



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 PASSING OF THE GAVEL

Where does one begin..... I have had the honor to serve Anoka Lodge as its Master this past year. An honor that one cannot take lightly, an honor that one cannot take for granted, and an honor that does not happen without the support of a large and tireless cast. Let's start with your officers; Brian Dimatteo (Sr Warden), Tim Galvin (Jr Warden), Don McGuire (Treasurer), Scott Franz (Secretary), Julio Herrera (Sr Deacon), Trent Gilbertson (Jr Deacon), Daryl Warmack (Sr Steward), James Surratt (Jr Steward), WB Dave Emery (Marshal), WB Terrence Schaffer (LEO), Fr Thomas Knopf-Bigelow (Chaplain) and Jason Mevissen (Tyler) who worked hard on any duties assigned to them to make this a GREAT year for Anoka Lodge and the Anoka Masonic Family. You have truly been Brothers that I could count in any circumstance.



Then there are the Trustees; Reggie Green, WB Dave Emery and WB Tony Heimer who work diligently to keep our building up to date. Thanks for all you do. And how about thanks to WB John Antl and WB Al Nemchik, who were always there to offer any kind of help that was needed. What about WB Al Golder, who for years, has been our Ritual Director, working diligently to make our work as close to perfect as can be. Thanks Al. Then there are the members of the Anoka Masonic family; Martha Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, Bethel #48, Anoka DeMolay, Shekinah RAM, Zabud Council, Selim Grotto, Anoka Shrine Club, the Sewing and Quilting Units, the Widows Sons and the Bones Brothers. All of you understand what it means to work together for a common purpose – that purpose of helping mankind – helping to make our world a better place to live.

And then there's you, the members who to continue to let people like me lead. You have placed your trust in my hand to serve you as Master of the Lodge. I hope that I have not let you or the Lodge down.

Congratulations are in order to WB Todd Mayer on receiving the Hiram Award, job well done.

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.

My final thank you goes to my wife Peg. I cannot thank you enough for all that you have done for me and the Lodge. I cannot think of any events where you have not been with me – along my side – to assist me and the members of Anoka Lodge to make each event the best it could be. I love you with all my heart.

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"

May God Bless all of you.

Respectfully, Jerry B. Oliver

Greetings from...well, traveling from the West to the East!

What an amazing time of the year. As I was thinking about this article at the end of our year, I just got an image in my mind. If you have attended a degree, an initiation or other Masonic ceremony, you know that there is constant motion in the room. At our most recent Master Masons' degree, this was evident in spades, but it couldn't have been any better coordinated. With the Officers moving out of their stations so that the second section team could take over, there was a flurry of movement. When the dust cleared, there we were, watching our Past Masters take over on a marvelous degree. Brother Ben, I hope that your night, the night that we were all in Lodge for just you, was rewarding and will live on in your memory. Welcome to Anoka Lodge!



This time of year is also a frantic pace. We have Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years. Each of the Bodies that we belong to, whether Lodge, Star, York and Scottish Rite, Grotto, DeMolay and Jobies, and any of the others has a transition of power. As each officer moves to their next chair, there is, again, a semblance of movement within the Lodge. It is something that, perhaps our own governments could get better at emulating, the peaceful transition of one leader to the next. Which leads me to my next point...

Worshipful Master Jerry B. Oliver. (Hey, we still have a few days left when this is scheduled to go to press, so he's still in the East!) Worshipful Master, you have served this Lodge and the Craft well. Your work has been long, and your labors fierce in the quarry. Whether the Lodge, your journey to the Grand East for OES, or your work as SGIG for the Orient of Minnesota, you have always done your work to serve us. For your efforts, I can only offer you my thanks, and the thanks of so many Brothers and Sisters whose life you have touched.

As the new year gets ready, I wanted to share my own pledge to be more open and communicative. In our recent Officer's retreat, we spoke of a number of items. We talked about the mundane things like scheduling of events, talked about our hopes for the year, but we shared a single, most important desire. That desire is to improve communication to our Masonic Family. This newsletter is only one of the many items that we use, but there are so many others. It is the plethora of encounters with each other, it's the communications about an event. Most importantly, it is the belly to belly work of our meetings and our activities. You have my promise, and that of our officers, to do our best to communicate, to inform and to help dispel some of the walls that keep us apart from one another.

