



FORTY et EIGHTER



The official publication of

Summer 2020

La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

Mike McGary Chef de Chemin de Fer

Greetings to all.

With the current surge in the “China” virus throughout the US I believe that your Executive Committee made the correct choice in cancelling the National Promenade. I’m sure it was a disappointment to a few of you but for the majority I believe it was a relief.

As a result, as most of you know, according to our Constitution all elected National officers will remain in place for the coming year. Appointed officers will be announced in September. In the mean time, I and the Committee on Committees will be reviewing the Directeur’s evaluations and any new possible candidates for appointments submitted by the Grandes. With the cancellation of most traveling events it is paramount that the Grandes get this information turned in. Making informed decisions for these appointments gets the job done. We need those members that want to get involved and when they do, are capable of doing what’s necessary to promote our programs.

It is rather ironic that I was elected to serve, as your Chef, during our centennial celebration, but also to be the first to serve two terms as your Chef in those 100 years. Hopefully whatever I did wrong this year I’ll get corrected so there won’t be a third term (not that that would be a bad thing, kind of enjoy the position). Guess I’ll have to question my Sous Chef’s about this since they are in the same situation. Any way you look at it, it’s an honor to serve you again and hopefully produce a year of firsts in achieving our goals in all of our endeavors, but it can’t be done without membership support in all aspects of involvement. One of the other first we had this year, that needs to be corrected, was our massive loss in membership. I know you’ve heard it before but these numbers are at a critical point. We lost almost 10% (as of this writing) of our membership this year. The highest percentage in my thirty plus years as a member. Not a very flattering statistic I’d like on my resume. I’ve always believed that membership starts from the bottom up. As I mentioned in the July Briefs, I have not only talked to my Sous Chefs, Sous Membership Directeur’s but also to some of the members themselves as to why we are having such a problem with our renewals.

One would think it would be the \$5.00 dues increase this year or the pandemic everyone is dealing with but I was surprised to find out that it’s the lack of Voitures Activities. I will grant you that this virus has had all of our veteran posts closed down for months on end and with no place to meet or put on any functions, makes it almost an impossibility. But to be honest, we have been experiencing a 5% decline in membership every year for a decade or more, so this problem goes back a lot farther than just this last year. Besides I don’t believe a Forty and Eighter would quit the organization after just one year of inactivity. We need to bring the pride back in this organization. Quite frankly this can’t be done at the National level, or the Grande level for that matter, it has to be done at the Locale level. That’s where the rubber meets the road and things get done. Do it and they will come!

Another issue that was stated in the briefs that I believe needs a little more exposure is the resignation of Passe Chef de Chem de Fer Paul Sorrentino from the finance committee this month (July). Having served on this committee I know the work and commitment that is required to do this job. I want to thank him for all of his service, not only on this committee, but to La Société as a whole. I’m sure we’ll see him around if only because of all the Forty and Eight blue running through his veins, but his work will be missed. To fill his position, I have asked Joe Dolwig to assume the duties of this job. Joe is from the Grande du Ohio and I have all the confidence in his abilities.

In closing, I know this pandemic has rewritten the rule book on many things. We, as an organization, need to adapt to this new way of life. I also know that for a lot of our members (including me) adapting to new ways is not the easiest thing to accomplish. I know it can be done; I know it has to be done to survive. Our membership are survivors, not only in the service of our country but in life itself. They can get the job done, just ask them to help. I for one am asking for that help to put this organization back on the pedestal it belongs. Stay safe and God Bless each and every one of you.



**VOITURE NATIONALE
OFFICERS 2020 - 2021**

Mike McGary	Chef de Chemin de Fer	Indiana
Terry Sims	Correspondant National	Indiana
Frank Kronen	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	Ohio
Frank Compo	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	California
Dave Hill	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	South Carolina
Ted Canellos	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	Illinois
John Murphy	Aumonier	Ohio
Mike Wood	Avocat	Georgia
Dan Dumas	Commissaire Intendant	California
David Cook	Conducteur	Ohio
Ron Pfalzgraf	Historian	Wisconsin

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COMMUNICATIONS STAFF**

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NURSES TRAINING

National Directeur - Ernie Lane

With so many of our events canceled or postponed, I hope this article finds each of you and your family in good health and spirit and energizes to go forth to complete our organizational mission. Our members of the Forty et Eighter work to better our Community, State, and Nation with our programs. As I ponder through the Independence Day celebration, it makes me wonder what it was like to fight a war such as WW1 that was so brutal and inhuman to gas each other, fight in trenches and live in awful conditions. The men who were wounded must have felt alone and hopeless about their fate. The physical wounds they endured were visible, but the ones you could not see that changed their lives forever. As I look at our Nurses program, it makes me feel that it was the Nurses of those Wars who took care of the wounded and help heal their souls from wounds not visible. It was their compassion to comfort the sick and wounded while they recovered from the spoils of war.



I am expressing my thanks for your support in achieving our 2019-2020 merchandise goals and we want to repeat the process for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. We evaluating the possibility of increasing our merchandise offering, watch for it. I hope the next time you requested to buy a nurse's pin or donate to the Nursing program; you would remember the value Nurses have played in our Nation's history. You may have been comforted by one of those Florence Nightingales, one time in your life when you needed one the most. You see, there is value in the sale of a pin the small donation you make to the program and the time you spend to promote the values we took to defend, and the oath we chose to become part of the Forty et Eighter. Please do not forget 2021 pins are available, our inventory is waiting for your request. You may contact Ernest Lane - 4286 S Reindeer Court - Gilbert AZ - 85297. E-Mail: elanejr3688@gmail.com

Let's take a moment to reflect on how far our Nation has come, and did you make a difference in it? The answer should always be yes. The need for Nurses has not changed. We must honor and support their mission to achieve our goals. We need to increase our membership and increase our presence in our communities, or this great organization will become a memory.



MEMBERSHIP 2020

July 23, 2020

AREA	2019	2020	PERCENT	
ALABAMA	3	110	95	86.36%
ALASKA	1	125	111	88.80%
ARIZONA	2	413	390	94.43%
ARKANSAS	4	118	111	94.07%
CALIFORNIA	2	914	794	86.87%
COLORADO	2	79	82	103.80%
CONNECTICUT	1	110	111	100.91%
DELAWARE	1	38	36	94.74%
DIST OR COLUMBIA	3	6	6	100.00%
FLORIDA	3	817	715	87.52%
FRANCE	2	120	137	114.17%
GEORGIA	3	448	393	87.72%
GERMANY	1	82	70	85.37%
IDAHO	2	93	100	107.53%
ILLINOIS	4	1182	1122	94.92%
INDIANA	4	2513	2168	86.27%
IOWA	4	333	289	86.79%
KANSAS	2	378	329	87.04%
KENTUCKY	3	263	232	88.21%
LATIN AMERICA	4	11	11	100.00%
LOUISIANA	3	684	585	85.53%
MAINE	1	136	119	87.50%
MARYLAND	1	253	237	93.68%
MASSACHUSETTS	1	134	121	90.30%
MEXICO	3	5	1	20.00%
MICHIGAN	2	918	857	93.36%
MINNESOTA	1	1060	993	93.68%
MISSISSIPPI	3	173	160	92.49%
MISSOURI	1	730	705	96.58%
MONTANA	2	79	81	102.53%
NEBRASKA	4	354	333	94.07%
NEVADA	2	19	17	89.47%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1	108	101	93.52%
NEW JERSEY	3	142	129	90.85%
NEW MEXICO	2	33	20	60.61%
NEW YORK	1	894	822	91.95%
NORTH CAROLINA	3	553	530	95.84%
NORTH DAKOTA	4	237	198	83.54%
OHIO	1	1250	1129	90.32%
OKLAHOMA	4	107	98	91.59%
OREGON	2	176	170	96.59%
PENNSYLVANIA	3	1077	954	88.58%
RHODE ISLAND	4	2	2	100.00%
SOUTH CAROLINA	3	370	309	83.51%
SOUTH DAKOTA	4	350	326	93.14%
TENNESSEE	3	104	66	63.46%
TEXAS	2	254	281	110.63%
UTAH	2	24	17	70.83%
VERMONT	1	32	35	109.38%
VIRGINIA	3	406	354	87.19%
WASHINGTON	2	577	505	87.52%
WEST VIRGINIA	1	171	152	88.89%
WISCONSIN	2	987	947	95.95%
WYOMING	2	22	20	90.91%
V2000		462	449	97.19%
TOTALS		21036	19125	90.92%
			-1911	



