

Sasse Alumni Association Inc

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



SOBA AMERICA

President Njukang Asong's message - October 2025

Greetings, SOBA America Trailblazers,

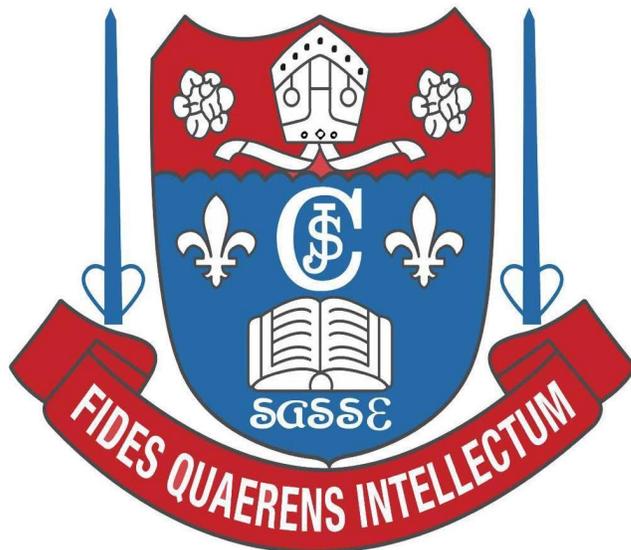
As we welcome October, I'm grateful for the spirit of unity and dedication that continues to guide us. Each of you plays an important role in keeping our community strong, and together we're moving steadily toward our shared goals.

This month, let's stay engaged, supportive, and focused on the values that make SOBA America a family. Every step forward—big or small—brings us closer to the future we want to see.

Wishing you a purposeful and rewarding October.



Protecting Our Legacy: Brand and Identity Update



SOBA AMERICA

The SOBA America logo serves as a profound emblem of our organization's identity and brand. It is registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and is protected under U.S. and international copyright and trademark laws. Unauthorized use, alteration, or reproduction of the logo by any individual, group, class, or chapter is strictly prohibited and may result in legal consequences. Protecting our brand is vital to maintaining the integrity and recognition of SOBA America.

In accordance with Article IX, Section 9.3 of the SOBA America Bylaws, any limited use of the logo for a specific purpose requires prior written permission from SOBA America. We kindly request that all SOBANS, classes,

chapters, and individuals adhere to these guidelines and refrain from using the logo without authorization. Non-compliance may lead to disciplinary measures as outlined in our bylaws, in addition to any remedies available under applicable law.

For authorized use, our Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM) provides a clear process:

- Submit a formal request via email to the President or Secretary General of SOBA America, detailing the intended purpose (e.g., on behalf of a class or chapter).
- Upon approval, sign the SOBA America Use of Mark Agreement, confirming that the logo will be used solely for the approved purpose.
- The logo may not be altered or modified in any way, except for the permitted substitution of "SOBA America" at the bottom of the crest with the relevant chapter or class name.

We believe you share our commitment to preserving our brand's value and integrity. To support this effort, we encourage all members to report any suspected unauthorized use of the logo to the national leadership team for prompt investigation and resolution. Your vigilance helps ensure that our symbols continue to represent the excellence and unity of SOBA America.

If you have questions or need assistance with a logo use request, please reach out to the NLT or contact us via email at info@sobaamerica.org. Together, we can protect and promote the legacy that binds us.

SOBA America Sports and Wellness Committee Launches Wellness Wednesdays



The poster features a basketball game in progress with players in action. At the top center is the SOBA America crest. Below it, the text reads "SOBA AMERICA SPORTS AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE" in white, followed by "Launches" in a cursive font, and "WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS" in large, bold, blue and red letters. A list of ten initiatives is provided, flanked by two smaller versions of the SOBA America crest. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains the text: "These activities aim to address the unique health and wellness needs of SOBANS and foster our organizations support for each other".

