



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 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Anoka, MN, 55303 Phone: (763) 421-3357

### Greetings from the East!

As many of you know the 2023 Grand Lodge Annual communication had six resolutions for the lodges to vote on. Debate was heard from both sides, and all but one part of resolution 6 passed. With that, the Grand Lodge per capita increase has been approved, without the automatic annual increase provision, which was voted down. We will go over the details of the voting Tehhanticipated guest Leo presentation by WB Nick Settich.

We will also be discussing a way for the Anoka Mason's to get back into the community and promote our organization by fulfilling our duties as a charitable fraternity. Those who saw the FST (Fire Suppression Tool) at Grand Lodge understand what an opportunity we have to reconnect with our first responders and the Anoka Police Department (and possibly others) through an effort to save the lives and property of our neighbors. Come find out more info and how you can get involved over the next couple of months.



The Big Fraternal Gavel made by WB Neil Warmack along with Past Grand Master Donald Flood and WB Al Nemchik.

May 11th the Brothers of Anoka will be traveling to Hibbing to retrieve the BFG (Big Fraternal Gavel), please let me know if you'd like to go and we'll arrange carpools. Since WB Neil is going, he will be reunited with his craftsmanship from 1985. I would love to flood Mesaba Lodge #255 with Anoka #30.

May 20th will be having our Honored Ladies Luncheon for the widows of our brothers who have come before us. Be sure to come and support them and play a round of bingo with them! Details to follow.

See you at Lodge!

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

## **Greetings from the West,**

I'd like to start by thanking everyone who attended the Lodge cleanup. Special thanks to WB. Greg Vokovan for coordinating and running this event. We had representatives from every appendant body, and we got a lot of work done. The Lodge building is starting to feel less cluttered and ready to take the steps necessary for future generations to come to enjoy and thrive in this building. The work is not over, we still have some rooms and the garage to tackle but let's enjoy the hard work and accomplishment of this first step of many. We look towards May with the Fellowcraft Degree and many other Masonic events that I hope to see you at. Once again thank you everyone for showing up and helping with the cleanup day and I look forward to seeing you at the next ones as well.

**Jeremy Hill**  
**Senior Warden**

## **Salutations from the South!**

You'll hear from me next month.....

**In Brotherly Love and Friendship**  
**James Surratt, Junior Warden.**





**Coffee Clutch**  
**Come join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Wednesdays at 9:00.**



**Stewards Corner**

February Menu

**May 3rd – TBD**

**May 17th - TBD**

Come enjoy good food and  
 fellowship!

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

**Upcoming Anoka Lodge Events:**

- Wednesday, May 3rd – Coffee  
9:00 am
- Wednesday, May 3rd – Stated Meeting  
Dinner 6:00 pm  
Meeting 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 10th - Officers/Trustees Meeting  
6:00 pm  
Past Masters Committee 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> Coffee  
9:00 am
- Wednesday, May 17th - Fellowcraft Degree  
Dinner 6:00 pm  
Degree 7:00 pm
- Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> Honored Ladies Luncheon  
12:00 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.

## Hello from the Pit!

The pits are starting to warm up! We have our second event of the year benefitting We Can Ride on Sunday, May 21st.

We will also have our next meeting on Monday, May 8th at 6pm. We will have the equipment at the Lodge for some spring cleaning. We would invite all of the Brothers to stop by, hear about what we have planned for the year, and hopefully join us for an event or two to raise money for charities In-N-Out community.



**Todd A. Mayer, El Presidente**  
**Bones Brothers**

## Greetings Anoka Brethren,

We are possibly traveling to Mesaba Lodge in Hibbing May 11th.

Once confirmed, we will get the information out.



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



## **Greetings from Selim Grotto!**

### **The GROTTO**

The Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm, whose subordinate bodies are the **GROTTO'S**, is an organization by and for Master Masons. While in no way connected with Masonry proper, its membership is restricted absolutely and exclusively to Master Masons in good standing. Although it is an organization for good wholesome fun and frolic with the families, it also has its serious side. Its slogan is **GOOD FELLOWSHIP**, and in contact with our fellow man, this principle is exemplified to a marked degree.

The **GROTTO** stands for all of Masonry and wholesomeness in life.

