

Refreshments and Activities at Your Lodge All refreshments served at 6:30 P.M. except when otherwise noted All meetings are at 7:30 P.M. unless otherwise noted	
January 6, 2018	<u>Regular Meeting 7:30pm</u> Refreshments –Chilli 3 Ways, Chips, and Crackers Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
January 13, 2018	<u>Morning Meeting 9:00am</u> Refreshments – Bagels and Danish Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee, and Water
January 20, 2018	<u>Morning Meeting 9:00am</u> Refreshments – Bagels and Donuts Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee, and Water
January 27, 2018	<u>Second Degree 7:30pm</u> Refreshments – Mom’s Deli Sandwiches, Chips Soda, Coffee and Water
February 3, 2018	<u>Third Degree 7:30pm</u> Refreshments –Cannelloni, Salad Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
February 10, 2018 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-top: 5px;">Valentine’s Day Dinner</div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> Bingo <div style="text-align: center;"> <u>Regular Meeting 7:30pm</u> Refreshments – Meatloaf, Mash Potatoes, Gravy, Salad Soda, Tea, Coffee and Water </div> Bingo </div>
February 17, 2018	<u>Initiatory Degree 7:30pm</u> Refreshments – Fried Chicken, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad Dinner Rolls, Soda, Coffee and Water
February 24, 2018	<u>Morning Meeting 9:00am</u> Refreshments – Bagels and Donuts Orange Juice, 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



ST. LOUIS LODGE NO. .5, I.O.O.F. 3765 LINDELL BLVD. ST. LOUIS, MO. 63108-3411
January - February 2018





A BIT OF HISTORY
By
Robert J. Mayer Sr.

THOMAS WILDEY (1782–1861)
founder of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) in North America.

One of our good and faithful brothers asked if we could print something about the history of Odd Fellowship in North America and specifically about St. Louis Lodge No. 5. The following will be from a series of articles concerning our history in general. Although much of this has been researched by the author, we cannot attest to the authenticity or accuracy of the facts stated. In general we leave it up to the reader to determine fact from fiction.

There has been no proven or documented history on the origins of how and when Odd Fellowship was started. Some say it was 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.”

(Continued on page 10)



A Message From Our Noble Grand

Officers and Members

I can’t believe that 2018 is here already. This past year seems to have flown by so quickly. I hope everyone had a great holiday season and the New Year will bring you and your family everything that you want and especially good health. Well my term as Noble Grand is coming to an end and this will be my last message as Noble Grand of St. Louis Lodge No. 5.

It has been an enjoyable journey filled with many successes and learning opportunities and I could not have done it without all of the support and hard work of the members of our lodge. As I reflect on this past year, I am pleased with what we accomplished together.

We not only accomplished our annual activities such as our Picnic, Banquet, Bowling Tournament and Children’s Christmas Party. But we managed to host a Degree Rally wherein we invited lodges from throughout the state to participate. As a result we were able not only to increase the membership of our lodge but that of other lodges. That means we increased the Odd Fellows fraternity and had a great time doing it. I want to thank all of the members who helped and made each activity a great success. I want you to know that I am so honored that you have allowed me to be the Noble Grand of this great lodge.

(Continued on page 4)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS

JANUARY

Jwamer Rasheed	01
Elmer MarzSr.	02
Dennis Lipski	06
Kenneth Rogers	07
William Jimas	09
Alan Davidson	09
Andrew Oberman	09
Ian Bacich	09
Steven Throm	10
Donald Proehl	16
Stephen Carr Sr.	18
J. Steve Dodson	18
Edward Rayfield	20
Fred Plough	24
Philipp Petersen	26

FEBRUARY

Charles Whisenhunt	01
Kenneth Herrmann	02
Charles Iselin	03
Martin Gruettemeyer	03
Daniel White	04
Robert Carr	06
Theodor Walter	06
William Neighbors	07
Thomas Amos	11
Charles Ems	11
Thomas Moser	16
Art Matthews	17
Kurt Bayless	18
Billy Boyer	18
Arthur Kennon	18
Wilfred Soutiea Jr.	20
John Siscoel	27
Albert Coleman	28
Michael Singer III	28



Reminder

For those of you that don't know it. We have some handicap supplies that can be loaned to you. If you are in need of a walker, cane, crutches, potty chair, shower bench or wheel chair see one of the lodge officers for more information.