As I travel towards the East on December 7th, I know there will come that point in the Installation, the point that any officer experiences, but more especially the Master. That point when we are placed in our station for the first time, and the Marshal shakes our hand is one that can be a bit fear inducing. I know that, in the times I have been installed to the East in the past, it is a sobering event when you are addressed as the leader for that first interaction. I can only hope and pray that my actions in this coming year will do all of you honor, as much as you have honored me and your other officers.

Be seeing you in the quarries

Brian Dimatteo,

Senior Warden

Worshipful Master-elect

Brian K. Dimatteo 6709 Edgewood Ave N Brooklyn Park, MN 55428
brian.dimatteo@yahoo.com (612) 709-4406

Greetings from the South

Where did this year go? The lodge has elected me to the West, I am nervous and excited at the same time. We have a great officer line with brothers that are competitive in nature. I have learned this while getting to know them this year. I know it is going to be a fantastic year at the lodge, with many great ideas being floated around, some which have been started already.



If you have not seen it yet on Facebook, WB Jordy Stradtman posted a photo of him while he was in the Navy (Thank You for your service WB), well he had a mustache and beard growing, and the photo looked nothing like him. A great fundraiser idea was started. Chin carpet for Lodge carpet. WB Jordy will start to grow his beard when 20 people pledge \$ 20.00 per inch, to prove it is him. What a great idea, this is what we need to get some of the projects going in our lodge.

I am proud to say that we have a lodge of "Thinkers", brothers who think of things like this, to one, have a little fun, and 2 to make a little money as a fundraiser for our home. As my time in the South ends, and I head West, I want to Thank You all for your continued support.

I also want to wish each and everyone of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Joyous Kwanzaa, and a Merry Yule. We are all different and celebrate differently. I love that about Masons. There is so much to learn from different religions, customs, cultures etc. We all have friends, family, neighbors, and brothers from a wide variety of cultures, whom celebrate the holidays differently. I have been around so many different cultures in my travels and have celebrated holidays in different ways, but I will give you one guess what the common theme to every celebration is, you guessed it LOVE. If we could just disconnect from the hate, the world would be a better place. It seems we still have a lot to work on in the quarries, but that is what we do, make good men better, and make the world a better place.

Peace and Love,

Tim Galvin

Junior Warden

Senior Warden-elect

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:

Wednesday, December 4th – Coffee Club 9:00 am

Saturday, December 14th - Breakfast with
Santa Set-Up

Wednesday, December 4th – Stated Meeting

Dinner 6:00 pm
Meeting 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 15th – Breakfast with
Santa 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Saturday, November 7th – Installation of Officers

Pictures 12:00 pm
Ceremony 1:00 pm

Wednesday, December 18th - Coffee Club
9:00 am

Wednesday, December 11th – Officer/Trustee

Meeting 6:00 p



Greetings from Martha Chapter



Hello Sisters & Brothers,

As I am getting ready for Thanksgiving, I look back to all the things I am thankful for. My grandchildren and family, health, and all my friends. Seasons come and seasons go, but this one is always my favorite. It is the time we can gather and share our special events of the holidays and the joy that comes with it.

This year's Harvest Dinner turned out very well and I have a very special thank you to Beth Brown, our Associate Matron, who did such a wonderful job, as well as all the people who helped make this day to be such a success.

We honored our Veteran's on the November 7th meeting. Thank you to all who shared their pictures, stories. As well as where and when they served. We also said goodbye to our Sister Sharon Woizeschke who passed away a few weeks ago. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all her family.

"Share the gift of Warmth". This year again, we will be collecting hats, scarves, and mittens. All these donations will be given to ACBC and Family Promise. The collection box is in the dining hall and we will be collecting until December 17th.

Now that December is here, our officers are ready to initiate a new member into our order on December 5th. We will be helping with the Installation for Anoka Lodge on December 7th, congratulations Brian and all your officers for this coming new year. Saturday, the 14th, we will be having lots of fun decorating trees, as well as the lodge, to get ready for Santa's visit and all the kids that will be coming for the breakfast on Sunday morning.

