

June 29, 2007

Memorandum from the President

To: Brethren of Old Dominion Chapter 364
National Sojourners

Subj: **Change of Meeting Location**

Ref: OD-364 June Minutes (New Business) Alternate Meeting Site.

Having discharged the commission referenced in the minutes noted above, a one-year contract was signed with the Benevolent, and Protective Order of Elks Lodge No. 2188 located at 8421 Arlington Boulevard (Rt. 50), Fairfax, VA 22031. This was subsequent to an inspection of the spaces and a meeting between the Club Manager, the President OD-364, 1st Vice President, Secretary (and his Mrs.) and OOD of Light Horse Harry Lee, Heroes of '76.

The primary meeting site will be in the Fairfax Room on the lower level, which will easily accommodate eighty members seated six per round table. A buffet will be served at 7:00 p.m. and the cost remains at \$20.00. Bar service will be available for one hour prior to the commencement of the meeting under the Elks ABC license.

Access may be gained via elevator from the upper level where a handicap ramp is available at the main entrance or from the lower level via the ample parking lot at the left rear of the building.

Directions:

From Arlington Blvd. eastbound: After passing Prosperity, continue through the next light and prepare to turn right into the Elks Lodge lot at 8421. If you miss the turn, continue to the next light at Javier; turn right and right again on the service road and when you reach the Elks entrance turn left.

From Arlington Blvd. westbound: After passing under (or over) Gallows Rd., pass through the light at Williams and turn left at the light at Javier then make a quick right on the service road and continue to the entrance to the Elks Lodge on the left.

Ralph W. Smith, Jr.
President

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.

Old Dominion Chapter #364

July 2007



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Chapter Home Page
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Communications From the President

How Long Do We Have?

About the time our original thirteen states adopted their new constitution in 1787, Alexander Tyler, a Scottish history professor at the University of Edinburgh, had this to say about the fall of the Athenian Republic some 2,000 years earlier: "A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government."

"A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury."

"From that moment on, the majority always vote for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that every democracy will finally collapse due to loose fiscal policy, which is always followed by a dictatorship."

"The average age of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history, has been about 200 years". "During those 200 years, those nations always progressed through the following sequence:

1. from bondage to spiritual faith;
2. from spiritual faith to great courage;
3. from courage to liberty;
4. from liberty to abundance;
5. from abundance to complacency;
6. from complacency to apathy;
7. from apathy to dependence;
8. From dependence back into bondage"

Our guest speaker for July has stepped from the mist of the past...you want to come and hear George Mason (AKA Don McAndrews) who provided the foundation for our Bill of Rights with his Virginia Declaration of Rights more than 200 years ago.

Fraternally,

Ralph Smith, President

July Meeting Information

The next chapter meeting is on **Wednesday, July 18, 2007**, at 1830 hours at the Arlington-Fairfax BPO Elks Lodge located at 8421 Arlington Blvd (US 50), Fairfax, VA 22031.

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 July 16, 2007

Golf Shirts

Golf Shirts

Golf Shirts

Light Horse Harry Lee Camp, Heroes of '76

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Brethren:

Greetings. I hope all of you are well and pursuing Masonic activities and pleasures.

I am pleased to advise you that our National President has appointed Jerry Kunkel, a new member of OD364, and a recent arrival to Collingwood as one of the two co-managers, as the Federal Area Representative. Please join me in congratulating Jerry.

As is our Camp custom, I have now scheduled our four regular bivouacs this year; agreed our Camp will assist Jerry with the Federal Area Encampment, and arranged with Brother Steve Brundage for our ceremony to honor our first President and fellow Master Mason MW George Washington on the Sunday nearest his birthday with a wreath laying ceremony and attendance at Pohick Church.

