



THE SAN DIEGO SOJOURNER
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER NO. 45 NATIONAL SOJOURNERS
AUGUST 2017



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: It is my great pleasure to be the sitting president of National Sojourners, Incorporated, San Diego Chapter 45. Thank you very much Worshipful Brother Chris Gunn for being our Installing Officer, you're always the best. Your professionalism and love to our country are always your priority that reflects in your personality.

The whole scenario of the Installation of Officers was almost a perfect night for celebration if not for the sudden passing of our beloved brother Joe De Vera who was supposed to be the incoming president. Joe, you are a tragic loss, not only to your family and loved ones, but to the whole brotherhood of Masonry and National Sojourners. Rest In Peace my brother you will be missed. Our hearts are with you sister Sally De Vera and family.

I want to congratulate our Flag Team for their outstanding presentation of the Colors at the Anchors and Spurs, Naval Station San Diego during a Commissioning Ceremony on August 2, 2017. May we have more Community Activities like this in the future. Good job!

Sincerely and Fraternally

Pepito P. Salgatar

President



SECRETARY'S COMMENTS The regular meeting of San Diego Chapter No. 45, National Sojourners, Inc. was held at the Best Western, Seven Seas, San Diego, CA on 27 July 2017.

With the only officers present being the 1st Vice President, Brother Pepito Salgatar and the Secretary/Treasurer Brother James Helt, the 1st Vice President opened the Chapter in due form at 1815, welcomed all present and recessed the meeting for dinner.

After dinner was served to sixteen members, four wives of members, and six guests for a total of twenty six, the meeting was called to order by the 1st Vice President at 1910.

Vice President Salgatar asked Brother Christopher Gunn to introduce his first time guest. Brother Gunn then introduced his sister Mrs. Haydee Gregory. Brother Salgatar then introduced the Camp Follower of the Year, Sandra Helt, 2002-2003 and the Commander of Constitution Camp, Heroes of '76, Brother Rudolfo Bautista. There were no national officers present.

The Secretary Brother James Helt made a motion that the minutes of the last regular meeting of 22 June 2017 be accepted as printed in the July newsletter. The motion was seconded and passed.

The Secretary/Treasurer, Brother Jim Helt reported the checking account balance was \$1676.00. The charity basket was passed and donations totaling \$40.00 were collected for the Sojourners Endowment Memorial (SEM) fund.

There was no correspondence.

There were no applications for membership.

It was announced that the Flag Team is scheduled to Present the Colors in Colonial Costume at the Anchor and Spurs Club at 32nd St. Naval Station at 0900 on 2 August, 2017. The team will be Brothers Alex Manzano, Rudy Bautista and Daniel Macaraeg.

Brother Salgatar announced that there would be a Candlelight Memorial Service at our next meeting in August for our recently departed brothers.

Brother Salgatar then announced the schedule for Rosary, Masonic funeral, and the public funeral and interment service for our Brother Jose P De Vera, Jr.

He then surrendered the gavel to the Installing Officer Brother Christopher Gunn for the installation of San Diego #45 Chapter Officers and Constitution Camp Officers for the 2017-2018 term. The San Diego #45 officers installed were: President, Brother Pepito Salgatar SCPO USN (ret); 1st VP, Brother Chris Parker PO1 USN (ret) (in absentia); 2nd VP, Brother Arnel Zapata Hon (in absentia) and Secretary/Treasurer Brother Jim Helt LCDR USN (ret). San Diego #45 Trustees installed were: Brother



FROM THE CAMP COMMANDER This is a sad month for the Chapter, due to the recent passing of a Brother Hero who was about to be installed as our next President.

Our thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of Brother Joe DeVera. May he rest in peace in the celestial body with the Great Architect of the universe.

My congratulations again to the new President and officers elected for the ensuing year. May we have a prosperous and meaningful year ahead to further our goals in the chapter. The Flag Team presented the flags during a commissioning ceremony on Tuesday, August 2, 2017 at Anchors and Spurs in Naval Station San Diego.

Let's have an organizational Heroes meeting to make the quarterly target. I'm thinking of September 9th. (I'll be out of the country from September 11 till September 26, 2017.) But let me know the time and date that is agreeable to everyone.

Sincerely and Fraternally

Rodolfo R. Bautista

Commander

**OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING
 WILL BE HAWAIIAN
 NIGHT, GET YOUR ALOHA SHIRT,
 MUMU AND GRASS SKIRTS READY!**

Christopher Gunn SgtMaj USMC (ret), Brother Alexander C. Manzano SCPO USN (ret) and Brother Jim Helt. Constitution Camp Officers installed were: Commander, Brother Rudy Bautista, CWO-4 USN (ret), Chief of Staff, Brother Pepito Salgatar SCPO USN (ret) and Adjutant, Brother Jim Helt LCDR USN Ret.

After these officers were proclaimed installed in due form, the Installing Officer turned the gavel over to our new President, Brother Pepito Salgatar.

