

Refreshments and Activity

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 All menus are subject to change	
March 7, 2020	<p align="center"><u>Initiatory Degree 7:30 pm</u></p> <p>Refreshments: Fried Chicken, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad Dinner Rolls, Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water</p>
March 14, 2020	<p align="center"><u>Regular Meeting 7:30 pm</u></p> <p>Refreshments: Ranch Stew, Salad, Bread Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water</p>
March 21, 2020	<p align="center"><u>First Degree 7:30 pm</u></p> <p>Refreshments: Open Face Roast Beef, New Potatoes, Peas Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water</p>
March 28, 2020	<p align="center"><u>Morning Meeting 9:00 am</u></p> <p>Refreshments: Craig's Surprise Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water</p>
April 4, 2020	<p align="center"><u>Second Degree 7:30 pm</u></p> <p>Refreshments: Soup, Cold Cuts, Bread for Sandwiches Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water</p>
April 11, 2020	<p align="center"><u>Regular Meeting 7:30 pm</u></p> <p>Refreshments: Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Dessert, Soda, Tea, Coffee, Water</p>
April 18, 2020	<p align="center"><u>Third Degree 7:30 pm</u></p> <p>Refreshments: Pizza, Salad Soda, Tea, Coffee, and Water</p>
April 25, 2020	<p align="center"><u>Morning Meeting 9:00 am</u></p> <p>Refreshments: Bagels & Danish Milk, Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee and Water</p>





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. 3765 LINDELL BLVD. ST. LOUIS, MO. 63108-3411
March - April 2020



Helping Others

We've seen the pictures on the news or maybe even lived the scenes ourselves:

A natural disaster strikes and suddenly people who only minutes ago were living their normal lives are left with just the clothes on their backs, and a feeling of despair. But sometimes all it takes is one person to give us the help we need to make it through.

They were so affected by the terrible events in their own backyards that they immediately stepped up to lend a helping hand to other disaster victims—one stranger at a time. In our journey of becoming an Odd Fellow, we learn through what we call degrees that Odd Fellowship emphasizes a leaving of the old life and the start of a better one, of welcoming travelers, and of helping those in need.

The command of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is to “visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead and educate the orphan.” Specifically, I.O.O.F. of today is dedicated to the following purposes:

(Continued on page 10)



A Message From Our Noble Grand

Officers and Members

Greetings members! Glad we have turned the corner on a new year. It's been a busy past couple of months. We have brought in more new members and look forward to bringing in more.

As always we can use your participation on degree nights. It is the lodge's obligation to educate and inform our new members of the ritual that represents the International Order of Odd Fellows.

Be sure to check out our new building in Fenton, Mo.

Our website is <http://www.ioof-stl.org/>

Peace and harmony prevailing
Francis LaVar
Noble Grand

Continued from Helping Others on page 1)

To improve and elevate the character of mankind by promoting the principles of **friendship, love, truth**, faith, hope, charity and universal justice. To help make the world a better place to live by aiding each other, the community, the less fortunate, the youth, the elderly, the environment and the community in every way possible. To promote good will and harmony amongst peoples and nations through the principle of universal fraternity, holding the belief that all men and women regardless of race, nationality, religion, social status, gender, rank and station are brothers and sisters. **I would like to tell you of an example of how a simple kindness can make a big difference.**

In May 2006 a tornado ripped through the small town of Otwell, Indiana, Kathryn Martin, 32, who lived 60 miles away in Evansville, couldn't get the news of it out of her mind. "I kept thinking, *those poor people. Somebody's got to help them,*" she says. She knew firsthand what they were going through. Six months earlier, in the middle of the night on November 6, 2005, a tornado had struck her town, taking the lives of her 2-year-old son, C.J., her mother-in-law and her grandmother-in-law. The three had been having a sleepover at her grandmother-in-law's mobile home. Kathryn, her three other children and her husband survived. "It was the most terrible experience of my life," she says. "That pain will never go away, and it broke my heart to think about what these other families were going through in Otwell, especially the children."

So Kathryn loaded her car with juice boxes, snacks and toys and drove to Otwell. She dropped off the items with the Red Cross, and as she was leaving, she saw a couple sorting through the wreckage of their home while their children watched. Kathryn had a few toys left, so she stopped and offered to play with the kids for a while. "The parents were so grateful that I did that for their children," she says. On the drive back to Evansville, Kathryn came up with an idea to help more kids. She corralled family, friends and neighbors and spent the next few months organizing home-grown fundraisers: carnivals, car washes, walk/runs. Finally, in August 2007, she unveiled C.J.'s Bus, a 35-foot school bus-turned-mobile-playroom. Stocked with bins of video games and DVD s, toys, crafts, books and much more, the bus travels to disaster-torn towns, giving the children there a safe place to play while their parents clean up, tend to paperwork or simply take a break. To Kathryn and her team of 39 volunteers—some of them fellow tornado victims—"it's just keeping it normal for kids."

So far, C.J.'s Bus has traveled to three states affected by tornadoes or floods, cheering up more than 756 children, ages 3 to 13. Exhausting as it is running the bus in addition to working full-time as a township trustee; it's what Kathryn feels she was meant to do. "On our third day in Earle, Arkansas, after a tornado there, a little boy asked where I live," she says. "When I told him Indiana, he couldn't believe I'd come all that way to help his family. Honestly, I wouldn't have wanted to be anywhere else." I believe that the above story is another example of what Odd Fellowship means by making the world a better place to live by aiding each other, the community, the less fortunate, the youth, the elderly, the environment and the community in every way possible. **Information provided by Melody Warnick and The Independent Order of Odd Fellows.**



ATTENTION MEMBERS



Remember!

The Financial Secretary has requested that we remind the members, that Lodge Dues will be due on January 1, 2020 and must be paid. Our annual dues are \$40.00 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 6:00 pm so that he can give you the attention needed.

Think before you speak



2 old ladies were sitting in church when one leans over and whispers to the other "my butt is going to sleep" the other replies "I know I have heard it snore 3 times"



HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS

MARCH

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

APRIL

Rudolph Beuc III	9
Robert Buckner	27
John Eckert	6
Lionel Goede	9
Rex Goede	9
Francis Lavar Jr.	14
Jasper Mangiore	27
Paxton Rogers	20
LaVerne Sailor	16
Norman Schultheis	3
Richard Swanson	4
Bradley Vaughn	6
David Vogler	7
Kenneth White	6
Cody Wilde	13
Dwight Wyatt	8



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

12-21	Steve Buchholz	WINNER
12-28	Jeffery Parrotte	WINNER
1-4	Ray White	WINNER
1-11	Michael Barcus	WINNER
1-18	Ray White	WINNER
1-25	John Siscel	WINNER
2-1	Rodney Kleine	WINNER
2-8	Harvey Soule	WINNER
2-15	Richard Aguilar	WINNER
2-22		WINNER

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

Sick and Shut-ins

Marion Briggs.....314-773-4421
Ervin Drewing.....314-865-3894

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
 Frances X. LaVar.....314-607-6380
Vice Grand.
 Thomas Moser.....314-478-6045
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

New Members Information



Change of Address

Terry Throm
 7507 277th Street East,
 Graham, Washington 98338
 Phone: 785-340-5813

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



Noble Grand (Continued from page 1)

MEMORIAL



BROTHER

**WILLIAM B.
STEPHENSON JR.**

Was born on March 19, 1928 in St. Louis, Mo. He departed this life on January 7, 2020, also in St. Louis, Missouri at the age of 91-years.

St. Louis Lodge No. 5, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, initiated Brother Stephenson into our Order on September 14, 1985 at a Degree Rally. He received all of his degrees on that same day.

Brother Stephenson served as Noble Grand from January of 1989 to July of 1989. He was a 34-year member of our order and will be missed by his lodge.

Kathleen Stephenson (nee Hartman) his wife, survives him.

Funeral was from Hoffmeister Colonial Mortuary, 6464 Chippewa, on Sunday, January 12, 2020. Funeral Services were held on Monday, January 13, 2020 at Hoffmeister Colonial Mortuary with internment at Jefferson Barracks National cemetery.

No Odd Fellow services were requested.

