



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!

I hope that everyone is enjoying our recent snowfall and with that 6" of new accumulation, it puts us above average for the snowfall this year. It has been a long, cold winter but soon enough, we will be outside again enjoying the warmth of the sunshine, opening our windows of our homes to let the breeze flow through, and Easter is just around the corner.

Last weekend I took my daughter Kelly to Eko Bakken to do a little tubing and to let loose and relax. It has been 20+ years since I have been out there to slide down a steep hill and get dragged up the hill by a towrope. I have to say, it was a lot of fun for both of us and you should make it point to take the kids over there since it's still a really good value and brought many memories back to me.

I'm having a wonderful year as Master of Anoka lodge and continue with all of the interworking's of the lodge that I am required to do. I can feel the activities and events increasing as I become busier with my calendar.

I had the privilege of visiting our Chaplain (Father Thomas Bigelow) this afternoon with my wife Tania. He was rushed to Mercy Hospital on Sunday the 18th by WB Paul Agustin with stroke symptoms.

After many tests and observation, he was diagnosed with several small strokes affecting his speech, writing, and texting. He is in strong spirit knowing this could have ended differently and joked to us about getting a job with Google as the map navigation voice of porky pig.

In the upcoming week, I will be getting his therapy schedule and I need your help getting him to and from these sessions, after all he has always been here for us and he needs us now since he cannot drive until his therapy is done and signed off by his doctor to do so.

I wrote last year while sitting as the Senior Warden about change. We are always changing whether or not we see it or not. My work life is about to change too. I have accepted a job at Mercy Hospital with Allina health after being at Unity Hospital after 12 years. I am aware that I'm a busy guy as the Master of this lodge but see a great opportunity by making this change now. I will leave all of my friends and co-workers at Unity in mid-April in pursuit of making new career with better job security for myself and family. Change is difficult but better late than never.

On February 18th we held our 1st ever Spaghetti Dinner. This was truly an honor to witness so many brothers working together as a team for the betterment of our lodge. At 4 p.m. we had a line of guests all the way up the stairs to the entryway!

As I walked the food inspector out after our food permit was issued, I went back downstairs as I noticed JW Brian Dimatteo and Secretary Scott Franz collecting the patron's donations. As I scanned across the dining room I saw WB Jerry Oliver, WB John Antl, WB Todd Mayer, Myron Shelton, Wendy Dimatteo, and a giggle Jobie's from Bethel #48 working the tables and getting the guests seated and their bread and salads.

It looked very well organized and under control by the staff. I turned myself around and headed towards the back of the kitchen to see if the guys needed anything to speed our guests through the line.

WB Dave Emery was in place at the dirty end of the dishwasher and had a look on his face that he knew this was the calm before the storm. Carl Nobles was buttering the bread and putting it into the oven for toasting. Brent Merritt was tossing another batch of noodles into the boiling water as Jason Mevissen was stirring the batch of sauce from Roma's secret recipe that Brent had made for this special occasion.

There was a line of brothers dishing up plates of this delicious entrée and kept them looking forward unless they needed to be restocked. I cannot remember much after that nor do I have the space to rave on any further but occasions like this are a true example of why I joined Masonry and I am very proud of how we performed and the unbelievable amount of brotherly love and kindness I witnessed throughout the entire evening.

If you missed this event or forgot about it, better luck next year as you did indeed miss a good one! Thanks again Anoka #30 family.

Hope to see you at the March stated!



Tony Heimer
Worshipful Master

“Tidings from the West!”

What a GREAT February for the Lodge. We started out with our stated meeting where we voted to approve the purchase of new furnaces for the upper level. The intent was to make sure we were covered in case the second furnace died on us also, with the hopes that our Spaghetti Dinner would be a success.

The third Wednesday was our 2nd degree where we passed two (2) Brothers to the degree of Fellowcraft. As a Fellowcraft, we are ALL reminded of our actions – actions within and without the Lodge. We are reminded to walk uprightly before our God, as well as our fellow man. We are taught how to use the Square of virtue. And finally, the level reminds us about our travels in life, that WE ARE traveling upon that Level of time, from whose borne, no traveler will ever return. It was a great night, and I might say, “Their proficiency work was excellent” – EXCELLENT, just like the meal put on by our stewards.

