



THE WAYFARER

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

THE RENEWAL OF SPRING

From: WM Joe Andrus

Dear Brethren,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and spirits. As Masons, we are encouraged to improve ourselves in body, mind and soul. Our lodge is more than just a meeting place; it is a center of fellowship and personal growth. Let's leverage our collective resources to promote men's health initiatives.

As you may be aware our LEO is preparing a Men's mental health presentation for our April 23rd steering meeting. And as Spring is a time of renewal, growth and vitality, I thought it was appropriate to reflect on our own health, well-being and vitality.

Therefore, in addition to participating in our upcoming event, I urge you all to take care of your health and well-being, and to participate in some activities that can benefit your physical and mental health.

.....

"May God ever bless, keep, guide and continue to prosper you in your uplifting work for humanity, be it great or small, is my prayer. And may those whom He has redeemed learn to walk and talk with Him, not only daily and hourly, but momentarily, through the things that He has created."

- G.W. Carver Prayer

Here are some suggestions for you to enjoy the spring season and improve your health:

- Get active and move for 30 minutes every day. With the weather getting better, you can walk, run, cycle, swim, play golf, or any other activity that suits you. You can also enjoy the fresh air and the blooming flowers of spring.
- Check in with your brothers and ask how they are doing. You can call, text, email, or meet them in person. You can also share your thoughts and feelings about the spring season and how it inspires you. Connecting with people you care about makes you and them feel better.

By taking care of your health, and connecting with brothers and loved ones, you are not only improving your own well-being, but also helping others who may be struggling. You are also showing the world that Masons care about their communities and are willing to make a difference.

I hope you will join me in this worthy cause and make this spring season a memorable one. We have the opportunity to make a tangible difference in the lives of our brethren and our community.

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From The West

Brethren, we have updated the sound system in the Lodge. We are leveraging the existing speakers but have connected them to new plugs for the new amplifiers which receive audio from the mixing board which the microphone receivers are plugged into. There's a lot of cables. Big shout out to Brother Cullen Furlong for his efforts in getting this done. This is huge. There are still a lot of kinks to work out but word is things went well in the first use in a meeting.

Moving on to other things, check with one of the Lodge officers about when the next MetroWest meeting will be. There is an award to be won. You get points for every member and bonus points for Lodge officers. It's time to get ready for the Grand Lodge and the Lyndhurst Turkey Dinner. Getting more involved with MetroWest and Scottish Rite means I will see a lot more familiar faces. Plus I am looking forward to our tables at the Turkey Dinner. It's a great event I am excited for, and make sure your calendar is marked for the other great events we have. Plug them into your phone and share them with your significant other so they know what we are up to. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns and want to discuss the Grand Lodge proposals for vote. Email, call or text me.

Masonic Anniversaries

First Name	Last Name	MM	Years of Masonry
Berlyn	Teig	03/07/1964	60
Roger	Hallgren	03/19/1964	60
Donald	Conn	03/24/1964	60
Phillip	Garbe	04/03/1979	45
Lynden	Jelinek	04/26/1989	35
Lew	Price	04/24/2004	20
Theodore	Smith	03/24/2014	10
Gerry	Proskin	04/26/2014	10

Finally, the Wayfarer is now available online. Check out our website and follow the links from the home page.

From The East

Since my first letter I have had the privilege to attend the Junior Warden Conference and meet with many new Brothers from all over the State. Many ideas and examples were shared and I have a better understanding of just what it means to be a Mason. I met other Brothers from large and small lodges, and have a new understanding of the challenges smaller rural lodges face. I am thankful we have such a social and active lodge. I also had the privilege of attending two excellent School of Instructions for Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees. I would recommend these highly to all the Brothers in the Lodge, especially those in the line. I always learn something new. It was nice to visit a new Lodge and meet more Brothers. We had a fun time at the Mall of America for our Comedy night out. A fun time was had by all and a nice example of Brotherly Love and Friendship. Once again I am thankful that we have such a vibrant, active, social and supportive Lodge.

Thank you Brothers.

MEDIA CORNER

Movie/TV
Recommendation

On Netflix: Seraphim Falls



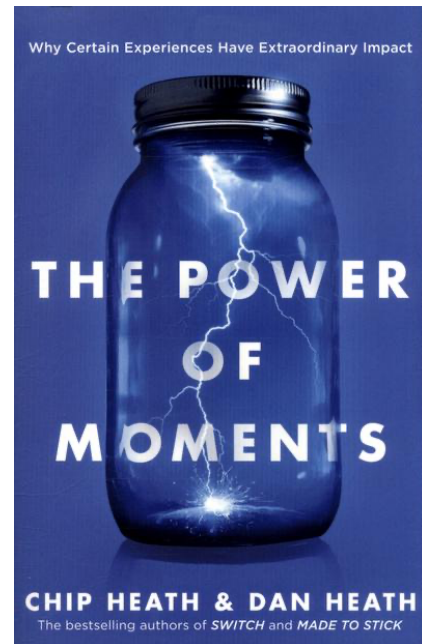
In our latest newsletter's recommendations for Masons seeking captivating entertainment, here's a 2006 film from two acting juggernauts Pierce Brosnan (James Bond) and Liam Neeson (Schindler's List)

Genre: modern Western

Synopsis: "Gideon (Pierce Brosnan), a former Union officer, finds himself the prey of a manhunt led by Carver (Liam Neeson), Gideon's Civil-War nemesis. Carver blames Gideon for a horrible war crime and refuses to give up the chase until his vengeance is complete. Gideon, though wounded, manages to stay one step ahead of his pursuers, until he and his mortal enemy meet in a final inevitable showdown."

Reader's Corner
Recommendation

The Power of Moments - Chip and Dan Heath



The Power of Moments beautifully explains life is made up of "defining moments" and that have the ability to create these. Through four key areas - Elevation - Insight - Pride - Connection - there are ideas and stories to show how we can be the author of moments, not just for ourselves but for others too.

Just as one quick example, the Heath brothers explain that relationships flourish not because of duration and time but because of understanding, validation and caring. These are opportunities for moments to be created.

The book focuses on how we assess experiences; peaks which are the highlights of a memory and experience, pits which are the low points but that can be filled and flipped into a peak and transitions such as the end of one chapter of your life and the beginning of another. By consciously choosing to celebrate, show gratitude, understand ourselves better, build courage, recognise others and raise the bar we can live with defined moments.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE LODGE

MRVL #6 - 25th Anniversary Celebration!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Saturday, July 13th, 2024

Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center

11411 Masonic Home Drive

Bloomington, Minnesota 55437

2024 marks the 25th anniversary year since the merger of the 4 lodges coming together to form MN River Valley Lodge # 6!

We are planning to mark this special anniversary with a celebration event including a dinner as well as look back to that time a quarter of a century ago.

We are also looking to reminisce about the years leading up to where we are today. If you should have pictures (Hard copy or on your phone) we would appreciate it if you could share copies with us for this presentation.

We are also asking for any stories, memories, etc. that you may have that we can share with the group that evening. (Contact WB Don Moy)

Look forward to seeing a big crowd this summer to celebrate together.

Polar Plunge! ...In March?

On March 22, 2024 in Burnsville the South Metro Polar Plunge was held to benefit the Special Olympics Minnesota. All funds raised by Plungers help Special Olympics Minnesota provide year-round training and services to thousands of athletes with intellectual disabilities across the state.

While our lodge did not personally participate in the plunge, I had the opportunity to attend and cheer on some of the other polar plungers and hang out for a while.

While attending the thought came to me that many times in lodge we talk about the opportunity to show the community that we are here and also give back or volunteer to worthy causes, and this might be something to think about for future years or similar events. Each group prior to their plunge was announced to the crowd, and in some instances what amount they raised. It was a fun event to attend.



The Roll of the Workmen Has Been Called!

And Brother Thomas M. Smith has not responded.



Brother Thomas M. Smith passed away on Thursday, January 4th, 2024. Thomas was born on July 26, 1985.

Brother Thomas was also a member of Minneapolis #19 for a time and the Scottish Right Valley of Minneapolis. Brother Thomas is survived by his mother and sister. He is preceded by his father Brother Thomas Petersen, also a member of our lodge.

Brother Thomas was Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on February 22, 2007, and Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on March 22, 2007, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on May 12, 2007.

Word of The Issue: Renewal

Definition: Renewal refers to the process of being made new or reinvigorated. It can pertain to physical, spiritual, or metaphorical rejuvenation. In a broader sense, it encapsulates the idea of revival, regeneration, and rebirth.

Etymology: The word "renewal" comes from the prefix "re-" meaning "again" or "back" and the word "newal," from "new," which is derived from the Old English "niwe" or "neowe," meaning "not old, fresh, recent, novel, unheard-of, different from the former." The concept of renewal, therefore, etymologically suggests the process of making something new again or restoring it to a fresh state.

Reflection: In the spirit of renewal we are called to reflect on the opportunity to shed old ways that do not serve us and the opportunity to embrace new beginnings, both within the lodge and in the personal lives of its members. Spring, a season inherently associated with renewal, represents the perfect backdrop for us as brethren to reflect on growth, rejuvenation, and the continuous pursuit of enlightenment. It's a time to recommit to the principles of Freemasonry—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth—while fostering personal and communal growth. The concept of renewal aligns with the Masonic journey, emphasizing the importance of self-improvement, learning, and the perpetual quest for light and knowledge.



From The Editor

As the editor of our esteemed newsletter, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who contributed their insights, stories, and events for this edition. Your offerings are the lifeblood of our publication, and it is through your shared experiences that the Masonic spirit thrives amongst us.

With this issue, a few weeks ago I would say Happy Spring, but as we know and have seen in Minnesota. You can't be too sure, until you're sure! We've enjoyed a few weeks of warmer weather, and a few months of lack of snow! Late March however brought us a reminder of what we were missing this year!

Spring is a time that new growth is known to come, and I pray each of align with the harmony of nature.

Fraternally Yours,
Br. Dylan Cartwright



Let the improvement of yourself keep you so busy that you have no time to criticize others. - Roy T. Bennett