

## Voiture Nationale 40&8

# VOYAGEUR BRIEFS

*Send your articles and photos with descriptions to [VoyageurBriefs@gmail.com](mailto:VoyageurBriefs@gmail.com)*

## Frank Kronen – Chef de Chemin de Fer

Greetings once again Voyageurs, here we are just a few days shy of our Nation's 247th Birthday. Now let's have fun and enjoy all community celebrations. HOWEVER, should you be one who plays with pyrotechnics be very, very careful. It is very difficult to render a proper salute with missing fingers.

The last issue of the briefs ended with me heading to Indiana for the Nurses Training Banquet in Lafayette Indiana and it was a beautiful event with great food, fun and 23 scholarships were awarded, each worth \$2000. The next day we drove to Shelbyville Indiana for the RAZBERRY. If you ever watched a Dean Martin roast. This was the Indiana equivalent on you guessed it. ME. One fun and crazy time. The next day, Sunday we had the Chefs Wreck. Absolutely Outstanding. During the Promenade I made numerous unsuccessful attempts to acquire Wrecking Chef Mike Worrell's gavel. Came close but no cigar.

My next event was the 37th Annual Gator Wreck in Goose Creek South Calalacki. And low and behold the Evil Jester returned to examine all the PG's. Great Fun Times. Next was the solemn Memorial Day Wreath Laying. In my entire life I have never experienced anything of this magnitude. Incredible.

The very next weekend found me in Okemos Michigan for the 62nd Great Lakes Promenade. Friday started off with Bloody



Mary's provided by next year's host Grand de Wisconsin. Next Madame President Robbie Garland and I placed a Wreath at a monument in a Veterans Memorial Park. Next, we traveled to a local VFW for a Sloppy Joe lunch followed by a trip to Past Grand Chef Jim Coe's American Legion. That evening we were treated to Voyageurs doing what it takes to become members of the Indiana Coin Club. Saturday was the actual business of the Great Lakes with the Promenade business conducted after the Memorial Service. The evening brought the banquet, and the food was delicious.

Last weekend was my own Grand Promenade, where low and behold, I was elected to once again serve as Grand Chef de Train after my term as Chef de Chemin de Fer is completed. I will be installed at Fall Grand Cheminot in October.

Left on my horizon is the West Virginia Grand Promenade on July 15 th and the Grand du Virginia Grand Promenade on the weekend of July 28-30th, followed by Grand du Michigan on the weekend of August 11-13th . This year has been one of the most exciting and enjoyable years of my life.

And I once again Thank you for allowing me to be your Chef de Chemin de Fer.

### Inside this issue:

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## Correspondent's Corner

A quick note from the National Correspondent this quarter:

Already, we have three Letters Of Intent for Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer! They are John Edelblute-WI, Ron Garland- FL (with an endorsement), John Rodgers-TX (with an endorsement) and Kevin Johnson-MO. Grand Promenades are just starting and we may be receiving more Endorsements. Congratulations on the support to submit the letters of intent. Well done!

## DIGITAL UPDATE! IT'S Y2K23, NOT Y2K!

This is the place to add links to important forms, communicate, etc. Links and descriptions only! That's the purpose of a digital presence... You can just click-and-go.

Submit revisions to your digital presence here for the next publication!!!

Nationale: <https://www.fortyandeight.org/>

It's report time! The 2023 Petite Communique is updated! <https://www.fortyandeight.org/forms-petite/>

More digital information! What a deal!

The TWISTER Wreck (in Wichita, Kansas) is already planned for February 9-11, 2024! Click [here](#) for more info!

Check out this resource! <http://www.mercitrain.org/> What a fantastic way to find history on our beloved Merci Train. I learned a lot!

## Emblem Sales



This month's highlight is a Vinyl Business Card Holder.

