

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	
July 1, 2017	<u>Morning Meeting 9:00am</u> Refreshments – Bagels & Danish Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
July 8, 2017	<u>Regular Meeting 7:30pm</u> Refreshments – Sloppy Joes, Shoe String Potato's Soda, Coffee and Water
July 15, 2017	<u>Third Degree Practice 7:30pm</u> Refreshments - Chicken Fried Steak, Mash Potato, Green Beans, Rolls, Soda, Coffee and Water
July 22, 2017	<u>Regular Meeting 7:30pm</u> Refreshments – Pork Steak, Hot Dogs, Cold Slaw, Potato Salad Rolls , Soda and Coffee
July 29, 2017	<u>First Degree Practice 7:30pm</u> Refreshments – Mom's Sub-Sandwich, Chips Soda, Coffee and Water
August 5, 2017	<u>Regular Meeting—7:30pm</u> Refreshments – Brats (Sausage) and Sauerkraut, Chips Soda, Coffee and Water
August 12, 2017	<u>Regular Meeting—7:30pm</u> Refreshments – Pizza, Pizza and Pasta House Salad Soda, Coffee and Water
August 19, 2017	<u>Morning Meeting 9:00am</u> Refreshments – Donuts and Bagels 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
July - August 2017



**My brother
Michael Dale White.**

Michael D. White First and foremost, I would like to thank "each and every one" of you for your support and prayers for my family during this sad time. It means a lot to me and my family to know how much our brother Mike has "touched" so many lives.

To sum up what Mike meant to us as a family in a few short paragraphs is impossible. I am not even used to him being gone yet. I still keep looking for him to call or show up. I still have his number in my phone.

Anyone who knew Mike knew how much he loved his family especially his children, Travis, Michael, Richard and Scottie. We are so incredibly grateful and blessed to have shared his precious life on earth with us. Mike was taken way too soon; he left this earth on the morning of May 28, 2017. I know he was greeted in Heaven by our Mom & Dad and our brother Earl.

"Life" is a gift from God. I was extremely blessed to have him as my brother for 59 years. Although, he had a short life, it was so very full and filled with "love and laughter" with so many amazing moments.

(Continued on page 9)



**A Message From Our
Noble Grand**

Officers and Members

Our Duty Then and Now and in the Future

One day in lodge while repeating the valediction, I got to thinking about what the words meant. So I decided to research the information and here's what I learned.

The individual interested in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows has probably read or perhaps repeated the Valediction of Odd Fellowship, and no doubt realizes that it refers to ". my duty 'to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead and educate the orphan'..." A person may wonder how this "duty" came to exist, and how relevant it is to Odd Fellowship in modern times. The English Odd Fellows' major objective was "relief" and that organization was primarily a mutual insurance fraternity in 1819 and remains as such to this day. Accordingly, our "duty" apparently is of American origin.

History does tell us that the "duty" was extremely relevant in Baltimore, Maryland, when, for all practical purposes, North American Odd Fellowship was founded there in 1819, for that city was in the grip of a severe epidemic, and sickness, distress, death, and the inevitable result, orphans, were to be found everywhere.

(Continued on page 4)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS

July		August	
Glen Robinson	3	James Reiner	2
Kenneth David	4	Charles Cassidy	2
Arthur Goede Sr.	5	Charles Petersen	3
Vernon Goede	5	Kevin George	3
Todd Mernin	5	Terry Throm	12
Jeffrey Parrotte	7	Elmer Marz Jr.	18
Justine Maertz	7	Stanley Oberman	20
Michael Morgan	8	Richard Pedroley	23
Darrel Curtis	13	Charles Alexander	30
Jeffrey Pedroley	16	Walter Pollick Jr.	30
Mark Schulteis	20	Michael Campbell	31
Jeffery McCoy	20		
Rodney Kleine	29		
Robert Atwell	24		
Thomas Kreyling	26		
Craig Gissy	30		
Philip Cole	30		
Harold Pratt	31		



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

5-6-17	Charles Whisenhunt	WINNER
5-13-17	Kenneth White	WINNER
5-20-17	Rich Roesch	WINNER
5-27-17	Stanley Oberman	WINNER
6-3-17	Patrick Yancey	WINNER
6-10-17	Ray White	WINNER
6-17-17	Gunner Decker	WINNER
6-24-17	Patrick Yancey	WINNER

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

Sick and Shut-ins

Ken Hetz.....314-487-3563
Clifford Thurston.....314-541-9221

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
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

Remove the following brothers telephone numbers from your listings as they are no longer with us

William Carr III
Michael D. White



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 Bennington Flag



The Bennington Flag, The earliest known flag of 13 stars and 13 stripes is the one which flew over the Battle of Bennington in August of 1777.

A Regiment of Brother Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys helped to secure the victory there. This flag is still preserved today in the museum at Bennington, Vermont. As in many other flags from that era, the Bennington Flag has many unexpected differences from the flag that we know and love today. The first law did not indicate exact details of colors, proportions, arrangement of the stars, etcetera. While the stars here have 7 points, other flags of that time had stars ranging from 4 to 7 points. Since all flags were made by hand in those days, each flag was more or less different than all others. No one today is certain why the emblem "76" appears in the canton, but because the Colonies made their Declaration of Independence in 1776, it's not difficult to assume the reason for the addition of the emblem.

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

St. Louis Lodge No. 5

Bowling Day

FUN BOWLING TOURNAMENT FOR SECOND HALF OF 2017

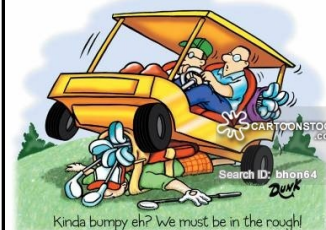
The next Fun Bowling Tournament will be held on July 16, 2017 at Sunset Lanes, 7777 Watson Road. Check in time starts at 12:30 P.M. with practice at 12:50 P.M. and a start time of 1:00 P.M.



This is all for fun and fellowship and is a 9-Pin No Tap tournament. If you get nine pins down on your first ball it counts as a strike. This gives everyone a fair chance if you are a regular league bowler or beginner. It's a lot of fun with the Lodge paying for lineage and shoe rental. So what's to lose??? Come on down and bowl.

Contact Bob Mayer Sr. to sign up, entries will close on July 11th. You can contact him at lodge or at 314-771-2652.

Good intentions?

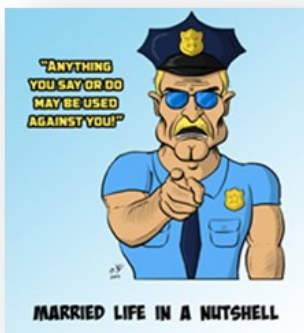


While golfing, a senior gentleman accidentally overturned his golf cart late one afternoon. A very attractive, young, female golfer, who lives in a villa on the golf course, heard the noise and called out, "Are you OK?"

"I'm OK, thanks," he replied, as he pulled himself out of the twisted cart. She said, "Come up to my villa, rest a while, and I'll help you get the cart up later." The old guy noticed her silky bathrobe was partially open, revealing what appeared to be a very nice figure. "That's mighty nice of you," he answered, "but I don't think my wife would like it." "Oh, come on now!" she insisted.

She was so pretty, and very, very persuasive. He was weak. "Well, OK," he finally agreed. After a couple of Scotch and sodas, he thanked her and said, "I feel a lot better now. But I know my wife is going to be really upset. So I'd better go now." "Don't be silly!" she said with a smile, letting her robe fall slightly more open. "Stay for a while. Your wife won't know anything. By the way, where is she?"

He replied, "Still under the cart, I suppose."



Ronald McDonald House Dinner Preparations

The following is a list of the dates that St. Louis Lodge No. 5 will prepare dinner at the Ronald McDonald House.

Friday, July 21, 2017
Friday, October 20, 2017



Visiting the sick was a daring, bold thing to do in 1819 and indeed for in excess of one hundred years more, because of the very real possibility the visitors would contract the illness or disease. Odd Fellows, and Rebekah's after they came into existence in 1851, visited the sick as a matter of course. Odd Fellows and Rebekah's continue to this day to make special efforts to visit the sick. Relief of the distressed was a major goal of most or all fraternal organizations, then and now. Odd Fellow Lodges normally provided monetary sick benefits to its members who were ill or injured and unable to work. A few lodges still provide monetary sick and/or death benefits for members. Assistance to those in need, whether in the form of donations to charities, or donations of money or goods and services to members or others in the community is commonly provided today by all lodges. In addition, lodges commonly provided all kinds of assistance to members who were in need, such as a box of groceries, a cord of wood, or a member or visiting nurse to care for a seriously ill member at home. With the modern day social welfare programs operated by government agencies, these services by the Order are no longer as vital as they once were, but Odd Fellows and Rebekah's still provide friendship that members require for a wholesome and full life.

