



REDSTONE CHAPTER NO. 353 MEETING NOTICE

Our June meeting will be next Friday (2 June) at the Blue Plate Café, 7540 Memorial Pkwy SW Suite E.

I will continue to try to make calls to make sure everyone knows about the meeting. If you're not contacted and plan on coming to our meeting, please let me know at 256-539-3379 or tfcraig@aol.com.



PRESIDENT'S/COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Hero's, Patriots, and Friends of National Sojourners Inc.:

This will be my final message as your President and I want to thank you for allowing me to serve and for your support of the several Sojourner and Chapter programs. Brother Morgan initiated a GoFundMe page for us, and if we maintain our support for that, it will help keep us in good financial shape. Several Brothers have helped us with the ROTC/JROTC awards, and I want to commend them for their participation in this program. We had the maximum number of submissions for the Essay Contest, all of which I believe came from local DeMolays. The Building the Flag presentation has been given a couple times, and I hope we can increase its use at various Masonic and service group meetings in the future. We have initiated two new members to begin our rebuilding of the Chapter.

Many of you know I enjoy listening to recordings of the great Frank Sinatra. I'll have to admit to hearing the refrain, "Regrets, I've got a few," in my mind at times. I had hoped for more submissions to the Essay Contest, although we would then have to cull out the three best for submission. I know we should have had a Flag Retirement Ceremony, but there didn't seem to be an opportune time for one. I had wished that the change in membership requirements would bring in more new members, and perhaps it will when there is sufficient recognition of the change. Still, I feel that we are on the right track.

I know Brother Morgan has the same wishes I do for our Chapter's continuing success and improvement. He has some ideas that will encourage and challenge us, and I pledge him my full support. The purposes of our organization demand that we continue improving the Chapter, and the heritage of the Sojourners and Heroes who have gone before us shows us the way.

Again, thank you so much for the past two years you have let me serve.



IEAR - EIAR

James Wojcik

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

I think there will be no more submissions this year for ROTC/JROTC awards, so I'm appending a final list to this notice. Although we lost two schools (J. O. Johnson High School which closed and Albertville High School which suspended their JROTC program), we also added two new schools: Jemison High School which replaces Butler and Johnson schools and the Cullman Area Career Center. Three schools we've previously worked with made no requests this year for some reason (Etowah, Madison County and Priceville) and three others have never responded to offers of support (Russellville, St. Clair County and Talladega). All in all, I think the program has been a success, although we need to build our membership up in order to do a better job of personally presenting the awards.

I've received the annual report forms and I'll need to build a list of Bridge of Light and Americanism activities – I think most have been reported at our Executive or Regular meetings, but I should have a list to check some time after this meeting.

I think we do need to consider a new location. I like the food and the service at Blue Plate, but the early closing curtails our ability to conduct business and programs, and the noise from the kitchen can be distracting at times.

We've also been discussing moving the day of the week we hold our Executive Committee meetings. We've discussed it before and always decided there was no better alternative, but since we currently meet on the same night Helion meets, there seems to be a better choice on the 2nd or 4th Monday. The second Monday has received more votes right now, but please be thinking about this.

Other items need our attention, although I believe they are problems for all Masonic bodies, and probably all voluntary associations in general. We do need to increase our membership. I really appreciate our two new members, who have already been taking part in activities. We also need to somehow increase the participation of existing members. Many have family or work responsibilities that prevent their attendance, and a few are separated by distance, but it certainly seems like perhaps we can do something to encourage others to come back to our meetings.

Sincerely,
Tom Craig

CONGRATULATIONS

To Brother Ken Shepard, who celebrates his 80th birthday this month.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Please pray for our brethren, both our fellow Chapter members and our other brethren who may be undergoing trials of which we're unaware.

SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

June		July		August	
Pedro Arroyo	6/13	Kenneth Sherrill	7/1	Louis Numkin	8/6
Kenneth Shepard	6/19	John Norris	7/15	Terry Wofford	8/17
Jason Cruce	6/19	Harry Sanders	7/25	Vern Shankle	8/18
Larry Hancock	6/20			Phillip Sherman	8/19
James Robinson	6/29				

2017-2018 Officers

Redstone Chapter # 353

Elected Officers

President	Brother Michael T. Morgan
1 st VP	Brother Eddie E. Brown
2 nd VP	Brother Glenn K. Hooks
3 rd VP	Vacant
Secretary/Treasurer	Brother Thomas F. Craig

Appointed Officers

Quartermaster	Brother Glenn K. Hooks*
Chaplain	Brother George F. Mills*
Marshal	Brother Raymond C. Dunn*
Color Bearer	Brother Roger K. Harrison*
Color Bearer	Vacant

