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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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May/June 2019

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Lodge Location:

4821 West 124th Street
Savage, MN 55378

Stated Meeting Date and Time:

1st Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 P.M.

From the East

One of the primary pillars of Masonry is the concept of Brotherly Love. Sharing that feeling amongst your fellow Brothers and others is the foundation of the Masonic teachings. Every day we witness our own Brothers here at Minnesota River Valley Lodge # 6 helping others in their time of need. I'm so pleased to see fellow Brothers stepping up when other Brothers are in times of need. Even more impressive, it's so humbling to see Brothers reaching out to others with just the true meaning of Brotherly Love. However, this has never been so obvious than the outpouring of love, compassion and support for our 2018 Minnesota Grand Master Ed Halpaus during his on-going battle with his health issues. Unfortunately, his health had deteriorated to the point that he was unable to conduct the Grand Lodge Annual Communication this year. I'm confident that he did not envision his journey through the Grand Lodge chairs would culminate to his absent from the meeting. Please continue to keep him in your thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time. Unfortunately, at the time of this publication, our hearts are broken further with the sudden passing of our newly installed Most Worshipful Grand Master of Minnesota, Steven D. Johnson. Only in the position for a week following the Grand Lodge Installation, we still are confident that we have loss a great leader, faithful Mason, and most of all, wonderful man. I first meant him years ago with Lew Price when he was contracted to develop a Masonic video. His expertise in that field brought him to Masonry but his membership can be contributed to his love of the work of Masons. Affiliated with the University of Minnesota, he was able to witness the care and empathy at the health facilities as well as the wonderful works at the Masonic Cancer Center.

Continued on the next page

From the East, Continued

Learning that these are the very substance and foundation that Masonry is based upon, Most Worshipful Grand Master submitted his petition right away. I was honored to be asked to serve as part of this team. Although taken before his Masonic work and plans were finished, the memory of his Masonic service and leadership will continue to live forever. Alas My Brother!

Don Moy
Master
master@mn-rivervalley.org
612-799-2174



OES Report

After being dark in January and February, Renaissance Chapter #313 met in March. We had elections for the upcoming year. The Secretary and Treasurer stations were honored. The Worthy Matron spoke about how important their work was and what a big job it is. Gifts were also given to them. A memorial was done for those who had passed away over the last year. The Worthy Matron gave her annual report for the year. The Worthy Patron gave an interesting talk on the Crab Apple Tree and Fruit. On April 6th, installation was held for the upcoming year. Josephine Smith was installed as Worthy Patron and Dan Hanley as Worthy Patron. We had our first meeting on April 18th. Officers were installed who were not at the installation. During the meeting a copy of the budget was passed out to all members. There was a discussion about it and any questions were answered.

Submitted by: Brad Smith



From the West

They say that April showers bring May flowers, but it appears a forecast of a snowstorm brings Grand Lodge. For the second year in a row snow made a reappearance in time for Grand Lodge April 12th and 13th. As MWB Edward Halpaus was unable to attend, Deputy Grand Master RWB Steven Johnson presided. The business meetings went swiftly. Reports and Legislation were approved in a timely manner, and the sessions consistently ended ahead of schedule.

The Leadership Breakout Session provided many resources for those of us going up the line, along with ideas for ways to keep members interested and engaged in lodge. Recommendations included finding ways to involve families and making sure that we provide a good Masonic education in a way that lights a candle and keeps members wanting to return for more. Other breakout sessions covered topics such as cyber security, and how to have a discussion while retaining civility. Conversations outside of the sessions also provided useful information of a wide variety of topics.

Our Lodge was well represented this year. With various comings and goings 15 of our members made it to Grand Lodge. In addition, three of our members took part in the Installation of Grand Lodge Officers. WB Don Moy was installed as Grand Pursuivant and was escorted in by WB John Loutzenhiser. WB Keith Donaldson was installed as a District Representative. These brothers deserve our thanks and appreciation for their service to Grand Lodge, and for increasing the visibility of our lodge.

Hopefully next year Grand Lodge will be snow free.

Ted Smith
Sr. Warden



2019 Dues Reminder

If you have yet to do so, please remember to pay your dues. Our operating budget for the year is based on the dues that are received, so it is critical that individuals pay in a timely manner, so that the Lodge can continue to function properly. Also, if you are involved with another Masonic organization, you must remain current in the Blue Lodge to remain a member in good standing with the other organizations. If you have any questions about the 2019 dues, please contact the Lodge Secretary

MRVL #6 Bowling Night



On Friday, April 26th, many of our Brotherhood, along with family members, dusted off our bowling balls to enjoy fellowship together at Cedarvale Lanes. We had a strong turn-out and a great time was had by all.