The dates are as follows:

- Wednesday, Aug. 29 - bivouac at Camp Collingwood
- Tuesday, Oct. 30 - bivouac at Camp Collingwood
- Saturday, Nov. 17 – Federal Area Encampment at Camp Collingwood
- Wednesday, Jan. 30 - bivouac at Camp Collingwood
- Sunday Feb. 24 – George Washington Ceremony
- Wednesday, Apr. 30 - bivouac at Camp Collingwood

I have also appointed Jerry Kunkel as one of the two Second Lieutenants for our Camp ceremonies this year. I still seek one more. If you are interested, please contact me. He will assist us in our Initiation Ceremony and help make it a memorable ceremony for our new initiates.

I have already received reports of spies and skulkers in the woods around Camp Collingwood, attempting to conduct reconnaissance and spy on our Camp. Search parties are out seeking to capture these ruffians and bring them to justice. Be sure to join us at our camps to ferret out their true intentions.

The wear of an appropriate uniform is an important part of our meeting attendance. Please make every effort to be in uniform. If you are having a problem obtaining any uniform item, please contact our Adjutant or me to assist you.

Saturday, October 27 will be the Collingwood Work Day. I would invite our Heroes to make a good showing to help with this important work.

Woody Bentley, Commander

Sickness and Distress

Reporting on the condition of a long-time member of the Lodge who was in a nursing home, a brother said: "Brother Bill walks around thinking about nothing, and, when he remembers it, then forgets that what he thought of was something entirely different from what he wanted to remember.



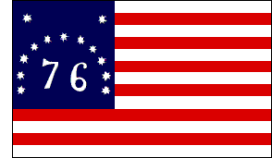
Pictured is Bro. Henry Handley Ward, our Web-master and keeper of the news, pictures, announcements and general information to keep us informed at all times. We want to thank Bro. Handley (as we know him) for all he does for the Chapter. The URL for the web-site is as noted

<http://olddominionno364.net/>





FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK...



Minutes of the Meeting, June 20, 2007

On June 20, 2007 at 1830 hours, 36 Brothers and guests met at the Springfield American Legion Post No. 176 for the June dinner/meeting. Bro. Dan Clark, Chaplain, offered Grace, and Pres. Ralph Smith assigned tables to go to the prepared buffet. All enjoyed a very tasty meatloaf with brown gravy, broiled chicken breasts with delicious sauce, and of course veggie and dessert sides.

At 2000 hrs, Pres. Smith called the meeting to order. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the chaplain opened the Bible. Bro. Scotty Cameron recited the Toast to the Flag, and Bro Smith presented the Purposes of the National Sojourners. Bro. Smith recognized all VIP members, to include Bro. Harry Sanders, 2nd NVP, and Bro. Bill Turner, now 3rd NVP, visiting Bro. Charles (Buddy) Wagner, GHP Royal Arch in Virginia and PC of Seth Warner Camp, Arlington Hall Chapter 440, who became a dual MIP member. Bro Smith also recognized Bro. Jim Kincheloe, Jr., Potentate, Kena Shrine, who became an MIP member. Bro. Jerry Kunkle, PP, PC, and new Area Rep, was introduced who also became an MIP member.

Secretary's Desk: The minutes for the May meeting were approved unanimously. An email note was read from PNC Roy Ota in which he said had he known we were wearing Hawaiian shirts for our June meeting he would have sent authentic Hawaiian T-leaves. A reminder was read that a "friend" of Collingwood has challenged that he will match any donation to up to \$100,000.00 to CLMA by July 1, 2007. An email letter was read from Bro. Israel Romero, who is stationed in Puerto Rico, giving his regards to all, especially Dan and Ruth Levin. A letter was read from Bro. Lou Hoffman, 3rd VP, stating his schedule will be full through possibly September before he can attend a meeting, and possibly thereafter. A letter from National, addressed to Bro. Jerry Kunkle, was read indicating he was now an MIP. A letter from the Chapter Secretary to PP Terry Gigure was read informing him that the National Secretary had authorized him to have the enclosed Past President's certificate and pin for his 2005-2006 service as president. It was reported by Nat. Sec. Nelson Newcombe that Bro. Gigure had returned the certificate and pin to National Headquarters.

Applications: Applications were read from Bros. James Kincheloe Jr. and Charles (Buddy) Wagner for MIP membership and approved.

Treasurer: Bro. John Mayers reported that prior to expenses this date we have \$1,570.38 in the account, and \$8,381.01 in savings.

Sick and Distressed: Lady Patti Turner reported she sent a "get well" card to Bro. Ray Whitney who fell down stairs on May 18 and completely tore his quadriceps tendon and had to have it surgically repaired. He is recovering satisfactorily but can not put any (10%) weight on his left foot and the leg is immobilized in the straight position. Hopefully by next month he will be permitted out of the house....

Heroes: Bro. Bob Elliott, Chief of Staff, was introduced and had no report available at this time.

National Convention: Bro. Bill Turner was asked to give a report on the National Convention, June 11-16. Bro. Bill stated first that it was an honor and privilege to be elected as 3rd National VP and thanked all who supported him. Bro. Bill reported that many things were accomplished at the meeting. There were 70 chapters represented, and 141 voting delegates in attendance. Among awards, the *Horton-Tourillott Plaque*, awarded for the individual who did most to further the Americanism Program, went to Bro. Harry Sanders. During the Heroes of 76 National Encampment, the "Rekrut" was the Grand Master of Virginia, MW George Bernard Dungan, Jr. who was very proud to be chosen. Lady Patti Turner, National Den Mother of the Camp Followers, then conducted the CF's Degree for seven ladies...one of which was our own Charlotte Crane who also then joined the Camp Followers Red Hats. All info concerning the National Convention will be published in *The Sojourner*.

ROTC: Pres. Ralph Smith submitted the End of Year ROTC report to the secretary and that will be forwarded to National with a copy filed in Chapter records.

Programs: Pres. Smith reported three programs planned: Bro. "George Mason" will speak to us at the July meeting. The Nat. 2nd VP will speak on Collingwood in August, and hopefully a speaker from Ft. McHenry will speak in September.

Area Rep: Bro. Jerry Kunkle is our new Area Representative and is honored to be so. He plans to have an Area Encampment in November. He has also been asked to be active in LHHL Camp. Bro. Jerry then presented thirteen awards. Presidential Citations awarded were to: Ron Dooley for the Melvin W. Byers Outstanding Secretary,

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

SGT Ronald A. Dooley, Secretary
6822 Jeremiah Court
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION



Minutes of the Meeting, June 20, 2007 (continued)

First Runner Up; Bill Sanner, Gene Sizemore, and Bill MacBrayne for Outstanding Service and Achievement; Certificates of Appreciation for Meritorious Achievement to Joe Geer, Ron Dooley, Handley Ward, Scotty Cameron, Les Albers, Tom Little, Joe Spruill, and Dan Levin. One National Commander's Patriot Award was awarded to Bro. Phil Tilson.

New Business: Bro. Harry Sanders moved that we give \$50.00 to each student (four) we are sending to Valley Forge for the Youth Conference for pocket money and that carried. Bro. Frank Dunaway moved we give \$100.00 to CLMA which carried.

Bro. Smith then opened discussion for the future meeting place for the Chapter. He explained we now are required to have an ABC Banquet license each time we meet in order to bring our own libations, at the cost of \$55.00 each meeting. We also need to sign a contract with American Legion and they want to raise the price per plate to \$20.00. The larger room would be \$25.00 each. Bro. Smith has set up a meeting at the Elks Lodge No. 2188 for Friday, June 22, with Ms. Sheila Lloyd to see if we can negotiate a better contract there. Bro. Ralph has also talked with the American Legion Post 177 in Fairfax for a lesser price and the libations would be no problem there. Many details were discussed concerning this problem and all will be considered. A motion was made that the president be given the latitude to enter into a contract if he deems appropriate...which carried unanimously.

There being no further business the gavel was passed with a few comments from the floor. The Chaplain was then directed to close the Bible, the Colors were retired in place, and all sang the Closing Song. The Chapter was officially closed at 2125 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ronald A. Dooley
Secretary/Adjutant*

*A HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR EDITOR. JANINE, ON JULY 4TH...
WHAT A BANG THAT MUST HAVE BEEN!!!!*