Monte Sano Camp - Heroes of '76

Elected Officers

Commander	Brother James J. Wojcik
Chief of Staff	Vacant
Ass't Chief of Staff	Brother Thomas A. Paul
Officer of the Day	Brother Lawrence E. Fouse

Appointed Officers

Commander of the Guard	Brother Roger K. Harrison*
Chaplain	Brother George F. Mills*
Adjutant	Brother Thomas F. Craig*
Senior Lt.	Brother James S. Blanteno*
Junior Lt.	Brother Wayne D. Jordan*
Sentinel	Brother Raymond C. Dunn*
Music Coordinator	(As needed)

* Pending appointments
Tentative Meetings

	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Reg		1 Sept	6 Oct	3 Nov	1 Dec	5 Jan	2 Feb	2 Mar	6 Apr	4 May	1 Jun
									Nom.	Elect	Install/W idows Night
Xcom (T)	14 Aug	11 Sep	9 Oct	12 Nov	11 Dec	8 Jan	12 Feb	12 Mar	9 Apr	14 May	

JUNE MEETINGS

- 1 June Decatur York Rite Bodies
1 June Bolivar Lodge No. 127, Arab Lodge No. 663, Fyffe Lodge No 697
1 June **IRON CURTAIN AROUND WEST BERLIN**
2 June Gurley Lodge No. 521
2 June **BIRTH OF MARTHA DANDRIDGE (CUSTIS, WASHINGTON)**
3 June **VETERINARY CORPS ESTABLISHED**
4 June **DAY OF PENTECOST/BATTLE OF MIDWAY BEGINS**
5 June Huntsville Scottish Rite Bodies (Chapter opens)
5 June Athens Lodge No. 16, Rising Sun Lodge No. 29
6 June Florence York Rite Bodies, Helion Lodge No. 1
6 June **D-DAY/BATTLE OF MEMPHIS**
8 June Arab Lodge No. 663, Solar Lodge No. 914
9 June **FULL MOON (ROSE MOON, FLOWER MOON, STRAWBERRY MOON)**
11 June **TRINITY SUNDAY**
12 June Ardmore Lodge No. 24, Northern Lodge No. 278
13 June Lunar Lodge No. 918, Huntsville York Rite Bodies
13 June **FIRST V-1 LAUNCHED AGAINST ENGLAND**
14 June Apollo Lodge No. 921
14 June **FLAG DAY/US ARMY ESTABLISHED**
14 June **EARLIEST SUNRISE**
15 June Bolivar Lodge No. 127, Arab Lodge No. 663, Fyffe Lodge No 697
15 June **WASHINGTON APPOINTED CINC OF CONTINENTAL ARMY**
16 June Gurley Lodge No. 521
16 June **FIRST WOMAN IN SPACE (VALENTINA TERESHKOVA)**
17 June **BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL**
18 June **FATHER'S DAY/MANHATTAN PROJECT BEGINS**
19 June Athens Lodge No. 16, Rising Sun Lodge No. 29
20 June Shoals Scottish Rite Bodies, Helion Lodge No. 1
20 June **ARMY AIR CORPS BECOMES ARMY AIR FORCES**
21 June **FIRST DAY OF SUMMER**
21 June **SIGNAL CORPS ESTABLISHED**
22 June Solar Lodge No. 914, Arab Lodge No. 663
22 June **GI BILL SIGNED/ST. ALBAN, 1ST MARTYR OF BRITAIN**
24 June **ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST DAY/BERLIN AIRLIFT BEGINS**
25 June **KOREAN WAR BEGINS/BATTLE OF LITTLE BIG HORN**
26 June Northern Lodge No. 278
27 June Jackson County Scottish Rite Club, Lunar Lodge No. 918
27 June **BATTLE OF KENNESAW MOUNTAIN**
27 June **LATEST SUNSET**
28 June Apollo Lodge No. 921
28 June **BATTLE OF MONMOUTH/CHEMICAL CORPS FORMED**
29 June Arab Lodge No. 663
30 June **GERMANY INVADES THE CHANNEL ISLANDS**
30 June **TUNGUSKA IMPACT**

(Next Executive Committee will be 14 August @ 6 PM @ Greenbrier – 2nd Monday unless we decide otherwise)