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer
Frank Campo



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer
Frank W. Kronen



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer
Ted Canellos



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer
Dave Hill

AREA	2019	2020	Percent	
Area - 2 Frank Compo	5086	4747	93.33%	1st Place
Area - 1 Frank Kronen	5123	4742	92.56%	2nd Place
Area - 4 Ted Canollos	5207	4658	89.46%	3rd Place
Area - 3 Dave Hill	5158	4529	87.81%	4thPlace
V2000	462	449	97.19%	

AMERICANISM RECIPIENT

Submitted by John T. Digilio Jr. - Chef de Chemin de Fer 2003

It is with great honor and humility that I nominate Laurence Rosen, MD for the prestigious *La Societe de Quarante et Hommes et Huit Chevaux* Americanism Award.

I have known Dr. Rosen for many years. He is the epitome of a Patriot, Soldier, Physician and Humanitarian. Throughout his career, he has eschewed outside recognition for his accomplishments. He was, is and will always be a person of the people. He is not pretentious, nor arrogant, nor self-assuming. He is one of us.

Dr. Rosen's curriculum is substantive. He is a highly qualified physician, airframe and power plant airplane mechanic and environmental science professional. He has held numerous lecturing positions in universities. He is educated and published. He has been a consultant to the South American country of Uruguay in areas concerning preparedness for natural and manmade disasters. Additionally, on numerous occasions he has been a guest lecturer at the St. George's University School of Medicine, Grenada, West Indies. What makes this truly outstanding is that Dr. Rosen had to work for his education; it was not handed to him!

His humanitarian work in the medical clinics in the rural parts of Mexico and Latin/Central America has brought quality medical care to those who, either by geography or lack of finances, would not have received any care. His dedication to knowledge and education was paramount with his working with children and learning difficulties.

From 1987 to 1991, he was part of a volunteer medical mission to Honduras. As the anesthesiologist, he provided anesthesia to the young children who were being operated on to surgically repair their cleft palates.

From 1993 to 1995, Dr. Rosen was the sponsor for Mama Paulita, in Cuidad Limon, Tamaulipas, Mexico. He personally provided financial assistance in support of the children from ages 4 to 16 in the orphanage. Additionally, Dr. Rosen helped to coordinate the medical supplies donated by the Methodist Hospital and Santa Rosa Children's Hospital located in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1994, Dr. Rosen helped in the building of a small Catholic Church in cooperation with Domitila Virrueta de Martinez. During hurricane season, it serves as a shelter for the local population. The project was started by the local "Medicine Woman" - midwife of the village of Ejido Adolfo Lopez Mateos, Baja California Region, Mexico. But funding eventually ran out before the project was finished. Dr. Rosen, seeing the worthwhile aspects of the construction, personally funded the rest of the project to completion. The goal was to; in addition, use the church as a nurse's station where health could be obtained.

From 2011 to 2018, Dr. Rosen was a volunteer reader for children at Scenic Hills SDA Christian School, Bandera Road, San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Rosen taught and read to children for approximately one hour each Friday for the school year. Most importantly, he was the adult that listened to children with learning difficulties read. These children struggles to read and were embarrassed to read to others in class. So they would read to Dr. Rosen who was very patient and helped with their reading.

But perhaps his greatest actions took place fifty years ago when he volunteered for a mission that would change the lives of all involved; and continue the Gift for Life of twenty six - 26 individuals whose lives were ebbing away. These 26 survived, lived and begat future generations. Generations that would not exist if it were not for the valor and heroism of First Lieutenant Laurence Rosen. How do I know? I was invited to a reunion of the survivors of the Fire Support Base Ripcord. They were members of the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. They were the ones who thanked him. For without Lieutenant Rosen's actions, they would have died in the jungle, on that fire support base, and forgotten by most except for those who were there.

As written in *Vietnam Magazine*, February 2005; the book **Hell On A Hill Top**. By MG Benjamin L. Harrison, pages 98-99 - a past recipient of our Americanism Award; and eye witness accounts.

These are just a few indications of Dr. Rosen's lifetime of caring and sacrificing for others. These actions are what makes Lawrence Rosen, M. D. a Patriot, Soldier, Physician and Humanitarian. He is truly worthy to be recognized by our organization's highest award - The Americanism Award.

Respectfully Submitted

John T. Digilio Jr.



I'm praying by the time March 2021 comes around our nation will be back to normal and we'll be able gather together again. I'll be sending the new registration form and information to Nationale Headquarters soon so it can be put on the website.

It is sad but our membership has fallen under 2000 members. The final membership ending June 30, 2020 is 88.06%, total of 1969. We lost 267 more members. **HOW ARE WE GOING TO CONTINUE AT THIS RATE???** We need to get our membership back over 2000!!

By the time you read this article, all Locale and Grande reports should be in the hands of the Nationale Chairman.

I would like all Locale Correspondantes to double check every Dames' address, phone number and email address, to make sure the information is correct. Next, mail to the Nationale Correspondante, the names of your officers so that she in turn can pass the information onto the La Sous Nationale Presidentes. Then they will be able to forward information to all Cabane Locales and Grandes. This has been ask many times over and we still can't seem to fix this problem. Communication is the key to our success.

And finally, I'm both sad and happy at the same time. Sad that I couldn't fulfill my year as Nationale Presidente with more success, and happy that I am given a second chance to do so. May our nation never have to experience this kind of disaster again. My prayers to all for condolences to anyone that loss a love one, I pray for healing for the sick, injured or an unspoken pray. Until we see each other again, stay safe, take care and God

DAVID HILL

SOUS CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER

17 years ago, I was considered one of (if not THE) youngest Voyageurs in La Societe. Thankfully that changed about 10 years ago when some Air Force female Veterans came into the Organization, and since there has been quite a few younger Veterans than myself enter the ranks of our Organization.

I only mention this because although we are still inviting more & more 30 & 40 somethings, there needs to be a LOT more invited in, including the 20 somethings; our future depends on it. We have also lost quite a few younger Voyageurs, because they are all hyped up on entering our ranks, they get wrecked, they showed up at their first promenade and were recognized, and then they showed up at the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Promenade and were ignored.....

We must do a better job of mentoring. I have had quite a few mentors over the years and each one taught me something different and a little more about La Societe. I am still learning and enjoying every minute of it. I am the type of person that asks "Why?" for just about everything, so it is easier for me to gain that knowledge. However, some people just are not like that and we have to make sure they are given a job (preferably a Sous position) as soon as they get in and we start teaching them. Do not wait for them to ask questions, because a lot of them won't and will just not show back up.

Anyway, let's talk about 2019-2020.

After a GREAT start at Promenade Nationale in Myrtle Beach, everything came to a screeching halt in February & March, and mostly, the Locales are stagnant. I want to remind everyone that in today's age, we have some great tools like cellphones, computers, and services that allow us to have meetings or Promenades remotely in our homes. Even though we cannot meet face to face right now, we should be doing everything we can to continue to do business as usual (or as usual as we can!)

I completed my reports for the year and not surprisingly, all of my numbers were about 1/2 of those from last year. But they still got turned in; reporting is another thing we lag on every year. I have a feeling this year will be worse than others, but all we can do is push forward and make sure we make up for EVERYTHING next year. And that includes Membership, as this year will more than likely end with the worst year on record, as it pertains to lost Voyageurs. Problem is, they are not "lost" we know exactly where they are, but for some reason, we were not able to get them to renew their Memberships this year. We have the same Nationale Officers for next year, and we are all committed to making it one of the best on record. We ALL just have to buckle down, get it done, and not wait until July of next year to start worrying about Membership and what we "should've" done. Let's DO THIS!!!!

