



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

Address: 1908 3rd Ave. Anoka, MN, 55303 Phone: (763) 421-3357

Greetings from the East.....

THE NEXT STEP IN A LODGE’S HISTORY

“Always be Humble and Kind” The words are from a Tim McGraw song. It talks a lot about being an upright and respectable person. It reminds me of how we should treat each other and how we would want to be treated ourselves. Masonry is not a social club, it’s a Fraternity where good men work constantly to be better.

Being your Master at Anoka Lodge has been an honor, but our work is not done. Each year, at this time, we prepare ourselves for a new slate of officers to carry us forward for the next twelve (12) months. PLEASE come to Lodge on November 6th and vote for the LEADERS of your Lodge. Yes, you might say “tradition prevailing” for the upcoming officers, but your support for them is very important. Your officers have labored hard and long in the quarries for the benefit of Anoka Lodge. Please come and be a part of your Lodge.

Don’t forget that we have the Hiram Award Dinner for WB Todd Mayer on November 9th. Please come and congratulate WB Todd.

An update from the October stated meeting..... YOUR MASTER WAS KIDNAPPED BY A GROUP OF YOUNG LADIES CLAIMING TO BE “JOB’S DAUGHTERS”. They dressed me up, took me to Target where we went to the Halloween section and tried on “most” of the items there. Then, I was forced to go to Dairy Queen and have ice cream with them.....What a remarkable group of young ladies. They truly are “the fairest in all the land”. If you ever have an opportunity to go visit Bethel #48, do it. You will not be disappointed. Thanks to Audrey, Wendy and Todd, I love all of you.

Speaking of remarkable people, let’s not forget about our Veterans. If you have never seen a “table for the fallen soldier”, I will try to explain it.

The table: set for one, usually small, symbolizing the frailty of one isolated prisoner. The table is usually set close to, or within sight of, the entrance to the dining room. For large events, such as a Table Lodge, the table is set for six places: members of the five armed services (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard) and a sixth place setting reminiscent of the civilians who died during service alongside the armed forces or missing during armed conflict. The table is round to represent everlasting concern on the part of the survivors for their missing loved ones.

The tablecloth is white, symbolic of the purity of their intentions to respond to their country’s call to arms. The single red rose in the vase, signifies the blood that many have shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved United States of America. This rose also reminds us of the family and friends of our missing comrades who keep the faith, while awaiting their return.

The red ribbon represents the love of our country, which inspired them to answer our nation’s call. The slice of lemon on the bread plate represents the bitter fate of the missing. The salt that is sprinkled on the bread plate: symbolic of the countless fallen tears of the families as they wait the word of their loved one. The inverted glass: represents the fact that the missing and fallen cannot partake.

The Bible represents the strength gained through faith to sustain those lost from our country, founded as one nation under God. The lit candle: reminiscent of the light of hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home, away from their captors, to the open arms of a grateful nation.

Finally, the empty chair: the missing and fallen are absent from our ceremony, but never from our hearts.
GOD BLESS OUR VETERANS



As I get ready to close this article, I am reminded that Masonry gives me more than I could ever do for the Craft, remembering that we are here to “subdue our passions, and improve ourselves in Masonry”. And if we continue to do that, what a better place and a better world we will have. 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. As I look around the Masonic Family here at Anoka, I am reminded of a phrase that I coined in 1997 when I was Potentate, “If it wasn’t for Masonry, none of you would exist in my life”

Respectfully, Jerry B. Oliver



Greetings from the West.....

As we get closer to this Thanksgiving Holiday, I wanted to take a few moments to remind us of the significance and the actual purpose of this Holiday. As with so many parts of our history, both in this Country and in our Fraternity, there is a reason that stems from a deeper significance. We credit President Abraham Lincoln for declaring Thanksgiving a federal holiday in 1863, during the American Civil War. He called it a national day of “Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens,” to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November. During this day of thanksgiving, we should be thankful to our Lord for all that he gives to us each and every day.

Originally in my family, I know we started with a tradition on this holiday to start with something we are thankful for from each and every person. We would go around the table and each person would say something, sometimes the largest thing we are thankful for. I think that it, often times, gives us a chance to stop and thank someone for what they have done for us. Whether it is something done for us, our families, our communities, or a broader group that we are thankful for.

