

**From:** Ed Palmer edwardgpalmer@mplsvocational.com  
**Subject:** [List] Vocational Alum Newsletter - June 27, 2023  
**Date:** June 27, 2023 at 6:55 PM  
**To:** Ed ICN-Testing icnewswire@gmail.com



Greetings Ed,

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ANNUAL ALUM PICNIC NOW 5-WEEKS OUT  
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We held our June 8th planning meeting, and we have an exciting picnic event planned for Vocational's Alums on August 3, 2023. We will celebrate our ninth annual picnic at the Richfield Veteran's Shelter. This year promises to be the best picnic yet. This Thursday, we will be five weeks away from the annual picnic.

WHAT'S NEW?

1. The internal layout of the shelter is NEW.
2. A NEW sound system with six speakers will make it easier to hear announcements and music.
3. Joe Rath, a DJ from Vocational's class of 74, will play the top hits from 1956-1976. The music will be soft and will not interfere with conversations.
4. A dance floor area has been established on the left side of the shelter in front of the DJ booth.
5. Class photos will take place under the shelter in this designated dance floor area.
6. An East Coast Swing Dance Lesson is at 3 pm.
7. Open Dancing will be held from 3:30 to 5 pm.

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2023 PICNIC SCHEDULE  
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Volunteers Set Up - 9 am to 10:45 am  
General Picnic Hours - 11 am to 3 pm  
Alums Photos Taken - 11:45 am  
Lunch Served - 12 Noon to 2 pm  
Take Down and Clean Up - 3 pm  
East Coast Swing Dance Lesson - 3 pm to 3:30 pm  
Open Dancing from 3:30 to 5 pm  
Socializing can continue until 5 pm

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PICNIC INFORMATION  
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WHO: ALL MPLS VOCATIONAL CLASS YEARS  
DATE: AUGUST 3, 2023

TIME: 11 am TO 5 pm  
WHERE: RICHFIELD VETERANS PARK  
6335 PORTLAND AVENUE S  
RICHFIELD MN

Get directions at this link - <http://www.mpls vocational.com/about/all-alumni-annual-picnic/next-alumni-picnic.html>.

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2023 PICNIC PLAN  
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Our Annual Vocational Picnic is now thoroughly documented in a "Picnic Plan." It is available to download and view online at the link - <http://www.mpls vocational.com/picnic-plan.html>. The document is a password-protected PDF file dated June 19, 2023. [REDACTED] The picnic plan has updated contact information and an organization chart for all current picnic committee members. It also has updated layouts of the shelter area and internal layout plans. See the top item under the "About" menu tab for other online picnic files.

The picnic RSVP database link is - <http://www.virtualapostle.net/cgi-bin/html05.cgi/system/startup/RSVP.html>. While the RSVP isn't a requirement, it helps us to gauge the expected attendance. All that is required is a name, class year, and the number of attendees. The form does not ask for emails or phone numbers. They are not needed—just a body count. You can also email me or phone me with your information. However, the RSVP database makes it easier for me to keep track.

Other changes this year include the following items.

1. Our recommended donation has been raised from \$5 to \$10. It is now the ninth year, and has always been \$5. However, our shelter rental went from \$330 to \$667 this year. Last year, Richfield's online rental was also \$667, but we skated by. Our committee has deemed the Richfield Veteran's Shelter the ideal place to hold our annual picnic, so I do not expect any change in this venue. We'll have to deal with the cost increases, and the recommended \$10 donation will do the trick. Please remember that this is not an entrance fee. It is just a suggested donation. It's always been that way, and we always seem to have enough cash collected to hold the next picnic.
2. We've lost two committee members due to health issues.
3. We lost one committee member due to a move out of state for retirement.
4. We have begun transitioning to 70s volunteers, who comprise about 45% of committee members.
5. Joe Rath from 74 has joined me as the Picnic Committee Co-Chair.

We'll be okay with the number of volunteers for this picnic, but we would like another 4-6 volunteers to step forward and help. We want enough volunteers in every area so that all alums can visit with their classmates. The first five picnics left all volunteers working with no time to visit. Thank you for pitching in to help. See Bonnie at the front desk if you can help with this picnic or want to join our picnic committee. You can recognize the picnic volunteers by their name tags, usually attached to a lanyard.

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PICNIC WISH LIST  
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1. A Videographer to take a video of the alum picnic. I will post the video(s) online. If this is you, let me know.
2. A portable dance floor for the event. If you have one, let me know. Otherwise, we are on concrete.

That's all for now. My next reminder Newsletters will arrive three weeks and one week before the annual picnic. I'll post the shelter and picnic rules in the following newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you at this year's all-alumni annual picnic.

May God Bless your continued health,

/Ed Palmer/

Ed Palmer, Webmaster

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ANTI-SPAM NOTICE

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