



## 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.

February 26, 2022	<b>Morning Meeting 10:00am</b> <b>Refreshments</b> – Breakfast Sandwiches Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
March 5, 2022	<b>Initiatory Degree 7:00pm</b> <b>Refreshments</b> – Fried Chicken, Cold Slaw, Potato Salad Rolls, Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
March 12, 2022	<b>Regular Meeting 7:00pm</b> <b>Refreshments</b> – Bratwurst And Sauerkraut, Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
March 19, 2022	<b>First Degree 7:00pm</b> <b>Refreshments</b> – Corn Beef And Cabbage, White Potatoes, Bread, Desert, Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
March 26, 2022	<b>Morning Meeting 10:00am</b> <b>Refreshments</b> – French Toast, Bacon, Sausage Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
April 2, 2022	<b>Second Degree 7:00pm</b> <b>Refreshments</b> – Mostaccioli Pasta, Salad, Bread Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
April 9, 2022	<b>Regular Meeting 7:00pm</b> <b>Refreshments</b> – Cold Cuts, with Chips Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
April 16, 2022	<b>Regular Meeting 7:00pm</b> <b>Refreshments</b> – Ham, Pasta, Potatoes, Green beans, Pie for Desert Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
Easter Dinner	<b>Game of Jeopardy for Ladies</b>



# 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](http://www.ioof-stl.org)

ST. LOUIS LODGE NO. 5, I.O.O.F. 350 NORTH VALLEY DELL DR. FENTON, MO. 63026

MARCH — APRIL 2022

**A Message From Our Noble Grand Officers and Members**  
Greetings everyone!



This article was written by a college student by the name of Alyssa Ahlgren, who's in graduate school for her MBA. It's a short article and worth the read.



**Jeffery A. Perrotte** With a new year came 9+ inches of snow but we were still able to continue our unbroken chain of lodge meetings (over 9400) and no reports of injuries or issues from our members - great news.

## The Blind Generation

### My Generation Is Blind to the Prosperity Around Us

to associate I'm sitting in a small coffee shop near Lake Nokomis (Minneapolis) trying to think of what to write about. I scroll through my newsfeed on my phone looking at the latest headlines of Democratic candidates calling for policies to "fix" the so-called injustices of capitalism. I put my phone down and continue to look around. I see people talking freely, working on their MacBook's, ordering food they get in an instant, seeing cars go by outside, and it dawned on me. We live in the most privileged time in the most prosperous nation, and we've become completely blind to it. Vehicles, food, technology, freedom with whom we choose.

(Continued on page 10)

As all new Noble Grands probably have said: Thank you for electing me to be your Noble Grand for 2022. I am truly honored. I will try very hard to live up to the responsibilities of the office you have entrusted me with.

Tip of the hat to Larry E and Rodney K for organizing a very successful, well attended and fun bowling tournament on February 6th. The results will be announced at the lodge. Thanks to Jose for using his computer knowledge to record the results, for posterity :-( (Who was in last place 20 years ago? ☐)

By the time you read this we will have had our annual Valentines Dinner / Bingo (I'm sure all had a great time ☺), a 3rd degree and the annual budget will have been reviewed by the Budget Committee and voted on by the Lodge.

If you would like a copy let me know. We have March 5th reserved for an Initiatory degree with 1 candidate from St Louis #5 and 2 from Wilsey #2. Please reach out to your friends and see if any would be interested in joining so that we can have several #5 candidates going through the Initiatory degree.

(Continued on page 3 )



(The Blind Generation continued from page 1)

These things are so ingrained in our American way of life we don't give them a second thought. We are so well off here in the United States that our poverty line begins 31 times above the global average. Thirty One Times. Virtually no one in the United States is considered poor by global standards. Yet, in a time where we can order a product off Amazon with one click and have it at our doorstep the next day, we are unappreciative, unsatisfied, and ungrateful. Our un-appreciation is evident as the popularity of socialist policies among my generation continues to grow. Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez recently said to Newsweek talking about the millennial generation, "An entire generation, which is now becoming one of the largest electorates in America , came of age and never saw American prosperity."

Never saw American prosperity! Let that sink in. When I first read that statement, I thought to myself, that was quite literally the most entitled and factually illiterate thing I've ever heard in my 26 years on this earth. Many young people agree with her, which is entirely misguided. My generation is being indoctrinated by a mainstream narrative to believe we have never seen prosperity. I know this firsthand, I went to college, let's just say I didn't have the popular opinion, but I digress. Why then, with all the overwhelming evidence around us, evidence that I can even see sitting at a coffee shop, do we not view this as prosperity? We have people who are dying to get into our country. People around the world destitute and truly impoverished. Yet, we have a young generation convinced they've never seen prosperity, and as a result, elect politicians dead set on taking steps towards abolishing capitalism.

Why?

