



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.....

I have put off writing this article for too long already - It's been a marathon as we have gotten closer and closer to Christmas time, and now it's been more like a sprint to the end of the year. Today as I write this article, I am reminded of some of the lessons we are taught in our Degrees. And like the allegories of our Degrees, they impress themselves soundly on our memories.



Our Breakfast with Santa was a success, but we had a smaller crowd than we expected. It was great to see the old Elf Himself, and his helper Smiley the Elf. Santa was in rare form as we greeted 275 people in our Lodge. The pancakes were served up by our Brothers in the kitchen, the Lodge was decorated by the Jobies and OES, and we had a blast. In the dining room, we had Jobies, Brothers, DeMolay and OES clearing tables and refreshing the food. In addition to this, we had the Scouts show up to help with the cleanup, letting us be done in less than an hour this year! We rounded out the day with deliveries of Poinsettias to our Widows between the Brethren and the Widows Sons.

This past month we were saddened by the passing of one of our Family, Madisyn Mevissen. Madi was a bright girl, with an infectious smile that spread to everyone she met. Madi has suffered from SMA, but she never let that get her down. When I spoke with Jason about joining the Line, I was able to spend some time with him, and his family. I know that the Bones Brothers had cooked for an SMA fundraiser, but it was that meeting about joining the progressive line that made me really get a chance to know her. She came to the Lodge for Breakfast with Santa, but also had come to a few Jobie meetings, and she had been thinking of joining our Bethel.

As any of us know who have lost a relative, this is a terrible time for the family. However, it really shows us the mortality of the body and the immortality of the spirit. While Madi has passed this earthly bond, her spirit is now running and dancing in heaven. The Lodge, and the OES, sprang to action to rally around our Brother. Our Chaplains went to the aid of Jason and Jamie, bringing them comfort and peace in this time of their loss. The Brothers and Sisters cooked and donated the items that will allow them to grieve and spend time with their family in this time of loss, not having to cook. And our OES cooked and served the luncheon after the service. It is what Anoka does, it is what makes us special, it's what makes us family.

In closing, we have the new year coming up quickly. We will have the OES New Year's Eve party coming up - ball drops at 8:00 in the Lodge, so come for some fun and games on December 31st - get there about 6:00 PM to share the evening's festivities - families are invited. Our Lodge of Sorrow will be during our Stated Communication on January 8th. Please join us as we say goodbye to our Brethren who have passed in this past year. If you haven't been, it is definitely something to see. You may have noticed that our Stated Communication will be on the 8th - our bylaws require the move if the meeting is on a Legal Holiday, which January 1 is.

Again, as with all things, I hope to see you all around the Lodge. I look forward to the coming year and hope you do as well!

In service to the Craft

Brian

**Brian Dimatteo,
Worshipful Master**

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

Warmest wishes from the West

So far so good, I am settling into the West nicely. As we have officially gotten into the beginning of winter, December 21st to be exact. I want to take a moment and reflect a bit. The breakfast with Santa was a great time, the Masonic family coming together and in our own way celebrating, one pancake at a time. I was fortunate enough to be able to deliver some beautiful poinsettias to our Honored Ladies of Anoka Lodge. If you have not been a part of this, please consider this next year. The ladies truly appreciate it and welcome us with open arms. These ladies have some great stories and memories of their husbands that truly give insight on why we and their husbands are Masons. I remind every one of them that we as a lodge will never forget them and to please let us know if they have a different address or phone number so that we can stay in touch. These ladies, as well as a lot of our own significant others volunteer, and support us in making ourselves, as well as our community and world better. I can't say we sacrifice our time, because Masonry is a great place to come together for the greater good, but our significant others sacrifice their time to be with us while we are spending time at lodge or volunteering at an event. What stories or memories will our families have of us when that time comes when we are in the celestial lodge above? My hope is that I have done enough, that I have given as much as I can give without inconveniencing myself or family. Anoka Lodge is a special place. If you have not felt this yet get involved a little bit, see what Masonry is about, come to dinner, meet other members of the Anoka Masonic family, come and lend a hand at an event. I have witnessed this at our events this past year and even if there are too many people helping, that's not a bad thing. One of the times this happened was at the breakfast with Santa, the Scouts, (who meet out of our building and we sponsor) came and helped with the tear down. In less than an hour the entire lodge room full of decorations were boxed/bagged up and brought down to the garage. They then broke out the vacuum cleaners, brooms and mops and completely cleaned up. I was in awe at the efficiency and speed that this was accomplished. Thank You to the Scouts. As we head into the year 2020 let us be reminded of the use of all the implements of Masonry but more especially the Trowel. If you have forgotten these lessons, please study them. I always strive to make use of all the implements of Masonry, but more especially the trowel in my everyday life, I can't change the past, I can only look to the future and try to be a better person going forward.



**Peace and Love,
Tim Galvin
Senior 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.**

Greetings from the South!

I would like to start my first editorial to my Brothers, Sisters and our Daughters wishing you all had a Holiday filled with Love, Family and beautiful memories. With this Holiday Season coming to an end, and a New Year (which will have probably rung in by the time you get this) starting, we can look forward to new possibilities and adding new chapters to each of our books.

As officers of our Lodge, we will be focusing on further continuation of open communication with our Masonic Families and affiliate groups. We are here for you, just as you are here for us.

I'm ending with a poem and wishes to all for a Wonderful New Year!

Christmas Giving by Iris W. Bray

Christmas is for giving, and for showing that we care, for honoring the Christ Child, With the loving gifts we share.

The Wisemen gave of riches; the Shepherds, faith and love. Each gift, in its own measure, was smiled on from above.

Let every gift be treasured; not always size or price determines the extent of love and willing sacrifice. Handsome gifts with festive trim bring smiles of sweet content, but modest gifts of humble means are oft times heaven sent.

Whether it be large or small, each gift will share in part the message of true Christmas joy, if given from the heart!

Julio A. Herrera Junior Warden

Upcoming Anoka Lodge Events:

Wednesday, January 8th – Coffee Club 9:00 am

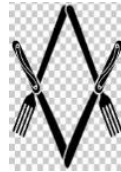
Wednesday, January 8th – Stated Meeting
Lodge of Sorrow Dinner 6:00 pm
 Meeting 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 15th – Coffee Club 9:00 am

Wednesday, January 15th – Entered Apprentice Degree
 Dinner 6:00 pm
 Degree 7:00 pm

Sunday, January 12th – Job's Installation 3:00 pm

Sunday, January 19th – Shekinah Installation



Stewards Corner

Welcome to 2020 Brothers, I look forward to working with Brothers Jason, Junior Steward and Brent, Lodge Chef, to continue the fine dining served by Brother Daryl in 2019.

January 8th Stated Meeting (Lodge of Sorrow):

Baked fish, white cheddar scalloped potatoes, roasted cauliflower and vanilla ice cream

January 15th Entered Apprentice Degree:

Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed potatoes, cream gravy, corn and white cake.

Respectfully,
James Surratt, Sr. Steward



Greetings from Martha Chapter

As 2019 comes to an end and 2020 is now a few days away, I am looking back at all the things we have done in December. On the 7th of December was a dual evening. We helped with the Lodge Installation and Tree Lighting that midafternoon. It was a wonderful turnout for WM, Brian and all his Officers Installation. Congratulations again and we look forward in working together again this coming year. After the Installation some of us went over to the Tree lighting. We served Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Tomato Soup, Hot Dogs, Apple Cider and two different kinds of Cappuccinos. Everything we served that day was very good. The weather was fabulous, and all of us were very busy the entire time we were there.

On Wednesday, December 11th we had our Craft and bake sale again at the Court House. We started around 7:30am and by the time 12:00p came around we were almost totally sold out. A huge thank you to all those who worked so hard baking and helping at the Court House. The proceeds for this sale will be going to the Masonic Children's Hospital Project.

December 19th, in honor of National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day, we had our Christmas meeting, and everyone wore their best Holiday Sweaters. Jill Ahlquist was our 1st place winner, Kathy Antl, 2nd place, and Beth Brown, 3rd Place. It was hard to choose our winners because everyone looked so wonderful and hopefully, we will be able to do it again next year. Dave Emery also talked to us about the York Rite which continues our family heritage pyramid. We enjoyed hearing about them, and Dave answered our questions. We will be having a few more speakers coming up to finish our year, so please join us.



Beth Brown Kathy Antl Jill Ahlquist

December 31, we will have our annual New Year's Party. It is always fun to see everyone. We will have a light supper, play a few games and at Midnight (Rio time 8:00p) we drop the ball.

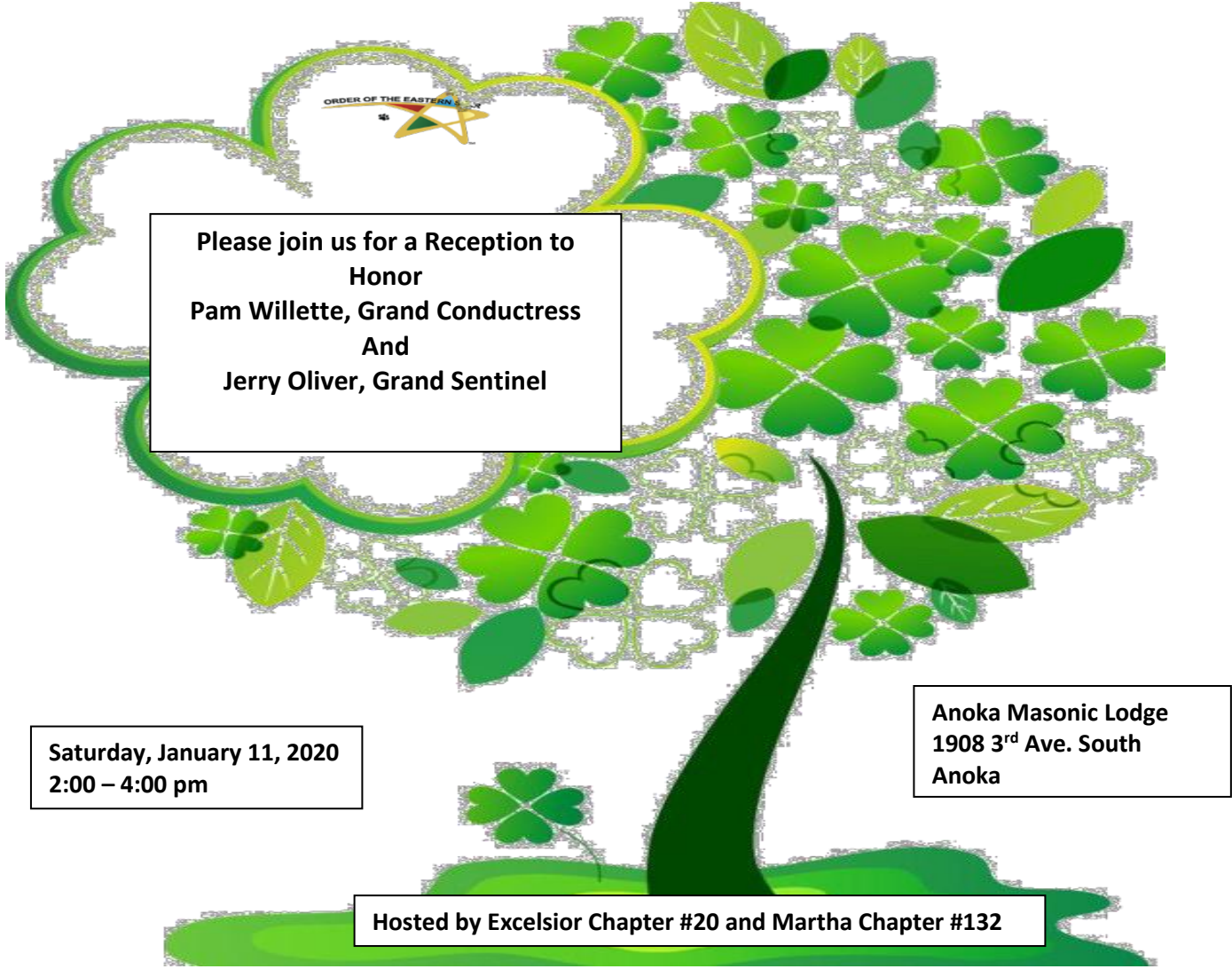
We still have a little time left to bring in hats, mittens, and gloves. We have extended the time to the end of the month, so everyone who wanted to donate could do so. The red candy cane box is located in the dining hall.

On Saturday, February 8th we have been invited to be a vendor at Winterfest. We will be selling Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Tomato Soup, Hot Dogs, Apple Cider and two different kinds of Cappuccinos just like we did for the Tree lighting. Thank you, Jerry, ahead of time for letting us use your concession trailer for this event. Winterfest is all different kinds of activities for the children and families. It is a great way to meet the community. I will have more information in the next couple of weeks at our meetings.

Upcoming Calendar Events:

- January 11th Open House Reception for Pam Willette, Grand Conductress & Jerry Oliver, Grand Sentinel – Reception from 2 to 4pm in the Dining Hall
- January 16th Annual “PJ and Slipper Night” – Stated Meeting come and be comfy and warm.
- February 2nd Stated Meeting
- February 8th Winterfest – We are doing the food truck at George Endor Park, 631 Lund Blvd, Anoka – Noon to 4:00pm
- February 20th Stated Meeting

Patty Meehl, Worthy Matron and John Antl, Worthy Patron



Please join us for a 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 and Martha Chapter #132



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.



I was graciously allowed to plan the Anoka Lodge Traveling Man outings again for 2020. I am currently working to see if a visit to Garnet Lodge #166 in February is possible. I look forward to our travels and possibly collecting another traveling trophy.