INITIATIVES INCLUDE:

1. STRENGTH TRAINING WORKSHOPS
2. MEN'S HEALTH CONVERSATIONS
3. MARTIAL ARTS ACTIVITIES
4. OUTDOOR ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES
5. SPORTS COMPETITIONS
6. NUTRITION FOR MEN
7. MENTAL RESILIENCE TRAINING
8. LOCKER ROOM TALKS
9. GROUP CYCLING RIDES
10. VOLUNTEER DAYS

These activities aim to address the unique health and wellness needs of SOBANS and foster our organizations support for each other

SOBA America is proud to announce the official launch of Wellness Wednesdays, a new initiative led by the Sports and Wellness Committee. Beginning this week, every Wednesday will be dedicated to health and wellness activities designed to strengthen our bodies, sharpen our minds, and deepen our brotherhood.

As SOBANS, we recognize that our greatest wealth is our health. This program encourages every member to take a mid-week pause to invest in physical fitness, mental wellness, and overall healthy living. Whether indoors or outdoors, Wellness Wednesdays will provide opportunities for SOBANS across all chapters to participate in engaging, energizing, and impactful

activities.

10 Suggested Wellness Wednesday Activities for SOBANS

1. Group Walks or Runs – Organize a 5K run or neighborhood walk to promote cardiovascular health.
2. Basketball or Soccer Games – Classic team sports that build both fitness and camaraderie.
3. Strength Training Sessions – Virtual or in-person workouts focused on resistance and weight training.
4. Cycling Meetups – Road or stationary cycling sessions for endurance and stamina.
5. Stretching & Flexibility Routines – Yoga, Pilates, or guided stretching sessions to improve mobility.
6. Nutrition and Healthy Cooking sessions – Share recipes and tips for balanced eating habits.
7. Mental Health Check-ins – Brotherhood talks on stress management, work-life balance, and mental clarity.
8. Swimming or Aqua Fitness – Low-impact yet powerful exercises for strength and heart health.
9. Competitive Fitness Challenges – Push-up, plank, or jump rope contests with friendly competition.
10. Wellness Education – Inviting professionals to discuss men’s health, preventive care, and long-term wellness.

We invite all SOBANS to participate actively and to make health and wellness a shared priority. Each Wednesday, let’s come together—whether virtually or physically—to inspire one another toward healthier lifestyles.

Together, we rise stronger. Together, we stay healthier. Together, we lead.

Postponement of SOBA America Day 2025

On behalf of the National Leadership Team (NLT), we announced the postponement of SOBA America Day 2025, which was originally scheduled for Sunday, September 21, 2025, at St. Joseph’s College Sasse, Buea.

This decision, though very difficult, arises from the escalating security concerns in the Northwest and Southwest regions of Cameroon, particularly in connection with the upcoming presidential elections. These uncertainties have created an environment where the risks to our community outweigh the anticipated



joy of reunion.

As SOBANS, we are more than alumni—we are a family forged in the fires of excellence, discipline, and service. In this spirit, the safety and well-being of every SOBAN, our students, and our broader community must always come first. We cannot, in good conscience, proceed with an event that might expose anyone to potential harm. Our legacy is not built on recklessness but on the prudent protection of those we hold dear.

The NLT is actively monitoring the situation on the ground in close consultation with local stakeholders. We will continue to provide updates as developments unfold and will reschedule this legacy event only when we are confident it can be held both safely and joyfully.

Please be assured that the vision of SOBA America Day—mentorship, scholarships, inspiration, and the honoring of our timeless Sasse

values—remains alive and will shine even brighter when the time is right. We have already informed the Bishop and the Principal of St. Joseph's College Sasse, who share our resolve to prioritize safety above all else.

Let us hold fast to the Sasse spirit, knowing that our bonds transcend time and trial. Together, we will return home when the path is clear.

SOBA CAROLINAS - Pioneering Community Engagement Through Scholarship Initiatives



SOBA Carolina Chapter continues to shine as a leader in community engagement, driven by our transformative scholarship initiative under the visionary leadership of Chairman Soban Gordon Achu and Chapter President Soban Valery Bah. By pooling resources to provide scholarships, they've extended our mission beyond the SOBA America family, empowering deserving students in the broader community. This commitment to inclusivity breaks barriers, ensuring young people from all backgrounds have access to life-changing educational opportunities.