Little did the bowling participants realize but this event was also attended by our lodge's scouting committee. No longer will brothers be able to excuse themselves from participation in the Greater Twin City Masonic Bowling Tournament, held in Princeton each spring, by claiming they are not a good bowler. Be it known full scouting reports were kept in order for MRVL #6 to put together our best team possible next year.

It was especially recorded the outstanding bowling performances of WB Tim Pray, who almost had a 200 game, and Brother Paul Bergevin who also had an outstanding game.

Brothers, you are now put on notice. Not only for bowling but the scouting committee will also be out in full force during the upcoming MRVL #6 golf outing. We will be looking to put together a foursome to represent our lodge on July 13th, at Fraternal Lodge's golf event. Brother Gerry Robison claims we aren't competitive, but we really know we are.

Submitted by Brother Dan Ploenzke

The Wayfarer

The next due date for The Wayfarer is Thursday, June 21, 2019. All articles for the July/August 2019 issue are due by 5:00 p.m. on that day. Any articles that are received after the due date will be held over for the September/October 2019 issue of The Wayfarer.

Thank You,
WB Steven Scheffert –
(wayfarer@mn-rivervalley.org)



Famous Quote

“To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy of the benevolent design of a Masonic institution; and it is most fervently to be wished, that the conduct of every member of the fraternity, as well as those publications, that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race.

[*Letter to the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, January 1793*]” — **George Washington, Writings**

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 May and June 2019.

They are:

John Loutzenhiser	55 Years	05/09/1964
Gordon Clough	55 Years	05/27/1964
Robert Davis	40 Years	05/10/1979
Thomas Hone	30 Years	06/17/1989
Michael Kottwitz	25 Years	05/14/1994
Donald Moy	15 Years	05/21/2004
Timothy Pray	10 Years	06/20/2009



KC-Mason Chicken Dinner Planning Meeting

Brethren,

We are once again beginning to plan for the 51st annual KC/Mason Chicken Dinner.

We ask that you come and attend this planning event and enjoy in fellowship and join in the planning discussion. This year the KC's will be the host of the event. Typically, at the planning meeting and at the dinner event, the KC's have a much stronger showing than the Mason's, so it would be nice to turn the tables.

The planning meeting will be held on Monday, June 10th. Social is at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. A light meal will be provided.

This meeting will be held at Richter's Woods, in Montgomery, which is at the following location:

35672 173rd Ave
Montgomery, MN 56069

Stay tuned for the July/August issue of the Wayfarer for more information about the dinner itself.

Roadside Cleanup

Brethren,

Spring is upon us and our adoptive roadside is in need of a good cleaning after the summer, our fearless Roadside Clean-up Leader, WB Tim Pray, has scheduled our spring clean-up time to be on Saturday, May 4th starting at 9:00 a.m., with a make-up day of Sunday, May 5th, if the weather does not cooperate. We will be meeting at Fairchild Equipment (Old Menards building) in Burnsville/Savage, which is located at:

3100 West Highway 13
Burnsville, MN 55337

If you are also interested, individuals may meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Savage American Legion for breakfast.

For those that are planning on attending the clean-up event, MN DOT does request that you watch a safety video. Please click on the following link to watch it: [Adopt a Highway Safety Video](#)

Material will be provided to you, such as safety vests and garbage bags. There will be some gloves available as well, but if you have a good pair that you want to use, please bring those also. You are strongly encouraged to wear a good working boot or shoe along with other appropriate work clothing. As you never know what you might come across and you do not want to step on or pick up something that could either cut or puncture your skin.

If you can participate, please contact WB Tim Pray at tkpray441@gmail.com or (952) 212-1505

From our LEO

Brothers, as I have been appointed to be your Lodge Education Officer (LEO), that means it's my responsibility to ensure and give you the opportunity to continue "More Light."

But one thing I've learned becoming a Mason is that Light is given to you always. You just have to be receptive, open and willing to learn.

Though I'm here to "teach" you, I'm never willing, nor wanting to stop learning myself.

Thus, my Brothers, the point of this correspondence.

When you go to a function, a concert or a show, you never really think about how or whom does what to make things happen. For example, who keeps track of the lighting, the sound and making sure that everything is in place and moving along properly? It's something I've never thought about prior. It's absolutely amazing how many people it takes to just put one show or event into motion and to a successful conclusion. Which this discussion is apropos for what I'm about to say next.

