



THE SAN DIEGO SOJOURNER
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER NO. 45 NATIONAL SOJOURNERS,
JANUARY 2016



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: Greetings everyone. We had a joyful Christmas Party on Friday, December 11, and I would like to convey my sincere thanks to all the attendees. We again accomplished some of our goals. A good camaraderie with old and new friends, coupled with good food and singing of Christmas carols until we exchanged pleasantries as we departed. We also collected a sizable amount of toys for tots and donation for our charity drive. *(Two large bags of toys and \$250.00, the editor)*

The Heroes of '76 Flag Team presented the flag of our country to the installation of officers of some lodges and I'm very grateful to the participants.

My congratulations to the new heroes who were initiated recently at Camp Kelly and my regrets for not being able to participate in the next initiation and stated meeting due to my going out of town.

May you and yours have a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Sincerely and Fraternally

Rudolfo R. Bautista **President**



FROM THE CAMP COMMANDER My warm appreciation of our Constitution Camp and warmest greetings of the Season and best wishes for your Happiness in the New Year with Christmas blessings.

Our Constitution Camp had a Heroes Degree on 5 December to initiate Brother Dionne Maceda. Congratulations Brother and welcome to the Heroes of '76.

Our next Hero's Degree will be on 23 January 2016 for Recruit Brother LtCol Charles Olander, USAF. All Heroes of '76, please join us, and bring your blue books. We will muster at 0900 Hrs, in Old Fort Medina, at 439 Meadowbrook Dr., San Diego, CA 92114. I hope that all Heroes of '76 will be there to participate and confirm your part in the degree. Continental uniforms are not required, field uniforms are optional, but you should wear your Tricorn Hat.

"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone." President Ronald Reagan

God Bless and Semper Fidelis,

Christopher Gunn **Commander**

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.



SECRETARY'S COMMENTS: Brothers, we did not open the Chapter and hold a regular meeting at our Christmas Party on 11 December 2015 so there are no minutes of the meeting.

The Christmas party was well attended with 19 members, 9 wives of members, 2 honored ladies and 7 guests, a total of 37 present.

Among the attendees, there were several brothers we haven't seen in a while, it was great to see them at our meetings again and hope they will return frequently.

The President Brother Rudy Bautista invited several guest that provide some great Christmas music and songs. It seemed that everyone enjoyed the fellowship, the meal and the entertainment.

A great time was had by all.

Respectfully Submitted:

James F. Helt **Secretary**

REGULAR MEETING

BEST WESTERN SEVEN SEAS
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016

411 Hotel Circle South
 Social Hour 1715 - 1815

Choice of Entree

ROAST PRIME RIB

with baked potato

GRILLED SALMON

with rice pilaf

ALL DINNERS WITH

Vegetables, Soup or Salad, Hot Rolls & Butter

DESSERTS

CHOCOLATE MOUSSE OR ICE CREAM

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 ALEX MANZANO by
Noon, FRIDAY, 22 JANUARY 2016, at (619) 938-5760
(Cell) or (619) 401-3477 (Home) or email:
amanzanopm88@att.net

NOTE THE INCREASED DINNER COST!

This is the first price raise we have experienced since we moved from the Imperial House Restaurant (\$27.00) to the Best Western (\$25.00) in 2011. The increase was

necessary to ensure you continue to have the finest of dinner choices.

Please make your dinner reservations in advance! Plan ahead, last minute walk-ins causes problems with the kitchen and seating arrangements.

As a result of the increase in costs, it will also be necessary to charge you for the cost of a meal if you make a reservation and do not show up.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01-11-1919	PO1	Austin D.	BROWN	USN Ret
01-16-1936	LCDR	Robert T.	GUSTAFSON	USN Ret
01-18-1939	CMDCM	Joseph F.	CIOKON, Jr.	USN Ret
01-31-1953	MCPO	Richard	BASKIN	USN Ret

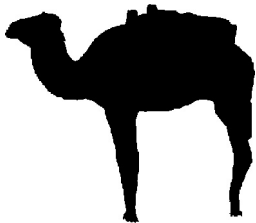
HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALL!

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.

HEROES OF '76



There will be a bivouac of Constitution Camp at Old Fort Medina at 439 Meadowbrook Dr., San Diego, CA 92114 at 0900 hours on 23 January 2016. Our recruit for the Heroes of '76 will be Brother LtCol Charles Olander, USAF Ret, our Third Vice President.



