



Refreshments and Activities at Your Lodge

Refreshments served in the evening will be at 6:00 P.M. and the Refreshments in the morning and will be served at 9:00 A.M. except when otherwise noted.

May 4, 2024	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Polish Sausage and Sauerkraut, Mash Potatoes Soda, Coffee and Water
May 11, 2024 Mothers Day	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Chicken Parmesan, Red/White Pasta Salad, Soda, Coffee and Water BINGO
May 18, 2024	First Degree 7:00pm Refreshments – Beef Tips, and Noodles, Mix Vegetables, Salad, Soda, Coffee and Water
May 25, 2024	Morning Meeting 10:00 am Refreshments – Donuts & Danish Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
June 1, 2024	Second Degree 7:00 pm Refreshments – Fish, Cold Slaw, Potatoes Salad Soda, Coffee and Water
June 8, 2024	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Chili Dogs, Shoe String Potatoes Chips Soda, Coffee and Water
June 15, 2024	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Pizza, Pizza, and Salad Soda, Coffee and Water
June 22, 2024	Morning Meeting 10:00 am Refreshments – Georgia's Special Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
June 29, 2024	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad Garlic Bread, Soda, Coffee and Water



LINK-N-LINES



The Official News of St. Louis Lodge No. 5, I.O.O.F.

INSTITUTED AUGUST 21, 1841 RAY WHITE - EDITOR HENRY E. KOTTEMANN - FOUNDER

Website: www.ioof-stl.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ioofstl/>



ST. LOUIS LODGE NO. 5, I.O.O.F.

P.O. Box 1467 FENTON, MISSOURI . 63026

MAY - JUNE 2024



A Message From Our Noble Grand Officers and Members

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows has a similar origin story to the Freemasons. Back in the 1600s in England, there was no social safety net, so groups of craftsmen would band together to take care of each other and each other's families and to socialize. These groups were called "guilds," and every trade had one – the blacksmiths, the masons, the carpenters, etc. However, in small towns and cities, there were not enough people in any particular trade to form a guild, and "odd" tradesman with various specialties banded together to form guilds called "Odd Fellows."

In 1819, a British expatriate living in Baltimore, Thomas Wildey (1782-1861), who had been an Odd Fellow back home, decided to try to find other members of the Order in his new home city, so he put a small ad in a local newspaper, giving notice of an Odd Fellow meeting at a pub. He had some luck, and other Odd Fellows showed up.

Hello to all!

Has anyone turned on their A/C even for one day? Our membership dinner was a good time and the game was fun! Best part of the evening is that of the "five" guest that attended, 2 have submitted applications! Hope that they become members in the near future. Everyone is encouraged to assist with our degree work which starts on April 27th

Coffee Break is coming at the end of May along with a charitable event in June. Details will follow.

Stay within the navigational buoys!

Francis X LaVar
Noble Grand.

(Continued on page 4)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS

MAY		JUNE	
Frank Buchholz	4	Palmer Ash	8
Timothy David	10	Connie Curran	18
Don Hornberger	12	Nicholas Cichiello	23
Walter Clifton	29	Walter Sawicki	28
James Schmerold	15		
Bruce Boeckmann	15		
Craig Skinner	16		
Peter Cauchon	20		
John Caraker	20		
Elmer Kalal III	23		
Dennis Bast	28		
Marion Briggs	28		
Rodney Kleine	29		

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT DRAWING

2/3/24	Walter Clifton	WINNER
2/10/24	James Schmerold	WINNER
2/17/24	Todd Will	WINNER
2/24/24	C. Ray White Jr.	WINNER
3/2/24	Charles Whisenhunt	WINNER
3/9/24	Robert J. Mayer Sr.	WINNER
3/16/24	Jeffrey A. Parrotte	WINNER
3/23/24	Michael J. Campbell	WINNER
3/30/24	William L.Woods	WINNER
4/6/24	Michael J. Campbell	WINNER
4/13/24	William L.Woods	WINNER

Come to a meeting and your name could be on this list.

Sick and Shut-ins

None at this time.....

These are your brothers that are not able to get out because of injury or illness. Give them a call to let them know we are thinking about them.

