



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

Address: 1900 3rd Ave. Anoka, MN, 55303 Phone: (763) 421-3357

Greetings from the East!

As we head into the end of the 1st Quarter of the year I look forward to one of my favorite Degrees, the Past Masters, Master Mason Degree. This tradition at Anoka Lodge always brings out some of the Past Masters we haven't seen for a while and gives us a chance to see them at the work.

Our newer Brothers and those going through are in for a real treat and I encourage each of you to come out and support what I hope will be 4 Candidates who will soon become Master Masons!

The Passing of our own WB Bruce Isom and others who have recently gone to the Celestial Lodge above moves me to remind each of you to think about the Grains of Sand in your own Hour Glass, how will you spend those grains with those in your life? I hope that you will take the time to make your life better and live it to the fullest.

I would also like to remind all that even though we have heard a lot of talk these past few years about taking care of ourselves, both mentally and physically, and that we as men find it difficult to remember that it is ok to not always be strong and we can reach out to Brethren to assist us in times of need.

I am glad and yet concerned by the fact that in the past month I have received those calls you hope to never get from several Brothers in need. Glad that they had the strength to reach out and unburden themselves by talking about their issues and knowing we are there for them as Brethren.

But as I said, I am also concerned that so many have so much on their plate and can really use our help and understanding.

We need more than ever to be ready to reach out and assist and support those who need us. Don't be afraid to ask those Brothers who may seem fine how things truly are and if you are the Brother whose life seems overwhelming, please resist the urge to be the "Strong" man we all feel we must be. Please reach out and contact any of us, for we are here for you Brothers!

Terrance M Schaffer
Worshipful Master



Anoka Brothers at the Highland Table Lodge!

Greetings from the West!

As I write this article, I am sitting on my balcony in beautiful, sunny Playa Del Carmen, Mexico. This is the first time that I've put pencil to paper to write in a long time.

When I take vacations with the family, I look back upon the following year and reflect on the good and the bad and try to improve myself with the upcoming year with all my actions with mankind.

I think that this is very important and I hope that all of you try to do the same because it really helps me deal with all of the imperfections of the world and makes me a better man by doing so.

This article is going to be related to change.

Everyone can see all of the changes happening in the world today and with social media, change sometimes happens faster than we would like or able to cope with.

No matter if the change happens to politics, policies, religions, race, friends, officers, seasons, or our usual avocations, change will always be upon us and if we stop changing at any future period, we as humans, fail.

As a matter of fact, our success depends on our ability to change with our environment. If we say to another person that this is how we always have done it and that there's no other way, we have failed to accept the new and maybe a better perspective idea has been lost forever.

I still remember to this day the demonstration WB John Freeburg gave us about how technology changes from the floppy disk to the flash drive, another perfect example of the world changing around us.

Upon my travels to Mexico in the last 5 year's, I have seen poverty, despair, sickness, and sadness but through it all, I find many locals that have found happiness even though they make \$5 per day at a job that is physically demanding, found comfort even though a loved one has illness with no healthcare, and joy from their relationships with others.

It's truly humbling that we live in such a wonderful place as the United States of America and we have the opportunities that we do and none of us should take that for granted.

Happy 70th Birthday Brother Dale Wucher!

"In reading the lives of great men, I found that the first victory that they won was over themselves; self discipline with all of them came first" Most Worshipful Brother Harry S. Truman

Please be aware of the upcoming lodge functions and we hope to see you there!

March 1st- Stated Meeting
March 15th- Master Masons Degree
March 18th- 2nd Annual Blue Lodge Ball
April 6,7,8- Grand Lodge Annual Communication

Tony Heimer
Senior Warden



Some Anoka Lodge Events in Pictures!



Hosting Education Lodge #1002



Anoka's Newest Fellow Craft's!

Greetings from the South!

This month I wanted to discuss Anno Lucis. Anno Lucis is Latin for "Year of Light." You will also see it abbreviated as "A.L." It is used as a calendar system within the Freemason fraternity. Year of Light refers to the biblical account of the creation of the universe wherein God spoke and said: "Let there be light, and there was light"

You will often see the abbreviation "A.L." on Masonic certificates, plaques and building cornerstones.

This calendar system is not exclusive to Freemasonry. It was designed as a simplification of the Anno Mundi calendar by an Irish cleric, James Ussher (1581-1656) nearly a century before the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1717. Ussher established the year 4004 B.C. (approximately 6013 years ago) as the date of the biblical creation of the Earth.

Albert Mackey, Freemason historian, in his Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry published in 1920 describes Anno Lucis as follows:

Anno Lucis: "The date used in ancient Craft Masonry; found by adding 4000 to the Vulgar Era; thus, 1911 + 4000 = 5911.

Anno Mundi: In the Year of the World. The date used in the Ancient and Accepted Rite; found by adding 3760 to the Vulgar Era until September. After September, add one year more; this is because the year used is the Hebrew one, which begins in September. Thus, July, 1911 + 3760 = 5771, and October, 1911 + 3760 + 1 = 5772."

End of Albert Mackey

The "Vulgar" era which Dr. Mackey describes is what we now call our current year. Vulgar is defined as lacking quality, taste or refinement.

From 1755 until 1819, original Grand Lodge Certificates were written in English, only. In 1819, the United Grand Lodge of England (U.G.L.E.) began producing certificates in both Latin and English. From 1766, the Ancient's Grand Lodge issued certificates in English and Latin. January, 1965: The United Grand Lodge of England (U.G.L.E.) omitted Latin from Grand Lodge certificates.

Anno Lucis - In Summary

As you can see from the foregoing, exact calendar dates are very difficult to discern by scholars because of a lack of written records. Much like the books of the Bible, the many changes calendars have undergone have usually been at the behest of Emperors, Popes and Kings.

1. Hebrew Calendar: Based upon the Torah and other rabbinical works, the Hebrew Calendar establishes the date of the earth's creation by adding 3761 years (after Rosh Hashanah in the Fall) to the current year.
2. circa mid 1500s, James Ussher established the date of the earth's creation as 4004 B.C., thus adding 4004 years to the current year.
3. The Freemason calendar system adds 4000 years to the current year.

What happened to the other 39 years between the Hebrew calendar and the Freemasons calendar system? The exact answer is lost to us, today, however consider this: In suppressing (omitting) 10 days each year from 1 A.D. thru the mid 1500s, when the Julian calendar was updated to the Gregorian calendar, this could very nearly account for the 39 year difference between the Freemason calendar system and the Hebrew calendar. (4000 - 3761) The study of calendars can be very confusing and very frustrating. Some people with anti-Masonic sentiment (and no knowledge of Latin) fear that Anno Lucis means "in the Year of Lucifer", (a reference to Satan), however nothing could be farther from the truth.

Freemasonry is a very old fraternity. It has many archaic words, like Anno Lucis, within its rituals. The term, Anno Lucis, is used by Freemasons to denote the Year of Light, which is the year in which God created the world, approximately 4,000 years before the beginning of the Common Era. Therefore, (2017 + 4000) would be the year 6017 A.L. (Anno Lucis)

For more in-depth research on this please visit the source of this work.
<http://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/anno-lucis.html>

Jeremy Hill
Junior Warden



Upcoming Anoka Lodge Events:

- Wednesday, March 1st – Coffee Clutch 9am
- Wednesday, March 1st – Anoka Stated Meeting
- Wednesday, March 8th – 3rd School Instruction
- Sunday, March 19th – Pancake Breakfast
- Wednesday, March 15th – Coffee Clutch 9am
- Wednesday, March 15th – MM Degree



Anoka Coffee Clutch:

Please join us on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month for coffee, donuts and fellowship at the lodge. We will be meeting at 9am and stay till the last one leaves.

It is our hope to meet up and perhaps take care of some of those lodge duties that need to get done, including vacuming and dusting upstairs.

Since we no longer have offical cleaners, it's up to us, it's members to pitch in and keep our home clean. Please come join us for some morning fun.

