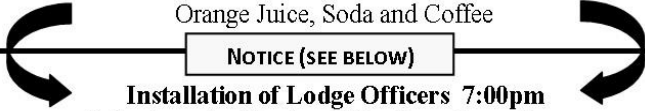


Refreshments and Activities at your lodge  
 All refreshment served at 6:30 P.M. except when otherwise noted  
 All meetings are at 7:30P.M. unless otherwise noted

January 7, 2017	<b>Regular Meeting - 6:00pm</b> Refreshments - Chicken Fried Steak, Potato Au Gratin, Salad Rolls, Soda, Coffee and Water
January 14, 2017	<b>Initiatory Degree 7:30pm</b> Refreshments - Fried Chicken, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Rolls, Soda, Coffee and Water
January 21, 2017	<b>Morning Meeting 9:00am</b> Refreshments - Donuts and Bagels Orange Juice, Soda and Coffee
January 21, 2017	 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"><b>NOTICE (SEE BELOW)</b></div>
January 21, 2017	<b>Installation of Lodge Officers 7:00pm</b> Refreshments - Beef, and Noodles, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Soda, Coffee and Water
January 28, 2017	<b>First Degree 7:30pm</b> Refreshments - Polish Sausage, Sauerkraut, Mash potatoes Salad, Rolls, Soda, Coffee and Water
February 4, 2017	<b>Regular Meeting - 7:30pm</b> Refreshments - Hamburger with Cheese, Onions, Lettuce, Tomatoes Pickles, Soda, Coffee and Water
February 11, 2017	<b>Second Degree 7:30pm</b> Refreshments - Chicken Parmesan, Alfredo Pasta with White Sauce Salad, Italian Bread, Soda, Coffee and Water
February 18, 2017	<b>Morning Meeting 9:00am</b> Refreshments - Bills Surprise Orange Juice, Soda and Coffee
February 25, 2017	<b>3rd Degree 7:30pm</b> Sloppy Joe and Chips, Desert. Cherry Pie, Soda, Coffee and Water



### Craig Rasnic

I was born in St. Louis, Mo. on July 04, 1964, to James Sidney Rasnic and Lucy Stuthers Weston. I am the youngest of four children. My siblings are Lucy, Evelyn, James Jr. and myself. I was raised on the family farm in Potosi, Mo.

By this time the family farm life was basically growing crops in the garden. My father had gotten rid of all the Goats, Cows, and Horses. My mother would take the harvest and canned everything that we had in excess that wasn't used to feed the family. My mother passed away on Nov. 21, 1972. My father and I had used a lot of my mother's canned goods for several years. During this time, I attended Potosi Public School District from Kindergarten through the Twelfth Grade.

While in high school, I attended Lead Belt Vo Tech School for Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning and at night I attended Mineral Area Junior college for Accounting. I graduated Potosi High School in May 1982; I then attended Jefferson Junior College in Hillsboro, Mo. to further my education in the HVAC field and into Commercial HVAC applications. During August 1982 to May 1984 I also went to night classes for Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Ambulance Attendant/Driver. In June 1984, I went to work for Washington County Ambulance District. While working for WCAD I attended night classes at East Central College in Union, Mo. for EMT-P (Paramedic) classes. While in class, I was hired by Valle Ambulance in Desoto, Mo.



### A Message From Our Noble Grand

#### Officers and Members

With the end of the old year and the beginning of a New Year, my term as Noble Grand will soon be coming to an end. I want to thank all of the Officers, the Committee Chairs, the Degree Captains and all of the members who assisted in making 2016 a successful year. I have been honored to serve as your Noble Grand and I look forward to serving our lodge in any capacity that I may be called upon to serve. I also want to congratulate the incoming Noble Grand and Vice Grand. I know that the lodge will be in good hands under their leadership.

