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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 24, Issue 04

July/August 2022

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Master – Dan Ploenzke
(651) 295-1433
master@mn-rivervalley.org

Senior Warden – Gerry Robison
(612) 865-8684
sw@mn-rivervalley.org

Junior Warden – Joe Andrus
(952) 432-1660
jw@mn-rivervalley.org

Treasurer – Matt Kreger
(612) 961-7141
treas@mn-rivervalley.org

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

Chaplain – WB Don Moy
(612) 799-8877
chaplain@mn-rivervalley.org

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



*The Hourglass is often depicted with a pair of wings,
symbolizing that time is fleeting.*

Brothers –

A recent experience provided a rather blunt reminder that time passes way too quickly. While celebrating a successful Master Mason degree during “Outer Lodge”, I noticed our District Representative speaking individually with our Senior Warden. In an attempt to learn what they were talking about, I learned that their conversation revolved around plans for next year. This discussion illustrated for me the fact that I am already half-way through my tenure as your Worshipful Master. These first six months have gone by very rapidly and before I know it I will be referred to as your **Past Worshipful Master**.

While today the hourglass is not as popular for time telling as clocks, its literal depiction of the past, present, and future have helped it endure the centuries as a popular symbol. It represents humanity’s fleeting nature, emphasizing that time will run out for each individual.

As Freemasons the hourglass represents human life. Specifically, it represents the continuous passing of time and serves as a reminder that our lives are finite.

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Additionally, the two containers of the hourglass are an analogy on their own: that the need to flip the hourglass signifies the cycle between life and death. Heavy on my heart is the realization that we have lost several Brothers this year who have “laid down their working tools”. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

As my hourglass is now half full, illustrating my time as your Worshipful Master, I reflect on a very busy first half of the year. We have hosted several events, with additional challenges and successes. Most specifically, I am extremely proud that our lodge was able to put on a Master Mason degree for three of our Brothers. It has been a number of years since we have put on this degree and it only happened with the hard work of several Brothers within in the lodge, along with assistance for WB Don Nolley and WB Reed Endersbe.

We still have several events planned for the second half of the year. Most notably:

- Summer Table Lodge – August 2nd
- KC / Mason Chicken Dinner – August 17th
- Golf Outing – August 26th
- Hiram Award Dinner – date to be determined
- Fall Table Lodge – October 22nd

We have a very vibrant lodge and I’m sure there will be even more events for Brothers to share time together throughout the balance of the year.

I am very proud to be serving as your Worshipful Master and naturally I encourage our Senior Warden to continue in his planning, with or without interaction from our District Representative. His time “in the East” will come way too soon!

Fraternally,

Dan Ploenzke
Master
(612) 282-5948
master@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 July and August 2022.

They are:

Lamar Walters	55 Years	07/03/1967
Chris Matta	15 Years	08/11/2007
Chad Lane	15 Years	07/07/2012



OES Report

Renaissance Chapter #313 met on April 21, 2022. It was reported the chapter will work at Von Hanson's store as a fundraiser in July. A social club was discussed where the Chapter would meet a few times a year for fun activities. At Grand Chapter in early May, W. Brother Doug Rhodes, who is our Worthy Patron, was appointed to the Grand Family as Grand Warder. A great honor for Doug who does so much for our Chapter and the Masonic Lodge. We met again on May 19, 2022. Mothers were honored and the Station of Electra was also honored. There were six Electra's in attendance who were introduced. Our member Kari Vihovec was presented with the Emera Award. Congratulations to her and all of the work she has done to deserve this award. Our next meeting was on June 16, 2022. In celebration of Father's Day all Fathers were introduced. They were given a gift and talked about their children which they were very proud of. We will be dark in July, but a picnic was planned on the night we would have met. Refreshments, as always, were served after the meeting.

Submitted by: Brad Smith



From the West

Help Us Be Better Men

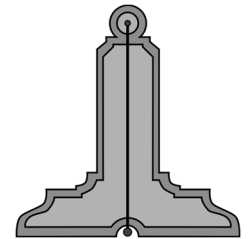
I think I need to get treatment for my News obsession. I watch entirely too much television news. Switching from one channel to another to find a different slant on the same news thread until I've exhausted the story. Then I move to the opinion stories. The news overload has long since stopped being productive (if it ever was). I rehash the same story just to reinforce my own preconceived opinion, ignoring or discarding opposing views because they don't make me feel good. But more and more I don't feel good even when I find the slant I'm looking for. So, I've come to the opinion that I'm substituting news stories to make me feel good about things I don't really feel good about to begin with. I'm looking for something that connects me to something larger, something bigger than me. Something that matters.

At our Maser Mason Ritual on June 11th, it struck me; I am part of something larger, something bigger than myself, something that connects me. Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry. I won't attempt to have a discussion on the esoteric values and meanings of Freemasonry. Wiser and better men than me have done that in volume after volume and in dissertations that explore the benefits, values and advantages of our gentle craft. Masons that we all know live lives that are examples of good men made better through their actions and treatment of others. We are all honored to be associated with them.

My connection to something bigger and better is, of course, Freemasonry overall but the conduit is our Blue Lodge. Since my association with MRLV#6 I've assumed that most lodges were essentially the same as ours. A group of good men and true that have a common goal of working on their own betterment and helping others by modeling tolerance and good will. However, I have learned that that isn't the case. Many Blue Lodges close or function in a way that brings little to their brothers. MRVL#6 members have a wealth of talent and skills. They have fresh ideas and opinions and can help us expand our opinions and, indeed, our world view. The work we do is valuable. It's the work we don't do that can be concerning. And the work we sometimes don't do for our own brothers is alarming.

