

BY-LAWS
OF
ROGUE VALLEY CHAPTER #538
NATIONAL SOJOURNERS

an unincorporated association.

I
NAME

The name of this association shall be Rogue Valley Chapter #538, National Sojourners.

II
SUBORDINATE CHAPTER OF
NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INCORPORATED

1. This association is an integral subordinate unit and constituent part of National Sojourners, Inc., a Virginia Non-Profit Corporation. In case of any conflict between these By-Laws and the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, or National Directives of National Sojourners, Inc., the provisions of the said Corporation's Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and National Directives shall prevail.

2. This chapter and its members are subject to not only these By-Laws, but also the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and National Directives of national Sojourners, Inc. And the rules and edicts of the Grand Loge of the State of Oregon, including any restrictions or prohibitions.

III
PURPOSE

The Purpose of National Sojourners shall be to organize Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (past and present) of the Uniformed Forces of the United States and Honorary Members 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 needs of National Defense, and for opposing any influence whatsoever calculated to weaken the National Security.

Page 1

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IV

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership shall be open to citizens of the United States who are Master Masons in good standing in any duly constituted Lodge of Master Masons recognized by and maintaining fraternal relations with a majority of the regular Grand Lodges in the United States and Who: are serving or have served honorably as Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers or Senior Non-Commissioned Officers in the Uniformed Forces of the United States or have served in time of war as a Commissioned Officer, Warrant Officer, or Senior Non-Commissioned Officer or the equivalent in an Armed Service of a nation allied with the United States or; are regularly elected to honorary membership.

2. There shall be four classes of membership as follows:

a. Active Members: Shall be those who are serving or have served honorably as Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, or Senior Non-Commissioned Officers, regular or reserve, of the United States in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, Oceanic and Atmospheric Service, or predecessor services, of in the National Guard or Militia of the United States as defined in Title 10 U.S. Code, Section 311, or who have served in time of war as a Commissioned Officer, Warrant Officer or Senior Non-Commissioned Officer, or the equivalent, in an Armed Service of a nation allied with the United States.

b. Honorary Members: Those who are ineligible for active membership but who have been regularly elected to honorary membership in this chapter in recognition of meritorious service to the Nation and/or Masonry. Honorary members, excluding Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters, Grand Secretaries and elected Grand Lodge Officers, may not exceed 15% of the chapter's active membership.

c. Dual Membership: A member of another Sojourner chapter, active or honorary, may become a dual member by election in this chapter. A dual member will pay the full dues, including the national per capita tax. Dual honorary members will count against the 15% limit.

d. Multiple Membership: A member of another chapter, active or honorary may hold multiple membership, by election in this chapter. Chapter dues will be paid; however, no national per capita tax shall be collected.

3. All members shall have the same rights and privileges in this chapter.

4. Persons qualified and desiring active membership in this chapter shall make written application submitting the same to the Chairman of the Membership Committee. Within thirty days of receipt of the application, the Membership Committee must submit their recommendations to the chapter at a regular meeting. At a subsequent meeting of the members the applicant may be elected to membership by majority vote of those attending and voting. Payment of dues will not be made until after the applicant has been elected to membership.

Page 2

5. Any member of this chapter may recommend a person for honorary membership by submitting the person's name and other pertinent information to the Membership Committee. Within a reasonable time thereafter, the Membership Committee must submit its recommendations to the members at a regular meeting. After such recommendation has been submitted, the person so recommended for honorary membership may be elected to honorary membership by unanimous vote of those present and voting. Members are cautioned NOT to inform prospective honorary members that they are being considered for honorary membership. Once a person has been elected to honorary membership, the President or other member so appointed will inform the individual. Should and individual not be elected to honorary membership, nothing further needs to be accomplished and, since the individual will not have been informed of the ailing to be so elected, the chapter will not suffer an embarrassment. Initiation fees, first year's national per capita and the Sojourner medal will be given to all honorary members with the understanding that they will be liable for subsequent years dues.

V
DUES

1. Regular Dues: The members at the annual meeting shall determine the amount of regular dues. The regular dues shall be in addition to the national per capita tax and initiation fees.

2. MEMBERSHIP-IN-PERPETUITY: Any Sojourner in good standing in this chapter or any other chapter may become a Member-in-Perpetuity in this chapter by making written application for the same and accompanied by the required fee. Members-in-Perpetuity shall be exempt from paying all further dues.

3. In Memoriam Membership-in-Perpetuity: Deceased Master Masons who would have met the chapter's membership eligibility criteria may be granted In Memoriam Membership-in-Perpetuity. Sponsors must make written appellation for the same accompanied by the required fee.

No further dues shall be required.

4. Members, who have not paid required dues by April 1, will be dropped from the roles.

VI
OFFICERS

1. The elective officers of the chapter shall be:

- a. President e. Secretary/Treasurer
- b. 1st Vice President f. Marshal
- c. 2nd Vice President g. Chaplain
- d. 3rd Vice President

Page 3

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2. The appointed officers of the chapter may be:

- a. Judge Advocate c. Historian
- b. Surgeon d. Color Bearer

3. The term of office for all officers shall be for one year or until their successors have been

elected. Officers may succeed themselves in office. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be Combined.

VII

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the chapter and shall exercise overall supervision over all chapter affairs. He shall, when present, preside over all chapter meetings and shall be a member ex-officio of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
2. The First Vice President shall, in the absence or disability of the President, perform the duties of the President and when so acting shall have all of the powers and shall be subject to all the restrictions upon the President.
3. The Second Vice President shall, in the absence or disability of the First Vice President, perform the duties of the First Vice President. The Second Vice President normally shall be the chairman of the Program Committee.
4. The Third Vice President shall, in the absence or disability of the Second Vice President, perform the duties of the Second Vice President. The Second Vice President normally shall be chairman of the Membership Committee.
5. The Secretary shall keep a record of everything that needs to be written, prepare and publish chapter bulletins and maintain and publish a roster of members. He shall collect dues and turn over to the Treasurer, issue membership cards, give notice of special meetings, if any, and act as a custodian of the chapter records.
6. The Treasurer shall maintain adequate and correct accounts of the properties and funds of the chapter including all receipts and disbursements. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds in the chapter account. The Treasurer may disburse chapter funds for the payment of all routine bills and statement received or as directed by the members. The Treasurer shall submit a monthly financial report to the chapter.
7. The Marshal shall verify members and guests seeing that none enter who are not eligible, that they sign the register and that they are properly introduced. He shall have custody of and maintain the chapter colors, Bible, charter and other items necessary to conduct the meeting. He shall act as cashier and collect fees for dinners, fines, or other charges incurred at chapter meetings.

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turning same over to the Treasurer.

8. The Chaplain shall Conduct the devotional portion of the chapter, give the Opening and Closing Prayers and in coordination with the President, render such aid and assistance to members and their families in times of sickness and distress as deemed advisable.
9. The Judge Advocate shall render legal assistance and submit legal opinions when requested and assist the President concerning parliamentary procedure.

10. The Surgeon shall render aid to the sick.
11. The Historian shall collect, compile and maintain the historical data pertaining to the chapter, submitting a report on the same from time to time, at least annually.
12. The Color Bearer shall maintain and post the Colors at all chapter meetings.

VIII

ELECTIONS

1. Annually not less than two months prior to the annual meeting (Note: normally May for Chapters on the 1 Jul -30 June "Sojourner Year"), the President shall appoint at least three members of the chapter to act as the Nominating Committee to nominate officers to serve for the ensuing year.
2. The Nominating Committee shall choose its own chairman and shall submit its nominations, in writing, at the April meeting.
3. Election of officers shall be held during the May meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor; however, no nominee's name may be submitted without such nominee's prior consent. If there be more than one nominee for any office, a written ballot shall be cast. The Nominating Committee shall conduct all elections.

IX

COMMITTEES

1. The chapter shall have the following Standing Committees and may have such other committees as the President may appoint:
 - *a. Americanism Committee
 - *b. Bridge of Light Committee
 - *c. Membership Committee
 - *d. Education and Training

- e. ROTC Committee
- f. Audit Committee
- g. Telephone Committee

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- h. By-Laws Committee
 1. Essay Committee
- *Required by Paragraph 12.6, National By-Laws.
2. The President shall appoint at least three members to each committee. The President shall also appoint the chairman of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.
 3. The duties of the committees shall be as follows:
 - a. Americanism Committee shall formulate and direct a program to promote Americanism and Patriotism in the chapter and the surrounding communities in accordance with the National Directives.
 - b. Bridge of Light (BOL) Committee shall formulate and direct the Bridge of Light Program to strengthen relations between the chapter and the Local Masonic Bodies with special emphasis on the Blue Lodges. It shall consist of sufficient members to enable a member to represent and maintain liaison with each of the following Masonic Lodges, Namely: Warren Lodge #10, Jacksonville; Kerby Lodge #18, Kerby; Ashland Lodge #23, Ashland; Kl amath Falls Lodge #77, Kl amath Falls; Grants Pass Lodge #84, Grants Pass; Medford Lodge #103, Medford;

Cascade Lodge

#208, Shady Cove; and Rogue River 226, Grants Pass.

c. Membership Committee shall be responsible for the operation of the Membership Program in accordance with National Directives. They shall receive all applications for membership, conduct investigation and make recommendations to the chapter on each applicant. The

Membership Committee shall also investigate and make recommendations concerning any person

whose name has been submitted to the committee for honorary membership. The committee shall

also initiate and maintain a vigorous campaign for new members at all times.

d. Nominating Committee shall perform the duties prescribed in Article VIII of these By-Laws.

e. ROTC Committee shall conduct, in conjunction with local schools (and/or colleges) with ROTC programs, a program for the presentation of the ROTC Awards.

f. Audit Committee shall audit the reports of the Treasurer at the end of each fiscal

year. The audit shall verify receipts, disbursements and bank balance on hand at the end of the year.

The Audit Committee shall also prepare a report categorizing all income and expenditures for the year.

g. Telephone Committee maintains regular contact with chapter members to keep abreast of their status, encourage attendance at chapter functions and keep the chapter officers up-to-date on chapter conditions.

h. By-Laws Committee shall receive, investigate and report to the chapter all recommendations for proposed changes to these By-Laws. Insofar as practical, reports and

recommendations concerning proposed changes should be submitted to the chapter within thirty days of receipt.

i. Essay Committee shall conduct an essay contest concerning Patriotism among sixth grade students in specified schools.

Page 6

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X

MEETINGS

1. Annual Meetings shall be conducted on the 2nd Monday of June of each year for the purpose of electing officers, assessing dues and such other business as maybe necessary or desirable.

2. Regular Meetings of the chapter shall be conducted monthly on the 2nd Monday of each month.

3. Special Meetings may be held at any time at the call of the President or upon request by

at least one-third of the members in writing, setting forth the purpose of the special meeting. No

business may be conducted at such special meeting other than that specified in the notice calling for

the special meetings, which notice shall set forth the purpose for which the meeting is called.

XI

QUORUM AND VOTING

1. Five members of the chapter shall constitute a quorum for all meetings.

2. Every act or decision done or made by a majority of the members present and voting at a regularly scheduled or properly published special meeting at which a quorum is present, except an action to amend these By-Laws, shall be binding.
3. Voting shall be by the person. No proxies are permitted.
4. Voting shall be by voice, except for contested chapter office(s) or when a motion made, seconded and duly passed by a majority of those present and voting for a written ballot; voting shall then be by secret written ballot.

XII
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

All disciplinary actions by the chapter shall be in accordance with Article 18 of the National By-Laws and national Regulation 18.3

XIII
FISCAL YEAR

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The fiscal year of this association shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of each year.

Page 7

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XIV

CAMP OF HEROES OF '76

The Camp White Camp, Heroes of '76, is auxiliary to and dependent upon this chapter which is responsible for its proper functioning. The Heroes Camp shall terminate and cease to exist when this chapter ceases to exist.

XV
DISSOLUTION ON DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of the chapter, all funds, records and properties shall be accounted for and handled in accordance with National Regulation 12.7

XVI
AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, providing that written notice of such proposed amendment shall have been submitted at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be voted upon.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I hereby certify that I am the duly elected and acting Secretary of Rogue Valley Chapter #538, National Sojourners, Incorporated and the foregoing By-Laws, comprised of 8 pages, constitute the By-Laws of Rogue Valley Chapter #538, National Sojourners, Inc. As duly adopted at a meeting of the members of said chapter there hold on

Dated:

Chapter Secretary:

APPROVED:

NELSON O. NEWCOMBE
National Secretary
Date:

Page 8

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