LODGE OFFICERS

Noble Grand
Francis X. LaVar.....314-607-6380
Vice Grand
John C. Caraker.....314-630-5469
Secretary
Robert J. Mayer Sr.....314-278-6065
Financial Secretary
Larry Endicott..... 314-452-8989
Treasurer
Jeffrey A. Parrotte.....314-751-3138

Special Relief Committee

Richard Aguilar314-644-1126
Charles Whisenhunt.....314-494-9416
Larry Endicott314-452-8989

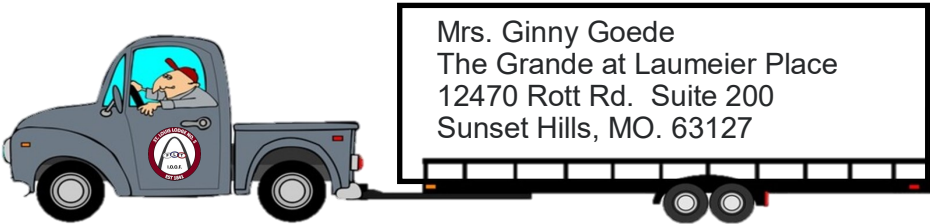


MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS

ADDRESS CHANGES



Mrs. Goede has moved



**DON'T FORGET
TO MAKE THESE CHANGES IN YOUR ROSTER**

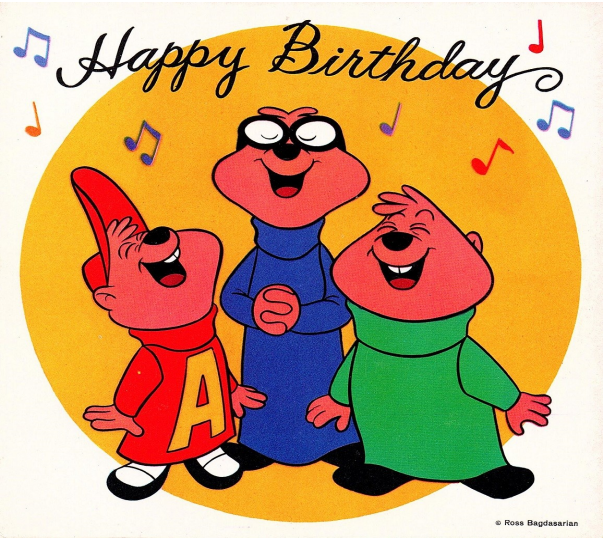
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
PHONE NUMBER ____ (__) _____

IF YOU HAVE MOVED, CLIP THIS FORM AND MAIL TO;

Robert J. Mayer Sr. - Secretary
St. Louis Lodge No.5, I.O.O.F.
337 Rauhut Ave.
Lemay Mo. 63125





NEW LAWMAN

A young Texan grew up wanting to be a lawman. He grew up big, 6' 2", strong as a longhorn, and fast as a mustang. He could shoot a bottle cap tossed in the air at 40 paces.

When he finally came of age, he applied to where he had only dreamed of working: the West Texas Sheriff's Department. After a series of tests and interviews, the Chief Deputy finally called him into his office for the young man's last interview. The Chief Deputy said, "You're a big strong kid and you can really shoot. So far your qualifications all look good, but we have, what you might call, an "Attitude Suitability Test" that you must take before you can be accepted. We just don't let anyone carry our badge, son.

Then, sliding a .40 Caliber Sig Sauer P-229 service pistol and a box of ammo across the desk, the Chief said, "Take this pistol and go out and shoot: One Illegal Alien, one Lawyer, one Meth Dealer, one Pedophile, one Muslim Extremist, one Progressive Activist Democrat, and a rabbit" "Why the rabbit?" queried the applicant.

You pass," said the Chief Deputy. "When can you start?"



Police K9



Monday
May 27, 20224



Visit Our Website

A copy of this issue of Link-n-Lines can be found on our website. You can also find additional information about lodge activities and copies of pictures of recent events. Check us out, website is at www.ioof-stl.org

Remember the Odd Fellows Objective is
To Improve and Elevate the Character of Mankind



(Continued from page 1)

This proved to be the first meeting of what would become the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), which would become the largest Odd Fellow organization in the world. You can read a more detailed history of Odd Fellowship in North America here: <https://odd-fellows.org/history/wildey-odd-fellowship>.

By 1900, there were over one million members of the IOOF, and today there are lodges in every state and in countries worldwide from Europe to the Caribbean to Africa and Australia and the Philippines. You can find a complete list of jurisdictions here:

<http://www.ioof.org/Jurisdictions> was also the first fraternal order to admit women, when it created the lodges for women, who were called the Rebekah's, named for the Biblical character. In the late 19th Century and early 20th Century, many famous people were members of both the Odd Fellows and the Masons. Some famous Odd Fellows include:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| • President Franklin | Delano Roosevelt |
| • US Chief Justice | Earl Warren |
| • Prime Minister | William Churchill |
| • King of Sweden | Gustav V |
| • King of Norway | Olav V |
| • California Governor | Goodwin Knight |
| • Iconic Lawman | Wyatt Earp |
| • Aviator | Charles Lindbergh |
| • Actor | Charlie Chaplin |

You never know who can be or is a member of Independent Order of Odd Fellows.



