



Refreshments and Activities at Your Lodge

Because of ongoing Special Circumstances, the lodge meetings times have been changed. All refreshments served at 6:00 P.M. except when otherwise noted. All meeting are at 7:00 P.M.

February 27, 2021	Morning Meeting 10:00am Refreshments – Bagels & Danishes Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
March 6, 2021	2nd Degree 7:00pm Refreshments – Beef & Noodles, Vegetables, Salad Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
March 13, 2021	Morning Meeting 10:00am Refreshments – Breakfast Surprise Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
March 20, 2021	3rd Degree 7:00pm Refreshments – Pizza & Salad Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
March 27, 2021	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments - Corned Beef & Cabbage, Red Potatoes Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
April 3, 2021	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Ham, Vegetable, Sweet Potatoes, Mashed Potatoes Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
April 10, 2021	Initiatory Degree 7:00 P.M. Refreshments – Fried Chicken, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Rolls Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water
April 17, 2021	Morning Meeting 10:00am Refreshments – Breakfast Surprise Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water
April 24, 2021	Regular Meeting 7:00pm Refreshments – Spaghetti & Meat Balls with Salad Soda, Tea, 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

Website: www.ioof-stl.org



ST. LOUIS LODGE NO. .5, I.O.O.F. 350 NORTH VALLEY DELL DR. FENTON, MO. 63026
MARCH - APRIL 2021

DID YOU KNOW



Why do we call ourselves Independent, use special handshakes, rituals and passwords?

Odd Fellows were prevalent in England in the 17th century. There were many lodges scattered across London that were completely autonomous.

Odd Fellow lodges were formed for mutual assistance. There were no welfare programs, no social security, no insurance. Only the wealthy or genteel had any security in old age. Senior citizens in those days stayed with their daughters or sons for the remainder of their life. If you were destitute or in dire need and a member of the Odd Fellows, you could appeal to them. To put money into the lodge funds, admissions were charged to meetings. Charity was the main function of many lodges.

King George the IV, at the time was the Prince of Wales, was admitted into the Order of Odd Fellows around 1780. For a time, membership was suppressed forcing them to go underground, use secret handshakes and passwords. This was due to a fear of revolution by the crown. There was also the fear that Odd Fellows could support strikers with the use of their funds. Membership became a criminal offense.

In 1803 the London Union of Odd Fellows declared itself the Grand Lodge of England and had control of all Odd Fellow Lodges in England.

(Continued on page 5)



Thomas J. Moser

A Message From Our Noble Grand

Officers and Members

Greetings to all!

I am humbled to be serving as Noble Grand this year. After having to cancel our activities, we are gradually getting started in the right direction. On February 6, we held our first initiation in a year and more degree work is scheduled.

On the subject of initiation, I challenge every member of Lodge #5 to bring in one new member this year. We have a lot to offer with our social activities. We have celebrations of Valentine's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, adult Christmas and Children's Christmas party. In addition we have our picnic and our annual banquet.

To give back to the community we have our Safety Coffee Break for Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day, giving out hot dogs, popcorn and drinks. We had to cancel Valentine's Day, but are hopeful we can celebrate the rest of them.

Here is hoping for a very good rebounding year.

Best wishes to all!
Thomas J. Moser
Noble Grand



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It is a fact, that over the last ten years this lodge has donated over \$1,000,000.00 to various charities and that doesn't include payments for funeral and spouses benefits.

Our lodge had many WWII veterans. Just to name a few, Joseph Hubenschmidt flew 35 missions over Germany as a B-17 Pilot. Brother Stanley Gibson was an Army machine gunner who was trapped behind the lines during the Battle of the Bulge. He managed to get back to our lines. Brother Kenneth Hetz was a medic in the south Pacific. His brother, Walter Hetz served in the European theatre. Brother Arthur J. Goede served aboard a troop ship as a cook. Brother Hal Hamilton served in Army Intelligence. I'm sure there were others who stories I missed or never heard.

