

# Sasse Alumni Association Inc

"An Alumna Association of the Ex-Students  
of St. Joseph's College, 'Sasse-Cameroon"  
A 501(c)3 Charitable Organization



## President Njukang Asong's message - July 2025

Greetings!

As the summer sun rises over our vast continent, illuminating the paths we've forged together, I am thrilled to share this inaugural July edition of our monthly newsletter. This isn't just an update—it's a heartfelt celebration of our enduring spirit, a call to action for our shared vision, and a bridge connecting us across chapters, borders, and generations. As your newly elected President, I invite you to join me in envisioning a SOBA America that's not only stronger and more united but also vibrant with innovation and purpose. Let's dive in!

## A Heartfelt Tribute: Honoring Our Past, Embracing the Future



I want to start by expressing my deepest gratitude to the Fote Administration for their unwavering dedication during this pivotal transition. Their seamless handover has set the

stage for what promises to be an extraordinary chapter in our history. A special shoutout to Emeritus President Dr. Bertrand Fote—your selflessness in mentoring my team and ensuring we're fully prepared is nothing short of legendary. Picture this: late-night strategy sessions, candid advice that cuts through the noise, and a genuine passion that reminds us why we do what we do. Dr. Fote's legacy isn't fading; it's the bedrock we're building upon.

This isn't goodbye—far from it. Dr. Fote and his team remain vital allies in our journey. Their wisdom will guide us as we tackle new challenges, from fostering community ties to expanding our reach. Together, we're not just continuing their work; we're amplifying it, turning good ideas into great realities.

### **Rallying for Action: Our First NEC Meeting and Key Priorities**

Excitement is in the air as we gear up for our first National Executive Council (NEC) Meeting on July 6, 2025. This isn't just another meeting—it's a launchpad for transformation, where we'll align our leadership and ignite action on the issues that matter most to you. Imagine a room buzzing with energy, where ideas spark like fireworks, and decisions shape the future of SOBA America.

Top priorities include:

- **Establishing the First-Ever SOBA America Banquet Hall:** We're not just talking about a venue; we're envisioning a state-of-the-art hub for cultural events, networking, and celebrations. Committees will kick off immediately to secure funding, locations, and partnerships.
- **Decisions on Mini Conventions and SOBA America Day:** These events will be more than gatherings; they'll be milestones of unity.
- **Empowering Chapters with Financial Resources:** To fuel community and charity events, we'll allocate resources for local initiatives—whether it's supporting scholarships, hosting food drives, or organizing health awareness campaigns. Your chapter's ideas could be the next big success story!
- **Finalizing Our Annual Budget and More:** This meeting will also address fiscal responsibility, ensuring every dollar amplifies our impact.

SOBANS, our vision of a thriving SOBA America hinges on *you*. You chose this leadership because you believe in transformation, and we can't achieve it alone. You're not just members—you're leaders, ambassadors, and innovators. What if your next idea became the catalyst for change? Step up, share your passion, and let's own this responsibility with pride, unity, and unbreakable purpose.

To that end, we have launched the **SOBA America Feedback Survey**. This isn't a formality; it's your voice shaping our future. The survey focuses on two key questions:

- **What's your feedback on the 2025 SOBA America Convention in Detroit, and what solutions do you propose?**
- **What three changes would you like to see in SOBA America, and what three initiatives would you like implemented? Let's turn your dreams into action.**

Please click on the link to respond - [SOBA America Convention Survey](#)

Your responses could spark real change, so please respond promptly!

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## **SOBA Minnesota Celebrates Father's Day**



In the spirit of unity and joy, let's shine a light on our brothers in SOBA Minnesota, who recently launched an inspiring annual Father's Day celebration. SOBANS, picture a remarkable evening of brotherhood: laughter echoing through the hall, heartfelt toasts, and a palpable sense of family that captures the essence of Sasse.

On behalf of SOBA America, we extend our deepest thanks to everyone who made this event a resounding success. Out-of-state SOBANS who traveled to join SOBA MN—your dedication was the heartbeat of the night, proving that distance can't dim our bonds. To all local members, your energy and selflessness turned it into a vibrant tribute to fatherhood and community.

This wasn't just an event—it was a blueprint for what we can achieve together. With the overwhelming feedback, SOBA Minnesota is committed to bring even more energy to the 2026 National Convention. Highlights included recognizing exceptional fathers, a thrilling fundraiser for underprivileged kids in Sasse, and an energetic rendition of the college anthem that had everyone on their feet.

Thank you all for your unwavering support of SOBANism—let's keep this flame burning bright!