Which leaves us with our last meeting for 2019. Merry Christmas! Welcoming in Christmas. This is also "National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day" so be creative and come show off your best.

Christmas will soon be here; My wish for you and through the new year is;

"Christmas Day brings memories and kindest thoughts untold of friends we may not often see, but hope to always hold; so, may this greeting be a link in friendship's precious chain, and may there be a Christmas Day when we shall meet again!"

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Up and coming Calendar Events:

January 2 nd	Happy New Year! – Stated Meeting.
January 11 th	Open House Reception for Pam Willette, Grand Conductress & Jerry Oliver, Grand Sentinel – Reception from 2 to 4pm
January 16 th	Annual "PJ and Slipper Night" – Stated Meeting come and be comfy and warm.

Patty Meehl, Worthy Matron and John Antl, Worthy Patron



Please Come To the
 Open House Reception to Honor
 Pam Willette, Grand Conductress
 And
 Jerry Oliver, Grand Sentinel

Saturday, January 11, 2020
 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Anoka Masonic Lodge
 1908 3rd Ave. South
 Anoka

Hosted by: Excelsior Chapter #20 & Martha Chapter #132

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Martha Chapter #132



Give the Gift of Warmth

Help keep our community warm
 this winter by donating
 adult and children-sized hats, mittens and gloves.



Donations will be givento; ACBC and Family Promise
 The collection box is located in the Dining Hall
 Donations accepted till December 17th





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 Brothers of Anoka Lodge #30,
2019 is quickly coming to a close, and with it, the Traveling Man itinerary. The last travel invitation has been sent out. Anoka Lodge will be visiting Lorest Lake Lodge #344 on Thursday December 5th. It is their Lodge Appreciation Night as well as their Lodge of Sorrow. Dinner is a 6 pm sharp with the meeting starting at 7 pm. Please be in a suit or khakis and a polo shirt.
I have also had my contract extended for the 2020 program and already have a lodge lined up.
I look forward seeing you at Forest Lake and during our 2020 program.

In Brotherly Friendship James O. Surratt



The Bones Brothers are event free in December.
We'll have our stated meeting on Monday,
December 9th here at the Lodge at 6:00 pm
and will be electing officers for 2020.
Hope you all have a joyous holiday!

From the pit ...
Scott



Stewards Corner

December 4th Stated Meeting

Chicken Marsala, Asparagus
Parmesan Risotto with a touch of
Angel Hair Pasta, Small side of French
Onion Soup

The Stewards would like to send a special thanks to all the brothers who lent a hand in the kitchen prepping, cooking, serving and cleaning up...with a special thanks going to Brother Brent Merritt for all of his work in the kitchen this past year!

**Regards,
Daryl Warmack, Senior
Steward**



HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

The Daughters of Bethel 48 are planning to be very busy during December.

- **December 2** brings our 8th meeting, and Elections of our new line of officers
- **December 7** will be Anoka Lodge installation of officers, and we will be performing the Living Cross along with Bethel 39 Robbinsdale (the WM Elect is Associate Bethel Guardian for Bethel 39)
- **December 7** we will also be holding a progressive dinner for our members-this is where four members each host one course of the meal at their house, and we travel from one house to the next. This year we will be dining at the Soderstroms', the Sheltons', the Agustins' and the Mayers'.
- **December 8** we will be holding a GIFT WRAPPING FUNDRAISER in the Lodge room from 1-4 p.m. Please come and bring your gifts and we will cheerfully wrap them. We will have a variety of wrapping paper, but if you want something specific, you are welcome to provide it. If you are unable to come on Sunday, you can leave your gifts in a bag in the balcony with your name on it after the Lodge installation. For more info, please contact Bethel Guardian Wendy at 612-423-3223 or bg48@mnjd.org
- **December 13** along with Anoka Demolay, we are being treated to a pizza dinner by Martha Chapter OES as a thank you for helping with their Vendor Fair in October.
- **December 14** we will travel to the North Pole (Fargo) for the Grand Bethel Christmas Party. Wish us good driving weather! We have several members who will also be helping with setup for Breakfast with Santa.
- **December 15** we are helping as we always do with Breakfast with Santa.