It holds up to 20 cards in the clear window sleeves. The holder is 3 inches by 4.325 inches and only costs **\$1.50!**

The part number is 01BCH and can be ordered at our emblem sales store online at <http://store.fortyandeight.org/> or contact Terry Taylor,

E-mail: [ttaylor@fortyandeight.org](mailto:ttaylor@fortyandeight.org)

Ph. (317) 634-1804

Fax. (317) 632-9365

Or you may print and mail an order form to  
Voiture Nationale Emblem Sales  
250 E 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205

**ONLY  
\$1.50!**

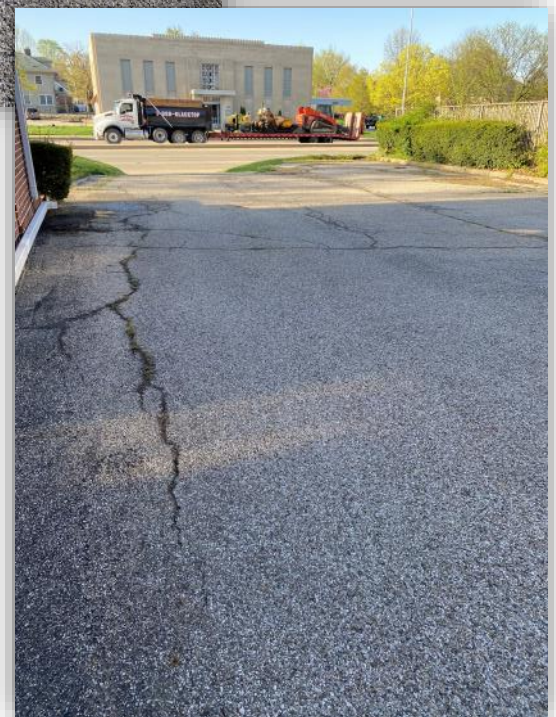
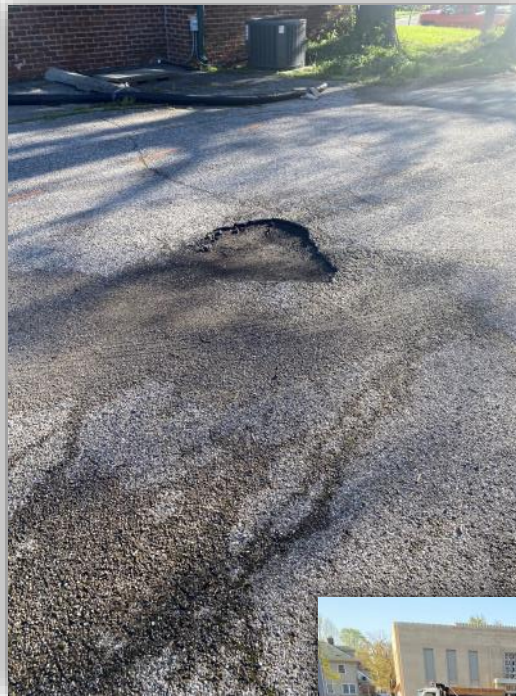
## Nationale Building Update

Terry Sims—Correspondant Nationale



Many Voyageurs have seen the terrible shape that our driveway at Voiture Nationale Headquarters has been for some years. We had the old driveway removed and new blacktop was laid. We have to wait one year before it can be sealed. Since the building loan has been paid back to Carville Star, our next project was a new driveway.