Our Table Lodge is something we all enjoy, bring our significant others and always have a blast. But I'm sure you're like me and never really put much thought into how much work goes into bringing the Table Lodge forward and to fruition.

Did you know that this is something that the Master of Ceremonies (MC) begins preparations for in summer? Sometimes even sooner. The MC and Secretary work with the Legion for the date, time, menu, refreshment (powder) and head count for months leading up to the event.

Believe it or not, the Master has some, but a minimal part of the Table Lodge. The MC is the one in the driver's seat. So, let's look at one common thread here. The Master of Ceremonies. Let's talk about OUR Master of Ceremonies. WM Don Moy.

I'm sorry that I don't have all absolute facts. Such as, I've no idea how many years WM has been the MC of Table Lodge. I'm not sure how tall he is or how much he weighs (well, I do, but sworn to the Secret of a Master Mason). But I do know that our Table Lodge has become renowned because of this man. This Brother. Our Master.

I don't know how much cumulative time WM has put into all of the Table Lodges. But I can and will tell you, that

this man put a ton of time, effort and energy into the Table Lodge in a hospital bed. That's not right. Not just effort. Not just energy. Effort and passion! That is definitely one way to define "sacrifice." There it is. DILLY DILLY!

WM Don has given us so much for these Table Lodges that we, not intentionally, have taken for granted. I mean let's be honest, the Legion has stepped up their steak game over the past few years, but that's not what draws me to Table Lodge. My in-laws enjoy the meals too, but that's not what they're coming for either. We're going for the camaraderie. Brotherly Love. And for, "The Don." Let's be honest. As we're leading up to the Table Lodge, we begin talking amongst ourselves and asking, "what's he going to do this year?" Because, again, we know he puts so much time into it.

WB James, what's your point? Many of you know, and many don't. WM Don has decided to hang his (proverbial) hat as Master of Ceremonies for Minnesota River Valley Lodge #6's Table Lodge.

WM Don, I feel that I can speak for the Lodge, our families, members of other Lodges and members of Grand Lodge... Thank you. Thank you so much for making not just one evening fun, but making our Lodge known for how fun we are with our Table Lodge and us as a whole. WM thank you for teaching us what passion is and can be. Thank you for showing us how much you care for us to put on such a wonderful event. Thank you for not just bringing "More Light" to us, but to our families and friends as well. Again, we're always looking for "More Light", and you've definitely brought us that. Cheers to our WM. With me my Brothers. Three times three for our WM MC.

Now having said our proper thank you, this creates quite an opportunity. Who is to be our next Master of Ceremonies? Do we begin our own MN River Valley Has Talent and audition? What do you guys think? Any takers?

--

James T. Wallin
dudley997@gmail.com
651-274-0081



Come One Come All!!

You're all cordially invited to attend the bestowing of the highly revered Hiram award upon Worshipful Brother Tim Pray.

The Hiram Award is an award presented to a Master Mason who has served the Lodge and the Masonic Fraternity with devotion over and above the ordinary. It is the highest honor (other than being Master of the Lodge) that can be bestowed on a member of a Masonic Lodge. The Hiram Award is not given for service as Master or any elected or appointed office or committee. The recipient is recognized by his brethren in Masonry for his service to the fraternity, because of his efforts to support one or more Masons, a Lodge or Lodges, a District, the Grand Lodge or the fraternity as a whole. It is a singular distinction, and indicates the esteem, respect and admiration of the members.

WB Tim embodies exactly that.

Please join us on the evening of June 7th

Social at 6:00 p.m. and Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

At Casper's Cherokee of Eagan, located at

4625 Nicols Rd

Eagan, MN 55122

Our delicious meal costs are \$30 and the options for this evening are as follows.

- 1.) Top Sirloin, 8 ounces.
- 2.) Canadian Walleye Broiled Medium Filet.
- 3.) Minnesota Chicken Breast – Topped with bacon, mushroom, onion, green pepper, and hollandaise sauce, served over rice (no potato).
- 4.) Barbecued Ribs Petite Rack
- 5.) Cheese Stuffed Tortellini with Red Sauce (no potato).
- 6.) Champagne Chicken served over rice with champagne sauce (no potato).

RSVP must be sent to WB James Wallin at dudley997@gmail.com or (651) 274-0081, with your meal selections, no later than May 31st. Please make payments to MN River Valley Lodge #6.

