

Old Dominion Chapter #364

December 2006



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President's Message

Wishing everyone a joyous holiday season! To help us celebrate the time of year we will be entertained by Job's Daughters Bethel One Choir at our next meeting. We will also be honoring our departing Collingwood residents who have given us so much over the past several years. Additionally, in accordance with our By-Laws I am appointing Brother Joe Spruill as Third Vice President for the remainder of this term, providing the members so approve. Joe has graciously agreed to accept this position and will continue through the line if so requested. Brother Ralph Smith will assume the position of First Vice President and Brother Tom Little will assume the position of Second Vice President. January is the traditional Masters and Wardens Night and we hope that the Masters and Wardens of our surrounding Districts will be able to join us. Also coming up in February on the 25th we will conduct our Annual Wreath Laying ceremony at the grave of Brother George Washington at Mount Vernon, all Sojourners, Heroes, and significant others are welcome and encouraged. It has been a couple of months since we have initiated a new member, lets spread the word and bring in more good men who share our love of our great country, its history and traditions. With the change in food service managers at the Springfield American Legion Post I was asked to be sure our reservations are in fact submitted by noon Monday so we must mend our ways of late responses. I do not believe the new manager will be quite as flexible as before though I am sure we will continue to have good meals and service. Our attendance slipped below forty for the first time in my elected year last month. Hopefully, despite the many commitments of the holiday season many of you will be able to join us for our holiday celebration meeting, bring a brother who has not been attending or any brother who might be a potential member or just someone you would like to bring as a guest. All are welcome. I look forward to seeing you on December 15th.

Again, happy holidays,

Bill

William R. Sanner
President '06-'07

December Meeting Information

The next chapter meeting is on **Wednesday, December 20, 2006**, at 1830 hours at the American Legion Post 176, located at 6520 Amherst Avenue in Springfield.

Make your reservations through Brother JOE SPRUILL, Chairman of Membership/Call Committee, at: J_S22309@yahoo.com or cell: 703-615-6275. Or notify your Calling Committee Member. Dinner cost: \$20.00 per person.

DEADLINE IS 1200 HOURS, MONDAY, December 18, 2006!

The next Heroes Bivouac will be held at Collingwood on Thursday, January 30, 2006. Dinner will be served at 1830 hours.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK...



Minutes of the Meeting, November 15, 2006

President Bill Sanner sounded the dinner call at 1900 hours, Bro. Dan Clark, Chaplain, offered grace, and 38 members and guests enjoyed a seasonal turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

At 1950 hours, Bro. Sanner again sounded the gavel calling the Chapter to order for business. Bro. Joe Geer, Asst. Marshal, and team posted the Colors and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Dan Clark opened the Bible and presented the Opening Prayer. Bro. Scotty Cameron recited the Toast to the Flag in his usual most moving way, and Bro. Ralph Smith presented the Purposes of the National Sojourners. Pres. Sanner introduced all VIP's, which included Bro. John Shroeder, PP Arlington Hall No. 440, and then asked all the ladies to stand and be recognized to a resounding applause.

Secretary: The minutes of the October meeting were approved unanimously. (Note; a big *THANK YOU* to Bro. Johnny Mayers for stepping in as secretary at the last moment for that meeting) The Secretary cleared his desk; A report from the National Sec. regarding the 3-6-5 Club revealed we have a total of 221 living members (X \$3.65 = \$806.65) and 116 previous life members (which deducts \$423.40) equaling \$382.25 needed in order for the Chapter to earn a streamer. A letter was read from 1st VP Bro. Mark Arbeen, dated 10/20/06, resigning from his office due to personal reasons. He felt he could not devote the required time and energy to the Chapter while in office; A notification was received on 11/03/06 that Bro. John Spencer, Past Nat. Pres. (92-93), had passed away on 11/02/06. The Oct. newsletter costs were \$139.00. A letter was mailed to all Chapters and Camps in the Washington area inviting them to join/contact Pres. Bill Sanner for the Massing of the Colors on 11/12/06. A Bivouac was conducted on 09/17/06 at Collingwood for the purpose of welcoming Heroes National Commander, Bro. Roy Ota. There were forty-one members and guests present. A letter from Bill Turner was read announcing the ***Federal Area Conference and Encampment*** slated for 05/19/07 at Collingwood. The ladies will get to tour the "New" Mt. Vernon. The Secretary was notified by Lady Gisela Chesebro on 11/08/06 that Bro. John had collapsed at Ft. Belvoir during brunch on 11/05/06 and was taken to Fairfax Hospital. He remains unresponsive at this time. The cost for the newsletter for Nov. was \$120.00. The newsletter will continue under the new secretary, Janine Chatfield. A letter was sent to Gen. Michael Lee thanking him for his presentation at the October meeting. The Secretary has the applications for the ***Mid-Winter Conference*** in Salem, Oregon 01/17/ to 01/20-2007. **The deadline for group rate reservations is 12/17/06.** Contact the Secretary for info and copies. There are numerous applications available for the ***2007 Essay Contest.***

Treasurers Report: Bro. Johnny Mayers reports that we have a balance of \$2544.28 as of 11/13/06 and all is well. Along with this, Bro. Sanner announced he would like to give the Jobs Daughters an honorarium next month for their singing program...there is enough in the budget to do this but he would like to give them more, so a hat was placed at the door for members to donate to the cause on the way out.

Sick And Distressed: Lady Patti Turner sent *Sympathy* cards to Lady Juanita Spencer and Bro. Joe Geer, and *Thinking of You* cards to Ladies Connie Dunaway and Lora Lisle, and Bro. John Chesebro.

Americanism: Bro. Bill Turner reported the 10/17/06 meeting honoring National Commander Bro. Roy Ota, and the following ceremonies in Yorktown on 10/19/06 commemorating the 225th Anniversary of the "Surrendering of Cornwallis" to Bro. George Washington. Bro. Turner also reported that Bro. Roy Ota went to the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary Soldier to lay a wreath. Also later, under the Passing of the Gavel, Bro. Frank Dunaway reported the following; "On 20 June 2006, Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 consecrated the cornerstone of the new Reynolds Museum and Education Center at Mount Vernon. A number of the Lodge officers and other participants in the ceremony are active in Old Dominion No.364. Before the Lodge began its part in the ceremony, the Colors were presented by the Fairfax County Fire Dept. Bro. Jim Rees, Executive Director of Mt. Vernon then invited Bro. Frank Dunaway to give the Toast to the Flag." Bro. Bill Sanner reported on the *Massing of the Colors* trip to Annapolis, MD. OD No. 364 had four members show with three Camp Followers, and one member from Washington Chapter No. 3. The weather was a definite factor in the low participation, but all went well.

ROTC: Chairman Bro. Ralph Smith reported that we are at the in-between stage and there is nothing to report.

National Essay Contest: Both the Secretary and the President announced the procedures and where to acquire the applications...from the Secretary and off of the Web-site.

Minutes of the Meeting, November 15, 2006 (continued)

Heroes: Commander Bro. Dan Levin welcomed our newest Hero who crossed the "D" on 10/26/06, Bro. Ray Whitney. There will be a bivouac on 01/30/07. LHHL Camp has been invited to attend a wreath laying by AW 22 Lodge at Mt. Vernon on 12/14/07. Bro. Dan Levin said he has also been invited to present the Colors at the *Kena Shrine Installation* on 01/13/07 and he would appreciate as many Heroes to participate in that as possible.

A question came up about the *Wreath Laying* at Mt. Vernon by OD 364/LHHL. (Sec. Notes; the ceremony has been scheduled by Bro. Steve Brundage for 02/25/07, gate entry at 0900 hours. The Grand Master of Virginia has been invited to attend)

New Business; Pres. Sanner again announced the resignation of Bro. Mark Arbeen and asked the pleasure of the Chapter as to whether he should move the officers up and elect a new 3rdVP. In accordance with the By-Laws the officers will be moved up and a 3rdVP appointed.

PROGRAM: Bro. Bill Turner presented a very informative talk on the "New" Mt. Vernon which opened its doors on 10/27/06 to all the new editions on the grounds. Bro. Bill said the theme throughout is "Keeping Him First"...emphasizing how Bro. George Washington is being hidden from so many things, from schools to public buildings, causing so much about him to be lost. The staff at Mt. Vernon hopes you will learn and be excited about what you see and learn. It was suggested you plan on certain programs of interest to you because you cannot cover everything in one day. Bro. Bill Sanner presented Bro. Turner with a certificate of appreciation and all applauded in thanks.

Pres. Sanner then passed the gavel. Bro. Ralph Smith thanked everyone for the calls, emails, and cards during his recent illness/surgery. Bro. Ralph visited veterans coming back from the Middle East while in the hospital and emphasized how much of a problem we have in this country with our press. He said not one veteran he talked to indicated he/she wouldn't go back in combat...even those who had lost limbs. Bro. Johnny Mayers gave a short report on the Collingwood workday on Saturday 11/11/06 and he wanted to thank all who came. Bro. John reported that any donations will be graciously accepted to assist in the construction of the new Legacy Center. Bro. John Shroeder invited all to come to Chapter 440's luncheon meeting on Tuesday 11/21/06 at Squire Rockwell's in Fairfax, the National President is the guest speaker. Also, Bro John reported that the Grand Master of Virginia will be installing officers of the Civil War Lodge of Research No. 1865 in the North Room, GWMNM, on Saturday 12/02/06 at 1000 hours. A buffet lunch will be available. Contact Bro. John if interested.

There being no further business, Chaplain Bro. Dan Clark presented the Closing Prayer and closed the Bible. Asst. Marshal Bro. Joe Geer and team retired the Colors and the Chapter was closed at 2110 hours.

Submitted by Ron Dooley

DUES DUES DUES

Brethren, your dues are due by 12/31/2006 to continue your membership through 2007. Please send your payment and card to the secretary ASAP and save the costs of further notification.

A word from the Secretary

We welcome Ms. Janine S. Chatfield to the National Headquarters Staff, and as our new *Old Dominion Chapter No. 364 Newsletter* editor. We thank Janine for agreeing to continue the job Maryanne Cox did so well. What could we possibly do without her? Stop by Collingwood and meet Janine and thank her.

Ron

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.
OLD DOMINION CHAPTER #364

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



*Light Horse Harry Lee Camp,
Heroes of '76*

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Ruth and I would like to wish all a very Happy and Healthy Holiday season. We look forward to the upcoming New Year and our best wishes also extend to that time of the year. We look forward to a busy year for the Light Horse Harry Lee Camp of Heroes and hope our attendance continues to grow.

I noticed that many of our Heroes do not have a uniform to wear to Bivouacs etc., but if you are interested I am sure Brothers Bill Turner and Bob Elliott would be glad to share information with you on sources to obtain the same. Prices vary a lot, so if the cost is a concern, I am sure we can find one that will fit your budget.

There is a rumor floating around (notice the touch of Navy here) that a Rekrut has been observed near the Guard-house. We probably will capture him soon and have him at our Bivouac scheduled for January 30th at Fort Collingwood.

EIAR

Dan Levin
Commander

SICK AND DISTRESSED

Bro. John Chesebro is now in the Fairfax Nursing Center in Fairfax City. Info No. is 703-273-7830.

Bro. Al Ungerleider is doing the same having good days and those that are not so great, but is in good spirits for the most part. Lady Ruth had Thanksgiving dinner with him. He may be reached at 703-277-7253.