



[HTTP://WWW.MN-RIVERVALLEY.ORG](http://www.mn-rivervalley.org)

THE WAYFARER

MN RIVER VALLEY LODGE #6

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

Volume 24, Issue 02

March/April 2022

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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

TEAMWORK
coming together is a beginning



Brothers –

I am truly amazed. We have begun our new year, not only with the “craziness” of COVID, but with pipes freezing in our Lodge, causing them to burst. The resulting clean-up and monitoring of our heating systems resulted in many, many hours of extra work. Numerous Brothers have taken on additional projects and responsibilities. In addition, several other urgent issues have arisen over the last month.

Finally, your Worshipful Master and Senior Warden have been out of town for the last month.

The number of Brothers who stepped up and worked tirelessly to provide leadership over the last month is truly incredible. I am not going to call-out specific Brothers who have assisted, because in doing so, I am sure to omit someone who helped out. I also know that I cannot express my appreciation enough for all the Brotherly support. Our Lodge is truly blessed to have so many Brothers that can be counted on when needed.

Being a month about TEAMWORK, I found an article that is very interesting and provides a unique way to encourage teamwork in a Lodge:

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Let us think about our Lodge as a house and our Brothers as a family.

In the Living Room – we spend quality time together.
In the Family Room – we should be present and enjoy the moment.

In the Office – we work together.

In the Kitchen – we create and share our meals together.

In the Laundry Room – we clean up after ourselves.

In the Bedroom – we respect each other's privacy and differences of opinion.

In the Yard and Garden – we don't forget to socialize and play.

In the Garage – we fix what is not working.

Naturally, each room is an analogy for the different attributes of our time together. I am so proud of our Lodge and our Family of Brothers. My words are not adequate.

I am back in town. As Master, I am looking forward to a successful remainder of the year together. We have so much momentum and potential as a Lodge. It is truly exciting!!!

Fraternally,

Dan Ploenzke
Master
(612) 282-5948
master@mn-rivervalley.org



The Wayfarer

The next due date for The Wayfarer is April 15, 2022. All articles for the May/June 2022 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 July/August 2022 issue of The Wayfarer.

Thank You,
WB James Wallin –
wayfarer@mn-rivervalley.org



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 March and April 2022.

They are:

Dean Colligan	45 Years	03/09/1977
Steven Scheffert	30 Years	04/27/1992
Nathan Smithson	15 Years	04/24/2007



Lexophiles for Thought!

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

2022 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 2022 dues, please contact the Lodge Secretary. We do accept credit card payments, via PayPal. A small fee will be applied to your dues to offset the cost of this service. You can also pay on the Grand Lodge website!

WB Steve Scheffert
sec@mn-rivervalley.org

From the West

Civility is good for our Mental Health

While watching the news the other day, I saw a report that Georgetown University had just finished a survey on civility in our country today. As you may guess, the poll was intended to be a statement on politics and politicians. However, I don't think it's much of a leap to say that a general incivility and rudeness is insidiously creeping into our daily discourse. Airlines, grocery stores, parks, meetings, etc. are often becoming arenas of contentiousness and rudeness.

George Washington, Father of our country and revered Mason, wrote out 110 rules for Civility and Decent Behavior when he was 16 years old. (<https://managers.usc.edu/files/2015/05/George-Washingtons-Rules.pdf>). Often attributed as original to him they are, in fact, rules that were written for young Medieval noblemen as a guideline for how a man should strive to live their lives. That George would write these rules out and apparently use them as a guideline to his behavior for the rest of his life, may say more about the man than his refusal to "tell a lie", in the cherry tree myth. Here are the 32 that could be considered to be most relevant to today's day and age. Number 14 is particularly relevant to Masons.

- 1. Every action done in company ought to be with some sign of respect to those that are present.*
- 2. Let your countenance be pleasant but in serious matters somewhat grave.*
- 3. The gestures of the body must be suited to the discourse you are upon.*
- 4. Reproach none for the infirmities of nature, nor delight to put them that have in mind of thereof.*
- 5. Show not yourself glad at the misfortune of another though he were your enemy.*
- 6. Undertake not to teach your equal in the art himself professes; it savors of arrogancy.*

7. Let your ceremonies in courtesy be proper to the dignity of his place with whom you converse, for it is absurd to act the same with a clown and a prince.

8. When a man does all he can, though it succeeds not well, blame not him that did it.

9. Being to advise or reprehend anyone, consider whether it ought to be in public or in private, and presently or at some other time; in what terms to do it; and in reproving show no signs of cholor but do it with all sweetness and mildness.