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT DRAWING

10/21/17	Walter Clifton	WINNER
10/28/17	Pete Cauchon	WINNER
11/4/17	Rich Roesch	WINNER
11/11/17	Kenneth Rogers	WINNER
11/18/17	Dennis Fetter	WINNER
11/25/17	John Eckert	WINNER
12/2/17	Rodney Kline	WINNER
12/9/17	Michael Campbell	WINNER
12/16/17	Darrel Curtis	WINNER
12/23/17	Robert Mayer	WINNER

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

Sick and Shut-ins

Ken Hetz.....314-487-3563

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
Ray White314-567-0455
Vice Grand
Walter Clifton.....314-956-8184
Secretary
Robert J. Mayer Sr.....314-771-2652
Financial Secretary
Charles Whisenhunt.....14-353-3542
Treasurer
Richard A. Roesch.....636-931-4829

Special Relief Committee

Richard Aguilar314-644-1126
Craig A. Skinner.....314-839-3081
Lee T. Rauhut.....314-521-3302



MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS /TELEPHONE CHANGES

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Richard Dumont
8518 Titchfield Ct. Apt. B
St. Louis, Mo. 63123-1256
Phone: (314) 270-3930



DON'T FORGET TO MAKE THESE CHANGES IN YOUR ROSTER

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

NOTICE

We are planning to update the Lodge Membership Roster Booklet soon. In an effort to assist us, please forward any new contact information to include your email address to the Lodge Secretary.

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.
3765 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63108-3411



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.

Odd Fellowship officially came to North America when on April 26, 1819 Thomas Wildey and four brothers from England chartered Washington Lodge No. 1 at the Seven Stars Inn in Baltimore, Maryland with a charter secured from the Manchester Unity of England. In 1842 the American lodges separated from the English Order and in 1843 changed its name to "The Independent Order of Odd Fellows." On September 20, 1851 the Odd Fellows became the first organization to accept male and female members when Schuyler Colfax helped to found the "Daughters of Rebekah." Brother Colfax was the Vice President of the United States from 1869 to 1873.

Brother Thomas Wildey traveled extensively throughout the settled areas of the United States in existence at that time and founded several lodges. Wildey Lodge No. 2 was founded by him and was chartered in 1838. Travelers Rest Lodge No. 1 was chartered before Lodge No. 2 but that date has been lost. Missouri Lodges are numbered in numerical order for charters issued. Brother Wildey died in 1861 and at that time, as a testament to him, there were over 200,000 members in North America. Odd Fellowship flourished until the Civil War. The Sovereign Grand Lodge Session of 1861 it was reported there were 13 empty seats. Membership decreased with many lodges unable to continue, especially in the South. From 1870 to 1910/1920 the "Golden Age of Fraternalism in America" flourished.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows became the largest organization in the world in 1915 by having 3.4 million members. The "Great Depression" brought a rapid decline in membership. People could not afford the fees and the "New Deal" caused the need for the social work of the I.O.O.F. to decline. After World War II, Odd Fellowship started to gain back its lost membership for a time. Various social, economic and athletic demands meant less and less time and funds for attending or joining a lodge. Many lodges saw a decline in membership during the 1980's and 1990's. Now in the 21st Century Odd Fellowship membership has started to increase. Today it has the distinction of being the largest fraternal organization in the world under one head. No one can predict its future, but it will be around for a long time yet to come.

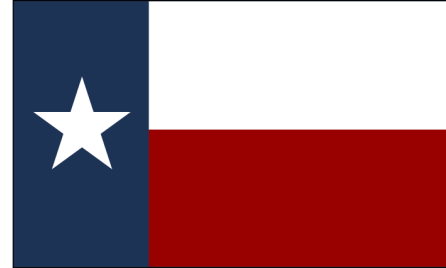


GAME WARDEN

A game warden found a man standing at the edge of a lake, fishing pole in hand. "Sir, you can't fish here", he said. "I'm not fishing," the man replied. "I'm teaching my worm to swim".