That brings me to the heart of this month’s article – COMMITMENT and WORKING TOGETHER. You see we are in need of new furnaces at OUR Lodge. Yes, I had an idea to raise some money. But understand, that this will only work if the Masonic Family believes in it and is willing to step up to work TOGETHER for a cause. Where do I start to say thank you? They must go to all who helped, or bought tickets, the Silent Auction items or sent in their financial support. Of course, Brother Brent Merritt’s sauce was the hit of all.....

Brent, I can’t say enough for your dedication and help in this wonderful event. People are already waiting for the next one. If all goes right, we should come close to clearing \$3000.00. We did this within a five (5) week window – YES, FIVE WEEKS! Imagine what we can do with 2-3 month window. I can only hope.

Anoka Lodge once again proved why we are respected in the community as well as within the Masonic Fraternity. Other Lodges and Eastern Star Chapters came out to see this successful day. They were amazed at how we all came together for a cause.

Thanks also to Zabud Council for their kind donation. It is well appreciated. WB John Antl has been busy getting us the “best” price for our furnaces as well as the possibility of adding A/C. If we get lucky, I anticipate that I will make a presentation on the addition of air conditioning for the upstairs at our March meeting.

Oh, by the way, it's still not too late to send your donation into the Lodge for your support of this project. If you can see a way to participate, it will be greatly appreciated.

Also, at our March stated meeting, we will be discussing the upcoming 23rd Annual Shrimp Dinner. Hope you can come out and help, or support us. Call me at (763) 639-8813 or email me at joliver97@comcast.net if you want to help.

Remember, Masonry is not a club, it's a way of life. We take a vow to be better, we take a vow to be kinder, and we take a vow to meet our fellow man on the Level. Remember those vows that we have taken. As I mentioned in last month's article, I will do my best to serve you and our Lodge with the utmost of respect and integrity.

Just a reminder, a couple days a week, WB Dave Emery, WB John Antl, WB Al Nemchik, Brother Reggie Greene and myself are usually at the Lodge doing some miscellaneous jobs.

Also, we get a tremendous amount of help from Martha Chapter #132 OES. You will see WGM Peg Oliver, WM Sharon Barlow, PM Janet Gilbertson and PM Denise Emery just to mention a few. If you want to come down and help or just have a cup of coffee, give us a call or just stop by.

That is Masonry in action. That is what makes Anoka great. That is why I am proud to serve you, the members of this Masonic Lodge, to the best that I can do.....

Jerry Oliver
Senior Warden



Greetings from the South!

As I have finished digging out after the latest snowstorm, I am reminded that I would really not mind being in the South, actually. Maybe somewhere around Florida, but certainly somewhere with sun, a nice breeze and sand.

“Build it and they will come”

A fitting thought when you look at Masonry in general, but our Lodge in specific. We are faced with a quandary, and that quandary is planning. We all do a great job of rallying around an idea and bringing it to life.

The recent spaghetti dinner is a great example of that. Five weeks to plan, advertise, sell tickets and execute that event. And it was a tremendous success, but I am sure that our Senior Warden will speak more about that to us in our meetings, but I speak of something longer term.

I am just getting ready to work with the Sir Knights of our Commandery, as well as the Grand Officers, to determine a strategic plan for Templar in Minnesota and in our local Commandery. I am struck with some of the conversations I have had with many of you over the past months, and I remember well the thoughts expressed.

We need to be relevant. We need to do something in the community. We need to bring our message to a wider audience. We need to keep our members once they are in our Lodge. All of these things are great, but they are frankly a bit overwhelming.

Think about it – take all of those items together and try and do all of them with a Lodge of 270 men, or more. Then, try and come up with a way to do all of them in a single year. When a Warden starts planning for their eventual time in the East, that is what goes through their mind – what are they going to do with their year in the East? What type of a mark will they leave on Anoka 30, or on the Craft in general?

We all start out with great plans, but without a strategic view of what we will be doing for more than that one year, we get lost.

One of the great frameworks I have worked with in the past is called EOS – the Entrepreneurial Operating System. It is a framework that focuses on not only coming up with a strategic plan, but making sure that each event, every meeting, every single thing we do as a group supports and furthers that Strategic Plan.

