



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.

January 8, 2022	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Pot Luck & ? Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
January 15, 2022	Morning Meeting 10:00am Refreshments – Donuts & Bagels Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
January 15, 2022	INSTALLATION 7:00pm Refreshments – Open face Roast Beef, Mixed vegetables Potato, Salad, Bread, Desert, Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
January 22, 2022	First Degree 7:00pm Refreshments – Beef Stroganoff, Mixed Veg, Salad Bread, Desert, Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
January 29, 2022	Morning Meeting 10:00am Refreshments – Eggs, Bacon, Sauage & Biscuits Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
February 5, 2022	Second Degree 7:00pm Refreshments – Spaghetti with meat sauce, Salad, Bread Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
February 12, 2022	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Chicken Parmesan, Broccoli, Potato, Salad Bread, Desert, Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
February 19, 2022	Third Degree 7:00pm Refreshments – Cod, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Bread Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
Valentines Day Dinner	BINGO





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



ST. LOUIS LODGE NO. 5, I.O.O.F. 350 NORTH VALLEY DELL DR. FENTON, MO. 63026
JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2022



THE ODD FELLOWS HALL COMPANY AND ASSOCIATION

There are two groups involved with the operation of our lodge building. While it may seem confusing to some, I will attempt to shed light on both.

The Odd Fellows Hall Company was chartered by the **State of Missouri as the Odd Fellows Hall Company of South St. Louis in 1874**. The name was later changed in 1907 to the **Odd Fellows Hall Company**. It was set up as an investment company with three lodges contributing to its start-up. They are Wildey Lodge No. 2, Wildey Encampment No. 1, and St. Louis Lodge No. 5.

Each was allocated shares in the Hall Company based on the amount contributed to start-up. Each lodge was to have members to comprise the Board of Directors, three each from Wildey Lodge No. 2 and Wildey Encampment No. 1 and five from Lodge No. 5, again based on contributions. It was further stipulated that each member of the Board of Directors would have to be a trustee of their respective lodge. The Hall Company oversees the investments of the three member lodges and receives the dividends and interest from these investments.

(Continued on page 10)



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

Thomas J. Moser As I sit here writing my last little ditty, I reflect back on an interesting year. First I want to thank everyone for their help these last two years, especially the officers. As the pandemic lessened we were able to once again begin to initiate new members and to have gatherings once again.

We were able to have our picnic this year which had to be moved to September. The weather was so good that we are planning to move the picnic from June to September for at least one more year. We also had our banquet in August. While both of these events had smaller than anticipated attendance, everyone attending had an enjoyable time. Next year my hope is that we will be back to normal. This year we were able to hold our children's Christmas Party in our own building. Here we had a larger crowd than expected which caused a few blips, but we managed to work it all out. We had 56 children in attendance who had a delightful visit with Santa. It was great to see so many people in our new building. Looking forward to next year.

(Continued on page 3)

(Odd Fellows Hall Company, *continued from page 1*)

Each quarter the Odd Fellows Association of St. Louis determines how much money will be needed to operate the building and that is used to determine the Hall Company's regular and special distributions to each member lodge.

The specials are used to run the building and the regulars go to the members for their treasury. The Odd Fellows Association of St. Louis was chartered by the State of Missouri in 1921, the same year the building on Lindell came into being as an Odd Fellow Hall. It is comprised of the same Board of Directors as the Odd Fellows Hall Company. The Association holds title to the building and property we are now in. It was also the same organization that sold the Lindell building and purchased our new building in Fenton, and saw to its renovation. The Association is also responsible for maintaining the building and contracting for needed services such as trash removal, janitorial service, snow removal and other items too numerous to mention here. Repairs and improvements are also the responsibility of the Association. The only income the Association has is from the Hall Company's specials.

Here is where many get confused, the Odd Fellows Hall Company is strictly an investment company with no responsibility for the building outside of distributions. The responsibility for the building lies solely with the Odd Fellows Association of St. Louis, with the exception of the new pole barn that is owned by St. Louis Lodge No. 5.

Hope this makes things clearer.

