



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!

We have some important issues to come before the Lodge over the next few months. On March 1st, at our Stated Meeting, we will be hearing a proposal from the Trustees regarding a building usage agreement which will include a comprehensive look at the overall usage of the Lodge and what it costs to maintain. We will also open the floor once again for discussion on Lodge dues increase proposals which we will be voting on at the April Stated Meeting.

Regarding Dues: The course of this Lodge over the next several decades is in the hands of the current membership. I have had discussions with many brothers and officers over the past few months and there is a real need to evaluate our financial viability for the long term. As we see a decline in membership and with other lodges closing or becoming financially unstable, we must recognize that the current dues structure doesn't support the cost to operate this lodge we all call home.

As we move to solve the problem, there are two things to consider:

First, the fixed costs of this lodge are anything but fixed when it comes to inflationary costs over the last decade. Since we have not had a dues increase (outside a per capita increase) in more than a decade, it's time to crunch numbers. The leadership is doing just that at our officers' meetings and in our open forum meeting on Feb 15th and is ready to discuss the numbers and the potential impact on our membership.

Second, we have a need to realize that with the celebration of the 100th year of this building, we are sure to face somewhat large expenses as we look to maintain this building for another 100 years. We also have repairs that are currently needed.

We are in much better shape than some of our fellow lodges, but we need to make adjustments to make sure we preserve this magnificent home built by our predecessors.

Please come ready to discuss these and other important issues on March 1st at 7pm. Dinner is going to be provided by our Stewards at 6pm.

We will also be having a presentation immediately following dinner that you won't want to miss by Bro. Hans Neisz on "Geometry in Nature, Philosophy and Freemasonry"



**Fraternally,
Daryl Warmack
Master Anoka #30**

Greetings from the West



Brethren, as your Senior Warden, it was my pleasure this month to travel with the Senior Deacon to an incredible Masonic event. I was able to attend the Cornerstone Rededication at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Arlington Virginia.

The Memorial, a National Historic Landmark, that stands as American Freemasonry's vital tribute to George Washington and the values of freedom. Each year, thousands of museum guests visit the Memorial to learn about Washington and Freemasonry, and to become inspired by the great heritage left to us by the Father of our Country... and our nation's foremost Freemason.

The original celebration of the cornerstone was a national Masonic event. Over 10,000 Freemasons attended the Memorial's cornerstone laying in 1923. President Calvin Coolidge watched as the very trowel that George Washington once used to lay the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol was pressed into labor again.

This event was well attended by over 3,000 masons from all over the country and some Grand Lodges from all over the world. I was introduced to Brothers from Montana, Michigan, Brazil, Mexico, and the list goes on. It was incredible to see this rededication and the tenants of Masonry put into practice on such a large scale. If you ever find

yourself in the position to attend a cornerstone laying or rededication, then I would highly suggest you attend. While in the area we had time for travels to other masonic and non-masonic venues which I will save for a later newsletter. I look forward to seeing you at our March stated meeting and in the future.

For the Betterment of our craft and the honor of Freemasonry

Jeremy Hill
Senior Warden



Two views of the George Washington Masonic Memorial



A view from 1923



A view from 2023

Salutations from the South!

Greetings Brothers,

This article was inspired by WB Todd Mayer's playing of a podcast about all the "famous" Masons in the Celestial Lodge during our February Lodge of Sorrow. One of the brothers mentioned in attendance was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. As I am a fan of Mozart, particularly of his opera, *The Magic Flute*, I decided to do some internet research.

Mozart was proposed for membership in Lodge zur Wohltatigkeit on December 5, 1784. On December 14, 1784, he was initiated and became member #20. On January 7th, 1785, he was passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on April 22, 1785, although there is some debate as to this date, due to sloppy attendance registers of the Lodge.

Most people know Mozart as a prolific composer, with 626 works in total to his name. Of those, 7 were composed with a Masonic nature behind them and four of those composed to be specifically performed in a Masonic Lodge. Of those 4, one was for a Lodge of Sorrow and the last one written was also the last piece composed by Mozart before his death, being completed on November 15, 1791 and performed in lodge November 18, 1791, seventeen days before his death.

