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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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September/October 2018

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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.

S.O.S.

I'm sending an SOS out to my Brothers. I haven't seen so many of you in such a long time. Our meetings aren't as fun. They're not as full. We've done many important things and we'd like your input and guidance.

Where are you? I know its summer and that's the best time to travel (the cabin, fishing, vacations). I know many of us have kids and that means other activities like baseball, volleyball, scouts, etc. I know that many of us have "usual avocations" and that can sometimes make it difficult to attend. Maybe some of us haven't been in such a time that we're just used to not going.

I'm sending an SOS to all those Brothers. I'm asking all of you to please come back in. Please come see what we've done. Look at what we've accomplished. Imagine what we can do and accomplish with your help. Many of you built this Lodge to what it's become. Please come and help us all keep moving forward. Please share Brotherly Love with us. Come and dine with your Brothers. Remember how much fun you would have speaking to the different Brothers? Be a part of that again!

What made you become a Mason in the first place? Why did you become part of the greatest fraternity in the world? I've seen so many of us drop off and fade into the shade. Remember that yearning to "gain more light?" What happened to that? Where did that go?

I want all of us to do what we're meant to do. What we've signed on to do.

Continued on the next page

S.O.S., Continued

Share that Brotherly love, continue our pursuit of “light”, to help our communities out and to “take good men and make them better.” Where has that gone? I can’t imagine that we’re passed all that.

Maybe something has happened at/within Lodge that you didn’t like or appreciate. Maybe something was said out loud or to you that you didn’t appreciate. But I remind us all of our teachings. “or society of friends and Brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work, or best agree.” If this be the case, I beg you to come back, lay aside that difference and continue our “Labors.” There’s nothing to lose. But there’s so much to gain by continuing to be a part of Masonry.

Even if you’re active in an appendant body (Shrine, Scottish Rite, York Rite, etc.). Remember, your Blue Lodge is where everything began. Where you were first brought to Light. In fact, we have Entered Apprentices that have no mentor. No one is stepping up and helping our new Brothers out. This is NOT what we’re about. These men are “Good Men” and in a way are attempting to become “Great Men.” But we’re not helping them at all. That’s not how I was brought in. That’s not how I was treated. None of us were treated that way.

I’m sending out an SOS. Brothers please come back and be a part of YOUR Lodge. Please help the other Brothers that are in need. If there is something bothering you, please don’t just keep it in. It helps no one. Call me and speak to me about it. If you don’t want to “speak” to me, write me. Write me and tell me what’s going on. Maybe you’re so busy that you can’t attend everything but would like to help with other things. PLEASE let me know!! We’re here for you Brothers. That undying Love is always, forever and limitless. I ask you to call me out on my Cable tow.

S.O.S. Brothers.

James T. Wallin
Master
master@mn-rivervalley.org
651-274-0081



Renaissance Chapter #313 Invitation

Renaissance Chapter #313, Order of the Eastern Star cordially invites you and your families, and your incoming members and families to attend a short program honoring Masons and telling a little bit about the Order of the Eastern Star. This will be followed by a light snack and a chance to visit with each other. We hope to begin about 8:00 p.m. after the close of our regular meeting at the Savage Masonic Center.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Kathy Smith - Worthy Matron and Ted Smith -
Worthy Patron

Save the Date(s)

Saturday, December 8th

Minnesota River Valley Lodge #6
Installation of Lodge Leadership Team
Officers and Appointed Positions
Savage Masonic Center.



Saturday, February 2nd, 2019

Table Lodge
American Legion Post 643
12375 Princeton Ave, Savage, MN 55378



Stay tuned for more information

The Wayfarer

The next due date for The Wayfarer is Thursday, October 30, 2018. All articles for the November/December 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 January/February 2019 issue of The Wayfarer.

Thank You,

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

From the West

We reached that time of the year, Labor Day weekend. To some a very joyous time to others, sad. Many look forward to the long weekend away from work or the trip up North. Others however see the Labor Day holiday as the official end of summer...No more boating, fishing, golfing, softball, sun tanning, etc. In addition, Labor Day generally marks the time that students must return to school as well. And what would Labor Day be without the Minnesota State Fair!

Sometimes lost in all of these scenarios, is the reason there even is a Labor Day. Labor Day is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American Workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country. It wasn't too long ago that the Model T was thought to be futuristic mode of transportation whereas today we have cars that can parallel park themselves. Who would have imagined that due to advanced technology of the work force, just about everyone would be holding a mini computer in their hands? This labor force has created the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy.

