



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

1908 3rd Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303 Phone # (763) 421-3357

Greetings Brethren of Anoka Lodge #30,

opportunity.

April showers bring May flowers. This is a saying I have heard since I was a young boy. I always enjoy hearing this saying, as it signifies a new cycle of growth and life in the landscape of Nature. The grass is growing, the trees are flowering, and thoughts of digging in the soil to plant a seed are in the air.

Our new cycle of degrees begins in April and I see the parallels between the Masonic Light and Knowledge with the cycle of growth in Nature. In the Entered Apprentice degree, the seed of Masonic Knowledge is planted in our new Brothers. As they advance through the degrees, their growth in Masonic Knowledge will hopefully continue to parallel the cycle of growth in Nature. There are many distractions and pitfalls that can divert us from our search for knowledge and Masonic Light. One of our duties as Master Masons is to help guide the growth of our new Brothers, just as a gardener will help guide the growth of the new seeds in the soil.

The Anoka Lodge Mentorship Committee is a fantastic opportunity to help guide our new Brothers in their search for Masonic Light and Knowledge. The Mentorship Committee not only helps our new Brothers learn, it also helps them feel more comfortable in the Lodge, because when they come to our meetings, they know a friendly face and can more easily join in the fellowship of our great Fraternity. Having been a Mentor, I always feel great rewards from this opportunity. I get to now a new Brother, and I continue on my path toward Masonic Light by helping our new Brother find the knowledge they seek. I learn as much about Masonry being a Mentor as our new Brother learns. I urge all Master Masons who have been a Master Mason for at least one year, to sign up to be a Mentor for our new Brothers. Please contact Brother Ryan Johnson or WB Terrance Schaeffer to sign up for this awesome

March was a busy month for Minnesota Masonry with the installation of our new Grand Master. April at Anoka Lodge is also a busy month. Two highlights start out and end the month at the Lodge. On Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> is the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Good Friday Shrimp Dinner. I hope you will attend. There are some incorrect dates on the tickets so be sure to come to the Lodge on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. At the end of the month on April 30<sup>th</sup>, Anoka Lodge is the sponsor of the MetroWest Mentorship Class. If you are interested in being a Mentor and joining the Mentorship Committee, this is a great way to learn what is expected of a Mentor.

Fraternally,

Lee E. Kielblock

Worshipful Master



Greetings from the West!

Well I feel like this time of year is a little like the calm before the storm, which is more like a steady downpour really. We will have one full set of degrees down and are about to begin the next which culminates in our traditional (weather permitting) outdoor degree. We have quite a few things coming up in the next several months that will take time and effort from all our Masonic bodies, like Riverfest and the County Fair (Tim will tell you more about that). We have a bunch of youth events coming up too, like a dance for the DeMolay on April 4<sup>th</sup> and then in May the entire Memorial weekend is packed with Masonic youth and family things. Continued.....

Speaking of the Masonic youth organizations I'd like to ask if you not only know of young men and women (OK boys and girls) that are potentially interested in DeMolay or Job's Daughters, but if you may be interested in helping advise. We have advisors but we could always use some help, so if you are interested please contact me.

That's all I've got this month perhaps next month I'll be able to pontificate more, but for now much Love and Respect.



Greetings from the South!

Last month I wrote about the need to subdue our passions to focus drive and energy. This month, I will continue along the same thoughts to detail how I attempt to subdue my own passions. As I stated before, keeping a handle on my emotions is difficult and a constant struggle.

Like everyone else, I have a strong sense of right and wrong and equally strong opinions on how to accomplish many tasks and achieve common goals. For you that know me well, you can also attest that I have a big mouth that can easily accommodate both my feet. As a result, I have been practicing my patience and passion subdual skills at work and at home.

The first skill I have been practicing, especially with my Masonic Family members, is assuming a strong positive intent on behalf of everyone. This outlook alone is most useful even in the face of a heated debate or disagreement. By recognizing and understanding that everyone in the discussion has a positive intent, the framework of the central argument changes to become one of how best to work or best agree.