10. Wherein you reprove another be unblameable yourself, for example is more prevalent than precepts.

11. Use no reproachful language against anyone; neither curse nor revile.

12. Be not hasty to believe flying reports to the disparagement of any.

13. Play not the peacock, looking everywhere about you, to see if you be well decked, if your shoes fit well, if your stockings sit neatly and clothes handsomely.

14. Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.

15. Let your conversation be without malice or envy, for 'tis a sign of a tractable and commendable nature.

16. Utter not base and frivolous things among grave and learned men.

17. Speak not of doleful things in a time of mirth or at the table; speak not of melancholy things as death and wounds, and if others mention them, change if you can the discourse.

18. Tell not your dreams, but to your intimate friend.

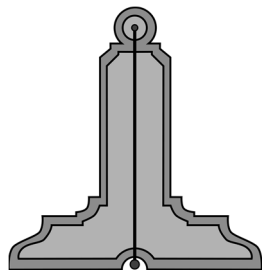
19. Deride no man's misfortune though there seem to be some cause.

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From the West, Continued

20. *Be friendly and courteous.*
21. *Give not advice without being asked, and when desired do it briefly.*
22. *In things indifferent be of the major side.*
23. *Reprehend not the imperfections of others, for that belongs to parents, masters and superiors.*
24. *Think before you speak, pronounce not imperfectly, nor bring out your words too hastily, but orderly and distinctly.*
25. *When another speaks, be attentive yourself and disturb not the audience. If any hesitate in his words, help him not nor prompt him without desired. Interrupt him not, nor answer him till his speech be ended.*
26. *Be not apt to relate news if you know not the truth thereof.*
27. *Be not curious to know the affairs of others.*
28. *Let your carriage be such as becomes a man grave, settled and attentive to that which is spoken. Contradict not at every turn what others say.*
29. *Speak not evil of the absent, for it is unjust.*
30. *Be not angry at table whatever happens and if you have reason to be so, show it not but on a cheerful countenance especially if there be strangers, for good humor makes one dish of meat a feast.*
31. *Let your recreations be manful not sinful.*
32. *Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.*

Brother Gerry Robison
Senior Warden
MRVL#6
sw@mn-rivervalley.org



OES Report

Renaissance Chapter #313 was dark and did not meet in January. We met on February 17th. We discussed having a social get together of chapter members once a month. We also discussed using Facebook to help raise money for charities and promote the order of the eastern star. The Worthy Patron gave a talk on the history of Valentine's Day and a report on the Grand Family's recent visits and events they attended. We will meet in March for elections for the upcoming year.

Submitted by: Brad Smith



The Roll of the Workman Has Been Called

It is with extreme sadness to inform you that the roll of the workman has been called and Brother Thomas K. Petersen has not responded as he passed to the Celestial Lodge Above on Saturday, January 1, 2022. Brother Thomas Petersen was Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on August 23, 2006, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on October 13, 2006 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on December 02, 2006.

Please keep Brother Thomas Smith (Brother Thomas Petersen's son) and their family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



MEETING MINUTES

Brothers, the MNRV #6's meeting minutes are no longer be posted to our website. Due to security reasons, they're only posted to [Grand View](#)! If you haven't signed up for Grand View, please do, it has so many resources that every Brother can use.

From the South

You never know...

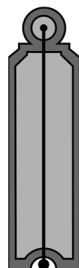
Life is a journey full of unexpected turns. Good ones, bad ones, happy and sad. I was recently blessed with both of my daughters getting married this past summer, and now, out of the blue, they are both expecting. That's right two weddings and three grandchildren (one is having twins) in eleven months. That's a good, unexpected turn of event. Covid, and all of the hardship that it caused us is a bad one. It affected all of us in deep and different ways. We cannot control when things will happen to us in our lives, and when they do our sense of normal gets shaken. So when we can find "normal" in our lives, even if it is routine, we need to embrace it.

So where am I going with this.

Well, we are finally getting back to "normal" after the pandemic. And for me one of the routines in my life that is positive and gets me grounded, is going to lodge. I know what to expect, I enjoy the craft, and I am surrounded by men who care about me. Masonry has always been a part of our lives that we can count on. It is predictable, it is routine, and yet it is still a place where we can challenge ourselves to be better and do better. What a great place!!

So, in this world where we never know what will happen next, and how we will need to adapt to whatever it does, there is a place filled with brothers, where we actually do know what will come next and when. It is predictable, routine, and welcoming, by design. And since we don't know when that next interruption will happen, let's get together as brothers at the next event or meeting and emerge ourselves in the brotherly "normal" routine that is Masonry.