First Camel Corps Daughters of the Desert Twenty-sixth Annual Reunion 21-22 February 2016

Hosted by the **SOCAL/Southwest Areas**
at the
Riverside Resort Hotel and Casino
1650 So. Casino Drive, Laughlin, Nevada
Heroes of '76 Activities
Mojave Valley Shrine Center
2580 So. Miracle Mile, Bullhead City, AZ

Brother Hero's this is the only Heroes' encampment scheduled at this time. It is always a great time for Heroes, especially with the added chance to become a member of the Camel Corps.

The Secretary/Adjutant, Brother Jim Helt has forwarded copies of the announcement and registration forms to our e-mail list. You may request copies of the registration forms from the Secretary.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Our Christmas charity donation went to the Toys for Tots program again this year.

At our party, a small decorated tree was to be awarded to the person whose guess came closest to the total amount of the Chapter cash donations for Toys for Tots.

There was a tie between the guesses of our Honored Lady June Bowlin and Lady Sharlene Zuleta. The tie

was resolved by our President who selected the winning ticket by a blind draw and the tree was awarded to Sharlene Zuleta. Jean Bowlin was given her choice of one of the ornaments that had been donated to decorate the tree and a free dinner next month.

On 14 December 2015, your Secretary, Jim Helt and his Lady Sandy delivered two large bags of toys and a San Diego Chapter check for \$250.00, covering your cash donations, to the local HQ for Toys for Tots. We also turned over an additional check for \$25.00 which had been made payable directly to Toys for Tots.

We thank you all for your generous donations to the Toys for Tots program. Camp Follower Sandy Helt

SICK OR INDISPOSED

Austin Brown	Dick Fleet	Ed Behm
Les Peich	Dick Fasig	Chico Alvarez
Jack Evans	Jewel Bonner	Etsuko Medina
Bernie Domingo		Jim Benson
Bob & Betty Hampton		Lee & Shirley Hoffman
Truman & Georgia Brown		Jim & Marge Gordon

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

IN MEMORIUM

It is my sad duty to report that our **Brother MCPO William F. PARKER, USN Ret.** died on December 8, 2015.

Brother Parker was initiated in San Diego Chapter #45 in July 1999. He was sponsored by our Brother CAPT Jack Evans, USN Ret. Brother Parker became a Hero and member of Constitution Camp in July 2000. He served as San Diego 45 President in the 2004-2005 year and Commander of Constitution Camp in 2005-2006 year. He was a member of Chula Vista Lodge #626 and Scottish Rite. In recent years Brother Parker has been living in Camarillio, CA with his wife Wilma.

Brother Parker was an active supporter of our Chapter for some time and he will be missed.

San Diego Chapter #45 will hold a Candlelight Memorial Service for Brother Parker at our 28 January 2016 meeting.

"Soft and safe to thee, my brothers, be thy resting place."

ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE

Brothers if you are not a Member in Perpetuity you are an annual dues paying member. National HQ sent you a dues statement with your new membership card last fall. The dues statement directed you to make your dues payment of \$25.00 before 31 December 2015 to the Chapter Secretary.

I have received the dues payments from some of you and forwarded your per capita payment of \$20.00 to HQ. There are some Brothers that have not yet submitted

their dues. It is time to do it now. National HQ will be sending 2nd notices shortly.

Check that pile of mail on your desk, find that dues statement from National HQ, write a check and send it to the Secretary.

When you are considering your dues payment think about a **Membership in Perpetuity**. There are several benefits to a MIP membership. First, the MIP Fee (\$250) is a charitable contribution from Federal Income Taxes when made payable to the **National Sojourners Trust Fund**. Additionally, there are advantages in a MIP membership to both the member and to the Chapter. A Membership in Perpetuity is just like a Life Membership in most other organizations. It avoids future payment of annual dues, assures a perpetual income to the Chapter from the endowment investments, and automatically assures that the Widow (as one of our Honored Ladies) will always have a sympathetic support and social group to call upon after the member's passing.

NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

It has been a custom for some time, for individuals to begin each new year by making resolutions to better their lives. Here are a few we might all adopt.

