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THE WAYFARER

MN RIVER VALLEY LODGE #6

“PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL
GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF MINNESOTA”

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November/December 2017

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Lodge Location:

4821 West 124th Street
Savage, MN 55378

Stated Meeting Date and Time:

1st Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 P.M.

News from the East

Brothers, family, and friends;

Here I sit writing my last article as Master of Minnesota River Valley #6. As I sit contemplating the past year, it has certainly presented itself as a bitter-sweet moment. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in the East, as stressful as it was at times, and would like to thank all of the Brothers for putting their faith in me and for their assistance. Looking upon what I set out to accomplish through the year, some things were finished, and others were not. I choose to look at that as an ok thing. While it would have been nice to see everything accomplished, if they had been then I would be left wondering if I aimed high enough. Sometimes leaving things on the list just means you were ambitious.

Masonry is known for its symbolism, and while the unfinished pyramid with the eye of providence is not Masonic in nature, it does not mean it could not be used as good symbolism. We, as Masons, attempt to erect our spiritual buildings and build ourselves. We do this through hard-work, moralistic actions, and retaining virtue in our endeavors. These actions are done under the watchful eye of God, and only through the blessing that our work is proper, will our building ever be completed.

While my time in the East is coming to an end, my work within the lodge is not. There are still a lot of work that needs to be done and it takes all of the members of the lodge for the work to be completed. I look forward to assisting the next Master in the vision that he will set forth, and all future Masters, so that Minnesota River Valley #6, and Masonry as a whole, will continue to build be prevalent.

With Brotherly love and Friendship
Christopher Brundage
Master, 2017
master@mn-rivervalley.org



What It Means To Be A Mason

Have you ever sat down and really wondered what it means to be a Mason? Tried to put it into a way to understand a little easier? What does it mean to be a Mason? Go through your investigation. Go through your degrees. Go to dinners. Attend meetings. Attend upcoming Brothers' degrees and rituals. Join other entities (Shrine, Scottish Rite, York Rite, etc.). Maybe get in line. Yes. No. It's all of those. But to me being a Mason is about being a Brother.

We all have those experiences when you're struggling with something and then POOF! It all makes sense. It all comes together. This particular year in Masonry has been that for me. I've loved being a Mason, but the events of this year have really made it so much more special. For my work I've been traveling so much more, and I make sure that almost every time I travel I try to visit something Masonic. Go to a new Lodge. I'm experiencing Masonry the way that I know how, or the way that suits me. I've met so many new Brothers. I've even visited Brothers that have passed on and into the Celestial Lodge above.

Brother John Wayne. I've had the fantastic opportunity to go to Winterset, IA and visit John Wayne's birthplace. Brother John even took time out of his busy day to take a few pictures with another Brother.



He's a pretty nice guy. Tall too (6'4")
[John Wayne Birthplace](#)

Brother Harry Houdini. There is a museum in Appleton, WI that has almost an entire floor dedicated to one of its most famous citizens. The museum itself is a past Lodge. On the front of the building (which looks like a castle) is the corner stone. And stamped on it, clear as day, it says Waverly Lodge #51. I looked up Waverly Lodge and found that it's still active and was only a few miles away. I thought what the heck and drove there. I met two

Brothers and a Candidate there watching the Green Bay Packers game. They took my wife and I in, gave us a tour and gave recommendations of things to see in and around town and made sure we had proper lodgings. That, to me, is what it means to be a Mason.

[Harry Houdini Museum - Appleton, WI](#)

I recently met up with a Brother and asked for help on touching up rock chips on my vehicle. Not only did he help me, he touched up almost all of the rock chips (and I mean the ones that I didn't even know existed). He then took the time to teach me how to do it. With Brotherly love, he was patient and not in a hurry. I'm sure with the slow speed I was moving at and all the questions I was asking this Brother was going crazy. But he never once showed it. That, to me, is what it means to be a Mason.

I recently received a text message from a Brother asking the length of my Cable Tow. My response was not something I even thought about. I texted him back and told him it was infinite. Our Brother had gotten a new job (in Wisconsin). The way things had to work out, his wife had to stay behind to tidy up loose ends and needed help getting "home". Two weeks later I drove from my home in Burnsville, MN to Alberta, Canada to bring that Brother home. That, to me, is what it means to be a Mason.



