

Voiture Nationale 40&8

VOYAGEUR BRIEFS

Mike McGary – Chef de Chemin de Fer



Greetings to all:

There has been no additional travel since the Shamrock Wreck last month. That being said the travel next year is really starting to fill in all of the available weekends. I know the National Correspondant, Terry Sims, is trying to schedule at least one trip for each of the Sous Chef de Chemin de Fers, which I think is fabulous. I know when I was Sous Chef in 2012, I had three trips scheduled, and it was an invaluable experience at that time. For those of you that do not travel, I can not begin to express the beauty each Grand has to offer, but the real joy is the Voyageurs and Dames you meet along the way. With the common bond that we share it's like having an instant family everywhere you go.

This month we celebrate veteran's day. I know each of us honor those who have committed a part of their life, and serve their country, to ensure our freedom in different ways. The normal ways of being in or watching a parade is what is expected. But this year, I had the opportunity to find out what goes on behind the scenes in a lot of communities. The things that are never reported, such as visitations to veteran's homes and VA hospitals just to show the residents that they are not forgotten. Or those that honor our comrades by placing flags on their graves, or simply volunteering to cook a bean and corn bread meal for those in need of a warm meal. It makes me very proud to be a member of veterans that continue to serve their commu-



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This is also the month that we celebrate Thanksgiving. A holiday that I believe has lost a lot of its true meaning between all of the food and football. I'd like to think that when we give thanks on this holiday it's not only for the food, health, and the great deals the next day on Black Friday, but also how lucky we are as a Nation. We must remain forever vigilant for those that would abolish our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, or curtail any of our freedoms that so many of us have fought to preserve. One of the ways this can be done is to vote. Just make sure that it is an informed vote that benefits to needs of the many instead of the few.

In closing I want to wish everyone and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving. My you and yours be blessed with an abundance of food, love, and peace.

En you service,

Mike McGary
Chef de Chemin de Fer 2020

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Terry Sims -Correspondant National

I hope everyone had the opportunity to be involved in a Veterans Day event on November 11th. If you have a Veterans event in your area and wish to have it advertised, send it to Voiture Nationale and Bill will list it on the National website under Veterans events.

During the holiday season many Voyageurs work with children. La Societe has a Childrens Policy and you can find it on the National website under the 'News and Notes' tab.

The National Past Chef de Gare Club (NPCC) was founded in 1992 with a threefold mission. First is to honor those special dedicated individuals who have served La Societe as Chef de Gare. Second is to promote harmony and comradery between club members who are 'Etiam Servans'- Still Serving! Third and most paramount, is to support the Forty and Eighter Magazine and the dissemination of information throughout the organization of the 40 & 8. The mis-

sion of the NPCC is made possible thru your club membership and special fund raising efforts. There is an annual breakfast held each year at Promenade Nationale. More information is listed under the "Programs" tap on the National website or you can contact Holly (HLlaunch@fortyandeight.org) at Voiture Nationale.

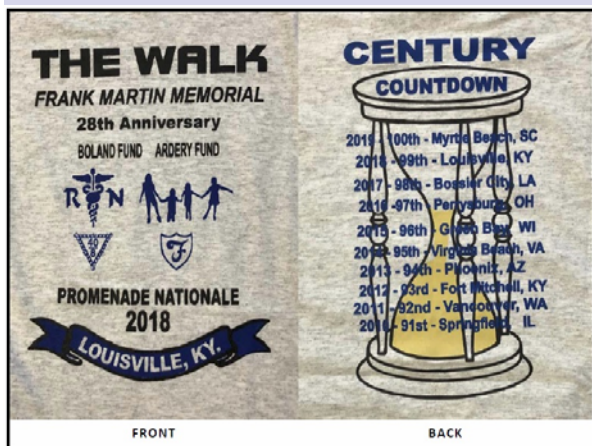
Another important program that LaSociete promotes is the "The Generals Club". Founded in 1973, the original purpose of the General's Club was to dignify the profession of Law Enforcement, and to cover the expenses of the Outstanding Law Officer of the Year program. In more recent years, the Club has taken on additional fiscal responsibilities associated with the Americanism Award program. You can be very proud of your membership in this important and select Club. You can also take pride in the Club's accomplishments. You can find more information on the National website under the "Programs" tab or by contacting Holly at Voiture Na-



tionale.