2016 was an exciting year as we celebrated the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Louis Lodge No. 5 at our annual banquet. Although it may not be a record among fraternal organizations, when viewed in conjunction with the over 9,000 consecutive weekly meetings, it is an event for which we can be proud. In addition to our banquet, our Safety Coffee Breaks, our annual picnic and our dinners were events that brought our members together sharing in the strong bonds of brotherhood, fellowship and friendship.

*Continued on page 4*

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#### Scholarships

Information and applications for our scholarship program will be available after December 1, 2015. To qualify you must be a Third Degree member of the Lodge or the son, daughter and grandchild of a living Third Degree member of the Lodge. Contact a Trustee of the Lodge for further information.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS**

**JANUARY**

**FEBRUARY**

Jwamer Rasheed	1	Charles Iselin	1
Nicholas Rogers	1	Kenneth Herrmann	2
Elmer Matz	2	M. Gruettemeyer	3
Dennis Lipski	6	Charles Iselin	3
Kenneth Rogers	7	Dan White	4
Stephen Carr Sr.	8	Robert Carr	6
Ian Bacich	9	Theodor Walter	6
Alan Davidson	9	William Neighbors	7
William Jimas	9	Thomas Amos	11
Andrew Oberman	9	Charles Ems	11
Steven Throm	10	Lee Wall	15
Donald Proehl	16	Thomas Moser	16
J. Dodson	18	Art Matthews	17
Edward Rayfield	18	Kurt Bayless	18
Fred Plough	24	Billy Boyer	18
Philp Petersen	26	Wilfred Soutiea Jr.	20
		John Siscell III	27
		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**

10-29-16	Sam Wilk	WINNER
11-5-16	Charles Whisenhunt	WINNER
11-15-16	Gunner Decker	WINNER
11-19-16	Rodney Klien	WINNER
11-26-16	Walter Clifton	WINNER
12-3-16	Connie Curron	WINNER
12-10-16	Richard Roesch	WINNER
12-17-16	Jasper Mangiore	WINNER
12-24-16	Charles Huey	WINNER

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

**Sick and Shut-ins**

**Clifford Thurston.....314-541-9221**  
**Richard Dumont.....314-631-4040**

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 White .....314-567-0455  
**Vice Grand**  
 Wilfred Soutiea Jr.....(314) 846-0015  
**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  
 Lee T. Rauhut.....314-521-3302

**MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS /TELEPHONE CHANGES**

**DELETE**

**CHANGE**



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

**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.

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

I was the first of my class to get my clinical work done and pass the state written examines on August 1986. I had done most of my clinical work at Big River Ambulance Service and was hired by Big River in January. 1987. I worked 10 years at Big River Ambulance Service and part time at Gateway Ambulance in St. Louis, Mo. from 1988 until February 27, 1997, while at Gateway Ambulance, one of their contracts was with St. Louis Lambert International Airport doing medical care for passengers and Airport Staff. During the great flood of 1993. President William Clinton came to view the flood in and around St. Louis Metropolitan Area, I was selected to provide medical care, if needed with the White House Doctors and Nursing Staff, for the Presidential and Vice Presidential Visit in July 1993; I was permitted to fly in the Presidential helicopter with the President of the United States. I then went on to pursue my dreams of being a Career Firefighter instead of just a Volunteer Firefighter. I was accepted into the St. Louis County Police and Fire Academy in Wellston, Mo. My class was the 35th recruit class and Graduated in December 1994. I was then hired at Lemay Fire Protection District in February 27, 1997 where I was able to utilize my Paramedic and Fire Education. I achieved the Rank of Engineer Firefighter Paramedic at the fire district until I retired on July 10, 2015. During my tenure at Lemay Fire Protection District, I also worked part time as a Limousine Chauffeur and Operator.

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## Senior Love.....

I was in my back yard trying to launch a kite. I threw the kite up in the air, the wind would catch it for a few Seconds, then it would come crashing back down to earth. I tried this a few more times with no success.