### **The World's Greatest Philanthropy**

**GROTTOES INTERNATIONAL** fund two National Programs; Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation and the Dental Care for Children with Special Needs.

### **Humanitarian Foundation**

Thousands of dollars annually have been donated to the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation. They also support the Dental Care for Children with Special Needs Program. This program provides the best dental care possible for children with special needs. That the Grottoes International occupy a legitimate place and is doing wonderful work that cannot be denied. It extends the hand of Good Fellowship to all Master Masons, having a smile for all and a frown for no

**Darren Swenson**

**Prophet Monarch**

**Selim Grotto M.O.V.P.E.R.**

## Sisters, Brothers, and Friends of Martha Chapter,

We are excited to start a new year with a new corps of officers. Installation was a



wonderful day – thank you to everyone who came. It was fun! Tim and I hope to have a busy, productive year. Our theme is Garden of Friendship, so you are likely to see lots of blooms and friendly gatherings. Many of us will be attending our annual Grand Chapter Session in St. Cloud May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> we will be honored to see two of our members installed as the Worthy Grand Matron of Minnesota, Sharon Barlow, and Worthy Grand Patron of Minnesota,



Steve Downs. What an honor for Anoka! Mark your calendars for August 27 when we will be having a reception and dinner at the Lost Spur. Everyone is welcome!

Our next meeting will be May 18<sup>th</sup> when we will be honoring Julia & Greg – our Junior Past Matron and Patron. We will be back on Route 66 that night. Come and join us!

Martha Chapter will again be working with the food truck at the Anoka Rockin' on the Rum concerts on Wednesday nights this summer. Some of these funds are used to support the Grand Chapter projects for this year – we will learn about them at Grand Chapter. We also have started collecting a "Rainy Day Fund". Who knows what might come up that needs some financial help.

Martha Chapter Members – Come and get acquainted with your new officers.

**Rachel Ridens**  
**Worthy Matron**



**Tim Galvin**  
**Worthy Patron**



## Greetings from Bethel #48

You'll see us next month.

## Greetings from Anoka DeMolay,



Anoka DeMolay at Grand Lodge

DeMolay was invited to perform the Arch of Steel at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication. Anoka Chapter was represented all weekend long by its youngest members. The Anoka Chapter greatly appreciates the opportunity and support received during the Annual Communication! A special thank you goes out to everyone who supported the chapter by purchasing a bracelet to help fund new candles for our chapter room.

We will be having an Open House on June 17th at SuperBowl. Please check out our facebook page or website ([anokademolay.com](http://anokademolay.com)) for more information in the coming days.



Two Squires Attending Grand Lodge

If you would like to receive the Anoka Chapter Newsletter, please email [anoka@mndemolay.org](mailto:anoka@mndemolay.org) to be added to the list! We always have new and exciting events happening and would love to celebrate our chapter's successes with you.

Anoka Chapter of the Order of DeMolay  
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facebook - [facebook.com/AnokaDeMolay](https://facebook.com/AnokaDeMolay)



Master Councilor Avery with the Grand Master

**JOIN US TUESDAYS @ 7:00 PM  
ANOKA LODGE #30**

## Hello from the Minneapolis Scottish Rite,

The Rite is busy!

We had a great Spring Reunion the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>!

Our next cycle of degrees will be starting soon. If you are interested talk with me, Terrance or any of Anoka's near 80 Scottish Rite members.



The Scottie Awards will be coming up May 11<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to get you tickets!

Please come out and suport your Scottish Rite Brothers!

A poster for the Scottie Awards 2023. At the top is a double eagle logo with the number 32. Below it is a marquee sign that says "SCOTTIE AWARDS 2023". The text on the poster includes: "Brothers! You are cordially invited by the Minneapolis Consistory to the 2023 Consistory Feast celebrating this year's newest Brothers and honoring the workers of the Valley. This Oscar-style dinner and awards show promises to be a great night for Brothers, their friends and families! Who will win Best Actor? Best Degree Director? Which performance will be named Best Degree? Do you have the Rite Stuff?" The date is "Thursday, May 11, 2023". The schedule is: "5:30 PM Social Hour", "6:30 PM Dinner", "7:30 PM Awards Ceremony". The cost is "\$35 a person". The menu is "Prime rib or baked cod topped with crab. Salad, veggie, potato & dessert." At the bottom, it says "Scan the QR Code to RSVP and select dinner choice or contact Mike Miller at [mike.miller5@gmail.com](mailto:mike.miller5@gmail.com) 612-719-2492". There is a QR code on the right side of the poster.