In Brotherly Friendship

James O. Surratt



The Bones Brothers are pretty quiet in January. We'll have our Stated Communication on Monday, January 13th, at 6:00 pm in the Lodge Room. Hope you all have a great holiday and a fantastic new year!

From the pit ...

Scott

Greetings from Bethel #48



During December we performed the Living Cross at the Anoka Lodge Installation of Officers. Some of us traveled to Fargo for the Grand Bethel Christmas Party, while others helped set up for Breakfast with Santa, then we all helped serve the breakfast. Finally, we closed out 2019 with the honor of performing the Living Cross at the funeral of our friend Madisyn Mevissen.

During January, we will be holding our final meeting of the term on Monday January 6 at 7 p.m. During this meeting we will hear Retiring Honored Queen Audrey's term report and Honored Queen Elect Olivia's plans for the coming term. We will also be retiring the capes and crowns in preparation for our new term. If you have never seen this ceremony-our tradition closing out the term-please join

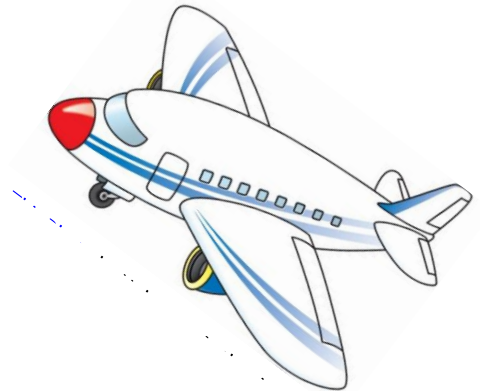
us.

We will be holding our Open Installation of Officers Sunday January 12 at 3 p.m. All are welcome!

Wendy Dimatteo, Bethel Guardian

Greetings all,

This past month I was able to travel to Virginia for their Miss Job's Daughter pageant and Supreme visit. I had a blast hanging out with the Job's Daughters of VA and learning how they run their pageant weekend. We toured Historic Williamsburg along with many other places in Washington D.C. We had the honor of laying a wreath at the Tomb Of the Unknown Soldier on behalf of all the Fallen soldiers who were apart of the JDI world. Overall it was an amazing weekend full of touring many monuments including the George Washington Masonic Memorial. In January I will be able to travel back to Pennsylvania for their volleyball weekend, to Arizona for a campout and then to New Mexico for an official visit!



Sending warm thoughts,

Gabriella Dimatteo

Supreme Bethel Honored Queen

Anoka DeMolay

No article submitted





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 Fall Cycle has ended and another class has become Masters of the Royal Secret at the Scottish Rite. It was a wonderful night with the Officers of the Consistory putting on a great 32nd Degree as 12 Brothers completed this part of their Masonic Journey.



The Fall Class at the Rite



Anoka Brothers in the 32nd Degree

Orientation for the Spring Class begins on January 2nd and though this comes out right around that time, we can still get you signed up before the Degrees begin on the 9th, so if you have any interest, please reach out and we will assist you!



Greetings from Anoka Shekinah #104.

One of the final acts as High Priest for 2019, WB Tony Heimer was able to present a check from our Chapter to Granny's Closet again this year. This group helps those local Senior's and Special Needs adults with clothes, gifts or other needed items throughout the year but more so during the holidays as too often these folks are forgotten.



The Companions of Anoka Shekinah #104 will be having a changing of the guard for 2020 and on Sunday, January 19th there will be an Open Installation of Officers. It will be a smaller affair but all are welcome to attend.

We will also be taking part in the One Day to Royal Arch happening on February 1st at the Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite Building. This all day event covers all 4 Degrees of the Royal Arch.

If you have any interest in furthering your Masonic Education or learning the True Lost Word, there is still time to get in your petition for the Degrees. A Number of Anoka Lodge Brethren are already signed up to become new members and they would love to have you join them.



No Article Submitted



Greetings from Selim Grotto; the Master Mason's Playground!

On December 6th, Selim Grotto held its annual Installation of Officers where I had the honor to be installed as the new Prophet Monarch for the 2020 term! We are hitting the ground running with the annual Winter Pool Party for the first meeting of the year on January 3rd and we have a number of fun things planned for the rest of the year which include events such as Sweetheart night, March Madness, Cinco De Mayo celebration, Game Night, Ladies Night Out, Murder Mystery Dinner, Annual Steak Fry, and a Chili Cookoff.

Selim Grotto is nicknamed the "Master Mason's Playground!". We are a family friendly body that focuses on good fellowship and fun. If you think any of the above events sound like fun and want to get you and your family in on it, reach out to any of the Prophets of Selim Grotto! We would love to have you join us in the fellowship.

Aaron Brendel
Prophet Monarch, Selim Grotto
763-300-2170
aaron@brendel.org

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