I hope to see a lot of you in my travels, which will start in August and hopefully not stop or slow down until after Missouri, and then we will continue on.....

En Service

Dave Hill

Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer 2019-2022



PRESIDENTE NATIONALE 2020

Penny Haigler

Normally I would be writing about the latest places that I traveled to. Then I would be talking about the final numbers of membership, getting end of the year reports sent to the Nationale Chairman before the deadline and looking forward to attending the Nationale Rendezvous. Instead in the history of our organization Nationale Rendezvous is canceled for the very first time. All elected and appointed officers will remain in the current position. The next Nationale Rendezvous will be held in Springfield, Missouri in September 2021.

The last travel I did was back in March. Then this crazy corona virus hit our Country, and everything came to a halt. Many times, different events tried to reschedule but finally had to just give up and cancel. As for my homecoming I did the same. Since I couldn't officially hold one, I have scheduled my homecoming for March 4th - 6th, 2021 in Burlington, North Carolina at the Drury Inn and Suites. I also returned all money for registration, ad for program book and boosters.



Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service/State Veterans Homes

(VAVS/SVH)

Ron Rolfes, Directeur

Greeting's Voyageurs. What a year this has been. It started off decent enough then COVID-19 arrived and totally wreaked havoc with no signs of letting up at this point and Historical monuments are being destroyed or marred by ungrateful citizens of our great Nation. One can only hope that we are all safe and healthy in lieu of all the chaos going on. I can tell you that although VA may be starting to get back to normal in some areas, in many they have not yet gone back to full services due to the recent spikes in COVID cases. For those of you in those limited service areas (like myself), I ask that you continue to be patient.



Limited access has put a damper on our Volunteers as they have not been allowed into the Facilities to perform their duties. Well, unfortunately, that continues to be the case for now. Rest assured you have not been forgotten as there has been a lot of discussion regarding what is going to happen once we are able to get our Volunteers back into the facilities. Well, according to VA Central Office (Washington, D.C.) things are not going to be the same and are going to look a little different. I received a reintegration plan the other day and I know that it was shared with some. It is a 27 page plan on how VA intends to get the Volunteers back into the facilities. Basically, it looks like they are going to keep some of the assignments, retraining, and some other things going on where other assignments may go away or be altered. They are also looking into new assignments that will be virtual assignments. Rumor has it that some of these will be able to be done from the comfort of your home. So for those that want to help, but mobility has become an issue, this may be a solution. If you would like a copy, please contact me and I'll send it to you.

Our Representative and Deputy Representative's should have no problem not making quarterly meetings. At this point they are being done either by conference call or virtually and your Chief should be sending you all the required information to access the meeting. If you aren't getting this information then contact your Chief of Voluntary Service or myself.

The VAVS Program continues to seek out and recruit new Reps/Depts for our facilities. There are still many holes to be filled and we need your help. Remember that the Le Femme's can and are encouraged to assist with this as well. Speaking of La Femme's, VAVS now has a Liaison for the La Femmes on that side of the house. We are hoping that this will aide in recruitment of volunteers as well as capturing the countless hours/donations that the Dames are putting into VA. With that said, we still want the Grandes to work closely with their Cabanes to recruit Reps/Depts as well as record volunteer hours/donations.

Lastly, for all those that stepped up to the plate during this pandemic that began making masks, went grocery shopping, the well care checks for our neighbors, Veterans and First Responders and anything else that I may have forgotten, a heartfelt thank you for all you have done and continue to do for our Nations Veterans and your community.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me at rolfesr@hotmail.com.



GRANDE VOITURE DU NEW YORK

More innovation up in New York where VAVS Staff from Batavia VAMC was presented a check for \$500 for the PTSD residential rehabilitation treatment program.

L to R: Sarah Stephens - Therapist, Michelle Whitmore - Program Support Assistant and VAVS 40 et 8 Batavia, VAMC Carl Boyle.

"Keep the Wheel Chairs Rolling Contest"



The Harry S. Truman VA Medical Facility was awarded \$500.00 for the "Sweats for Vets" Campaign. We are still having to improvise on check presentation's due to COVID-19. Pictured left to right, Ron Graves, Chief of Voluntary Service, Big Bird and Sous Directeur VAVS and Volunteer Chip Berkley.



Voiture Nationale's KWTCR and Voyageur Donald Miller/ Seneca Voiture 1220, Grande du New York join forces to award Canandaigua VAMC \$1000.00 for their Hospice wing. Pictured left to right, Robin Johnson, Voluntary Services Program Manager and Carol Thompson, RN, Hospice Coordinator.

Due to COVID-19 an official presentation of the check was not possible. Leave it to the Voluntary Service staff to improvise.



BLAST FROM THE PAST



National Promenade Bossier City Louisiana 2017

Chef de Chemin de Fer Passe enjoying the camaraderie in front of the hotel. Seated L to R: 2016 Don Emley, 2003 John Digilio, 2009 Ted Lang, 2001 Silas Noel, 2011 Hank Kwiatkowski, 2014 Pat Beamer, 2002 Bob Kaseman, 2010 Gerry Brady, 2006 Tom Stockmall, 2008 Bernie Sampson, 2005 Russell "Mac" McCarthy, 2007 Terry Sims, 2004 Joe Jamnick, 1999 Laverne Eccleston



GRANDE DU OREGON

The Family Fishing Trip is a Grande du Oregon hosted event. The idea started during the afternoon lull at Grande du Oregon's 2012 Cheminot in Klamath Falls. This was the brainchild of Voyageur Glenn Knox and Grande Chef de Gare Paul Trueax who encouraged Glenn to pursue it.

Cabela's had recently opened their first store in Oregon, in Springfield to position themselves close to the fishing and outdoor activities in the Cascade Mountains. Upon contacting Cabela's they said they would submit our requests for sponsorship to Cabela's headquarters and let us know after the first of 2013. In January we were contacted by Cabela's informing us they would provide us gifts and prizes for our 2013 Veteran's fishing contest.

August 11, 2013, calling our gathering "Grande du Oregon of the 40 & 8's Fishing Contest" we went to Diamond Lake in Oregon's Cascade Mountains. The fishing contest was to go until 4 pm so we would have time to count and weigh the fish caught. It poured down rain, with the wind blowing and white caps on the lake. By 1 pm wet and cold, we stopped at the pizza shack for lunch and to warm up, once inside we found most of our hardy "Fisherman & Ladies" there too.

Later the name was amended to Grande du Oregon's of the 40 & 8's Family Fishing Trip to encourage Voyageurs to bring their families for a weekend with fellow Voyageurs, Dames and children.

Since 2013, Cabela's now Cabela's/Bass Pro Shops, has been generous to sponsor Grande du Oregon of the 40 & 8's annual Family Fishing Trip.

Even though our 2020 Grande du Oregon Family Fishing Trip was a victim of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cabela's/Bass Pro Shops allowed us to pick up the prizes and hold them for our 2021 gathering.

It is not uncommon for the The Annual Family Fishing Trip's registration fees, to be the largest fund raiser Grande du Oregon has annually. This year with COVID-19, 2020's budget will miss the fishing trips funds.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

June 16, 2020, Voyageur Glenn Knox presented Tara Reaves, Event Specialist at Cabela's Springfield, Oregon, a pair of 40 & 8's POW/MIA earnings along with a picture Tara presenting prizes and awards to Grande du Oregon Voyageurs June 9. Cabela's/Bass Pro Shops has provided awards and prizes for Grande du Oregon's Family Fishing Trip since 2013.



