



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

My Masonic Family -

This year has flown by, and that is an understatement. I am sitting in my living room right now, watching the Christmas Tree lights, and loving a little bit of music of the season. I know, I know - you aren't supposed to cave in to advancing a holiday, but given what we have all gone through this year, I think you need to take the joy that you can when you can.

As we move into December, we have a peaceful transition to a new Worshipful Master. Like all those who came before me, it's time to fade back into the sidelines, and just BE in Lodge. You know, I have loved being in the meetings, the events. The degree and Ritual work have filled my soul with the beauty of our gentle craft. The times I have spent with all of you remind me of the good that is, and can be, in our world. The chance to work with all the officers, my mentors, and our candidates have taught me so many things. For all these things, I am thankful tonight.



I have had the opportunity and honor to be in so many of our Appendant and Concordant bodies at Anoka. Anoka Shekinah was the first - I was the first candidate to take his degrees when we reconsecrated the Chapter in 2012. It was the first time I got to meet Joe and Mark Anderson. I got to meet Marv Schendel, and others. I joined Zabud Council when we brought their Charter from north and loved every minute. I got to meet so many of our Companions through the Council, and got a chance to join the Grand Line. I joined Selim Grotto - the Master Mason's playground, where I found that we can have fun, and lighthearted work makes easier work. I joined the Bones Brothers, where I got to learn so much not only about cooking, but the beauty of charity. And I joined Martha Chapter with my daughter Frani and learned yet another part of our Masonic heritage. For my Family in Anoka, I thank the Grand Artificer of the Universe every single night.

Outside of Anoka, I joined Zion Commandery, where I was finally able to be a Knight Templar. I have spent countless hours traveling the state as a member of the Grand Commandery, finally culminating in my year as Grand Commander, which ended in June of this year. I learned about charity, giving, and a constant dedication to our pledge to be better men. I also joined the Jobies, this time in Robbinsdale. WHY NOT ANOKA? Well, good question. When I became a Certified Adult Volunteer, I told our Grand Guardian, put me where you need me. Anoka has such strong support from our Masonic Family that so many Bethels do not have. I have grown to love the girls that I work with, and revel in every minute I get to spend with them. I have grown so thankful for my extended Masonic Family.

The hours cooking ribs for RBB each year. Countless pancakes and sausages, 5 am prepping and getting the dining room set up to welcome our community, our brothers and sisters, and our families. I got time to flip hamburgers, hot dogs, pork chops and other food when we served during the parades. I got a chance to spend time with our OES working side by side at a number of events. Cleaning up the Lodge during our maintenance weekends (my head still hurts from time to time since that Coal Room door is so low). Service to our Lodge and service to each of you is something I have been honored to be a part of, and I thank you all for the time we get to spend together.

Yes, this year I am thankful for so many things. I hope that all of you have that same opportunity to put aside the painful experience of Covid this year. I know that as the year comes to an end, I will have sadness at leaving the spot I have been so thankful to occupy this year, serving and leading this great Lodge. Anoka is a special place, and all of you are special to me beyond words. I am not going too far away, but I may miss a meeting here and there now. (My calendar has a reminder that Every Wednesday is Lodge Night - something Wendy always questions when I am home on a Wednesday, like I am tonight.) In this, my real last article, I remind our new Worshipful Master Elect, Tim Galvin, that your year will fly by as well. It has been an honor serving with you since we were stewards. I have felt close to you these years and look to you as an example of a great leader. May you, also, be as thankful as I am for your opportunity to serve.

So, with this, my family, I say to you -... *in a world where you can be anything, Be kind*. It's Gabbi's motto for her first year as Supreme Bethel Honored Queen but is a reminder that I try and hold in my heart. And I sign off... one last time...

