

Santa Invites Anchorage Jobies to His House

By the Members of Bethel #1, Anchorage, Alaska

One year ago Bethel #1 was invited by the Sr. Warden of Tanana Lodge, Mr. David Worrel in Fairbanks, AK to participate in his installation if he was elected Worshipful Master. This was to be the 1st installation in the brand new Tanana Lodge Masonic building. All year long Bethel #1 waited patiently for December 2006 to arrive because Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus had also invited Bethel #1 to their house in North Pole for cookies.



Santa's House in North Pole, AK at 2:00 in the afternoon

Finally December 8th, the day of the trip arrived. Thirteen Jobies dressed in their purple traveling shirts and 5 chaperones, 53 pieces of luggage and 6 boxes of candy to sell, arrived at the airport to fly to Fairbanks on Alaska Airlines. Because the Bethel has flown on Alaska Airlines so much, many of the flight crews know us by our purple shirts. What an exciting and scary flight it turned out to be. There was so much turbulence that several of the girls got sick. We were glad it is only a 50 minute flight to Fairbanks. Last year when we went to Fairbanks it was 40 below so we also all wore long sleeve shirts and long underwear. This year Fairbanks was in the mid 30's so we were all dressed way too warm.

We arrived at the Westmark Hotel and were starved after our long flight. Our Director of Epochs immediately got on the phone and called Pizza Hut to have 10 large pizzas and sodas delivered. Because our Associate Bethel Guardian always has his own room, the Jobies turned his room into a pizza parlor. The cleaning staff probably wondered how one person ate so many pizzas.

The next morning after breakfast provided by Westmark we walked over to the new Masonic building. What a beautiful building. The new pedestals and desks were handmade from oak by lodge members in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada and brought for this installation. The Masonic symbols were hand carved from walnut by the Whitehorse lodge. Worshipful Master David Worrel had the Rainbow girls escort, the Fairbanks DeMolay chapter give a talk on *What is DeMolay* and Bethel #1 of Anchorage did the *What is a Mason* Ceremony and the *Closing Cross* at the end of the installation. The meeting room has perfect acoustics and never has *Near My God to Thee* sounded so perfect. RW Jack Boiley from the Whitehorse Lodge in Yukon Territories, Canada gave a talk about Masonry and what it means to be a Mason.

After the installation Mr. Worrel's reception was a luncheon. Somehow the food always tastes better in Fairbanks. Then it was back to the Westmark to clean out the Associate Bethel Guardian room. We had stored our luggage in his room before we left and had to move it to another locked room downstairs. Several of the girls learned never to bring a suitcase bigger than you are and never heavier than you can carry by yourself. We think some of the girls brought their entire room.

The Westmark Hotel loaned the Bethel the use of their shuttle van and a driver to take us to North Pole and Santa's house for cookies. We were all so excited to see Mr. and Mrs. Santa especially at this time of the year and wanted Santa to know we had all been good Jobies and to really make sure he knew what was on our Christmas list.



Our Van driver

After a quick stop to try out Santa's sleigh and see his reindeer, it was in to have cookies with Mr. and Mrs. Santa and present him with a Jobie hat. The cookies were YUMMY!!!!



Jobies try out Santa's Sleigh



Santa's Reindeer rests before the big day!

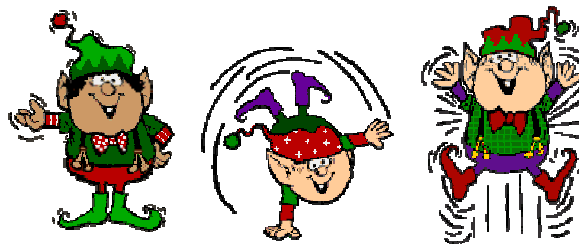


Santa WILL be wearing a Jobie hat when he makes deliveries this year.

Then it was back to the Westmark where we held an open meeting in the lobby since we forgot to pick up the Masonic Center's key. We had many people stop and watch the meeting and inquire about Job's Daughters. Job's Daughters was highly visible in Fairbanks and created a lot of interest in our organization before we left.

Finally it was time to depart and it was back to the airport and home to Anchorage on Alaska Airlines. The flight crew was going on to Chicago and will be looking for us when we come to Supreme Session in July. Now we are anxiously awaiting Christmas to see if Santa brings what we asked for on our Jobie Christmas list.

*A JOBIE HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
To JOB'S DAUGHTERS AROUND THE WORLD
FROM BETHEL #1, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA*



These are our 3 new Jobies to BEE