



<http://www.mn-rivervalley.org>

Minnesota River Valley Lodge #6

“Issued with the Permission of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota

Plumb Line for January 2006

Hello My Brothers,

We often talk about our support for Minnesota DeMolay. But there are many lodges without an active DeMolay chapter. And many of us have never had the opportunity to witness the young men in DeMolay perform their ritual work, and beautiful ritual work it is. You can show your support for the DeMolay and see their ritual work at the same time by attending the Grand Master's DeMolay class on January 14, 2006 at the St. Paul Masonic Center on Plato Boulevard in Saint Paul. The degree work starts at 11:00 a.m. and will conclude about 3:00 p.m. If you have a son, grandson or acquaintance who could benefit by being a DeMolay, there may still be time to get him in the class. Contact Mark Hailer, DeMolay State Executive Officer, right away if you are interested. W. Brother Mark Hailer's e-mail address is hailerm@charter.net.

Lodge officers, don't forget to complete and submit your annual Lodge-of-the-Year form. It is due at the Grand Lodge office along with the Annual Report form on January 16th. We tried to make the program responsive to the wishes of the brothers this past year and hope that your lodge is planning to participate. Special recognition will be accorded to the top lodges submitting the form at the Annual Communication in Saint Louis Park, April 7-8, 2006.

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota's One-Day-to-Masonry is close upon us. January 21st is the big day. I would like to personally invite you to come see some of the finest ritual work you will see in our great state, and just as importantly support and welcome the new brothers with full sidelines. The lunch will be great and will cost only ten dollars. While reservations are not required to attend the degree work, we would need your meal reservation so we can prepare for all who would like to enjoy it. Please contact the Grand Lodge office by phone (651-222-6051 or 800-245-6050) or e-mail (grandlodge@qwest.net) with your reservation.

Worshipful Brother Zeb Dudek of Meridian Lodge No. 25 in Chatfield has just been installed as the youngest Master in Chatfield's history. He is 23 years old and was raised in 2001. Zeb was along for the Grand Master's trip to England last June and it was a delight to spend some time with him. Congrats to Zeb. We were thinking that at 23 he might be the youngest Master of a lodge in Minnesota, but then learned of W. Master David Lukkonen, who was installed as Worshipful Master of Fortitude Masonic Lodge No. 188 A.F. & A.M. in Two Harbors. At 21 years of age, David Lukkonen just might well be the youngest Worshipful Master in the history of Minnesota Masonry.

Congratulations to both of these young Masters and to all of the newly installed officers in the lodges across the state. They all need and deserve our support.

Suggested New Years Resolutions for Minnesota Masons

I resolve that:

I will exhibit the following Masonic virtues:

³Prudence² that I might use practical reason to discern good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it, with a positive attitude to my brothers.

³Justice² that I might be righteous in judging my neighbor and my brother by showing tolerance and fairness.

³Fortitude² that I might show constancy in the pursuit of good that the fraternity might prosper.

³Temperance² that I might practice a healthy discretion in my own life, and thereby lead by good example.

It's not too early to think about our Grand Lodge Annual Communication sessions coming up, April 7-8th. Every Lodge is charged to send its Master and Wardens as the official delegates. An informative, yet fun, time is being planned. Your next issue of the Minnesota Mason newspaper will have additional details as will the Grand Lodge of Minnesota website, www.mn-masons.org. Full details and the meal reservation forms will be sent to all Masters, Wardens and other members of the Grand Lodge by the end of January. If you would like to attend and are not scheduled to automatically receive an invitation, please contact the Grand Lodge office and the invitation and forms will be sent to you. By the way, please be sure that your web browser "favorites" or "bookmark" points you to www.mn-masons.org.

Our former address, mn-mason.org without the plural on mason is no longer pointing to the new (about three years ago) www.mn-masons.org address.

I hope and pray that you and yours will have a safe and prosperous New Year.

Andrew J. Rice Grand Master