FORTY AND EIGHTER

POW/MIA SURVIVOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Steven W. Slegers, Nationale Directeur POW/MIA

I would like to take this opportunity to describe some of the lesser known aspects of the POW/MIA Program. Most Voiture's have probably never heard of the possible AWARDS that may be received for their program support throughout the year. If you have attended the National Convention, you are aware that as each program is reported many are followed with awards for OUTSTANDING service to that program. Upon completion of the service year, the POW/MIA Program is able to make several AWARDS to individuals, as well as to Voiture's.



- Admiral James B. Stockdale Award: Awarded to the Grand Voiture that consists of 651 or more Voyagers that contributes \$2,500 or more in one year.
- H. Okay Parker Award: Awarded to the Grand Voiture that consists of 650 or less Voyagers that contributes \$1,000 or more in one year.
- Michael J. Salome Award: Awarded to the Voiture Locale that consist of 31 or more Voyagers that contributes \$1,000 or more in one year.
- Richard "Rick" Brewer Award: Awarded to the Voiture Locale that consists of 30 or less Voyagers that contributes \$750 or more in one year.
- POW/MIA Voyager Militaire of the Year: Awarded to the individual for OUTSTANDING contributions to the POW/MIA Program.

In order to recognize any of these Grandes, Voiture's, or individuals, it is most important to submit your Annual Consolidated Report in a timely manner. Ensure that individual Voiture's and individuals are identified on your report.

DO NOT FORGET OUR FOUR GOALS: A. Merchandise Sales B. Raising our POW/MIA Survivor Scholarship Fund Awareness C. Consolidated Reports D. POW/MIA Pin Design

For La Societe,
Steven W. Slegers, Nationale Directeur POW/MIA

POW/MIA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Barbara Dotzauer - National Cabane Directeur

It's hard to believe another year is winding up. Hope everyone reading this is staying safe and healthy. With everything going on we should pause and reflect on what we are experiencing. We have been "staying in place" for quite a while. Many may have been complaining about how "hard" it's been on them and when will things resume to normal. Well, I have been thinking of what our POW/MIA's went through. They didn't have cable TV, movies to watch in the comfort of their homes Air conditioning to use when it gets hot, heat when it gets cold. Having all the food they want and any time, video games to play to take our minds off being inconvenienced. We can take showers when we want, not using rainwater to try and wash away all their dirt and filth. They were kept in bamboo cages, extreme heat, bugs and God only knows what they were fed if fed at all, beaten just to be abused, not to mention the mental hell they had to endure. All this so we can have our comfortable lifestyles we take for granted daily.



This is why we need to support this Scholarship program more than ever before. Their families also went through not seeing or touching their loved ones.

They went through not knowing when they would or if they would ever be together again. These families really deserve this act of thankfulness we are offering. We should be out there looking for families to inform them of what we have to offer them.

We all maybe suffering financially but we can always find pennies to turn into dollars. Let's start checking your pockets, car and sofa seats to find those lost pennies we didn't miss. Let's put our POW/MIA's pain and suffering first. Thank them of what we take for advantage daily. Without our soldiers where would we be?

This is why we have our fantastic organization with the great programs to help those who fought for our freedom and daily comforts. Remember: ALL gave some, SOME gave ALL.



GRANDE DU ILLINOIS

Voiture Locale No. 409 Locomotive





GRANDE DU LOUISIANA

On December 17, 2019, Voiture Locale 1522 Metairie, LA held its annual Christmas party for children from families in need during the holiday season. The Children's Christmas Party is a very special event and one that represents a very important aspect of Voiture Locale 1522's Child Welfare Program. Voyageurs Charles Clark and Larry Taliencich were Child Welfare Committee co-chairmen for this wonderful and very successful event. Members of Voiture Locale 1522 and guests from American Legion Post 377 and Post 377 Auxiliary were also in attendance. Pastor Carlos Bartodano of the Iglesia de Sion Iglesia Church of God provided the names of the children. After a meal was served, gifts were distributed by Santa Clause aka Voyager Mike Martin that Carol Rockwell and her nurses association donated. Cabane 1522 members Betty Laizer, Laura Corbett, Susan Laizer, Carol Rockwell, and Sandy Taliencich assisted as Santa's helpers. Photographs of the event were taken by Voyager Dale Borne. Music was provided by Voyager Wayne Danos.



GRANDE DU FLORIDA

Nursing student Amber Hecht was presented her second scholarship check and a watch by Voyager Jeff Fazen, Nurses Training Directeur for Voiture Locale 304 Grand du Florida, at their Installation & Awards Ceremony.

GRANDE DU NEVADA



The Grande du Nevada Merci Boxcar in Nevada was recently moved from Carson City to Boulder City and put on a more prominent display.

It had been sitting in an annex at the Northern Nevada Railroad Museum, out of site and out of mind. In time, a pavilion is planned in Boulder City that will give this boxcar a prominent position indoors. Pictured L to R: Victor Moss and Bob Bencsko.

GRANDE DU ILLINOIS FULTON COUNTY VOITURE LOCALE 812 PARKING LOT PARADE

Fulton County V-812 Du Illinois received a call from one of its members asking if we would be willing to participate in a "parking lot" Parade at the Loft nursing facility on May the 9th 2020. We are always ready and willing to participate in any Community event when asked. True to our commitment, we got our Loci out of the winter mothballs and were proud to participate in the drive by! Residents that were able lined the sidewalk and waved with a big smile on their face. I am sure seeing our Loci, among the dozens of cars, helped them enjoy their day! Voyageurs on the Loci are Jon Johnson, Gerald Smith, John Smith, Dave Ferris, and Wally Hammond. The Loft provided PPE for all participants, Thank you!

Even in this time of social distancing, the 40/8 is willing to step up and help people have a Happy Day!

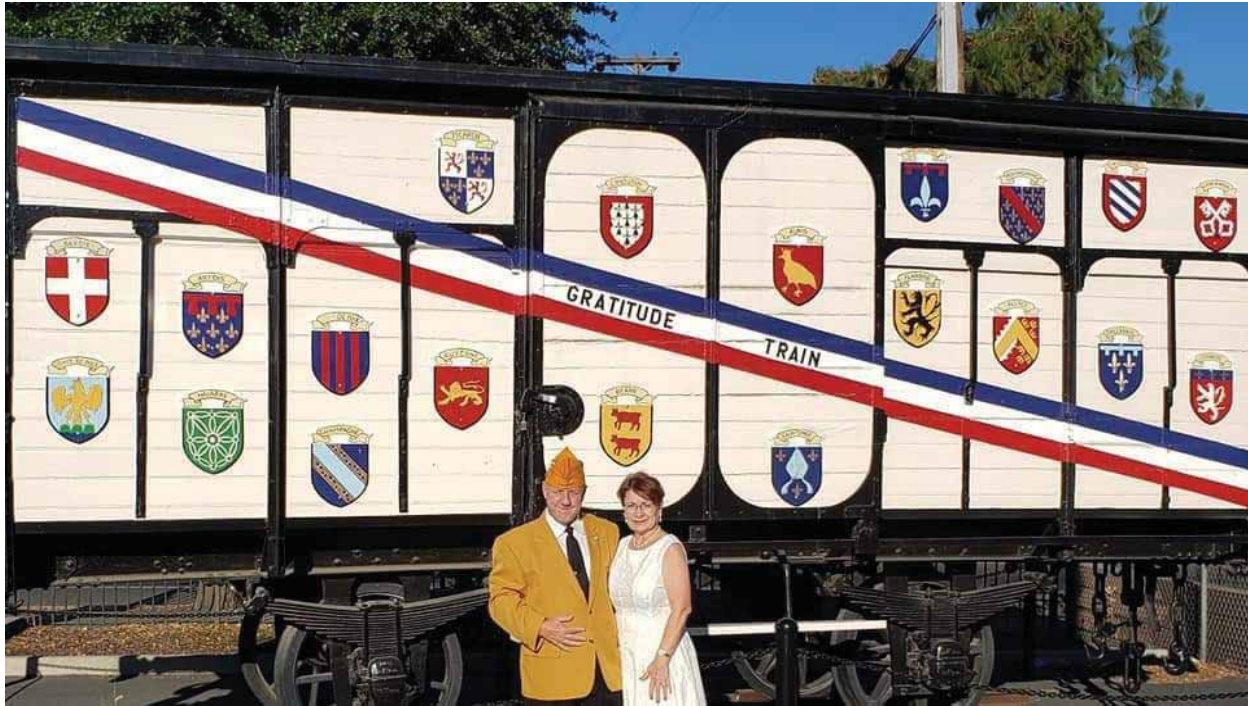


GRANDE DE WISCONSIN

Tempealeau Voiture Locale # 260 presented \$6,000 in scholarships to their three Nursing Scholarship recipients. Correspondant Charlie Hizer (center) along with Dennis Moe, Gavin Johnson and Grand Chef de Gare elect John Aasen.

GRANDE DU CALIFORNIA

This is the recently refurbished Grande du California Merci Box Car. It is now located at the Fresno American Legion Post # 509. In the foreground is Chuck Camarato with wife Lauree .



GRANDE DU OHIO

Portsmouth Voiture Locale # 443 Kilt Brothers get together.



GRANDE DU LOUISIANA

On October 17, 2019, Locale # 1522 of Metairie, LA. held a dinner to present five student nurses with \$300 scholarships for the fall semester. The five students were Julie Colosino a first year student at the University of New Orleans, Layne Fucci, a second year student at the Charity Hospital School of Nursing, Kaitlyn Kospelich, a first year student at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, and third generation recipient of the Forty et Eight Nurses Scholarship, Bryce Gras, a senior at Nichols State University. Not in attendance was Bryce Dawn a Senior at the University of Louisiana Lafayette.

Each student spoke and told of their experiences which lead to their decision to become nurses.

Carol Rockwell - RN, a past recipient of the Forty et Eight Nurses Scholarship and grandmother of Kaitlyn Kospelich spoke to the audience and explained the plans that she and her nurses association are making to help raise money to fund nurses scholarships. They plan to hold Continuing Education Unit sessions required for nurses to retain their licenses and to have sponsors to pay for tables to exhibit their products. The funds raised by the nurses association provide Voiture # 1522 with approximately \$3,000 annually that is earmarked for the Locale's nurses scholarship program.

Pictured L to R: Kaitlyn Kospelich, Layne Fuci, Voiture # 1522 Commissaire Intendant Larry Talianchich, Bryce Gras and Julie Colosino.

GRANDE DU CALIFORNIA

Keri Weismann attends Palomar College near San Diego, CA. The check is presented by Dr. Michael LaMar who is a member of both Voiture 1496 and China American Legion Post 1



GRANDE DU MINNESOTA

Grand Chef de Gare of the du Minnesota Elmer Baysinger made a house visit to give the oath to new Voyageur Jim Entinger giving his Voiture 414 100% attainment of 128 Voyageurs for 2020.





230 E 38th Street Indianapolis, IN 46205

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NAME: _____
First All Last

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: () - -

GRANDE DU: _____ VOITURE # _____

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL YEAR(S): _____
(Annual dues are \$10 per membership year. Indicate membership year(s) for which dues are being paid)

A-1. CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. (MM) (YY) / _____

A-2. CARD TYPE (check one): VISA MASTER CARD DISCOVER

A-3. TOTAL CREDIT CARD PAYMENT AMOUNT: \$ _____

B-1. CHECK / MONEY ORDER NUMBER: _____

B-2. CHECK / MONEY ORDER PAYMENT AMOUNT: \$ _____

Should you have any questions relating to the General's Club, you may contact Voiture Nationale via e-mail to Generalsclub@fortyandeight.org or by phone at (317) 634-1804



6th ANNUAL SAVANNAH SHAMROCK WRECK

Hosted by: Voiture and Cabane 567
 American Legion Post 135
 1108 Bull Street
 Savannah Georgia
 October 9th, 10th, & 11th 2020



Hotel accommodations: Quality Inn (midtown) 7100 Abercorn St.
Phone: 912-352-7100
 Please state that you are with the "Forty & Eight" for reduced rate of \$75.00 per night plus tax.
 Reservations must be made prior to September 11th 2020, or pay regular rates.
Registration Fee: \$50.00 each that includes Banquet and Hospitality room at motel. Please make checks out to **Voiture 567**
 PG's must register prior to September 11th, fee is \$50.00 plus \$35.00 for supplies and breakfast. Friday PG's report to motel hospitality room no later than 1pm.
 For additional info: contact Joey Barnard @ 912-484-3220 or Joe Short @ 912-596-3696
 Mail registration and checks to: 1108 Bull Street Savannah GA 31401

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Voiture _____ State _____

Office _____ Phone _____

Dame/Guest _____

Office _____ Cabane _____ State _____

AMERICANISM

Dan Evers - National Directeur

Boy what a year, pandemic, killer bees, protests and riots. As usual we just kept on doing our jobs the best that we could under these conditions. Thank you for all your support in pin sales. We have sold all our 2020 pins. They are a keepsake being the 100th year. The new 2021 pin is available from Milt Harrison, our treasurer. But you had better hurry, as we only have 841 left.



All veterans groups are driven by membership and reports. Membership dues help pay for our programs, and reports show what we are doing. The Americanism Consolidated Report shows how we support Americanism, Youth Activities, Community Activities, Holidays & Memorials, Veterans, and last but not least Flags for First Graders. The only way we can show what we do is by completing and sending the report in.

This year I said I would have a drawing of all the Grande reports submitted, and the winner will receive a nice prize. I only received 11 reports this year. The winner is Milton Chatham, Grande du Texas. With only 11 reports we had 1,018,857 Hours, 615,939 Miles and \$352,726.80 Cash, for a Total Cash & Services of \$5,755,081.30. This is with only 20% of the Grandes reporting, and probably less than 50% Voiture's are sending reports into their Grande. Just think what we could show if we could get 100% reporting. We reported we visited 125 schools and distributed 6,840 flags. I know how hard it is to get into schools. I am working with the Oregon Charter School Association for access to their schools.

Enough babbling. I would like to thank everyone that makes this great program what it is, especially the one's that really make things happen. Special thanks to: Sous Directeur Robert Brown, Sous Directeur Ken Laatsch, Sous Directeur Lloyd Boswell, Sous Directeur Dixie Hotaling, Advisor Ted Lang. A very heartfelt thank you to the one that keeps it all together, Treasurer Milt Harrison.

Thank You for a great year even with a few hurdles and road blocks. 2020 is about gone and 2021 is going to be even better.

CHILD WELFARE

Joseph R. Donovan - National Directeur

Greetings Voyageurs

Here's wishing a successful recovery for all as we enthusiastically enter the 2021 Forty and Eight Fiscal year. Congratulations to all newly elected and appointed officers whether Local, Grande or National.

Based upon the deadline of July 15 for Grande Voiture Annual Reports to be submitted to me, here are your winners for the 2020 year:

John T Digillio Jr. Award for Outstanding Grande Voiture effort in Child Welfare with a membership of 1 – 299: Awarded to Grande du South Carolina, Honorable Mention Grande du Texas. Carl Nielson Jr award for Outstanding Grande Voiture effort in Child Welfare with a membership of 300 – 3000: Awarded to Grande du Florida, Honorable Mention Grande du Missouri. Charles W Ardery Jr award for Outstanding Locale effort in Child Welfare awarded to Voiture 365 Grande du California, Honorable Mention to Locale 11, Grande du Ohio. Sadly my decisions were based upon 2 Locales being submitted by Grande Voitures, 2 Grande Voiture's with less than 300 members, and 8 reports from larger Grandes. Total 10 Grande Voiture Reports. With everyone staying at home, I certainly expected better reporting this year. Annual reports can still be submitted and will be counted toward my Annual Report due September 1. PLEASE help, you know if you didn't submit your Grande Voiture report.