Brother Geno Carlson's Homecoming 10-13-17

Old Chicago, Apple Valley, MN

Left to Right

WB Mike Sullivan, B James Wallin, B Geno Carlson,
WB Lew Price, WB Tim Pray and B Joe Andrus

When that Brother and I pulled into the driveway of my home my car began making some noises. We thought maybe something was stuck under the vehicle. We parked the car and decided to look at tomorrow. The next day, we found nothing under the car. We took the car to go get it cleaned. On the way there, the noise became more distinct.

Continued on the next page,

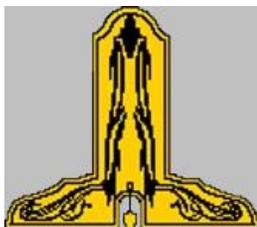
What It Means To Be A Mason, Continued

We get the car cleaned and as we're driving away, the noise is getting louder and more distinct. Very worrisome. I called my dealership and asked if I could bring my vehicle in. I mean I'm only about five miles away. They tell me it would be five days before they can get me in. My car doesn't care, it isn't going to wait that long. I called on another Brother that works on vehicles to get an understanding. This Brother and I speak at length about when the noise is occurring, what it sounds like, where I think it's coming from. You know how it is trying to describe to a mechanic what goofy things are going on with your car. As I'm speaking with him and hear him trying to figure it out, I keep hearing dollar signs going off. My stomach is just sinking. Then the Brother throws me a bone. He has his own shop and tells me to bring my car in. We limp my car to the shop. This Brother takes my car for a "drive", and thinks it's something on the rear axle. Once back at the shop, he pokes, he prods and voila! The lug nuts on my driver's side rear wheel are loose! I went all the way to Canada and back and this didn't pop up until pulling into my driveway. Tell me the Supreme Architect of the universe wasn't watching over us. This Brother tightens all of the lug nuts on the vehicle. That simple act was overwhelming to me. We've all heard the horror stories of mechanics taking advantage of people. This Brother took time out of his day, drilled down the problem and took care of it all because I called on him as a fellow Brother in need of help. That, to me, is what it means to be a Mason.

We take an obligation. Remember all the "Furthermore's". Anytime I hear these being said in Lodge (or during a degree), I think how important these are, how beautiful they are. There are so many more stories that I have, like above, that aren't just MY stories. Always try to understand what it means to be a Mason. TO YOU!! Remember Brothers, we're all here for each other. Always.

For me, it's not so much about being a Mason. It's about being a Brother. What a great word. Brother. I look forward to seeing all of my Brothers in Lodge.

Brother James Wallin
Senior Warden



The Roll of the Workmen Has Been Called!

And WB Richard "Dick" Friend has not responded.



Richard "Dick" E. Friend, of Shakopee, MN, (84) died on October 7. He was born April 7, 1933 in Gardner, ND and was the son of Albert and Florence Friend.

After serving in the Army during the Korean Conflict, Richard graduated in 1959 from the University of North Dakota. He married and had two daughters. He lived for many years in Eau Claire, WI, where, as a Certified Public Accountant, he held several accounting and auditing positions. After moving to Shakopee, he became a partner in the Friend and Furrie CPA firm until his retirement in 1998. He stayed active in accounting by serving as treasurer of the First Presbyterian Church and of the Pinewood Townhome Association. He married his wife Beverly in 1988 and welcomed her two sons into his life.

Richard's passions included barbershop and choral singing. Whether it was traveling Route 66 in a convertible or exploring the Rockies on a Honda Goldwing, he enjoyed traveling across the country and had been to all 50 states. He was involved in hot air ballooning, the Twin Cities Radio Controlled Airplane group and attended the Experimental Aircraft Association event in Oshkosh for many years. He had his amateur ham radio license and was a member of the Rotary Club in Shakopee.

WB Dick was Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on October 14, 1989, Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on November 11, 1989 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on December 9, 1989.

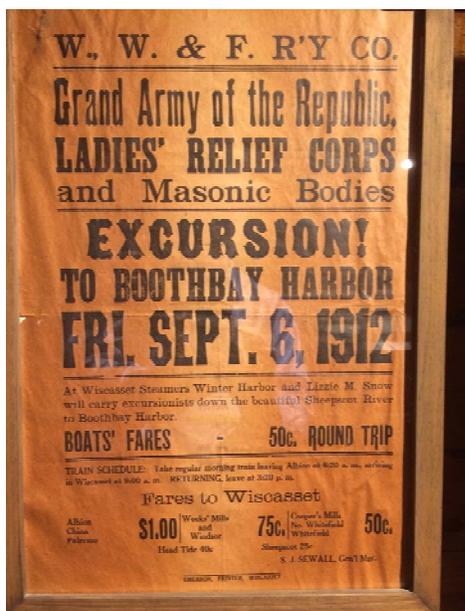
Chaplain's Corner

The recent passing of WB Dick Friend was sad news for many brothers. Dick was remembered as a great man with many interesting people in his life. There was clear evidence of the difference he made in people's lives. A dozen Brothers came to pay their respects and share a Masonic service for him.

- WB Gordy Bane continues his work caring for his wife Patricia. Prayers and thoughts are appreciated.
- WB Henry Schaefer struggles with his cancer and the necessary treatments. Please remember Rosalie and all of her work with Henry. Prayers and thoughts for their family.
- WB Tim Pray is undergoing shoulder surgery and a long recovery is not being welcomed.
- WB Dan Hanley is already recovering from shoulder surgery, 2 months ahead of Tim, patience and focused recovery is needed for both of them.
- WB Dallas Horesji continues his health challenges. Prayers and thoughts for him.

Please let me know if you have any other brothers who want or need thoughts and prayers.

Tim Pray, Chaplain
(952) 212-1505
chaplain@mn-rivervalley.org



NOT JUST LODGE, ...BUT YOUR LODGE

Pulling sweaters out from storage, temperatures decreasing, leaves falling... all signs we are approaching the end of another year. On the other hand, it's also the perfect time to look forward. Plans for Minnesota River Valley # 6 are underway to not only continue the current activities but add additional events to the plan. However, we don't want to just add items for the sake of adding but focus the scheduled events around interests of our Masonic brothers and family members. Sharing time with fellow brothers is always enjoyable but undoubted even better during common interests. We plan on focusing the future sponsored events and activities on the specific interests of our membership. In a similar manner, we need to understand and appreciate the talents and abilities of our membership. In order to accomplish all of this, we are asking everyone to complete the Time and Talent survey included on the next two pages of the newsletter. This will provide the direction and specific experiences that we should begin to plan. Please take a few minutes to identify your individual interests and abilities and return it to the Lodge no later than the December 5, 2017 Stated Meeting at the following address:

MN River Valley Lodge #6
c/o Don Moy
4821 West 124th Street
Savage, MN 55378-1314

The results will be reported in the next edition of the Lodge newsletter. Remember, ...Not just Lodge, ...but Your Lodge.

Donald Moy
Junior Warden
jw@mn-rivervalley.org



Time and Talent Survey

Name: _____
Spouse: _____
Children: _____
Address: _____
Occupation: _____
If Retired, Former: _____
Military, if so, which branch: _____

MASONIC:	Interest Level				
	Low				High
Chaplain Duties	1	2	3	4	5
Dan Patch Parade	1	2	3	4	5
Fall Table Lodge	1	2	3	4	5
Grand Lodge	1	2	3	4	5
K of C / Mason Dinner	1	2	3	4	5
Kolacky Days	1	2	3	4	5
Le Suerer County Fair	1	2	3	4	5
LEO Presentations	1	2	3	4	5
MRVL Summer Picnic	1	2	3	4	5
Preparing Meals	1	2	3	4	5
Ritual Work	1	2	3	4	5
Roadside Clean Up	1	2	3	4	5
Stewards	1	2	3	4	5
Winter Table Lodge	1	2	3	4	5

OUTSIDE EVENTS	Interest Level				
	Low				High
Beak-Out Rooms	1	2	3	4	5
Book Club	1	2	3	4	5
Bourbon Tasting	1	2	3	4	5
Comedy Club	1	2	3	4	5
Conceal and Carry	1	2	3	4	5
Defensive Driving Course	1	2	3	4	5
Dinner and a Play	1	2	3	4	5
Local Boat Cruises	1	2	3	4	5
Local Dinner Cruises	1	2	3	4	5
Local Lunch Cruises	1	2	3	4	5
Men's Health Seminars	1	2	3	4	5
Movies	1	2	3	4	5
Scotch Tasting	1	2	3	4	5
Theatre	1	2	3	4	5
Whiskey tasting	1	2	3	4	5
Wine Tasting	1	2	3	4	5

INTERESTS:	Interest Level				
	Low				High
Airplanes	1	2	3	4	5
Bartending	1	2	3	4	5
Beer making	1	2	3	4	5
Bike Rides	1	2	3	4	5
Cars	1	2	3	4	5
Computer Games	1	2	3	4	5
Computers	1	2	3	4	5
Cooking	1	2	3	4	5
Dancing	1	2	3	4	5
Dining Out	1	2	3	4	5
Electrical	1	2	3	4	5
Farming	1	2	3	4	5
Finances	1	2	3	4	5
Flower Gardening	1	2	3	4	5
Flying	1	2	3	4	5
Handy Man	1	2	3	4	5
History	1	2	3	4	5
Home Repair	1	2	3	4	5
Journalism	1	2	3	4	5
Masonic Home	1	2	3	4	5
Motorcycles	1	2	3	4	5
Music	1	2	3	4	5
Painting	1	2	3	4	5
Plumbing	1	2	3	4	5
Public Relations	1	2	3	4	5
Reading	1	2	3	4	5
Shriners Hospital	1	2	3	4	5
Stamps	1	2	3	4	5
Trains	1	2	3	4	5
Traveling	1	2	3	4	5
Trucks	1	2	3	4	5
Vegetable Gardening	1	2	3	4	5
Woodworking	1	2	3	4	5
Writing	1	2	3	4	5
Other:					
	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5

Time and Talent Survey, Cont.

SPORTS - Spectator:	Interest Level				
	Low				High
Elko Speedway	1	2	3	4	5
Minnesota Lynx	1	2	3	4	5
Minnesota Timberwolves	1	2	3	4	5
Minnesota Twins	1	2	3	4	5
Minnesota Viking	1	2	3	4	5
Minnesota Wild	1	2	3	4	5
St. Paul Saints	1	2	3	4	5
U of M Sports	1	2	3	4	5
United Soccer	1	2	3	4	5

GAMES:	Interest Level				
	Low				High
Board Games	1	2	3	4	5
Bridge	1	2	3	4	5
Cards (Hearts, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Checkers	1	2	3	4	5
Chess	1	2	3	4	5
Cribbage	1	2	3	4	5
Poker	1	2	3	4	5
Puzzles	1	2	3	4	5
Other:	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5

VISITING	Interest Level				
	Low				High
Art Festivals	1	2	3	4	5
Canterbury Park	1	2	3	4	5
Concerts	1	2	3	4	5
County Fair	1	2	3	4	5
Museums	1	2	3	4	5
Plays	1	2	3	4	5
State Fair	1	2	3	4	5
Treasure Island Casino	1	2	3	4	5
Valleyfair	1	2	3	4	5
Winery	1	2	3	4	5
Zoo	1	2	3	4	5
Other:					
	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5

