Forty et Eighter

The official publication of

winter 2024

La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux



AMERICANISM CARVILLE STAR CHILD WELFARE **GENERALS CLUB GERMANY CLUB NATIONAL BOX CAR NURSES TRAINING PAST CHEF'S CLUB** POW - MIA **PUBLIC RELATIONS RITUAL SPECIAL AWARDS VAVS VOITURE ACTIVITIES**



YOUTH SPORTS

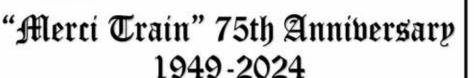












NATIONAL BOX CAR ASSOCIATION

"As we move into February, I would like to remind everyone of the 75th Anniversary of the Merci Train arriving in the United States from France. It happened on February 2, 1949, and originally included 49 Box Cars, one for each state at the time, as well as the District of Columbia. Over the years, some have been lost, scrapped, and destroyed, however we still have 43 that have survived. The poster above reflects those 43 "Survivors". Posters showing the surviving Box Cars can be purchased by contacting the Secretaire of the National Box Cars Associated by Viscil Pollumy viscil Pollumy viscolar pollum visco Car Association, Virgil Blum, virg4huskers@yahoo.com.

VOITURE NATIONALE OFFICERS 2023 - 2024

Frank Campo Ron Rolfes Kevin Johnson John Rodgers John Edelblute Ron Garland William Stroud James Bowman Dan Dumas Robert Hock

Robert Graves

Chef de Chemin de Fer Correspondant National Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Avocat Aumonier Commissaire Intendant

Germany Missouri Texas Wisconsin Florida Louisiana North Carolina California Indiana

California

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Conducteur

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Send submissions to yoiturenationale@msn.com or to the National

voiturenationale@msn.com_or to the National L'editeur at wigrandvoiture@spectrum.net
Forty et Eighter Staff

James Olosn Andi Miller

Ron Rolfes

National L'editeur National Sous L'editeur Proof Reader Proof Reader Correspondant National Florida Sous Correspondant National Indiana

Wisconsin Minnesota South Carolina

RON ROLFES

Greetings Voyageur's

We at Voiture Nationale hope that everyone had a Safe and Happy Holiday Season. I thought I would take this opportunity to fill in or if nothing else bring you up to date on some of the exciting



things that are happening in and around Voiture Nationale.

As most of you are aware the loan for the building was paid off last year and our focus has shifted to a maintenance fund, if you will, Overall, the building is in really good shape, however, there are some minor repairs / paint to spruce to place up a bit. Some may ask why? Well, that is simple, we have 2 full-time and 1 part-time employees in a 5,168sqft building. The utility costs are high, and the Safety of the staff has become a concern. Currently the market is still good, so we are looking to downsize and find a neighborhood. Stay tuned.

Many have commented about our outdated web design. Well, there is news on that front as we are currently collaborating with a designer and in the not-too-distant future, we hope to have a fresh look for the website. Speaking of websites, I am sure many of you have noticed that we took down the contact details for the National and Grande Officers. This was due to an e-mail hack. We are hoping to produce a fix for that down the road as

In just 9 short months we will be headed back to Sandusky for our 105th Promenade Nationale. Sous Correspondant Nationale Terry Sims has been working tirelessly with the hotel to rectify some of the problems that we dealt with last year. One of the issues was with reservations. This year when you call in to make your reservation be sure to use **CODE ID 37072** when speaking with the agent.

Also, now would be a good time for Voyageurs, Locales, and Grandes alike to get your AD in for the 105th Program Book. Your AD's help the Convention Corporation immensely. Could you imagine a Program book with all Grandes represented. For more information on AD's or Registration for the 105th Promenade Nationale go the website at

www.fortyandeight.org/promenade-nationale

Lastly, anyone that may be thinking of running for one of the elected positions for the 2024 year, please reach out to myself with a letter of intent. Thank you

CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER Frank Campo

Happy New Year Voyageurs e Dames. All of the ham, turkey and prime rib has been eaten, the children and grandchildren hopefully received the presents they requested from Santa. After the lights, decorations and trees have been taken down. Now we await those pesky credit card bills to come in. I trust everyone had a pleasant and wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas. We were blessed to have three of our thirteen grandchildren to come during the holidays.