The Magic Flute, one of his more famous operas, is considered by many to be a Masonic opera, interweaving European Masonic symbolism throughout the acts, and reflecting the EA degree. Without going into the boring details, some of the symbolism is the use of the or reference to the number 3, such as the use of the "Masonic key" of E flat major (three flats), three ladies, three priest, three temples (Wisdom, Nature and Reason) and three knocks at the door in the first act. The second act has a character asked questions similar to what the Senior Steward asked potential candidates in the European EA Degree at that time.

As always, it is not the details that prove fascinating to me, but the way Masonry brings us together to share our talents to help a brother as well as how Masonry weaves its way into our lives and our work.

Information pulled from article by Rev'd Dr Peter Mullen, Mozart & Freemasonry.



In Brotherly Love and Friendship

James Surratt, Junior Warden.



Coffee Clutch
Come join us on the 1st and 3rd
Wednesdays at 9:00.



Stewards Corner

February Menu

March 1st – TBD

March 15th - TBD

Come enjoy good food and
fellowship!

Jake Shoulak, Sr. Steward
Joe Shoulak, Jr. Steward

Upcoming Anoka Lodge Events:

Wednesday, March 1st – Coffee
9:00 am

Wednesday, Marc 1st – Stated Meeting
Dinner 6:00 pm
Meeting 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 8th - Officers/Trustees Meeting
6:00 pm
FC Practice 7:00 pm
Past Masters Committee 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 15th - Coffee
9:00 am

Wednesday, March 15th - Fellowcraft Degree
Dinner 6:00 pm
Degree 7:00 pm



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.

Greetings Brothers and Friends,

Slow and low is what is going on right now.. We have a cook for the State-Bound Anoka Gymnastics Team coming up in March, with a group food safety class coming up in April. As always, if you are interested in giving back to the community through BBQ, let me know. We can get you started and learn how to make great smoked meat.

In Brotherhood, Benevolence and Barbeque,

**From the Pit,
Todd Mayer
Bones Brothers
President**



Greetings Anoka Brethren,

I have an update from Mesaba Lodge #255 pertaining to the Anoka BFG. Their business degree is March 9 with dinner starting at 6:30 pm and the meeting after. They are also having an EA degree on March 30th. I don't have a start time for the degree, but I would like to suggest we go claim our gavel on their degree night. Yes it will be a long night, but not only would we be getting our gavel back, we would also be showing brotherly love and support to a new Mason. I will get additional details on the degree start time, if there is dinner beforehand etc. Please let me know by email if you would be interested in driving up as part of the "bring our gavel back home" team.



**In Brotherly Friendship,
James O. Surrat**

Greetings from Selim Grotto!

Hope you are all enjoying the snow!

The Grotto is busy with a Ceremonial to bring in two brothers to the Relm!

If you are interested, we are having a baked potato bar and game night Friday March 3rd. Come out and have some fun with your brothers!

**Darren Swenson
Prophet Monarch
Selim Grotto M.O.V.P.E.R.**



Sisters, Brothers, and Friends of Martha Chapter,

Well, the year is winding down and this is the last article that I will be writing for the S & C. Time has gone by so fast this year with all our traveling, sightseeing, and game playing! I hope you have enjoyed it as much as I have enjoyed putting it together for you.



March 2 - "Passing the Torch" - Annual Meeting

This will be a busy night. We will be initiating a new member, hearing the annual reports, and having elections of officers for next year! Brother Curt Speller will be ending his 3-year term as a Trustee, so we will need a Brother to fill that spot. If you would be interested in this position, please submit your name to Jane LaMusga, Secretary. Please join us to welcome in our new member and see the beautiful initiatory work our officers do! They are outstanding!