Please contact WB Dave Emery at 763-755-2431



For more info see lodge calendar or Facebook

Bones Brothers Upcoming Events:



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



Stewards Corner!

March 1st – For our Stated Meeting we will be having Stuffed Pork Chops and Herbed Green beans.

March 15th – For the FC Degree our own Anoka DeMolay will be making dinner as a Fund Raiser for going to Texas, so even if you can't stay for the Degree, please come and show your support!



**Tim Galvin
Senior Steward**



Job's Daughters of Bethel #48:

Being as active as even, the Daughters of Bethel #48 are all about town, here are just some of our activities!



Selling Baked Goods and Bow Ties at the Various York Rite Degree days!



Making dinner for the Anoka Lodge Members!



Attending the performance of "The Sneetches" Musical at the Children's Theater!



Anoka Chapter DeMolay:

Thanks to all those who came out for our Installation last month. With Tryston Mosbo going in as the Master Councilor for this term!



The Officers of the Anoka DeMolay!



The Installing Officers!



Tryston taking his Obligation!

Order of the Eastern Star, Martha Chapter #32



Greetings from Martha Chapter:

Here we are, already thinking about the March article. Weather watchers find it hard to believe it is only March because of the unusually mild winter we are having. Now I am hearing about winter moving back, spoiling our anticipation of an early spring!

Our meeting on Thursday, March 2nd, is Election and Reports night. Wayne will be stepping down from his three-year term as trustee so we will be looking for a gentleman to step forward and submit their name for a three year term. Thank you, Wayne, for your faithful service to Martha Chapter.

Kitchen Cleaning Day is Saturday, March 11. We will begin at 9:00am. If you are able to help for one hour or for four hours, we will appreciate your hard work.

OES All Member Dinner is Sunday, March 12 at Anoka Lodge. We will gather at 4:30 and dinner at 5:00. I really need to know how many will be attending so please give me a phone call by 3/9. Phone: 763-427-3357 OR gilbertsonjanet@gmail.com

Our last meeting of the term on Thursday, March 16, will be a Memorial Service for our members who have passed away during our term of office.

As this Star year began back in March of 2016, it becomes overwhelming to think about all that is about to happen and then wondering if I'm up to steering the ship and hoping to stay on top of the water.

One year seems to be a long time, then all of a sudden, March rolls around again and I think "wow" that sure went very fast. Martha Chapter is so pleased to initiate and welcome 10 new members this year; Kimberly Talbert, Sammie and Paul Kurr, Angie and Mike Miller, Tammy and Jeremy Hill, Brian Dimatteo, Frannie Dimatteo, and Tim Galvin; and also welcomed two affiliated members, Sue Brown and Jennifer Braunschweig.

The officers and members of Anoka Lodge #30 will be putting on a dinner in our honor on Thursday, March 30th, and if you wish to attend please let us know so we can give them good numbers for the event. The Dress is semi-formal and we will be served at our seats. It appears to be a lovely evening planned and we hope you can be a part of it.

Thank you to the Officers and Members for making it a good year. Congratulations to the newly elected and appointed officers for the next term. I am so very blessed and thankful!

Janet Gilbertson
Worthy Matron

Curt Speller
Worthy Patron



Our Worthy Patron and Matron of 2016-2017!



Widows Sons, Cryptic Master:

Hello from Chop, President of the Cryptic Master Chapter of the Widows Sons.

We are an appended body, an organization of men that love motorcycles, it shall be our obligation as Widows Sons Motorcycle Association to contribute to the relief of Widows of Master Masons within the boundaries of our jurisdiction. We meet at Anoka Lodge #30 second Thursday of every month. Social hour is at 6:00 p.m. A closed meeting to follow at 7:00 p.m.

February meeting, we initiated Big Dog and Will to the group-welcome brothers! Thanks, to all who came out. And we voted on two more petitions.