WB Tim Pray's accomplishments



Master Mason



Scottish Rite



Master of the
Royal Secret



Past Master



Hiram Award
Recipient



MN River Valley Lodge #6

Mentoring Updates

Minnesota River Valley #6 had one of the largest candidate classes in the state at the One Day to Masonry in January, with 5 men becoming Master Masons. Rob Winter getting his Fellowcraft and Master Mason degree; Mike Bauer eagerly went through the Fellowship and Master Mason degrees at the Heritage Center; and Perry Johnson finally believed that Masonry isn't the cult He once thought it was by going through the Entered Apprentice, Fellowship (principle candidate), and Master Mason degrees in one long day.

These new Master Masons continue to learn more about Masonry by moving into the Shrine and York Rite. Come to the upcoming Stated Meetings to support these men as they perform their proficiencies. They have committed to Masonry by their attendance at meetings and events, some of this is due in part by following the advice and example of Mentors that are working with them. A strong Blue Lodge and indeed a strong Masonic Family stems in large part to developing good men from the beginning with mentors. Thank you to all of MnRV's mentors past and present. Minnesota River Valley is a strong, vibrant and growing Lodge because of the care we share for our craft and each other.

Mentoring helps the new Mason learn what the Rituals' allegory meaning is about, mentors show the new mason how to salute the Master, when to stand, when to sit in Tyled Meetings and why. A mentor provides someone in the lodge the new mason can ask questions, show the way or even just go find the right answer from another source. That last part is important, being a Mentor isn't about knowing everything or having all the bling. There are new men that are coming into Our lodge! We need more Mentors. Consider becoming a Mentor, we have young to old men asking to become a Mason in our Lodge! #6 has a lot to offer a new Mason, we have young and old Master Masons, newer and more seasoned Masons, Masons with a wide variety of experience in the Masonic world, a great lodge building and many resources to contribute to. Please contact me or WB Don Moy if you would consider becoming a mentor for the new brothers, we are expecting to join our Lodge this year.

WB Tim Pray

Perpetual Masonic Life Memberships

Have you ever thought about a Perpetual Life Membership with your Lodge? Life memberships can offer a Brother a one-time or multiyear payment(s) to be made to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota (not your current Lodge) based upon an age factor number that they provide times the current dues rate of your Lodge. Then each year when your Lodge dues cards come out, you will receive your dues card from your Lodge Secretary and no future payment would be required, regardless of what the dues for the year are. The prepaid dues are only good for the Lodge that you apply for, so if you belong to multiple Lodges and want to have a Life Membership with each one, then you would need to submit an application for each Lodge and pay the respective amount.

If you are interested in this option, feel free utilize the [Pre-Paid Dues \(Life Membership\) Brochure](#) (click the link) that is provided by the Grand Lodge. If you interested in this option and are not able to access the brochure, then contact your Lodge Secretary for a copy of it.

Steven Scheffert – sec@mn-rivervalley.org
(402) 960-3629

Memorial Day

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2018 occurs on Monday, May 28. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day.

Masonic Symposium Series 2019

Helios Lodge No. 273
343 Second Ave SW, Cambridge, MN



Ticket Prices
\$40/one event
\$70/two events
\$120/all four events

Four opportunities to attend!

Come listen to one, or all four, of our country's foremost Masonic scholars discuss history, ritual, symbolism and brotherhood. Scheduled speakers are Rex Hutchens, Arturo de Hoyos, Pete Normand and Sean Graystone

Saturday schedule for each event in the series

- 11:00 Registration
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Presentation
- 2:00 Coffee break
- 2:15 Presentation
- 3:15 Break
- 3:30 Q&A
- 4:00 Close



Attend one symposium or all four!

Ticket Prices
\$40/one event
\$70/two events
\$120/all four events

Limited Seating

Ticket Reservations:
Andrew Barrett, PM
612-709-7603
hightenor@msn.com

Master Masons Only



A Series of Four Separate Events

May 18, 2019	Rex Hutchens
September 21, 2019	Pete Normand
October, 19, 2019	Arturo de Hoyos
January, 11, 2020	Sean Graystone

Rex Hutchens, 33°, Grand Cross

PGM, Grand Lodge of Arizona
Internationally-recognized Masonic scholar and author of publications that include *The Revised Standard Pike Ritual*, *Bridge to Light*, and *Pillars of Wisdom: The Writings of Albert Pike*.

Pierre G. "Pete" Normand, 33°, Grand Cross

PM, Texas Lodge of Research
Internationally known for his Masonic research, writing and publishing, he is Past Master of several lodges, including St. Alban's Lodge No. 1455, which he founded in 1992 as the first lodge in the US chartered as a Traditional Best Practices Lodge. Former Editor of the *American Masonic Review* and the *Plumbline*.