SUNDAY, July 14, 2024

7777 Watson Rd. St. Louis, Mo. Practice will start at 12:50pm and the tournament will begin at 1:00 P.M.



What Children Say

Yesterday morning my daughter was fighting me for the remote. She's 4. She got it away from me so I opened my

container of mini Oreo's and offered her one since there was only one left in the container. She took the container and I grabbed the remote back. She looked at me, shook her head and said, "Man, I

A couple of fourth-graders were asked a simple question — What question cannot be answered with "Yes?" Their answer was, "Are you dead?"

While changing in the bathroom, my then 3-year-old son slapped me on the bottom and said "this is so cool mom, it just keeps going" HA HA HA!



REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR DUES THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S CORNER

The Financial Secretary wishes to remind the members, that Lodge Dues are due on January 1, 2024. Our annual dues are now \$50.00 a year. Members who fail to pay their dues will lose their membership benefits and will not be permitted to attend any lodge activities. (such as Picnic, Banquet etc.:) If you are having financial problems paying your dues, please contact Larry Endicott for further information at 314-452-8989.

PLEASE NOTE: It is also requested that if at any time you have any bills, or other financial transactions with the lodge please contact the Financial Secretary approximately 30 minutes prior to refreshments on Saturday so that he can give you the attention needed.



The dictionary states that **Common sense** is an innate ability to judge a situation through reason and instinct rather than knowledge. If this is so then, how did these happen. Makes you wonder??????????

Pictures provided by Thomas Moser.





HISTORY OF ST. LOUIS LODGE NUMBER 5

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

PROLOUGE

I have been asked to write a history of Lodge No 5 for the Link-N-Lines based on the information and facts at my disposal. The history of this lodge is 177-years long and surely will take up more than one single page. That is why I have decided to tell the history in installments to the Link-N-Lines. There are not a whole lot of records to be had. Previous minutes were strictly business without comments or colorful background. Indeed, some parts of our history have been lost due to a fire in the 1860's that destroyed everything but a bible. I hope you enjoy learning about our rich heritage and perseverance of those who went before us. Lodge No. 5 has been the home lodge of 18 Past Grand Masters, 7 Grand Secretaries and 4 Grand Treasurers.

First the name ODD FELLOWS:

There has been no proven or documented history on the origins of how and when Odd Fellowship was started. Some say it started in 79 A.D. when a group of Christians sided with the Roman Army to defend Rome. They were called “Odd Fellows.” Some say it didn’t start until the 17th century when in 1688 Catholic King James II was disposed in favor of Dutch Protestant, William of Orange. The organization split into two factions, one was called “Patriotic Order of Odd Fellows.” The two factions and other factions were organized into what was known as the “Union Order” which in 1813 founded the “Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows.” They abandoned all religious and political disputes and committed themselves to promoting the welfare and harmony of its members. Another theory concerning the name was that in the 16th and 17th centuries guilds were formed for specific trades. Some professions had insufficient numbers to form a guild so the “Odd Fellows” were born which opened its doors to the working class and those in the odd trades. They were banded together for relief and help to one another. It wasn't until the 1960's that social convention put a different meaning upon the name that is not very flattering. Never the less, it still stands for a fraternity of helping and giving without regard to race, religion or politics.

WHERE DID OUR LODGE COME FROM?

Odd Fellowship came to North American in 1819 when Thomas Wildey and four brothers from England founded Washington Lodge No. 1 in Baltimore, Maryland under a charter issued by the Manchester Unity of England. Brother Wildey then traveled extensively through the states and territories promoting Odd Fellowship. just 71-years after the founding of St. Louis as a city. In June of 1835 the first Odd Fellows lodge in St. Louis was founded under a warrant issued by the Grand Lodge of the United States, the new lodge was named Travelers Rest No. 1. At that time St. Louis was a crude frontier town, primitive by today's standards.

