



SOBA-AMERICA

sobamerica.org

SOBA America 2014 Minnesota Convention Minutes

75th Anniversary Convention

Theme: *Unity, Progress & Excellence*

Sasse Old Boys Association



Pah Igwacho - Class of 1949

Beltus Ntopi *President* Dr. Kevin Njabo *Vice President* Alain Taku *Treasurer* Martin Abada *Secretary General* Amadeus Dzekedze *Financial Secretary* Fidelis Nkeze *Publicity Secretary* Devine Tange *Organizing Secretary*

2014 Soba America 75th Anniversary Convention

Minneapolis Minnesota Friday May 23 to Sunday May 25, 2004

Friday, May 23 Welcome Reception 8PM- 2AM

8:00 pm	Introduction of Master of Ceremony MC
8:05 pm	Opening Prayer
8:10 pm	Welcome remarks by Soba Minnesota President Mr. Kinsley Ayangim
8:15 pm	Brief statement by Soba America President Mr. Beltus Ntopi
8:20 pm	Introduction of Soba America Chapters
8:25 pm	Introduction of invited guests from other Associations
8:30 pm	Dinner
10:00 pm	Dance Dance Dance + other activities including Inter-dorm contest
2:00 AM	End of Event

Saturday, May 24 Convention Deliberation 9AM-5:30PM

9:00 am - 10:30 am	Registration and roll call
10:35 am - 10:45 am	Call to order/ Brief welcome statement by Soba America President Mr. Beltus Ntopi
10:45 am - 10:55 am	Opening Prayer
10:55 am to 11:05 am	Welcome Statement by Host Chapter President
11:05 am to 11:10 am	Presentation: Minutes of 2013 Convention held in Detroit Michigan
11:15 am to 11:30 am	Presentation: Financial report by National Financial Sec
11:30 am to 12:30 pm	Presentation: Chapter Reports
12:30 pm to 1:30 pm	Lunch Break
1:30 pm to 1:45 pm	Presentation: State of Soba America Address by President Ntopi
1:45 pm to 2:00 pm	Presentation: Soba America Rebranding Committee
2:00 pm to 2:15 pm	Presentation: Updates on the Orphanage project SASF
2:15 pm to 2:30 pm	Bylaws Amendment vote
2:30 pm to 2:40 pm	Presentation: The convention fee proposal by Mola Edwin Ndoko

Sasse Old Boys Association

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Sasse Old Boys Association

2:45 pm to 3:00 pm	Presentation: SAGI by VP Dr. Kevin Nana
3:00 pm to 3:15 pm	BREAK
3:15 pm to 3:25 pm	Presentation: Soba America Life Insurance by Quintus Enow
3:25 pm to 3:35 pm	Presentation: Soba America Suits by Jackson Elonge
3:35 pm to 3:45 pm	Presentation: 75 th Anniversary update + Gift
3:45 pm to 4:45 pm	Other Matters: General Assembly discussion including next convention venue
4:45 pm to 5:00 pm	Closing remarks and official announcement of 2015 Silver Jubilee Convention
9:00 pm to 5:00 am	GALA at the Fabulous Cedars Hall
Sunday, May 25 Farewell Events	
7:30 am to 9:30 am	Continental Breakfast @ the Radisson (Not free)
10 am to 11 am	Mass
12:00 pm to 3 pm	Cook out
3:00 pm to 4 pm	March Pass- by class/ Dorm or both
4:00 pm till 8pm	BBQ Continues
8:00 pm	Closing Remarks

Beltus Ntopi Dr. Kevin Njabo Alain Taku Martin Abada Amadeus Dzekedze Fidelis Nkeze Devine Tange
President Vice President Treasurer Secretary General Financial Secretary Publicity Secretary Organizing Secretary

Dr Evaristus Enongene led us in prayers

Registration and Roll call.

(See attached roll call of attendees)

Call to Order:

Meeting facilitator: Mr. Dan Mofor

Welcome Statement by hosting President, Mr. Kingsley

Thank You.

Presentations:

1. Minutes 2013 SOBA America Convention held in Detroit Michigan was read and approved with no corrections.

2. Financial Report by National Secretary

1. Report prepared by Amadeus Ndzekeze, Financial Secretary

The Financial Secretary gave a report of our financial status.

(this presentation will be on a separate sheet due to the confidentiality of the report)

3. Chapter Reports

1. Dallas Chapter:

Convention Report to SOBA America

Fiscal Year: June 1st 2013 to May 23rd 2014 Chapter Name: SOBA Dallas

Officers:

President: Frederick Itoe

Phone #: 214-293-5744

Email Address: mafany@yahoo.com

1. Vice President: Eti Stanley Phone #:678-900-5462

Email Address:emah_ati@yahoo.com

2. Secretary General: Manfred Tabe Phone #:214-715-2849

Email Address: manfredtabe@gmail.com

3. Treasurer: Henry Njie

Phone #:214-587-6922

Email Address:hennjie4@yahoo.com

4. Financial Secretary: Augustine Fambon Phone #:214-718-9593
Email Address:anfambon@yahoo.com

5. Publicity Secretary: Collins Ngwashi Phone #:214-998-6306
Email Address:nchangcollins@yahoo.com

6. Chief Whip: Edwin Ndoko Phone #:214-250-4104
Email Address:sangody@gmail.com

7. Senior Advisers: Dr. Francis Njie, Dr. Henry Simo
Membership Information

- Membership:Based on attendance,we can say there are 19 real active members who attend 95% of our meetings. The rest of the members attend less than 60% of the meetings sporadically.

- Meetings: Regular meetings are held at 5pm on the Sunday before last of every month. Participation is on average around 95% of active members.

- National Membership: We currently have 11 members registered with SOBA America.

- We currently have four NEC members: Emeritus Larry Ekaney, Mr. Frederick Itoe, Mr. Edwin Ndoko and Dr. Henry Njie. We have four president club members: Mr. Tony Atabang, Emeritus Larry Ekaney, Dr. Henry Simo and Dr. Henry Njie.

Financial Report

- Generating Funds: We generate funds through social functions, donations from members and solicitation of donations from members of our community. We did use the 2013 SOBA America Mini Convention to generate funds last year.

- Financial status: We are working on new strategies to generate funds for our chapter. Different proposals are under review and some have produced great results already. What I can say is we are doing fine now. We however believe that with more work we can do better.

- SJC Gift from SOBA Dallas: We plan on trying to make a modest give to SJC each year as a local chapter. We have in the past donated a gift package directly to SJC’s athletic program (May 2012) cost us 2800\$. We intend to do another gift during the 75th anniversary as chapter if SOBA America is not planning any special gift originating from here.

Births in Family

- Birth in Family: Still expecting. Last year was a busy year in Dallas. I can only guess we are taking a break.

Death in Family

- Death in family: Soban Emmanuel Njikam lost his dad Pa Njikam on the 4th of March 2014. As a chapter, we met our financial obligations and took active part in the wake keeping. We sang and met all our obligations as a chapter.

Current Projects

- SOBA Suits: We have provided all our members with suits. We have consistently worn them to appropriate occasions. We are currently working on other group uniforms for less formal occasions.