It starts with a definition and agreement on the values we, as a group support. Our ritual, inculcating these through beautiful ceremonies and lectures, is only a starting point. We need to take these values, make them personal, have everyone “own” them, and support them. And this needs to be at a base level so deep, that we don’t hesitate when someone says, “What are your values”.

After defining these values, there is a change in direction to define our vision- what do we want to be in three to five years. More than 5 years is too long a horizon, and the vision is too broad. Less than three years, and you are dealing with tactical values.

By looking at the vision, and how it supports our values as a Lodge, we can start to really come up with a plan. But again, being strategic, it is at a high level and harder to be concrete with. Which leads to the next item, which is Rocks.

Perhaps you have heard the analogy of rocks, and how we spend our time. There is a thought that the available time we have is a hollow column.

You start by putting in big rocks to take up the space. These are the most important, largest items that we have to work on. You then move to smaller and smaller rocks, or events and actions, in successive rounds. Finally, we move to pouring sand in – these are the little things like “Have meetings”.

As you define these rocks, they get assigned to someone to lead – and that person can be a Lodge Officer or a member – it just matters that it is someone who has a passion for the rock.

This rock, and progress towards attaining that rock are worked on a regular basis – weekly meetings, or maybe bi-weekly meetings and planning sessions. These rocks are reported on to the Brethren of the Lodge, not just the officers – this is about all of us, not just the Officers.

I can’t help but believe that by having one of these plans, we will have a common vision, values and a plan. We all are rowing in the same direction with everything that we do. More importantly, we have a common cause that we can all toil at as we work towards making our Lodge, our community, our families and ourselves into better humans.

And in the end, we can get more done with a plan than we can without a plan. This is something that I have been thinking of – I think it’s important, and it is critical for us to have in place. It’s not something we do all at once, though.

We have our plans for the year, but we are looking, always, for things that we can do next year and the next. But we also need you to sign up to help lead and work on these events. Spend a bit of time and think of these items. What is important to you, and more importantly, what do you think is important to the Lodge and our Craft? And when you have those ideas, bring them to us as Officers – we are here to support and be servants to all of you, and the Lodge.

We love to hear ideas, but even better, come to us with an idea and maybe a high-level plan. And come with your arms wide open to accept leading an event. Trust me, you will feel better than just sitting at another business meeting.

In service to the Craft

Brian Dimatteo
Junior Warden





22 Anoka Lodge Members attend the Highland Table Lodge!



Selling tickets for the 1st Spaghetti Dinner!



We had a great turn out!



These Brothers were serving it up!



The Worshipful Master Was Pleased!?!

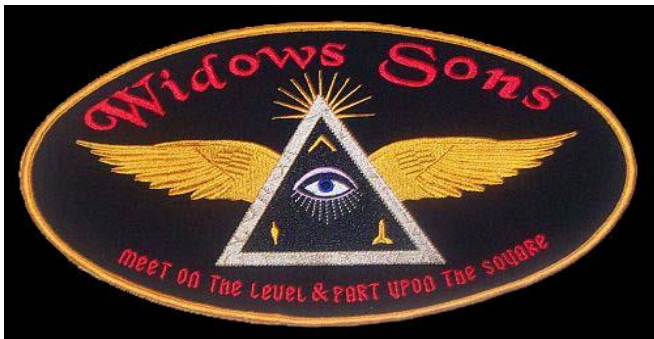


Anoka Coffee Clutch:

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 for some good fellowship and conversation. All are welcome to come and join us!

Please contact WB Dave Emery at 763-755-2431



Widows Sons, Cryptic Master:

We are an appended body, an organization of men that love motorcycles. We meet at Anoka Lodge.

Our mission is to provide help and assistance to Masonic Widows, Orphans or just Brothers in need, all while having a love of Motorcycles!

March 8th – We have our Stated Meeting and will be having a meal prior to the meeting! We will be confirming some of the upcoming riding schedule as the season gets closer.

Also we will plan out our other events such as assisting with the Honored Ladies Luncheon in April 28th here at the lunch.

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



Father Thomas and WB Gary Mohn will be heading up the Sunshine Committee.

