

## **REDSTONE CHAPTER NO. 353 MEETING NOTICE**

Our next meeting will be this coming Friday (7 November) at the Holiday Inn downtown. Social hour is from 1800-1900 and dinner at 1900. The meals will be \$18 apiece. Please remember we must pay for all meals we request, so if you cannot make it, please make arrangements for payment. I can usually cancel up until Wednesday. Our menu will consist of:

**ICEBERG LETTUCE TOSSED GREEN SALAD WITH DRESSING**  
**SALISBURY STEAK (Broiled Chopped Beefsteak with Brown Gravy)**  
**MASHED POTATOES AND VEGETABLES**  
**ROLLS AND BUTTER**  
**CHEF'S CHOICE OF DESSERT**  
**WATER, ICED TEA AND COFFEE**

We're scheduled to be in the Twickenham room, but it would be wise to check the meeting board to see if we've been moved (particularly since this will be a larger than normal crowd because of our visitors). If the telephone committee does not call and you plan on coming, please call 539-3379 (home) or 217-6159 (work) to make your reservations. I need to turn the count in to the hotel Tuesday afternoon, so please let me know by Monday evening. Also, please remember that the fruit salads are a special order item for those with dietary restrictions, and only those who request them should receive them.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Brothers & Ladies,

We will have several dignitaries visit our Redstone Chapter No. 353, National Sojourners, at the 7 November meeting. Please make a special effort to come out to meet and greet these honorable brothers. Also, remember that our December meeting will be our annual "Christmas Party" at which time we will exchange gifts. Please limit the price of each gift to no more than \$15.00. Each Brother should bring a man's gift and each lady should bring a lady's gift. It should be a fun time again.

Start looking for your "collectibles" and other items for our annual White Elephant Auction in March. Remember this is our major fund raising event to support the MOWW Youth Leadership Conference, the JROTC and ROTC Awards, etc.

By the time you receive this, the Heroes of '76 will have passed a brother to the Degree of Fellowcraft at Helion Lodge No. 1. The Heroes are also scheduled to confer another Fellowcraft Degree on 5 November at Apollo Lodge No. 921. Please come out and support these activities.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve you as your president. Thank you for your help and support.

Sincerely and fraternally,

*Tom McCrickard*

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

To Brother Ray Dunn, who was elected Senior Warden of Vulcan Council, Knight Masons, and to Brother Robert Dumas, who was elected Junior Warden of the same body last month. A frequent visitor to our Chapter and Camp meetings, Smokey Ferguson, was re-elected Treasurer/Scribe. Smokey is a member of Alfred J. Youndt Chapter No. 511 in Mobile.

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

My Brothers and their Ladies

You must take baby steps before you can run. I think that our Sojourners and Heroes of '76 have just taken those steps. We are getting new members in but we must not rest on our laurels but continue to build. We have many Heroes who now have uniforms but we need even more. Hopefully we are on track and will continue to grow. I would like to see the women become more active and do something, not to be different but to do something that they are interested in. One thing that we do not have is the Camp Followers. Your Heroes are busy; we recently had a building of the flag. We have two degrees that we are going to perform in uniform. We have many flags to burn in a ceremony. Brother George Mills will be the speaker at Ardmore for Veterans Day where the Heroes will build a flag in uniform. Remember, Thanksgiving is coming up and in spite of the problems we are having in this country we still have plenty to be thankful for. And---right on the tails of Thanksgiving is Christmas. This is also a time to be thankful and to be with friends and family. Mrs. Fran Tyra was at the Scottish Rite reunion Saturday. The reunion was dedicated to Hank. I talked to her and her son. They said that they were doing fine.

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*James Blanteno*

## SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

As Brother McCrickard alluded, we will have some very interesting guests for this meeting – representatives of the three National/International York Rite Bodies, two of them the presiding officers and one a past presiding officer. We will also have one of the appointed officers of one of the bodies. This is an honor I don't believe has ever fallen on this Chapter before, and probably one that has fallen on very few of our sister chapters. I think it should be a most enjoyable and memorable event for us all.

Also, I am enclosing a list of committees and appointments which I believe is up to date, although there have been a few changes made to them.

Finally, I had intended to start mailing out letters to the ROTC and JROTC departments in our area to encourage them to make nominations for the Sojourner and Scottish Rite awards. Several of the schools have their awards day early in the year – January – so I need to get started on this as soon as possible.

Please make every effort to come to this meeting especially. If you can't, then definitely come to the next one in December.

Sincerely,

**Tom Craig**

## SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

It was good to see Brother Robinson's wife June at our last meeting. She has had a difficult time since this spring.

Brother Ted Fronefield's son had foot surgery in September and was still recovering at last report.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joseph Zito

11/1

Wayne Jordan

11/20

## **THE PURPOSES OF NATIONAL SOJOURNERS**

The purposes of NATIONAL SOJOURNERS shall be to organize COMMISSIONED OFFICERS and WARRANT OFFICERS and/or Senior Non-Commissioned Officers\*\* of the uniformed forces of the UNITED STATES who are MASTER MASONS into chapters, for the promotion of good fellowship among its members, for assisting such as may be overtaken by adversity or affliction, for cultivating Masonic ideals, for supporting all patriotic aims and activities in Masonry, for developing true PATRIOTISM and AMERICANISM throughout the Nation, for bringing together representatives of the uniformed forces of the United States (past and present) in a united effort to further the military need of national defense, and for opposing any influence whatsoever calculated to weaken the national security.