The assumption of positive intent is so powerful a tool, that it reminds us that we take obligations that we will not cheat, wrong, or defraud each other. Moreover, we are also bound to one another, as a

Society of Friends, Brothers, and Sisters. Our internal disagreements instantly become ones of how to serve our family the most effective way. The passions become subdued and rivalries become strengthened friendships by allowing for disagreements without the destructive divisiveness of opposing goals.

The second skill I have started to practice is one of first seeking to understand the points others are making before disagreeing or nay saying their positions. This skill has been the hardest for me to practice. After all, I am a really smart guy! Just ask me, I'll tell you! I know what we need! I have great ideas and wonderful opinions that deserve to be heard! I am passionate about what I can contribute!

The stronger my passion, the greater my need is to subdue it and keep my yap shut to listen to the ideas of others. This is HARD! I mean really, really hard for me. Yet, it is also rewarding. I am not the smartest guy I know. Others DO have great ideas! Work can get done for the betterment of the situation, and I do not have to drive the change.

I have surrounded myself with great people. I need to let them be great! I need to listen, support, and encourage them. And then get out of the way! Surprisingly, my ideas are not the only ones that have merit; my opinions are not the only valid ones. Understanding and patience, not just jumping in to "solve the problem", leads to more cohesion and involvement by others. Also, less feet being placed into my fat mouth.

These skills may or may not help you to subdue your own passions, they are hard, but they seem to work for me. Thank you again for your indulgence in allowing me to use this column to ramble. If you have any questions, or just want to tell me off, please feel free to do so. I can be reached at [timothy\\_carney@hotmail.com](mailto:timothy_carney@hotmail.com) or you can call me at 612-801-4843.

Fraternally yours,

Tim Carney

Junior Warden



## FROM THE SECRETARY

### Martha Chapter #132

Congratulations to WM Bonnie and WP Jordy! It is going to be another fun and busy year for Martha Chapter. I encourage everyone to attend meetings, Chapter events and happenings. We have so much fun working together for the good of our Order.

There are still a few of you who have not paid your 2015 dues, please get them in to me as soon as you can! If you have any questions about your dues please contact me. The dues (and per capita) are \$27.50 and can be sent to me at the address below.

There is still time to pre-register for Grand Chapter. The registration is \$25.00 and it should be sent to me by April 10, 2015 (make checks paid to Martha Chapter #132). Also, the meal registration sheets should be sent in by April 10, 2015. If you need copies of any of this information, please let me know and I will make sure you get copies sent to you.

I have been working on the 2015-2016 roster. If you have any corrections or additions, please let me know as soon as possible.

Until next month –

Julia Tollgaard, Secretary  
2938 – 126<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW  
Coon Rapids, MN 55448  
(763-257-4041)

## And so our year begins...

April starts a new Martha Chapter year and we hope it will be a fun and productive one. Our theme this year is "Sisters and Brothers Still Goin' Strong". April 2<sup>nd</sup> will start with "Still Going Strong" by supporting Family Promise with our contributions of everyday living needs. Family Promise will advise us of a particular need for that month. April we will start with shampoo and conditioners for all ages. Please bring the featured items to a Chapter meeting and at the end of each month we will deliver our donation.

April 16<sup>th</sup> we will honor our Jr PM Goody and Jr PP Greg for their year of service and all the fun we

had with Goody informing us of wineries in the area and Greg's beacon of light.

Installation of officers will be over by the time you read this and our new slate of officers will ensure us that we are "Still Goin' Strong."

We will see you at our Chapter meetings.

Bonnie Miller, WM and Jordy Stradtman, WP

## FREE Coffee and Donuts!!

Remember **every first Wednesday at 9:00 A.M.** is coffee, donuts, and fellowship at Anoka Lodge.

Come join your brothers. Talk, play cards, or whatever.

If you need a ride, call Dave Emery at 763-755-2431 or email at [wdavidemery@gmail.com](mailto:wdavidemery@gmail.com)

See you on April 1st. (NO fools)



## 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



Martha Chapter #132 – Order of the Eastern Star

Recent events

March 19 – Farewell – Memorial Service

March 22 – Installation of new Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron

We were able to complete our usual March duties including elections, our annual clean-up, and the all member dinner. At our March 19 meeting, we will be having a memorial service to honor our sisters and brothers who have passed away and on March 22 is the installation of our new Worthy Matron, Bonnie Miller and our new Worthy Patron, Jordy Str.