Brother Grand Senior Warden, your counsel was timely and good...

Oh, the amount of counsel you get as an Officer in any Masonic institution is voluminous. As a new officer, I remember hearing all the Advice that I got from other Past Officers. This advice was indeed timely and much of it good, even if a bit different than my own instincts. I know I heard from Past Masters that I respected greatly and still do. Their advice was based on their experiences, and their own time through the Chairs, and it was one portion of the view that I would grow to build.

Finally, I try and apply that good counsel. Sometimes we thank the person but let them know that we don't agree. Sometimes, we will agree, and letting the giver know that can bring peace of mind that they have been heard and are appreciated. We may not know how to act on it, and this could be a good time to get more good counsel. Finally, we may need to take it back and think about it, meditate and pray on the advice given.

By cultivating an open exchange of advice and giving appreciation for that advice, we grow and we improve. We remember the charge to the Entered Apprentice by the Master of the Lodge about the fact that such people, when gathered together, will naturally seek each other's well being along with their own. I always remember that while I may not agree with the Counsel, it was given to me as a gift, and I am aptly appreciative of that gift.

As you reflect on the gift of good counsel, I hope that we all are able to receive such gifts often, with grace and humility, and a sense of appreciation of the manner in which they are given. To those who have given me such great advice, I say thank you for all of your gifts. And on this day of Thanksgiving, I wish you, and all of your families the best of the season!

Finally, what November article could be complete without mention of the Democratic process in Anoka? That's right, it's Oyster Stew time again, and that means.... ELECTIONS. Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary and Treasurer - all of our Officers that need to be Elected each year. The men you pick during our Stated Meeting in November (November 6th at 7:00 PM) will lead us for the coming year. Come out and let your voice be heard during this most important of nights for Anoka Lodge. Also, join the Widow's Sons who will be making the traditional Oyster Stew (don't let anyone convince you don't need to make it when you are a Steward - the results are not pretty) at 6:00 PM for dinner.

Be seeing you in the quarries

Brian Dimatteo, Senior Warden

Greetings from the South

November already? I am excited for the upcoming holidays. Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the start to a new year. As a tradition on Thanksgiving, some families go around the table and each person reflects on what they are thankful for. Well, this year I am thankful to my Masonic family. I would mention individuals, but the list is too long for that. I want to thank my sisters and brothers in the OES for supporting me and always being there when we needed them. I want to thank my nieces in the Jobs Daughters for keeping me on my toes and always making me smile and laugh. I want to thank the DeMolay for their support and work that they do. Finally, I want to thank my Masonic brothers, as I have learned to be a better person, to break out of my shell and get involved. I have tried to be involved with as much as I can, not for the sake of being involved, but to help myself and my lodge. I love the feeling I get when I am out of the house doing something for the greater good. I was just talking to my wife the other night and I said, think back 4 years ago, what was I doing to help? The answer was very little, but I wanted to, and had the drive to want to help my community and more. Being a Mason gives me a reason to get out and help. The trust instilled in me by the Masonic family has allowed me to do just that. I am extremely happy where I am today, and for my future journey. The next chapter of the book of my future has not been written yet, but if it continues the same as it has been, it is going to be a fun ride all the way. I cannot thank you enough for your trust, support, love, and gentle guidance as I continue in my journey through life and my Masonic journey. I hope that you all have a chance to spend time with your families and have a fantastic Thanksgiving. I will be cooking the feast at our house, as usual as it is a labor of love for me to be in the kitchen. I will close with this; Masonic Labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are in the dealings with one another; sympathy begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a Mason. (Bro Benjamin Franklin).



**Peace and Love,
Tim Galvin
Junior Warden**

**If you would like to come to Lodge, but don't have transportation please contact me or anyone of us. I am just a phone call away (763) 442-2176
We meet the 1st (First) Wednesday of the month for business, and the 3rd Wednesday of the month for degrees.**

Upcoming Anoka Lodge Events:

Sunday, November 3rd -Martha Chapter's Harvest Dinner 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Wednesday, November 6th – Coffee Club 9:00 am

Wednesday, November 6th – Stated Meeting
Dinner 6:00 pm
Meeting 7:00 pm

Saturday, November 9th – Hiram Award Dinner
Honoring WB Todd Mayer

Wednesday, November 13th – Officer/Trustee Meeting 6:00 pm

Wednesday, November 20th – Coffee Club 9:00 am

Wednesday, November 20th – Master Mason Degree
Dinner 6:00 pm
Meeting 7:00 pm



Stewards Corner

Greetings from the Stewards,

November 6th Stated Meeting/Election Night

Hosted by the Widows Sons Cryptic Masters and will be Traditional Oyster Stew and Beef Stew.