Summer is fast approaching, can't wait to start our ride schedule! May starts our ride meetings. Rides start at 6:30 p.m., 2nd Thursday of the month. May 20th is our short ride, kickstands up at 10:00 a.m. sharp. So, mark your calendars! Just a reminder-if you have a motorcycle please come join us, all are welcome on the rides.

**Widows Sons Cryptic Master
President Chop
763-746-6720**



Light from the L.E.O.

This month's question is, why we use the term Blue Lodge. The first 3 degrees in Masonry we are clothed in blue. There is a reference in the EA degree ritual to the star-covered canopy of heaven, so it may be a reference to the blue in the sky. Many lodges paint their ceiling's blue for this reason. Blue is also the color of truth or fidelity. It also may be a simple term to separate from higher degrees in York and Scottish Rites. Some of you may have heard me say red tie or purple tie night. (OMG I need a Blue tie!). It's common to tell brethren to stay true to their Blue Lodge.

This is the proper color of the Antcent degrees of Freemasonry, and is generally explained as being emblematic of friendship and charity, teaching us that "In the mind of a Mason these virtues shall be co-extensive with the blue vault of heaven." Blue, in the ancient world, was a sacred color, and difficult to find or make. Also, very expensive. I also read that during the reign of William III of England blue was implemented as the favorite color of the Craft.

In addition, blue was adopted and worn by our ancient brethren as traits of an institution which has stood the test of ages. Hopefully I've shed some light regarding why we use the term Blue Lodge.

In conclusion, Freemasonry didn't happen overnight many years of ideas and ancient rituals, such as using the color blue, were comprised into what we practice today.

**Thomas Senenfelder II
L.E.O.**

Scottish Rite:



Brothers, Greeting from the Scottish Rite.

Brothers, Thank you to all who were able come down and support our adopted degree.

We will be beginning the month of March with the 21st & 22nd Degrees at the Scottish Rite. The 21st Degree being the Prussian Knight and teaches us not to judge things too quickly in life.

March 2nd - the 21st and 22nd Degrees
March 9th - the 23rd and 24th Degrees
March 23rd - the 25th and 36th Degrees

March 16th at 6pm will be the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal followed by the Mystic Banquet. On this night we pay homage to those Scottish Rite Brethren who have passed to the celestial lodge above. This event is open to Masons and non-masons alike, so please join us. The cost is \$30 each, for Reservations please contact the Scottish Rite office.

On March 30th we are inviting all Master Masons who are not Scottish Rite members to come down and see a little of the 27th Degree, or Knight Commander of the Temple. More information will follow!

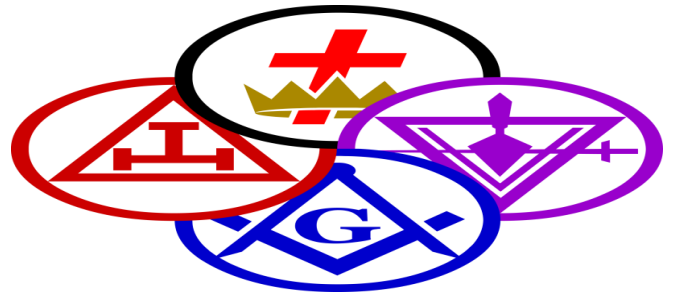
The spring reunion 3 day is coming soon:
April 27th, May 11th and 13th

As always, if you have any questions or wish to fill out a petition for the spring reunion in May please don't hesitate to contact me.

Darren Swenson
Double Eagle, Anoka Lodge #30
Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite.



The 20th Degree, Anoka Lodge's Adopted Degree! A Great Turn Out!



Anoka York Rite Bodies:

The York Rite bodies have been holding their One Day Events over the last month and will culminate with the One Day to Commandary this next weekend.

Both of the York Rite bodies that function out of Anoka have gained new members, both Royal Arch and Cryptic, so please make sure to make them feel welcome when you see them!

Anoka Shekinah #104 will be putting on it's own set of Degree during the year and so if you missed this current cycle you can still fill out a petition and begin your journey in the York Rite.

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The Brethren of Anoka Lodge take over Templar Lodge #176 and steal their flag!