The Flag of the Texas Republic



This flag is familiar to nearly everyone as it still serves as the State Flag of Texas. It was under this flag that 27 Masons gave their lives at the Battle of the Alamo.

Brother Sam Houston furnished much of the leadership in the founding of the Texas Republic, he became its first President, and its first Senator upon admission of Texas into the Union.

The above information is provided by Pete Cauchon, member of Heroes of '76, Flag Team, National Sojourners Inc.



Who is eligible for this benefit?

Honorably discharged Veterans of all United States Armed Forces, including the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard as well as the Air Force Reserve, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve and National Guard.

What is the benefit?

Approved Veterans can shop the online exchanges, including ShopMyExchange.com! Shopping with the Exchange online gives you access to exclusive military pricing and offers, tax-free shopping and more. This is a lifelong benefit that will be extended to all who discharge honorably from service. To find out more information go to <https://www.shopmyexchange.com/veterans>



Millions of Veterans don't know that they are eligible for this benefit.

Know a Veteran, tell a Veteran!



FREE Standard Shipping to US Zip Codes *When Your Online Purchase Totals \$49 or More

TAX-FREE SHOPPING On top of already great deals on clothing, electronics and more

Exclusive Military Credit and Financing Options with the MILITARY STAR® Card



Many of you have helped me in so many ways, through your words of support, and actions. I also want to thank the wife's, girlfriends and others who are not members, but who have assisted the lodge in many ways. We have been able to accomplish so much by working together to make this lodge a place that everyone can enjoy. I would like to leave you with some words that I try to live by.

To live as gently as I can, to be, no matter where, a man;
To take what comes of good or ill; to cling to faith and honor still;
To do my best and let stand, the record of my brain and hand;
And then, should failure come to me, still work and hope for victory!
To have no secret place wherein I stoop unseen to shame or sin;
To be the same when I am alone as when my every deed is known,
To live undaunted, unafraid of any step that I have made;
To be without pretense or sham, exactly what men think I am.

As I close, I would ask that the members give the new Noble Grand and his officers all the support that you can as they take us into the new year.

Sincerely
C. Ray White,
Noble Grand



Bowling Tournament

The Fun Bowling Tournament location has changed. The next Fun Bowling Tournament will be held on February 18, 2018 at DuBowl Lanes, 2711 Lemay Ferry Road. Check-in at 12:30 P.M.

Practice at 12:50 P.M. with tournament starting at 1:00 P.M. Four game 9-Pin format. All fees provided by Lodge No. 5 except food and beverages

Coming from HWY 55 get off at Reavis Barracks exit then go east on Reavis Barracks to Lemay Ferry then go right. The lanes will be right after the second traffic light on Lemay Ferry on the right.

Coming from HWY 270, get off at Lemay Ferry exit and go left (or North). Proceed down Lemay Ferry and the lanes will be on your left about 2 miles. Should be after the second traffic light. There is ample parking in front, side and back.



FINANCIAL RESPOSNABILTY

by
Robert J. Mayer Secretary

In the last twenty five years St. Louis Lodge No. 5 has seen some significant changes in fiscal procedures and policies which I will enlighten you on.

Twenty five years ago there were no budgets, no C.P.A. who audited, no reports on expenses of banquets, refreshments or parties. When such activities were held, no one knew if we could afford them or not. In one case a T-Note had to be surrendered to pay for the over-run on a banquet.

Twenty five years ago there was no Robertson Benevolent Fund, hence, no scholarship fund and not much in the way of donations.

Twenty five years ago most of Lodge No. 5 stocks were held in certificate form in a safe deposit box which was audited by members of Lodge No. 5 annually.

No annual report was made on the financial status of the Lodge that was left up to the financial officers to determine if we were in financial difficulty.

Now to present day:

All of our stock certificates are now held by a brokerage firm and insured against loss. We have diverse vied our portfolio to help insure against sudden market drops that would affect our income.

We now have a financial advisor who reviews our holdings every three months.

We now have a C.P.A. who reviews our books, stocks and bank statements. They also perform annual reports and tax forms sent to the Internal Revenue Service on our behalf. This also includes the Robertson Benevolent Fund.

