



# NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC

Harrisburg Chapter #76 — York Camp, Heroes of '76



## President's Message

Harrisburg Chapter No. 76 News  
SSG Todd Snyder, President

Brothers,

The year continues to fly by, here we are getting ready for our November meeting and Thanksgiving, and before you know it, we will be celebrating a new year. I hope to see all of you at the December meeting and Ladies night, and don't forget it is also the silent auction. This is our biggest fundraiser for sending students to Founding Forward. Please bring items for the auction and your checkbook for bidding on those items.



At the November meeting we will host the Chapter's Sponsored students who will present their experiences from the Founding Forward in Valley Forge – 2024 Youth Leadership Conference. We will also recognize our Marine Veterans, and all Sojourners are to wear their military uniform if possible or any part of the uniform that may fit. I will be wearing my dog tags.

I would like to thank our Heroes of 76 camp for their hard work and dedication to their mission. We had our color guard present at the tree planting ceremonies in support of the Grand Lodge and the America250PA project as well as numerous other activities. Our Heroes are getting the Sojourners and Heroes name out in front of the public. If you are attending other organizations' meetings, please think about using the Heroes for the Toast to The Flag or Flag Building presentation - they will be glad to do it.

As always, I look forward to seeing and talking to as many of you as I can at the meetings. Our attendance numbers are excellent, but I would like us to hit 100 members attending our regular meetings. There will be interesting speakers in the New Year so stay tuned.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Todd Snyder, President



## Brothers Honored

Issue #45 November 2024

Chapter No. 76 members honored at the recent Tall Cedars of Lebanon Convention held in Gettysburg, two members of Harrisburg Chapter No. 76 were honored for their efforts and received Tall Cedar of the Year recognition.

Brother Darryl Hamm, PP, received the award for his efforts as the Human Resources Director for the entire Tall Cedars Kingdom.

Brother Mark Brumaghim received the award for his efforts in manning the administrative office after the abrupt departure of the office secretary while a new person was hired and trained. Brother Darryl Hamm will be the Grand Tall Cedar of Harrisburg Forest No. 43 in 2025.

*Congratulations to both deserving brethren!*



## Employment Opportunity to Help Veterans

As announced at our recent monthly meeting on 10 Oct 2024, by Bro. Darryl R Hamm, PP, there is an employment opportunity for an Executive Director at the Veterans Outreach of PA (VOPA) located in Harrisburg PA. The position is posted on Indeed.com for your perusal and interested folks can apply from that site. A veteran is preferred but not an absolute requirement if skill sets for the position so warrants. The salary range is \$75k to \$85k per annum and it is a full time position with benefits. Here is a link to VOPA for more information.

<https://www.veteransoutreachofpa.org/>

*As an aside, since most of us are veterans, this is a wonderful organization for our members to consider providing financial support to. The link above, outlines what they are all about.*

## Harrisburg Chapter #76 MEMBERSHIP

As of October 31, 2024

Primary Members-In-Perpetuity	235
Annual Active Members	48
Honorary Members-In-Perpetuity	35
Annual Honorary Members	4
Multiple Members-In-Perpetuity	28
Total Chapter Membership	350

York Camp Heroes of '76 171

The Chapter also has 200 Inactive Members-In-Perpetuity who laid down their working tools.



### Secretary's Report, Brother Tom Gordon

October has been a busy month for our Chapter and November does not seem to be any different.

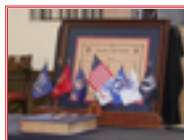
We have been fortunate not to have any membership losses in October and we initiated three new members at our monthly meeting, Brother Richard Auchey, Brother Jerel Bruns, and Brother Jeffrey Haste. Welcome ! If you need a new plastic nametag holder, Sojourners Medal, Heroes Medal or MIP star, please see me before or after a monthly meeting. The Chapter maintains a stock of these supplies and you will only pay the cost of the item without any postage on handling fees. If any of your Sojourners' items are in disrepair, see me, we may be able to repair them.

During the month of November, the Chapter's Sojourners will be busy honoring our Veterans by placing over 7,000 American Flags near the entrance at the Masonic Village - Elizabethtown. Everyone is welcome to participate. The flags will be placed for display starting at 9AM on Saturday November 2nd and will be taken down, cleaned, and wrapped for storage starting at 9 AM on Wednesday November 13th. If you can not assist in preparing or removing this Flag display, please take time to stop by and observe this beautiful display, honoring all the Veterans that protect our Nation.

The Chapter's Flag Teams of the Americanism Committee have been busy attending various Masonic bodies and civic organizations reciting the Toast To The Flag, Building The Flag, and presenting the History of The Flag. The Flag Teams could use help, so if you would like to get involved in presenting one of these programs, please contact me and I will put you in contact with the Flag Team so you can see the various programs that they offer.

Remember, Tuesday November 5th is Election Day, cast your Vote for the candidates who best align with your moral compass. Your Vote is personal and should be honored and respected as such.

During the month of November, I will be emailing you a letter about the National Sojourners New Horizons Campaign. The campaign is based on the need to acquire a home for the National Headquarters. If you want an early jump on knowing more about the New Horizons Campaign, click on the website [nationalsojourners.org](http://nationalsojourners.org) and click on the New Horizons Campaign. The National President Carl Diamond will briefly explain the purpose of this absolutely necessary campaign.



### Scheduled Guest Speakers and Activities

Social Gathering 5:15 PM Dinner 6:00 PM Meeting 6:45 PM

**14 Nov 2024** - Chapter's sponsored students presenting their experiences at the Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge - 2024 Youth Leadership Conference

- Recognition of U.S. Marine Corps Veterans

HEROES' Bivouacs and Hero Initiation 18:00 (6:00 PM)

**27 Mar 25** - Harrisburg Consistory Unit Room, Lower level  
**24 Apr 2025, 22 May 2025**

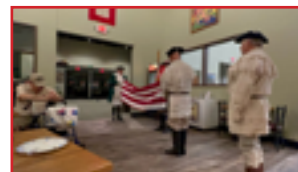
Heroes of '76, York Camp performed the Folding of the Flag program and Toast to the Flag for the Wheels and Tracks Club in Gettysburg on 23 Oct 2024. In addition they also presented the flag as the honor guard at Ft Hunter for the Liberty Tree planting dedication on 17 Oct 2024. Participating in the events were Brothers Jack Vickery, performing the Toast to the Flag, Gene McCaleb, Ron Siler, Bob Bucher, Rick Shultz and Keith Murray.



Todd Snyder, Gene Meashey, Gene McCaleb, Keith Murray



Brother Jack Vickery performing the Toast to the Flag.



L to R, Gene McCaleb, Ron Siler, Jack Vickery, Bob Bucher, Rick Shultz.



**Harrisburg Chapter # 76 National Sojourners, Inc.  
Holiday Party and Silent Auction  
Thursday evening, December 12, 2024**

**Bring items for a Silent Auction to benefit sending students to the  
Youth Leadership Conference at Valley Forge in July.**

**Social Hour 5:00 p.m.**

**Dinner at 6:00 p.m.**

**Holiday Entertainment  
"Joe Cooney and Friends"**

**Meal Choices:**

- Salmon with Hollandaise Sauce
- Filet Mignon thinly sliced served Au jus
- Pork Roast marinated in Apple Cider Vinegar

**Gathering at the Main Ballroom, Scottish Rite Cathedral  
2701 North Third Street, Harrisburg PA**

**Cost per Meal \$ 37.00**

===== ( *Clip and Return* ) =====

*I/We plan to attend the Sojourner Holiday Party  
on 12 Dec 2024 ( Cost per meal \$37.00 )  
Name*

*Enclosed is my check made payable to  
HARRISBURG CHAPTER # 76  
Meal Choice*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate any dietary restrictions.  
Guests are welcome. Place additional names and meal choices on the Reverse Side.**

**PLEASE RETURN BY  
Monday, November 25, 2024**

**Reservations to: Thomas E. Gordon, Secretary  
120 Evergreen Lane  
Palmyra, PA 17078-8918**





# NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC

Harrisburg Chapter #76 - York Camp, Heroes Chapter #76



Issue #45 November 2024

## Distinguished Sojourners

Colonel Carl Sitter received his Medal of Honor citation for Korean War in 1950: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as commanding officer of Company G, in action against enemy aggressor forces. Ordered to break through enemy-infested territory to reinforce his battalion the morning of 29 November,



Capt. Sitter continuously exposed himself to enemy fire as he led his company forward and, despite 25 percent casualties suffered in the furious action, succeeded in driving through to his objective. Assuming the responsibility of attempting to seize and occupy a strategic area occupied by a hostile force of regiment strength deeply entrenched on a snow-covered hill commanding the entire valley southeast of the town, as well as the line of march of friendly troops withdrawing to the south, he reorganized his depleted units the following morning and boldly led them up the steep, frozen hillside under blistering fire, encouraging and redeploying his troops as casualties occurred and directing forward platoons as they continued the drive to the top of the ridge. During the night when a vastly outnumbering enemy launched a sudden, vicious counterattack, setting the hill ablaze with mortar, machine-gun, and automatic-weapons fire and taking a heavy toll in troops, Capt. Sitter visited each foxhole and gun position, coolly deploying and integrating reinforcing units consisting of service personnel unfamiliar with infantry tactics into a coordinated combat team and instilling in every man the will and determination to hold his position at all costs. With the enemy penetrating his lines in repeated counterattacks which often required hand-to-hand combat, and, on one occasion infiltrating to the command post with hand grenades, he fought gallantly with his men in repulsing and killing the fanatic attackers in each encounter. Painfully wounded in the face, arms, and chest by bursting grenades, he staunchly refused to be evacuated and continued to fight on until a successful defense of the area was assured with a loss to the enemy of more than 50 percent dead, wounded, and captured. His valiant leadership, superb tactics, and great

personal valor throughout 36 hours of bitter combat reflect the highest credit upon Capt. Sitter and the U.S. Naval Service."

Masonic History: Brother Sitter was a member of Oasis of Mara Lodge No.735 in Twentynine Palms, CA and a National Sojourner.

*This month we recognize our Brothers,  
U.S. Marine Corps Veterans*



For Change of address, email address or telephone number  
**Tom Gordon, Chapter Secretary PHONE: (717) 534-2478**  
**120 Evergreen Lane**  
**Palmyra PA 17078-8918 EMAIL: tgordon1951@comcast.net**

Chapter contact information  
**National website: <https://nationalsojourners.org>**  
**Facebook: "National Sojourners Harrisburg**  
**Chapter #76**

"When we assumed the soldier, we did not lay aside the citizen." *George Washington*