Robert Mayer Sr.
Lodge Secretary
St. Louis No. 5



Visit Our Website

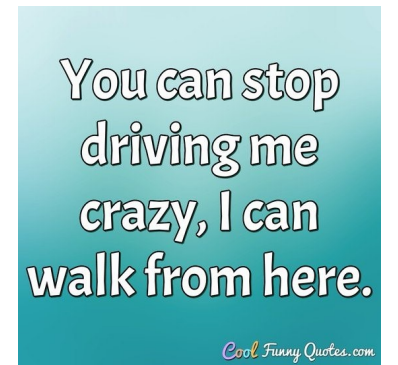
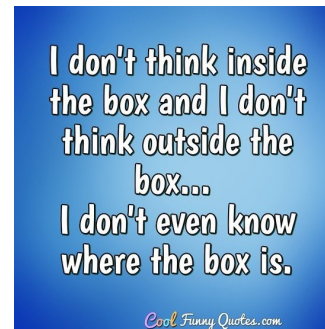
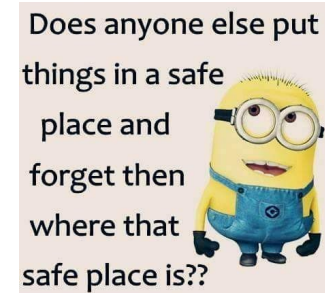
A copy of this issue of Link-n-Lines can be found on our website. You can also find additional information about lodge activities and copies of pictures of recent events. Check us out, website is at www.ioof-stl.org

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

(Noble Grand *continued from page 1*)

As I draw to a close, I want to thank all of you for allowing me the honor of being your Noble Grand. For ten years I was able to say no. Then came Lee Rauhut accompanied by his body guard, Fran LaVar to corner me. Lee did not need Fran because Lee is the only one I could not say no to. The year started off with us getting used to our new surroundings. Our parking lot was probably the biggest challenge. If you parked at the west end of the building and it rained during the meeting, your ankles got a little wet getting to your car. Now we have a new parking lot with good drainage and a garage to store our trailer, which I hope will get some use this coming year. Congratulations to Jeff Parrotte our new Noble Grand (subject to installation), Jose' Hernandez our elected Vice Grand. Best wishes for a fun and successful year.

Best Wishes to all,
Thomas J. Moser
Noble Grand



HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS

JANUARY

Stephen Carr Sr.	8
John Dempsey Sr.	6
Steven J. Dodson	18
Jose Hernandez	9
Alexander Hollenberg	11
William Jimas	11
Dennis Lipski	6
Andrew Oberman	9
Philipp Petersen	26
Fred Plough	24
Donald Proehl	16
Jwamer Rasheed	1
Nicholas Rogers	1
Kenneth Rogers	7
Steven Throm	10

FEBRUARY

Thomas Amos	11
Michael Barcus	12
Charles Ems	11
David Haywood	25
Kenneth Hermann	2
Charles Iselin	3
Art Matthews	17
Thomas Moser	16
Terrence Shofner	7
Michael Singer III	28
John Siscel III	27
Daniel White	4



**Happy Birthday
To My Bestest Friend**



MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT DRAWING

10/23	Francis LaVar	WINNER
10/30	Walter Clifton	WINNER
11/6	James Schored	WINNER
11/13	James Caroker	WINNER
11/20	Daniel Flynn	WINNER
11/27	Charles Whisenhunt	WINNER
12/4	Peter Couchon	WINNER
12/11	Francis LaVar	WINNER
12/18	Ray White	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.

LODGE OFFICERS

- Noble Grand**
Thomas J. Moser.....314-478-6045
- Vice Grand.**
Jeffrey A. Parrotte.....636-751-3138
- Secretary**
Robert J. Mayer Sr.....314-771-2652
- Financial Secretary**
Charles Whisenhunt.....314-353-3542
- Treasurer**
Richard A. Roesch.....636-931-4829

Special Relief Committee

- Richard Aguilar.....314-644-1126
 Craig A. Skinner.....314-839-3081
 Larry Endicott314-452-8989



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

MOCHIP Receives Recognition From FBI

By Craig Skinner

For well over a decade, St. Louis Lodge #5 has made generous annual donations to the Missouri Child Identification Program (MOCHIP) which is sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Additionally, several members of the lodge are actively involved with this valuable program by setting up and operating events throughout eastern Missouri.

At a MOCHIP event in May 2021 at the Museum of Transport, FBI Special Agent in Charge Richard Quinn presented MOCHIP with the "FBI Director's Community Leadership Award" in recognition of the valuable service that MOCHIP provides to Missouri families free of charge. Accepting the award was Most Worshipful Brother Barry Cundiff, Grand Master of Missouri, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He was accompanied by board member of the Masonic Children's Foundation and of course, our very own Brother Richard L. Smith. Brother Smith served as Grand Master of Missouri, A.F. & A.M. in 2016-2017. After the award presentation, a demonstration was conducted by the K-9 Search and Rescue Team of St. Louis by enlisting the help of a teenage volunteer and a Q-Tip swab containing her scent and DNA. She was hidden inside of a building while the search dog remained outside and a good distance away from the subject. The handler opened the pouch and allowed the search dog to smell the contents. The K-9 picked up the scent trail where the girl had walked, alerted on the door of the building, and located the hidden volunteer within minutes.