- Attend San Diego Chapter 45, National Sojourners meetings, monthly.
- Carry a National Sojourners "What's It All About?" information brochure and petition in my pocket to all Masonic and Military Organization meetings so I can hand it to any potential member I may meet.
- Make dinner reservations for our regular meetings in a timely fashion, don't wait to be called.
- Get up and circulate during the social hour of our meetings, greet every guest you see and make them feel wanted.
- Set at a different table from time to time and make some new friends.
- Call your Brothers, you haven't seen at a meeting in some time, ask how they're doing, ask if there is anything we can do for them, and invite them to come to our next meeting.
- Recruit at least one new member for our Chapter.

If we all adopt these resolutions, we will all get more out of Sojourners.

A SALUTE TO OUR SERVICE PERSONNEL

The following Toast was first presented at our Annual Christmas Party on December 15, 2004

Brother President, brothers, ladies and guests, please charge your glass and be upstanding.

As many of us have known the heartache of separation from our families and loved ones at Christmas time and New Years in peace and in war, let us not forget those sons and daughters, husbands and wives, fathers and mothers who serve our country in war and on foreign shores and are separated from their families and loved ones in this Holiday Season.

May the Supreme Architect draw such a plan on the Trestle Board that it brings the world peace, ensures our countries security, and our freedom and brings everyone safely home to family and loved ones again.

So to those who serve our nation where ever they may be: MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
James Helt

YOU ARE INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER!

The Editor works hard to fill these pages with interesting and useful information but you may have noticed he is beginning to repeat himself. It's not that I've run out of ideas, but new ones, of general interest, don't come as often as they once did. Could be something to do with age.

If you have something you want to say that would contribute to the aims or purposes of National Sojourners or an announcement of an activity of interest to the group, submit your input by written note or email to the editor. The deadline for submissions is the first Friday of the month.

Remember, National Sojourner policies do not permit the discussion of politics or religion in our meetings or publications. The editor reserves the right to make the final decision on an articles suitability for publication.

NEW YEARS IN THE TRENCHES WW1

New Year's celebrations in the trenches are not as well recorded as Christmas celebrations but they occurred nevertheless. Both sides on the Western Front experienced the horrors of trench life in World War One and did what they could to relieve the monotony and tension. The Christmas truce in 1914 was one such example but it was followed by a New Year's truce as 1914 gave way to 1915. Karl Aldage, fighting in the German trenches, wrote about his experience.

"On New Year's Eve we called across to tell each other the time and agreed to fire a salvo at 12. It was a cold night. We sang songs, and they clapped (we were only about 60 to 70 yards apart); we played the mouth organ and they sang and we clapped. Then I asked if they hadn't got any musical instruments, and they produced bagpipes (they are the Scots Guards, with their short petticoats and bare legs) and they played some of their beautiful elegies on them, and sang, too. Then at 12 we all fired salvos into the air. Then there were a few shots from our guns (I don't know what they were firing at) and the usually so dangerous Verey lights crackled like fireworks, and we waved torches and cheered. We had brewed some grog and drank the toast of the Kaiser and the New Year. It was a real good 'Silvester', just like peacetime."

What's the difference between a teacher and a train engineer?

A teacher trains the mind, and an engineer minds the train!

COMING EVENTS

Constitution Camp Bivouac & Initiation

Old Fort Medina

January 23, 2016

Flag Team Presenting the Colors

January 15, 2015

Shrine Nobility Ball, Crown Plaza Hotel

January 30, 2016

SOCAL Midwinter Planning Meeting

February 13, 2016 (tentative)

All Area members and ladies are encouraged to attend.

First Camel Corps Reunion

Laughlin, NV

February 21 - 22, 2016

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President, Rodolfo R. Bautista (619) 434-1511
1st Vice President, Bernardo P. Domingo (619) 690-4719
2nd Vice President, Dione D. Maceda (619) 482-4712
3rd Vice President, Charles E. Olander (760) 294-4558
Marshall, Norman C. Parker (858) 699-4611
Secretary/Treasurer, James F. Helt (619) 583-6089

CONSTITUTION CAMP

Commander, Christopher C. Gunn (858) 218-5279
Chief of Staff, Rodolfo R. Bautista (619) 434-1511
Ast. Chief of Staff, Bernardo P. Domingo (619) 690-4719
Officer of the Day, Robert B. Johnson (619) 475-4732
Adjutant, James F. Helt (619) 583-6089

San Diego Chapter #45, National Sojourners, Inc.

LCDR James F. Helt, USN Ret.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED