



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

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### Greetings from the East!

With the chance of snow diminishing as the days get longer, is a sure tale sign that spring is right around the corner. In Minnesota we have 2 seasons, winter which seems to last 7 months and summer or road construction season. I would gladly trade the orange cones and have my car window down than getting a foot of snow like they incorrectly predicted last week. Spring is in the air, the birds start chirping, and our hibernation for another year has concluded. Think rebirth.

This month's theme will be Easter and few interesting facts about this worldwide holiday. Easter and the holidays that are related to it are moveable feasts which do not fall on a fixed date in the Gregorian or Julian calendars which follow only the cycle of the sun; rather, its date is determined on a lunisolar calendar similar to the Hebrew calendar.

The First Council of Nicaea established two rules, independence of the Jewish calendar and worldwide uniformity, which were the only rules for Easter explicitly laid down by the council. No details for the computation were specified; these were worked out in practice, a process that took centuries and generated a number of controversies.

It has come to be the first Sunday after the ecclesiastical full moon that occurs on or soonest after 21 March. Easter is linked to Passover and the Exodus from Egypt recorded in the Old Testament through the Last Supper, his sufferings, and crucifixion of Jesus that preceded the resurrection.

In the upper room during the Last Supper he prepared himself and his disciples for his death. Paul states, "Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed" Source Wiki. Happy Easter to all!

It was my honor to preside over the first section of the Master Mason degree last Wednesday and to see Anoka's newest Master Masons raised to the sublime degree as many of our Brethren have done before us.

The Past Master's degree is the finest in the land, WB Terrance did a nice job during the second section in the East and everyone did a wonderful job making this a special night for our newest members of the fraternity.

We always have many events going on at Anoka Lodge and we have many ways of finding them: Facebook, Google Calendar Found on our Web Site), the S&C, the Lodge Bulletin Board and even showing up to a meeting and hearing it all first hand. As we cover those and all the Appending Body Activities as well!

Just to mention a few to that I'll be going to this month of April are:

Our Stated Meeting, April 4th  
 MNGL Annual Communication, April 12-14<sup>th</sup>  
 Lynnhurst Dinner, April 17th  
 EA degree, April 18th  
 Anoka-Shekinah #104 Stated, April 25th

As well as my birthday that night... Shhhh...  
Don't tell anyone... and last but not least...  
Honored Ladies Luncheon, April 28th

I hope many of you will come out and join me for  
some if not all these events! And now that  
everyone has sprung ahead, Enjoy your daylight  
savings!

Looking forward to seeing you soon!



Tony Heimer  
Worshipful Master

“Tidings from the West!”

What a GREAT March for the Lodge. We  
started out with our stated meeting where we  
announced the final tally on our Spaghetti  
Dinner. It looks like the final number was over  
\$3000.00. GREAT JOB AND THANKS TO  
ALL!! We also heard the newest numbers on  
adding A/C to our furnace project and if all  
continues to go right, we will install air  
conditioning as well.

The third Wednesday was our 3<sup>rd</sup> degree where  
we raised two (2) Brothers to the sublime degree  
of a Master Mason from Anoka Lodge and also  
two (2) Brothers from Winston Churchill Lodge.  
As a Master Mason, we are ALL reminded of  
how we travel and how we receive our wages.  
Being a Mason is not being part of a “Club”, but  
it's a way of life. We need to work daily at  
improving ourselves to be better men, better  
fathers, better husbands, better servants to our  
God. We need to strive each and every day to  
give of ourselves what our Fraternity has taught  
us. Being a Mason does not excuse us from being  
unkind, unmoral, or thinking that our actions –  
actions within and without the Lodge are not  
accounted for before God and mankind.

Being a Mason does not excuse us from actions  
which we are ashamed of. Having reached the degree  
of a Master Mason means that our actions must  
be such as to cast no stigma or stain upon our  
Fraternity. Our actions must be what we are  
proud to talk about, not something to cause  
discord. Remember this as we journey in our  
daily lives.

Anoka Lodge once again proved why we are  
respected in the community as well as within the  
Masonic Fraternity. On Good Friday, we held  
our 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Shrimp Dinner, WHAT A  
GREAT SUCCESS!

It just shows you how an event can work when  
we pull together.

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!**

I have my chisel. I have my mallet. I have a piece of stone in my hands, and I look down at it with a bit of fear and trepidation. When I look at that stone, I see something in the stone, it is a shape, but it is not oblong or square, but has a unique use. With that image in my head, I begin my work, the sound of wooden tools muffled at mid-day.

At the beginning of the Mark Master degree from the Royal Arch, we contemplate the keystone. During the degree there is a primary lesson that we are taught, just like in all degrees, but it is not the same type of a lesson. As I reflect on the past, I am faced with a new view of that profound degree, a view that recalls a new lesson, maybe one that is not so obvious.