**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR THE NEW DRIVEWAY!**

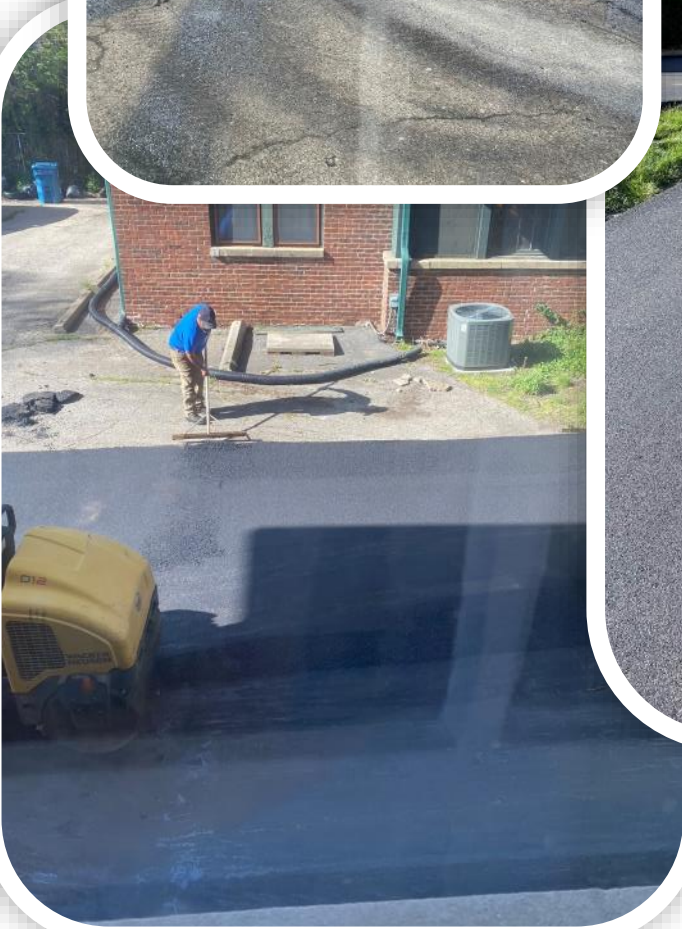


## Nationale Building Update

Terry Sims—Correspondant Nationale

The total cost for removal and new material was \$16,000. It is a fantastic price. Your donations would be greatly appreciated to help pay for this project.

**NEW AND SHINY!**



## Banter from L'Editeur

Greetings fellow veterans! May this edition find you in positive spirits, good health, and with courage to get out and help your local communities!

I have been informed by the Directeur of Child Welfare Joe Donovan that I did not introduce myself properly in the last issue. Apparently I left out a key detail... my name.

Would you like some more publicity for your Locale, Grande, Community? Submit an article in Microsoft Word with some clear photographs for inclusion into the Voyageur Briefs. You may email clear photos with a description of each photo including date, names of people, and location to [voyageurbriefs@gmail.com](mailto:voyageurbriefs@gmail.com).

Some quick ground rules....

First: Let's keep the Voyageur Briefs just that.... brief. Submit your short articles and photos (with names, dates, and locations) to me and I'll get the quality photos into this format to enhance the effectivity of your harassment. Note: The photos cannot be blurry must have appropriate zoom, and be of high enough resolution for print.

Second: The Voyageur Briefs are published quarterly. This means articles for specific holidays may be best described for the next quarter. The next Voyageur Briefs will be published in late September, so articles for holidays in October through December would be most reflective.

Third: Keep it fun! There is no formal requirement for photo or story submission but keep it brief. Chapeau's aren't required and reasonably PC photos will be published!

Lastly: Laugh a little. We are the "fun loving" veterans organization!

Please submit articles and photos no later than **September 1st** for inclusion into the next Voyageur Briefs!

Oh, my name is Nick Weyers and I am a member of "The Great 58" (Voiture Locale 58) in Wichita, KS. I am honored to also hold various positions in the Locale, Grand du Kansas as well as assisting Nationale as a Sous Directeur of Youth Sports. See you in Sandusky!



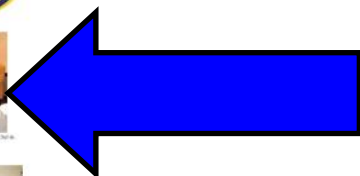
Above: A law abiding Sherriff at the Great Western.

## L'EDITEURS UNITE!



Didn't get a 40&8'er in the snail mail?

Click the front page right over...



and a link will take you to it!

Thank you, L'Editeur Tom Orval, Sous L'Editeur Bennie Meredith (and the many volunteer reviewers like Tom's awesome wife!)

