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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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November/December 2022

Lodge Officers:

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

Brothers –

As I sit down to write my last article as your Worshipful Master, I am flooded by a mixture of emotions. For the last 17 newsletters I have furnished an article, while serving the lodge as your Junior Warden, Senior Warden and now as Master. The sands of time continue to flow through the hourglass and soon I will be known as a Past Master of Minnesota River Valley Lodge #6.

It was not too long ago that I remember first becoming a Mason. It was a scary endeavor to attend my first Stated Meeting by myself, without the escort of my mentor, WB Gary Sankary. However, after not too many meetings I realized I was in the company of Brothers and as the names became familiar, I truly felt a sense of companionship.

There are so many highlights along the way that I could fill several pages with my memories. However, I do want to formally express my sincere gratitude to my best friend and Brother – your Senior Warden, Gerry Robison. After I became a Mason, it was my distinct pleasure to bring Brother Gerry into our fraternity. As such, we have moved through the line together, first having a lot of fun while serving as Stewards for the lodge.

Tradition prevailing, Brother Gerry will become your Worshipful Master next year. I feel the Lodge could not be left in better hands. Brother Gerry has already done so much, and I look forward to seeing what new heights the Lodge can achieve next year under his leadership.

Continued, on the next page

From the East, Continued

As many of you know, my wife and I are relocating to Altoona, Wisconsin, a suburb of Eau Claire. This does not mean I am demitting from our lodge. You, as my Brothers, mean way too much to me to do that. I will continue as a Brother in MRVL #6 even though I do plan to petition a Blue Lodge in Eau Claire. I am already a Brother in the Eau Claire Valley of the Scottish Rite. Even though I will not be able to attend our lodge as often, it being an hour and a half drive, I do plan on attending as much as I can.

Brothers, you cannot imagine what you mean to mean. My home is open to any of you to visit. Please stay in touch.

Master
Dan Ploenzke
(612) 282-5948

master@mn-rivervalley.org



From the West

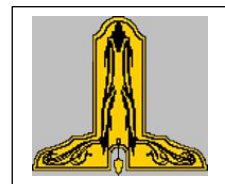
A precept of our craft is to “make good men better”. Most certainly a laudable goal and one that comes to my mind whenever I am asked about Masonry. We spend a great deal of time striving to help others and in essence try to make them better men. It is a tenet that is noble in its pursuit and admirable in every way. But when it comes to ourselves, a question I think we need to ask is, what about our own journey to becoming better men? What about getting from Freemasonry that which will make us better and make our Masonic experience more meaningful?

As we spend emotional capital seeing to the well-being of our brothers, we often do so at the expense of our own well-being. As we try to fulfill our brother's expectations in regards to their masonic journey are we getting our own expectations addressed? Think about what you wanted to do when you first petitioned to become a member.

Brotherhood would be at the top of my personal list. Honestly, I believe MRVL #6 has done an exceptional job of making me feel a part of something bigger than myself. Community service, benevolence, charitable causes, ritual are also activities that I foresaw becoming part of. I believe many of us, Brothers, have similar expectations of their Masonic journey.

I think we can and should reach out and make our member's and our own experience more in line with the original expectations of masonic work. Be it Community Service, Charitable Works, Ritual, Social Activities, etc. we should remind ourselves what we want to do as Masons. We all need to make those expectations known. Let others know what you think about what is done well and, as importantly, what can be done better. Volunteer, take the lead. Everyone wants our Lodge to be a meaningful Lodge for ALL our members. We need as many as possible to be active. Not everyone can make the meetings but their expectations count. Together let's bring more relevance to you and all of the members and truly build on an already incredibly solid foundation.

Brother Gerry Robison
Senior Warden
MRVL#6
sw@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 November and December 2022.

They are:

Robert Hanek	60 Years	11/24/1962
Steven Clark	15 Years	12/01/2007

 Congratulations! 