MEMORIAL



BROTHER

Pat Yancey

was born on October 30, 1951 in St. Louis, Missouri. He departed this life on February 6, 2020 at the age of 68 years also in St. Louis, Missouri. St. Louis Lodge No. 5, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, initiated Brother Yancey into our Order on June 20, 1992. He received all his degree on the same day at a Degree Rally held by Lodge No. 5. Brother Pat served many terms as Outside Guardian for the lodge. He was a 27 year member of our Order and will be missed by many of his lodge brothers.

Pat is survived by his wife Carol Yancey (nee Boeckmann) as does his father, Ben, his brothers Mike and Paul. His mother Rae Jean and a brother, Scott preceded him in death. He was a godfather, uncle and friend to many.

Brother Yancey's remains were cremated. A memorial service was held at Ziegenheim and Sons, 4830 Lemay Ferry Road, Odd Fellows services were held at 2:30pm that same day.

Officiating at services were Brother Thomas Moser as Noble Grand, Brother Bruce Boeckmann as Vice Grand, Brother Craig Skinner as Chaplain and Robert Mayer as Funeral Marshal. There were twenty-two Odd Fellows in attendance.

FROM OUR SECRETARY

I have been informed by Grand Secretary Kenneth Higgins that at the last Sovereign Grand Lodge Session, 2019, legislation has been passed that all branches of the Odd Fellows now require all elected Grand Lodge officers and Assembly officers to be nominated and elected at each annual session by Representatives. There will be no more nominations from the field. However, the requirement that a Grand Lodge officer, or nominee, must be have, or be entitled to, the Grand Lodge Degree still stands.

What this means for us, there will be several changes to the Grand Lodge Constitution and By-Laws, eliminating those sections referring to nominations and voting from the field. There will be no more Grand Lodge ballots sent to lodges with no more balloting by Past Grands. The reasoning for this is that Representatives are being asked to vote for candidates they know nothing about. I understand this is the same way elections are being done at the Sovereign Grand Lodge level.

Robert Mayer Sr.
Lodge Secretary

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In other news, after decades in office, Grand Secretary Kenneth D. Higgins had decided to retire at the end of his term that ends in 2021. Over the years he has done outstanding work in keeping the Grand Lodge affairs in order. He has faced many problems both financial and legal besides his normal duties as Secretary. The lodge officer's and members wish the best for both him and his wife in his retirement. Just who will succeed him remains to be determined. I only hope who ever succeeds him will be as contentious, devoted and hard working as he has been.



One person can make a difference

An 11-year-old Hannah Thompson of Australia was swimming with her friends in Margaret Bay in Northern Queensland when she was bitten on the arm by a crocodile. The ten foot long creature immediately pulled her under.

Ray Turner a 57 year old was in a small boat nearby when he heard the screams and saw the crocodile. He quickly dove off the boat straight on to the crocodile back. Turner a former crocodile hunter, so he knew what to do next--he stuck his fingers in the animals eyes, and the 500 pound crocodile immediately let go of the girl and fled. "Not many people know to go for their eyes", Turner later told reporters, "but that's what you have to do". Hannah was airlifted to a hospital with deep puncture wounds in her arm, but was soon reported to be in stable condition. Turner said the 11-year old was incredibly calm and brave during and after the incident. "She even made a joke about losing her watch", "she said. The watch alarm's is set for 5 o'clock if you want to go after that crocodile.



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES



NEW DATES for 2020
Monday, May 18, 2020
Friday, July 17, 2020
Friday, September 4, 2020
Thursday, October 15, 2020



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 Ray White has taken over from 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 White for further information.



IMPORTANT DATES

March 7, 2020	Initiatory Degree	7:30 pm
March 21, 2020	First Degree	7:30 pm
March 28, 2020	Morning Meeting	9:00 am
April 4, 2020	Second Degree	7:30 pm
April 18, 2020	Third Degree	7:30 pm
April 25, 2020	Morning Meeting	9:30 am



New Lodge Pin

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 it out, our website is at www.ioof-stl.org

RECENT ACTIVITY



Installing Staff



2020 Lodge Officers



When does the movie start



Outgoing Noble Grand



6 (Our Leaders) Vice Grand & Noble Grand

Pictures from our 2020 Installation of Officers

Party Time



Members Wives



Members dishing it out



Someone likes the food

St. Louis Lodge No. 5 Annual Valentine Party



It must be good, there standing in line



The Healthy Eaters