Remember, the 2015 Grand Session is on Thursday April 30; Friday, May 1; and Saturday, May 2, at the St. Cloud Civic Center, St. Cloud. Payment for registration is due by April 1 (give to Julia Tollgaard). If you are writing a check, it should be made out to Martha Chapter. Meal reservations are due by April 10.

Our year in the East for Martha Chapter is coming to a close. Greg and I want to thank all our members for their love and support. We had a fun year and it would not have been possible without all of you. Thank you so much.

It has been an honor to lead the Chapter and we are now looking forward to joining the group called "sideliners!"

Be blessed, life is good!

Goody and Greg Vokovan

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Cleaning the Garage

Dear Brothers of the Lodge and Sisters of Star and members of all the bodies that use the Anoka Lodge building;

How many of you have been cleaning out the Garage or Basement and ran across the item you haven't used in years but it's still in good shape and you've said to yourself, they can use that at the Lodge.

Stop right there.

Let's take a moment and look at some of the items that have been given to the Lodge and see how they fared. You newer members will not remember the Pool Table, it took several years of sliding it around the dining room before it was moved out. When we set up the dining room for a large event; Shrimp Dinner, Breakfast with Santa and the Harvest Dinner we set up 12 tables, when we had the Pool Table we could only set up 11.

We have a Pop Corn Maker that has been in the back room for so long that I would not trust any Food item on it. It took almost a year before anyone plugged in the large TV and I don't think that a cable drop has been made to it yet. And the large Oak Entertainment Unit, well Technology has changed and perhaps that needs to go as well.

If you feel that your item really could benefit the Lodge. Bring your idea to an Officer or Trustee so we can discuss it and don't take it personal if we say thanks but no thanks. We have a space problem and we have gotten in the habit of just putting a band aid on the problem as a temp solution and never actual fixing the problem. We are so tight on space that we need to say 'If something is coming in what can we throw out'.

With respect

Anoka Masonic Lodge Trustees

# Steward's Corner



## April 1, 2015 Stated Meeting

Ham, Au gratin Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Strawberry Shortcake.

## April 15, 2015 Entered Apprentice Degree

Goulash, Garlic Cheese Bread, Chocolate Cake.

Come on out for dinner and enjoy the company of Brothers!

### Scottish Rite:

Heading almost into the final stretch of Degrees, we begin the month with the 25th & 26th Degrees at the Rite, The Knight of the Brazen Serpent and Prince of Mercy. The second Thursday brings the 27th Degree or Knight Commander of the Temple, with a stirring lecture at in finally.

The second half of the month has the 28th & 29th Degrees, Knight of the Sun and Scottish Knights of St. Andrew, the Degree of the Knights of St. Andrew who serve the Scottish Rite with varied assistance down at the valley. April 23rd brings a close to the Council of Kadosh with the 30th Degree, Knight of Kadosh. Also that night if you get there by 5:45pm there will be a lecture regarding the beautiful mural in the Candidates room, it is very interesting and not

to be missed.



*Knights of St. Andrew Badge*

As always If you have any questions, concerns or want to fill out an application, Remember that the one day is being held on May 9th and there is still opportunity to get signed up and graduate with our other 3 Anoka members taking the long class, so please feel free to contact myself or any Scottish Rite member to get signed up!

WB Terrance



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### Notice to the Masonic Family!

We are getting rid of the old soda-pop machine. If you are interested in giving it a good home, please contact Tim Carney at [612-801-4843](tel:612-801-4843)

or at [timothy\\_carney@hotmail.com](mailto:timothy_carney@hotmail.com)

no later than April 20th.

The first person to haul it away gets it, otherwise it will be recycled.