In the Mark Master, we are taught that no man is entitled to wages, should he not be found worthy. He must first work diligently in the quarries, there to exhibit specimens of his skill. What a parallel to our own Blue Lodge degrees – we are not able to pass on to the next degree until we are able to display a specimen of our skills. That skill, in this case, is the memory work of the preceding degree, something we stress to our candidates. It's not because we want to see how well they can memorize, but more especially whether they put in the work to make their degrees even more meaningful.

In the days of Solomon's temple, the craftsmen would work to provide stone that would pass the overseer's square – in other words, they were purpose built to fit the temple. If you could pass the square, obviously an allusion to the Master's jewel, you were eligible to receive your wages. However, in the Mark Master degree there is an issue. The young Fellowcraft...

Having just finished sitting in the East for my first time in Lodge, I am reminded of that allegory. The young Fellowcraft, not having a specimen of his skill, found an abandoned stone among the cast-off stones of the temple. Thinking this was easy, and knowing that he, himself was skilled, he picked up the stone and turned it in to the Overseers for their inspection.

And there it went sideways... but as with so many of our degrees, there is a secret – and if you go through the degree of Mark Master you will find that little bit extra.

But the main lesson of this degree is not how to chisel stone. It's certainly not how to work in a quarry. And it is most definitely not a lesson in how to cash a check, although this does play into the degree. My Brothers, the main lesson of this degree is integrity. The allusion is that the Young Fellowcraft submitted another's work instead of his own, hoping to profit from it, and not have to work quite so hard. There is a favorite quote of mine – “Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is looking”. And THIS is the lesson of the Mark Master.

We are all faced, sometimes daily, with the opportunity to do what is right, even when no one is looking, even when no one else will know. What do you do with that opportunity when it comes up? If you are the man that I know you to be personally, because of our time together working in the quarries, and you're being a Mason, I know what you would do – you do the right thing not because it is simple, but because it is right and good. But there is another chance when you look at the other side of that Mark coin. What do you do when everyone's looking, and that, I feel is a more important question.

It can be easy to decide, do the right thing or the wrong thing, when no one knows that decision is being made. It is simple to return a wallet, or to pocket the cash inside, when Scott doesn't know it was dropped, or that you picked it up. It's easy to walk by the kitchen, see a pile of dishes, and just put them through the dishwasher when the Scouts forget to do it. It's simple to pick up a flat of water and toss it in the refrigerator on a Saturday afternoon when you know that there is none there, and the OES are going to be using the building. But look at the converse.

How easy is it to stand up for a cause that you believe to be right when everyone is looking? How easy was it for Rosa Parks to take the seat on the bus, in the face of hatred and prejudice, potential physical abuse or even death?

Is it simple to stand up to the president of your company against his or the company's systematic abuses of the rights of their employee, especially when you may be fired or face those same injustices? Are you as willing to face imprisonment for standing up for your rights in the face of government oppression, even if you should lose your freedom or life?

Brethren, if Integrity is made and defined by doing what's right when no one is looking, then I suggest that Integrity is tested and hardened when you do what's right when EVERYONE is looking. We have all stood up for someone that was being abused, was being wrongly prosecuted.

We have all had times where we could have walked away. Do you choose to do what's right because it is right, or do you choose to do so

because you fear others knowing that you did not do the right thing?

I would hope that, given the choice, you would do it because it is right, and we do the right thing, whether we are seen doing it or not. Measuring ourselves by the square of virtue. And in the end, that is what forges our character.

**Brian Dimatteo**  
Junior Warden



**Receiving the Traveling Gavel from New Port News Virginia, with the Grand Master of Minnesota!**



**Anoka Coffee Clutch:**

Please join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

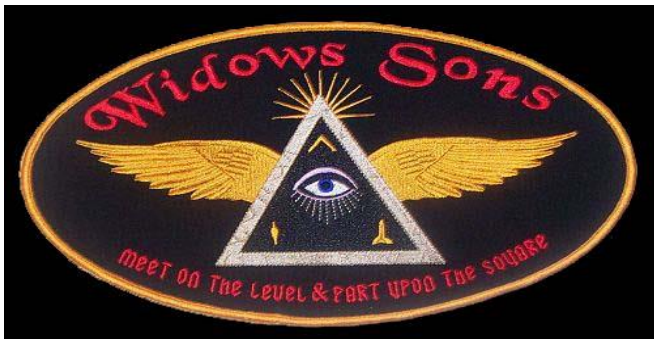


Father Thomas and WB Gary Mohn will be heading up the Sunshine Committee.

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, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Coffee Clutch 9am
- Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Anoka Stated Meeting
- Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> – Grand Lodge
- Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – Coffee Clutch 9am
- Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – EA Degree
- Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Honored Ladies Luncheon



**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!

April 12<sup>th</sup> – We have our Stated Meeting and will be having a meal prior to the meeting!