November 20th Master Mason Degree

Turkey
Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Stuffing

Regards,
Daryl Warmack, Senior Steward



Greetings from Martha Chapter

November is now upon us and we are lucky to still have the beautiful colors of fall around to enjoy and the holiday seasons now starting. As October is about to end, we said goodbye to our Sister Gerda Oiga and Bothers, Jim Locker, PP, Aldo Sallese, PP who have passed away. We did our OES service for Gerda and Jim and helped with a lunch and celebration of life for Aldo at our lodge. There were many friends and family who gathered for all their celebrations and they will all be remembered and missed dearly.

On October 17th we had our dual meeting with Whittemore Chapter, our Daughter Chapter as well as a Line Officer honoring. What a wonderful turn out, and afterwards we auctioned off the donated pumpkins. Everyone did a great job carving or decorating pumpkins, together we raised over \$200.00 that night to go toward the M. Josephine Rusham Scholarship Fund and Pat Rasmusson, Continuing Education Scholarship Fund. This is always a fun night to catch up with all, as well as our line officers to get to know others in their groups.





Some of the creative pumpkins that were auctioned.



A few of our visitors who had joined us for the evening.

We will end October on Halloween Night at our 5th Thursday Gathering at Sammy's Pizza. This is always a fun time to see everyone and hopefully we will have a good turnout again.

As we roll into November, we start out with the Harvest Dinner. Beth has everything in control and workers ready to chip in. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Masonic Cancer Center, one of our Grand Chapter projects.

Our speaker from the Daughters of the Nile is scheduled for our November 7th meeting. Heather will be at the Chapter at 7:00 to tell us all about their organization. We will also be honoring our Veterans. Please bring pictures and stories to share. Many in our OES family have served in the armed services and it is always interesting to hear where they were stationed and what they did in the service.

Mark your calendars for our annual Court House Bake and Craft Sale on December 11th. Let us do your baking for you. As usual it will be held at the Anoka Court House across the street from the lodge. Sale will start around 7:30am and go until gone. Many of our members will be baking Christmas Cookies and sharing their crafts for this sale. If you don't want to bake cookies this year, get them from us. I will get more out on the sale as it gets closer.

Up and coming Calendar Events:

- December 5th Initiation – We have 1 initiate and 1 affiliate
- December 11th Wednesday, Court House Bake Sale & Crafts
from 8:00am until Gone!
- December 19th Stated Meeting - Merry Christmas! – National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day! There will be a
prize for the best. Be creative and come and show off your best.
- January 2nd Happy New Year! – Stated Meeting

As you can see, we have another full month. Come and join us, we would love to see you.

Patty Meehl, Worthy Matron and John Antl, Worthy Patron



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 for more information.



Greetings Wayfaring Men of Anoka #30,

Dark clouds again in trying to find a lodge to visit for Q4. Inquires so far are a thanks but we are busy, and two "our lodge is small and we may not be able to hold a meeting". I have two more emails out but will be leaving for vacation until November 8th so will not have a reply for the newsletter. I will send out invites and let all know the place once I return and nail it down.

In Brotherly Friendship
James O. Surratt

Short but sweet this month ...

The Bones Brothers are taking a well deserved break during the month of November. We'll have our regular stated meeting on Monday, November 11th at 6:00 at the Lodge. As always, we'd love to have you come and join. Talk to any Bones Brother or grab a petition from the hallway.

From the pit ...
Scott





Bethel 48 has been missing the warm summer/Fall weather!