### FROM THE L.E.O.

#### High amidst the Low

I was honored to take my orders as a Templar Knight this month. The ceremony is one of those we Masons are likely never to forget. The experience was made even more memorable by Brother Greg Vokovan, who unwittingly boosted my self confidence in a way he likely was not aware. You see, this is the onset of spring, end of the dark months during which those of us who suffer from depression and seasonal funk are at our lowest point. Greg publicly recognized me as a new friend.

Within Masonry we say that friendship, morality, and brotherly love are the tenants that cement us together. When I lost my job a year ago, coming to Lodge, teaching new member class, and being with my Brothers lifted my spirits, and it was Brothers Greg Vokovan and Mike Miller who found a job opening for me. To some the Lodge may seem like a lot of work. To those I would answer "you receive more than you give".

We see some Brothers join our ranks and then disappear, attending rarely, if at all. They may have found Masonry only a passing interest. Maybe they are too busy in life and didn't grasp


the lessons of our first degree – to balance time wisely. Or perhaps, contrary to my experience, we did not spread our mortar evenly and they got skipped over. Be generous, my Brothers, keep a ready supply of cement and use liberally, we all appreciate being included in the foundation.

Brother Rick Carrier  
Lodge Education Officer

## Newsletter Articles

Remember that you can submit articles for the Star and Compass newsletter and have your upcoming events advertised! Just email your articles to Brother Josh Fulwider at [sandc.editor@gmail.com](mailto:sandc.editor@gmail.com)

Please have them to me by 12 noon on the 15th of every month for the article to be in the following month's newsletter.



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## Greetings from the York Rite!

As with all things, we sometimes get busy, and these sort of slip away. Greetings from High Priest Joseph Anderson (Anoka Shekinah) Illustrious Master Jamie Hansen (Zabud Council) and Commander Michael Crosby (Zion Commandery). A mouth full to be sure, but your York Rite family continues to grow and thrive in Anoka.

In February, two One-Day Festivals were held at the Scottish Rite for Royal Arch Chapter and Cryptic Council. Anoka was well represented in both festivals as the Companions learned more about our Ancient Bretheren, our first Masters, and the true Master's Word. In March, Commandery had it's One Day festival, where the Orders were bestowed upon numerous Sir Knights, bringing to a close the York Rite cycle. It is always a joy to see so many join the ranks, and to see this Light continue onward.

In February, as well, we saw the transfer of a Charter for Zabud Council to Anoka. This has been a work of passion to bring Council to Anoka. The number of Councils, state wide, continues to remain the same, and with Zabud's charter moving, we hope to see a resurgence in Council activity. Along with the move, new officers were Installed for the Council, with Jamie Hansen being Installed as Thrice Illustrious Master. We will be meeting and voting on a Bylaws change which would ammend the current Bylaws, and potentially change the name to Solomon Council. More to come on this.

Finally, with summer, we have our Annual Communication for York Rite in Rochester again this year. It is analogous to the Stated Communication of Grand Lodge, taking place over three days in June.

As more information becomes available, we will share, however the dates are June 25 - 27th, and you can find out more information at: [Grand York Rite Bodies](#)  
Grand York Rite Bodies: [webmaster@yorkrite.org](mailto:webmaster@yorkrite.org)

If you have any questions, or desire the Light that this beautiful Rite provides, do not hesitate to contact one of our York Rite Companions or Sir Knights.

Brian Dimatteo

## A Successful Polar Plunge!



Anoka Lodge and the Apendant Bodies raised over \$3,800.00 for the Special Olympics! A lot of fun was had by all.





ANOKA LODGE #30 A.F. & A.M.  
1908 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH  
ANOKA, MINNESOTA 55303

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April 1

Morning Coffee Club 9:00 am; Anoka Lodge Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

April 3

Good Friday Shrimp Dinner 4:30 pm

April 8

Officers Mtg/Degree Rehearsal 6:00 pm; Candidate Class 6:30 pm; PM Committee 7:00 pm

April 15

Anoka EA Degree 6:00 pm

April 17

Calling Committee 6:30; Charitable Committee 7:00 pm

April 19

Anoka Lodge Pancake Breakfast 8:00 am

April 25

Trustees Meeting 6:00 pm; Candidate Class 6:30 pm

April 30

MW Mentorship Class 6:00 pm