If you or someone you know in our Masonic Family in need of support, please contact them at (612) 702-4770 (Father Tom) & (612) 598-8682. (WB Gary Mohn)

Upcoming Anoka Lodge Events:

- Wednesday, March 7th – Coffee Clutch 9am
- Wednesday, March 7th – Anoka Stated Meeting
- Tuesday, March 17th – 3rd School of Instruction
- Sunday, March 18th – Masters Pancake Breakfast
- Wednesday, March 21st – Coffee Clutch 9am
- Wednesday, March 21st – MM Degree
- Monday, March 26th – Travel Men to Arcana
- Friday, March 30th – Annual Shrimp Dinner



Stewards Corner!

March 7th – For our Stated Meeting we will be serving Meat Loaf, Mashed Potato's & Peas & Pie

March 21st – For our MM Degree we will be having the Brethren of Sherburne Lodge #95 serve Tatar Tot Hotdish & Green Beans, and Cup Cakes!



**Jon McNeil
Senior Steward**

Order of the Eastern Star, Martha Chapter #32



Greetings from Martha Chapter:

This is my last article for the S&C as Worthy Matron of Martha Chapter. Wow, the year went by so fast!

Our soup luncheon was held on February 9th. The day was cold, the soup was delicious but the turnout was a little low. A huge thank you to all those who came and enjoyed our soup luncheon, we all had a good time.

At our last February meeting some of us dressed in vintage formals and tuxedos. It was fun to see and interesting to hear their history. One of our guests, Donna Blundt, from Exchsior Chapter knit her dress back in the 60's, amazing. Unfortunately we forgot to take pictures. We also heard a story from Del Larson, Kedron Chapter, about the tux he was wearing that he bought many years ago from Goodwill.....and it still fit!

We also had visitors from New Hampshire, Karen Wedlock, Grand Marshal and Dennis Tuttle, Jr., Grand Representative of Florida residing in New Hampshire. It was great to meet them. What a fun night we had!



Receiving our honored guests from around the USA

On Saturday, March 10, Martha Chapter will be holding our annual kitchen and dining room clean-up from 8am to noon. Anyone interested in joining us, just come! We'd love to have you.

Martha Chapter's all member dinner will be on Saturday, March 11, with a 4:30 Social, and 5pm Dinner. The Menu is a baked potato bar with all the trimmings. There is no cost but Donations are appreciated.

For Reservations, RSVP to Sharon Barlow at Phone: [763-772-2286](tel:763-772-2286)

Email: sharonlbarlow@comcast.net

Thank you to all of my officers and the substitutes who always said yes when called on. I think we had a great year and lots of fun. We lost some wonderful friends, Hope Buck, Shirley Kauppi, Maxine Larson and Margaret Whittle. They will forever be in our hearts.

A very special thank you to Jerry Oliver for stepping in as Worthy Patron so many times this year when my grandson Brody Martin was not available.

See you along the Masonic trail

Sharon Barlow
Worthy Matron

Brody Martin
Worthy Patron





Martha Chapter Officer Installation!

*Please come join us as Sue & Dan Healthfield
And all the Officers as they become
Worthy Matron & Patron of Martha Chapter*

On Saturday, March 24th, 2018, at 1pm

*This is an open event and we hope each of you will
be there to show your love and support
for our Masonic Family on this important day
for its members!*

23rd Annual Shrimp Dinner



**All you can eat shrimp (peel & eat)
with sides of cole slaw, potato salad and bread**

Anoka Lodge #30 - Friday, March 30th, 4:30 - 7pm

\$15 Per Person or \$50 per group of 4
Tickets may be Purchased in advance (preferred)

Remembrance

Renewal



The Minneapolis Valley Chapter of Rose Croix cordially invite you to join us on

Thursday March 22nd for Our 2018 Remembrance and Renewal

The evening will include the Remembrance Ceremony for all of Our Brothers whose time on this Earth ended in 2017. Families of our departed Brethren join us for the Remembrance Ceremony, then followed by the Mystic Banquet where we toast to our friends here and gone, feast and celebrate the union and Renewal of our Scottish Rite Family.