Our 100th Anniversary is being held in Sandusky, OH on Lake Erie next September. What a fine facility it is for you. Under the excellent guidance of President John Murphy, Frank Kronen, Joe Dolwig and the very dedicated Voyageurs and Dames from Ohio, it will be a huge success.

Emblem Sales Highlight of the Month



While supplies last, the 2018 Frank Martin Memorial Walk shirts are available for \$5.00 each. They are available in sizes; Sm, Lg, XL, 2X, 3X and 5X. This item can be ordered by calling - Terry Taylor, E-mail: ttaylor@fortyandeight.org Ph.(317) 634-1804 Fax.(317) 632-9365 Voiture Nationale Emblem Sales 250 E 38th Street Indianapolis, IN 46205



Voiture 605 Flags for First Graders



Why We Celebrate Veterans Day

Forty one million Americans have worn the Armed Forces uniform since the Revolutionary War. It is these men and women that we will honor on this Eleventh day of the Eleventh Month each year. We, as Americans celebrate these men and women because they see more clearly than most that our ability to enjoy freedom and the gift of the American Way of Life is contingent upon our willingness to fight for that privilege. We also praise them for stepping in and preserving this great nation for our families to live free.

At the end of the Korean War, President Eisenhower met with a few dozen wounded veterans and said their country needed to see them in uniform, as a reminder of why we are privileged to live our extraordinary lives in America. He also told them that they can never put their uniforms away, and that they live to remind their fellow Americans of why they sleep soundly at night under a blanket of safety and freedom.

One of America's greatest heroes, Sgt. Alvin York, who served in World War I, once said; "Liberty, freedom and democracy are so very precious that you do not fight to preserve them once and then stop. Liberty, freedom and democracy are prizes awarded only to those people who fight to win them and keep fighting eternally to hold them." After his military service York was offered many endorsements and offers that could have made him very wealthy, he declined them stating "This uniform ain't for sale."

Another unknown veteran put his reasoning for his service in these words to his son; "I enlisted because of my way of thinking, when my country is in danger, I think it is my duty to help her all that I can, and I want you to be proud of me, just as I was of my father. I want you to know that wherever I go I will try my best, and if it is God's will that I should be taken from my family, then I will die happy proudly fighting for my country, as I would want my son to do if ever our country is in danger."



SGT. & MRS. ALVIN C. YORK

Veterans Day in Matthews, NC



Philip G. Mowry, Esq., Chef de Gare Voiture Locale 1638 was honored/humbled to accepted the Matthews Veteran of the Year Award, and The Mayor's Service Medal, for activities generated out of the local Legion Post and 40/8 Voiture Locale, this past year.

100th year anniversary of La Societe. Celebrate our centennial !

RITUAL OF CELEBRATION FOR THE BIRTHDAY OF LA SOCIETE DE QUARANTE HOMES ET HUIT CHEVAUX

March 15, 1920

CHEF DE GARE:

“Welcome fellow Voyageurs Militaire, honored guests and all who hold service to God and Country as sacred. Today marks the XXth Birthday of “La Societe de Quarante Homes et Huit Chevaux” commonly known as the Forty and Eight, or La Societe.

In March of 1920, Joseph W. Breen, a member of the newly formed American Legion and an officer of Breen-McCracken Legion Post 297, met in Philadelphia with fifteen other prominent Legionnaires where they originated the idea of The Forty & Eight. They envisioned a new and different level of elite membership and camaraderie for leaders of the American Legion. The box car of the French Railways, so familiar to American ground troops of the First World War, was chosen as the symbolic heart of the new organization. The French/Railroad theme was applied to officer titles and organizational functions.

During the last XX year La Societe has endeavored to seek out and satisfy the needs of our nations Veterans, Local Communities and the nation’s children.

For example in 1932 The Forty & Eight declared War on Childhood Diphtheria. Vaccination toxin was distributed via Voiture Nationale to children whose parents could not afford it. Physicians donated their services, and educational campaigns were carried out to combat the disease.

From 1932 through 1936, the Forty & Eight sought to influence Congress regarding veteran's benefits. These were the “Bonus March” Depression years when WWI veterans and the federal government were at times in open conflict. The Forty & Eight sponsored national radio programs, featuring well know political figures, to bring equitable treatment of war veterans to the national forefront. Realizing that power came with numbers, the Forty & Eight brought in 111,159 new American Legion members. The efforts of the Forty & Eight ultimately helped convince Congress to pass, over a presidential veto, the compensation act for America’s war veterans.

These endeavors only scratch the surface of the many accomplishments of the 40&8. In your program leaflet you will find a more complete history. As you read it you will understand the pride each Voyageur Militaire takes in having been invited into the ranks of La Societe de Quarante Homes et Huit Chevaux.

To view the full Ritual of Celebration for the Birthday of the 40&8 go to:
<https://fortyandeight.org/ritual/>

Building Donation Challenge Grand Total \$182,169.02

October 2019



NAME	VOITURE	GR	AMT
Voiture 254	254	NV	\$ 5,000.00
Stephen Bradley	1204	WI	\$ 105.00
Roadkill & Muskat Eaters Assn	Grand	MN	\$ 100.00
Voiture 1439	1439	IL	\$ 52.00
Voiture 592	592	IL	\$ 49.00
Voiture 930	930	NC	\$ 35.00
Voiture 312	312	TX	\$ 32.80
Voiture 658	658	SD	\$ 25.00
Voiture 1539	1539	AK	\$ 25.00
Voiture 1128	1128	CT	\$ 8.00
Voiture 1471	1471	IN	\$ 6.52
Voiture 386	386	NY	\$ 3.00



Voiture Nationale has Gone Social!
Like, Follow and Re-tweet

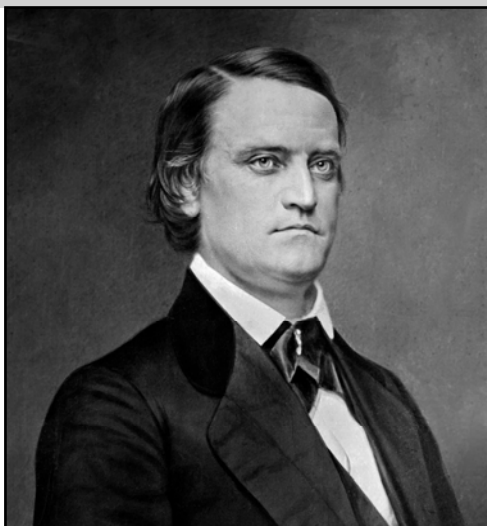
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Vice Presidential History

John Cabell Breckinridge (January 16, 1821 – May 17, 1875) was an American lawyer, politician, and soldier. He represented Kentucky in both houses of Congress and became the 14th and youngest-ever vice president of the United States, serving from 1857 to 1861. He was a member of the Democratic party. He served in the U.S. Senate during the outbreak of the American Civil War, but was expelled after joining the Confederate Army. He was appointed Confederate secretary of war in 1865.

Breckinridge was born near Lexington, Kentucky to a prominent local family. After serving as a non-combatant during the Mexican–American War, he was elected as a Democrat to the Kentucky House of Representatives in 1849, where he took a states' rights position against interference with slavery. He was nominated for vice-president at the 1856 Democratic National Convention to balance a ticket headed by James Buchanan. The Democrats won the election, but Breckinridge had little influence with Buchanan and, as presiding officer of the Senate, could not express his opinions in debates. He joined Buchanan in supporting the pro-slavery Lecompton Constitution for Kansas, which led to a split in the Democratic Party. In 1859, he was



elected to succeed Senator John J. Crittenden at the end of Crittenden's term in 1861.

After Southern Democrats walked out of the 1860 Democratic National Convention, the party's northern and southern factions held rival conventions in Baltimore that nominated Douglas and Breckinridge, respectively, for president. A third party, the Constitutional Union Party, nominated John Bell. These three men split the Southern vote, while more anti-slavery Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln won all but three electoral votes in

the North, allowing him to win the election. Breckinridge carried most of the Southern states. Taking his seat in the Senate, Breckinridge urged compromise to preserve the Union. Unionists were in control of the state legislature, and gained more support when Confederate forces moved into Kentucky.

Breckinridge fled behind Confederate lines. He was commissioned a brigadier general and then expelled from the Senate. Following the Battle of Shiloh in 1862, he was promoted to major general, and in October he was assigned to the Army of Mississippi under Braxton Bragg. In February 1865, Confederate President Jefferson Davis appointed him Secretary of War. Concluding that the war was hopeless, he urged Davis to arrange a national surrender. After the fall of Richmond, Breckinridge ensured the preservation of Confederate records. He then escaped the country and lived abroad for more than three years. When President Andrew Johnson extended amnesty to all former Confederates in 1868, Breckinridge returned to Kentucky, but resisted all encouragement to resume his political career. War injuries sapped his health, and he died in 1875.