*The answer is this, my generation has only seen prosperity. We have no contrast. We didn't live in the great depression, or live through two world wars, the Korean War, The Vietnam War or see the rise and fall of socialism and communism. We don't know what it's like to live without the internet, without cars, without smartphones. We don't have a lack of prosperity problem. We have an entitlement problem, an ungratefulness problem, and it's spreading like a plague.*

(Noble Grand continued from page 1)

I am creating a Social Media Committee headed up by Dan Flynn to get the word out about us and IOOF in general. He was very successful in using Social Media to grow a business in California and suggested that he might be able to do the same for St. Louis #5 and Wildey #2. More to come as Dan applies his marketing savvy and technology to growing our lodge. I have made a few changes in Degree Captains. Dan Flynn is taking over Initiatory and John Caraker is taking over the 2nd degree. Fran and Rodney are continuing as 1st and 3rd Captains. We need Assistant Degree Captains for all 4 degrees - if you would be willing to help as an assistant or take on a part in a degree, please let the Degree Captain know. And don't worry if you don't have any experience - we have degree videos, lists of members that have worked the different parts and great Degree Captains that will help to get you up to speed.

Some folks have asked about the annual Remembrance of Members that have passed - we will be doing the ceremony in May - most likely on the 21st. More to come.... Reserve April 16th on your calendar as it will be our Easter meeting and I'm sure the Entertainment Committee is planning something special.

Stay warm and safe. See you at lodge.

Best Wishes,  
Jeff Parrotte  
Noble Grand



**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](http://www.ioof-stl.org)

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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS

### MARCH

Richard Walsh	1
Jeremy McCoy	6
Leroy Jennings	10
Wyatt Wooden	12
Johnny Naylor	14
Billy Ross	15
Eric Raney	23
Gary Nelson	25
Stanley Bialczak	26
Casey Liotta	30
Carroll R. White	30

### APRIL

Richard Swanson	4
John Eckert	6
Mouyassar James	8
Dwight Wyatt	8
Lionel Goede	9
Rex Gooch	9
Rudolph Beuc III	9
Cody Wilde	13
Ronald Angel	13
Francis LaVar Jr.	14
Paxton Rogers	20
Robert Bruckner	27
Larry Endicott	28



Happy Birthday  
To My Bestest Friend



## MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT DRAWING

12-25-21	Francis LaVar	WINNER
12-31-21	Robert Mayer	WINNER
1-8-22	John Eckert	WINNER
1-15-22	Michael Campbell	WINNER
1-22-22	Dan Flynn	WINNER
1-29-22	John Eckert	WINNER
2-5-22	Ray White	WINNER
2-12-22	Charles Whisenhunt	WINNER
2-19-22	Dennis Fetter	WINNER

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

### Sick and Shut-ins

**Marion Briggs.....314-773-4421**

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.



## MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS

## ADDRESS CHANGES



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

.....

## 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.  
3952 Tholozan Ave.  
St. Louis, Mo. 63116

## **M E M O R I A L**

**BROTHER LAVERN J. SAILOR** was born in Minnesota Lake, Minnesota on April 16, 1948. He passed away in St. Louis, Missouri on February 1, 2022, at the age of 73-years.

St. Louis Lodge No. 5, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, initiated Brother Sailor into our Order on September 24, 2005. He received his First Degree on October 8, 2005, his Second Degree on October 22, 2005, and his Third Degree on November 29, 2005. He was a 16-year member of our Order and will be missed by many of his brothers.

Patricia Sailor (nee Hargiss) survives him as do his children, James Sailor and Tracy Sailor. He was a brother, uncle, and friend to many.

At Brother Sailor's request, the funeral is to be private with interment at Mount Hope Cemetery. No Odd Fellow services were requested.



**God Bless and may you always have peace**



## **COMMUNICATION**



One of the most important duties that an officer, committee chairman, committee or other person of responsibility, is to communicate. There are different means of communication these days, letter, facsimile, email, one on one, phone calls, newsletters, etc. We sometimes ignore the basics of communications and take for granted the other person or persons know what we are trying to communicate, it's called assumption. There are some simple rules for better communications we can follow and one of these are the five W's.

**WHO;** who are we communicating with? Who needs the communication and how many are we communicating with?

**WHAT;** what is the purpose of the communication. If you are sending an email, this should be the header.

**WHY;** why are we communicating, the reason, or purpose?

**WHERE;** is a location needed, or an area or building, convention center, etc.

**WHEN;** is there a specific date required? Is a time needed? Here is where a lot of people make assumptions that the recipient knows this already. Don't assume!

When making a communication, just follow the simple five W's and you will eliminate a lot of problems that come from poor communications. I remember one time I had put an article in the lodge newsletter that a certain Grand Master was going to hold a BBQ as a joke. I was chastised by that Grand Master due to all the phone calls he had received asking where and when was the BBQ.