Brother Joe Andrus
Junior Warden
MRVL#6
jw@mn-rivervalley.org



From the LEO

Greeting's brethren! For this issue I want to talk a bit about mentor/mentee relationship and the resources you have available to you. The mentor/mentee process will get out of what each brother puts into it. Regular communication between yourselves and other brothers in the lodge will greatly increase the success of the process and help to build lifetime connections to the fraternity. That said, there are a few things that are available to help the process along.

Firstly, of course, the Grandview site. Upon successfully logging into your account, you should be able to access the "Candidate Learning Center". I've not done this yet (as I was wanting to write this article first) myself, which means all of the material is still available for me to review. Regardless of your level of experience within the lodge, if you haven't gone through the training it should also be available for you to review. For those that are currently going through the degrees, it will only show you the material that is at the proper level. Then, as you progress more will be unlocked. I would highly recommend anyone who hasn't yet gone over this to do so. It is a self-paced process and will help to fill in any gaps you might have from when you were new to Masonry.

Secondly, are the printed materials that we provide to both the mentor and the mentee. If you are a mentor, I would recommend reviewing this material regularly. At least each time you agree to mentor a new brother at each new level they progress to. This will do two things. 1) it will help to ensure that you know what information your mentee is reading and be able to have better conversations, and 2) each time you read something your own understanding will deepen. For the mentee these are a great jumping off point for each of the degrees as they undergo them. But it isn't the end-all-be-all of Masonic learning. Don't be shy to ask questions. If your mentor doesn't know the answer, he will help to find it out.

Thirdly, is the Lodge. The Lodge isn't the building, the furniture, or the lights. That's just where we meet and how we practice our work. The Lodge is the brethren. Each one of us are both the Masons who build and the blocks with which we build our Lodge. We are all here to assist any brother within our Lodge along their Masonic journey. So again, please don't be shy in asking any brother as you seek to improve yourself in Masonry.

WB Jason
LEO





Entered Apprentice Degree
01/06/2022

Held at the Savage Masonic Center

From left to right:

Br. Mike Araujo, Br. Stuart Schatz, Br. Gerry Robison,
W.M. Dan Ploenzke, and Br. George Rosar II
Congratulations to our newest Brothers!

Thank you all.

The Family of Betty Jean Price thanks everyone for your passionate outpouring of well-wishes during the time of our loss. Thank you to all the volunteers for your tireless efforts and assistance setting up and helping with the ceremony.

The presence of all your thoughts and prayers helped us as we prepared for Betty's Celebration of Life. We shall carry these expressions of Love as we move forward in our lives.

Thank you so much!

Lew Price

Deborah {Walraven} Wenger
Devin, Sabrina, Nova Jean Price

Paulette Price

Tom Price Bill Price Michelle {Price} Fox

Did You Know?

On his famous solo flight across the Atlantic, Brother Charles Lindbergh wore a **square and compasses** on his jacket as a good luck piece. Smart thinking!



Plus
Pot O' Gold
Liquor
Raffle !!!



Thursday, March 3, 2022; 7:00-10:00 pm

at the NE Moose Bar & Grill - Lower Level
356 Monroe St. NE, Minneapolis

❖ Trivia Prizes ❖ Team Competitions ❖ Raffles*
❖ Cash Bar, Food and Fun!

Open to the Public: Masons, non Masons, Family, Friends, Co Workers,
Mr. Know-It-All next door.

Form teams of three and compete against friends, co workers,
other blue lodges or Masonic groups!

\$15 per Person or \$30 per Team of Three

*Grand Prize Raffle of \$600 of Top Shelf Liquors
Grand Prize Raffle tickets \$40

Also Meat Raffles and Trivia Prizes!

Fun for Everyone!



Fundraiser for St. Paul Council No. 1 of Cryptic Masons and the CMRF
Register Individually or your Team of Three at crypticcouncil1@gmail.com



SHRINERS BREAKFAST & BAKE SALE



Public is Welcome

BREAKFAST

Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage
& Scrambled Eggs

BAKE SALE

homemade pies, cookies, breads, bars

Hosted by MINNESOTA VALLEY SHRINERS CLUB

March 20, 2022 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Savage American Legion

12375 Princeton Avenue • Savage, MN

Adult \$10.00 • Children 6 and under eat free
Sales Tax Included

Proceeds from this event are for the benefit of Zuhrah Shriners or MN Valley Shriners Club.
Payments are not deductible as charitable contributions.