This recent event celebrating the prestigious Academic Scholarship program for 11th graders of Cameroonian descent in the Carolinas was a resounding success. This initiative honored the hard work and dedication of young scholars, offering more than just financial support—it opened doors to top-tier universities and passion-driven fields, unlocking their boundless potential.

Under President Valery Bah's inspiring leadership, SOBA Carolinas remains steadfast in its mission to eliminate financial barriers and foster academic excellence. This scholarship program not only celebrates the rich heritage and resilience of our recipients but also reinforces education as the foundation for a brighter future.

We extend heartfelt congratulations to all members of SOBA Carolinas; and especially Chairman Gordon Achu for his visionary leadership, which has ignited a spark in a new generation of scholars. Warmest congratulations also go to our scholarship recipients, whose achievements mark the beginning of extraordinary educational journeys.



A Golden Celebration of Love and Faith - Dr. Simone Munzu and Ma Julia Mark 50 Years of Marital Bliss



September 13, 2025, marked a monumental milestone for our SOBAN community as our very own Senior SOBAN Dr. Simone Munzu and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. From their vows exchanged on September 13, 1975, to this golden jubilee, their journey has been a testament to love, resilience, and unwavering faith.

In a heartfelt message shared with SOBA America, Dr. Simone reflected on their remarkable journey: “A journey as long as ours couldn’t be without its high and low moments. But high or low, we stayed the course. We’ve put our God in the center, counted our blessings, named them one

by one, and been surprised to see what He has done for us. Happy Golden Wedding Anniversary, Darling Julia. 50 years no bi small ting-oooo!”

This milestone is not just a celebration of time but a celebration of a partnership rooted in faith, mutual respect, and shared dreams. Dr. Simone and Ma Julia's love story has inspired countless members of our community, reminding us that with God at the center, any storm can be weathered, and every joy magnified. Their commitment to each other and their family has been a beacon of hope and an example of what it means to build a life together through thick and thin.

The couple's 50 years of marriage have been filled with cherished memories—raising a family, serving their community, and leaving an indelible mark on those around them. From their early days in Cameroon to their impactful presence here in America, Dr. Simone and Ma Julia have shown what it means to live with purpose, grace, and gratitude. Their story resonates deeply with the SOBANS spirit of unity and perseverance.

As they celebrated this golden anniversary, surrounded by family, friends, and well-wishers, Dr. Simone expressed his gratitude: "We give all the glory of this milestone to the Almighty God."

SOBA America joins in celebrating this extraordinary couple. Their love, faith, and dedication are a blessing to us all, and we pray for many more years of health, happiness, and togetherness for Dr. Munzu and Ma Julia.

A Toast to 50 More Years!

Let's raise a glass to Dr. Munzu and Ma Julia Munzu for showing us that love endures, faith sustains, and 50 years is, indeed, "no bi small ting-oooo!" Share your congratulations and memories with the couple now and at our next SOBANS gathering.

The Determinants Reunion (SOBA 2002): A Celebration of Brotherhood



From September 11–14, 2025, SOBA 2002, fondly known as *The Determinants*,

gathered in Maryland, USA, for their annual General Meeting (AGM) and reunion. This four-day celebration, held in parallel with the SOBA 2001 reunion, created a weekend brimming with energy, nostalgia, and camaraderie.

The reunion opened on Thursday, setting the stage for days filled with brotherhood and shared memories. Friday saw members dive into a long but purposeful AGM session, where they reviewed class projects and renewed their commitment to collective progress. Later that evening, the mood shifted to celebration as The Determinants enjoyed a vibrant nightlife event at Spectrum Lounge, kicking off the social highlights of the weekend.

Saturday was all about friendly rivalry. The much-anticipated soccer match between the 2001 and 2002 classes had everyone on edge. In the end, SOBA 2001 took home the win, but the real victory lay in the spirit of togetherness that the game inspired. The day concluded with a joint barbecue at The Determinants' Airbnb, where laughter, music, and storytelling carried late into the night.