In Jefferson Barracks, there is a memorial to the survivors of the Battle of the Bulge. Lodge No. 5 made a contribution for the construction of the memorial.

In 2001 the Sovereign Grand Lodge made the Order coed in an attempt to increase membership. It helped many Odd Fellow lodges to stay afloat but had a detrimental affect on Rebekah membership, many of their lodges are now in trouble.

Over the years the Children Christmas Party has been held in many different locations. Some of those places, Triangle Park (now a Hardees), Gambrinis Hall, CSMAC Club, (now Loughborough Commons), the Kohler House, Gardenville Masonic Temple. Webster Groves Masonic Temple, currently Rose Hill Masonic Temple.

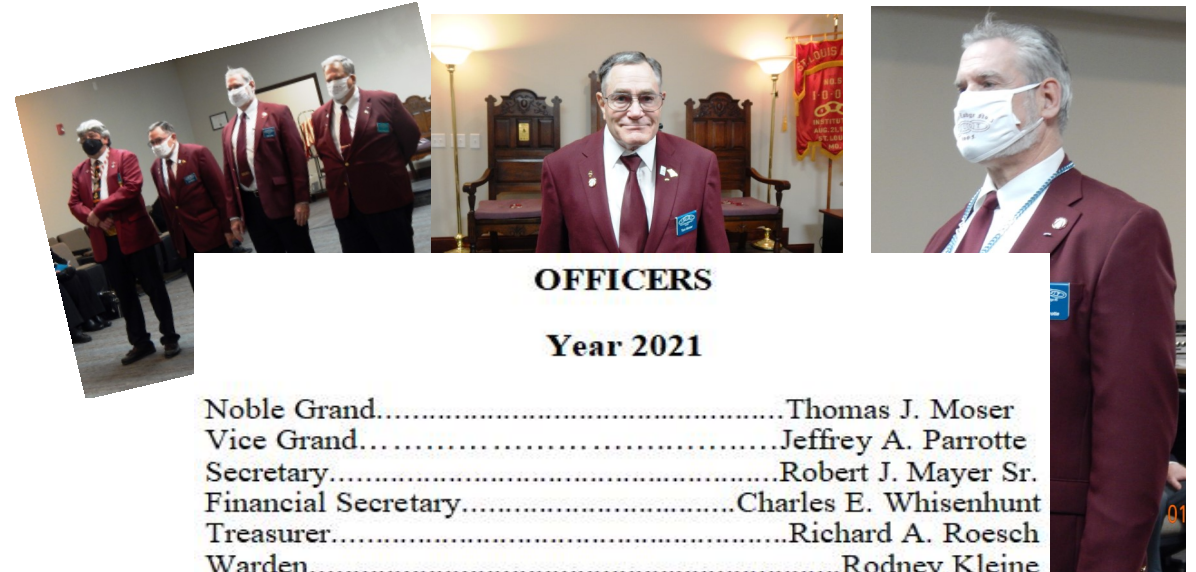
Banquets followed the same line. Some of the places that it was held, Jefferson Arms, Chase Hotel, the Clarion, the Met building, the Stratford House, the Cedars, Capitol Plaza, and currently Genesis. We kind of follow the adage, "here today, gone tomorrow."

I attended many Grand Lodge sessions where Grand Wardens were elected in session having not received a majority vote in the field. One particular election stands out not only because the Member's involved were our members but because of the circumstances. Brother Walter Koessel was running against Brother John Varble for Grand Warden, the presiding officer was Brother Hal Hamilton, who was the Grand Master at the time. The first ballot produced a dead tie with the deciding vote to be given by the Grand Master. Brother Hamilton, without any afore thought stated "we will vote again." Brother Koessel won by one vote on the second ballot. That was the only time I had ever seen an election won by one vote.

