had started as an officer at Anoka Lodge. It is summertime.

A time to sit back, not take yourself too seriously, and wear shorts and hawaiian shirts to Lodge. Newsletter articles also can tend to lean that way as well. With that: Movies and Freemasonry. Many great movies are trilogies (Indiana Jones (let's ignore Crystal Skull), Batman (twice), Star Wars (thrice probably)). This will be the third in the series. Previously, Green Lantern and Iron Man were both looked at with their similarities to Freemasonry. Now, the final chapter in the long-awaited spewing from my skull...Captain America.

Steve Rogers is a man who wants to serve his country in WWII. He is small, clumsy, and is not what the army wants as a soldier. He could be relegated to organizing scrap metal drives and helping on the home front, but his father served and he knows that being a soldier is what he was meant to be. Just as we were first prepared to be made a Mason in our heart, way before knocking on the door. It was within us, some of us serving

in other organizations, and some, like Cap, having a legacy in the Gentle Craft that called to us.

A doctor recognized Steve Roger's determination and passion to serve our country, and admitted him to the Super Soldier program. Likewise, we were admitted after two Masons signed our petition, three investigated us, and we were elected to receive the degrees. As Steve is blasted with Vita Rays, his body undergoes a physical transformation into Captain America. Ours is not of the physical variety, but when we were raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, we were changed. We did not join Masonry, we became a Mason, and that is not something that can be laid aside. But at our core, we were still the same person. Freemasonry makes a good man better.

Captain America is a symbol of what is right in America and was promoted throughout the country. As is our Square and Compass. Gracing countless buildings across the country, a hospital known for cancer care and cures, and more importantly, on the cars and lapel pins of fine men who make a difference every day. Continued next page.....

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Like Cap, we are leaders in our community, fighting the good fight whatever it might be.

When he is frozen and brought back, he is still revered as a leader, but as a legend and a man out of time. He still fights the fight, leads men to save our nation, and remains a symbol of what is good in our country. Freemasonry also draws that analogy. Our membership numbers were unprecedented after the Great War. Now, in a new millennium, Freemasonry is looked at by some as "out of time". Something their grandpa belonged to. Something brick and mortar does not belong in this digital age.

Our legend lives with us. It brings some men to us out of idle curiosity. But the ideals of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, although antiquated in the eyes of some, are no less meaningful, and no less important in today's society. We continue to lead, give back to our community, and improve ourselves.

So grab your shield (or apron), suit up and let's get to work in the quarries, for ourselves, our families, and our communities!

Yours in the Gentle Craft,

Todd A. Mayer
Past Master - 2013
Anoka Lodge #30 A.F.&A.M.



Our newest Master Masons



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