## In Memoriam: A Heartfelt Farewell to SOBANA Joseph Ivo Yudom



With heavy hearts and profound respect, we bid farewell to a true pillar of our community, SOBANA Joseph Ivo Yudom (Matriculation #1358, Class of 1962). Pa Yudom passed away on March 17th after a valiant battle with illness, leaving behind a legacy of kindness, humor, and selfless service that will echo through SOBANA America forever.

His funeral services on June 14th in Lanham, MD, were a powerful testament to the unity we cherish. SOBANS from across the nation gathered, alongside members of his other affiliations, filling the air with hymns and songs of praise that honored his life. Highlights included a moving requiem mass, a guard of honor as his casket departed the church, and the presentation of the SOBANA America Memorial Shield and a \$10,000 check to his beloved widow, Mami Yudom, by Emeritus President Fote.



Pa Yudom was a cherished member of SOBA DMV and SOBA America, known for his infectious spirit and unwavering support. He leaves behind his wife, his children, many grandchildren's, extended family, friends, classmates, and fellow SOBANS. May his soul rest in eternal peace, and may we carry his memory forward with pride.

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## A Joyous Milestone: Bishop Bibi's Silver Jubilee Celebration!

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With hearts full of gratitude and excitement, we celebrate the extraordinary 25th Priestly Anniversary (Silver Jubilee) of His Lordship, Bishop Michael Bibi, Bishop of Buea! This momentous occasion was marked with a vibrant and heartfelt celebration on June 22, 2025, at 2:30 PM at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church.

This Silver Jubilee was a powerful testament to Bishop Bibi's unwavering dedication, inspiring leadership, and profound service to the Church and God's people over the past 25 years. It was a privilege for our SOBA community to come together in unity, joy, and thanksgiving to honor this remarkable milestone.

We extend our warmest congratulations to Bishop Bibi for his enduring commitment and faithful ministry. May God continue to guide and bless him with strength, wisdom, and grace as he leads his flock with compassion and vision.

A special note of gratitude goes to the vibrant SOBANS of SOBA Carolinas, led by the dynamic



President Valery Bah, whose enthusiastic participation made this event truly unforgettable. We also express our deep appreciation to Emeritus Dr. Betrand Fote for representing the President of SOBA America, adding to the significance of this celebration.

Your presence, prayers, and participation in the special Offertory procession brought warmth and meaning to this joyous day. Together, we showcased the strength and spirit of our SOBAN community in support of Bishop Bibi's incredible journey.

Thank you for making this celebration a radiant and memorable moment. May God's abundant blessings continue to shine upon you all!

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## FAQs about Membership, Dues and more

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### Join the Movement: SOBA America's Membership Drive

As we usher in the new fiscal year (June 1, 2025, to May 31, 2026), it's the perfect time to strengthen our family. If you're not yet a member, don't wait another day. If you've already renewed for 2025/2026, a heartfelt thank you. Now, challenge yourself: Bring a fellow Soban on board and watch our community grow.

Why join? Membership isn't just a card; it's a gateway to exclusive benefits, lifelong connections, and a sense of belonging. From networking opportunities that could lead to your next career milestone to discounts that save you real money, the perks are endless. But here's the catch: The deadline to renew and avoid a six-month probation period for key benefits is **August 31, 2025**. Our dues are just \$150 annually, and remember, the SOBA America year starts June 1, so renew early to stay in good standing after the 15-day grace period.

Elevate your involvement by joining the **President's Club** for \$1,000. This elite group not only covers your dues for five years (\$750) but also channels \$250 directly to our scholarship fund, empowering the next generation of Sobans. It's more than membership—it's a legacy investment.

Ready to get involved? Here are seamless ways to join or renew:

1. **Through your local chapter:** Connect with your chapter leader for personalized guidance.
2. **Online at our website:** Visit [www.sobamerica.org](http://www.sobamerica.org) today—it's quick, secure, and just a few clicks away.
3. **Via Zelle App:** Send to \$sobamericatreasury and include your name and chapter for easy tracking.
4. **Via PayPal:** Transfer to [treasurer@sobamerica.org](mailto:treasurer@sobamerica.org), and don't forget to note your details.

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – Membership, Dues, and Benefits

SOBA America values transparency and member engagement. We understand that navigating dues, membership requirements, and benefits can be complex. Below is a comprehensive list of frequently asked questions to help clarify your rights, responsibilities, and entitlements as a valued member of our community.

#### 1. What are the current membership dues for SOBA America?

Annual dues for standard membership are \$150, which includes a \$50 contribution to the SOBAN Death Benefit Fund. This fund provides a \$10,000 death benefit to the next of kin of a deceased member in

good standing. Members may also join the President's Club with a one-time payment of \$1,000. This contribution includes five years of membership dues, with the remainder supporting the SOBA America Scholarship Fund. Flexible payment options are available, including one-time, two, or four installments. Membership dues help fund operations, programs, scholarships, and member benefits.

## **2. What was the new bylaw change regarding membership adopted at the 2025 Convention?**

The 2025 amendment introduced criteria for shareholder eligibility. To qualify, a member must be a former student or teacher of St. Joseph's College, Sasse, residing in the Americas and affiliated with a chapter recognized as being in good standing. A chapter is in good standing if it complies with SOBA America's constitution, submits dues in a timely manner, avoids affiliation with other SOBA bodies, and maintains at least 10 active members. This amendment promotes consistency, accountability, and unity among chapters.

## **3. What is the significance of the August 31st dues deadline?**

Members must renew dues by August 31st each fiscal year to maintain eligibility for financial and bereavement benefits. Members who miss this deadline will be placed on a six-month probation, during which certain financial benefits, including the death benefit, are suspended. Renewing on time ensures uninterrupted access to all benefits. The fiscal year runs from June 1 to May 31.

## **4. Should I wait until August 31st to pay my dues?**

No. Members are encouraged to renew as early as possible, preferably at the start of the fiscal year on June 1. Renewing early ensures continuous coverage and eligibility for all benefits, especially in unforeseen emergencies. Waiting until the last day risks loss of benefits during the grace period.

## **5. What happens if I'm a new member or didn't renew last year?**

New members and those returning after a lapse will be subject to a six-month probation period before financial benefits become active. Additionally, a two-year continuous membership is required before eligibility for the \$10,000 death benefit. This rule is in place to ensure fairness and sustainability of our benefit programs.

## **6. Are there benefits that do not require a probation period?**

Yes. New and returning members immediately gain access to several non-financial benefits, such as participation in the mentorship program, discount programs, professional networking opportunities, chapter-level engagement, leadership training, and access to exclusive content on the member portal.

## **7. What is the Membership Discount Program?**

This program offers SOBA America members exclusive discounts at more than 2,000 U.S. and 450 Canadian businesses. Benefits include savings on automotive services, retail purchases, groceries, school supplies, entertainment, rental cars, travel accommodations, and more. It is one of the most tangible and immediate benefits of membership.

## **8. How do I access these discounts?**

To activate your discount access, register on the official SOBA America website and verify your membership through the Member Portal. Once verified, you can log in, browse categories, search participating businesses, and redeem offers using your digital membership ID.

## **9. Do I need to be in good standing to receive financial or death benefits?**

Yes. You must be current on all dues and any other mandatory financial obligations at the time of the qualifying event. Benefits are only accessible to members in good standing. It's important to maintain timely payments and ensure your chapter remains compliant as well.

## **10. What bylaw was passed in 2023 regarding death benefit eligibility?**

Members must maintain uninterrupted membership for at least two consecutive SOBA America fiscal years to be eligible for the \$10,000 death benefit. Any lapse in membership resets the two-year clock. This amendment ensures the long-term sustainability and fairness of the fund.

## **11. What does this two-year rule mean practically?**

For example, if a member joins on July 1, 2024, and maintains membership without interruption, they will be eligible for the death benefit by July 1, 2026. If dues are missed at any point, they must restart the two-year eligibility period. This rule emphasizes the importance of continuous participation.

## **12. What is the 2023 Birth Benefit Resolution?**

Under this resolution, when a child is born to a SOBANESE (wife of a SOBAN), the SOBA America President will publicly announce the birth. The SOBAN's CashApp, Zelle, or PayPal will be shared with the community to encourage voluntary gifts. The member must be in good standing.

## **13. Is written notification required for the birth benefit?**

Yes. Notification of the birth must be made in writing—ideally via email—to the SOBA America President or designated officer. Verbal notifications or social media posts alone are not sufficient.

## **14. Where can I find these policies and bylaws?**

All official documents, including the SOBA America Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies & Procedures Manual, are available in the secure Member Portal. Registration on the website is required to access this

area.

### 15. What is the 15-day grace period approved in 2024?

Members in good standing at the end of the fiscal year are given a grace period from June 1 to June 15. During this time, they retain access to financial benefits while they finalize renewal. If dues remain unpaid after June 15, benefits are suspended until renewal. Renewal by August 31 avoids a probation period.

### 16. What are the current convention dues and what does “SOBAN plus

#### Guest” mean?

Convention registration is \$150 for individual members and \$250 for a SOBAN plus one guest—typically the SOBANESE. Additional family members must purchase standard tickets to attend specific events such as the Gala, Cultural Night, or Welcome Dinner.

## Scholarship Endowment Fund Update – Progress and a Call to Action!

[Click Here](#) create your own fundraising page and raise funds for the scholarship endowment fund



### Join the Movement: Help Us Build a Legacy of Education

Our Scholarship Endowment Fund Campaign is well underway, and I want to take a moment to express heartfelt gratitude to those who have already stepped up to support this transformative initiative. Your early commitment is laying the foundation for a future where no deserving student from SJC Sasse is denied an education due to financial hardship.

Together, we are working to create a lasting, self-sustaining fund—one that will provide scholarships for generations to come. Every dollar raised is a powerful step toward securing this legacy.

### □ Campaign Highlights:

#### A. Active Fundraisers

- Emeritus Quintus Enow – \$1,285
- SG Paul Forbang – \$705
- President Peter Henry Ghogomu – \$100
- POSA Njukang Asong – \$3,420
- Chief Luma Becke – \$2,110
- Emeritus Larry Ekaney – \$1,285
- Dr. Barrow Tabe / SOBA '92 – \$2,000
- President Sylvester Nwosu – \$235
- Anabi Epizitone – Page created, yet to raise funds
- Sone Metuge – Page created, yet to raise funds
- Gerald Tchatchoa – Page created, yet to raise funds
- Emeritus Augustine Fombon – Page created, yet to raise funds
- Dr. Felix Ngassa – Page created, yet to raise funds
- CFO Amadeus Dzekedze – Page created, yet to raise funds
- President Julius Enang – Page created, yet to raise funds
- VP Edwin Atem – Page created, yet to raise funds
- COO Etchu Ebott II – Page created, yet to raise funds



## B. Individual Donors

1. Etienne Ojong-Orock – \$200
2. Emmanuel Tange – \$50
3. Kizito Kaba – \$100
4. Callistus Enow – \$25
5. Dr. Emmanuel Enohmbi – \$1,000
6. John Ndi – \$55
7. President Luma Becke – \$25
8. President Sylvester Nwosu – \$2,000
9. Emeritus Ekole Fonjungo – \$85
10. Rev. Fr. Desmond Ndikum – \$1,000
11. Virgile Mbangamoh – \$1,000
12. Leslie Atem – \$1,000
13. Dennis Gang – \$100
14. SOBA Class of 1992 – \$2,000

These SOBANS have demonstrated leadership and commitment by investing in the future of our alma mater. We are deeply inspired by their efforts—and we know this is just the beginning.

## ☐ We Need You. Now is the Time to Act.

We are calling on you, our proud SOBANS across the globe, to join this movement. Let us each commit to raising at least \$1,000 toward this cause. The more who participate, the greater our impact.

This is more than a campaign—it is a legacy we are building together.

## ☐ How to Get Started

15. Create your fundraising page here: Zeffy - The Power of Giving: SOBA America Scholarship Endowment Fund
16. Tell your story. Share your personal connection and why this mission matters to you.
17. Spread the word. Rally your network of friends, family, and colleagues. Every share makes a difference.

Let's rise to the moment. Together, we can ensure no Soban is left behind.

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Happy New Month! As we step into July, we wish you strength, unity, and countless blessings throughout this month. Let's continue to support one another and uplift our community.

May this month bring you joy and success in all your endeavors!

Stay connected and let's make July amazing together!

ACCEPT MONTHLY GREETINGS FROM SOBA AMERICA



*Do you have a story to share? Let us Celebrate you. Email us at [info@sobamerica.org](mailto:info@sobamerica.org)*

[Click here to RENEW your membership online today](#)

## SOBA America E-Store

Visit the SOBA America E-Store today at [www.sobamerica.org](http://www.sobamerica.org) and click on **SHOP** to purchase amazing SOBA America branded items for you and your family and friends. Great items for gifts and souvenirs. Shipping to the USA and Canada.

If you have suggestions for the E-store, please let us know by calling 1 (800) 504 SOBA (7622) Ext 3.

**Click here to RENEW your membership online today**

## Thank you for reading

On behalf of the NLT, I wish you and your family a blessed month of June. I thank you for your support throughout the past 6 years. Let us join together in support of the new administration. Teamwork makes the dream work.

SOBANLY  
Njukang Asong  
POSA

Visit our Website

Sasse Alumni Association | 10601 Baltimore Ave, Beltsville, MD 20705 | (240) 640 1314 |  
[info@sobamerica.org](mailto:info@sobamerica.org) | <https://www.sobamerica.org>

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