Fellowship and Gathering begins at 5:00 pm
Remembrance Ceremony 6:00 pm
Mystic Banquet 7:00 pm

Reservations Required. Please contact the Scottish Rite Office to reserve your spot. Please specify Rib-Eye or Walleye or other dietary restriction when making reservation. \$30 Ticket. Open Event.

- Please let the Office know if you need a ride or are able to help another with a ride.
- New Chapter Rose Croix Brothers will be issued their Knight of Rose Croix Patents
- Cash Bar with wine, beer and other adult beverage will be in the Game Lounge. 21+w/ID
- Dinner includes coffee, tea, milk and toasting juice.

Minneapolis Scottish Rite Center
2011 Dupont Avenue South
Minneapolis Minnesota 55406
612.871.1500 email: jackie@asrmmn.com
www.scottish-rite-mn.org

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another" John 13:34

Beyond the Blue Lodge

Join us for a representation of the
"Knight Commander of the Temple"



**Open to All Master Masons
April 5th, 2018**

RSVP Required for All Non-Rite Members for Dinner
Registration Opens at 4:00pm
Special Dinner Price for Non-Rite Masons - \$6

Dinner 4:30-5:45 pm	Red Room 5:45-6:15 pm
Performance 6:30 pm	Social until 10:00 pm

RSVP to 612-871-1500 or email the Scottish Rite:
Office@Scottish-rite-mpls.org

Hors d'oeuvres and Cash Bar until 10pm
Minneapolis Valley, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite
2011 Dupont Avenue South,



Scottish Rite:



Brothers, Greeting from the Scottish Rite.

The month of March starts out with one of my favorite Degrees, the 21st or Prussian Knight, which speaks about perception and not always judging too quickly.

The next week leads into the 23rd & 24th Degrees, with the 23rd being Directed by our own WB John Antl and having several other Anoka lodge members in it.

The week after we have the 25th & 26th Degrees, which leads us into the Ceremony of Remembrance & Renewal and the Mystic Banquet.

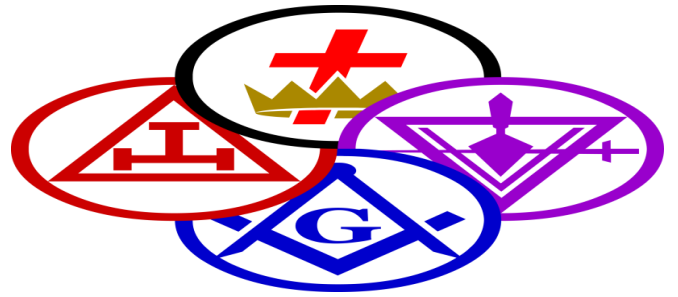
On this night we remember those Scottish Rite Brothers who have gone to the Celestial lodge above. Just one of which will be our own Stan Kowalski.

Like our own Lodge of Sorrow, the Ceremony and following banquet provide us a chance to pay homage to those Brothers who have recently passed.

For tickets contact the Scottish Rite offices!



So many Brothers come down for Anoka Lodges Adopted degree at the Rite!



Anoka York Rite Bodies:

The first two weekends of the One Day York Rite's has been held and we have had some Anoka Brothers become new members.

There is still one weekend left in march where brothers will become Knights Templar, the last one will be held at Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite, on this date.

March 3rd, 9am – Commandery (Knights Templar)



Our Newest Royal Arch Mason!



Our Newest Cryptic Council Mason!

Check out the Website: MNYORKRITE.ORG or call 952-948-6750



Job's Daughters of Bethel #48:

Hello All,

The Jobies of Bethel 48 have been busy as always, with selling treats at each of the York Rite One Day Programs as well as attending dances and Grand Bethel Activities.

We also helped out doing whatever was needed at the Anoka Masonic Family Spaghetti Dinner, which was a lot of fun and great food also!

Remember, we would love to have you come and visit us at our meetings and fun nights. We meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays, with a 6pm Social Time and Meeting at 7pm.

With Jobie Love,
The Jobies of Bethel 48



Taking in Mass at Epiphany!



The New Snowball Dance Queen!



Selling Treats at the York Rite Degrees!



Grand Bethel Exemplification

**Anoka Lodge #30 A.F. & A.M.
1908 Third Avenue South
Anoka, MN, 55303**



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Our Newest Fellow Crafts at Anoka Lodge #30!