Come the New Year, we have been asked once again to give a presentation to the Dan Patch club at the Masonic Home on January 4th. January 6 will bring our 10th and last meeting of the term. Honored Queen Audrey will give her term report, and we will retire the capes and crowns. If you haven't seen the retiring of the capes and crowns, please join us-it's very moving!

Finally-please join us for our Open Installation of Officers Sunday January 12 at 3 p.m.

On behalf of the Daughters and Adults of Bethel 48,

Wendy Dimatteo, Bethel Guardian

Greetings all,

This past month I was able to travel to Pennsylvania where I got to experience what their Grand Bethel is like while hanging out and making new friends. I had a blast just being able to play some games with the members of PA Job's Daughters. I was also able to travel to Pierre, South Dakota where I hung out and played games with all of their daughters as well. We learned how to change a tire, knit, crochet, cross stitch and making cards. I enjoy this position more every time I travel! In the next month I will be travelling to Virginia for their Pageant, laying a wreath at Arlington Cemetery and attending our MN Grand Bethel Holiday Party!



**Jobie Love,
Gabriella Dimatteo
Supreme Bethel Honored Queen**

Anoka DeMolay

The DeMolay have had two new members join them in the first month of the new term. They have been doing quite a few fun events from movies to bowling and other games as well. Coming up we have the Grand Master's class on December 14th at 4pm at the Minneapolis Scottish Rite.



We will be at Breakfast with Santa and are looking forward to helping in the upcoming months.

Dad Agustin



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

Greeting from the Scottish Rite,

The end of the Fall Class is fast approaching and we begin the month with the 31st Degree, one of the most Introspective Degrees in all Masonry. If you haven't been down to the Rite in a while or don't remember them all, this is one you will never forget and should come down and sit with the class as they experience this wonderful Degree.



For a Blast from the past I give you this, the cast from the 31st Degree, 20 years apart. You will notice some of our members from 20 years ago (WB Jerry Oliver and WB Greg Vokovan) and one Brother (WB John Freeberg) still a member of the Degree!

The 31st Degree Cast 1999



The 31st Degree Cast 2019

As announced last month, our own WB Lee Keilblock became a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honoree, joining the ranks of many current and past members of Anoka Lodge #30.



**Some of the Anoka Lodge #30 Members
at WB Lee's Special Day!**



WB Lee Receives his Certificate and Ring

We finish up the Fall Cycle with the 32nd Degree on December 12th. It would be great to see you all there to support our new Masters of the Royal Secret!

If you have any interest in the Rite 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!



Zabud Council #10

November 11th 2019, Zabud Council performed the Select Master Degree for six candidates. A great job was done by all members that participated.

The principal work conducted at the stated meeting of November 19th, 2019 was the election of officers. The elected officers are Tony Heimer as Illustrious Master, Kirk Nelson as Deputy Master, Trent Gilbertson Principal Conductor of the Work and William David Emery as Treasurer and Recorder. Installation of the Officers will be conducted at the December 17th 2019 stated meeting.

Zabud will be changing their meeting date to the 4th Wednesday of the months starting with the January 2020 meeting.

I thank all the members of Zabud for their assistance to me during my year as Illustrious Master. A big Thank You goes out to Eric Erfourth for the assistance he provided to me while serving as Recorder.

Frank Namestek
Illustrious Master

On behalf of all us at the Widows Sons we hope each of you had a very Happy Thanksgiving. We know what a busy season this time of year can be, but always remember to take a moment and give thanks to all who are important in your lives. It's amazing what a difference that can make in someone's life, just a little thanks.



Lastly some of you might have noticed at Anoka lodge that the Widows Sons is collecting diapers. There is a box downstairs leading to the dining room. All donations will be donated to a charity organization that will give the diapers to families in need. We appreciate your support!! Happy Holidays!!

Bro Erech Gallatin
Widows Sons Secretary

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
\$5 Dollars per person/ \$20 Max per Family
(Kids under 10 are free)

FREE Picture with Santa
in our Winter Wonderland



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

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