# VOITURE 36 SAN BERNARDINO, CA

## APRIL 8, 2023

Presenting a 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday gift to Past Alternate Cheminot Nationale (1991)



*(Permission of Anne Lear, Capt, Ret'd USN)*

## Roman Perrotta

Roman Perrotta is a proud and vibrant member of VFW, DAV, American Legion, and 40/8, Veterans Organizations, serving in many leadership capacities for many years, and still recruiting.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROMAN – We Love You !!!

Photo Credit: A Giltner

Roman Perrotta, born 4 April 1923 in Detroit, Mich, enlisted in the US Navy in Oct 1941. After training at Newport, RI he signed up for submarine school, but was steered to flight training at Jacksonville, FL. Home on leave, Shore Patrol announced Pearl harbor was bombed and he was sent to Norfolk, VA, where he trained as a structural mechanic, Petty Officer First Class, DC-3's and B-25's. Then it was on to Moffett Field, CA for maintenance / training and flight hours in DC-3's, and Catalina PBY's.

Next was a freighter troop ship to Figi Is, South Pacific, ending up at Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu Island Group. Duty was plane repairs from the USS Saratoga, Essex and Coral Sea; SBD Dive Bombers, F-4U Corsairs, PBY Catalina's. In charge of the flight line and refurbishment, Roman directed repair of the planes and flew in the Radioman/Gunner back seat position with them for flight testing and release to combat. After two years in the South Pacific Roman was released to Naval Reserves in Oct 1945. Recalled in 1951, Roman was transferred to the US Air Force as a Staff Sergeant in Aircraft Maintenance, serving at Castle AFB and Hamilton AFB CA, then Williams AFB, AZ. He was sent to Tachikawa AB, Japan for 14 months, then released from the reserves in April 1953.



Right: Chef de Gare R Alvarado,  
 Corpondant P Pfeifer, Chef de Train B Voss,  
 POW/MIA Dir N Martinez, Aumonier G Torres,  
 Voyageur G Butterfield,  
 Nurses Trng Dir I Rael ,  
 Dir Child Welfare Nationale J Donovan ,  
 Comm Intend L Lombard,  
 (not pictured Voyageur S Newlen)

## Memorial Day Observance

Mike Wood, CdCdF 2015

As we pay our respect, gratitude and honor on this most important day to all Americans, I find it all together fitting and proper that we gather on this given day in the Spring every year in observance and to pay tribute to those that paid the supreme price to keep America as The Land of the Free. Let us not look at this as a time of mourning, but as a time of honored remembrance to those people. I believe that is what they would want, and that is for us to enjoy the liberties, freedom and way of life they guaranteed by their sacrifice. So let us pay homage to them in proper manner, but not be sad, but be hopeful that we continue to live the American Dream, protect the veterans rights and preserve the Constitution of the United States.

Let us never forget that we cannot rightfully celebrate the joy of our freedom without remembering the great price paid for that freedom. They displayed the very meaning of courage and dedication to their country and we must remember, courage is not in the uniform, it's not in the rank, it's not in the race or gender, courage is a matter of the heart, a matter of answering duty, a matter of character. I thank God that Americans are a people that are made up of these ideals. We are the finest people on the face of the earth, and our veterans are the best of what we have to offer of these fine people. They have been answering the call to duty of the United States since 1776 and continue to do so today.

For all Veterans, regardless of their branch of service or the era in which they served, they have paid the price time and time again in defense of America and freedom. They have sought neither fame or fortune, it was merely devotion and love of America and freedom. All veterans know what it is like to be on guard in the middle of the night while others slept. They understand the meaning of hardship and sacrifice, standing watch at freedoms frontiers, far from home and loved ones. It is this devotion to duty and honor that gives all Americans strength.

To all our veterans, all Americans have a simple

yet heartfelt message to you and that is ----- THANK YOU----- Thank you for your unwavering service in peace time as well as war, here in this nation and throughout the world.

From Valley Forge to Afghanistan, our veterans have protected Liberty, Justice and Freedom for all Americans. So on this Memorial Day weekend let us take advantage and display the fact that we are free to live the American Way of Life and join in celebration to those Patriots that provided that to us, with the rights and liberties afforded to us and, be thankful because, "No greater love hath one man for another than to lay down his life for his friend" and we are all friends. As we pay homage at those Gardens of Stone throughout our great nation whose blossoms bear the names of the Patriotic Fallen Heroes on this Memorial Day, please say a prayer for our troops in Harms Way and their families, and may God Bless America and each of you as well.



A memorial wreath is humbly presented at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day 2023 by CdCdF Frank Kronen and assisted by SCdCdF's Deb Reynolds, Steve Dircks and Janie Miller.

# YOUTH SPORTS

**Grande du Virginia presents a check to Ingleside Elementary School new youth sports team!**  
This is new for the school, but they are not funded by the school. The team has to raise their own money. Grande Correspondant John Schenk presented the Grant from Youth Sports National for \$500.



Youth Sports Coins Still Available!  
Download the form from this [link](#)



## Youth Sports Reimburses AGAIN!



Above: Voyageur Marri Krupco presents the check to the association in her home town!

Voiture Locale 1510 of Grand du Kansas was reimbursed \$500 by Nationale for their contribution to the Blue Mound Ball Association. The association is a volunteer group that teaches the fundamentals of baseball and builds character in their lives that will help them with future endeavors in life. Voiture 1510 donated to help restore their batting cages which needed new netting, fencing repaired, new baseballs and bats, backstops, and more. Great job, 1510, for supporting your local community! Acts like this make us proud!





## NURSES TRAINING

Chef de Gare Carl Christensen of Nebraska City, NE 40 & 8 Voiture 1015 presents a check to Ms. Salena Balquier of Nebraska City. Salena will graduate from the College of Saint Mary in Omaha, NE, as a Registered Nurse in May of 2024.



Last Year our 40/8 Nurses and Caregivers Raffle was our most successful fundraising program! This year's raffle continued our commitment to supporting our Nurses Training programs and reaching an even greater record level of financial support for all our worthy charities. The drawing was held at Nationale Headquarters on May 31. Here are the winners!

PLACE	NAME	GRANDE/CABANE	TOTAL WINNING
1ST	Nelson Carter	V1219-FL	\$2,500.00
2ND	Larry Atkins	V1496-FR	\$1,000.00
3RD	Clare Blakeslee	V846-PA	\$100.00
4TH	Daniel Knoll	V276-IN	\$100.00
5TH	Richard Jordan	V1530-VA	\$100.00
6TH	Warren Bratvold	V360-ND	\$100.00
7TH	Rusty Pagan	V1298-OK	\$100.00
8TH	Gerard Bernard	V559-NH	\$100.00
9TH	Howard Moore	V510-IN	\$100.00
10TH	Herbert Handley	V1172-NC	\$100.00
11TH	John Patten	V55-PA	\$100.00
12TH	John Neff	V96-WA	\$100.00
			<b>\$4,500.00</b>

## INDEPENDENCE DAY TRIVIA

Did you know that the Thirteen Colonies were actually declared united, free, and independent states from Britain on July 2nd? What's up with that? As it turns out, the Founding Father delegates of the Second Continental Congress actually voted to approve our independence by passing the Lee Resolution on July 2nd in a closed congressional session and then publicly adopted a statement explaining the meaning of this on July 4th.

This statement, the Declaration of Independence, was written mainly by Thomas Jefferson late in June of 1776 and finalized by the Committee of Five. The document served as an explanation to King George, fellow colonists and the world what we now United States meant by voting for our union. It was well believed then that July 2nd would always be the date of ceremony of our independence, however, it was quickly overtaken by the celebrations of the publicly delivered Declaration of Independence.