**Darren Swenson**  
**Double Eagle for Anoka 30**



## Greetings from Shekinah #52!

### Shekinah Fund Raiser Coming Up

I am rapidly nearing retirement and was contemplating the end of an undertaking that has lasted for most of my adult life. It brought to mind a poem by our Brother Rudyard Kipling that was recited by another Brother when I was installed as Master of my lodge. I think it is a great message and a comfort to anyone who is either beginning a great undertaking or coming to the end of one, so I thought I would share it this month. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

#### The Palace By Brother Rudyard Kipling

When I was a King and a Mason, a Master Proven and skilled,  
I cleared me ground for a Palace, such as a King should build.  
I decreed and dug down to my levels; presently, under the silt,  
I came on the wreck of a Palace, such as a King had built.

There was no worth in the fashion; there was no wit in the plan;  
Hither and thither, aimless, the ruined footings ran.  
Masonry, brute, mishandled, but carved on every stone,  
"After me cometh a Builder; tell him I, too, have known."

Swift to my use in my trenches, where my well-planned groundworks grew,  
I tumbled his quoins and his ashlar, and cut and rest them anew.  
Lime I milled of his marbles; burned it, slaked it, and spread;  
Taking and leaving at pleasure the gifts of the humble dead.

Yet I despised not nor gloried, yet, as we wrenched them apart,  
I read in the razed foundation the heart of that Builder's heart.  
As he has risen and pleaded, so did I understand  
The form of the dream he had followed in the face of the thing he had planned

When I was a King and a Mason, in the open noon of my pride,  
They sent me a Word from the Darkness; they whispered and called me aside.  
They said, "The end is forbidden." They said, "Thy use is fulfilled.  
Thy Palace shall stand as that other's, the spoil of a King who shall build."

I called my men from my trenches, my quarries, my wharves, and my sheers;  
All I had wrought I abandoned to the faith of the faithless years.  
Only I cut on the timber; only I carved on the stone:  
"After me cometh a Builder; tell him I, too, have known."

Finally, because this is a Masonic publication, here is the latest shameless plug for our next fundraiser: Shekinah #52 has its annual Sunday dinner fundraiser coming up on May 7, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Limited tickets are still available. If you'd like to come for a nice Sunday meatloaf dinner, you can contact WB Terrance Schaffer for tickets.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month following Shekinah Chapter No.52 U.D., at approximately 8PM.**

The following is borrowed in part from "Within the Secret Vault" by Jack Damien. Cryptic Masonry completes the Hiram legend. In this series of degrees belonging to the York Rite system of Freemasonry we are taken back to the time before the completion of the first temple of King Solomon. Here we learn about the various fellows of the craft who in the second degree of symbolic masonry labored within and without the temple, but more especially about one individual by the name of Adoniram. Adoniram later becomes a very important character in the ninth or Select Master's degree. He asks the age-old questions "What if?" and "When?". From these two simple questions much of the story line of the first two degrees of Royal Master and Select Master is derived. Looking at this portion of the York Rite degrees who can see the potential to bridge the gap and complete the Circle of Perfection in Freemasonry as a whole. Next month I'll be writing more on the Circle of Perfection and its importance to Freemasonry or better yet become a member of the Cryptic Council and join us after Royal Arch on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

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

THANKS EVERYONE



Make Your Calendar for Next  
Year - April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

It was a Great Day at the Lodge on Saturday for the Spring Cleanup. All who use the building were there to help. We got some deep cleaning done and a bunch of things that made it to dumpster or the dumpster staging area. Space was reallocated and decisions were made in an effort to make our beautiful building more welcoming and the show place it is.

I have already marked the next Spring Cleaning on the calendar (April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024) and until then we will be working on the House Committee 'To Do List' and continue to knock out some of the items that didn't get done.

I want to thank everyone for the hard work and heavy lifting, many hands make light work. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the House Committee with any ideas, questions or concerns.

**Greg Vokovan**  
**Junior Trustee**



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



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