Thank you!
Brian

**Brian Dimatteo,
Worshipful Master 2020
Anoka Lodge #30**

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



Warmest wishes from the West

The year 2020 is almost over, thank goodness. I sat and reflected on the year the other day and all I can say is let us not go through another year like this one please. The work in the quarries have slowed once again as another wave of the COVID-19 is upon us so that means no large gatherings, which brings me to the 2021 officer installations. I have decided to bring installations into the 21st century and will hopefully, with our techie peoples assistance, live stream it from the lodge on December 5th at 11am. The installation will be quick and there will be the precautions put into place for us to do this. I want to thank you all for trusting me with the position in the Big chair in the East for the upcoming year. I had a speech prepared and everything that was not too long but to put it directly out there, I have some very large shoes to fill and I will do everything I can to continue to lead the lodge in the right direction. I have to say a lot was going through my mind the night of elections as you could probably tell from my babbling at the close of lodge in November. There are so many emotions I think all of them at a certain part of the night, not knowing what we can and cannot do to have my brothers together, breaking bread, telling stories, and just getting to know one another. I yearn for those days again. I am not an overly social guy but, being at lodge gives me a piece of serenity, a home away from home, a place where we can have fun conversations and joke around. I am hoping that these days will return soon and we as a lodge can function on all cylinders again. Thank You again for allowing me to do some work in the West and entrusting me in the East. Until we meet again. Be safe out there. Have a wonderful Holiday season.

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



Greetings from the South!

We have finally made it to December. This will also be the last time I am writing as Junior Warden. I was elected by my brethren to advance to Senior Warden for the ensuing year. With my last letter I am choosing to reflect what has happened during this year.

As 2020 started many of us could hear the voice of Barbara Walters stating, "and this is 20/20". There were many other jokes such as, "2020 perfect vision", "2020 will be the year". Little did we know what all 2020 was about to bring.

We started off with the fires in Australia that endangered many native species and their natural habitat. Shortly after that a virus was discovered in Wuhan, China. After the virus arrived in the United States via England, travel restrictions were put in place. In late March, much of the United States was put into a lockdown to try and minimize the spread. An event many of us have never experienced, and many were displeased with.

Since then, we have seen the daily counts of new infections, and daily mortalities due to the unpredictable nature of the virus. At the same time many traditional social activities were cancelled to this highly contagious virus. Now, on this Eve of Thanksgiving, we have been advised to limit family gatherings to ten or less and 50 for Funerals and Weddings.

This all sounds like the year was a loss. However, there were many wonderful things that came out of it. We learned the importance of properly washing our hands and using sanitizer. Parents were able to spend more time with their kids: bike riding, board games, and teaching daily home skills. Families started working on projects that they were putting off. Kids learned many new skills, and hobbies: making masks and headbands for our first responders. Certain companies were dropping off flowering plants to customers. Others were cutting back on fees to assist many with hardships. Student loans suspended interest for the year. With the power of social media, our 2020 graduates were able to have a virtual celebration for prom. Teachers made mobile parades to honor the students. Celebrities held free concerts on social media. Some celebrities refunded tickets to cancelled shows. Others helped by providing food and supplies to many communities; and that is an ongoing contribution.

Even with 2020 showing to be one the worst years I have ever known, I was happy to see how we as citizens were able to find ways to help each other.

Have a safe and wonderful Holiday season, whether it be Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa and make sure to ring in the New Year of 2021, with passion, optimism, masks, social distancing, love, and laughter.

Stay safe and Healthy,

Julio A. Herrera Junior Warden



Stewards Corner

Thank you for allowing us to serve you this past year.

In Brotherly Love and Foodship,
Bro. James Surratt
Bro. Brent Merritt
Bro. Jason Mevissen

Your humble steward,
James Surratt



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.

Upcoming Anoka Lodge Events:

December 2nd – Lodge Stated Meeting
7:00 p.m.

December 5th – Installation of Officers via Zoom
11:00 a.m.

See insert for Zoom information



Hopefully we can travel soon!



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.

In brotherly love, we need to reach out to those in need.

Anoka Lodge Secretary is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Anoka Installation of Officers

Time: Dec 5, 2020 11:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97864392353?pwd=dXIPL3E4bDI2V1RRa1RQTHUvd1BpZz09>

Meeting ID: 978 6439 2353

Passcode: 000559

One tap mobile

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+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 978 6439 2353

Passcode: 000559

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aelwPDP2zV>

From the Bones Brothers;



Winter closed our food truck down leaving us with two charities that we weren't able to help this year. Namely, Hope 4 Youth and Stable Pathways. An email went out to try to collect what donations we could for these organizations that do so much to help our community. If you are at all able to make even a small donation, please do so by sending a check or paying online through the Anoka Masons website.

Like summer sausage but don't have the equipment? Did you know the melting point of plastic wrap is 275 degrees? Here's a recipe that takes advantage of that:

Homemade Summer Sausage

5 pounds ground beef

- ¼ cup Morton Tenderquick
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper (2 if you like it spicier)
- 2 teaspoons ground black pepper
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 2½ teaspoons mustard powder

Mix the spices with the meat. Refrigerate for at least one day.

Shape it into 5 loaves, 1.5 - 2 inches in diameter and about 10 to 12 inches long. Place on an 18 inch piece of plastic wrap and roll up tightly. Knead it to work out any air bubbles and prick them with a pin. Twist the ends shut.

Pre-heat your oven to 225. Place the sausage on a baking sheet and cook for about an hour or until the internal temperature reaches 150-155. Take it out and let it cool. Put it in the fridge and let the flavors blend and mellow for 12 hours to 5 days. Will stay good frozen for up to 6 months.

From the pit ...

Scott Franz

President, The Bones Brothers



Martha Chapter #132

Give the Gift of Warmth

Help keep our community warm this winter by donating adult and children's sized hats, mittens, gloves, and other warm clothing items



Donations will be given to ACBC.

There is a collection box at the Lodge or you can drop off items at:

Rachel Ridens
12354 Magnolia Circle NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Jane LaMusga
1711 - 99th Ave. NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Or Call Patty Meehl, 763-286-1112 to arrange
For a pick-up of your items

Donations accepted until December 14, 2020

If you prefer to give a monetary gift, please send to:



Jane LaMusga
1711 99th Ave. NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55433
In memo box add: "ACBC"





Sisters, Brothers, and Friends of Martha Chapter:

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving this year. Even though it was a quiet one, I am thankful for what I have. I had the chance to call many members of my family and wished them well. My mom now lives up in Grand Rapids and all nine of us kept her busy on the phone throughout the day and all weekend.

With December rapidly approaching we still have time to fill one or all three of our collection boxes with hats, caps, mittens, and gloves for ACBC. This project will be completed around December 14th. Our community is much in need for these items

and I will let you know in my next letter what was collected and delivered to them.

This year has been a crazy one and Martha Chapter has had to cancel many of our events that we always have had on our calendar. I miss helping with many of them and hopefully they will be back next year. Over the summer we did have an online auction to raise funds for Helping Paws, service dogs for veteran's Grand Chapter project, which many of our members and others participated. This was a successful project and again I thank you for all who worked so hard with this.

I would like to extend a thank you to WM Brian Dimatteo for all the hard work you have done for our Lodge this year. With this unusual year it has been hard and well appreciated. With tradition prevails I and Martha Chapter would like to extend a congratulations to you Tim and all your new officers. Please call on us if you need anything we are here to help.

Christmas is rapidly approaching around the corner and the excitement of the children and friends as homes are being decorated, cookies being baked, and presents being wrapped. I hope everyone will have the opportunity to spend time one way or other with family and friends this year.

New Year's also is around the corner and this year's New Year's Eve Party is canceled. We have made this a tradition for Martha Chapter ringing in the New Year at midnight (8:00pm, Rio time) dropping of the ball to ring in the new year and most of all the "Cellophane Ball". All we will look forward to in 2021. Instead of a party this year, I would ask that you reach out to our sisters and brothers who can't get out, ask them how are you doing, wish them well and a Happy New Year.

Holiday wishes – "Christmas Day brings memories and kindest of 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 my there be a Christmas Day when we shall meet again."

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone.

Patty Meehl, WM

Hello Masonic Family!!

November has gone by so fast!

Not much to report on this month but I do hope that everyone had a great thanksgiving and

enjoyed spending time with family. I know I enjoyed spending quality time with mine!

I am thankful to have such an awesome family and to be healthy this holiday season. What are you thankful for this holiday season?



Sending Love, Gabbi Dimatteo SBHQ 2019-2021

Greetings from Bethel #48



Well, once again, 2020 is throwing us a curveball. Because our Bethel is within the Anoka Hennepin school district, and they have gone to all distance learning, we have had to modify our operations again. Due to the majority of our members falling into the age groups that are being moved to distance, and that we are directed to follow the most conservative guidance that would apply to our location (city, state, lodge, school district) we must postpone in person activity. While we all knew this would probably happen, it is nonetheless upsetting. We are also assessing what events over the next six months (into the next year) will be able to happen in person, virtual or not at all. We charged the girls to brainstorm ideas for virtual activities that they would like to plan and would want to participate in, and they came up with a list of over a dozen-so

we get to planning!

We are also at elections time but have not received guidance on how/if we can find a way to hold elections or what other options we will have-stay tuned!

We were, however, able to hold our annual Butterbraid fundraiser (the only fundraiser of this year) and were able to make over \$1,100 (for reference, 2019's sale netted just over \$1,200) in profits thanks in great part to many of your-**THANK YOU for helping make a part of this year a success for Bethel 48!**

Once again, we hope you are all staying well. Both physically and mentally-and know that your Daughters can't wait to welcome you back to our meetings!

On behalf of the Daughters and Adults of Bethel 48,

Wendy Dimatteo, Bethel Guardian



Greetings from Anoka DeMolay

No article submitted.

**Zachary Agustin
Master Councilor**

Brothers, Greeting from the Scottish Rite,

The Special Fall Reunion at the Scottish Rite has sadly been postponed due to the increase in Covid 19 cases in the State. It is the hope to finish the Degrees in late January and we will keep all aware of those changes as they occur.

We did manage to get through the 18th Degree and I would like to thank all those Brothers who came down in support.



It was also great to see Brother Tyrone Richards down to the Rite and present him with his Certificate as a Master of the Royal Secret!



Greetings from Anoka Shekinah #104.

Companions, the November meeting was our final meeting of the year and it was a great to gather one final time. Prior to the meeting, on Saturday, November 21st, Wendy Dahlin from Granny's Closet invited me for a tour of their facility after which I presented them with a check on behalf of the Chapter to help their work with the Elderly and Special Needs folks.

We were happy to present the Membership Certificates to the large number of the new Companions we brought in this year and held our annual Elections.



The Elected officers for 2021:of Anoka Shekinah #104 are:

High Priest – Todd Mayer

King – David Birkman

Scribe – Ty Schmidt

Treasurer – Don Maguire

Secretary – Dave Emery

Greetings from the Companions of Zabud Council #10

As November winds down and holidays begin, we are upon the election and installation season in masonry. Even though I only had a short time in the East this year in Council it was still memorable.

This Council is in good hands with the wonderful companions coming up through the line but we are always looking for new companions that are interested in additional light in Masonry. The one day to Council has been cancelled that was scheduled in February and we will continue our good work when able.

The 4th Wednesday at 8:30pm we will be hosting online Zoom stated meeting and election. I've attended many online type meetings since the pandemic hit the world, but will be my first hosting. Most masonic groups have went virtual now and will continue this way until spring by the looks of it.

I wish all of you a Happy Holidays and better New year!!

Thank you from the 2020 Officers of Zabud Council.

Tony Heimer
Thrice Illustrious Master
Zabud #10 Council



**Anoka Lodge #30 A.F. & A.M.
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