All the while, my wife is watching from the kitchen window, Muttering to herself how men need to be told how to do everything. She opens the window and yelled to me, *'You need a piece of tail.'*

I turned with a confused look on my face and yelled back, *'Make up your mind. Last night, you told me to go fly a kite.'*



## A place of honor

### The Moultrie Flag



James Moultrie, a South Carolina Freemason, was a physician and member of a prominent South Carolina family. Fort Moultrie, in Charleston Harbor, where the Civil War was started, was named after his cousin, General William Moultrie. The troops which formed to defend Charleston in 1775 to 1776 wore blue uniforms.

On their caps was a silver crescent inscribed with the word liberty. It was logical to use these symbols as the basis for a flag. Thus the provincial Congress ordered that South Carolina display a blue flag with a white crescent. It was these heroic troops, under this flag, who defeated the British in Battle in June of 1776. Today, the word liberty is omitted from the State Flag of South Carolina, but a white palmetto tree appears in the center of the flag. Of note is that Palmetto logs were used in the ramparts of Fort Moultrie in 1776.

liberty is omitted from the State Flag of South Carolina, but a white palmetto tree appears in the center of the flag. Of note is that Palmetto logs were used in the ramparts of Fort Moultrie in 1776.

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

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**Quotations about Helping and Making a Difference**

- A. How wonderful it is that nobody need to wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.
- B. Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.
- C. Live simply that others might simply live.
- D. The willingness to share does not make one charitable; it makes one free.
- E. If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.
- F. Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you.
- G. Wherever a man turns he can find someone who needs him.
- H. Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something.

To the new members, I ask that you become involved in the lodge. Attend as many of the weekly meetings as possible, take part in the degree work, offer your help at the Safety Coffee Breaks and, if you are so inclined, advance in the roles of leadership. Remember that you are the future of St. Louis Lodge No. 5 and with your leadership our organization will move forward toward our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

This will be my last letter, and I again want to thank each and every brother for making my term as Noble Grand of St. Louis Lodge No. 5 a successful year of memories that I will always cherish.

In closing, I hope that all of you and your families had a Merry Christmas or Holiday Season, and I wish you all a Happy New Year.

John M. Eckert  
Noble Grand

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### A CAR ACCIDENT



A woman ran a red traffic light and crashed into a man's car. Both of their cars are demolished but amazingly neither of them was hurt. After they crawled out of their cars, the woman said; "Wow, just look at our cars! There's nothing left, but fortunately we are unhurt. This must be a sign from God that we should meet and be friends and live together in peace for the rest of our days." The man replied, "I agree with you completely.

This must be a sign from God!" The woman continued, "And look at this, here's another miracle.

My car is completely demolished, but my bottle of 75 year old scotch didn't break. Surely God meant for us to drink this vintage delicacy and celebrate our good fortune." Then she handed the bottle to the man. The man nods his head in agreement, opened it, drank half the bottle and then handed it back to the woman. The woman took the bottle, immediately put the cap back on, and handed it back to the man. The man asks, "Aren't you having any?" She replies, "Nah. I think I'll just wait for the police." **Adam ate the apple, too! Men will never learn!**

### DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that the Odd Fellows first held their meetings in pubs and taverns, singing songs, eating food, and drinking ale? A historical proof of this is the satirical depiction of a meeting night of a Lodge of Odd Fellows printed in 1797 by English artist and caricaturist Samuel Collings. The Grand, Grand-elect and Past Grand sitting on a canopied dais, while various assorted characters, including a quack and a musician, drink, smoke and talk. The Club met weekly at the cock in Old Street Square.

## An Eagle Kiss



This is the kind of story you need when it seems like the world is spiraling out of control. Not many people get a picture of this proud bird snuggled up next to them! Freedom and Jeff Freedom and I have been together 11 years this summer. She came in as a baby in 1998 with two broken wings. Her left wing doesn't open all the way even after surgery, it was broken in 4 places. She's my baby. When Freedom came in, she could not stand and both wings were broken. She was emaciated and covered in lice. We made the decision to give her a chance at life, so I took her to the vet's office.

