



Palmyra Chamber of Commerce

Chamber News

Your Daily Dose is Served...

FEATURED CHAMBER MEMBER

Old Stone House Inn

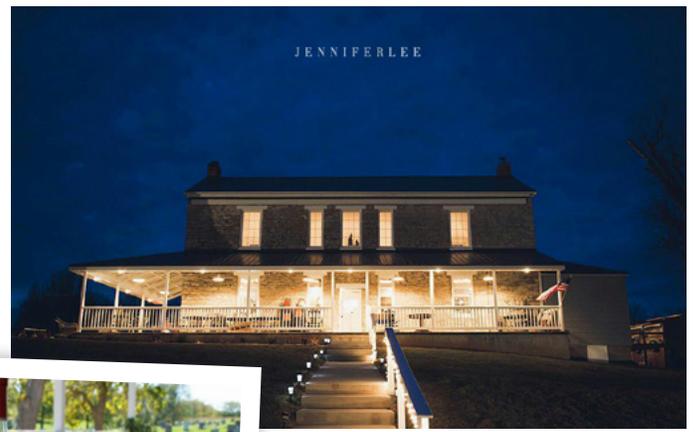
Despite the fact that the building dates back to 1846, the Old Stone House Inn is one of the newer businesses in Palmyra! The establishment, which features a restaurant and bar, opened its doors in July 2012. In addition to giving area residents a charming place to get out for dinner or drinks, owners Rodney and Ginny Kuntemeyer have hosted bridal and baby showers; weddings, wedding receptions; class reunions; birthday, retirement, graduation and holiday parties. When the Missouri Women In Agriculture visited the area in the Fall of 2014, they even catered to busloads! On weekends, music is often featured.

The idea for the Inn took seed in 2006 when the building, across the street from Greenwood Cemetery, was to be sold. It had been the home of the cemetery caretaker for years, shared Rodney, but had been vacant for some time. Rumors were that the historic site might even be demolished. Rodney, who owns Rodney Kuntemeyer Construction, and Ginny, who at the time of purchase and renovation owned Flower City Florist and Mercantile, wanted to combine their talents and passions. "This is our thing," Ginny said. "We love the old."

The Kuntemeyers have been able to piece together a history of the Old Stone House Inn primarily from patrons who share ancestral information passed down to them. The site was originally a farmstead constructed with slave labor with barns and a silo directly northeast of the main building. The original house faced north; they themselves have added what are now the Inn's tasting room, storage, and wraparound porches on the south and west. During the Civil War the house was used as a hospital. Highway BB, which dead ends not too far north of the Inn, was the original road that crossed the river and went north to Canton and Quincy. Farmers lost the home during the Depression, and Greenwood Cemetery took it over as a caretaker's dwelling.

Josh Jagger recalls living in the house with his great grandparents, Herman and Bertha Nelson, caretakers of

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Above: The Inn in wedding splendor as seen by photographer Jennifer Lee.



Left: Liz Bentley performs live.

"We reused everything," Ginny said. "We just about didn't throw anything away."



1987 Painting by Kathy Nelson of what is now the Stone House Inn. The view is from the north, what is now the back of the Inn. The back porch is now enclosed and serves as the bar and bathrooms.

FEATURED CHAMBER MEMBER

Old Stone House Inn *Continued*

Greenwood Cemetery and residents of the home from about 1967 through 1986. He remembers a tree house on the grounds and playing imaginative games on the cemetery grounds. "There were pine closets on either end of the house that covered up the fireplaces; we never knew they were there. I remember a root cellar accessed from a door in the kitchen floor. (Grandma Nelson) went up and down those steps a lot! It was a place where no matter how spooky or morbid or odd the environment could have been, the only thing we ever felt was love and joy."