Why our chapter is unique: We keep working diligently to find more joint investment ideas for SOBA Dallas member so as to foster our unity in events beyond Soban activities. We are considering starting a social club to carry out our investment ideas. We feed off each other and always try to share information to improve each member’s life. Our chapter plans on reviewing more activities we can do monthly as a group out of meetings. We currently have family outings or barbecue every four months. We also have an annual end of year family party. In our last party, Sobans took turns during the gift part of the event to surprise their wives with gifts as they thanked them publicly while addressing the crowd.

Our genuine commitment to help SJC directly and indirectly is what makes our chapter unique. We don’t plan on waiting for others, but would continue small projects each year to help make SJC a better place. We could not have been blessed with a better set of dedicated Sobans.

SOBA Dallas plans on working with nearby chapters as a team in sharing ideas and supporting each other. We recently sent delegates (Frederick and Mola Ndoko) to SOBA Houston to show support during their elections and encourage them on the progress they have made. We were delighted to be part of this special day for SOBA Houston. SOBA Dallas offered to sponsor their youngest Soban 100% free to next convention in Minnesota. An invitation our executive decided to honor. He is so young we would be glad to present him in Minnesota. It represents hope that we can attract even very young Sobans.

What We Expect From NEC

Our expectations from NEC have not changed. As earlier stated: We hope our national executive can use our 501C statues and other available means to generate funds so local chapter don’t have to keep raising money for national project. Not long ago we donated for the IT project during our mini convention in Dallas. Now it is the sickbay project. We must realize that constant request from local chapters is one of the reasons some members don’t join our local associations. They find themselves raising money for funeral which they do with pride but get fed up of added burden from national projects and projects not initiated by SOBA America. Donations for parties, deaths, membership and other local activities are enough to scare some members. So, let us limit it to that and not add more national projects to local chapters. Local chapters would always willingly assist to get funds from other sources not necessarily local members.NEC should figure out a way of functioning with only annual contributions and convention funds. Any additional donations should not be mandatory or passed to

-chapters. Generous and successful Sobans should be encouraged to help out. Some members simply can’t afford it and stay away due to the financial pressures we put on them. NEC should continue working on ways of generating funds from other groups, conventions and corporate or small business partners. During the mini Convention, President Ntopi made this one of the critical things we as an association must address.

We also hope to have updates on NEC current projects regularly. For example every three months so we can see the progress we are making and be kept informed on the updated timely. It would be good if we get such information to the general forum every quarter. If we do this, we would be able to evaluate what progress has been made since the last convention and see what areas are problematic and need attention. This would ensure that we get at least 4 reports on each project before each convention. We would be able to evaluate some projects like the Sick Bay, Father Nomi Complex and Scholarship Fund periodically.

NEC should resolve local chapters account issues as well as reporting formats in other not to violate our 501C status. NEC should also bring SOBA America accounts and legal status into compliance. We should make sure we are in compliance with the laws governing all parts and legal obligations of our association. This includes commitments to our local communities such as community service and involvement.

Proposals By SOBA Dallas At 2013 Mini-Convention

1- Improving the way SOBA America functions, its image and a new global rebranding effort to set new and higher standards.

2- Planning of major renovation gift (sports complex) as proposed by president Ntopi. We requested updates and asked the delegates for substantial funding if SOBA America really wants to complete this project with style. We requested to donation goal of about 20,000\$ towards this project. This would make the renovations significant and befitting of SOBA America’s reputation of generous gifts to SJC. We proposed getting more funds by making a bronze plate which will be displayed with names of donors who give above a certain threshold at the facility or appropriate location at SJC (proposed same in 2013). That will help raise funds for complex renovation. In the absence of such funds for a major

facelift, we proposed smaller gifts like state of the art dry marker boards for class rooms in S.J.C Sasse. Such a project would be cheaper and impactful. Providing dry markers for the boards annually would be very affordable. Most of these expensive projects we turn to engage in end up in many cases as pipe dreams for many years. Let us focus on smaller projects we can achieve which would be in many cases more appreciated by students of S.J.C.

3- Arrange for SOBA America’s president to visit Cameroon a couple of times at some point to attend a SOBA preparatory meeting, visit complex with architect, and make concrete plans on renovation of complex. We can’t run a successful project from here by simply delegating responsibility.

4- Proposed that Soba America suits be assigned to a SOBA America member. SOBA America has not had suits produced in a while.

5- Proposed that investment groups be encouraged amongst SOBANS during conventions. Minnesota has a similar group. SOBA America delegates should have a time slot for presentation of such ideas by fellow members and interested members can meet privately during conventions. We should consider creating such investment groups or social club a separate entity from our 501C structure.

Thank You Message From SOBA Dallas To 2013 Mini Convention

Delegates

On behalf of SOBA Dallas, I would like to thank and recognize all the delegates who made it to Big D for the 2013 Mini Convention. We were humbled by the huge turnout and support you all showed during your presence in Dallas. We are glad to report that we had over 20 delegates from out of the state of Texas alone!! I am not including Texas delegates. That alone was a remarkable feat. More than 15 visiting delegates took part in deliberations and about 25 from out of state took part in gala and other events.

Special thanks to Senior Soban Tony Atabong and his wife aunty queen for hosting us at their beautiful home. The Friday welcome event was a blast!!! Delegates were treated to an amazing breakfast before deliberations on Saturday and later lunch. It felt more like a breakfast buffet at a luxury hotel.....Thanks to president Ntopi, O.S Divine and PR officer Fidelis Nkeze for your outstanding work during the convention. We had very heated and constructive debates during deliberations which I believe would make SOBA America better. We had intense deliberations for more than 5 hours and covered more than just the agenda as the minutes will reflect. Deliberations started on time!! Late comers were shocked to see president Ntopi started without waiting. A new time keeping tradition which will continue in Minnesota.

Our gala was made even more special with an outstanding performance from our M.C and PR officer Fidelis Nkeze. The support and attendance of our Dallas community was at record levels. The first guests exiting the gala left at 4am. By 5am

we were down to 70 percent of our more than 300 guests still dancing! We could not have had a better night! Sister organizations like Saker and Okoyong took part and expressed their sympathies for the sad incident in Sasse College.

I would end by recognizing visiting delegates from SOBA America who made it to town in time for deliberations or gala.

- . 1- Beltus Ntopi
- . 2- Divine T ange
- . 3- Michael Fundogallah
- . 4- Alfred Takang
- . 5- Roland Ibini
- . 6- Elope Fonjungo
- . 7- Quintus Enow
- . 8- Julius Nganele
- . 9- Akeing Tiku
- 10- Koge Ejedepang-Koge 11- Wacka Louis
- 12- Valentine Gwellem 13- James Nkeze
- 14- John Ngue Mokom 15- Enongene Evaristus 16- Fidelis Nkeze
- 17- Ayuk Etta 18- Kenneth Njie
- 19- Conrad Ngongang 20- Major Agbor
- 21- Austin Bessong 22- Tom Eyambe

I know I am missing some visiting delegates from SOBA America chaptersMy bad!