## SCAM ALERT!

THERE HAVE BEEN SOME EMAILS ASKING FOR GIFT CARDS FROM VARIOUS PROGRAMS. THESE ARE SCAMS. DO NOT SEND ANYTHING OR REPLY. NATIONALE OFFICERS AND VOITURE NATIONALE STAFF WILL NEVER ASK YOU TO SEND US MONEY THROUGH EMAIL.  
**IF YOU ARE UNSURE IF ITS A SCAM PLEASE CALL HEADQUARTERS AND ASK.**

# CHEF'S HOMECOMING



The 103rd Birthday of La Societe was celebrated by an amazing **acapella** group! They have been requested for the same tunes at the Promenade Nationale banquet!



A great banquet with 70 fiends!



# RANDO!!! (Submit RANDOm photos with info to [voyageurbriefs@gmail.com](mailto:voyageurbriefs@gmail.com))

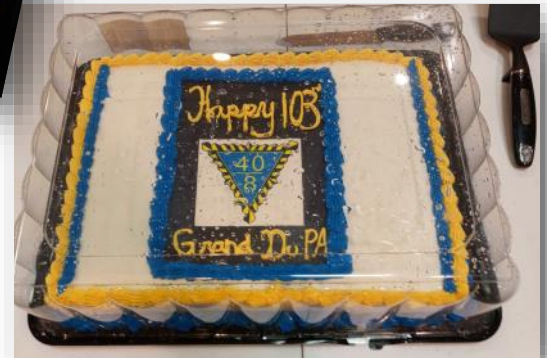


Above: Pennsylvania Grand chef Joe Warren and his substitute gavel after his actual one somehow came up missing!



Left: "Passing of gavel" to new ND Voiture 101 Chef de Guar, Michael G Venaccio by Grand Chef de Gare David Kaufman after the new installation of officers May 2, 2023.

Below: Birthday cake for Grand du PA's 103rd year!



Above: Sous Directeurs Tim Evans (Child Welfare), Nick Weyers (Youth Sports), Danielle Duffaut (Sous Historian), Alexander Herrera, and Daisy at the Great Western in Rapid City, SD (not pictured: Directeur Gena Keller (Membership))



Above: A Parliament of Chefs at Southland Dixie.

CcCdF Passé's Beamer, Moots, Williams Simpson with CcCdF Kronen

# MO' RANDO!!!

(Submit RANDOm photos with info to [voyageurbriefs@gmail.com](mailto:voyageurbriefs@gmail.com))



Ohio Grande Promenade Hospitality



Entrance Exam for Indiana Coin Club



Above: PG's Howard Carlton Jr, John D Karn, Roger C Kersey II, James H Landry Jr, and Larry Raymond are inspected by the evil Jester (CdCdF Frank).



Left and Above: VL324 (Hutchinson, KS) organized and operated a Fireworks Tent to raise local awareness of the organization, seek membership, and raise funds for the programs.



Left: Johnathan Leeper (center-VL324) with assistants Bruce Kouba (left-VL58) and Ron Purdie (right-VL58).

## *Hillbilly Wreck* *Cleveland, TN*

Dear Hillbilly Wreck Voyageurs and La Femmes:

As your Membership Directeur, I am thrilled to see the success that your Voiture Locale has achieved over the years. It is truly an honor to work alongside such a dedicated group of individuals who are committed to serving our veterans and their families. Welcome aboard Jose Rodriquez, and Bob Wilkes.

However, we cannot rest on our laurels. We must continue to strive for excellence in all aspects of our organization. This means that we need to constantly look for ways to improve our service to our veterans, whether it be through fundraising, volunteering, or simply spreading awareness about their needs.

But, let's not forget to have a little fun while we're at it! After all, laughter is the best medicine, and it's also a great way to bring our members together. So, let's continue to plan fun events, like an annual pig roast or our famous Hillbilly Wreck and so much more around the country, where we can bond over good food, good company, and good old-fashioned team building fun! Thank you La Femmes for providing food for the Hospitality room.