There was no other business.

Under the good of the order, Brother Christopher Gunn made a brief announcement about the 5th Penafancia novena night at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 2643 Homedale Street, San Diego CA 92139. There will be a rosary, novena, and Mass starting at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 12.

Brother Rodolfo Bautista announced that the Filipino American Officers Association had provided a check for \$100.00 as a thank you for presenting the colors at their recent annual meeting.

Brother Alex Manzano asked for a moment of silence and offered a special prayer in memory of our recently departed Brothers; Kelly Medina, Chico Alvarez, Charlie Andaya, Ed Backes, Fred Kleyn and Jose De Vera.

Birthdays and Anniversaries were then acknowledged.

Lady Sandra Helt made a brief report on the individuals on our ailing or indisposed list. The names included: Ed Behm, Austin Brown, Truman and Georgia Brown, Jack Evans, Dick Fasig, Dick Fleet, Bob Hampton, Will and Norma Hays, Ernie Latham, Pat Maceda, Etsuko Medina, Clarence Nelson, Lee Hoffman and Les Peich. She provided a report on the current status of Brother Dave Hollowell and the recent death of Della Latham. These Brothers and ladies are all ailing or indisposed and in need of our support and prayers.

Following the closing prayer by the acting Chaplain, Brother Alex Manzano, the meeting was closed at 2005.

Respectfully Submitted:

James F. Helt

Secretary

Approved:

Pepito P. Salgatar

President

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

08-01-1948	CDR	David W.	SCHRECK	USN Ret
08-03-1962	PO1	Norman C.	PARKER	USN Ret
08-05-1926	CDR	Richard D.	FASIG	USN Ret
08-05-1940	CPO	Dione C.	MACEDA	USN Ret
08-07-1939	CWO	John	MATKOVICH	USN Ret
08-11-1929	LT	Harlin C.	MAY	USN Ret
08-11-1929	CWO4	Gordon V.	GREESON	USN Ret
08-19-1926	SCPO	Harold E.	PHELPS	USN Ret
08-31-1929	Maj	Edward J.	TOWNSEND	USMC Ret

EDITOR'S NOTE: If I have missed your birthday, or have the wrong date, please let me know so that I can correct my database.

Never argue with an idiot; people watching may not be able to tell the difference.

REGULAR MEETING BEST WESTERN SEVEN SEAS THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2017

411 Hotel Circle South
Social Hour 1715 - 1815

Choice of Entree

MEATLOAF

with mashed potatoes and gravy

OR

GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST

over Pasta Primavera with Alfredo Sauce

ALL DINNERS WITH

Vegetables

Soup or Salad, Hot Rolls & Butter

DESSERT

Ice Cream

with Chocolate or Strawberry topping

Coffee, Decaf, Hot or Iced Tea

**VEGAN, VEGETARIAN, GLUTEN FREE OR OTHER
CHOICES FOR SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS MUST BE
REQUESTED IN ADVANCE**

COST \$27.00

**For Reservations: You Must Contact Jim or Sandy
Helt by Noon, FRIDAY, 18 AUGUST 2017, at (619)
583-6089 or email: jf36helt@att.net.**

CHAPTER FORCED TO PAY FOR MEALS WE DIDN'T EAT!

For the first time since we started meeting at the Best Western 7 Seas, the Chapter did not meet the minimum attendance in our contract at our June meeting. Originally we had reservations for 22 persons, but 16 actually attended the meeting.

Our contract with the Best Western 7 Seas obligates us to pay for a minimum of 20 dinners. Our June meeting cost the chapter \$104.00.

We cannot afford to continue this. To ensure meals are prepared for all attendees, we must have your reservations in advance. Those reservations are due on the Friday of the week before the meeting. If you cancel a reservation after Friday or you are a no show, and we drop below 20 and are paying for your meal - **you will be charged \$27.00 for the meal.**

CALLING COMMITTEE

We need some volunteers to step up, Brothers or Ladies to make calls to remind members of meetings and take reservations. Alex and Nelia Manzano have done it for years with help from Sandy Helt.

We need more callers. Before his untimely death, Brother De Vera proved that another caller can make a difference in the numbers that attend our meetings. The

list of calls can be divided among the number of callers so each volunteer would have only a few calls to make. You wouldn't be calling a stranger, it would be a Brother or an Honored Lady and a member of the Chapter.

If you would volunteer, it would be a great help to the Chapter. Let the Secretary or the President know that you are willing to make a few calls for San Diego #45.

SICK OR INDISPOSED

Ed Behm	Austin Brown
Truman and Georgia Brown	Jack Evans
Dick Fasig	Dick Fleet
Will & Norma Hays	Bob Hampton
Ernie and Della Latham	Lee Hoffman
Clarence Nelson	Pat Maceda
Dave Hollowell	Les Peich
	Bernie Domingo

These Ladies and Brothers need our support and prayer. Let them know you care. Please call the Chapter Secretary if you know of someone who should be on this list!