March 16 - "It's Been Swell"

~ IT'S THE 1920'S AND THERE HAS BEEN A MURDER!! STAN "THE SNAKE" SALAMI HAS BEEN FOUND MURDERED IN THE MEAT HANGER AT BIANCO'S RESTAURANT, LITTLE ITALY, NEW YORK. ~

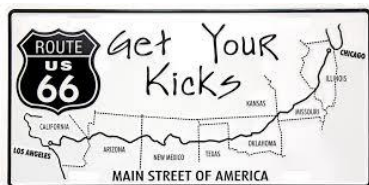
Our final meeting of the term will be a "Murder Mystery Dinner". We will start with appetizers and set the scene for the murder! We will then go upstairs for a very quick meeting and return downstairs for dinner and to see who murdered Stan "The Snake" Salami! More information will be sent out regarding this event.

Thank you to everyone who helped me this year with everything. I couldn't have done it without you. Your support and friendships mean the world to me. A special "thank you" goes out to Greg and Goody Vokovan, you are the best! You were always ready with a "what do you need and what can we do".

There were a few "potholes" on our journey, but we managed to maneuver around them and continue. As we pass the torch to the newly elected and appointed officers, we wish you the best on a successful year!

Jula Tollgaard, WM

Greg Vokovan, WP



Julia Tollgaard, WM

Greg Vokovan, WP



Thanks to all who came out to enjoy the delicious Spaghetti Dinner and to support Anoka Lodge. A huge thank you to Brother Brent Merritt who was willing to make his secret family recipes for us to enjoy.

The WM was helping all over the place.



Some of the hard working kitchen crew!!



We got to meet Petra!





Greetings from Bethel #48

We'll be back next month.....

**Sincerely,
Carrie Gillilan,
Senior Princess**

Greetings from Anoka DeMolay,

**Check us out on our website.
anoka@mndemolay.org**



Hello from the Minneapolis Scottish Rite,

The Rite is busy with degrees. The 18th Degree was delayed due to snow.

The 20th degree is March 2nd and is Anoka's adopted degree at the Scottish Rite! If you are a Scottish Rite member please remember to come out and support them! They put alot of great effort into their roles.

April 1st is our Remembrance and Renewal Dinner. Don't forget to get your tickets!

Darren Swenson
Double Eagle for Anoka



*The Minneapolis Chapter
of the Rose Croix Presents:*

The Ceremony of Remembrance & Renewal and the Mystic Banquet



*This is the night we honor those Brothers of the Valley who have passed into
the Celestial Lodge Above and renew our ties as Scottish Rite Masons.
It is an open event and all are welcome!*

Saturday April 1st

5:30 pm: Fellowship gathering in Downstairs Lounge
6:30 pm: Ceremony in Auditorium
7:00 pm: Mystic Banquet in the Dining Hall



**\$40 Per Person
Dinner will be
provided by
Ill. Brother Jerry
Oliver and Crew**

Minneapolis Valley
of the Scottish Rite
2011 Dupont Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN, 55405

Please RSVP to:
612-871-1500
or by email:
Jackie@aasrmn.Org

Thank You

**Darren Swenson
Double Eagle for Anoka 30**

Greetings from Shekinah #52!



The 2023 Officers of Shekinah #52

Ty Schmidt
Excellent High Priest



From Zabud Council #10.....



Greetings Anoka Masonic Family from the Officers of Zabud Council No.10, Cryptic Masons of Minnesota.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month following Shekinah Chapter No.52 U.D., at approximately 8PM.

Greetings from the Cryptic Council,

Greetings from the Zabud Council. Hope all is well and you are weathering the winter. I have several friends that have drifted to warmer places. But some folks need to stay behind to keep things going.

In Cryptic Masonry various lessons are taught in this degree but few stand out more than that no one can be successful entirely on their own merit. Wise King Solomon relied on capable and loyal advisors, such as Zubud, Adoniram and many others to help and advise in making important decisions. This degree emphasizes several life lessons. However, more importantly it teaches the importance of dependence on The Grand Architect Of The Universe for wisdom in all endeavors of life. We should all take this important principal to heart in our daily endeavors.

Please consider continuing your Masonic journey by joining us the fourth Wednesday of the month or we would love to see your petition soon.

**Illustrious Master David Birkman
Zabud Council No. 10**

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



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