MOCHIP is a comprehensive child identification program that began in 2005 and is still going strong to this day. Children ages birth to 18 years can participate and the parents receive a packet containing their child's personal information, current photographs, fingerprints, and a malleable dental wafer which contains the child's DNA and scent. The information is copied to a USB flash drive and placed in a packet that is given to the parent/guardian. In the unfortunate event that the child goes missing, the packet will assist law enforcement agencies in quickly issuing an AMBER Alert as they have the ability to upload the info to the Highway Patrol. There is no need to gather and compile the information from the parents who would obviously be under duress because the parent simply hands over their child's packet to the responding officer. The dental wafer or in some cases a Q-Tip cheek swab contains the child's DNA as well as their scent which is used as a source for K-9 Search and Rescue Teams to scour and cover areas where the child has been and helps to locate a missing child.

Law enforcement agencies have recognized MOCHIP as a valuable program and have invited the MOCHIP teams in their community to participate in their safety day activities. Since 2005 there has been over 1733 MOCHIP events held and over 249,700 children identified. The successful recoveries that have been reported by law enforcement is 10 but it is suspected that number might be more. Donations such as those made by St. Louis Lodge #5 provides the necessary resources to allow supplies and equipment to be purchased/replaced and allows this program to remain available to families **free of charge**. Additionally, when you look around the lodge room during a meeting, you can be confident that a large percentage of our lodge members have volunteered their time to help out at MOCHIP events. Some are still regulars who continue to volunteer at each scheduled event. More information can be found at www.mochip.org.



The Holiday Season is a season of giving and St. Louis Lodge No. 5 and the Robertson Benevolent Fund take this time to make charitable donations to various charities who continue to help people in need.

We invite representatives from several organizations to join our members and celebrate this holiday season. The representatives are then presented with their donations. Fun is enjoyed by all.





TRUE FRIENDS

Friendship, Love and Truth



Horror gripped the heart of the World War I soldier as he saw his lifelong friend fall in battle. Caught in a trench with continuous gunfire whizzing over his head, the soldier asked his lieutenant if he might go out into the “no man’s land” between the trenches to bring his fallen comrade back.

“You can go,” said the lieutenant, “but I don’t think it will be worth it. Your friend is probably dead and you may throw your life away.” The lieutenant’s advice didn’t matter, and the soldier went anyway. Miraculously he

managed to reach his friend, hoist him onto his shoulder and bring him back to their company’s trench. As the two of them tumbled in together to the bottom of the trench, the officer checked the wounded soldier, and then looked kindly at his friend.

“I told you it wouldn’t be worth it,” he said. “Your friend is dead and you are mortally wounded.” “It was worth it, though, sir,” said the soldier. “What do you mean; worth it?” responded the Lieutenant. “Your friend is dead.” “Yes, Sir” the private answered. “But it was worth it because when I got to him, he was still alive and I had the satisfaction of hearing him saying, “Jim..., I knew you’d come.” Many times in life, whether a thing is worth doing or not, really depends on how you look at it. Take up all your courage and do something your heart tells you to do so that you may not regret not doing it later in your life. May each and every one of you be blessed with the company of TRUE FRIENDS. A true friend is one who walks in, when the rest of the world walks out. War doesn’t determine who’s right. War only determines who’s left. **Friendship, Love and Truth** is not just words, but who you are.

Author Unknown

CONGRATULATIONS

Chris Steinbach

St. Louis Lodge No.5 member Chris Steinbach is in College at Missouri S & T (Science & Technology) he recently was awarded the IFC "Man of the Year" for 2021. Chris had previously this year been nominated and voted on by his peers as "Zues" for Greek week celebrations. Special Note: “**Mom & Dad are so proud**”, Congratulations Chris.



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.



Children's Christmas Party

Well, we were finally able to hold our annual Children's Christmas Party on December 11, 2021. Because of the pandemic we were unable to hold one last year. We had such a turn out this year that it surprised everyone. But we had a great time and the children loved the entertainment (Magician) and especially the visit from Santa Claus.



Each Year St. Louis Lodge No. 5 holds a Adult Holiday Party for their Members, and Guests. This event is held for the purpose of bringing our membership together to celebrate our Friendship, the Love we have for each other. Members enjoyed a wonderful meal and had a great time. May you and your families and friends always have their health, their love and friendship.

Have a safe Holiday Season and a Great New Year