Always, when communicating, make the message as plain and as simple as you can. I follow the KISS principle (Keep It Simple Stupid) to avoid misunderstandings. Never underestimate the power of a good communication or the problems caused by a poor communication.

Robert J Mayer Sr.

**Motto**

Friendship, Love and Truth

**Objective**

To Improve and Elevate the Character of Mankind

(The Old Man and the Gulls continued from page 5)

Captain Eddie caught the gull. Its flesh was eaten. Its intestines were used for bait to catch fish. The survivors were sustained and their hopes renewed because a lone sea gull, uncharacteristically hundreds of miles from land, offered itself as a sacrifice. You know the Captain Eddie made it. And you also know . . . that he never forgot. Because every Friday evening, about sunset . . . on a lonely stretch along the eastern Florida seacoast . . . you could see an old man walking . . . white-haired, bushy-eye browed, slightly bent. His bucket filled with shrimp was to feed the gulls . . . to remember that one which, on a day long past, gave itself without a struggle . . . like manna in the wilderness.

Told by Paul Harvey

**Are there any “closet” musicians in this lodge?**

Congratulation's to David Haywood on his journey to seek knowledge about the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. On Saturday, February 5, 2022. David received his Second Degree and continues his journey. Good Luck

**THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S CORNER**

**The Financial Secretary** wishes to remind the members, that Lodge Dues are due on January 1, 2022. 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 Charles Whisenhunt for further information at **314-494-9416**.

**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.

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**The Old Man And The Gulls**

About sunset it happened every Friday evening, on a lonely stretch along the eastern Florida seacoast. You could see an old man walking, white-haired, bushy-eye browed, slightly bent. One gnarled hand would be gripping the handle of a pail, a large bucket filled with shrimp. There, on a broken pier reddened by the setting sun, the weekly ritual would be re-enacted. At once, the silent twilight sky would become a mass of dancing dots . . . growing larger. In the distance, screeching calls would become louder. They were sea gulls, come from nowhere, on the same pilgrimage . . . to meet an old man.

For half an hour or so, the gentleman would stand on the pier, surrounded by fluttering white, till his pail of shrimp was empty. But the gulls would linger for a while. Perhaps one would perch comfortably on the old man's hat . . . and a certain day gone by would gently come to mind. Eventually, all of the old man's days would pass. If the gulls still return to that spot . . . perhaps on a Friday evening at sunset . . . it is not for food . . . but to pay homage to the secret they shared with a gentle stranger. And that secret is **THE REST OF THE STORY**.

Anyone who remembers October of 1942 remembers the day it was reported the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker was lost at sea. Captain Eddie's mission had been to deliver a message of the utmost importance to General MacArthur. MacArthur was headquartered in New Guinea, and Rickenbacker was given a B-17 and a hand-picked crew to take him there. But there was an unexpected detour which would hurl Captain Eddie into the most harrowing adventure of his life. Somewhere over the South Pacific the Flying Fortress became lost beyond the reach of radio. Fuel ran dangerously low, so the men ditched their plane in the ocean. The B-17 stayed afloat just long enough for all aboard to get out. Then, slowly, the tail of Flying Fortress swung up and posed for a split second . . . and the ship went down, leaving eight men and three rafts . . . and the horizon. For nearly a month Captain Eddie and his companions would fight the water, and the weather, and the scorching sun.

They spent many sleepless nights recoiling as giant sharks rammed their rafts. The largest raft was nine by five. The biggest shark . . . ten feet long. But of all their enemies at sea, one proved most formidable: starvation. Eight days out, their rations were long gone or destroyed by the salt water. It would take a miracle to sustain them. And a miracle occurred. In Captain Eddie's own words, "Cherry," that was the B-17 pilot, Captain William Cherry, "read the service that afternoon, and we finished with a prayer for deliverance and a hymn of praise. There was some talk, but it tapered off in the oppressive heat. With my hat pulled down over my yes to keep out some o the glare, I dozed off." Now this is still Captain Rickenbacker talking . . . "Something landed on my head. I knew that it was a sea gull. I don't know how I knew, I just knew. "Everyone else knew too. No one said a word, but peering out from under my hat brim without moving my head, I could see the expression on their faces. They were staring at that gull. The gull meant food . . . if I could catch it." And the rest, as they say, is history.

(The Old Man and the Gulls continued on page 8)



Well another fun Bowling Tournament with lodge members and friends having fun while bowling and spending time together. It sponsored by St. Louis Lodge No. 5.

**However** there are times while bowling we remember that we're not as young as we used to be.....



## VALENTINE DAY CELEBRATION



Saturday, February 12, 2022, St. Louis Lodge No. 5 held their annual Valentine Day celebration. The ladies and members in attendance had a great time and the food was good too.