It's difficult not to point out the similarities to Masonry. Our fraternal foundation is based on labors as outlined in the Master's duties; "to set the craft to work and give them good and wholesome instruction for their labors. These labors have certainly produced positive results. I suspect there are only a few brothers that don't remember the long steep staircase leading up to our former Lodge. Today, due to the hard work and long hours of a number of individuals, we have a beautiful single level Lodge building that we can all be proud of. At this time of the year, we should all reflect on the countless hours of labors that everyone has given through Ritual Work, Degree Work, Kolacky days, Von Hanson's brat sales, Building Maintenance, Meals, Programs, and the list goes on. These hours have not only benefited the

fraternity but has cut to the core of Masonry and has taken good men and made them better.

So, Bothers, take this Labor Day opportunity to celebrate your labors. However, just as our country needs to continually move forward, so does the Lodge. We have accomplished a great deal, but we also have much work ahead of us. There are so many roles to fill that we need everyone's help, but especially yours!

Donald Moy
Senior Warden
sw@mn-rivervalley.org



OES Report

Renaissance Chapter #313 met on July 19th. During the meeting there were discussions about our upcoming fund raiser and the Grand Family's official visit. We had five visitors from Mankato Chapter and two from Buffalo Chapter. The Worthy Matron in Connection with July gave a talk about the Declaration of Independence. The Worthy Patron gave a talk on the wildflower called Jack in the Pulpit. We met again on August 16th. Voting was done, and we elected a new member to join the Chapter. The Worthy Patron gave a talk on the Shooting Star flower. Most of us don't know much about flowers and it is interesting to learn some new things. Root beer floats and cookies were served after the meeting for our enjoyment.



Submitted by: Brad Smith

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 September and October 2018.

They are:

Lynn Mooney	45 Years	10/10/1973
Chris Heiliger	40 Years	09/14/1978
John Allen	20 Years	10/15/1988
Brad Smith	20 Years	10/24/1998

Congratulations!

Knights of Columbus-Mason Chicken Dinner

On Wednesday, August 22nd, the 50th K of C and Mason Chicken dinner was held at the K of C Hall in New Prague. About 30 individuals attended on behalf of the Masons and a great time was had. With the proceeds from the event we raised just over \$400, which was split between the two organizations.



September 2018 Stated Meeting Change Communication

Brethren of MN River Valley Lodge #6, please take notice that the September 2018 Stated Communication meeting has been changed to the following date, location and time:

When: Tuesday, September 11, 2018
Location: Richter's Woods
35672 173rd Ave
Montgomery, MN 56069
Time: 6:00 p.m. Social and Stated Meeting at
7:00 p.m.

The September meeting will be our annual Table Lodge/Meeting event.

To help offset the cost for the beverages and food, we would like each Brother, who will be attending, to consider giving a \$10 donation towards the Stewards Fund.

If you have any questions about this change, please contact the Lodge Secretary.

Please Welcome our Newest Entered Apprentices!

On May 10th and July 26th, MN River Valley Lodge conducted the Entered Apprentice Degrees and Initiated our newest Brothers into the Lodge. Please welcome Brother Rob Winters, Brother Cameron Cooper and Brother Anthony Celestain who were Initiated on May 10th and Brother Dale Tellers and Brother Tony Callahan who were Initiated on July 26th.



Newest EA's L to R: Rob Winters, Cameron Cooper and Anthony Celestain



Newest EA's L to R: Dale Tellers and Tony Callahan

Question?

Do you know that great feeling when you get into bed, fall straight to sleep and wake up feeling refreshed and ready to take on the day...

No, me neither.

Upcoming Von Hansen Brat and Hot Dog Stand Work Event

We have signed up for 3 more Von Hanson Brat and Hot Dog Stand events before the season is over and we are once again looking for volunteers to help us in these fund raiser events for the Lodge, our home. The dates and locations are the following:

1. **Saturday, September 22nd and Sunday, September 23rd at the Von Hanson's in Burnsville.**

Located at: 1908 Hwy 13 E, Burnsville, MN 55337 (At Hwy 13 and County Road 11)

2. **Saturday, September 29th and Sunday, September 30th at the Von Hanson's in Savage.**

Located at: 4301 Egan Drive (County Road 42) Savage, MN.

3. **Saturday, October 5th and Sunday, October 6th at the Von Hanson's in Savage (see location above).**

An email will be sent for the 3 different work schedules, where you can sign-up. You can also send request for information or to get signed up to Ben Sorenson at rivalvalleymason@sorensonauto.com or call Ben at (612) 756-0760

Ben Sorenson, Doug Rhodes and Donald Moy pause a moment at the Von Hanson's Fund Raiser Brat Stand from our August event.