By Sunday, September 14, as attendees returned to their various cities and states, it was clear that the spirit of unity and belonging remained unshaken. This joint gathering was more than a reunion; it was a testament to the enduring SOBA brotherhood that transcends class lines. The vibrant Maryland setting provided the perfect backdrop for a celebration of shared heritage and lifelong friendships. Alumni from the Classes of 2001 and 2002 used the occasion to reconnect, reflect on their journeys, and recommit to the values instilled at St. Joseph's College Sasse.

From the welcome reception filled with nostalgic tales, to the spirited debates and laughter of late-night "SOBA After Hours" sessions, every moment was a reminder of why these bonds remain unbreakable. One attendee summed it up best: *"SOBA isn't just a school—it's a family, and this weekend felt like a true homecoming."*

The success of this reunion has ignited enthusiasm for future collaborations between SOBA 2001 and SOBA 2002, and across all generations of SOBANS. These gatherings not only strengthen bonds within individual classes but also reinforce solidarity across the entire SOBA family worldwide.

As the echoes of laughter and friendship linger, The Determinants reunion stands as proof that while time and distance may separate us, the SOBA spirit continues to thrive—united, resilient, and ever strong.



SOBA Terence Ekwi Represents POSA at the SOBA EUROPE Convention



The inaugural SOBA Europe Convention 2025, held from September 19-21 at the Rhone Events & Congress Centre, drew a good number of SOBANS together for a vibrant weekend of connection and collaboration.

The festivities began with a Meet & Greet Dinner at the Tropicana Lounge, featuring a delightful blend of Dutch and Cameroonian cuisine. The following day's Annual General Meeting (AGM) was a highlight, where attendees approved certain initiatives for growth of the organization.

Saturday included a scenic Canal Cruise and a Gala Night that celebrated outstanding contributions within the SOBA community. Terence Ekwi, a member of the 1984 class representing SOBA America, delivered an inspiring address, reinforcing the commitment to global collaboration and cultural exchange. His

presence, alongside other classmates, highlighted the unity of SOBANS across continents.

With a remarkable attendance exceeding expectations, the convention has set a high standard for future events. Plans for a 2026 hybrid convention are already in motion, focusing on expanding our global reach.

As we reflect on this successful gathering, let's carry the SOBA spirit into our communities and keep the brotherhood alive!



SOBA Georgia Spotlight: Ushering in a New Era of Leadership (2025–2027)



The heartbeat of SOBA America, our esteemed mother chapter, SOBA Georgia, is excited to unveil its new Executive Committee for the 2025–2027 term. This dynamic team is ready to steer our community into an exciting future, blending tradition with

bold vision. Looking ahead, SOBA Georgia has the honor of hosting SOBA America's National Convention in 2029—a milestone event that this committee will begin shaping with passion and precision.

Before we dive into the future, let's take a moment to honor the past. A heartfelt thank you goes to Emeritus Emmanuel Tange and his team for their unwavering dedication and leadership. Their legacy sets a high bar, and the new Executive Committee is ready to soar even higher!

Following a spirited campaign, the SOBA Georgia community has spoken, electing a powerhouse lineup to lead the charge. Meet the trailblazers guiding us through this exciting chapter:

- President: Michael Ebot (SOBA 1998) – A visionary leader ready to unite and ignite our community's potential.
- Vice President: Esele Mbene (SOBA 1998) – A steadfast partner in driving SOBA Georgia's ambitious goals.
- Secretary General: Kehbumba Bobga Esq. (SOBA 2002) – The organizational maestro ensuring our mission stays on track.
- Treasurer: Edward Nupa (SOBA 2001) – A financial steward committed to fiscal excellence.
- Financial Secretary: Egbeyong Tanjong (SOBA 2002) – A detail-oriented guardian of our resources.
- Publicity Secretaries: Carbrini Nkwanyo (SOBA 2002) & Pride Longonje (SOBA 2014)– The dynamic duo amplifying SOBA Georgia's voice far and wide.

This team embodies the spirit of unity, innovation, and excellence that defines SOBA Georgia. With their diverse talents and shared commitment, they're already laying the groundwork for a transformative term—and an unforgettable 2029 National Convention.