CANDLE LIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Candle Light Memorial Service will be held for our departed Brothers: Ed Backes, Initiated 03/26/2009, Deceased 05/05/2017; Fred Kleyn, Affiliated 01/01/1987, Deceased 05/24/2017; and Jose De Vera, Initiated 10/23/2014, Deceased 07/23/2017.

Soft and safe to thee, my Brothers, be thy resting place

TEN YEARS AGO

The regular meeting of San Diego Chapter No. 45, National Sojourners, Inc. was held at the Imperial House Restaurant, San Diego, CA on 23 August 2007.

At 1815 hours, President Nazareno opened the Chapter, welcomed all present, and dinner was served to 22 members, 14 guests, 14 wives of members, and 4 Honored Ladies for a total of 54.

Several guests from Al Bahr Shrine Temple led by Illustrious Potentate Urbano "Ben" Billena were introduced.

A Candlelight Service was held for CWO4 JOHN H. McCARRON, HON JOSEPH N. TYE and CDR ARTHUR H. BILDERBACK.

Three new applications for membership were received and referred for investigation by the Membership Committee: CPO Urbano "Ben" Billena (sponsored by Alex Manzano), CPO Bernardo P. Domingo (sponsored by Rudy Nazareno), and Major Richard W. Fleet (sponsored by Leon Hoffman).

The meeting was closed in due form at 2015 hours.

FIVE YEARS AGO

The regular meeting of San Diego Chapter No. 45, National Sojourners, Inc. was held at the Best Western, Seven Seas, San Diego, CA on 23 August 2012.

President Brother Bryan Pettengill opened the Chapter at 1805 hours and welcomed all present. Dinner was then served to fifteen members, eight wives of members, and four guests for a total of 27.

Everyone was reminded that the Camp Pendleton Encampment would be held 7, 8, and 9 September 2012.

It was announced that appropriate dress for the September meeting would be Hawaiian or informal.

The meeting was closed in due form at 1930 hours.

MEMBERSHIP!

Brothers, this year we have lost three Brothers to death, and another regular attendee has been moved out of the area so he can be cared for by his family. We are all getting older and several brothers have difficulty making it to our meetings on a regular basis. Consider this distribution of ages for local area Chapter members:

Under 40	1
40 - 50	2
50 - 60	15
60 - 70	27
Over 70	42

Our attendance has dropped precipitously. We need new members!

Those of us that attend Lodge, Scottish Rite, York Rite or Shrine meetings should be on constant alert for potential members.

Remember, any veteran that is a Master Mason and that served honorably in the Uniformed Services of the United States or an ally in war time is eligible for membership. Other Master Masons may be eligible for Honorary Membership, please see the Secretary before proposing an individual for Honorary membership.

The Initiation Fee is \$60.00. Annual dues are \$25.00, (prorated over the first year). A Membership-in-Perpetuity is \$250.00. Keep an application in your pocket, if you don't have one ask the Secretary for one.

REMEMBER WE NEED MEMBERS!

IMPORTANT DAYS IN AUGUST

08/16/1777 **Battle of Bennington** The Battle of Bennington was a battle of the American Revolutionary War. A rebel force of 2,000 men, led by General John Stark, decisively defeated a detachment of General John Burgoyne's army.

08/04/1790 **Coast Guard Birthday** - Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton lobbied Congress to fund the construction of ten cutters, which it did on 4 August 1790 (now celebrated as the Coast Guard's official birthday). Until the re-establishment of the Navy in 1798, these "revenue cutters" were the only naval force of the early United States.

08/14/1945 **VJ Day** Japan surrendered to the Allies, effectively ending World War II

08/7/2017 **Purple Heart Day** is an observance that commemorates the creation of the Purple Heart Medal in 1782

COMING EVENTS

08/24/2017 Dinner Meeting

09/09/2017 Heroes of '76 Bivouac

09/28/2017 Dinner Meeting (Hawaiian Night)

10/26/2017 Dinner Meeting

11/2017 Chapter is Dark in November

12/07/2017 Dinner Meeting - Christmas Party

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President, Pepito P. Salgatar (619) 267-7738

1st Vice President, Norman C. Parker (858) 699-4611

2nd Vice President, Arnel Zapata (858) 397-2950

3rd Vice President, VACANT

Marshall, Perfecto M. Ortiz (619) 419-8565

Secretary/Treasurer, James F. Helt (619) 583-6089

CONSTITUTION CAMP

Commander, Rodolfo R. Bautista (619) 434-1511

Chief of Staff, Pepito P. Salgatar (619) 267-7738

Ast. Chief of Staff, VACANT

Adjutant, James F. Helt (619) 583-6089

San Diego Chapter #45, National Sojourners, Inc.

LCDR James F. Helt, USN Ret.

Editor and Publisher

5774 Del Cerro Blvd.

San Diego, CA 92120-4514

jf36helt@att.net

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED