



# **NEWSLETTER**

## **NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.**

### **FT SAM HOUSTON CHAPTER #17**

### **ALAMO CAMP HEROES OF 76**



**SEE OUR WEBSITE AT**

<http://www.ftsamhoustonsojourners.txmasons.org>

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December 2009



**MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETING:**

The Monthly Business Meeting of the Chapter was held 4 November 2009 at Absolutely Everything Catering. President, Brother Sam Green, opened the meeting at 1203 hours.

The Pledge to the flag and prayer followed the opening.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes were approved as published in the Newsletter.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report was presented and approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The Secretary has registration packages available for the Mid Year to be held in Mobile, Alabama on 12-16 January 2010. Those interested in attending should get in touch with the Secretary. A note from Dorothy Thompson reported that Brother Montie is in assisted living and needs our prayers.

**REFERRING OF APPLICATIONS:** The previously announced membership application was read and balloted upon. The vote was favorable and the new candidate will be initiated as soon as we can arrange his attendance at one of our meetings. Previously elected, Brother Jean Thomas was initiated into the Chapter.

We are still waiting to initiate two other approved applicants.

**AMERICANISM:** Brother Samuels deferred to the committee chairmen.

- **ROTC:** Will be getting underway after obtaining a new listing of schools and units. Letters will be going out in January 2010.
- **FREEDOM FOUNDATION:** The fee for Valley Forge was announced along with the dates for 2010. We are currently planning to send two students to next year's Valley Forge.
- **ESSAY:** Brother George Cheney is the new essay contest chairman and will be working with the committee.
- **FLAG PROGRAM:** The next presentation is scheduled at Redland Elementary School on 11 November. We need help from as many Heroes as possible.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** No report.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** Brother Shaenfield again talked up the membership program and encouraged everyone to not slack off looking for potential candidates.

**PROGRAMS:** As there is no dinner meeting on 11 November, there is no program scheduled. Mark your calendars for the next dinner meeting on 9 December.

**BRIDGE OF LIGHT:** On track for next year.

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**COMMANDER OF HEROES:** Next bivouac will be on 27 January 2010. All Heroes should plan on attending.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The 2 December 2009 Business Meeting will again be held at Absolutely Everything Catering located on San Pedro Avenue.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A New Year's Eve dinner was discussed but with all the other events taking place was dropped.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There will be a Scottish Rite Honors Banquet on 11 November at the Scottish Rite Library and Museum. Ft. Sam Houston Chapter #17 is pleased to have the following members being honored: to be conferred the rank and designation as Knights Commanders Court of Honor (KCCH) are Stephen James Burch, Benjamin Franklin Linduff, and Nick Raul Ramos; to be conferred 33rd Degree Inspectors General Honorary are Tommy Charles Wimberly and Benjamin Marcus Yudesis. Congratulations to these well deserving Brothers.

**CLOSING:** There being no further business, President Green closed the meeting at 12:45 hours with peace and harmony prevailing.



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Larry Dillingham	12/1
Nick Ramos	12/1
Michael Kelly	12/3
Albert "Al" Putnam	12/3
Robert Cooper	12/13
Robert Plested	12/14
Eugene Meyer	12/15
George Mills	12/23
Salvador Sanchez	12/24
Eugene Culp	12/28
Charles House	12/28
Ben Ruston	12/29
Paul Adkins	12/31

### FOR THOSE WHO ENJOY THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (or severe distortions thereof)

- Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.
- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.
- Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.
- A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead give away).
- She was engaged to a boyfriend with a wooden leg but broke it off.
- If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.
- You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
- Local Area Network in Australia: the LAN down under.
- Every calendar's days are numbered.
- A lot of money is tainted - It taint yours and it taint mine.
- A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
- Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.



**Alamo Camp, Heroes of '76 Gained New Recruit**  
(l to r) R:W.: Gene Carnes, Recruit Lewis "Nuckles"  
Gimbel, and Commander Dennis Lafferty

### "MASONIC POEM"

Those men who help my dad each day, They wear those Mason rings. A Square and Compass set in gold, The praise of which I sing.

My dad, he hurt his back you know, One cold and wintry day. He slipped and fell upon the ice, The insurance would not pay.

And since that time those rings I see, On hands that help us much. With mowing lawns and hauling trash, Each day my heart they touch.

They even built a house for me, Amid our backyard tree. Where all the neighbor kids, Would play with laughter full of glee.

My Mom she cried from happiness, The time the Masons came. To aid our family in distress, Without a thought of gain.

And when I'm big, just like my dad, Of this it must be told. I want to wear a ring like his, A Square and Compass gold.

Long years have passed since when My dad was in that plaster cast. And since I swore that Solemn Oath, Which unites us to the last.

## December Schedule



**BUSINESS MEETING:** We will again be at **Almost Everything Catering**, San Pedro Avenue on **2 December 2009**. Come early and get your lunch. The meeting will begin at 1200 hours. We will be discussing the Bridge of Light and possibly initiating the new honorary. Come and enjoy good fellowship.



**DINNER MEETING:** The next Dinner meeting is scheduled for **9 December 2009** at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course. Social hour at 1800 hours with dinner at 1900 hours. Come and enjoy the fellowship. Dinner will consist of Garden Salad, Chicken Florentine, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Southwest Mixed Vegetables, Dinner Rolls/Butter, Iced Tea and Water, Coffee by the Pot and Orange Sherbet for dessert.

Price of the meal - \$23.00. Make check payable to Ft Sam Houston Chapter #17.

Reservations to Bob McConnell, 210-659-6813 or [JMconn529@aol.com](mailto:JMconn529@aol.com) **not later than Noon 7 December 2009.**

But more than that I'm proud to say, I wear his Mason ring. The one dad wore for many years, Until his death this spring.

And one last time his comrades came, To aid my weeping mother. They praised and bid a fond farewell, To our fallen Brother.

And after which MY son did ask, About their Aprons white. And of the rings upon their hands. Of gold so shiny bright.

With tearful eyes I said with pride, They're men of spirit pure. Those men who wear those Mason rings, Of that you can be sure.

And before he went to bed that night, The family he foretold. Someday I'll wear a ring like dad's, A Square and Compass gold.

# NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.



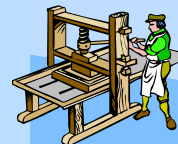
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## IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER BIVOUAC OF ALAMO CAMP HEROES OF 76



**Attention all Heroes:** The next bivouac will be held on 27 January 2010 at Grady's BBQ, 6510 San Pedro. Put it on your calendar. Come dine at 1700 hours.



### **SUPPORT OUR TROOPS:**

Please keep our Military Forces and their families in your prayers. Take the time to stop them and thank them for their service to our country. We can't thank them enough for their dedication and sacrifice to maintain our freedom and liberty.

They are the finest and best this country has to offer, and we as citizens need to express our gratitude to them at every opportunity.



**SUPPORT YOUR BLUE LODGE. THEY NEED US AND WE NEED THEM! CONTACT A BROTHER WHO HASN'T BEEN TO LODGE AND ASK HIM TO GO WITH YOU.**



**SECRETARY NOTES:** If you have a change in your address or phone number, please send a note to Bob McConnell, 134 Rhonda Dr., Universal City, TX 78148, or call 210.659.6813. If you have a change in your e-mail address, please send an e-mail to [abnerkestler@hotmail.com](mailto:abnerkestler@hotmail.com) or call 210.568.8300 with the new information.