From then on, I was always around her. We had her in a huge dog carrier with the top off, and it was loaded up with shredded newspaper for her to lay in. I used to sit and talk to her, urging her to live, to fight; and she would lay there looking at me with those big brown eyes. We also had to tube feed her for weeks. This went on for 4-6 weeks, and by then she still couldn't stand. It got to the point where the decision was made to euthanize her if she couldn't stand in a week. You know you don't want to cross that line between torture and rehab, and it looked like death was winning. She was going to be put down that Friday, and I was supposed to come in on that Thursday afternoon.

I didn't want to go to the center that Thursday, because I couldn't bear the thought of her being euthanized; but I went anyway, and when I walked in everyone was grinning from ear to ear. I went immediately back to her cage; and there she was, standing on her own, a big beautiful eagle. She was ready to live. I was just about in tears by then. That was a very good day. We knew she could never fly, so the director asked me to glove train her. I got her used to the glove, and then to jesses, and we started doing education programs for schools in western Washington. We wound up in the newspapers, radio (believe it or not) and some TV. Miracle Pets even did a show about us. In the spring of 2000, I was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. I had stage 3, which is not good (one major organ plus everywhere), so I wound up doing 8 months of chemo. Lost the hair - the whole bit. I missed a lot of work.

When I felt good enough, I would go to Sarvey and take Freedom out for walks. Freedom would also come to me in my dreams and help me fight the cancer. This happened time and time again. Fast forward to November 2000. The day after Thanksgiving, I went in for my last checkup. I was told that if the cancer was not all gone after 8 rounds of chemo, then my last option was a stem cell transplant. Anyway, they did the tests; and I had to come back one day for the results. I went in Monday, and I was told that all the cancer was gone.

So, the first thing I did was get up to Sarvey and take the big girl out for a walk. It was misty and cold. I went to her flight and jessed her up, and we went out front to the top of the hill. I hadn't said a word to Freedom, but somehow, she knew. She looked at me and wrapped both her wings around me to where I could feel them pressing in on my back (I was engulfed in eagle wings), and she touched my nose with her beak and stared into my eyes, and we just stood there like that for I don't know how long. That was a magic moment. We have been soul mates ever since she came in. This is a very special bird.

On a side note: I have had people who were sick come up to us when we are out, and Freedom has some kind of hold on them. I once had a guy who was terminal come up to us and I let him hold her. His knees just about buckled and he swore he could feel her power course through his body. I have so many stories like that. I never forget the honor I have of being so close to such a magnificent spirit as Freedom!!



# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

## Annual Dues

**Please check dues card to see if it's up to date**

If you are having financial problems paying your dues, please contact Charles Whisenhunt for further information at 314-353-3542.

### REMEMBER

It's important that you stay current with your dues. Annual dues are required to be paid by all members to maintain status as a "member in good standing". Members who fail to stay current with their dues are not permitted to attend lodge activities.

By paying dues, you help the lodge immensely; your annual dues contribution helps support the lodge.

### DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that Odd Fellowship once had a "sign of distress" and an answer to that sign? And when the sign could be observed, the member in distress could use certain words, pronounced in full, to indicate distress.

Did you know that once upon a time when a member of the Order desired to be recognized as an Odd Fellow by another Member of the Order, he could give a secret "sign of recognition"? When both the sign and the answer were given, the members could advance to each other, shake hands and exchange the words "Are you looking for me?" and the response "For you."

Did you know that in Odd Fellowship there was once a "warning sign" and a "sign of safety", as well as a "sign of danger" that a member could use when conveying warning, danger or safe-



St. Louis Lodge No. 5 recently updated their web site and made changes to improve the quality and functions.