Since National Promenade has been cancelled, I won't be traveling east with pins this year. You will have to order them from me via phone or e-mail. Again this year a discount of 25 cents per pin is available for pre-payment orders of 100 pins or more. Send your check payable to NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM. Otherwise, due to shipping costs, orders of 25 pins or more will be shipped on consignment @ \$3.00ea with payment due by April 1 2021. Contact me at 760-721-9405, Cell 760-505-6158 or e-mail jdovnan4660@hotmail.com.

Stay safe, Joe Donovan, National Directeur Child Welfare





MILBURN HENKE 1918-1998 Pvt. Milburn Henke, a Hutchinson, Minn., native selected from among the first U.S. troops sent to the British Isles in World War II, stepped down the gangplank from his transport to be the first soldier ashore in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on Jan. 26, 1942.

The British troopship, a converted luxury liner, slipped secretly out of the Manhattan darkness. It was January 1942, just a month after Pearl Harbor, and Milburn Henke, a 23-year-old cafe owner's kid from Hutchinson, Minn., was among 4,000 American soldiers with the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division.

When the ship docked in Belfast, Henke wasn't sure where he was but figured Ireland. Waiting to disembark, he was sitting around "doing nothing when the colonel came around looking awfully busy and bothered." The colonel asked Lt. Springer for a man. Henke didn't think much about it when he was told to go with the colonel.

"When I was picked, I thought: Oh no, another dirty detail," Henke later recalled, figuring he'd been tapped to unload cargo.

Instead, Henke walked 11 steps down a gangplank and into history's footnotes — becoming in that moment the first American combat GI to set foot on European soil in World War II. The 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day on May 8 makes it fitting to remember him now.

"The fact that I was just sort of picked out of the hat doesn't change the memories," he said in 1971.

The Royal Ulster Rifles band played "The Star-Spangled Banner" and the crowd roared as Henke took those ceremonial steps. So many cameras greeted him that he needed to restage his walk multiple times until photographers had enough angles to stoke patriotic fervor.

"I never tried to downgrade what it meant," he said. "I mean the symbol of America sending its boys to Europe to help win the war."

On Henke's way down the gangplank and into history, Maj. Gen. Russell Hartle asked him if he could talk to the waiting radio and newspaper reporters. Henke shrugged: "Well, if I have to."

In the process, he carved another notch in the history of the Minnesota-Iowa rivalry. "When I said I was from Minnesota, a whole bunch of army mouths fell open," Henke said in 1956. "Our outfit was mostly from Iowa, and I think it was taken for granted 'the first' would be from Iowa."

After saluting U.S. troop commander Maj. Gen. James Chaney, the Hutchinson kid asked: "When do we get a whack at those Germans?"

Henke told reporters of his one regret: He'd left his girlfriend, Lola Christensen, back in Minnesota. "I don't know if she will wait for me," he said. "She may be stepping out on me now, but I hope not."

Not to worry. Milburn and Lola married in 1944, raised three children and were married for 53 years. After the war he operated Henke's Hamburger Shop near a highway filling station in Hutchinson. He wasn't far from the McLeod County farm where he was born in 1918, during the First World War. He died at 79 in 1998 from pancreatic cancer.

"He was proud," Lola said when he died, "but he always said it wasn't just him. He represented all the American soldiers."

The spotlight brought him meetings with Queen Elizabeth and Eleanor Roosevelt, not to mention 1,000 letters from all 50 states, England and South America. "I had a barracks bag full, my parents had two," he said.

Lola said some of the letters to her came from women who wrote to say they never regretted waiting for their World War I soldiers. She said that one soldier wrote her to say "he'd personally pin my ears back" if he heard she'd stepped out on Henke.

During the fighting in North Africa, Sgt. Henke crawled under heavy fire and pulled wounded Lt. Springer to safety, earning a Silver Star. But by the time victory in Europe was secured on May 8, 1945, Henke was out of the limelight. He had fractured his back in a jeep accident before the invasion of Italy, spending four months in the hospital before a brief return to duty and then a ship ride home with less fanfare than what had greeted his arrival.

"For a while there with all the attention I got, it looked as though the Army's plan was for me to win the war single-handed," he told Minneapolis Star columnist Jim Klobuchar in 1971, while pouring coffee at his Hutchinson cafe.

His father had run a diner since 1930 and couldn't afford to send Milburn to college. "I vowed I'd hock my shoes if I had to, to be sure my kids had the chance," he said. All three kids went to college.

Henke returned to Belfast in 1967 on the 25th anniversary of his historic gangplank walk. "They sure didn't have trouble getting me over the first time. But this time, I wasn't so sure," he said.

His passport application took longer than expected, delaying the trip. And the airline ticket provided him by a Belfast TV station had him leaving from Kansas City. He guessed that someone had mixed up Hutchinson, Kan., and his hometown in Minnesota. "They thought I could take a taxi to the Kansas City airport," he joked in 1967.

Henke's uniform is part of the Minnesota Military Museum at Camp Ripley, Little Falls, Minnesota, where director Randal Dietrich said it's important to remember the Hutchinson soldier on this anniversary. Even amid the coronavirus crisis, Dietrich said, "Some things should not be overshadowed."

P.A.L.S. APPLICATION—RENEWAL or NEW MEMBER

Full Name _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ New Member Renewal

Email _____ PUFL \$100.00

Voiture Locale _____

Dues: Mail only \$17.00


Mail and Digital \$17.00

Digital only \$10.00

PUFL down payment (minimum \$25)

Checks made out to P.A.L.S.

Remit to:
Renslar R. Keagle
8714 Marble Drive
El Paso, TX 79904-1710
rennykeagle@gmail.com



Special Awards 2020

With all of the problems that have developed since the virus came upon us, Special Awards continued on without a hitch. Again this year we had nominations in all four categories of awards. However, even though the Nationale Promenade has been cancelled this year for the safety of all involved, the awards will still be made and are as follows.



City/Town of the Year

The City/Town of the year was nominated by Voiture 576 of Grand du South Carolina and the winner is Bishopville, SC.

Initially, when South Carolina received their Mercy Car, it was placed at the American Legion Post in Columbia, SC. However, due to the combining of a couple of Voiture's, it was decided that the Mercy Car needed a new home. The Military Museum and the Cotton Museum in Bishopville accepted the challenge and had the car moved to The American Legion Post in Bishopville. After the completion of the move, on November 11th, 2018 at 11 am, all the town bells chimed 11 times and that was the beginning of the dedication Ceremony with Voyageurs and Dames from Grand du SC along with local residents in attendance. Bishopville Memorial Park of Bishopville, SC, was rededicated to send a clear message that we, the citizens of Lee County, not only remembered, but also desire that future generations remember that wars that ended a long time ago and wars that continue today. But most of all, it tells us of American patriots, Americans who responded in defense of freedom, at times at a cost too great to fathom.

Hero of the Year

This nomination for the Hero of the Year award was received from Voiture 1450, Grand du California. The nomination for Hero of the Year was for Officer Youssef Brady, Los Angeles Police Department who responded to a robbery call at Sunset Blvd and Highland Ave in the Hollywood Division of the LAPD.

The call for police assistance started when the suspect, armed with a knife, was robbing an auto parts store located at the junction of the two streets. The suspect upon leaving the store tried to make his escape by high jacking a car in the drive through of a fast food business. In his attempt to leave, he was confronted by police vehicles responding to the call. A vehicular crash resulted and the suspect was forced to abandon his vehicle with officers in foot pursuit. At the time the suspect abandoned the vehicle, officers observed the suspect armed with a machete. The foot pursuit continued for a considerable distance with him failing to respond to officer's commands. The pursuit was being filmed by an officer's camera.

At a point, the suspect stopped and turned towards the pursuing officer. The suspect then started to advance on the officer forcing the officer to try and back away from him. While trying to back away from the suspect, the officer lost his balance and fell onto the street.