Thanks To Our Outstanding Members And Leaders Of SOBA Dallas Below:

Beltus Ntopi	Dr. Kevin Njabo	Alain Taku	Martin Abada	Amadeus Dzekedze	Fidelis Nkeze	Devine Tange
<i>President</i>	<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Secretary General</i>	<i>Financial Secretary</i>	<i>Publicity Secretary</i>	<i>Organizing Sectary</i>

- . 1- Tony Atabong
 - . 2- Emmanuel Njikam
 - . 3- Larry Ekaney
 - . 4- Francis Njie
 - . 5- Edwin Ndoko
 - . 6- Henry Simo
 - . 7- Elonge Sona
 - . 8- Collins Ngwashi
 - . 9- Henry Njie
- 10- Ivo Edimo 11- Stanley Ati 12- Roland Ntoko 13- Lovett Nduge
- 14- Pele Obenge
 15- Frederick Itoe
 16- Soban Felix
 17- Manfred Tabe
 18- Edie Raphael
 19- Valery Elad
 20- Valantine Gwellem

Thanks once again to all the Sobans and Sobanese who worked hard to make this Mini Convention a resounding success. It was possibly the most highly attended mini convention with delegates from out of state (out of Texas).....20 plus!! We probably broke all fundraising records for Mini Conventions.

Thanks,
 Frederick Itoe President SOBA Dallas.

2. [Montreal Report:](#)

CHAPTER REPORT FOR 2014 SOBA MONTREAL

SOBA Canada was recently re-launched in September of 2012 and re-registered as SOBA MONTREAL in 2013 with the Montreal City Council this year.

This change has been effected to further consolidate our commitment to each other. It has been the hope that by now other Sobans in Canada (Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton and Ottawa) would have come together under one umbrella organisation. But this has not been the case.

Hence, the need for a more unifying and vibrant organisation has been necessitated. Moreso, the

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creation of Soba Montreal will give further impetus to our activities and the much deserved recognition of the immediate community we serve. So far we have supported more than 10 associations in cash or in kind for one activity or another. Last month we launched a second fund drive to raise funds to support some of our projects in Sasse as well as the Bulu Blind centre in Buea. It was a huge success.

NUMERICAL STRENGTH

The chapter boasts of 16 registered members with the local chapter and 5 of which are duly registered with SOBA AMERICA. This year we have increased the registered with SOBA America by 100 %. The numerical strength of SOBA Montreal including families reached a mile stone of 40 this year with the inclusion of two new beautiful children- Aline Maude Ibeagha and Asanji Jolene. We are proud of having a vibrant chapter of both the old and the young as far back as class of 1971 (Dr Otto Ikome). Dr. Peter Fossungu (class of 1975) and President Paul Ayah- who is present here with me today (class of 1975).

EXECUTIVES

President: Dr. Aloys Ibeagha

Vice President: Mr. Julius Njomo

Secretary General: Mr. Emmanuel Asanji

Treasurer: Mr. Emmanuel Niba

MEETINGS

Our meetings take place every third Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m and each member is assigned a particular month to host during the year. We also have 3 special yearly meetings where we attend with family members and friends, so we have the opportunity for our spouses and children to meet, share and socialize with the Soban family.

LOVE FEAST

At the end of each year we have a December love feast where we meet again with our families for

Christmas and there is a compulsory exchange of gift items for the spouses. All Soban children

Beltus Ntopi Dr. Kevin Njabo Alain Taku Martin Abada Amadeus Dzekedze Fidelis Nkeze Devine Tange
President Vice President Treasurer Secretary General Financial Secretary Publicity Secretary Organizing Secretary

receive their Christmas presents from Santa Claus. Soba Montreal has been beneficiary of Christmas gifts for the past three years from Generation Foundations.

Each meeting we have a compulsory monthly contribution of \$ 15.00 per member, (\$10.00 dollar dues and \$5.00 for entertainment).

BENEFITS:

BABY PRESENTATION:

Our bylaws have been crafted to provide certain assistance to members both in joyful times and in difficult circumstances. By this any new child born into the Soban family, members contribute \$25.00 per member of which \$ 250.00 is handed to the family as *“baby presentation token”*, and the balance goes into the floating fund.

On the Contrary in times of sadness, death of a parent, each member contributes \$ 100.00 per member support the bereaved. So far no death has occurred within our family that is covered by our bylaws.

On a final note we have started a special campaign to convince members of the importance to register with the National (Soba America). So far a total of 5 members are registered with SOBA America. (Dr. Ibeagha Aloysuis, Chairman Paul Ayah, Albert Sekoh, Emmanuel Asanji, Alexis Ejelle-Ndille)

My chapter is very excited to host the 2015 SOBA AMERICA Annual Convention in Montreal on the 19 - 22 MAY, 2015. The theme is *“TOGETHER WE STAND TALL ”*. Come and enjoy the Franco-Anglo serenity of Montreal. *Soyez la Bienvenue à Montreal*. As a young chapter we look forward to your unflinching support.

Thank you.

Dr. Aloys Ibeagha/ Mr. Emmanuel Asanji

SOBA MONTRÉAL.

3. Georgia Report:

Chapter Report to SOBA America

Fiscal Year: June 1st, 2014 to May 31st, 2014

Chapter Name: SOBA - GEORGIA

Officers: (who are your executives? what are their contact information (phone #, email)

President: Dr. Akoh, H. Asa'na

Phone #: 678-849-2477

Email Address: rheverend@yahoo.com

Vice President: Mr. Victor Ebai

Phone #: 404-542-3184

Email Address: Taku Ebai <2takuebai@gmail.com>;

Secretary General: Mr. Emmanuel Tange

Phone #: 443-897-2046

Email Address: emmanueltange@gmail.com

Treasurer: Mr. Ewongkeng Fonkeng

Phone #: 404-781-5197

Email Address: ewongkem fonkeng <ewongkem@yahoo.com>;

Financial Secretary: Mr. Benjamin Ntoko

Phone #: 678-392-7557

Email Address:

Publicity Secretary: Mr. Nakande Beltus

Phone #: 678-464-5059

Email Address:

Organizing secretary:

Phone #:

Email Address:

Meetings:

Chapter meeting times: Once every two months (or more often if necessary) on the second or third Saturday of the month.

Membership Analysis:

Who are your members? Approximately 39 registered with about 25 active members

Average meeting attendance: 20-25

Percentage (%) change each month: 5-10

How many have paid their dues: 39

Welcome new members (including births):6 new members; no births

Discuss latest news (marriages, births, death etc): Mostly celebrations for the graduating sons and daughters of Sobans

How many of your members have served or are serving SOBA America (NEC): 2

Financials:

Annual Dues paid @ local 39; national see National Treasurer's report

President's Club members:2

How do you generate funds: Fundraisers, Membership dues, Sobans lending money to the chapter

Provide update of chapter contributions to SOBA projects (e.g. Sick Bay): \$1000 to Sick Bay, Soba-Georgia plans to plant trees in Sasse College commemorating 75th anniversary.

Attach Treasurer's report: See Attachments

Achievements:

What are your major achievements: Raised close to \$9000.00 in December Christmas Party, Hosted a Soba Appreciation Day in September 2013, Health & Fitness Soccer Program, Greater Accountability, Support Cameroon Atlanta Community Camcoga events, Singing in Cameroon Catholic Community Mass on St. Joseph's Feast Day

What is it that makes your chapter unique (what are chapter programs)?Health Fitness Soccer Tournament, Soba Appreciation Day, Participated in Cameroon Community events, Sang at mass for St. Joseph's Feast Day, Supported Sobans with celebration of graduations etc. First year in a long time when no Soban in Georgia lost an immediate family member

What programs are successful? See Above

Discuss the problems of your chapter RIGHT NOW: Stimulus Fund for Soba-America registration; stimulus for life insurance program, meeting attendance, new members. Members currently owe this chapter \$1000.00 in unpaid balances.

