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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”

Volume 22, Issue 05

September/October 2020

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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

Challenging Waters

I took a High Adventure trip to the Boundary Waters when I was a Boy Scout. Six of us loaded our gear (well most of it, but that is another story) into two canoes and set off. The first lake was good size, but presented no major challenges. We went on a short portage to the second lake. That second lake was significantly bigger than the first, with large white caps. While at first it was definitely nerve-racking to be paddling in waves that were big compared to our canoes, we soon adapted to our new normal, and the waves didn't seem so big anymore. Right now, we are adapting to Covid-19.

We held a Stated Meeting for the first time since March, adhering to cleaning, social distance, masks, and other requirements. It was good to be back in Lodge. Going forward, we hope to be able to ballot on petitioners at the next Stated meeting. If the ballots are favorable, we will have candidates for the next EA degree put on by Grand Lodge. The first EA degree the grand Lodge put on will doubtless bring improvements to the next one, as they continue working to be able to put on the degree as safely as possible. While many events such as the KC-Mason Chicken Dinner have been canceled this year, other things are going on in a modified form. The Firearms Safety Course that we support has begun its fall class, albeit with a small class size, and other safety precautions. Looking Forward, we expect to finish out the year meeting in Lodge for Stated Meetings, and meeting on Zoom for steering meetings.

Continued on the next page

From the East, Continued

Covid-19 has made things different this year, and we are adapting as best we can. But remember, that as we adjust to this new normal, it is important to not let down our guard. Wear a face mask, social distance, wash your hands often, and follow CDC guidance. Those waves in the Boundary Waters were no less dangerous just because we got used to them, neither is Covid.

Stay Safe and Healthy,

Ted Smith
Master, MRVL #6



From the West

Back to work

Being back to work is exciting and scary. Figuring out new expectations and processes. Connecting to new and old people from a different perspective. Keeping an open mind to possibilities. I have always believed that the only constant in our day to day is CHANGE. If you live hoping that everything is going to stay the same or constant you will be disappointed. We have been hit with a big change as the COVID-19 pandemic has changed everything in our daily routine. Some things for the better and somethings for the worse. As we get back to work at the Lodge, we are sanitizing everything before and after, we are wearing a face masks, we are opening on the First Degree because we cannot be closer than 6 ft. from each other, for now we cannot shake hands or show those signs of love and affection toward one another. So, we need to get back to work in new ways.

We need to work on interactions with others. Meaning, being considerate of others. With all of, the divisiveness or division that is going on, I have always believed that Freemasonry needs to be the lead on how our communities should work through these divides. Everyone is allowed to have an opinion and civil discussion can take place and somewhere in the middle is compromise. We have come to a place where compromise is seen as a bad thing or a sign of

The Wayfarer

The next due date for The Wayfarer is Friday, October 23rd, 2020. All articles for the November/December 2020 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 January/February 2021 issue of The Wayfarer.

Thank You,

WB Steven Scheffert – WB James Wallin
(wayfarer@mn-rivervalley.org)



weakness. We as Freemasons need to get back to work in our communities, in our workplaces, in our social media posts, in our families and most especially in our Lodges to be that Rock of Civility within all the divisiveness. Show that discussion can happen with respect and dignity toward one another. There is a reason that we were given two ears and one mouth, we need to listen more and talk less. We need to work with our Trowel to spread the cement of Brotherly love and affection; that cement which unites us into one sacred band, or society of friends and Brothers. Among whom no contention should ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation (def.: to imitate with effort to equal or surpass), of who best can work or best agree! Let's get **BACK TO WORK!**

Paul Bergevin
Senior Warden
Minnesota River Valley Lodge #6
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OES Report

Renaissance chapter #313 did not meet in July. We did have a meeting on August 20th. It was our first meeting since March. We had a shorter installation of officers for the 2020-2021 year. Ravelle Smith was installed as worthy matron and Brad Smith as worthy patron. A copy of this year's budget was passed out to all members. It was reviewed, discussed, voted on and approved. With the upcoming presidential election, the worthy patron gave a talk about U.S. presidential elections with some interesting facts. The first presidential election was in 1788-232 years ago! We were happy to have a meeting again and look forward to next month's meeting.

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 2020.

They are:

Dale Huber	65 Years	09/26/1965
Eugene Allen	45 Years	10/04/1975
Thomas Underwood	10 Years	10/09/2010



From the South



Brothers – My son recently sent me a thought-provoking article. Knowing that I am involved with the Scottish Rite he thought I would find it interesting.

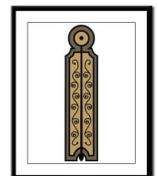
It seems that for about \$60 you can purchase a small plot of land in the Highlands of Scotland. (The plot of land is just one square foot, not the castle pictured above) This allows you to officially change your name to include the title of Lord. In my case, I could be Lord Dan Ploenzke.