SPORTS - Participant	Interest Level				
	Low				High
Archery	1	2	3	4	5
Baseball	1	2	3	4	5
Basketball	1	2	3	4	5
Biking	1	2	3	4	5
Billiards/Pool	1	2	3	4	5
Boating	1	2	3	4	5
Bowling	1	2	3	4	5
Camping	1	2	3	4	5
Canoeing	1	2	3	4	5
Casinos	1	2	3	4	5
Corn hole	1	2	3	4	5
Curling	1	2	3	4	5
Dancing	1	2	3	4	5
Fishing	1	2	3	4	5
Go Karts	1	2	3	4	5
Golf	1	2	3	4	5
Hiking	1	2	3	4	5
Hockey	1	2	3	4	5
Horseshoe	1	2	3	4	5
Hunting	1	2	3	4	5
Ice Fishing	1	2	3	4	5
Ice Skating	1	2	3	4	5
Mini-Golf	1	2	3	4	5
Music	1	2	3	4	5
Musical Instrument	1	2	3	4	5
Pickle ball	1	2	3	4	5
River Tubing	1	2	3	4	5
Rowing	1	2	3	4	5
Running	1	2	3	4	5
Shuffleboard	1	2	3	4	5
Singing	1	2	3	4	5
Snow Shoeing	1	2	3	4	5
Snow Tubing	1	2	3	4	5
Softball	1	2	3	4	5
Swimming	1	2	3	4	5
Trap shooting	1	2	3	4	5
Volleyball	1	2	3	4	5
Walking	1	2	3	4	5
Water Sports	1	2	3	4	5
Yoga	1	2	3	4	5
Other:					
	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5

Return by December 5, 2017 to:
 MN River Valley Lodge #6
 c/o Don Moy
 4821 West 124th Street
 Savage, MN 55378-1314

November LEO Presentation Announcement

At the November Stated the LEO Presentation will be given by Shawn Carrick. He will share his training and experience to teach us how to dig deeper and be more thorough while conducting an investigation of a petitioner for the degrees of Masonry.

Masonic Milestone Master Mason Anniversary Dates

MN River Valley Lodge #6 would like to recognize all the Masonic Milestone Master Mason Anniversary dates that are taking place during November and December 2017.

They are:

Robert Hanek	55 Years	11/24/1962
Michael Sullivan	15 Years	12/07/2002
Steven Clark	10 Years	12/01/2007



Save the Date!

There are two events coming up in December that are being planned, so please save the following dates:

- Saturday, December 9th – Widows Basket Event, and
- Saturday December 16th – 2018 Installation of Officers starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Savage Masonic Center.

More information will be forth coming.



The Wayfarer

The next due date for The Wayfarer is Friday, December 29, 2017. All articles for the January/February 2018 issue are due by the end of the day. Any articles that are received after the due date will be held over for the March/April 2018 issue of The Wayfarer.

You may send articles to me for the newsletter; by any method you desire (email, regular mail, etc.). Articles that are not received by the due date will be held over for the next newsletter.

Please contact me at 402-960-3629 to obtain my address, if you wish to mail something in for the Wayfarer.

Thank You,

WB Steven Scheffert
(news@mn-rivervalley.org)



OES Report

Renaissance Chapter #313 met in September. It was Rob Morris night as all Chapters celebrate the man who was the founder of Eastern Star. He is talked about and all members renew their obligation together. The Worthy Patron gave a talk on the renaissance period. We met again in October. Reports were given on the various activities of the Chapter. It was also discussed about how we would distribute our charitable money. Grand Representatives were honored. Each one was introduced, and they talked about their experiences as Grand Representatives. This is a great honor for any member to get. To visit other Grand Chapters is tremendous fun and enjoyment. I have experienced it myself. It is a happy memory you will never forget.

Submitted by: Brad Smith



List of Upcoming Events for MN River Valley Lodge #6:



November 2017

- 2nd – Reserved for Ritual Work
- 7th – 7:30 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
– Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
- 8th – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board
of Directors Meeting
- 10th – 6:00 P.M. Savage Masonic Center 2nd
Annual Celebration Dinner
- 11th – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn
Brothers Coffee in Apple Valley.
- 11th – Veterans Day
- 23rd – Thanksgiving Day
- 28th – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light Supper Provided



December 2017

- 5th – 7:30 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
– Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
- 7th – Reserved for Ritual Work
- 9th – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers
Coffee in Apple Valley
- 9th – 10:00 A.M. Widows Basket Event
- 13th – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board
of Directors Meeting.
- 16th – 2:00 P.M. Installation of Officers
- 24th – Christmas Eve
- 25th – Christmas Day
- 26th – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light Supper Provided
- 28th – Reserved for Ritual Work
- 29th – Articles Due for the Wayfarer
- 31st – New Year's Eve

Visit the Lodge Website and view the Lodge event calendar for the complete list of events for all Masonic Bodies that are utilizing the Savage Masonic Center. <http://www.mn-rivervalley.org/>