6th Annual Dave Vice Memorial Sporting Clays Shoot

Benefitting Shriners Children's Twin Cities Camps and University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital

April 23, 2022
Registration 9:00am
Shoot 10:00am
Lunch starts at 12:30

MN Horse and Hunt Club
2920 East 220th St.
Prior Lake, MN 55372
www.horseandhunt.com



Early registration by April 9th

Early registration puts you in a drawing for an ATI 20 gauge O/U Shotgun

Phone: Bill Vice 612-232-2495 email: viceeastbethel@msn.com

Lunch and Shoot (please bring your own shells) \$65

Lunch only \$25

Gun raffle tickets. \$5 each or 5 for \$20

Station sponsorships \$250

Station sponsors are entered into separate drawing for a Henry Golden Boy .22, plus other guns. For every \$3250 dollars in sponsorships donated, another gun will be added.

We will have miscellaneous raffles and silent auctions!

Special competition just for Masonic lodges, details on back!

Watch for info on Facebook: Clays for Camps and Kids Twin Cities

Also check out our website: Clayscamps4kidstc.org



Masonic Lodge Competition

Each lodge that wishes to compete will add another \$25 / team. The shoot will add another \$250 to the prize pot.

The Lodge team that has the Highest bird count wins the whole prize pot, to donate to their charity. It must go to a charity, not the lodge itself. Plus they will receive a trophy for lodge bragging rights!

The lodge must declare its team at sign up time. Members may shoot with another squad but then post their scores on the Lodges score sheet. All shooters must be a current member of the Lodge they are signed up with. Unless a team is short and we have shooters who need to join a team.

5 shooters maximum per team. We will use the top 4 scores on the team for scoring. In case of a tie we will pick a station prior to starting as a tie breaker. Highest team total on that station breaks the tie.

Order of Quetzalcoatl
Come One Come All
Taco Feed
\$10 all you can eat
Tax included
MARCH 19TH 4pm



Beef, Chicken and Vegan options

Zuhrah Shrine Center

All proceeds for the benefit of Cey-Note' T-23
Order of Quetzalcoatl!
And are not tax deductible

ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION



of
the Grand Lodge of
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
of Minnesota

Office of the Grand Secretary
11501 Masonic Home Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437-3699
952-948-6700 – 800-245-6050

Bloomington, Minnesota
February 21, 2022

Brethren:

By resolution, the Corporate Trustees of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Minnesota have set

Friday and Saturday, April 8th and April 9th, 2022

for the One Hundred Sixty-Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Minnesota, at The Park Event Center, Waite Park, Minnesota. Grand Lodge will open at 9:00 AM on Friday, and 9:00 AM on Saturday.

Ancient Landmark No. 20 states: "That it is the duty as well as the right of every Chartered Lodge to be represented in the Grand Lodge at its Communication." Each Lodge should send its Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden, who are members of this Grand Lodge. There is a provision for these officers to be represented by proxy, but the representative must have attained the rank of Past Master and carry with him a written proxy from the officer he represents. A proxy must be a member of the same Lodge as the officer he represents and a Past Master of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. A copy of the proxy form may be obtained from your lodge dashboard in Grand View.

Upon arrival at The Park Event Center on Friday morning, each attendee will secure his credentials at the registration desk in the lobby. Please be sure to bring your 2022 dues card (or virtual dues card in Grand View), as we will be scanning them for registration.

Meaningful activities are planned, including seminars for the Masters, Wardens, Secretaries and District Representatives and other brethren; Grand Lodge Banquet; and Installation of Grand Lodge Officers.

Lodge officers are encouraged to bring their spouse/partner, who are cordially invited to attend the Grand Lodge Banquet on Friday, as well as other activities being planned for guests. An open Installation of Officers will be held on Saturday after the close of the business sessions. All Masons, their families and guests are welcome to attend.

We urge you to make your reservations as soon as possible. Full reservation and hotel details are available at <https://www.mn-masons.org/2022ancom/>. The deadline for registrations and room reservations is March 23rd.

Fraternal regards,



Keith W. Reilson
Attest: Keith W. Reilson
Grand Secretary

Rolf M. Widstrand
Rolf M. Widstrand
Grand Master

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



March 2022

- 1st** – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
6:00 P.M. Dinner
- 9th** – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board
of Directors Meeting.
- 12th** – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers
Coffee in Apple Valley.
- 13th** – Daylight Savings Time
- 17th** – St. Patrick's Day
- 22nd** – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light Supper Provided



April 2022

- 5th** – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
6:00 P.M. Dinner
- 8th – 9th** – GL Annual Communication
- 9th** – 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers
Coffee in Apple Valley.
- 13th** – 6:30 P.M. MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board
of Directors Meeting.
- 15th** – Articles Due for the Wayfarer.
- 17th** – Easter Sunday
- 26th** – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting

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/>