Masonry teaches us to treat all our brothers as equal. Taking this a bit further, I am encouraged to treat everyone as equal, even if they are not part of our Masonic family. It seems to me that with the divisiveness transpiring in our country this Masonic teaching is extremely relevant. In addition, I am concerned that the polarity of our political system is going to create even more tension as we near the November election.

I encourage all of us, as Masons, to remember our obligations and live by example out in the world to respect everyone we come into contact with as fellow human beings. We all are different in many, many different ways but we all are equal in the eyes of our Supreme Architect.

No, I did not purchase any land in Scotland. I do not desire the title of Lord. I would much rather be a Brother. I hope you do too!

Dan Ploenzke
Junior Warden
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jw@mn-rivervalley.org



2020 Stated Meeting Change Communication

Brethren of MN River Valley Lodge #6, please take notice that the Master of the Lodge announced that for the remainder of the year, our Stated Communication meetings will remain at business casual for our dress attire.

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

WB Steve Scheffert
sec@mn-rivervalley.org



Daylight Savings!

It is that time again as on Sunday, November 1st Daylight Savings Time ends. Since it is in the “fall-time”, we need to “fall back” one hour on our clocks. 1 hour backwards at 2:00 a.m.



Lexophiles for Thought

- 1.) A dentist and manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- 2.) A hardboiled egg is hard to beat.
- 3.) A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to the hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said, ‘No Change yet.’

The Roll of the Workmen Has Been Called!

And Brother Marvin Peterson has not responded.



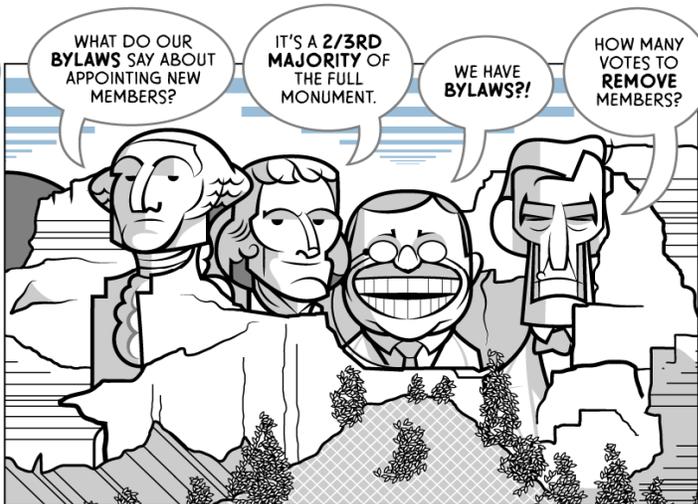
Brother Marvin Stanley Peterson, age 103, of Montgomery, formerly of Bloomington, died peacefully on Saturday, August 1, 2020 at Traditions in Montgomery.

Marvin was born on June 18, 1917 in Grove City, Minnesota to Hans and Helen (Nelson) Peterson. He married the love of his life, Ardys Leone Ekbohm on May 16, 1940 in Minneapolis, MN. WWII brought him to service in the US Navy and he was stationed stateside in San Diego. He worked his entire career as a mechanic for NW Airlines, retiring after 43 years with the company. Marvin was a Mason and an avid supporter of the Boy Scouts, serving as a leader for his son’s troop. His entire life revolved around work; he lived to work and worked to live; after retirement, he enjoyed tinkering and fixing and was the first to come to a family member’s aid when something was needed. He had a jovial personality and a smile on his face. He tackled even recreational activities with the same kind of intensity – he was the winner of the Rush River Pumpkin Growing Contest at the age of 98! He remained in his home at 8500 16th Ave. S. in Bloomington independently until moving to assisted living at the age of 101.

Marvin is survived by his daughter, Bonnie (Rayland) Scholl; son, Marc (Kathy) Peterson; 7 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife, Ardys on November 28, 2019; daughter, Marcia Blasidell; grandson, Randy Scholl.

No services are planned at this time.

You are sorely missed Brother.



TWO PARTY OPERA 806

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



September 2020

- 1st** – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting – NO Dinner this evening.
- 7th** – Labor Day
- 9th** – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board of Directors Meeting. – Virtual Meeting
- 12th** – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers Coffee in Apple Valley.
- 22nd** – 7 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting – Meeting will be held via internet. Communication will be sent out.



October 2020

- 6th** – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting – NO Dinner this evening.
- 10th** – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers Coffee in Apple Valley.
- 14th** – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board of Directors Meeting. – Virtual Meeting
- 23rd** – Articles Due for the Wayfarer.
- 27th** – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting – Meeting will be held via internet. Communication will be sent out.
- 14th** – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board of Directors Meeting.
- Nov 1st** – Daylight Savings ends. Remember to “fallback.”

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/>