Burying the dead was taken very seriously by early Odd Fellows, and most lodges purchased land and established cemeteries as one of their first activities in a new town or city. In many areas all phases of burial (sometimes including services now provided by undertakers) were provided by Odd Fellows in the earlier days. Cemeteries were often open to the public, and plots were sold for a few dollars each. Many lodges still own and operate cemeteries, and in some instances the major cemetery in the community is the Odd Fellows Cemetery. Odd Fellow Lodges continue to conduct funeral and memorial services for members when requested prior to their death or by their families. This may be the only service, or may be in conjunction with a church service or with other organizations. Educating the orphan was also taken seriously, and orphans of Odd Fellows, and Rebekah's too, could expect to receive at least a high school education through the lodge. The Rebekah's were in the forefront of caring for the orphans. They likewise were in the forefront of providing funds to insure an education for orphans and needy children of members. The original need for the Odd Fellow-Rebekah Children's Home as an orphanage has decreased as the life span has increased. Today the Rebekah's still operate this facility with a renewed determination to provide for children, not necessarily related to members of the Order, with special problems and needs. Caring for the widow likewise was and is one of the basic duties of all Odd Fellows, and it is comforting to realize that most lodges continue to include the widows of their members in lodge functions and activities. Remembering the widows on special holidays and at other special times during the year is a thoughtful way to demonstrate that Odd Fellows do care for those left behind.

Reasons for Joining Odd Fellowship in the early days had a many faceted answer. In 1927, a book commented that no Odd Fellow or his dependents ever will become a public charge. Although the benefits of membership were not lavish, they did eliminate the possibility of being cold, hungry and homeless. Today, government programs often patterned after earlier programs developed by Odd Fellowship such as Social Security, unemployment benefits, public assistance, low-income housing, senior meal sites and meals on wheels, and all the other government programs based on tax dollars are now taken for granted. The security of belonging to an organization which would help them in times of sickness, distress or death, and which operated homes for their care and the care of dependents if their funds were depleted were important. Others joined for the desire of helping others, and this is probably one of the most overriding desires of the present membership in the



Mike was loved by his family and friends. He was such a warm person. He had such a good spirit and a huge heart! Although he was quiet, his presence was always known. He was such an easy person to get along with (most of the time). Our brother had so many amazing qualities which is what I will miss most! He lived a very simple lifestyle. It did not take much to make him happy.

Mike loved to cook and would seek every chance to do so. One of the things that I will always remember is when he would come over to our house we would talk about how mom would make those special dinners that we all loved. Mike was always willing to help when asked. I am sure that everyone who knew Mike could tell countless stories about him and the things he did.

Although Mike was married several times, the good thing that came from his marriages was his children that were the "love of his life". he was so "honored to call them his sons". "Susie and I" was very blessed to have been with Mike during his final days on earth.

Thank you Mike for being there for your children, your brothers and sisters, and the rest of the family. I know everyone will MISS you.

It's so painful to be on this journey of losing our brother. I wish he was still here! I am reminded everywhere I go that he is missing and no longer here. I can never pick up the phone to call him again and hear his voice, or tell him "I love him"

My sister's Carol, Doris, and Debbie will no longer be able to have their long talks with Mike to give him advice or just to listen to him talk. His brother's Raymond, Richard and Pat will miss him more than anyone will ever know. His children will never here there father's voice again and his friends will miss his friendship. Life will never be the same without him! I wish I had spent more time with him and talked to him more often. I am "immensely" grateful that I was allowed to spend time with him during his final days. Our family will always be deeply "blessed" for our time together. "

I am reminded of a passage in the Initiatory Degree that said "as the sands in the hour glass slowly trickle through the narrow neck to the bottom of the glass, so are we reminded that our span of life here on earth is slowly passing away. It therefore behooves us to awaken to a sense of our responsibility, utilizing, to the best of our ability, the amount of time we have upon this earth in the services and causes of humanity. In the performance of such services there will be found a happiness, a contentment, and a fuller and richer life. "Only one life, so live it well, Keep thy light trim and bright; Eternity, not time, will tell The worth of that Life's light."

As the evening of life draws to a close, may we hear that plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Lord." Thus is the lesson of frail mortality brought forth; an admonition for purity of life and conduct, with a pathway of life presented for us to follow, but there is also presented the **Hope** of eternal life".

Mike", May you go in peace and be with GOD. Heaven now has a new Angel to look after us. You will FOREVER be in our hearts and will always be my brother.

Ray White



REMEMBER

It's important that you stay current with your dues. Annual dues are \$40.00 a year. Members are required to maintain a 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. 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.



Guaranteed to make you feel smart!!!

Tech support: What kind of computer do you have?
Customer: A white one...
Tech support: Click on the 'my computer' icon on the left of the screen.
Customer: Your left or my left?

Customer: Hi, good afternoon, this is Martha. I can't print. Every time I try, it says 'can't find printer'. I've even lifted the printer and placed it in front of the monitor, but the computer still says it can't find it..

Customer: My keyboard is not working anymore.
Tech support: Are you sure it's plugged into the computer?
Customer: No. I can't get behind the computer.
Tech support: Pick up your keyboard and walk 10 paces back.
Customer: OK
Tech support: Did the keyboard come with you?
Customer: Yes
Tech support: That means the keyboard is not plugged in.

Tech support: What anti-virus program do you use?
Customer: Netscape.
Tech support: That's not an anti-virus program.
Customer: Oh, sorry... Internet Explorer..

Signs that communicate



Three Link Fraternity. (continued from page 4)

In modern times the Odd Fellows and Rebekah's have been in the forefront of nearly all organizations in helping to make this world a better place in which to live. Sponsorship of Boy and Girl Scout troops, or youth organizations, youth and adult athletic teams and leagues, hospital and nursing home programs, various health agencies including the Odd Fellows World Eye Bank and Visual Research Foundation, Educational loans and scholarships for deserving young people, and generally helping to make this world a better place in which to live are some of the activities of modern day Odd Fellows and Rebekah's. Opportunities for socializing at lodge meetings, dinners, breakfasts, dances, other lodge functions and Bible.

While others enjoyed the opportunities of participating in conferring the dramatic degrees, and the opportunity of learning the proper way to deliver various charges in the degrees.

A renewed interest in Odd Fellowship is being demonstrated as steps are taken, new and ambitious programs are being launched to make membership in the fraternity even more attractive than it has been in the past. Each individual member of the Three Link Fraternity has a very important part to play in the future of Odd Fellowship, and with a united and common goal this fraternity is again coming to the front in the fraternal field of endeavors.

From: The Three Link Fraternity - An introduction to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs by Don R. Smith and Wayne Roberts, Linden Publications - 1993.

THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS AS THEY APPEAR



A WOMAN was flying from Seattle to San Francisco. Unexpectedly, the plane was diverted to Sacramento along the way. The flight attendant explained that there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft the plane would re-board in 50 minutes.

Everybody got off the plane except one lady who was blind. The man had noticed her as he walked by and could tell the lady was blind because her Seeing Eye dog lay quietly underneath the seats in front of her throughout the entire flight. He could also tell she had flown this very flight before because the pilot approached her, and calling her by name, said, 'Kathy, we are in Sacramento for almost an hour. Would you like to get off and stretch your legs?' The blind lady replied

'No thanks, but maybe **Buddy would like to stretch his legs.'**

Picture this:

All the people in the gate area came to a complete standstill when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a Seeing Eye dog! The pilot was even wearing sunglasses. People scattered. They not only tried to change planes, but they were trying to change airlines! True story...

Have a great day and remember... **THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS AS THEY APPEAR**



Attention All

St. Louis Lodge No. 5 held it's annual picnic for members, widows and their families. The picnic was held at Lemay park, and was a great success. There was approximately 190 guests in attendance. The weather was kind to us, the food was great and the fellowship was fantastic. Fun was had by all.

I want to say thank you to Pam Whisenhunt for all her hard work in sending out the attendance tickets as well as coordinating the attendance prizes. She works hard to make sure everyone that tickets are sent out to all eligible members/widows. I also want to thank Wally Clifton for handling Bingo. Let's not forget Brian Goldman for his efforts to make sure the kids have a great time.

Thank you to all the members who help make the picnic a great success for our lodge.

Ray White
Noble Grand



Motto
Friendship, Love and Truth



Objective
To Improve and Elevate the
Character of Mankind



Safety Coffee Break

WELL WE DID IT. We completed our first Annual Safety Coffee Break for 2017. The membership turn out was great, We met lots of nice people. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, July 4, 2017 at 9:00am. We will gather at the **Bloomsdale Rest Area** at Northbound I-55, 3 Miles North of Route Y and I-55, Mile Marker 160. Come join us for a fun time and meet some great people.

