



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



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: Greetings Brother Sojourners and Ladies,
 We started January and a few of our brothers were on vacation and some were out of town. February is here and I would like to say welcome back and glad to see you all on our stated meeting on the 23rd of this month.

February is a heart month and every one of us is celebrating Valentine's Day. I encourage all brethren to have this special day to take out our ladies for a special dinner as a token of our appreciation for their sacrifices, patience and support to the fraternity through the years. Let's offer flowers to our ladies and whisper to their attentive ear "I Love You." For LOVE makes the world go round. Is that simple?

Happy Valentine's Day!

Sincerely and Fraternaly

Jose P De Vera Jr.

President



FROM THE CAMP COMMANDER
 Brothers, I'm glad to be back from a little rest and relaxation and it feels like I need more of it after that. It's nice to be back to doing things you're accustomed to, for many years. I was surprised to see many changes that are pleasant at times, but some are better to be left as they are.

I hope everybody is safe, healthy and enjoyed last months' stated meeting. I'm looking forward to seeing you all on this month's meeting. Let's also plan on having a Bivouac in the near future. May you have a Happy Valentine's Day.

Sincerely and Fraternaly

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 26 January 2017.

With the only officers present being the President, Brother Jose De Vera, the Secretary/Treasurer Brother James Helt and the Chaplain Brother Allen Beddoe, the President opened the Chapter in due form at 1820 and welcomed all present.

The meeting was recessed for dinner at 1825.

After the dinner was served to eight members, three wives of members, and one guest for a total of twelve, the meeting was called to order by President De Vera at 1925.

The President then introduced the Camp Follower of the Year, Sandra Helt, 2002-2003, and the Regional Rep South, California Area South, Brother James Helt.

The Secretary Brother James Helt made a motion that the minutes of the last regular meeting of 27 October 2016 be accepted as printed in the January newsletter. The motion was seconded and passed.

The Secretary/Treasurer, Brother Jim Helt reported the checking account balance was \$1325.36. The charity basket was passed and donations totaling \$14.00 were collected for the Sojourners Endowment Memorial (SEM) fund.

There was no correspondence.

There were no applications for membership.

The Secretary/Treasurer reminded the Brothers, who had not yet paid their annual dues of \$25.00, that they were past due. Second notices will be sent from National HQ and they will be suspended if dues are not paid by 1 April 2017.

Birthdays and Anniversaries were then acknowledged. There were none to celebrate.

Lady Sandra Helt made a brief report on the individuals on our ailing or indisposed list. The names included: Ed Behm, Jim and Jewel Bonner, Austin Brown, Truman and Georgia Brown, Jack Evans, Dick Fasig, Dick Fleet, Bob Hampton, Norma Hays, Lee and Shirley Hoffman, Ernie and Della Latham, Pat Maceda, Etsuko Medina, Clarence Nelson, and Les Peich. These Brothers and ladies are ill and/or have challenges and are in need of our support and prayers.

Following the closing prayer by the Chaplain, the meeting was closed at 1930.

Respectfully Submitted:

James F. Helt

Secretary

Approved:

Jose P. De Vera

President

Vince Lombardi; "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual."

February BIRTHDAYS

02-01-1943	CDR	Harry K.	KANEAKUA,	USN Ret
02-04-1963	LT	Domingo B.	ALINIO	USN
02-05-1940	CWO3	Bob	CONCEPCION	USN Ret
02-06-1949	LCDR	Amando	LASTRELLA	USN Ret
02-22-1732	GEN	GEORGE	WASHINGTON	
02-23-1951	LtCol	Charles E.	OLANDER	USAF Ret
02-25-1949	CPO	Bruce M.	SMITH	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.

SICK OR INDISPOSED

Ed Behm	Jean Bowlin	Austin Brown
Truman and Georgia Brown		Jack Evans
Dick Fasig	Dick Fleet	Bob Hampton
Norma Hays	Lee and Shirley Hoffman	
Ernie and Della Latham	Dione and Pat Maceda	
Etsuko Medina	Clarence Nelson	Les Peich.
John Schneidmiller		Bernie Domingo
Armond Brattland		John Brosnahan

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!

REGULAR MEETING

BEST WESTERN SEVEN SEAS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2017

411 Hotel Circle South

Social Hour 1715 - 1815

Choice of Entree

RIB EYE STEAK

with mashed potato

OR

SOUTHERN FRIED CHICKEN

with mashed potato and gravy

ALL DINNERS WITH

Vegetables, Soup or Salad, Hot Rolls & Butter

DESSERT

KEY LIME CHEESECAKE

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 SANDRA HELT by Noon, FRIDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2017, at (619) 583-6089 (Home) or email: jf36helt@att.net

THE OFFICER'S LINE

Brothers, in our December Newsletter, you were informed that some big holes had appeared in our officer's line with the resignation of our 1st and 3rd Vice Presidents in October. In January, our President also resigned. Our 2nd Vice President Brother Jose P De Vera stepped forward and accepted the position as your President. He needs your support and he needs some volunteers to step forward and fill the positions of 1st and 2nd Vice President for the remainder of this term.

Brother Alex Manzano, a Past President, has stepped forward and volunteered to serve as 3rd Vice President for the remainder of this term.

I won't repeat my December comments on this issue, but Brother De Vera needs you to step up and support the chapter. This will be discussed at the meeting.

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 or as easily as they once did. **I really need your help.**

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 that may be of interest to our members, submit your input by written note or email to the editor by the first Friday of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

Remember that 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 article's suitability for publication.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

George Washington was born on Feb. 11, 1731, according to the Julian calendar. In 1752, however, Britain and her colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar, jumping ahead 11 days and making January the first month of the year instead of March. According to this calendar, Washington's birthday occurred on Feb. 22, 1732. The federal holiday was celebrated on Feb. 22 until 1971, when it was moved to the third Monday in February.

Washington's Birthday is a United States federal

holiday celebrated on the third Monday of February in honor of George Washington, the first President of the United States, who was born on February 22, 1732.

Colloquially, the day is also now widely known as Presidents' Day and is often an occasion to remember all the presidents, not just George Washington.

The day is a state holiday in most states, with official names including Washington's Birthday, Presidents' Day, President's Day, and Washington's and Lincoln's Birthday. Depending upon the specific law, the state holiday might officially celebrate Washington alone, Washington and Lincoln, or some other combination of U.S. presidents (such as Washington and the third president Thomas Jefferson, who was born in April).

According to California law the holidays in this state include: February 12th, known as "Lincoln Day," and the "Third Monday in February." The third Monday in February is the federal holiday titled "Washington's Birthday."

The federal holiday honoring Washington was originally implemented by an Act of Congress in 1879 for government offices in Washington and expanded in 1885 to include all federal offices. As the first federal holiday to honor an American president, the holiday was celebrated on Washington's actual birthday, February 22. On January 1, 1971, the federal holiday was shifted to the third Monday in February by the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. This date places it between February 15 and 21, which makes the name "Washington's Birthday" in some sense a misnomer, since it never occurs on Washington's actual birthday, February 22.

The federal holiday, Washington's Birthday, honors the accomplishments of the man known as "The Father of his Country." Celebrated for his leadership in the founding of the nation, he was the Electoral College's unanimous choice to become the first President; he was seen as a unifying force for the new republic and set an example for future holders of the office.

The holiday is also a tribute to the general who created the first military badge of merit for the common soldier. Revived on Washington's 200th birthday in 1932, the Purple Heart medal (which bears Washington's image) is awarded to soldiers who are injured in battle. As with Memorial Day and Veterans Day, Washington's Birthday offers another

opportunity to honor the country's veterans.

Community celebrations often display a lengthy heritage. Washington's hometown of historic Alexandria, Virginia, hosts a month-long tribute, including the longest running George Washington Birthday parade, while the community of Eustis, Florida, continues its annual "George Fest" celebration begun in 1902. In Denver, Colorado there is a society dedicated to observing the day. At the George Washington Birthplace National Monument in Westmoreland County, Virginia, and at Mount Vernon, visitors are treated to birthday celebrations throughout the federal holiday weekend and through February 22.

In 2007 the country celebrated both Washington's 275th birthday and the 75th anniversary of the rebirth of the Purple Heart medal.

Since 1862 there has been a tradition in the United States Senate that George Washington's Farewell Address be read on his birthday. Citizens had asked that this be done in light of the approaching Civil War. The annual tradition continues with the reading of the address on or near Washington's Birthday.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial has produced a Masonic Ceremony script titled: "A Ceremony for the Celebration of the Anniversary of the Birth of Brother George Washington." This ceremony is written for the purpose of honoring Brother George Washington, and is suitable for performance in a tiled lodge of any degree.

GEORGE WASHINGTON PATRIOT AND MASON

George Washington a wealthy landowner risked everything to lead the Colonies through the War for Independence. His skill in warfare and his bravery are well documented. He joined the Lodge at age nineteen and endorsed its principles throughout his life. He was Master of his Lodge, Alexandria #22, and President of the United States at the same time. He took the oath of office on the Masonic Bible from St. Johns Lodge. During the war, thirty-eight of his Generals were Masons. As President, he laid the Cornerstone of the United States Capital wearing a Masonic Apron given to him by General La Fayette.

"So far as I am acquainted with the doctrines and principles of Freemasonry, I conceive them to be founded in benevolence, and to be exercised only for the good of mankind. I cannot, therefore, upon this ground, withdraw my approbation from it."

- George Washington

COMING EVENTS

FLAG TEAM

Historic Flag Program

Daughters of the American Revolution, June 2018!

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President, Jose P. De Vera	(619) 421-9035
1 st Vice President, VACANT	
2 nd Vice President, VACANT	
3 rd Vice President, Alex Manzano	(619) 401-3477
Marshall, Pepito P. Salgatar	(619) 267-7738
Secretary/Treasurer, James F. Helt	(619) 583-6089

CONSTITUTION CAMP

Commander, Rodolfo R. Bautista	(619) 434-1511
Chief of Staff, Dione D. Maceda	(619) 482-4712
Ast. Chief of Staff, Daniel F. Macaraeg	(858) 354-5375
Officer of the Day, Jose P. De Vera	(619) 421-9035
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