This Lodge hasn't always been in such good financial shape. As far back as 1980 there was no check book balances given nor were audits made. There was no budget and expenses sometimes were more that the check book. For instance, we had a banquet at the Chase Park Plaza in the mid 1980's. The entertainment alone was \$8,500.00. As a result of the cost, the lodge had to surrender a \$25,000.00 CD to pay for the banquet. The two financial officers were doing a good job of keeping things under control but were blind sided by the cost of the banquet. We since have an annual budget and give checkbook balances at meetings. We are also audited by a reputable accounting firm.

Written by Bob Mayer Sr. (Secretary)

Congratulations to the New Lodge Officer's



OFFICERS

Year 2021

- Noble Grand.....Thomas J. Moser
- Vice Grand.....Jeffrey A. Parrotte
- Secretary.....Robert J. Mayer Sr.
- Financial Secretary.....Charles E. Whisenhunt
- Treasurer.....Richard A. Roesch
- Warden.....Rodney Kleine
- Conductor.....John Caraker
- Right Supporter - Noble Grand.....Lee T. Rauhut
- Left Supporter - Noble Grand.....Craig Skinner
- Chaplain.....Michael Campbell
- Right Supporter - Vice Grand.....John M Eckert
- Left Supporter - Vice Grand.....Jose M. Hernandez.
- Right Scene Supporter.....Dennis Fetter
- Left Scene Supporter.....James Schmerold
- Inside Guardian.....John Sisel III
- Outside Guardian.....Walter J. Clifton
- Musician.....Vacant
- Junior Past Grand.....Francis X. LaVar Jr.
- Color Bearer.....Richard Aguilar



DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Carroll R. White Jr.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS

MARCH

Richard Walsh	1
Wooden Wyatt	3
Jeremy McCoy	6
Leroy Jennings	10
Thomas Dittrich Jr.	10
Johnny Naylor	14
Billy Ross	15
Eric Raney	23
Elmer Kalal	23
Gary Nelson	25
Stanley Bialczak	26
Carroll R. White	30
Casey Liotta	30

APRIL

Richard Swanson	4
Bradley Vaughn	6
John Eckert	6
Kenneth White	6
David Vogler	7
Dwight Wyatt	8
Rudolph Beuc III	9
Lionel Goede	9
Rex Gooch	9
Cody Wilde	13
Francis LaVar Jr.	14
LaVerne Sailor	16
Paxton Rogers	20
Robert Bruckner	27
Jasper Mangiore	27



MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT DRAWING

12-26	Dennis Lipski	WINNER
1-2	Thomas Moser	WINNER
1-9	Walter Clifton	WINNER
1-16	Michael Campbell	WINNER
1-23	Jeffrey Parrotte	WINNER
1-30	Charles Whisenhunt	WINNER
2-6	Todd Litzau	WINNER
2-13	Frank Buchholz	WINNER
2-20	John Bayer	WINNER

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

Sick and Shut-ins

Marion Briggs.....314-773-4421
Charles Iselin.....314-664-3462

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
 Lee T. Rauhut.....314-521-3302



MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS

ADDRESS CHANGES



Mrs. Gerald Young
 400 Dover Ct.,
 Holts Summit, Mo. 65043
 314-229-3208.

Mrs. Marion Briggs
 Dutchtown Care & Rehab
 3421 Gasconade
 St. Louis, Mo. 63118

**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

Memorials

BROTHER ERVIN A. DREWING was born on October 7, 1931 in St. Louis, Missouri. He departed this life on January 27, 2021 also in St. Louis, Missouri at the age of 89-years.

St. Louis Lodge Number 5, initiated Brother Drawing into our Order on April 7, 1984. He received his First Degree on March 16, 1985, his Second Degree on March 30, 1985 and his Third Degree on April 23, 1988. He served as Noble Grand of Lodge No. 5 from January to July of 2003. He later served as District Deputy Grand Master of District Number 26 in the year of 2006. He was also a member of the Grand Encampment and Wildey Lodge No. 2. He was a 35-year member of our Order and will be missed by many of our members.

Bertha L. Drawing, his wife, survives him as does his daughter, Diane Drawing. He was the father of the late Douglas Drawing.