During October we:

- Initiated Ella on the 7th (YAY US!)
- On the 7th we also started our annual BUTTERBRAID SALE!!! If you are interested and have not been contacted, please reach out to Bethel Guardian Wendy at 612-423-3223 or email bg48@mnjd.org.
- Visited Bethel 16 in St Paul for their Glow in the Dark Meeting on the 13th
- Held an open meeting and Friendship on the 21st and had 3 girls who are interested in joining (!!!!)
- Sold cotton candy and popcorn at the Anoka Halloween Parade on the 26th
- Welcomed Job's Daughters from around the state for the Grand Bethel Exemplification and sleepover after the parade on the 26th
- Had a yard cleanup day for one of the lodge members who is having health issues on the 27th

Coming up in November:

- We will attend the Demolay Murder Mystery and sleepover on November 2 in Stillwater
- BUTTERBRAID SALE ENDS ON NOV 8
- We are taking a mystery trip on November 16th
- We are holding a Masonic Honoring on November 18-and this is the day BUTTERBRAIDS will be delivered at 5:30
- We are serving Nelson Lodge's Military Table Lodge on November 23

A couple things to save the date for:

- December 6 and 8: gift wrapping fundraiser at the Lodge
- January 12: Bethel 48 installation of officers at 3 p.m
- February 22: official reception for Supreme Bethel Honored Queen Gabriella at the Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center

On behalf of the Daughters and Adults of Bethel 48,

Wendy Dimatteo, Bethel Guardian

Greetings from Brazil!!

I was able to travel to Wyoming and to Brazil this past month. From early flights to very bumpy roads, it's been a blast! I was able to experience many different cultures and I was even able to see the south Atlantic Ocean. In November I will be going to Pennsylvania, South Dakota, British Columbia, Virginia and Washington D.C. The supreme team also will be laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier the first week in December! It will be exciting!

**Brazilian Hugs and Kisses,
Gabriella Dimatteo**



Anoka DeMolay

As Anoka DeMolay, we are excited about the next month of surprises. October was split between work and games. As Master Counselor, I was on the Halloween float and got to see the masonic community support Anoka. I hope that DeMolay can help out our family this next month.

**Zachary Agustin
Master Counselor**



If you or someone you know in our Masonic Family need support, please contact Dave at (763)-755-2431 or Gary at (612) 598-8682.



Brothers, Greeting from the Scottish Rite,

The Brothers of Anoka Lodge did a great job in putting on their Adopted Degree last month and had some good support on the sidelines. We had a few new Brothers fill in for regulars who could not make this cycle and all did a good job!



The Anoka Lodge #30 Brethren put on their Adopted Degree, the 20th!

If you would like to get more involved at the Rite, either by taking a part in a Degree (Non-Speaking or Speaking) or helping with Sound, Lighting, Props, the Choir or whatever, we are always looking for new Brothers to come down and help out.



A lot of Anoka Brothers took part in the 21st Degree or Prussian Knight Degree!

The month of November brings us into the Holiday Season but at the Scottish Rite it is filled with the continuation of those Council of Kadosh Degrees!

The first Thursday bringing the one of the longer Degrees, the 27th or Knight Commander of the Temple which teaches us to uphold the Knighthy virtues of Charity, Truth and Honor!

The following week we will see the 28th & 29th Degrees, with the 29th being the Knights of St, Andrew. We will also have a group of KSA (Knights of St, Andrew) Brothers coming down from Duluth to see the Degree and visit, so a great reason to come down and say hello!

The last Thursday (For us anyway due to the Thanksgiving Holiday) we see the final Degree of the Council of Kadosh, the 30th Degree or Knight of Kadosh! This is the 2nd to last Terminal (Required) Degrees at the Rite and teaches to stand up for what is Right and Just in our Live's!

Don't forget to congratulate our own WB Lee Keilblock as he will receive his White Hat and become a 33rd Degree, Inspector General Honorary on November 16th, joining the ranks of so many Illustrious Anoka Lodge Brothers to receive this high honor!



If you have any interest in being a part of all these wonderful Degree and wish to join the Spring Class beginning in January, please reach out to myself or any Scottish Rite Brethren and we can fix you up!

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



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**BREAKFAST
WITH SANTA**

ALL YOU CAN EAT Pancake Breakfast
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FREE Picture with Santa
in our Winter Wonderland



**Sunday,
December 15th
8am-12pm**

Anoka Masonic Lodge
1900 3rd Ave, Anoka, MN, 55303