Come check the web site out and see the new and improved. The new address is

**ioof-stl.org**

### A YOUNG COWBOY



A young cowboy, sitting in a saloon one Saturday night, recognized an elderly man standing at the bar who, in his day, had been the "Fastest Gun In The West."

The cowboy walked over to the old-timer, bought him a drink and told him of his great ambition to be a great gunfighter.

"Could you give me some tips?" he asked. The old man said, "Well, for one thing, you're wearing your gun too high -- tie the holster a little lower down on your leg." "Will that make me a better gunfighter?" "Sure will."

The young man did as he was told, then stood up, whipped out his .44, and shot the bow tie off the piano player. "That's terrific!" exclaimed the cowboy. "Got any more tips?"

"Yep," said the old man. "Cut a notch out of your holster where the hammer hits it -- that'll give you a smoother draw." "Will that make me a better gunfighter?" asked the young man.

"You bet it will," said the old-timer.

The young man took out his knife, cut the notch, stood up, drew his gun in a blur, and then shot a cuff link off the piano player. "Wow!" said the cowboy excitedly, "I'm learning' something' here. Got any more tips?"

The old man pointed to a large can in a corner of the saloon. "See that can of axle grease over there? Coat your gun with it." The young man smeared some of the grease on the barrel of his gun. "No," said the old-timer, "I mean smear it all over the gun, the handle, and all."

"Will that make me a better gunfighter?" asked the puzzled young man. "No," said the old-timer, "but when Wyatt Earp gets done playing the piano, he's gonna shove that gun up your butt, and it won't hurt so much."





**Motto**  
Friendship, Love and Truth

**Objective**  
To Improve and Elevate the  
Character of Mankind

## Installation of New Lodge Officer's St. Louis Lodge No. 5 (I.O.O.F)

**Date:** January 21, 2017  
**Time:** 7:30pm  
**Location:** Three Links Building  
3765 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis, Mo. 63108



St. Louis Lodge No. 5

# Fun Bowling Day



Escape the cold and join St. Louis Lodge No. 5 for some bowling fun.

**When:** Sunday, January 29, 2017  
**Time:** Check in 12:30pm, Bowling 1:00pm  
**Location:** Sunset Lanes  
7777 Watson Rd.  
St. Louis, Mo. 63119  
**Contact:** Secretary Bob Mayer for more information

## IOOF ART WORK

Symbols, lodges, and degrees are often depicted in Odd Fellow fraternal artwork. In order to fully understand the purposes and principles of Odd Fellowship, instruction in ceremonial form is divided into degrees. These degrees are dramatic in form and aim to emulate and impart the principles of the fraternity: Friendship, Love, Truth, Faith, Hope, Charity and Universal Justice.

Each degree consists of symbols that aim to teach a practical moral code and encourages members to live and act upon them; to enact a positive change upon the world. In the past, when most Odd Fellows lodges offered financial benefits for the sick and distressed members, such symbols, passwords and hand signs were used as proof of membership and to protect the lodge funds from impostors. These symbols, signs and passwords are carried up until the modern times as a tradition.

The most widely encountered symbol of the IOOF – on signs and grave markers – is the three-link chain with the initials, '**F**', '**L**' and '**T**' ... one letter in each link which stands for **Friendship, Love and Truth**. Another symbol that you will often see is the all-seeing eye of God. They are not only beautiful, but are informative as they tend to remind members of the degrees that they have received and their importance. It is possible to find this type of engraving on outside walls of buildings and grave markers today.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

The following is a listing of upcoming events that we hope you will be able to attend.

<b>Initiatory Degree</b>	January 14, 2017,	6:30 pm	Members Only
<b>Installation of Officers</b>	January 21, 2017	6:30pm	Members Only
<b>First Degree</b>	January 28, 2017	6:30pm	Members Only
<b>Second Degree</b>	February 11, 2017	6:30pm	Members Only
<b>Third Degree</b>	February 25, 2017	6:30pm	Members Only