In October of each year a Budget Committee is elected and required to report a proposed budget for the following year by the second week of January for lodge approval or disapproval.

Each year, for the past 10 to 15 years, we have managed to take funds from our income and reinvest. This is for the future of the Lodge.

We have not only increased donations from the Robertson Benevolent Fund but from the treasury of the Lodge itself.

We've come a long way and have a long way to go to keep this Lodge in good financial shape.

In memory of Larry W. Sisco – Financial Secretary for many years.





PAY YOUR DUES

This is a reminder that Lodge Dues should be paid by January 1st 2018. It's important to remember that your dues must be paid no later than March 30, 2018. Our annual dues are \$40.00 a year. Members who fail to pay their dues **by March 30, 2018** will lose their membership benefits and are not permitted to attend lodge activities.

By paying dues, you help the lodge immensely; your annual dues contribution helps support the lodge. So remember to **PAY YOUR DUES** If you are having financial problems paying your dues, please contact Charles Whisenhunt for further information at 314-353-3542.



MEMBERS WHO FORGET

The following list of members of St. Louis Lodge No. 5 (IOOF) that have forgotten to pay dues.

Robert E.	Carr	\$80.00
Andrew J.	Fox	\$80.00
Kevin R.	George	\$80.00
Daniel F.	Hiatt	\$80.00
Steven J.	Kracht	\$80.00
Brett	Lehmann	\$80.00
Elmer G.	Marz	\$80.00
Michael	Hermann	\$80.00



IMPORTANT DATES



January 6,	2018	Reading of proposed By-Laws changes
January 13,	2018	Proposed Budget for 2018
January 20,	2018	Installation of New Officers
January 27,	2018	Voting on By-Law changes
February 10,	2018	Valentine's Day Dinner (Bingo for the ladies)



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

Once again St. Louis Lodge No. 5 will provide support to the Ronald McDonald House Charities for the Family Dinner Program!

This program is a way of being able to provide a hot meal or a quick snack is one of the most important ways we can help those we serve, feel they are truly staying at their home-away-from-home. Having one less worry (a decision on where to eat dinner) is a valuable benefit to families who are focusing all of their energies on their sick child.

Brother Gio Mangiore who has been tasked with coordinating the dates for St. Louis lodge No. 5 to provide meals. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Brother Gio for further information.



DATES SELECTED FOR 2018

- Friday, March 16, 2018
- Thursday, July, 20, 2018
- Monday, May 21, 2018
- Wednesday, October 17, 2018



Children's Christmas Party



St. Louis Lodge No. 5 hosted their annual Children Christmas Party on Saturday, December 9, 2017 at Webster Groves Masonic Building. Lodge members and parents watched as approximately 50 children receive snacks, gifts, and a visit with Santa Claus.

Before Santa came down the children were entertained by Mr. Rusty Pliers and his talking puppet "Meatball". So all in all we had a very good turn-out for the party. Thank you for everyone that showed up. I know the kids loved it. I would like to especially recognize Pamela Whisehunt for her hard work going out and purchasing the presents and ensuring that every child that was registered and present received their gift. Thank you Pamela, you make it so easy for the kids to have fun.

I would also like to thank the entertainment committee for all their hard work in making sure that the party was a success. I do not want to forget one of our elf's Elaine Rauhut for her help with Santa Claus. Again thanks to everyone for what you do.



Motto
Friendship, Love and Truth



Objective
To Improve and Elevate the
Character of Mankind

Annual Charity Presentation

St. Louis Lodge No. 5 held their Annual Charity Presentation, representatives from the Salvation Army, Ronald McDonald Children Foundation, James S. McDonald USO, MaryGrove Children Foundation, Lydia' House, Feed-My-People and Cardinal Glennon Children Foundation were invited to the evening activities at the Three Links Building to receive donations on behalf of the members of St. Louis Lodge No. 5 and the Robertson Benevolent Fund. The presentation was again hosted by St. Louis Lodge No. 5 with Noble Grand Ray White presiding. The Lodge also received a gift from James S. McDonald USO for our continued support in providing resources to help our men and women in the military to have a place to relax while waiting to travel at the airport.

