



22 APRIL 2024 | @MISSOURI RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION | (816) 753-5222



A Letter From the MRA CEO

Recently STL has been in the news regarding the rise & fall and now potential rise of the downtown area. I am hopefully optimistic that over the next few years our downtown will rebuild and obtain the crown it once held as the place to be. When it does, we can be certain that restaurants will be part of the plan. Restaurants are the cornerstone in every community. Our residents dine with us for a variety of reasons. Something quick to go, like a place to meet friends and family, or on a special day celebrate an occasion. In STL we have over 1900 restaurants and employee more than 35,000 hard-working individuals.

Restaurants are the industry of opportunity. If you are willing to show up on time, and ready to work, you can move up the ladder quickly. We have countless stories of individuals entering the workforce as a dishwasher or bus boy and after a few years of hard work end up as the general manager, chef, or owner. Along the way the GSTLRA and its members have provided opportunities for scholarships, education, networking, and mentoring.

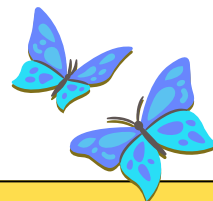
I am often asked why I should join the Restaurant Association. My answer varies with the conversation, but the most important reason is our advocacy. The Restaurant Associations is constantly working to protect business owners' rights. We are the only organization completely dedicated to your success. Recently in STL we testified to stop BB104 which would have legislated businesses must provide 2 weeks advance scheduling and pay employees for cancelled shifts. In Jefferson City we are working to strengthen our preemption law by adding scheduling and paid time off to the definitions that municipalities cannot regulate, helping to create an even playing field across the state.

On the Federal level, a delegation met with our Congressman and Senators to educate them on the importance of tax incentives, bonus depreciation, preserving the tip server credit, passage of the Credit Card Protection Act (CCCA) and opposition to an FTC rule banning surcharges. Tomorrow we will face additional challenges, but you can rest assured the MRA will be there to support our industry.

There are many other benefits to becoming a member, including member discounts & rebates on purchase, networking and collaborating with like-minded operators to exchange ideas that strengthen our industry.

The Missouri Restaurant Association is growing and STL is a major focus with its high concentration of great restaurants. I encourage you all to become involved in the GSTLRA Board of Directors and contribute to our investment in the community.

Buddy Lahl
CEO Missouri Restaurant Association



[VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT EVENT](#)

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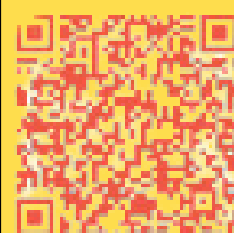
An exciting new benefit for you from the Missouri Restaurant Association! Exclusive savings on major purchases and everyday essentials from brands you know and love, all in one convenient location.

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- Home
- Water Parks & Theme Parks
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CLAIM NOW



Upcoming Events

At the GSTLRA we have a showcase of events going on! We are excited to announce the following events:

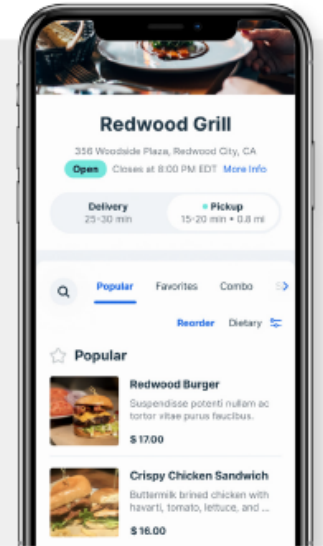
Chapter Meeting (**Bartoliono's Osteria**)
Food and Beverage Provided
April 24th @ 3pm - 5pm
[Click here to Register](#)

St. Louis Chapter Golf Tournament
13001 Gary Player Dr. St. Louis, MO 63127
May 31st @ 10am
[Click Here to Register](#)



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To register for an event visit our website!

GSTLRA's New Members



Torch Electronics
(Corporate Sponsor)



Roto-Rooter Services



Restaurant Training Solutions

Elicious Southern Style Breakfast & Brunch



Meet Johnny Little, the owner of Elicious Southern Style Brunch & Breakfast in Ferguson, Missouri. Despite his background as a former marketing professional, Johnny found his true calling in the hospitality industry when fate intervened in the form of a friend's suggestion. Initially hesitant about the idea of owning a restaurant, Johnny's perspective shifted when he stumbled upon the opportunity to acquire the former Marley's Bar & Grill while driving through Ferguson.

Embracing the challenge, Johnny embarked on a journey of transformation, completely renovating the space to bring his vision to life. What was once a game room filled with pool tables and a bar is now a warm and inviting dining area where guests are welcomed like old friends. Johnny's passion for creating a sense of community shines through in every aspect of his restaurant, where patrons often liken the experience to a family reunion.

Maintaining the original walls as a nod to the restaurant's history, Johnny has infused Elicious Southern Style Brunch & Breakfast with a modern rustic charm. With its cozy ambiance and delectable Southern-inspired cuisine, Johnny's restaurant has become a beloved fixture in the Ferguson community, embodying his dedication to providing an unforgettable dining experience for all who walk through its doors.

<https://eliciousrestaurant.com/> | 314) 395-6054