Together, we can ensure that Hillbilly Wreck remains a shining example of what it means to truly serve our veterans with dedication, humor, and heart. So, let's keep up the good work, and let's keep making a difference in the lives of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Yours in service,


Gena and Daisy



## Promenade Nationale Quick Info



**La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux**  
**Voiture Nationale**  
**Frank W. Kronen**  
**Secretary Ohio Promenade Corporation**  
6903 Chapel Ln.  
North Ridgeville, Oh 44039  
Cell: (216) 210-1898 Email [fwkron@gmail.com](mailto:fwkron@gmail.com)



### Highpoints Of Kalahari Resort and Convention Center

1. 890 Guest rooms
2. 215,000 sq. ft. Convention Center Space including 3 large ballrooms for a total of 39 meeting rooms.
3. All Guest Rooms and Convention Center all under one roof.
4. 6 restaurants and 5 lounges within the resort. The Marrakesh Market Lounge is the 40&8 and La Femme Lounge. NO ONE will be served without their Promenade or Rendezvous credentials.
5. ALL guest rooms include 4 admissions to the largest indoor waterpark. During stay. A \$ 60.00 per day fee waived as is the \$ 30.00 per day resort fee.
6. Shuttle service available to local area attractions.
7. 20% discount at their full-service Kalahari Spa and Salon equipped with a new float tank to float your cares away.
8. Complimentary self-parking with a \$16 per day Valet. Handicap Valet Parking is complimentary.
9. Area shopping outlets.
10. 1 ½ mile walking trail around resort.
11. Safari outdoor zoo.
12. Zip lines for the daring.
13. Many tourist attractions Cedar Point, Lake Erie Islands, Fishing, Clay Shooting, Golf, Wineries, centrally located between Toledo and Cleveland with casinos and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.



## BLUE CHEVALIERS



Blue Chevaliers is now offering a ball cap with the logo on the front designating that you support law enforcement. The logo bears the La Societe and La Femmes emblem showing the support they have for law enforcement. All funds raised by the Blue Chevaliers goes to support law enforcement matters only and award officers. The hat is black with an adjustable back to fit all sizes. See samples below:



The hat price is \$20.00 and order by contacting:

Mike Wood, [carblueheaven@aol.com](mailto:carblueheaven@aol.com), 804-229-5133

Show your support for law enforcement and The Blue Chevaliers and get your hat today. It also states the fact that La Societe and La Femmes and law enforcement make a great TEAM.

**THANK YOU !!!!!**

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A note (edited) from Mike Wood, Chef de Chemin de Fer 2015:

This project was created under The Nationale Public Relations Program and has had a very good response. A \$2,000 award was gifted to the Forty and Eight Law Officer of the Year last year at Promenade Nationale in Green Bay, Wisconsin due to the outstanding support of our Voyageurs and Dames. This program also awarded several law enforcement officers all over the country and they intend to keep this up. The hat sales are just another way to raise funds for these awards.

I believe that this joint effort between The Forty and Eight and The Blue Chevaliers is a win-win project for everyone. We get to support law enforcement, and the 40 & 8 can get some much needed recognition by the public. Keep up the good work!

# Nationale Paid Life Membership Drawing Continues!



La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
Voiture Nationale



Gena K. Keller & Daisy  
Membership Directeur Nationale  
Nationale Paid Life Membership Drawing

1. The nominee must be a member in good standing. You can nominate yourself.
2. The cost of nomination is \$10.00, the Voyageur being nominated cannot already be a life member.

Send your nomination and \$10.00 to: (one nomination per form) Make Checks payable 40&8 Life Membership Drawing 2023:

40 & 8 Life Membership  
c/o Paul Emmert, Directeur Nationale Box Car Association  
345 Moores Branch Circle  
Westminster MD 21158

3. All mail in entries must be received NLT September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Submissions will be accepted during the 104<sup>th</sup> Promenade Nationale in Sandusky OH for \$20.00. Lucky Voyageur will be announced during the banquet. Winner does not need to be present to win. (Cannot be redeemed for Cash) Remaining money from the membership drawing will be donated to the Nationale Box Car Association.

Voyageur: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grande: \_\_\_\_\_ Voiture Locale: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Person making nomination: \_\_\_\_\_ Grande: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_