

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.

Old Dominion Chapter #364

January 2007



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President's Babblings

Hope all had a happy holiday season! And now we start the roll down the hill into the new calendar year and through the last half of our year. And we start out with a tremendous presentation by the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia. Hopefully joined by some of the Masonic leadership of our area. Many of our National Officer members will miss this evening opting instead to attend the Mid Winter Conference out West. Timing is everything. Again it has been sometime since we have done an initiation so hopefully we will get back in practice real soon. This would be a great month to come out if you have not been attending for a while, and bring a friend. Everyone is likely to want to hear the new Grand Master speak so come on out.

We do ask though that you make your reservation by Thursday evening January 11th even though the meeting is on the 17th. This is much earlier than we have been asking but it will help the caterer be able to do their best job for us so please comply. I expect when you read this New Years may have just passed so I wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year! See you on the 17th.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Bill Sanner

January Meeting Information

The next chapter meeting is on **Wednesday, January 17, 2007**, 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.

NEW DEADLINE IS 1200 HOURS, THURSDAY, January 11, 2007!

The next Heroes Bivouac will be held at Collingwood on Tuesday, January 30, 2007. Dinner will be served at 1830 hours.

Light Horse Harry Lee Camp, Heroes of '76

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Well, December has turned out to be a pretty busy month. We had the pleasure of assisting Alexandria Washington Lodge on a couple of occasions. On the 14th, Brothers Tim Butcher, Bill Turner, Jack Whistler and myself assisted in the ceremony of the Wreath Laying at the Tomb of George Washington at Mt. Vernon and on the 26th presented the colors at their Installation of Lodge Officers at the GW Memorial.

A special thanks to all but more to Brother Tim Butcher who is always there to help. Thanks Tim. I am sure others would have been there but as we all know this IS a busy time of the year.

We now look forward to our Bivouac that will take place at Fort Collingwood on Tuesday, January 30th.

While we talk about Fort Collingwood, I would like to thank both Barbara and Warren Baker for all the assistance they have given me and the Camp during my time as a Hero. I am sure we will miss them, and we wish them very best in the future.

EIAR

Dan Levin
Commander

Americanism Activities of the Past

Entry found in a notebook maintained by Bro. Olin Borum dated 15 September, 1984

"Provided Color Guard at Collingwood Library and Museum on Americanism in a musical tribute to the Constitution of the United States. The Valley Forge Military Academy Regimental Band and Glee Club provided the music. Participants were Bros. Bob Hass, Harold Colen, and Steve Nemeth" who are all now deceased.

Ron Dooley...Secretary

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Brethren...it is essential you follow the policy mentioned by our president in his comments concerning reservations for dinner BY THURSDAY EVENING. In the future walk-ins are going to be taking a chance on getting fed.



FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK...

Minutes of the Meeting, December 20, 2006

At 1855 hrs. President Bill Sanner called 38 members and guests to dinner at the American Legion Hall, Post 176, in Springfield, Virginia. Chaplain Bro. Dan Clark offered Grace and we enjoyed a fine feast of "tender" beef, sides, and fresh hot dessert...served.

At 1955 hrs. we were entertained by eight members of the Bethel 1 Jobs Daughters Choir (see photo) who sang several Christmas songs accompanied on the Key-board by Ms. Virginia Dodge, Past Grand Matron of Virginia, Order of Eastern Star.



Pres. Sanner again sounded the gavel at 1925 hrs. calling the meeting to order for business. The flags having been posted earlier, all recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Bro. Scotty Cameron recited the Toast to the Flag, and Bro. Ralph Smith, 1st VP, presented the Purposes of the National Sojourners. President Sanner introduced all VIP guests and our special guests, Bro. Warren Baker and his wife Barbara.

Secretary: The minutes of the November meeting were unanimously approved and the Secretary then cleared his desk. Bro. John S. Chesebro passed away on 12/17/2006 at the age of 88. A brief memorial was presented in his honor. It was also sadly announced that Bro. Gordon C. Thompson passed away on 11/20/2006 at the age of 84. A letter of invitation to the meeting was sent to Bro. Warren Baker and his wife as our honored guests, and to a Bro. Michael Hryshchysyn who transferred to the area. An email letter from Bro. Bill Turner was read announcing the *SoCal and Southwest Area Encampment* schedules for 2/25-26/2006. A letter was also read from Bro. Turner resigning as planner for the 2007 Federal Area Conference and Encampment "due to circumstances beyond his control." The Secretary reported that the newsletter costs had gone up approximately \$50.00 due to changing the editor and costs of materials.

Treasurers Report: Bro. Johnny Mayers reported we have \$2,656.97 in the Chapter account as of 12/18/06, and \$8192.43 in the *CapitolOne* money market account as of 11/30/06.

Sick and Distressed: Chairwoman Patti Turner was not present but several cards have been mailed out by her in the past month. No known sickness was reported by those members present.

Americanism: Bro. Larry Lisle reported there was a presentation for a Cub Scout group on 11/28/06, and some members were present for the Wreath Laying Ceremony by AW-22 at George Washington's Tomb on 12/14/06. Bro. Larry Lisle will "Present the Flag" at Cherry Dale Lodge on 12/21/06.

ROTC: Bro. Ralph Smith reported there was nothing to report at this time and all was quiet on the "Western Front."

Valley Forge Youth Foundation: Bro. Harry Sanders reported that it is time again to find young deserving students in the 10th and 11th grades for next year to nominate and sponsor. We have four slots.

Heroes: Commander Bro. Dan Levin announced there were four Heroes present for the Wreath Laying at Mt. Vernon on 12/14/06. There will be a Bivouac on 01/30/2007 at Ft. Collingwood. Bro. Levin also announced the presentation for the Kena Temple installation on 01/13/07 has been cancelled due to logistical problems.

Old Business: Pres. Sanner announced his intention of elevating the 2nd and 3rd Vice Presidents due to the resignation of Bro. Mark Arbeen as 1st VP, and he appointed Bro. Joe Spruill to 3rd VP in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws, *Article IV, Sect.3 (05/15/2002)*. A motion was made to accept and all approved. Bro. Joe has also agreed to continue next year if wanted by the nominating committee.

**NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.
OLD DOMINION CHAPTER #364**

SGT Ronald A. Dooley, Secretary
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Minutes of the Meeting, December 20, 2006 (continued)

New Business: National Secretary Bro. Nelson Newcombe presented a *Presidential Citation* to Bro. Warren Baker and Lady Barbara for all the years they served Collingwood. Pres. Sanner then presented both with Certificates of Appreciation, an Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, Coast Guard Christmas Ornament medal, and a stuffed bear for Lady Barbara from Chapter No. 364 for all they have done for the Chapter over the years (please see photo). Bro. Warren Baker demanded equal time making a few emotional remarks commenting that he



hoped they had made a difference, but they were truly worn out not having any time to themselves in nine years. They received a standing ovation by all and a loving farewell.

Closing: There being no further business, Bro. Sanner passed the gavel and Bro. Dan Clark presented the Closing Prayer and closed the Bible. The meeting was closed at 2110 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Dooley
Secretary