April 28<sup>th</sup> – We will be assisting with the Widows Luncheon here at Anoka Lodge by making the meal for all those lovely ladies who attend. Please come out and join us in providing a small part of why we were formed!

Widows Sons Cryptic Master  
President Chop  
763-746-6720



**Stewards Corner!**

April 4<sup>th</sup> – For our Stated Meeting we will be serving Stuffed Chicken Breast, Baked Potato, California Blend Vegetables & White Cake

April 18<sup>th</sup> – For our EA Degree we will be having the Fairest in the Land cook and whatever it is I am sure it will be tasty!



**Jon McNeil  
Senior Steward**

**Order of the Eastern Star, Martha Chapter #132**



**Greetings from Martha Chapter:**

Martha Chapter held their installation on Saturday, March 24. The theme this year is “Traditions”, and our motto is “Family is not an important thing ~ it is EVERYthing”. Traditions offer numerous benefits to our families. Some of them are: providing a source of identify, strengthening the family bond, offering comfort & security, and connecting generations.



**The New Officers for Martha Chapter!**

**A Sample of our Activities this next month:**

April 6<sup>th</sup> is a stated meeting – the first of the term.

April 14<sup>th</sup> is our Spring Craft/Vendor show from 10 am – 3 pm at the lodge. Come on over and check out all the great vendors!

On April 19<sup>th</sup> we will be honoring our Jr. Past Worthy Matron Sharon Barlow & Jr. Past Worthy Patron Brody Martin. Please join us for this special night as we thank them for a fantastic year.

Just a reminder, that we will be dark on May 3<sup>rd</sup> for our Stated Meeting as we will be at the Grand Chapter in St. Cloud.

We will however be honoring our Mothers & Sisters on May 17<sup>th</sup> later that month so plan on being there for that.

Blessed are the curious, for they shall have adventures!

