



James Monroe Chapter No. 549 *Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of 76*

National Sojourners, Inc.
Charlottesville, Virginia
Proudly Serving the Cause of Patriotism

At a meeting of James Monroe Chapter No. 549, held at the Golden Coral Restaurant, Waynesboro, VA on Wednesday the 3rd day of August 2016, with the following present:

Goldie Tomlin
Jeff Hodges
Russ Snodgrass

Jim Fields
Harvey Fleshman
David Goodwin

Scott Fielding
Kent Schlusell

Ed Crebbs
Kirk Sheap

Visitors: Col Roy McCutcheon (Harrisonburg High School's JROTC), Rachael Pugh (JROTC, Buckingham High School), Michelle Pineda-Hernandez (JROTC, Harrisonburg High School) [Rachael's sister also attended]

Ladies present: Susan Hodges, Sara Tomlin, Charlaire Crebbs, Sylvia Fielding, Judy Schlusell, Norma Sheap, and Emily Goodwin

Opening: President Crebbs called the meeting to order in proper form at approximately 1820 hours. Immediately after the opening, the President suspended all business until after we ate.

Officers present were: President: Ed Crebbs, First Vice President: Jim Fields, 2nd Vice President: Kirk Sheap, 3rd Vice President: Scott Fielding, Chaplain: Russ Snodgrass, and Secretary/Treasurer: Kent Schlusell.

Purpose: President read the Purpose of the Order followed by the opening prayer led by the chaplain.

Introductions: President welcomed everyone and introduced the students that we sent to the Youth Leadership Conference at Valley Forge this year along with one of the JROTC commanders..

After everyone ate, the President invited the two students to tell us about their experiences at Valley Forge Leadership Conference. The students discussed the friendships they made, the exercises they did at the conference, and the leadership gained by going to the conference. They both thanked the chapter for sponsoring them and highly recommended that we continue sponsoring students to this conference.

President Crebbs, who drove the students to and from Valley Forge commented on the discussions that took place in his vehicle and the fact at the end of the conference on the way back to Virginia, the students slept a good portion of time to catch up on their sleep. President Crebbs will be a chaperon next year.

COL McCutcheon commented that his student, Cadet Michelle Pineda-Hernandez really enjoyed herself and will be applying the skills she learned in the coming year to her JROTC.

Announcements:

- 1) President Crebbs announced that after the program presented to Mineral Lodge on 21 July 2016, the brethren/lodge donated \$150.00. This money will be deposited in our Youth Leadership Fund.
- 2) The chapter will be doing a flag presentation at Louisa Baptist Church on 12 August 2016 for the Grand Master of Virginia visit to the 7th/10th Masonic Districts. We will meet at 6pm, dinner at 6:30pm.
- 3) The chapter has been requested to present flags at the VFW District meeting in Charlottesville on 27 August 2016.
- 4) The chapter is scheduled to present flags to Staunton Lodge on 6 September 2016.
- 5) The chapter is also scheduled to present flags at Barboursville Lodge on 8 October 2016.
- 6) On 17 October 2016, the chapter will be a flag deposal ceremony at the open air meeting for Widow's Sons' Lodge.
- 7) 20 October, Linn-Banks Lodge (Madison) would like a flag presentation
- 8) The "Traitor Play" will be presented to Cabell Lodge on 2 November 2016.
- 9) Brother Goldie Tomlin was appointed as Committee Chair for the Toys for Tots program. He will be sending letters in early October to the various Lodges in our area asking for donations of toys and money.
- 10) Commander Crebbs announced that the Jack Jouett Camp will meet on 31 August and 29 September to practice for a degree and for the Traitor Play.
- 11) Bro Mike Griffin is recovering from a recent operation. For awhile, both him and his wife were recovering from operations (reported by Bro Jeff Hodges).
- 12) Bro Harvey Fleshman reported that Bro Jim Starcher has had some additional medical issues. Along with that, Bro Jim's family has suffered a series of health problems also.

Reading of Minutes: The minutes of the June 2016 meeting were approved as distributed to the members via email. Motion to accept was made, seconded and passed.

Report of Treasurer: (1 Jun16—3 Aug 16)

Checking Account Balance: Current as of 3 August 2016	\$4502.75
Camp Followers Fund:	\$30.68
(no change)	
Chapter Fund:	\$1934.59
(no change)	
Flag Fund:	\$50.24
(no change)	
Youth Leadership Fund:	\$866.07
Donation +\$25.00	
Valley Forge -\$1380.00	
Unrestricted Fund:	\$1621.17
(no change)	
TOTAL:	\$4502.75

Reading of Communications: The secretary reported that he has sent in the annual report and thanked everyone for their inputs. He also reported the chapter received a number of new publications incorporating the new purpose of National Sojourners (i.e. the expanded membership criteria).

The chapter was awarded the Bridge of Light Award from National Sojourners for its efforts in presenting various programs throughout the year. A ribbon will be put on our chapter's flag.

Presentation of Petition: None were presented.

Secret Balloting on Petitions: N/A

Reports of Standing Committees:

Americanism: No report.

Program, 2nd Vice President: Bro Kirk Sheap presented a program that consisted of two parts—announcement of recent deaths and two “stories”:

David J. Thacker who was the engineer/tail gunner on the "Ruptured Duck", piloted by Ted Lawson (of "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" fame) in Jimmy Doolittle's April 1942 raid. With his death on June 27th of this year, the last surviving veteran of that raid by the 17th Air Group is Richard E. Cole of Texas, age 100, who attended David's funeral in Montana. Richard was Doolittle's co-pilot.

Lakota Chief David Beautiful Bald Eagle, Jr. who died on July 25th of this year. David's grandfather, Chief White Bull, was a relative of Sitting Bull and had been on the "reception committee" for Gen. Custer at the Little Big Horn. David did have a role in Kevin Cosner's "Dancing With Wolves". He also was a veteran having parachuted into Normandy on D-Day where he was wounded

The first story concerned James Doohan, a 24 year old Lieutenant in the Winnipeg Rifles of the Royal Canadian Army, who, after 5 years of service saw his first action on June 6th at Juno Beach. He had been given two gifts by his brother. One was a silver cigarette case and the other a .38 cal. S&W revolver. He used the revolver to persuade the coxswain of his landing craft to follow his orders, unlike during a previous training episode. As for the cigarette case, late on the 6th of June, while performing reconnaissance, he was mistaken for a German and shot by a Bren gunner of his own unit. He received 4 wounds in the thigh, one in the chest (deflected by the cigarette case) and one that shot off his right middle finger. This is why when you watch the early TV episodes and movies of Star Trek, you rarely see Scottie's right hand. No middle finger.

The second story is about a British aborted bombing raid on the German city of Siegen on December 15, 1944. Being aborted because of lack of fighter cover, on the flight back, the RAF Lancasters had to jettison their bombs and there was a specific area in the English Channel for this, a "no-fly" zone for other aircraft. As one bomber, NF937, dropped their load of incendiaries at 4000', the bombardier noted that a small aircraft was flying below them at 2000'. This aircraft was also noted by 3 other crewmen of the bomber (the navigator, Fred Shaw; the pilot and the tail gunner). It was the tail gunner who saw it roll over and then hit the water. It was Shaw who recognized the type of aircraft it was, a Canadian Nordwyn Norseman, since he had trained in Canada where it was very common. However, in England there were only 5 and the one that went missing on December 15th was the one carrying Glenn Miller to France. Since the bombing raid had been aborted, there was no requirement to make a mission report and in light of what happened, the crew of NF937 decided not to report the incident.

When, many years later, some of the crew, including Fred Shaw, began to tell the story, they were greatly doubted. However, in the 1980's the flight log of the radioman of that flight was sold at auction. Even though he never saw the plane, his entry for that day noted the event. Note that the date was December 15th, the day before the beginning of what became known as the "Battle of the Bulge" in the Ardennes.

Membership, 3rd Vice President Scott Fielding: Since the change of membership criteria, several people will be applying for membership. We expect to receive these applications in the near future.

Unfinished Business: FACE –No one was planning on going to this conference this year. However, the chapter has agreed to pay for one room. Where to send the check and when is unknown (the secretary/treasurer will take action).

New Business:

Next meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, 5th of October 2016**. The meeting will take place King Solomon's Lodge in Crozet. The meal will be "pot luck" for all the sides and desserts. Lady Charlaine Crebbs will be providing BBQ for the meeting. [If your last name is between: A-F brings a salad; G-R brings a dessert; R-Z brings a vegetable]

The gravel was passed to all in attention. Everyone thanked each other for the fellowship of the meeting and several made very positive comments about the new membership criteria and thanked the brethren for their wisdom in passing this resolution.

Closing: The meeting was closed in proper form by President Crebbs at approximately 2045 hours.

Submitted

_____*Kent Schlusell*_____
Kent Schlusell, Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:

_____*Edgar M. Crebbs*_____
Edgar M. Crebbs, Jr., President 2016-17