Arturo de Hoyos, 33°, Grand Cross

Past Master, McAllen Lodge No. 1110, A:-F:-A:-M:- of Texas
Full Member, Quatuor Lodge 2076 (London, UGLE),
Grand Archivist and Grand Historian Supreme Council, 33°
Author, editor and translator of more than 25 books on the Scottish Rite and other Masonic orders, rites and systems.

Sean Graystone, 33°, Grand Cross

Past Master, Cerrillos Lodge No. 19, A:-F:-A:-M:- of New Mexico
Owner's Representative and Director, Building and Grounds
Supreme Council, 33° | Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ, USA
Creator of VMAP - Providing Brothers with a Superior Scottish Rite Experience



Discover what it means to be a
Mason & Shriner

Come and share in the fun!

Membership Drive
2019 Events



March 5 4-7 pm Woodbury
3rd Act Craft Brewery



April 17 4-6 pm Alexandria
Copper Trail Brewing



May 18 1-4 pm Waite Park
Crooked Pint Ale House



June 8 2-5 pm Austin
Torge's Live Sports



Sept. 14 1-4 pm Mankato
Buffalo Wings & Rings



Oct. 12 1-4 pm Rochester
Kinney Creek Brewery



Nov. 2 1-4 pm Winona
Island City Brewing Co.

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7
May

OSMAN SHRINER
CYCLE CORPS

6
PM

NOTICE OF SPECIAL OSMAN CYCLE CORPS EVENT

YOU ARE INVITED

Come meet Ashly Felske a Shriner Hospital patient and her father Mike Felske

Date: May 7, 2019
Where: St. Paul Harley Davidson (HOG Room), 2899 Hudson Blvd St. Paul MN 55128
Time: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 6:30 pm (TBD will be awesome)
RSVP: Ray Williamson at RayWilliamson@dakotatruck.net or 612-819-4277

- Meet the Founding members of the Osman Shrine Cycle Corps Drill Team
- Find out what it means to be a Shriner and a Cycle Corps Drill Team Member
- Check out all the new Harley Davidson Motor Cycles, parts and accessories
- Meet Justin Johnson, Dealer Principal, St. Paul Harley Davidson



SPECIAL THANKS TO
ST. PAUL HARLEY DAVIDSON



"We Ride So Kids Can Walk"



Metro West Association Presents: A series of Educational Seminars

This free series of seminars put on by Brother Hans Neisz will cover the First Three Degrees of Masonic Ritual, from the history of Freemasonry, to the meaning behind the symbolism of the degrees, and the lectures themselves.

It is the hope that by attending these seminars, one or all, you will be better prepared to bring light to your candidates as they join your lodge and go through their degrees.

The material will be presented as if YOU are the Candidate going through for your first time as a new Brother, and are learning these lessons as all new Brothers should.

The series is divided into 5 nights, running every Thursday from 7-9pm for 5 weeks beginning on May 16th, and ending on June 13th.

The location will be the Osseo Masonic Center at 214 Central Ave. Osseo MN, 55369, with the exception of June 13th, which will be held at Anoka Lodge #30 at 1908 3rd Ave. Anoka, MN, 55303

For more information or to Register please contact:
WB Terrance M Schaffer at Sweetidiot@Aol.Com

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



May 2019

- 2nd – Reserved for Ritual Work.
- 4th – 9:00 P.M. Road Side Clean-Up.
- 7th – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
– Dinner at 6:00 P.M.
- 8th – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board
of Directors Meeting.
- 9th – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers
Coffee in Apple Valley.
- 12th – Mother’s Day
- 18th – 10:00 A.M. Masonic Center Annual
Meeting.
- 23rd – Reserved for Ritual Work
- 28th – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light Supper Provided.



June 2019

- 4th – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
– Dinner at 6:00 P.M.
- 6th – Reserved for Ritual Work.
- 7th – 6:00 P.M. WB Tim Pray Hiram Award
- 8th – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers
Coffee in Apple Valley.
- 10th – 6:00 P.M. KC/Mason Chicken Dinner
Planning Meeting in Montgomery.
- 12th – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board
of Directors Meeting.
- 14th – Flag Day
- 16th – Father’s Day
- 21st – Articles Due for the Wayfarer.
- 25th – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light Supper Provided.
- 27th – Reserved for Ritual Work.

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/>