**Sue Heathfield  
Worthy Matron**

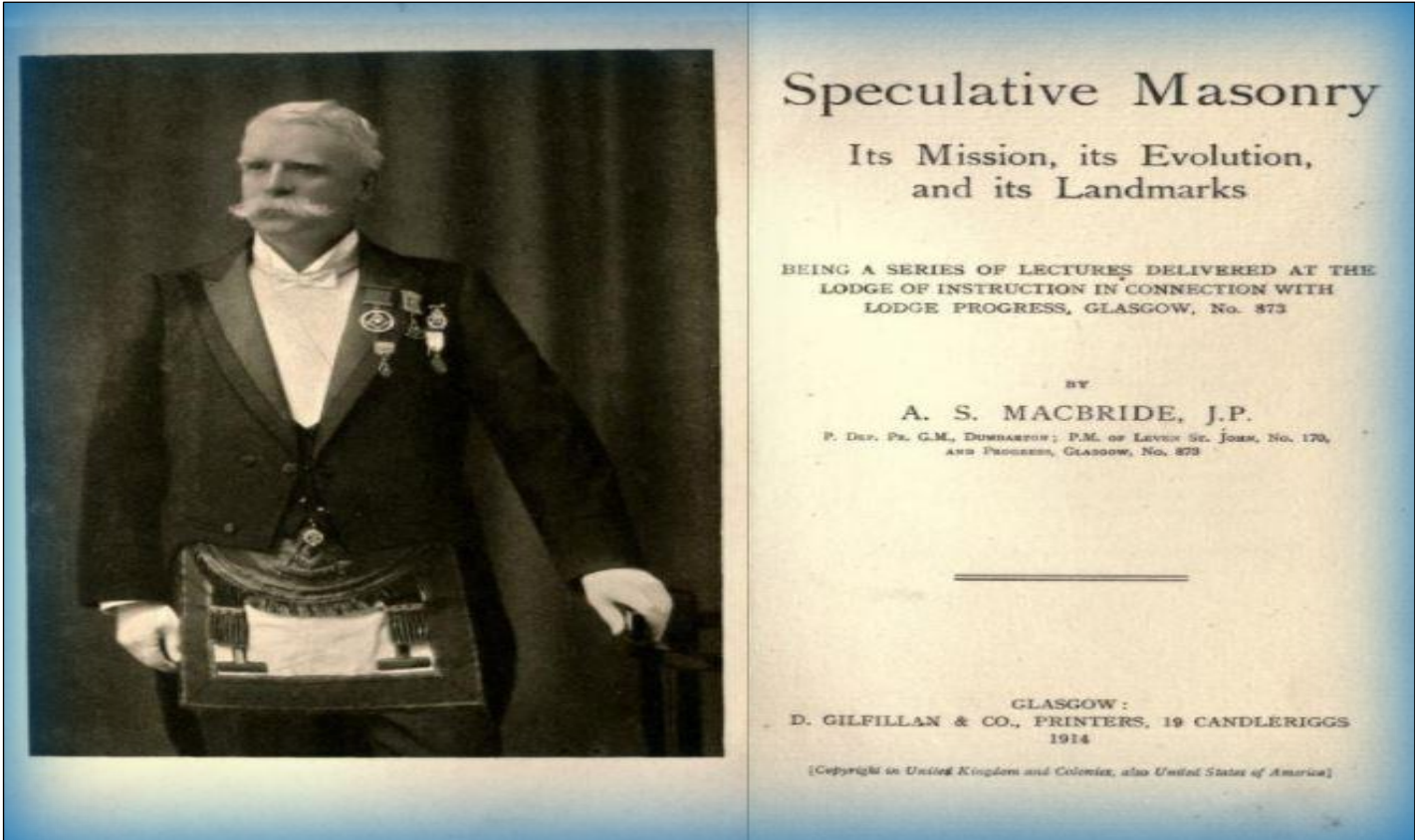
**Dan Heathfield  
Worthy Patron**



**Our Installing Officers!**



**The Jobies do the Living Cross!**



Take Notice that we have access to an electronic version of this book which the Officers of the Lodge felt you may all find interesting. You may check it out at this link.

<https://archive.org/details/speculativemason00macbrial>

# Beyond the Blue Lodge

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

**Open to All Masons**  
**April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

RSVP Required for All Non-Rite Members for Dinner  
 Registration Opens at 4:00pm

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

Dinner for Non-Rite Masons Complements of the Knights of St. Andrew  
 Hors d'oeuvres Complements of the Mpls Valley  
 RSVP to 612-871-1500 or email the Scottish Rite:  
[Jackie@aastrmn.org](mailto:Jackie@aastrmn.org)  
 Cash Bar until 10pm  
 Minneapolis Valley, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite

# BBQ SAMPLER

**All You Can Eat !!**

May 12 [ ADULTS - \$25  
 KIDS 6 TO 12 - \$15  
 5 & UNDER - FREE ]

**BBQ Dinner**  
**5:00 PM to 7:00 PM**  
 ANOKA MASONIC LODGE  
 1908 3RD AVE, ANOKA

For tickets and information:  
 E-mail [Sampler@bonesbrothers.org](mailto:Sampler@bonesbrothers.org) or call 612-587-2663

**DINNER**

- Brisket
- Ribs
- Chicken
- Pulled Pork
- Beans
- Slaw
- Mac 'n Cheese
- Cornbread
- Cobbler

**Scottish Rite:**



**Brothers, Greeting from the Scottish Rite.**

You still have a couple of days before the “Open House” down at the Scottish Rite and we hope that each of you Scottish Rite Brethren and any of you not yet a Member will come down and enjoy a good dinner and a show on Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup>! (See Flyer)

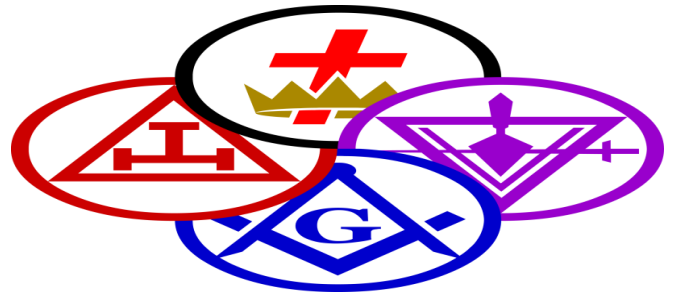
We go dark the next week for the Grand Lodge Communication before coming back with the 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> Degrees. The 28<sup>th</sup> Degree of “Prince Adept” teaches us that our Love for God manifests itself in love for Truth, Justice & Nobility of the Soul.

The 29<sup>th</sup> Degree is of course also known as the Knights of St. Andrew. This is a Degree which is about Faithful Adherence to Promises and Active Resistance to Unfair judgment.

The last week we will be changing things up due to the Spring Reunion and so the 31<sup>st</sup> Degree or Inspector Inquisitor will be put on. This Degree is the most introspective Degree and should not be missed. It is one that if you have not seen in a while, you should attend and ask yourself those hard questions about yourself.



**Remembering our Brothers who passed!**



**Anoka York Rite Bodies:**

The York Rite bodies continue to be busy, and were the first to receive the Traveling Gavel sent from Transportation Lodge #337 of Newport News, Virginia to visit our State!



**Holding the Gavel!**



It was great to be able to start traveling again as a Lodge and getting out to support a Brother by visiting him at his other lodge where he serves as Master this year!



**Visiting Arcana Lodge #187!**



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



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**Return Service Requested**



**Our Newest Master Masons for Anoka Lodge!!**



**The Past Masters Cast for our Master Masons Degree at Anoka Lodge #30!**