2017 ROTC/JROTC Awards

Alabama A&M			
Jemilia Tyson	Sojourner	Jim Wojcik	4/20
Nakiedra Brown	AASR	Jim Wojcik	4/20
Anniston High School			
Quindarious Edmondson	Sojourner	Mail	5/11
Arab High School			
Kristen Hix	Sojourner	Mail	4/18
Jathan Betterton	AASR	Mail	4/18
Athens High School			
Roberta Jeffs	Sojourner	George Mills	5/4
Sarah Suttles	AASR	George Mills	5/4
J. R. Austin High School			
Mariono Sandozal	Sojourner	George Mills	2/15
Marco Lorenzo	AASR	George Mills	2/15
Albert P. Brewer High School			
Logan Bailey	Sojourner	George Mills	5/5
Dylan Butler	AASR	George Mills	5/5
Buckhorn High School			
Ethan Brock	Sojourner	Jim Wojcik	4/20
Luke VanCleef	AASR	Jim Wojcik	4/20
James Clemens High School			
Jennifer Reis	Sojourner	Mail	5/13
Brandon Roberts	AASR	Mail	5/13
Columbia High School			
Laura Segura-Garcia	Sojourner	Josh Armstrong	4/5
Anthony Frost	AASR	Josh Armstrong	4/5
Cullman Area Career Center			
Megan Corbett	Sojourner	Mail	4/27
Decatur High School			
Nyome Dennis	Sojourner	George Mills	4/18
Houston Grays	AASR	George Mills	4/18
East Lawrence High School			
Robert Marcum	Sojourner	George Mills	5/5
Ft. Payne High School			
Magda Manuel	Sojourner	Cruce/Harrison	5/5
Brodie Wade	AASR	Cruce/Harrison	5/5
Gadsden City High School			
Katora Williams	Sojourner	Mail	4/27
Virgil Grissom High School			
Kristen Herder	Sojourner	Mail	5/3
Niki Sakatis	AASR	Mail	5/3
Hazel Green High School			
Jacob Harris	Sojourner	Will Fowler	4/22
Zach Mayo	AASR	Will Fowler	4/22
Huntsville High School			
Princess Offei-Dua	Sojourner	Mail	4/26
Jaime Chapman	AASR	Mail	4/26
Jacksonville State University			
Brandon East	Sojourner	Mail	4/15
Mae Jemison High School			
Ashley Townsend	Sojourner	Jim Wojcik	4/13
April Battle	AASR	Jim Wojcik	4/13
Bob Jones High School			
Robert Wood	Sojourner	Mail	5/1
Nickolas Valentin	AASR	Mail	5/1
Lawrence County High School			
Savannah Terry	Sojourner	George Mills	3/13
Lee/New Century Technology High School			
Diego Rivera-Picorelli	Sojourner	Michael Morgan	3/22
Jake Carter	AASR	Michael Morgan	3/22
Pell City High School			
Ameliah Rogers	Sojourner	Mail	4/27
Sheffield High School			
Zane Turner	Sojourner	George Mills	5/12
Sparkman High School			
Sakierra Grant	Sojourner	Jim Wojcik	2/1
David Moore	AASR	Jim Wojcik	2/1
UNA			
Kathryn Clark	Sojourner	George Mills	4/12
Walker High School			
Jacob Hilley	Sojourner	Mail	5/5

J. O. Johnson HS has closed. Albertville HS has discontinued the JROTC program. Etowah HS, Madison County HS and Priceville HS did not respond this year. Mae Jemison HS and Cullman Area Career Center are new JROTC units. Three schools (Russellville HS, St. Clair County HS and Talladega HS have never responded to offers of support.

Purpose Of Army JROTC

JROTC prepares high school students for responsible leadership roles while making them aware of the benefits of citizenship. The results are responsible cadets who are sure of themselves, can think on their own, and can express their ideas and opinions clearly and concisely.

Leadership and training goals are for cadets to:

1. Graduate from high school.
2. Be good citizens by knowing and exercising the rights, responsibilities, privileges, and freedoms of good citizenship.
3. Gain leadership potential and the ability to live and work cooperatively with others; demonstrate leadership in situations involving conflict resolution.
4. Achieve positive self-esteem and winning behavioral concepts in a culturally diverse society.
5. Learn the ability to think logically and to communicate effectively, with emphasis on effective oral communication.
6. Learn the importance of diet and of physical fitness in maintaining good health and appearance.
7. Gain an understanding of the history, purpose, and structure of Army JROTC.
8. Acquire proficiency in basic military skills (such as drill and ceremonies, first aid, and map reading) that are necessary for working effectively as a member of a team.
9. Learn the importance of citizenship through American history as it relates to America's culture and future from the Revolutionary war to the present.
10. Learn about the dangers of substance abuse and the importance of mental management, including goal setting and positive self-talk.

(I have been asked about the purpose of the JROTC program and found this a few years ago and included it in one of our notices; it is from one of the Army JROTC sites, but I suspect it is equally valid for the other programs)