Discuss how NEC can help your chapter (if any): Do not increase membership fees, provide equal support to family each registered Soban in the event of a bereavement even to members of same family.

What are your plans for next year?

Discuss what you can do to be a better chapter: Host Soba-America Convention in May 2015, volunteer at Atlanta soup kitchens or health facilities

Share your ideas (discuss ways) that SOBA America can improve & grow: Reach out to younger Sobans via the networking tools for this Gen Xers (Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, Instagram); create an outreach office(rs) to target these younger Sobans, provide incentives for them to join

Prepared by: Akoh, Asa'na

Date: May 20, 2014

4. **Washington DC Chapter**



DC CHAPTER EXECUTIVE

- *President: Akeing Tiku*
- *Phone #:301-455-8171*
- *Email Address:Akeing09@yahoo.com*
- *Vice President: Sume Ntoko*
- *Phone #:301-379-2362*
- *Email Address: willie72_98@yahoo.com*
- *Secretary General: Ekole Fonjungo*
- *Phone #:240-645-5177*
- *Email Address: shotcaller3200@yahoo.com*
- *Treasurer:Jean Jacques Tayou*
- *Phone #:703-946-7898*
- *Email Address:*
- *Publicity Secretary:Justus Betanga*
- *Phone #:301-379-2561*
- *Email Address*

Meetings

- **Chapter meeting times:**

SOBA Washington Metro meetings are held monthly from 8p to midnight.

Membership Analysis:

- Who are your members? Active 30 Attended two or more meetings and Inactive members 55
- There are currently 30 registered local members.
- Average meeting attendance: 12-15 attendees on average
- Percentage (%) change each month:2%
- How many have paid their dues: Chapter dues - 30 , National - Pending Report from Fin. Sec.
- Welcome new members (including births): NTOKO FAMILY Welcomed a baby girl.
- Latest news (marriages - None, births - Sume Ntoko, death - Albert M. Allotey , Ebenezar Eple
- The vice president, Sume Ntoko is celebrating the birth of a new baby girl on May 30th 2014
- How many of your members have served or are serving SOBA America (NEC): 6

Financial Update

- **Annual Dues paid:**
- **President's Club members:**
 - Akeing Tiku
 - Ngwa Aldrin
- **How do you generate funds:**
- Most of the funds are generated from members' local dues
- Provide update of chapter contributions to SOBA projects (e.g. Sick Bay)
- All dues paid
- Attach Treasurer's report: NA

What are your major achievements:

- We have made SOBA DC more inclusive to senior Sobans who had previously given up participation.
- Opening of SOBA DC bank account (Big)
- We have seen an increase in membership dues from senior Sobans who have also been hosting meetings and events.
- We are having more regular meetings now than before on a monthly basis with an average of 12-15 membership participation

- Fundraising - Attended funeral services and supported families of fallen sobans through fundraising - Sobans Ebenezer Epie and Albert Makanga Allotey.

SOBA - BIROCOL PARTNERSHIP
Eric Awambeng Funeral/ Catholic Community Leader DC



What is it that makes your chapter unique (what are chapter programs)?

- SOBA DC is very inclusive to new members and new ideas, starting with the President. This has been the hallmark of the chapter.
- Transparency
- Partnership with other Alumni Association - BIROCOL, OPSA
- Fundraising - Best Chapter to host any fundraising event.
- Main destination for Bishops/Clergy from Cameroon.
- Networking
- Home to most Sobans living in the USA.(350 - 500)

What programs are successful?

- Yearly mass
- Soccer competition with BIROCOL
- Sasse/Okoyong partnership
- Reception of bishops and clergy from Cameroon
- Support of members during births, deaths
- Support and participation with other local groups and organizations such as CWA etc

***Discuss the problems of your chapter
RIGHT NOW:***

- The main problem with the chapter is to get most of the many Sobans in the DMV to believe in the ideas and projects of the new SOBA DC
- Inconsistent Monthly Meetings.

***Discuss how NEC can help your
chapter (if any):***

- Hosting the Next Convention in DC.
- Supporting Local Projects Financially.

What are your plans for next year?

- **Discuss what you can do to be a better chapter.**
- **Increase Active Membership - Senior/ Junior Sobans.**
- **Leverage Monthly Meetings to increase local participation and National enrolment.**
- **Create a Chapter Website.**
- **Mentoring - SR Sobans mentoring JR Sobans.**
- **Giving Back to Sasse - Gift to Students & Staff**

Share your ideas (discuss ways) that SOBA America can improve & grow:

- **By being very inclusive and transparent to non-members.**
- **Rebranding SOBA**
- **Reviewing/Updating our “BY LAWS”**

Pa Ngando Event.



Pa Ngando Reception



Pa Ngando Event



Ekole Fonjungo

Prepared by

Akeing Tiku

Date: 5/17/2014

5. [New England Chapter:](#)

CHAPTER REPORT TO SOBA AMERICA

2014

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

Fellow Sobans,

As president of New England Chapter, I wish to extend seasonal greetings from my fellow members. Though many of them can't make it to this unique occasion of the century, their hearts and prayers are with us.

The State of New England is strong as we are able to meet up with our monthly and annual obligation, and other donations as demanded by the national executive to further our course as Sobans.

Our membership has not changed much, as most of our dedicated and hard working members have not moved. New England membership is as follows:

Julius Enang – President

Terence Ekwi - Vice President

Celestine Fondungallah – Treasurer (President Club)

Jude Mende – Financial Secretary

Kwenti Moses – Secretary

Norbert Kong – President Club

Elvis Enongene – President Club

Dr. Steve Bate – President Club

Dr. Bertrand Foteh – President Club

Dr. Emmanuel Kunju – President Club

Alfred Akoachere – President Club

Dr. Bill Tita

Victor Kwo

Walter Takem

Eric Obenge

Evarestus Ndum

Dereck Siweh

Desmond Ngomba

Raphael Nkwankam

MEETING:

New England Chapter meets once every month i.e. on the last Sunday of every month. During our meetings, discussions are centered on matters related to Sasse College, our members and other groups that always support us in our fund raising events.

SOCIAL EVENTS:

This past year, our chapter witnessed sad and happy moments. Late this year, we happily welcomed into Soba the birth of a baby boy into the Enongene’s family. On the other side, our national secretary lost his mother. Thanks to Sobans for their great support to the Abada’s family.

In other social events, we held our traditional end of year party in which soban families, friends and sympathizers came together to usher in the New Year, 2014. We also had a social family event at Salem Massachusetts in which Soban families came together for a cook out. Thanks to our junior Sobans who made this possible.

FINANCIAL:

Soba New England’s financial status is in good shape. However, we will like to increase what we have in our account so that we can envisage new projects for Sasse, and also pay our annual dues on time as always.

To conclude, we of New England are very honored and proud to be part of this great association. We can’t thank you more for giving us the opportunity to join all of you to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our alma mater. We of New England promise to uphold the flag of Soba to the best of our abilities and capabilities. Long live our Patron Saint Joseph, Long live Sasse College, and long live Soba America.

Julius Enang

President New England Chapter

6. [Houston Chapter:](#)

Chapter Report to SOBA America

Fiscal Year: June 1st 2013 to May 23rd 2014

Chapter Name: SOBA HOUSTON

Officers: (who are your executives? what are their contact information (phone #, email)

President: Ayuk Etta Out going

Beltus Ntopi	Dr. Kevin Njabo	Alain Taku	Martin Abada	Amadeus Dzekedze	Fidelis Nkeze	Devine Tange
<i>President</i>	<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Secretary General</i>	<i>Financial Secretary</i>	<i>Publicity Secretary</i>	<i>Organizing Secretary</i>

Sasse Old Boys Association

Kenneth Njie – President Elect

Phone # :(713) 336 3076

Email Address:

Vice President:

Enoh Mbei

Phone: (832) 510-8084

Secretary General & Financial Secretary: Tabu Bendrix

Phone # :(832) 689-0387

Email Address:

Treasurer: Fidelis Awungjia

Phone # :(832) 654-2408

Email Address:

Meetings:

Chapter meeting times: (First Saturday of the month from 8pm until 10:00pm)

Membership Analysis:

Who are your members? (total # active 28 and 35 inactive)

Average meeting attendance: 12

Percentage (%) change each month: 75%

How many have paid their dues: 55%

Welcome new members (including births):

Tifu Michael Etta

Ivana Awungjia

Discuss latest news (marriages, births, death etc):

My wife & I (Ayuk Etta) had a son (Tifu Michael E. Etta on 2/28/2014) and Cathy and Fidelis Awungjia also had a bouncing baby girl (Ivana Awungjia)on March 2nd 2014.

Houston was unfortunate to send home a SOBAN's to his final resting place. Dr. Fibian Ekwe who was a visiting member of SOBA Houston an adviser and advocate for SOBANs to be champions of our Catholic community in Houston. He was called to glory in Houston in March.

How many of your members have served or are serving SOBA America (NEC):

Past NEC member(s):

Elvis Mukete

Kimeng Victor

Current NEC serving members;

Dr. Nick Enow

Ayuk Etta

Kenneth Njie

Dan Mofor

Financials:

Annual Dues paid:55% National

President's Club members: Dr. Nick Enow, Dr. Koge Ejedepang, Dan Mofor

How do you generate funds:

SOBA Houston generates its funds through membership drives and fundraising parties. Houston was forced to suspend its fundraising event. However, we are planning to host a fundraising event before the end of the year.

Chapter Problems

SOBA Houston over the last year has been trying to revitalize and a part of this process was to pay its debt to its members to regain trust. We cleared our coffers for this purpose and we now have to rebuild. The process of replenishing is coming along well however, we are not yet out of the recession. One of our main challenges stems from us as members to commit to the growth of the chapter. We are optimistic we will get the support needed with the steady increase in membership. The new executive is has shown commitment and resilience which we believe will empower both SOBANs and ExSasse students to join in the successful revitalization program.

Prepared by: Ayuk E. Etta/Kenneth Njie

Date: 05/22/2014

7. TriState Chapter:

Chapter Report to SOBA America

Fiscal Year: June 1st _____ to May 31st _____

Chapter Name: Soba-Tristate

Officers: (who are your executives? what are their contact information (phone #, email)

President: Emmanuel Vekima

Phone #: 734 507 9191

Email Address: evekima@gmail.com

Vice President: Alphonse Ekole

Phone #: 586 876 7176

Email Address: draekole@gmail.com

Secretary General: Julius Wakam

Phone #: 810 217 5443

Email Address: kjwakam@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Victor Mensah

Phone #: 248 210 3486

Email Address: vnkmentsah@yahoo.com

Financial Secretary:

Phone #:

Email Address:

Publicity Secretary: Francis Orume

Phone #:

Email Address: musongo@aol.com

Organizing secretary:

Phone #:

Email Address:

Meetings:

Chapter meeting times: Once/2months

Membership Analysis:

Who are your members? (total # active and inactive)

Members reside in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, New York and Canada

Average meeting attendance: 80%

Percentage (%) change each month: 5%

How many have paid their dues: 50%

Welcome new members (including births): 10%

Discuss latest news (marriages, births, death etc): 0%

How many of your members have served or are serving SOBA America (NEC): 3

Financials:

Annual Dues paid:

President's Club members: 2

How do you generate funds:

Provide update of chapter contributions to SOBA projects (e.g. Sick Bay)

Attach Treasurer's report:

Achievements:

What are your major achievements: Hosted the 2013 National Convention

What is it that makes your chapter unique (what are chapter programs)? The idea of inclusiveness; this effort creates an organization that reaches out to our spouses, our families. We are introducing an incentive monthly “njangi” to oblige and attract members to the monthly meetings.

What programs are successful? The solidarity and fellowship efforts in assisting members in times of need

Discuss the problems of your chapter RIGHT NOW: Still low on membership. A lot of Sobans are reluctant in participating in the organization or do not believe in it at all.

Discuss how NEC can help your chapter (if any): None

What are your plans for next year?

Discuss what you can do to be a better chapter. The effort to increase meeting frequency from quarterly to monthly. The introduction of an incentive activity like the “njangi” that will attract and/oblige regular meeting attendance.

Share your ideas (discuss ways) that SOBA America can improve & grow:

Discourage the internal fights that exist within the organization

Improve the outreaching efforts.

Concentrate more on the organization as an entity first rather than as an arm or division of Sasse College

Prepared by: Emmanuel Vekima

Date: May 14, 2014

8. [WR chapter \(Ari, WA, Utah, Origen, and CA\). “The Virual Chapter”](#)

No chapter report. President was out of the country.

9. [Minnesota Chapter:](#)

Host chapter. No report necessary.

4. State of SOBA America Address by SOBA America President, Beltus Ntopi

Fellow SOBANS,

On behalf of the National Executive of SOBA-America, I want to officially welcome you all to the beautiful city of Minneapolis, the land of 10.000 lakes for our 24th Annual Convention. Special welcome to all delegates from as far North as Montreal to the deep south of Texas. I hope you all came ready for this fun-packed event. This is a very important event as we also celebrate the 75th Anniversary of our beloved alma mater. Allow me to seize this opportunity to very sincerely salute President Kinsley Ayangim and all the members of the Minnesota Chapter for their tireless efforts in putting this august occasion together. Folks, let`s give them a thunderous round of applause. It

has been a long, yet fruitful journey as it takes tremendous dedication and sacrifice to put conventions together. Again, thank you Minnesota.

At this juncture, please join me in observing a minute of silence in honor of all the Sobans and Soban family members who have left us for the world beyond in the course of the last fiscal year.

*****Everybody to rise for a minute of silence*****

Thank you. Please be seated.

We gather in Minnesota this weekend in continuation of a tradition started several years ago to bring together Sobans from around the United States, Canada and beyond with a view to nurturing and promote the ideals of our great alma mater, St Joseph’s College, Sasse. This common purpose is what brings us together every year as we stand tall in saluting those that came before us while keeping the faith alive for future generations.