Stay tuned for updates as we embark on this journey together. Let's rally behind our new Exco, celebrate our shared heritage, and build a future that makes every Sasse alumnus proud!

SOBA Georgia: Stronger Together, Bolder Tomorrow



SOBA DMV Health & Wellness Day Brings Community Together for Fitness and Fun



On a sunny Saturday morning, September 27, 2025, Huntington South Park in Bowie, MD, buzzed with energy as the SOBA DMV community gathered for a memorable Health & Wellness Day. The event, attended by Sobans and their families, transformed the park into a vibrant hub of fitness, learning, and togetherness, celebrating the power of a healthy lifestyle.

From 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, families of all ages dove into a

variety of engaging activities designed to promote wellness. The day kicked off with lively fitness challenges, including an egg balance contest that had participants giggling as they carefully navigated the course, bag jumps that tested agility, and push-ups that brought out everyone's competitive spirit. Kids, adults, and older adults alike joined in, creating a joyful atmosphere of shared effort and

encouragement. Winners of these spirited contests proudly received medals, their smiles lighting up the park.

A highlight of the event was the presence of esteemed partners who elevated the day's impact. Dr. Ethel Mojoko, a dedicated physician, delivered engaging health talks, sharing practical tips on nutrition, stress management, and healthy living. Meanwhile, Dr. Mercy Asong, the First Lady of SOBA America (FLOSA) and CEO of Procure Pharmacy, led a flu clinic, administering flu shots to help keep the community protected. Free blood pressure and glucose screenings were also available, empowering attendees to take charge of their health.

The event's success was a testament to the vision of President Luma and his dedicated executive team, who worked tirelessly to create a family-friendly experience that highlighted the importance of wellness.

From the laughter of children racing in bag jumps to the thoughtful discussions on healthy eating, the SOBA DMV Health & Wellness Day was a heartwarming celebration of community and vitality. Congratulations to President Luma, his team, and every participant who made this day a step toward a healthier, happier future!



October 2025 Spotlight – CHOIXES, A Soban-OWN business in the NEWS!



We celebrate Soban Ludwig, known as Soban Manga Williams (Makaka), whose transformative work in Detroit, Michigan, is inspiring us all.

Soban Ludwig is the visionary behind Choixes Restaurant, Detroit's premier Black-owned food franchise. More than just a dining destination, Choixes is a beacon of community pride, cultural excellence, and opportunity. With a commitment to serving fast, fresh, and flavorful meals, Ludwig has created a space that nourishes both the

body and soul of Detroit.

In recognition of his extraordinary contributions, Choixes was recently awarded the prestigious Spirit of Detroit Award. This honor reflects not only the restaurant's culinary success but also its profound impact on fostering community unity and empowerment. Through Choixes, Ludwig is creating jobs, inspiring young people, and embodying the SOBA values of hard work, service, and excellence.

Ludwig's journey is a testament to the power of vision, sacrifice, and dedication. Wherever a SOBAN goes, he carries the spirit of service, uplifting those around him.

On behalf of SOBA America, we salute Soban Ludwig for his resilience and leadership. Detroit is stronger because of you, and we, your brothers, stand with you in pride and honor.



SPIRIT OF DETROIT AWARD

In recognition of an individual or organization that has demonstrated exceptional leadership and commitment to the community.

LUDWIG WILLIAMS
Program Manager, CROWN Restaurant

An individual or organization that has demonstrated exceptional leadership and commitment to the community.

By: Honorable Michael Duggan, Mayor
Honorable Chesa Boudin, Mayor-Elect
Honorable Scottie M. Martin, City Council
Honorable Scottie M. Martin, City Council
Honorable Scottie M. Martin, City Council
Honorable Scottie M. Martin, City Council

Michael Duggan
Chesa Boudin
Scottie M. Martin
Scottie M. Martin
Scottie M. Martin
Scottie M. Martin

Mayor
Mayor-Elect
City Council
City Council
City Council
City Council

Ma Euphemia Clara Etchu-Tabot Enow, Beloved Matriarch, laid to rest.