OES Report

Renaissance Chapter #313 met on September 15th. A fun event is planned for the fifth Thursday of the month with a special presentation by comedian Ilana Sideaways. Anyone may attend. Every September is Rob Morris night (the founder of Eastern Star) and he is celebrated by all chapters. Brother Brad Smith, who is Grand Representative to New Hampshire, gave a talk on his trip to visit their Grand Chapter in Concord, New Hampshire. There were a number of interesting and different things they do that is not done in Minnesota. The chapter met again on October 13th. We have been asked to host an area conference in October 2023 and we agreed to do it. All members of the chapter were honored at the meeting and given a gift. On October 20th we had an official visit with the Grand Family attending. A dinner was served before the meeting. It was a great night with WB Doug Rhodes, who is our Worthy Patron and the Grand Warder this year, being honored. Two members of our chapter were presented with 50-year membership pins, brother Fred Vihovde and his wife Carol. Grand Representative appointments were also given by the Worthy Grand Matron and Patron to two members of our chapter. What a special night this was.



Submitted by: Brad Smith

The Wayfarer

The next due date for The Wayfarer is Friday, December 16, 2022. All articles for the January/February 2023 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 March/April 2023 issue of The Wayfarer.

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



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

Lexophiles for Thought!

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? Pilgrims.

I thought the dryer was shrinking my clothes. Turns out it was the refrigerator all along!



**MEETING
MINUTES**

Brothers, beginning in 2022, MNRV #6's meeting minutes will no longer be posted to our website. Due to security reasons, they're being moved to [Grand View](#)! If you haven't signed up for Grand View, please do, it has so many resources that every Brother can use.

Famous Masons

Johannes Peter “Honus” Wagner

Born February 24, 1874 – Chartiers Borough, Pennsylvania

Passed December 6, 1955

Died: December 6, 1955 - Carnegie, Pennsylvania

Member of Centennial Lodge No. 544, Carnegie, Pennsylvania

Brother Honus is best known for his heavily sought-after baseball card. was an American baseball shortstop who played 21 seasons in Major League Baseball from 1897 to 1917, almost entirely for the Pittsburgh Pirates. Wagner won eight batting titles, tied for the most in National League history with Tony Gwynn. He also led the league in slugging six times, and in stolen bases five times. Wagner was nicknamed “The Flying Dutchman” due to his superb speed and German heritage (“Dutch” in this instance being an alteration of “Deutsch”).

In 1936, the Baseball Hall of Fame inducted Wagner as one of the first five members. He received the second-highest vote total, behind Ty Cobb and tied with Babe Ruth.

Cheers, WB JW

Did You Know?

Andrew McNair, a Philadelphia Mason, rang the Liberty bell in Independence Hall of July 8, 1776, to call the people together to hear the reading of the Declaration of Independence. The bell developed a crack when it was rung for the death of Chief Justice Marshall, the Past Grand Master of Virginia

Fellow Craft Degree



On October 19th, Brother George Rosar II passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft
Congratulations Brother George!
Thanks also goes to Lebanon Lodge #350 for performing the curiosity work.

Grand Master Visits MN River Valley Lodge #6



The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Minnesota, Tony Krall, stopped in for a visit at our October 4th Stated Meeting. Joining the visit from Grand Lodge was Right Worshipful Brother Charles Brust, who is our Grand Lodge Junior Grand Deacon.

The Role of the Workmen Has Been Called



Brethren,

The role of the workmen has been called and Brother Rod Kirkwold did not answer. We were notified that Brother Rod passed away on September 8, 2022. Rod was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on June 9, 2016, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on January 21, 2017 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on January 21, 2017.

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

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



November 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.
- 15th** – Dungeons & Dragons – 6 P.M. – 10 P.M
- 22nd** – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting –
Light Supper Provided.
- 24th** - Thanksgiving



December 2022

- 6th** – 7:00 P.M. Stated Communications Meeting
6:00 P.M. Dinner
- 10th** – 2:00 P.M. Lodge Officers Installation
- 10th** - 7:30 A.M. Masons Coffee at Dunn Brothers
Coffee in Apple Valley. 6:30 P.M.
- 14th** – MN Valley Masons, Inc – Board of
Directors Meeting.
- 16th** – Articles Due for the Wayfarer.
- 22nd** – 6:30 P.M. Entered Apprentice Degree
- 25th** - Christmas
- 27th** – 6:30 P.M. Steering Committee Meeting
- 31st** – New Year's Eve

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/>