Funeral was on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 from Ziegenhein and Sons Funeral Home, 7027 Gravois. Odd Fellow services were held at 6:30 P.M. followed by Masonic services at 7:00 P.M. Officiating at Odd Fellow services were Thomas Moser as Noble Grand, Francis Lavar as Vice Grand, Craig Skinner as Chaplain and Robert Mayer as Funeral Marshal. There were 19 Odd Fellows in attendance. Internment was on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at Mount Lebanon Cemetery.

BROTHER NORMAN C. SCHULTHEIS was born on April 3, 1938 in St. Louis, Missouri. He departed this life on January 24, 2021, also in St. Louis, Missouri at the age of 82-years. St. Louis Lodge No. 5, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, initiated Brother Norman into our Order on July 20, 1991. He received his First Degree on August 10, 1991, his Second Degree on August 24, 1991 and his Third Degree on September 7, 1991.

He served as Noble Grand of Lodge No. 5 from January to July of 1995. He served as District Deputy Grand Master for District Number 26 in the year of 1999. He was a member of the Rebekah's, a member of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Lodge of Missouri, the Odd Fellows Association and Odd Fellows Hall Company. He was serving as Vice Presiding of the Odd Fellows Association at the time of his death. He was a 29-year member of our Order and will be missed by many.

Carolyn Schultheis (nee Hemmen) survives him as does his children, Carla Vandergrift, Kelly Benson, Kim Umphress and Mark Schulteis. He was the brother of Joann Graham, Marilyn Ehlert, Joann Graham and the late Walter Schultheis. He was a grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, cousin and friend to many. Funeral was at Fey Funeral Home, 4100 Lemay Ferry Road with visitation on Thursday, January 28, 2021. Odd Fellow services were held at 6:45 P.M. The following members officiated at the services, Noble Grand, Thomas Moser, Vice Grand, Jeffery Parrotte, Chaplain, Craig Skinner, and Funeral Marshal, Robert Mayer Sr. There were 16 members in attendance. Internment was on Friday, January 29, 2021 at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.



MAY YOU ALWAYS
SLEEP WITH THE
ANGELS



GETTING OLDER



A distraught senior citizen phone her doctor's office. "is it true", she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?" "yes, I'm afraid so," I told her. There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, I'm wondering then, just how serious is my condition because the prescription is marked "no refills".

An older gentleman was on the operating room table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, performed the operation. As he was about to get the anesthetic, he asked to speak to his son. "yes Dad, what is it?" Don't be nervous, son, do your best, and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife. (I LOVE IT!)

Aging: Eventually, you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it. This is so true. I love to hear them say "you don't look that old."

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for. Try to turn back the odometer. not me! I want to know why I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of algebra.

Things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ah, Being young is beautiful, being old is comfortable.

First, you forget names, Can you forget faces. Then you forget to pull up your zipper... it's worse when you forget to put it down.

Two old guys are pushing their carts around Wal-Mart when they collide. The first guy says to the second guy, "Sorry about that. I'm looking for my wife, and I guess I wasn't paying attention to where I was going." The second guy says, "That's OK. It's a coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too, and I can't find her and I'm getting a little desperate." The first guy says, "Well, maybe I can help you find her. What does she look like?"

The second guy says, "Well, she is young, tall, with red hair, blue eyes, long legs, big firm breasts, and a tight butt. What does your wife look like?" To which the first guy says, "Never mind; let's just look for yours."

(And this final one especially for me,) "Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth."

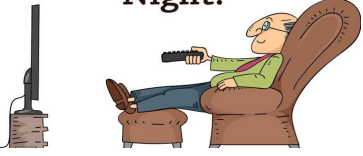


WHAT!

at least you know
i'm still breathing...



You know you're
getting old when a
recliner and a
heating pad is your
idea of a Hot Date
on a Saturday
Night.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

I realize people are prisoners of the phones, that's why they're called cell phones.

I turned my phone on airplane mode but it didn't fly.