Let me also seize this opportunity to congratulate our newly elected chapter President and member of the National Executive Council, Mr Kenneth Njie, Popularly known as Kenny Bams from Soba Houston. This gentleman is an outstanding leader who will do great work in serving Soba Houston and Soba America. A round of applause to him please.....

As I have always mentioned, the primary objective of this reunion is to re-dedicate ourselves to creating an enduring fraternity which encourages the sharing of traditions and values, respect for oneself and others, and responsibility towards Sasse College and the larger community.

So far, we have made giant strides and, over the last 3 years, we have worked extremely hard. We can say with renewed confidence that the state of Soba America is stronger than ever before and the future is even brighter than ever.

I have never been more gratified of what is being accomplished by Soba America. Under our visionary leadership, we are reaching new heights of excellence.

In an effort to build relationships with other organizations, Soba America has finally succeeded in acquiring \$10,000 worth of Medical supplies for the new sick bay in Sasse College. These supplies are estimated to last for at least five years before restocking might be needed.

Two years ago, we formed the Soba America Sponsorship fund SASF to help raise funds using our status as a not-for-profit entity. These funds will be used to help make a Sasse education accessible to kids from impoverished homes amongst projects. It is my pleasure to announce that starting September 2014, 2 young boys from an Orphanage in Cameroon have been selected to attend Sasse College under this Project. Many Sobans have pledged their support for this project and our fund raising message for this convention is the Orphanage project.

In addition to our current life insurance policy, we are introducing SAGI USA (Active Solidarity LTD) to all Sobans with the sole mission to fund the repatriation of deceased members back home. More details of this Organization will be presented today by the Vice President.

In order to motivate the current students of St Joseph’s College Sasse, and maintain the highest scores in the Ordinary and Advanced levels, we disbursed our yearly scholarship award of about 700,000 FCFA to recognize outstanding students this May during the annual prize giving ceremony. Students’ performances have been directly impacted by this scholarship as Sasse College has been in first place in Cameroon for both Ordinary and Advanced level examinations for the past three years since the program’s inception.

In our quest to foster unity, progress and excellence amongst Sobans, we have seen less hostility and discord and more civility and respect for one another in our online communication on the egroup. This has helped to speed up dispute resolutions as well as create a better working atmosphere for our beloved association.

Due to our open-door policies and democratic procedures, we have been able to get younger Sobans to actively participate in the activities of our organization. We have hence seen an increase in leadership roles by younger Sobans especially at chapter levels.

The Soba America Rebranding Committee has been created to revamp Soba America by addressing Sobans’ concerns regarding the current state of our association. This committee has been charged with coming up with recommendations on the correct implementation of our guidelines. The committee will address the state of the current website, conventions, our legal status and much more projects as assigned by the President. Thanks to Soba Dallas President Mr Fred Mafany Itoe for accepting to chair this much needed committee.

My dear Sobans, making a financial commitment to Soba America is critical to maintaining the association’s viability as a world-class body that is capable of carrying out and completing projects. Especially in this economy, it’s more important now than ever to consider Soba America in your annual giving, just as you would for your local food bank or religious center. Any monetary amount makes a difference, and you can feel confident that a gift to the Soba America Annual scholarship or orphanage fund is used for the intended purpose. These funds will enable students of all financial situations to experience the Sasse we know and love and to fulfill our mission.

In as much as we are excited about the above-mentioned accomplishments, we are also reminded of the challenges that lie ahead. Moving forward, my administration shall continue to work tirelessly to ensure that progress is made in the following areas:

Work with chapter presidents to increase membership of Soba America while also bringing into the fold those Sobans who have preferred stronger allegiance to class groups than to the larger Soba

Beltus Ntopi Dr. Kevin Njabo Alain Taku Martin Abada Amadeus Dzekedze Fidelis Nkeze Devine Tange
President Vice President Treasurer Secretary General Financial Secretary Publicity Secretary Organizing Secretary

structure. In the same vein, we are encouraging more members to join the President’s club as this helps to boost our financial standing.

We are also working with chapter Presidents to collect outstanding chapter contributions for the Sick bay Project.

As we look forward to a fruitful deliberations during this convention and a superb 75th anniversary celebration, let unity be the watch word, because a hopeful future can only become a reality if we work together as a team. Together, let us continue to make Sasse that shiny city on the hill.

Finally, let the success of our endeavors be a testament to the greatness of our organization.

I want to thank each and every one of you who have taken the time to be here in Minnesota.

Welcome to this Wonderful State and may St Joseph continue to guide us.

Long live St Joseph’s college Sasse

Long live Sasse Alumni Association

Long live Soba America

5. Rebranding Committee: Presentation by Frederick Itoe.



Some of the Goals of Rebranding Committee

- Structure of our organization/Legal status
 - SOBA America – Website
 - Accounting practices / Tax fillings
 - SOBA America – Magazine
 - Role of NEC and General Assembly
 - Rotation calendar for Convention and rules
 - SOBA America – Records Keeper
-
- The transmitter would in turn send a signal to the receiver, which would allow power to pass to the device.

Structure of our organization/Legal status

- Clarify our status
- Improve our functioning
- Determine fundraising avenues
- social responsibility to community
- Legal obligations to the state/ federal government
- IRS Form 1032 / questions and answer

Structure of our organization/Legal status(Public inspection)

- Amendments with the IRS
- Form 990, form 990-T if available
- Taxes over the past 3 years
- Determination letter
- Conflict: Sasse Alumni Association/ SOBA America
- Forms, any attachment and correspondences
- IRS recommendations

Structure of our organization/Legal status(CONT'D)
IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED

- Hire a paid specialist
- Contract and memorandum of understanding
- Process and duration
- Short term Cost
- Consequences
- Current work with president Ntopi

SOBA America-Website

- Website managing board
- Website review by expert
- Online: number source for information
- Good website and Credibility

- All our programs
- Donation mechanisms
- Registration by guests
- Registration by members
- Videos
- Daily updates from Sobans worldwide
- SJC would be included online
- Etc See proposal

SOBA America-Website Board running site

- All relevant documents
- SOBA America news and information
- SOBA Magazine's editorial board
- Website team /SOBA America Magazine

**SOBA America-Website
IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED**

- NEC/SOBA America should fund new site
- More professional and better designed
- Improving our image.