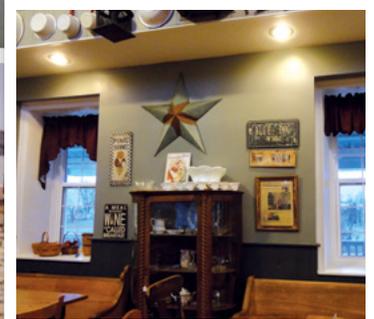
Rodney spent almost nine months renovating the building. "We uncovered the fireplaces and sandblasted the original stone," he said. The fireplace on the west wall was handcut stone and now has a gas insert. They took out the upper story to let in light, reused the upstairs flooring as dining room wainscoting, resanded and restored the pine floor, and repurposed interior doors into a bar for the tasting room. "We reused everything," Ginny said. "We just about didn't throw anything away." Detailed trim for the entry from the main dining room to the tasting room and around the doorway to the front porch came from the home of Spencer Boulware, father of Ernie Boulware. The home was being torn down during the Old Stone House Inn's renovation. "The houses must have been built around the same time period because the trim fit perfectly," said Rodney. However, it is tapered from base to top, meaning it was from a wealthier home.

Ginny furnished the interior with antiques and a warm eclectic touch. The tables, chairs and dinnerware are mismatched. "It's OK if you fall in love with your table and chair. Let us know; you can buy it," she says. Almost everything in the establishment is for sale!

The Kuntmeyers rotate three chefs, two-three part-time wait staff, and bring in up to six other employees for special events. Lisa Ramey, head chef, shared information on the restaurant's menu, "The menu changes daily but you can always expect

ribeyes, porkchops, chicken and salmon in addition to the special of the day." There are a variety of sides and sandwiches as well. Regional wines from Spirit Knob (Ursa, IL), Les Bourgeois Winery (Rocheport), Adam Puchta (Hermann), and Montelle (Augusta) in Missouri top the wine list, and over a dozen craft beers are available and vary by season. There is no room rental fee for Saturday afternoon events, and if you happen by before

3 p.m. on Saturday you can probably get in an early lunch before the official opening. A tent is available for rent for large gatherings.



The Stone House has indoor and outdoor appeal.

At right: The original 2012 concept drawing by Eric Brown



Don't wait. Plan your evening now! While you're there, ask to see the scrapbook of renovation photos and drawings of "The Way We Were." The Old Stone House Inn is open Wednesday through Saturday from 3p.m. until lights out. For special events call Ginny (573-231-6833) or Rodney (573-231-1411) for that personal touch.

NOTE: February 9 – 20: Chamber Office will be closed. Susan will be out of the office.

Chamber Ribbon Cutting



Welcome to Jesse Knowles,
owner of Flowers For You,
the new
Chamber business
in Palmyra!

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

It's time to renew your Chamber Membership for 2015!

Application available on the Chamber website:
<http://www.showmepalmyra.com/chamber/MemberAp.pdf>

DUE

upcoming events CALENDAR

February 14

Valentine's Day



Volunteer Fire Dept. Dance
8 p.m. -Midnight: American Legion Hall

February 16

President's Day

February 18

Ash Wednesday

February 19

Marion County Farm Bureau Annual
Legislative Banquet
Hall's Hall 6:30 p.m.

February 21

Daddy-Daughter Dance &
Pancake Buffet
5:30 - 9:30 p.m.: Sesquicentennial Bldg.

Trivia Night

7 p.m.: Hosted by St. Joseph's Relay For Life Team,
Farischon Hall

March 16

Soup Supper & Quarter Auction
Maple Lawn

UPCOMING MEETING DATES & PROGRAMS YOUR NEXT CHAMBER MEETING IS NOON

Tues. Feb. 10, 2015

Palmyra Nutrition Center

Guest Speaker: Jill Pflantz will be sharing information
on the many services the Nutrition Center provides. The
public is invited

Tues. March 10, 2015

HATS

Program TBD

Chamber Email Address:
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 Palmyra MO Chamber of Commerce