



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



1st VICE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: Due to our current sitting President being out of town while taking care of emergency personal business, I had the great honor of filling the President's position for our September Stated Meeting. I would like to thank all the members and guests for attending the meeting. "We had a wonderful turnout!"

Several of our members participated in the Candle Light Memorial Service that was held for our recently-departed San Diego Chapter No. 45 National Sojourners President Brother Jose "Joe" De Vera. Present was Brother Joe's widow, Sister Sally, and family. Rest in Peace our beloved Brother. A fitting farewell to a worthy brother. Thank You to all the support of the brothers who performed in this very memorable and solemn ceremony.

Sister Sandy Helt presented to Sister Sally De Vera the Camp Followers badge as she is now an honored lady and widow of a member of National Sojourners and Heroes of 76.

For the first time, our dinner was served as a Hawaiian buffet-style dinner. I received many very strong approval ratings for this arrangement and price. Well done and earnest Kudos to our wonderful Brother James/Sister Sandy Helt and Brother Alex/Sister Nelia Manzano for their endless coordination and valued support towards our organization.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Norman "Chris" Parker **1st Vice President**



FROM THE CAMP COMMANDER We had a good stated meeting. An impressive number of members were in attendance to commemorate the passing of Brother Jose De Vera. The buffet style of dinner was enjoyed by all members and many are suggesting to do it again in our future meetings.

We are scheduling a Bivouac on October 28, 2017 at 1000 hrs to be held at Bro Manzano's, where we held our last one. All heroes are requested to support an organizational dry run to prepare us in making our new heroes. We are planning on having a sumptuous refreshment afterwards to make it an interesting one. I hope to see you all on the 28th to make it a success.

Sincerely and Fraternally

Rodolfo R. Bautista

Commander



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 28 September 2017. The officers present were the 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer Marshall and Chaplain. The 1st Vice President, Brother Norman C. Parker opened the Chapter in due form at 1820, welcomed all present and recessed the meeting for dinner.

After the dinner was served to twenty members, fifteen wives of members, six guests, and one honored lady for a total of forty two, the meeting was called to order by the Acting President, Brother Norman Parker at 1905.

Acting President Parker introduced the Southern California Area Camp Followers of the Year 2002-2003 Sandy Helt and 2012-2013 Nelia Manzano. He then introduced the Commander of Constitution Camp, Heroes of '76, Brother Rudolfo Bautista. There were no national officers present. Brother Alex Manzano then introduced the Masonic dignitaries present; Most Worshipful Brother Melvin Stein, Past Grand Master of Masons in California and Past Potentate Al Bahr Shrine; Illustrious Brother Ben Billena, Past Potentate Al Bahr Shrine and his Lady Florita; Worshipful Master Roland Punzalan, Black Mountain Lodge #845 and his Lady Tess, and Worshipful Brother Larry Mariano, Past Master, Black Mountain Lodge #845 and his Lady Bernadette. Our honored lady, Sally De Vera and her daughters Charisma and Tatiana were then introduced.

The Secretary/Treasurer, Brother James Helt, made a motion that the minutes of the last regular meeting of 24 August, 2017 be accepted as printed in the September 2017 newsletter. The motion was seconded and passed. Brother Helt reported that the checking account balance was \$1878.00. The charity basket was passed and donations totaling \$31.00 were collected for the Sojourners Endowment Memorial (SEM) fund.

There was no correspondence and there were no applications for membership.

The Secretary/Treasurer announced that the San

Diego Chapter #45 Flag Team had been invited to participate in the annual Massing of the Colors in Balboa Park on Saturday, October 21, 2017.

A Candle Light Memorial Service for our departed Brother Jose P De Vera was then held. Brother Alex Manzano presented a memorial to the life of Brother De Vera and the ceremony was conducted with the participation of Brothers Bautista, Helt, Manzano and Winesett.

There was no old business.

The Camp Commander, Brother Rudy Bautista, announced that a Constitution Camp Bivouac was planned for October 28th at Singing Hills.

Brother Jim Bonner announced that it was time for the National Sojourner Essay Contest and urged the Brothers and Ladies present encourage the participation of their eligible children and grand children.

The Secretary/Treasurer then asked those present if they liked the buffet and would like to repeat it in the future. With the acclaim of the majority present, it was decided that with a plated dinner at our Christmas Party 7 December, we would have more buffets in the future.

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, Jim and Carol Benson, Joe and Marge Matkovich, and Les Peich. These Brothers and ladies are all ailing or indisposed and in need of our support and prayers.

Following the closing prayer by the Chaplain, Brother Dave Winesett, the meeting was closed at 2005.

Respectfully Submitted:
James F. Helt
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:
Pepito P. Salgatar
President

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10-02-1925	HON	Jack R.	LEVITT	
10-02-1934	Maj	Thomas A.	SPENCER	AUS Ret
10-08-1947	SCPO	Alexander C.	MANZANO	USN Ret
10-12-1936	LCDR	James F.	HELT	USN Ret
10-15-1951	CPO	Rodolfo C.	NAZARENO	USN Ret
10-15-1949	SCPO	Pepito P.	SALGATAR	USN Ret
10-15-1980	CPT	Ricardo J.	TOLENTINO, Jr.	USA
10-16-1961	LT	John C.	CROOK	USN Ret
10-17-1933	CDR	Norm	RENTLE	USN Ret
10-17-1942	CDR	Dennie L.	MILLER	USN Ret
10-22-1945	1stLT	Paul D.	ROBINSON	USA
10-29-1924	HON	Thomas I.	JARRARD	

EDITOR'S NOTE: If this is wrong contact me so I can correct my database.

REGULAR MEETING
BEST WESTERN SEVEN SEAS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017

411 Hotel Circle South
Social Hour 1715 - 1815

BUFFET

Mixed Green Salad
Hot Rolls & Butter
Fresh Fruit
Barons of Beef
Chicken Cordon Bleu
Red Potato
Mixed Vegetables

DESSERT

Coffee, Decaf, Hot or Iced Tea

COST \$27.00

For Reservations: You Must Contact Alex Manzano by Noon, FRIDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2017, at 619-938-5760 or by e-mail at amazanopm88@aol.com

ANNUAL DUES

Brothers it is time for annual dues again. You should have received an annual dues statement from National Headquarter in the mail by now. Some of you have, I know, because you have promptly paid your dues. Check your mail, if you have a dues notice then make a check for \$25.00 payable to "San Diego Chapter, National Sojourners" and hand it to the Secretary/Treasurer at the October meeting or mail it to him at James F. Helt, 5774 Del Cerro Blvd, San Diego, CA 92120-4514.

Some of you are not MIPs and you did not receive an annual dues notice from headquarters. That is because you did not pay your dues last year and you were suspended from membership. You can be reinstated, by paying your dues for the current year and the dues for next year. If you choose not to pay your dues in arrears, you will remain a suspended member. After December 31, 2017, you can be reinstated but only **after a vote** by the chapter. *Right now, no one knows but you and the Secretary. So pay your dues! . Note: MIP is an option! See the Secretary.*

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The United States Navy celebrates its 242th year on Friday, October 13, 2017. Congratulations and happy birthday to all our Navy Brothers.

SOCAL PLANNING MEETING

For the first time in several years, the National Sojourners Chapters of Southern California will hold a joint meeting to plan joint activities and pass on some important information.

The meeting will be held at the DeMolay Center, 303 W Anaheim, CA on Sunday 29 October 2017 between 11:00 AM and 2:00PM.

Sojourner Presidents and Secretaries are personally invited to attend and all Sojourners and their Ladies are invited to attend. Lunch will be \$10.00 each, collected at the door. **You must RSVP to Brother Jim Benson, National Chief of Staff, Heroes of '76 no later than 22 October 2017. Email Benson5021@cox.net or call (760) 940-0024.**

An Early Birthday Celebration

The 242th Marine Corps Birthday is on November 10, 2017. Our next newsletter will be the December newsletter so I am including this in the October newsletter for our Marine Corps Brothers.

WE MISS YOU!

There are exciting things happening in San Diego Chapter 45! We have a new President and supportive Vice Presidents and if you haven't been to a meeting in a while, you don't know what you are missing. We miss your presence and your fellowship. Come to a meeting and see the friendship, warmth, and fun that you have been missing.

If you no longer drive at night and need a ride or other assistance in attending a meeting, please call me and we will find a way to get you back in our midst. James F. Helt, (619) 876 - 2057 or email me at jf36helt@att.net

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 25 October 2007.

At 1815 hours, President Nazareno opened the Chapter, welcomed all present, and the opening prayer was given by Chaplain Richard Fasig. Dinner was served to 19 members, eight guests, 15 wives of members, and 4 Honored Ladies for a total of 46.

Brothers Ben Billena, Bernie Domingo and Todjie Tojino were then initiated as National Sojourners.

Brother Hal Scott was presented with the Heroes of '76 Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of his service to Constitution Camp. President Nazareno also called attention to Brothers Clarence "Nellie" Nelson and George Swick who were awarded the

prestigious Medal of Merit by the Collingwood Library and Museum on Americanism during the National Sojourners annual convention in June 2007.

Brother Hector Cantua, the chapter's Veterans Service Committee Chairman, presented a very interesting and informative program on VA benefits for veterans and their dependents.

Expressions of sympathy were also offered for victims of the recent fires (*In 2007*).

Brother Jim Helt asked members to plan on attending the SOCAL Planning Conference on the first Saturday in February at Santa Anna, and the 2008 Spring Encampment on 10-12 May to be hosted by the Ventura Chapter at Point Mugu. Also mentioned was the 1st Camel Corps Annual Reunion sponsored jointly by SOCAL and the Southwest Areas at Laughlin, Nevada 10-11 February 2008. (*Ten years ago, they were well attended and lots of fun and good fellowship. Too bad they are no more.*)

Following prayer by Brother Dick Fasig, the Chapter was closed at 2100 hours.

FIVE YEARS AGO

The regular meeting of San Diego Chapter No. 45, National Sojourners, Inc. was held on 25 October 2012, at the Best Western Seven Seas, San Diego, California. Dinner was served to 14 members, six wives of members, one honored lady and one guest for a total of 22. After the opening prayer by the Chaplain, Brother Richard Fleet. The President, Brother Bryan Pettengill opened the Chapter.

Brother Dave Winesett announced that he had a set of Continentals that had belonged to our deceased Brother Bob Thompson and a Continental Uniform coat that had belonged to our deceased Brother Dick Dedrick.

After the Closing Prayer by the Chaplain, the President closed the Chapter at 2005 hours.

CHAPTER CHARITY - TOYS FOR TOTS

Don't forget our Charity TOYS FOR TOTS. Please prepare to bring a new toy to our Christmas Party on December 7, 2017. You may make a cash donation at any time if you wish. Our contributions this year will honor our memory of Jose De Vera. Will we surpass last year?

The Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots were extremely grateful for your gifts last year.

**TAKE NOTE! WE ARE DARK IN NOVEMBER!
OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE OUR ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS PARTY ON THURSDAY 7
DECEMBER 2017.**

COMING EVENTS

10/21/2017 MASSING OF THE COLORS
10:30 - 11:30 BALBOA PARK ORGAN PAVILION
10/26/2017 Dinner Meeting
10/28/2017 Constitution Camp Bivouac
Singing Hills Trailer Park, El Cajon
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
1 st Vice President, Norman C. Parker	(858) 699-4611
2 nd Vice President, Arnel Zapata	(858) 397-2950
3 rd 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

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