In 1838 the Grand Lodge of Missouri was formed under a charter from the Grand Lodge of the United States, Brother John Dawson became the first Grand Master of Missouri. Also, in 1838 Thomas Wildey had Wildey Lodge No. 2 chartered in St. Louis by the Grand Lodge of Missouri. In 1840 Germania Lodge No. 3 in St. Louis and Booneville Lodge No. 4, Booneville, Missouri were chartered. In 1841 St. Louis Lodge No. 5 was chartered under a charter issued by Grand Master George W. Callahan. From an old record book, which is believed to have been the original, we find the first officers to have been Augustine Kennedy, Noble Grand, John L. Pointer, Vice Grand, Harvey R. Curtis, Secretary and William S. Stewart as Treasurer. However, in a memorial to Brother Henry Doellner, he is recognized as the first Vice Grand, likewise does the Grand Lodge Journal of that year. He is also recognized as the second Noble Grand. Brother Doellner was the last surviving member of the original chartering committee, he



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passed in 1879. The same year as the institution of Lodge No. 5, the courthouse at Fourth and Market was under construction. Two years later, in 1843, the Grand Lodge of the United tates broke away from the Manchester Unity and changed the name to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The Grand Lodge of Missouri was incorporated by an act of the Missouri Legislature. It must be noted that the Doellner family donated the small table on which the original Lodge No 5 charter members signed the charter. It is now in storage at the Triple Links Building. Thus, started a string of consecutive meetings that has endured through many hardships, wars, fires and epidemics. Boonville Lodge No. 4 claims to have held more consecutive meetings than Lodge No. 5 as they were chartered before us and have met every Monday since its inception. Regardless, both lodges should be proud of their heritage including past and present members, who had they not persevered there wouldn't be anyone to read this. In 1842 Lodge No. 5 had 48 members. In 1849, just eight years after it was formed, Lodge No. 5 had \$13.00 in assets with a membership around 170. In 1854 assets rose to \$9,335.00 with a membership of over 200. The lodge met in a hall at Main and Olive over the Benoist and Company Banking House. Odd Fellows were well known in St. Louis having participated in many civic events including parades. In 1847 the Odd Fellows Hall was completed at Fourth and Locust Streets. Cost of the building was \$19,000.00 with contributions by seven Odd Fellows Lodges, the Grand Lodge of Missouri and several individuals.

In 1855 the first annual session of the Grand Lodge of Missouri was held. In 1857 the St. Louis Fire Department was established. In 1861 civil war broke out but meetings were still held as St. Louis was spared the conflict. In 1863 the Odd Fellows Building was destroyed by fire. Travelers Rest No. 1, Wildey Lodge No. 2, Germania No 3, St. Louis No. 5, Missouri No. 11 and Wildey Encampment No. 1 had all their records and charters destroyed in the fire. Duplicate charters were issued by the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The only thing left from the fire belonging to Lodge No. 5 is a bible which is kept in the lodge safe. In 1865 the hall was rebuilt from the ashes and was a four-story building. Cost of the rebuilding was \$26,672.84. Six years later, 1871, the southeast corner of Ninth and Olive was purchased at a cost of \$63,700.00. A new building was built in 1889, a new nine story building containing nine lodge halls, cost of the new building was \$670,000.00. Lodge No. 5 met for the last time at Fourth and Locust and then met in the new building. Although we don't have the exact figures for 1889, the membership stood at around 300 members and the lodge had assets of about \$75,000.00. In the years from 1838 to 1887 all of the Grand Masters of Missouri came from the city of St. Louis. As a matter of fact it was legislated that if the Grand Lodge did not vote to have its annual session in another location, it defaulted to St. Louis. In 1868 Ulysses S. Grant was elected President of the United States. His Vice President was Schuler Colfax, founder of the Rebekah Degree. June 1889, Lodge Number 5 meets for the first time at 9th and Olive. In 1891 it celebrated its Golden Anniversary at a cost of \$235.00. In 1908 Lodge No. 5 holds its first banquet at the Planters Hotel, for members only. In 1918 the City of St. Louis banned public gatherings due to the Spanish influenza but Lodge No. 5 did manage to have a quorum to keep the consecutive meetings going. April 1921, Lodge No. 5 meets for the first time at 3765 Lindell Boulevard. February 1941, Lodge No. 5 celebrates its 100th anniversary at the Gold Room in the Jefferson Hotel although the official date was August 21st. At that time the lodge assets were approaching \$500,000.00. November 23, 1956, Lodge No. 5 celebrated its 6,000th consecutive meeting. March 24, 1964 a testimonial dinner was held for Brother O.H. Erickson for more than 50 years of service as Secretary. In July, 1964 an open house at 3765 Lindell was held celebrating the remodeling and addition to the building. The cost of the remodel was about \$300,000.00 paid for through the sale of bonds. A new facade was erected facing Lindell, heating and air conditioning was installed, and a recreation room and caretakers’ cottage was added. Signed Robert Mayer J. Sr. Secretary