I can understand that #6 may bring little too many brothers and may bring even less for some brothers. That is a shame, and I am truly sorry. It's a shame because I know we can do better. I'm sorry because we are not fulfilling your expectations. I know we want to be more for ALL of our brothers, and I know we have much to offer to each of you. Making MRVL#6 meaningful requires an open mind and open heart. We have both of those in abundance. I only ask you to remember what drew you to Masonry initially. Remind us of what that was. Help us better be a meaningful experience for you. As I said, MRVL#6 has a lot to offer. Please come to a meeting. Bring your thoughts and interests. Help make us ALL better men.

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



July 7, 2022, Stated Meeting

The July 2022 Stated Meeting date has moved to Thursday, July 7th, due to normal meeting date being the following day from July 4th.

The meeting time and location will remain the same, which will start with a meal at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Savage Masonic Center.

August 2, 2022, Stated Meeting

The August 2022 Stated Meeting will be held at the K of C Hall in New Prague. This will be our Brothers only Summer Table Lodge event.

The address is:

411 4th Ave, SW, New Prague, MN 56071

Stay tuned for further information in the next issue of the Wayfarer.

Knights of Columbus-Mason Chicken Dinner

Brothers,

On Monday, June 13th members of our Lodge and members from the New Prague 4th Degree Knights of Columbus met at Richter's Woods in Montgomery. The meeting was to plan the upcoming 54th annual KC-Mason Chicken Dinner.

The details of the upcoming dinner event are the following:

When: Wednesday, August 17th

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

Where: KC Hall of New Prague

411 4th Ave, SW

New Prague, MN 56071

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Tickets for the event will be available at the door and from WB Don Conn, who can be contacted at 952-758-3506 or at jud4540@yahoo.com

This year our Lodge is hosting the event, so we hope that many of you can attend this wonderful event and enjoy a great evening of fellowship and a wonderful meal (1/2 chicken).



Quote!

“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you’ve imagined” – **Henry David Thoreau**

The Role of the Workmen Has Been Called



On Monday, June 6th, Brother Otto E. Homburg, of Lonsdale, MN laid down his working tools, one day after his 87th birthday. Brother Otto was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on November 27, 1963, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on January 22, 1964 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on February 26, 1964.

Please keep Brother Otto's family in your thoughts and prayers during this time.



The Wayfarer

The next due date for The Wayfarer is Friday, August 19, 2022. All articles for the September/October 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 November/December 2022 issue of The Wayfarer.

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



Entered Apprentice Degree



On May 12th, Brother Cullen Furlong was initiated as an Entered Apprentice.
Congratulations Brother Cullen!

Master Mason Degree



On Saturday, June 11th, Brother Stuart Schatz, Brother Keith Deutsch, and Brother Michael Araujo (L to R in the front row), were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.
Congratulations Brother Stuart, Brother Keith, and Brother Michael!



MN River Valley Lodge #6 Golf Outing

Lost Spur Golf and Event Center

2750 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Eagan MN 55121

Friday August 26th, 2022. 10:30am

**Please let the following people know if you plan to
attend by July 4, 2022:**

Matt Kreger: kregermj@gmail.com or 612-961-7141

Gerry Robison: gerryrobison@gmail.com or 612-865-8684

**Join your fellow Brothers for some fun and golf with games at
many holes.**

Cost \$50: Includes 9holes of golf, burger basket and cart

Zuhrah Shriners Presents

CAMELCRAWL

A GUIDED .05K (164 FT.) FUN RUN

Saturday, October 15, 2022

JOIN ZUHRAH SHRINE FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL CAMEL CRAWL AS WE DRINK FOR CHARITY
ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL BENEFIT SHRINERS CHILDREN'S TWIN CITIES

SCHEDULE

11:30 AM Registration/packet pickup begins
12 - 1 PM Lunch
1 - 4 PM Camel Crawl Starts - visit our sponsors
4:30 PM Door Prize Drawings (must be present to win)

START & END LOCATION
MONTGOMERY POST 79
102 ELM AVE SW, MONTGOMERY, MN 55060

Entry Fee: \$35
Includes: T-Shirt, Medal, Lunch, and Door Entry Prize
* Credit Card Payments Only
** Additional Fees May Apply

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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MONTGOMERY BREWING
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ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND PRE-REGISTRATION AT CAMELCRAWL.COMPANY.SITE
P: 612 217 0391 E: FUNRUN@ZUHRAHSHRINE.ORG




Sherburne Lodge #95 Charity Tee It Up Tourney

Sunday, August 14th
12pm Shotgun

Pheasant Acers Golf Course
Foursomes \$320 / Singles \$80
**All Proceeds going to Jacks Baskets
And Believet Service Dogs**

Includes:
18 Holes, Golf Cart, Dinner & Goody Bag
With Games of Chance at Several Holes
Sign Up Deadline: August 7th

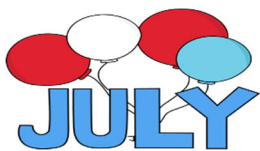
For Tournament Details Contact:
WB Dennis Niles: 763-227-7685
Or Email dtniles@Comcast.Net



Von Hanon's Fundraiser Event June 25th and 26th



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



July 2022

- 4th** – Independence Day
- 7th** – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
6:00 P.M. Dinner (Note the Change of Date)
- 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.
- 19th** – Dungeons and Dragons Night
- 26th** – 7:00 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light supper provided prior to meeting.



August 2022

- 2nd** – 7:00 P.M. Stated Meeting/Summer Table
Lodge Meeting. K of C Hall in New Prague.
- 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.
- 17th** – 6:00 P.M. K of C/Mason Chicken Dinner
- 19th** – Articles Due for the Wayfarer.
- 23rd** - 7:00 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light supper provided prior to meeting.
- 24th** – 6:00 P.M. K of C/Mason After Dinner
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/>