Keep tapping the spacebar, but I'm still on Earth.

The number between 1 and 9, now multiply that number by 9 subtract by 1 then close your eyes (dark isn't it?).

Singing in the shower is still all fun and games until you get shampoo in your mouth then it's a soap opera.

Yesterday I did nothing, today I'm finishing what I did yesterday.

Last week I saw a sign at a store that said self service and the other sign said help wanted so I went in and heard myself.

Today Walmart will be partly cloudy with a 70% chance of people you know .

Oh, the more you weigh, the harder you are to be kidnapped.

Play the term "drink responsibly" means not to spell it.

It's okay if you don't like me. Not everyone has good taste.

I'm sorry if I hurt your feelings when I called you stupid, I

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

The Financial Secretary has requested that we remind the members, that Lodge Dues are due on January 1, 2021. 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 **314-353-3542**.

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 at approximately 9:00 am on Saturday so that he can give you the attention needed.



Continued from on page 1)

In 1810 Lodges in the Manchester area disagreed with the Grand Lodge of England and declared themselves the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. They elected officers and standardized degree work that became more meaningful to members. They also issued charters for North America.

From about 1808 to 1812 there were several Odd Fellows lodges in New York City that were not chartered. On April 26, 1819 Brother Thomas Wildey, along with four other members from England, officially organized the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in America and then proceeded to institute lodges.

In Missouri there were only two known cases of a member being expelled from the Order. One was a member who tried to derail a rail road train. The other for murdering his brother-in-law with a shotgun.

At one time there were signs of recognition among Odd Fellows and a sign of distress. There was also a sign of distress for Rebekahs. These were once incorporated into the Initiatory Degree and were expected to be memorized but later dropped.

The first computer purchased for the lodge was an IBM System 32 Personal Computer at a cost of \$2,500.00 that included an extra charge for installing a 20MB hard drive and a tractor feed printer. It was also monochrome only. Today one can purchase a 2GB memory thumb drive for less than \$10.00 and a color printer for \$50.00.

One of our members, who was a Past Grand Master, retired from General Motors and started a career as a lightning rod inspector for the Electronic Testing Laboratory. He was proved a rental car, travel expenses and a salary. He also was provided with a pair of binoculars to study locations with lightning rods. He never did say how he tested them.

There were eleven lodges in the St. Louis area that merged with St. Louis Lodge No. 5. The first being Traveler's Rest Lodge number one, the first lodge to be chartered in Missouri. That made Booneville Lodge No. 2 the oldest in Missouri. The last lodge to consolidate with Lodge No. 5 was Excelsior Lodge No. 18 in 1986. For many years, this lodge hosted youths from across the country traveling on buses to New York to visit the United Nations and other historic places in our country's history. They were fed and housed by Lodge No. 5 and our own delegates left with them. Unfortunately, this was dropped by Sovereign Grand Lodge many years ago due to the cost of bus rentals. One of our delegates, Becky Ems, won a national speaking contest and was allowed to address the Sovereign Grand Lodge at session. She is now married with two children and a Dean of Admissions. This is now known as the Youth Pilgrimage with lodges paying air fare and other expenses for delegates. Lodge No. 5 dropped participation many years ago due to unresolved problems with the tour. It was known for years that the Odd Fellows were always ready to help a traveling member should they get into financial trouble. In the late 1980's and early 1990's we had three instances of a supposed member calling to ask for financial assistance as they were broken down on the highway. They asked that money be sent to them as soon as possible. When asked where they were at so we could go to their aid, the conversation then ended. We never heard from them again.

(Continued on page 10)



INITIATION AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES

On February 6, 2021, St. Louis Lodge No 5 conducted an initiation degree and welcomed three new members to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Congratulations to

St. Louis Lodge No. 5
Todd A. Litzau
Richard Smith

Wildev Lodge No. 2
Monica David



Richard Smith

Monica David

Todd Litzau

Things are never quite as scary when you got a friend



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