Chaplain's Report

This year has had more of its share of sad news. In April we saw the passing of WB Henry Schaefer, Brother Jack Swenson missed the roll call on May 13th, Brother Harry Johnson on June 24th and then Brother Wilbur Leibbrand on July 24th. WB Tim Pray lost his wife, Kimm, who had been fighting breast cancer for 15 years, on Aug 21 and WB Gordy Bane lost his wife, Patricia, to cancer on Aug 21 after many years.

Bridgette Green is still recovering from a broken pelvis from a fall. Barbara Johnson is in good spirits according to friends while dealing with renal failure. WB Charles Marston is recovering and rehabbing from knee problems. Don't forget Dallas Horesji, who continues with his health challenges, namely breathing.

Keep each of them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Please let me know if you know of anyone who needs to be included in the prayers and thoughts of the lodge.

WB Tim Pray
Chaplain



On Round Tables

At our August Steering Meeting, we were few in number. With what appeared to be four or five ears of sweet corn per person at the serving counter, we proceeded through the line, eventually all sitting at one table. A few more Brothers arrived, each finding a seat being added for them at that one table. The Ten of us sitting around that one round table brought images of King Arthur's Round Table to mind. King Arthur is said to have used a round table to prevent quarrels among his barons. A round table has no head, and no butt. All who sit at such a table do so as equals. This is as in Masonry, where, while some may be elevated for a time, in the end we are all equals, and we endeavor to treat each other as such. One difference between King Arthur's Round Table and our round table that night is that we were a little short in numbers. While there were ten of us there, King Arthur is reported to have had somewhere between 12 and 150 sitting at his table. We would be happy to find a place for you at our round table.

Ted Smith – Junior Warden
jw@mn-rivervalley.org



The Roll of the Workmen Has Been Called!

And Brother Harry Johnson and Brother Wilbur A. Leibbrand have not responded.

Brother Harry Johnson



It is with heavy hearts that we acknowledge the passing of Harry Johnson on June 24, 2018. Harry was born on April 11, 1940 to George and Dorothy (Nelson) Johnson in Jordan, Minnesota. He was the youngest of five children. On June 11, 1961 Harry married Patricia Jarvis. They were married for 52 years. Harry served the Jordan community in many capacities. Harry was a retired Jordan Firefighter, past Police Officer, spent multiple terms on the Jordan City Council, and Civil Defense.

Brother Harry was Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on Marcy 24, 1977, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on April 28, 1977 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on June 16, 1977.

Brother Wilbur A. Leibbrand



Dr. Wilbur A. Leibbrand, DVM, age 94, of Hastings, passed away on July 24, 2018. Wilbur graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1953 as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Over the course of his career, he worked in private practice (Little Falls and Hastings, MN), for the USDA (Minneapolis and Kearney, NE), and as a college Professor at the U of M Waseca. He loved fishing, hunting (grouse were his favorite) and spending time with family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Eleanor.

Brother Wilbur was Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on October 26, 1953, Passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft on November 9, 1953 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on November 30, 1953.

Alas, my Brothers!

A Dinner to Honor our Masonic Widows



It's time for our fourth annual dinner to honor our Masonic widows. This event has been well received and enjoyed by all who have attended and appreciated by our Masonic widows.

Date:

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Time:

6:00 pm Social

7:00 pm Dinner

Location:

Savage American Legion

Cost:

\$25.00 per person

It will be a served dinner and a cash bar will be available.

Widows pins will be presented to any who do not yet have them.

Let us come and show our Masonic support for our special guests. They will be receiving individual invitations and offers of transportation if desired.

To reserve your place contact:

John Loutzenhiser

952-447-3032

jwloutze@gmail.com

Please RSVP by Thursday, September 20th.

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



September 2018

- 3rd – Labor Day
- 6th – Reserved for Ritual Work
- 8th – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers
Coffee in Apple Valley
- 11th – 7:30 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
– Dinner at 6:00 P.M.
- 12th – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board
of Directors Meeting.
- 13th – 8:00 p.m. OES Honoring Masons Event
- 15th – Road Side Cleanup (All welcome)
- 22nd – 23rd – Von Hanson’s Brat Stand Event
- 25th – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light Supper Provided
- 25th – 6:00 P.M. Widows Dinner
- 27th – Reserved for Ritual Work
- 29th – 30th – Von Hanson’s Brat Stand Event



October 2018

- 2nd – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
– Dinner at 6:00 P.M.
- 4th – Reserved for Ritual Work
- 6th – 7th – Von Hanson’s Brat Stand Event
- 10th – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board
of Directors Meeting
- 13th – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn
Brothers Coffee in Apple Valley.
- 23th – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light Supper Provided
- 25th – Reserved for Ritual Work
- 26th – Articles Due for the Wayfarer
- 31st – Halloween

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/>