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A. Enlisted men who were discharged or retired prior to June 30, 1958 in the pay grades of E5, E6, or E7

B. Enlisted men who were discharged or retired after June 30, 1958 in the pay grades of E7, E8, or E9.

National Sojourners, Inc., is a national fraternal organization meeting the needs of military Masons and advancing programs that promote love of country. Although the term "sojourner" is common in Freemasonry, it takes on new meaning under the aegis of National Sojourners, Inc. This Order, founded to meet the needs of the Military Mason in war and peace, has as one of its precepts the words of George Washington, who once said, "When one assumes the soldier, he does not lay aside the citizen." The Order traces its origin to the time when the North Dakota Regiment departed the Philippines taking with it the Field Lodge Dispensation which had filled the needs of Masons while they were there. In its place a club of Masonic "sojourners" was formed. In 1901 sixteen of these "Sojourners", representing 13 Grand jurisdictions, demitted from their home Lodges and were granted a Lodge Charter by the Grand Lodge of California. Of course, by instituting a formal Blue Lodge, they negated their purpose for being and, therefore, ceased to exist. In 1913, Surgeon Capt. Harry Eugene Stafford, 33°, Chartering Master of the Manila Lodge which replaced the "Sojourners Club", became the first Grand Master of the new Grand Lodge of the Philippines. The idea for a sojourners club to serve the needs of displaced military Masons revived, however, when, in 1917, a group of Masonic Military Officers met in the Hamilton Club in Chicago. They agreed that, in the absence of the Military Lodges of earlier times, there was a need for a national Masonic organization which would serve the requirements of Masonic Brethren from various parts of the country who were thrown together by virtue of their military service. The Order they started grew rapidly, from a 15-man club in 1917 to a national corporation in 1927 with membership then approaching 20,000. The purposes of National Sojourners, Inc., affirm their responsibilities to Brother Masons, the Masonic Fraternity, and the nation. Sojourners traditionally sponsor and coach most military personnel petitioning for Masonic membership, thus providing a bridge between the local military and the Masonic Lodges. Sojourner efforts are directed toward Americanism and support of Masonic programs and policies. Americanism activities include patriotic ceremonies, speeches, presentations, and other actions intended to promote love of country.

## NOVEMBER MEETINGS

1 November	MOWW YLC
1 November	<b>ALL SAINTS' DAY</b>
2 November	<b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS</b>
2 November	<b>ALL SOULS' DAY</b>
3 November	Huntsville Scottish Rite Bodies (Council Opens; Elections)
3 November	Rising Sun Lodge No. 29
3 November	Athens Lodge No. 16
3 November	<b>SPUTNIK 3 CARRIES LAIKA INTO ORBIT</b>
4 November	Florence York Rite Bodies
4 November	Helion Lodge No. 1
4 November	<b>ELECTION DAY</b>
4 November	<b>GEORGE WASHINGTON INITIATED IN FREDERICKSBURG LODGE</b>
4 November	Huntsville Scottish Rite Bodies Feast of Tishri
4 November	Vulcan Council, Knight Masons
6 November	Decatur York Rite Bodies
6 November	Bolivar Lodge No. 127
6 November	<b>JEFFERSON DAVIS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF CSA</b>
7 November	Gurley Lodge No. 521
8 November	Fort Payne York Rite Bodies
8 November	Alabama College, SRICF, visit of Most Worthy Supreme Magus W. Koon
9 November	<b>FIRST SATURN V LAUNCHES APOLLO 4</b>
10 November	Ardmore Lodge No. 24
10 November	Northern Lodge No. 278
10 November	<b>VETERANS' DAY OBSERVED</b>
10 November	<b>MARINE CORPS ESTABLISHED</b>
11 November	Lunar Lodge No. 918
11 November	Huntsville York Rite Bodies
11 November	<b>VETERANS' DAY</b>
12 November	Apollo Lodge No. 921
13 November	Solar Lodge No. 914
16 November	<b>SHERMAN'S MARCH TO THE SEA BEGINS</b>
17 November	Rising Sun Lodge No. 29
17 November	Athens Lodge No. 16
17 November	<b>CLASHES IN MAYSVILLE AND NEW MARKET</b>
18 November	Shoals Scottish Rite Bodies
18 November	Helion Lodge No. 1
18 November	Executive Committee @ 6 PM @ Ruby Tuesday's in Madison
18 November	Grand Lodge of Alabama, Montgomery
19 November	Grand Lodge of Alabama, Montgomery
19 November	<b>GETTYSBURG ADDRESS</b>
20 November	Bolivar Lodge No. 127
21 November	Gurley Lodge No. 521
21 November	<b>BIRTHDAY OF F. M. AROUET (VOLTAIRE)</b>
22 November	<b>PRESIDENT KENNEDY ASSASSINATED</b>
23 November	<b>BATTLE OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN</b>
24 November	Northern Lodge No. 278
25 November	Lunar Lodge No. 918
25 November	Jackson County Scottish Rite Club
25 November	<b>UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND ORGANIZED</b>
25 November	<b>10 NYC HOTELS SET ON FIRE BY SOUTHERN ARSONISTS</b>
26 November	Apollo Lodge No. 921
27 November	Solar Lodge No. 914
27 November	<b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b>
28 November	<b>TROUT SEASON OPENS @ MADISON COUNTY LAKE</b>
30 November	<b>SAINT ANDREW'S DAY</b>
30 November	<b>BATTLE OF FRANKLIN TN</b>