Canton, MI – On Thursday, July 3, 2025, Ma Euphemia Clara Etchu-Tabot Enow, a cherished mother and revered figure, passed away at the age of 85. Her sons, Emeritus Quintus Enow, fondly known as SOBA America’s “George Washington” of SOBA TriState, and Callistus Enow of SOBA Georgia, mourn the loss of their beloved mother. The Soba community, in their solemn tradition, extended heartfelt condolences to the Enow family.

A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, September 6, 2025, to honor Ma Euphemia’s extraordinary legacy. Family, friends, and loved ones gathered at the Golden Gate Banquet Hall, located at 8599 North Lilley Road, Canton, Michigan, for a Funeral Mass and tribute that began at 7:30 PM and continued until 3:00 AM. The service was a poignant reflection of her profound impact, filled with prayers, shared memories, and tributes to a life that touched countless hearts.

Attendees, adorned in white attire, symbolized the peace and purity of Ma Euphemia’s eternal rest. The evening united the community in grief and gratitude, celebrating her enduring values of love, wisdom, and inspiration. In keeping with SOBA tradition, past Presidents of SOBA America offered words of solace to Emeritus Enow, followed by a moving rendition of the first verses of the college anthem and song, sung by Sobans and Sobanese present.

Ma Euphemia Clara Etchu-Tabot Enow’s was later buried in Cameroon and her

legacy will live on in the hearts of those she inspired. May she rest in peace.



**CELEBRATING SOBAN MILD MAYKING AT 50
WITH LOVE FROM SOBA AMERICA**



10 REASONS TO JOIN SOBA AMERICA



BUILDING OUR DREAMS ONE SOBAN AT A TIME!

- ✓ **Powerful Networking**
Tap into a network of 600+ professionals through our online member portal.
- ✓ **Exclusive Member Discounts**
Save big with deals at over 3,000 businesses across the US and Canada.
- ✓ **Mentorship**
Connect with seasoned SOBANS for career guidance or give back by mentoring others (**Big Brother**)
- ✓ **Celebrate Each Other**
We spotlight your businesses, achievements, and joyful life events!
- ✓ **Business & Investment Platform**
Gain access to upcoming opportunities that grow your financial future.
- ✓ **Assistance & Scholarships Program**
Get support in tough times and educational scholarships through our philanthropy arm.
- ✓ **Make a Lasting Impact**
Support students in SJC Sasse through philanthropic outreach and service.
- ✓ **Pride & Identity**
Show your pride as a member of the largest Cameroonian alumni group in the diaspora.
- ✓ **Life & Bereavement Insurance**
Protect your loved ones with SAGI life insurance enrollment benefits, SOBA America members, spouse, parents, and children bereavement support.
- ✓ **Ownership & Benefits Access**
A \$150/year membership, or join the President's club with \$1000 that covers 5 years membership will open the doors to lifelong value and support.

CONTACT US →



1-888-504-7622



sobamerica.org

FAQs about Membership, Dues and more

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 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, 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.

Happy New Month!

As we step into October, we wish you strength, peace, and abundant blessings. Let us continue to stand together, support one another, and keep uplifting our SOBA America community.

May this month bring joy,



success, and fulfillment in all your endeavors.

Stay connected—and let's make October a month to remember!

Do you have a story to share? Let us Celebrate you. Email us at 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 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 National Leadership Team (NLT), I extend my warmest wishes to you and your family for a joyful, prosperous, and purpose-driven new month.

As we step forward together, may this new chapter bring renewed strength, unity, and inspiration to each of us. Let us continue to lead with integrity, serve with humility, and build with vision.

In SOBA America, leadership is not a title—it is a commitment. Each SOBAN is a torchbearer of legacy, excellence, and brotherhood.

May we embrace this month with bold ideas, collaborative spirit, and unwavering dedication to shaping the future of our beloved association.

SOBANLY yours,

Njukang Asong
President of SOBA America (POSA)

[Visit our Website](#)

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info@sobamerica.org | <https://www.sobamerica.org>

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