As Officer Brady arrived at the location, he observed the suspect advancing towards the down officer and raising the machete in what appeared to be an attack on the officer. Officer Brady in attempting to save the down officer fired his service weapon at the suspect stopping the assault from happening and saving the downed officer.

Officer Brady was 25 years old at the time and had only been a member of the LAPD for four and one-half years. Our congratulations go out to Officer Brady.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

The Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award nomination was submitted by Voiture 1321 of Grand du Missouri.

The award goes to Lieutenant Brian Taylor of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office of Imperial, MO.

Lt. Taylor began his law enforcement in the City of Desoto where he started in the patrol division before being assigned to the Jefferson County Municipal Enforcement Group as a narcotics investigator. This part of his career was focused on narcotics detection with an emphasis on meth lab enforcement. He assisted with training on meth lab detection to the public and emergency services to increase public awareness and safety.

Brian also taught how individuals should report criminal activity to law enforcement. Brian was later transferred to the detective bureau where he handled both misdemeanor and felony crimes. He was subsequently assigned to the Major Case Squad of the Greater St. Louis area as an Investigator, where he was promoted to Sgt, and Patrol Supervisor until he left the City of Desoto.

In 2008, Brian came to work for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office as a Road Patrol deputy. He was quickly transferred to the Detective Bureau

assigned to the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis as an Investigator and was recently moved to the unit as a Deputy Report Writer. During his time in the Detective Bureau, he handled felony crime investigations with an emphasis on violent crimes. He was instrumental in obtaining numerous confessions on high profile crimes, which often resulted in the prosecution of the offender. It was during this time that Brian was also assigned to the Jefferson County S.W.A.T. Unit as a Crisis Negotiator where he remained for the next several years. He was next moved to the Special Operation Division as a DWI Enforcement Officer, where he excelled in the area of impaired drinking detection and the removal of those dangerous individuals from the roadway. After being promoted to the rank of Corporal, he was transferred back to Road patrol as a first line supervisor in charge of his own squad. Shortly thereafter, he was transferred back into the Special Operation Division as a Supervisor where he oversaw the Traffic Division and the DWI Enforcement Unit.

Lt. Taylor has received numerous letters of commendation throughout his career and received the Governor's Medal of Valor and Jefferson County Life Saving Award in 2015 for pulling an elderly driver from his burning vehicle.

As stated in his nomination, during Brian's twenty years in law enforcement, he has proven himself to be a valued member of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and the County of Jefferson. His loyalty to his family, his agency and community have exemplified why he should be considered as an outstanding candidate for this award. Congratulations Lt. Taylor

Voyageur of the Year

The Voyageur of the year was nominated by Voiture 516 from Grand du Illinois. The voyageur to be recognized has a strange but well recognized nick name but is probably known to most involved in the 40/8.

Congratulations go out to Robert "OB1" Cearlock from Mt. Vernon, IL.

Bob Cearlock has devoted 19 years of his life to the Forty and Eight and is a dedicated and involved member without doubt.

Bob has served as the National Directeur of Public Relations, National Sous Directeur of Public Relations and as Cheminot National, Grand Chef de Gare, Grand Correspondant, Grand Avocat plus serving in many other Grand program directorships'. Bob has also served as a Marion VA Hospital Representative and Le Editeur of the Grand du Illinois 40 et 8 news and webmaster for illfortyandeight.com.

Bob is the co-founder of the International Association of Old Bastards with a National Directeur POW/MIA Passe, raising funds for the Honor Flight, and he received his commission as a Kentucky Colonel in 2011. A retired nuclear power quality assurance consultant, Bob has dedicated his civilian career to safety. He is a proud member of the U.S. Navy, having served as a boiler technician, nuclear machinist, Company Commander, and Command Criminal Investigator with three deployments to Vietnam. Bob has been married to his wife Bev for 57 years. They have two children, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Bob's Cearlock's many civilian and Armed Forces accolades are many, along with this dedication and service to the 40 et 8. It is members like Mr. Bob Cearlock who make our organization a viable and truly great organization of which we can all be proud.

It has been an honor to nominate Robert "OB1" Cearlock for Voyageur of the Year 2020.



GRANDE VOITURE DE WISCONSIN



The 51st annual Forty et Eight Days at Camp American Legion in northern Wisconsin held June 25th - 28th once again proved to be one of the most relaxing times for all Voyageurs and Dames. The Grande donated \$2,000 to the rehabilitation center plus individual donations to assist the patients there.

Through the Good and Lean Years...Who Knows Where the Road Will Lead Us?

Tom Adams - Directeur Carville Star

My wife and I just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. Thanks to COVID-19, our celebration was limited to a meal at a fine dining (aka expensive dining) restaurant then off to a bar where our favorite local crooner dedicated Frank Sinatra's "All the Way" to us. The lyrics remind us that we take our lives "Through the good or lean years and for all those in between years come what may." The year 2020 will long be remembered as a "lean year" of forfeited experiences and unpleasant memories even if we rally and return to some sense of normalcy before the year's end.



Looking forward to a good year in 2021, the Carville Star Committee is proud to introduce our 2021 Program Pin. In normal years we would distribute most of our pins at Promenade Nationale. This year **pins will be available from the Carville Star Sous Directeur for your Area (see the attached list)**. They will mail 2021 pins to you upon request. Pins are \$3.00 each and while payment with your order is appreciated, they will also consign pins.

The pin design was inspired by National Officers of La Soci t  and La Femmes, present and pass . During their visit to the Carville museum, they learned about a special wheelchair exhibited at the museum and the amazing woman to whom it belonged.

The pin's photograph depicts Zella Brown who lost her legs to Hansen's disease yet was able to navigate the miles of corridors that linked the buildings of Carville - thanks to her specially modified wheelchair.

Zella's wheelchair has padded handles for each hand that are cranked like pedals of a bicycle to move the chair. (Each handle is connected by chain to an axle sprocket on a wheel.) Hers was not the only such chair used by patients to avoid hand contact with wheels and spokes, a source of frequent injury to the numb hands of many patients with Hansen's disease.

Mr. Anthony Sanchez a current employee of the National Hansen's Disease Program recalls that Zella would call upon him to make necessary repairs to her wheelchair. He remembers that Zella refused offers of a new battery-powered wheelchair, preferring hers instead.



Zella Brown was born in Abita Springs, Louisiana on May 12, 1914. She was sent to Carville at the age of 12. Zella was noted to be "an institution at Carville, endearing herself to staff, patients, and visitors. She had a habit of going to bed early and waking up at 3 A.M. to take her bath. When country and western singers came to perform for patients, Zella would always ask for her favorite selection, 'Your Cheating Heart'."

Photographers that visited Carville would find that permission to photograph Zella was granted only upon meeting her conditions. Zella's photograph on our pin is gratefully used with permission of photographer Vern Evans (www.vernevansphoto.com). Evans recounts that Zella made him wait a day for the photograph so that she would have time to don her finest dress and attend to her hair.

At the top of our pin is the Marine Corps unofficial slogan "Adapt, Improvise, and Overcome." "Through Innovation" noted at the bottom of the pin is appropriate since innovation led to adapting a wheelchair that improved the quality of life for Zella Brown and other patients. Zella Brown died at Carville in 1998. Our pin honors her as a person who overcame physical deformities with a spirit that will never die in the minds of those who knew and loved her.

Sinatra's song "All the Way" ends with "Who knows where the road will lead us Only a fool would say." Who can predict what 2021 holds for us, those we love, La Soci t , La Femmes, and our country? But one thing is certain - we must strive to do our very best to make the most of every opportunity, faithfully serving and ever praying to our Supreme Commander for His help.

**To Order 2021 Carville Star Pins
Call or Email the Sous Directeur's for your Area**

AREA # 1
Danielle Duffaut
11308 Barbi Lane
Los Alamitos CA 90720
626-734-8256
dadduff@hotmail.com

AREA 1 - AR, CO, IL, IA, IN, KS, MI, MO, NE, OK, TX, WI

AREA # 2
Steve Villegas
1160 Steller Way
Millpitas, CA 95035
408-309-9158
spummer1@gmail.com

AREA 2 - AK, AZ, CA, ID, MN, MT, NV, NM, ND, OR, SD, UT, WA, WY

AREA # 3
Diane Yager
503 Meadow Dr.
Fuquay-Varina NC 27526
919-557-5316
las_ger@yahoo.com

AREA 3 - AL, FL, France, GA, Germany, KY, Central America, LA, Mexico, MS, NC, SC, TN VA

AREA # 4
Ron Diebold
344 Getzville Rd
Amhurst NY 14226-2515
716-836-9617
dadiebold2002@yahoo.com

AREA 4 - CT, DE, DC, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT, WV

NATIONAL PAST CHEF de GARE CLUB

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
and RENEWAL FORM**

NAME: _____
(Print or type - First MI Last)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (____) _____

GRANDE DU: _____ VOITURE # _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER - Initial dues for membership year of 20____ \$_____
(Initial dues are \$15.00. Includes Membership Card, Membership Certificate and Club Pin)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

CHARTER MEMBER - Renewal Year(s) _____ \$_____
(\$10.00 for each year)

NON-CHARTER MEMBER - Renewal Year(s) _____ \$_____
(\$10.00 for each year)

METHOD OF PAYMENT
(Check as applicable below and provide information as requested)

DEPUTY'S NAME: _____

- CHECK OR MONEY ORDER NUMBER: _____
(Make checks and money orders payable to "NPC")

- CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. ____/____/____
CARD TYPE: VISA MASTER CARD DISCOVER

- CASH

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID: \$ _____

Mail completed form and payment to: **Vulture Nationale**
250 E 38th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205-2644

RITUAL

Steve Bradley - National Directeur

Voyageurs, Thank you for sending me your Annual Grande Consolidated Ritual Reports. I have some changes to the Birthday Celebration Ceremony I would like you to consider. New wording in bold print. At the end of the Birthday Ceremony Chef de Gare: "Eat in honor of La Soci t " [Each take a bite of cake] "Monsieur Chef de Cuisine, please retire the cake to the desert table."
"Voyageurs and Honored Guests, you are invited to visit the desert table as you desire."



"Laissez les bons temps rouler!" [Lay say le bon tom roo-lay] Chef de Gare: "Honored Guests, we are about to close this Birthday Celebration Ceremony, please place your right hand over your heart." Monsieur Conducteur, the Flag of our Country remaining in place, you will cause the Voyageurs to come to the Salute!"
Conducteur: "Voyageurs, Garde-a-Vous! Right hand Salute!"
Chef de Gare: "Attention! I now declare this Birthday Celebration duly closed. Thank you all for your participation."

This is a suggestion. To make the change, this will have to be voted on at the next Promenade Nationale Ritual Committee meeting and then voted on by our membership. Steve Bradley, National Directeur Ritual stevepkst@gmail.com



HOW COULD SHE LAST 244 YEARS?

John C. Murphy – Aumonier National

Greetings and May the Lord be with You!

On July 4th, of this year, The United States turned 244 years old and is the birth of America's Independence. The United States is relatively young by world standards, being less than **250 years old**; it achieved its current size only in the mid-20th century. America was the first of the European colonies to separate successfully from its motherland, and it was the first nation to be established on the premise that sovereignty rests with its citizens and not with the government. But, with all that is currently going on within our cities or even our United States Capital there is always blame or excuses! I'm sure you have heard the saying "excuses are like #@&holes, everyone has one"! And it truly is. One of the current one's being used is to take pictures off the wall at the Capital or removing statues from it or tearing other statues down from around the country and we'll blame this on Slavery. My answer to that is Bull! Actually, the first slaves imported into the American colonies were 100 White children in 1619, four months before the arrival of a first shipment of Black slaves. Many were brought from Ireland, where the law held that it was "no more a sin to kill an Irishman than a dog or any other brute". That was 157 years before the Declaration of Independence. But we're using 401 years ago as a reason for unpeaceful protest, rioting, etc. I'm sorry, but you can't convince me of that as a good reason for all this.



On July 4, 1776, a document was signed known as the Declaration of Independence. And right in the beginning of it, it reads "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness". Every human being without any exception is "endowed by their creator" with the rights of liberty and equality. The origin of our right to be free is bound in God the creator. It did not come from a government or any other man, but from God himself.

How has she made it to 244 years? It certainly hasn't been easy, but the answer is simple, through our creator and the country's motto "**In God We Trust**". As like many of you, when I attended school, we used to start the day saying the pledge of allegiance with our hands over our hearts. Of course there was a time they wanted "One Nation under God" removed from it. We also had a prayer. Of course The Supreme Court over the years got involved and now neither are practiced or said, and what a shame!

There is a way to stop all of this, and it's the most important for all these issues to go away. How? Leaving it in the hands of the Lord and directing those brute's who want to cause trouble in the direction of their creator! There are so many Bible Verses that speaks of trusting in God, here are a few;

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths, and

Psalms 37:5 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

In my opinion, it's not the history of our Country or our Country itself. The Country has been around 244 years, and none of us will be around that long. And I'm here to tell you, the desecration, removal or vandalism of Historical Monuments / Statues isn't going to be the answer to the entire problem. Monuments are placed for reasons, we do not erect monuments to people who performed extraordinary feats that were unquestionably evil, even if their characters included some virtuous traits. None of this makes sense to me. The desecration of the World War II Monument or replica of the moving Vietnam Wall has nothing to do what happened in 1619, but it is fitting to recognize those (white, black, tan, yellow and red humans) who served protecting their Country and those that paid the Ultimate Sacrifice keeping it the Land of the Free and Home of the Brave and providing the freedom of those brutes that think it's okay. One question I'd love to ask a Congressperson or a Senator is, Are you taking pictures down or status away of former Presidents or Senator's, etc. like those you already had? And it's the same with the renaming of military bases as well. All is part of the 244 years of history of our Country.

No, maybe our Country hasn't always been right, but all of us took an obligation when joining La Société. And the final paragraph reads "My Country, - May she always be right, but whether right or wrong - My Country, one Language - and one Flag.

Before we end and go to prayer, the thoughts and opinions in this article are strictly mine and not necessary those of La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, although I'm sure there are some that certainly agree. Please remember "**In God We Trust**" because that is how the United States of America has survived both good and bad, for 244 years.

Let us pray; O Precious King, the world and everything in it belongs to you. God our Father, we come to you because the people of this nation and everything in it belong to you. We are not here by accident. You are the one who set us in this nation at this particular time for the glory of your name. But Father, people in this country are turning against each other. We no longer live like brothers and sisters. Brother has turned against brother and child against parent. Documents of this Country indicate "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator which is you and with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness". The origin of our right to be free is bound in you our creator. It did not come from a government or any other man, but from you alone. But your word says that if we humble ourselves and turn from our wicked ways you will heal our land. Lord, heal our hearts, heal our land. Remove bitterness and resentment from our hearts and help us to live as brothers and sisters as it was meant to be, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit now and forever more Amen.



GRANDE DU OREGON NURSES RECOGNITION

Coos County Voiture 316 Grand du Oregon recently presented 2020-2021 Nurses Training Pins to some worthy Nurses at Bay Area Hospital in Coos Bay, Oregon. The Nurses that received pins were selected by the Department Heads of the Hospital for all the hard work over the past several months. We have been very fortunate that our County was not hit hard by the COVID-19 virus. We were honored to be able to present the pins as well as get the name of the Forty & Eight out in our community. We also let them know we sponsor Nursing Scholarships at our local College. The members that were present were Jackie Collison Grand Chef du Gare, Rebecca Rice Chef du Gare Voiture 316, Bruce Stennent Aumonier Voiture 316, Virginia Stennent retired Nurse and Kevin Owens, Correspondant Voiture 316 and National Sous Directeur Nurses Training NE.