Accounting Practices/Tax Fillings

- Financial practices of similar 501C organizations
- Hire qualified accountant on a flat rate annually
- Quarterly reports/Annual reports
- Tax fillings/quarterly/annually
- SOBA America treasurer/Financial secretary

Accounting Practices/Tax Fillings (CONT'D)

- Local Chapter finances/reports
- Profit loss statements
- Itemized expense reports
- Year to date comparism last year versus this year
- Charts reflecting our financial state,
- Annual comprehensive report etc

SOBA America - Magazine

- SOBA America magazine editorial board
- Composition of board: 3 members
- Chapter representation
- Work with website team
- Annual/quarterly publication

SOBA America – Magazine CONTENT

- Conventions
- SOBA America mentoring programs
- Local chapter news, events, articles by Sobans
- Sobans in the news, History of Sasse, awards,
- special occasions

SOBA America - Magazine IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED

- Editor in chief: Mr. Michael Fondungallah
- Three year term/ Renewable

Role of NEC and General Assembly

- Role of NEC
- Role of General Assembly
- Legal: Roles per fillings/Amendments
- Release of document detailing roles

Rotation Calendar for Conventions and Rules

- How hosing cities are chosen
- Existence of rotation calendar
- Rules for skipping calendar
- President: make available any GA or NEC rules
- Propose presenting rules to GA in proposal if absent

Mini Convention rotation and Decisions:

- Mini Convention versus a Convention.
- Powers of each
- Decision making structure
- Validity of mini Conventions
- Making of its decisions are non-binding.
- Mini convention locations

Mini Convention rotation and Decisions
IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED:

- NEC making public explaining document
- Powers of a Mini Convention
- Powers of a convention

SOBA America - Records Keeper

- Transition of different administrations / Records
- Role of Secretary General per bylaws
- Document all SOBA America relevant documents
- Propose transition procedures and records

SOBA America - Records Keeper: CONT'D

- Examples: minutes and achieves of SOBA America
- , tax fillings over the years,
- articles of incorporation
- amendments amongst others
- address any concerns or disputes.

SOBA America: Members of Rebranding Committee

- Mr. Akeing Tiku
- Mr. Tony Atabong
- Mr. Michael Fondungallah
- Mr. James Nkeze
- Mr. Edwin Daniel Ndoko
- Mr. Divine Tange
- Dr. Koge Ejedepang Koge
- Mr. P. Nnoko
- Mr. Frederick Mafany Itoe

Vote to give authority to SOBA America President to approve expenditure to do rebranding.

Vote to approve: 22

Vote not to approve: No hands were raised.

Motion to approve expenditure to rebrand SOBA America passed.

6. Update on the orphanage project SASF: Presentation by Devine Tange

SASF is SOBA America Sponsorship Fund. SASF was created 2 years ago in Arizona. Its aim is to sponsor 2 orphan kids in Cameroon attend Sasse College.

We have sent out emails and received very little feedback. We need SOBANS to generate idea that we can use as leads to generate funds for this project. If you know someone who this project can contact to generate funds please let them know

The good news is that we are going to sponsor to kids to Sasse next academic year. We are waiting for Father Nouck, the Principal to give us the names of 2 kids.

Special thanks to Dr Koge, Dr Henry Njie who have indicated their willingness to help with this project. This projects is open to everyone for any amount you may have.

Suggestions that we don't actually start this project until we have collected enough to cover tuition for 5 years in Sasse since this is our commitment for the kids.

We are trying to motivate people and waiting for the total amount to be collected will not be advisable. the hope is that we we start, people we see the benefits for this want to contribute. Also the Bishop has agreed to sponsor one of the children so SOBA America is actually sponsoring only one kid. We have 1500 in the fund to do this.

Resolution: SASF will sponsor 2 kids next academic year in Sasse through the SASF initiative- 2015/2016. Motion passed.

7. Bylaws amendment vote

We have 3 things on the table that the Bylaws Committee is working on.

- 1. **Dues:** Do we want to increase annual dues? Due have been since inception of SOBA America has been \$100. Vote: for increase: 6 . Vote not to increase: 22.

Resolution: There will be no increase in annual dues. The Annual Dues remains at \$100.

Wanossan Amendment: This amendment is to authorize SOBA America to give \$250 from our account and run a fund drive for Masters who died in Cameroon. NOTE: all Masters are SOBANS.

Vote for : 20

Vote against: 10

Resolution: Wanossan Amendment passed: The Wanossan amendment is to support deceased Masters of Sasse College with \$250 and a fund drive.

- 2. **Term Limit for President:** Our current bylaws states that the President has 2 terms but it also says if President wants to run again, they can. So, the proposal is that the President can run for a maximum of 2 consecutive terms of 2 years.

Vote for: 26

Vote against: 4

Resolution: Make term limits for executive positions and presidency for a maximum of 2 concurrent terms of 2 years each. Motion passed.

- 3. Convention dues: This will be presented by Mola Ndoko.

4. Convention Fee proposal by Mola Edwin Ndoko

The convention dues has not change since the inception of SOBA America even though the cost of living has dramatically increase. The argument is to increase the the convention fees for those who attend the convention from \$10 to \$100. this will “cover everything” : When you come to convention, you won’t have to pay for anything (gate fees, food etc).

Q: The convention dues is suppose to be part of the budget. Why do we need to pay extra for convention fees? What is the due going for?

Ans: Paying for convention dues is customary for any other associations that we belong to. Why is that when it comes to SOBa we don’t want to pay for the convention fee?

Vote for \$100 convention fee: 31

Vote against \$100 - to continue with status quo: 4

Resolution: Increase convention fees from from \$10. Motion passed. Fees increased to \$100.

5. SAGI by VP Dr Kevin Nana

SAGI is an insurance scheme that we want SOBA America to be part of it. The objective of SAGI is simple.

If you are a member who dies here in America, SAGI will pay for the repatriation of your remains to Cameroon. You can also register you family members.

Once register, you name was correspond to your passport ID and SAGI will give you a matriculation number which corresponds to that name.

We have 2 questions that we need to answer to determine if you can be a member of SAGI.

- 1. Do you want to be buried in Cameroon?
- 2. Do you belong to an Association that is based in USA that has more than 10 members?

If you answer to these questions is yes, then you can be a member of SAGI. If your answer is no to any of the questions above, you can not be a member of SAGI.

Membership dues: There are no membership dues to belong to SAGI. You become by affirming that you want to belong to SAGI through your answers to the questions above. Since there are no annual dues, there is a \$20 fund that each member send to their treasurer as a down payment towards your due to your particular association so that when there is a die, the treasurer will deduct your share from that \$20 until it drops down below \$5 whereby you are asked to replenish the fund.

If there is a death, an announcement is sent to the members of the SAGI. SAGI makes a contribution to that family of \$15000 and takes over the arrangement for repatriation of the body including contact with funeral homes and payment of flight etc. After the arrangements are finalized, the family will get the remainder of the what is left of the \$15000.

Every association has **one week** to contribute their share to SAGI. Currently, that is about is \$3 per member. The goal is to have each member contribute \$1 towards the repatriation of a member to Cameroon. there are not there yet. *If the association that the member belongs to does not send their total contribution to SAGI within one week, the entire association with all its members is removed (cancelled) as a member of SAGI.*

The amount of association which that association was supposed to pay, will then be redistributed to the entire SAGI organization to come up with that sum that was short.

If you want to learn more about SAGI, you can visit their website at SAGI-usa.org

Q: What if a SAGI member dies in Cameroon?

Ans: You are already there.

Do you want SOBA America to be part of SAGI?

Vote for: 26

Vote against: No hands up.

Resolution: Enrollment of Soba into SAGI organization. The motion passed.

3. SOBA America Life Insurance by Quintus Enow

We have been talking about life insurance for more than 20 years and last year, SOBA America gave us the go ahead and make this happen.

Sam Ndeley who is a representative for the Cultural group here in Minnesota was contacted. We were priced for 40 people for quote of less than \$120 per year. Members get \$25,000 for benefits when fully vested which is after one year of membership. For the first year you only get half of the \$25,000. Note: you will receive \$25000 until you are age 65. After age 65, the amount drops but as you get older, your premium also reduces.

Last year was our renewal. Renewal is every November 1st. There is no medical examination for the first year. For the second year, each new members is required to do a medical exam but luckily, we were not asked to do that for our new members. If you are interested please call Quintus so he can add you.

4. SOBA UK President Ayuk Ako Arrey

I have been in UK for 26 years. For the first 15 years i am not involved in SOBA UK affairs. Occasionally I will turn up for some conventions. for the past 11 years I have involved and this year I became the President.

Vision: Wants to make SOBA relevant to its members. Can SOBANs come to us when they have issue?

I think the answer is probably not because we are just prodding along. We want to make our association relevant to its members. and be a lot more successful

We want to create a strong link with US and SOBA in general so we can share ideas and figure out how we can move forward.

Q: What are you guys doing to bring the Sick Bay project to success?

Ans: SOBA UK wants to link the Sick Bay to the 75th Anniversary. SOBA General has identified Sick Bay as the project for the anniversary. The contribution from UK members will go specifically to the Sick Bay Project even though our contribution is for the 75 Anniversary.

5. SOBA Suits by Jackson Elonge

Samples of the SOBA suits were modeled.



Cost: \$275 each. You will need a downpayment of \$150 to get the suit sown. When it arrives, you will then pay the balance.

Q: How is this suit different from the one we currently have?

Ans: The new suit is just to match with the changing times because size, tight fitting etc

Q: How do you submit measurements for suit?

Ans: Send email with your American size.

Q: What is the time frame for the suits to be ready?

Ans: He needs at least 40 to 50 suits ordered so that the orders can be placed with the manufacturer. If this done, the suits can be ready in 2 weeks.

6. 75th Anniversary Update & Gifts by President Ntopi

Our 75th Anniversary is scheduled for Thursday Dec 18th through Saturday Dec 21st 2014. Saturday Dec 21st is the main event.

Committees for the preparation for the 75th Anniversary: Committees have been formed and if names were submitted, you are part of the committee.

Dress code: Navy Blazer to be worn for Saturday. It is not the matching SOBA suits that we always use. The pants is a grey pants. The cost is \$50. They are going to buy a huge quantity for this. The quality is good but not like you guys here at accustomed to wearing.

Printing: Hold off printing things with SOBA logo because they want to customize the logo so everything will match.

Thursday and Friday dress code: A polo shirt (like Dallas wear) will be worn for those 2 days.

Contribution: there is a mandatory 75th Anniversary fee of 25000 for all SOBANs whether you are attending or not. How do we collect this money?

Chapter Presidents can collect the money and send to NEC. How do we enforce this mandatory payment?

This will be difficult to enforce especially for those who won't be attending the 75th anniversary.

Gifts: What is SOBA America going to give Sasse College for its 75th Anniversary? We should be ready to do something so I am trying to find out what others have in mind.

Suggestions:

1. What about the Sick Bay?
 1. This has now become a SOBA project. It is no longer being spearheaded by SOBA Uk.
2. The value should of about 5% of what we have in our coffers and the executives can decide what to get for that amount of money
3. Give \$20000 to Sasse (and we tell them what project we want them to do such as painting the school, renovate a dormitory so some SOBANs can stay in them for the occasion.

- 4. Pay to do landscaping for the campus.
- 5. Provide some kind of medical equipment (defibrillator) for SOBANs who will be coming to Sasse.
- 6. Father Nomi project. This has been approved already so can we just give it as a gift to Sasse?

7. Special Projects: Class of 1972 by Dr Kunju

Class of 72 had the Gate Project since 2006. The Project is to renovate the main gate of Sasse. They raised \$20000 in Atlanta and other individual contributions towards this project. Yaounde chapter was also interested in this project.

Bishop Bushu gave specific specifications for the gate such as that it should withstand an earthquake. He approved our design and gave us the go ahead to do the renovation.

All of a sudden, current SOBA General , Professor Angwafor decided his group (Yaounde Chapter) was going to do the project. He went and asked our workers to stop the project and 3 weeks ago, our class stopped the gate Project. we later found out that Bishop Bushu did not give them the permission for this.

The class of 72 have stopped this project and returned the monies contributed to its members. Our class will do something individually with students directly. The class will help with the Sponsorship of orphans to attend Sasse.

This is just to update the General Assembly.

A petition is being circulated here in the General Assembly to sanction the SOBA President General. The petitioners believe that he has acted unlawfully and unethical. There has to be the rule of law. We need to make the President General know that we are un happy with his decision to stop a project that has been blessed by our Bishop.

An needs opportunity needs to be given to President General to hear his version of his story. Members called on the General Assembly to draft a letter to SOBA President General to hear his version of the story.

If his response is negative and Dr Kunju’s version is correct, then SOBA America needs to suspend all financial contribution to SOBA Cameroon.

SOBA America President cautioned that this is not a SOBA America problem and we should refer this matter to the Class of 72, Yaounde chapter and SOBA Cameroon.

8. Other Matters: General Assembly discussion including convention venue

Who will host our next convention. Take into consideration that next year is an election year. Two cities Montreal and Houston are bidding to host our convention.

Montreal has been promised to host our next convention but considering that next year is an election year and some of us have “doki” problems we need to take this into consideration.

Montreal is a full member of this association and needs to be given the respect to host our convention whether it is an election year or not. There have not been a year where 100% of its members attend conventions. If there are 60% of members in attendance, then we carry out the election.

Vote for convention to be hosted by Montreal: 14

Vote for convention to be hosted by Houston: 10:

Q: What is the need for voting when we have a hosting calendar? We should have followed the calendar.

Ans: Montreal has been promised that they will host a convention. Montreal was suppose to host last year, but we agreed that TriState (Michigan) will host and therefore Montreal was promised to host next year. So, next year is Montreal's turn.

Q: Why can't we do proxy voting if attendance at Montreal is a concern?

Q: We need to redraw the hosting calendar and fit Montreal in it.

Ans: We have a hosting rotation. There is a clause that if a new chapter comes into existence, and are ready to host our convention, we need to give them precedence to host our convention. The convention rotation resumes after the new chapter has hosted.

9. Interhouse Competition:

There an interpose competition going on. We want to raise some funds to purchase some jerseys to be handed to students in Sasse.

Dorm captains were selected to collect from their dorm mates. This is a two day event that will end on Sunday. the trophy will be handed to the house that collect the most money.

10. Closing remarks and official announcement of 2015 Silver Jubilee Convention venue

It was announced by President Ntopi that Houston will host the Mini Convention this year and our Convention in 2016.

Montreal will host our convention in 2015.



And there was PEACE!

Beltus Ntopi	Dr. Kevin Njabo	Alain Taku	Martin Abada	Amadeus Dzekedze	Fidelis Nkeze	Devine Tange
<i>President</i>	<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Secretary General</i>	<i>Financial Secretary</i>	<i>Publicity Secretary</i>	<i>Organizing Sectary</i>

SOBA America Convention - Minnesota
May 23rd 2014

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Compiled by Martin Abada

Secretary General, SOBA America

Lynn, Mass

8/02/14

All convention pictures were posted to our website. Visit sobamerica.org.

- End of scribe-

Sasse Old Boys Association