It has been slow for me since I was elected Chef. That's the norm until after the first of the year. My wife and I returned from Sandusky only to be stricken with COVID which we contracted while there I understand several Voyageurs and Dames came down with it as well. Our symptoms weren't too bad, the most we had was what felt like someone took an oversized brush and ran it down my throat a dozen or more times. I know many folks are on the fence regarding getting the COVID vaccine. I have gotten a shot every year since they were CORRESPONDANT NATIONAL offered. I think that is one of the reasons my symptoms

> The last weekend in October, I attended the Grand du Illinois fall Cheminot, Thanks to Wally Hammond for inviting me. In November, I attended Veterans Day activities here in Springfield. Of course, I wore my chapeau and was asked by several people why my hat was different. It was my opportunity to discuss 40/8 and our programs. December, I attended Pearl Harbor Day ceremony and was asked to speak about the 40/8. Mid-December, I attended the annual Gold Star Family Christmas Tree lighting. I was invited to speak at the local AMVETS meeting in January to discuss the 40/8.

> My visitation schedule is starting to fill up. It looks like after mid-February; I will start my weekly road trips and will be gone until mid-August. If your Grand would like a visit from myself or another national officer, please get those requests in to Nationale. We will make every effort to accommodate those requests. Many of you were made aware that some person sent out unsolicited emails purporting to be me. They were able to go to the national website to our list of officers and rip off my contact information and sent out unwarranted emails. Thanks to the many phone calls I received about this. Unfortunately, we had to delete the personal information for our officers to limit any future exposure.

> I have some exciting news to share. Many of you are aware of the friction between the American Legion national office and the 40&8. This is something that we normally don't experience at the local or state level. Anyway, my American Legion post in Springfield, Illinois, Post 32 has sponsored a wreath laving ceremony at the Tomb of President Abraham Lincoln since 1934. On February 12, 2024, the event will mark its 90th anniversary. The event is attended by the national commander of the American Legion, national president of the American Legion Auxiliary and the national commander of the SAL. Besides the national guests, the department commanders of those states not in rebellion against the Union at the time of the Civil War also attend and lay wreaths. The Grand du Illinois has participated in the last several years. Well, this year, I have been invited to lay a wreath on behalf of Voiture Nationale as well as make a short speech. I feel very honored to be invited to this solemn event.

> With the start of the new year also means that those members that have not renewed their dues for the 2024 membership year are now delinquent and no longer considered members in good standing. Unfortunately, many of the Locales that are sitting on goose eggs or only show one or two members as current members also have voyageurs in leadership positions. I want to encourage the leadership in those grands to reach out to those delinquent voitures to find out what's going on. I want to

congratulate those locales and grandes that are at or above 100%. Big shout out to the membership team for their valiant effort in contacting their assigned Grandes to achieve positive membership outcomes.

An update on Promenade



Nationale for 2024. The dates for Prom have been pushed back a week. I know if you attended Prom last year, Terri at Nationale sent out emails to let those folks know. If you didn't attend last year, here is one of many notices that will be sent out regarding the date change. I also ask that you periodically check the national website. Continue to record your hours, miles and monies spent on behalf of the 40&8. If you haven't gotten this years program pins, please reach out to those programs and get yours. This is one way we are able to fund our many programs that we offer. This year also marks the 75th anniversary of the Friendship or Merci Train. Many grands and states have scheduled events to mark this historic date. I will be in Texas to help mark their celebration. There was a fantastic story in the December edition of the ELKS magazine. It discussed the Friendship/ Merci train, what a 40/8 boxcar was and lastly about La Societe.

As I stated at Prom, my theme this year is B-C-T. Getting back to the BASICS of what and why this great organization was formed for. Does your local use the Ritual Manual to conduct your monthly promenades and Cheminots? What about wrecking new members, do you use it to administer all three degrees? Do you include a ritual manual, C&BL, and info guide to new members? COLLABORATE, we should see what organizations are out there that has a similar mission or goal as we do. There are many VSO, CBO and fraternal organizations that help Veterans and their families. Why not partner with them? Finally, we must TELL our story. Do you document your events to memorialize them? Do you notify the local news media outlets of programs and events you sponsor? Do you notify Le Editeur of the 40 & 8er or the Voyageur Briefs editor about your recent events? I know Tom and Nick would love to post your articles. Renny and the folks over at the Press Association of La Societe (PALS) will also publish your articles. As a reminder, no photographs should be taken of a wreck.

I know the PR folks will discuss this in their article, but at Prom we voted to turn the Blue Chevaliers into a fully fledged program of La Societe. This new program will not replace the Law Officer of the Year award but will hopefully enhance it. It may allow us to see more officers and what they are doing in their communities. Annual membership is \$15.00 and you can purchase a life membership for \$50.00 for a total of \$65.00. With this becoming a new program in 2025, the Committee on Committees will be looking to fill a Directeur as well as 2-3 sous. If you are interested in possibly being considered, have your Grand Correspondant submit your name with the rest of the recommendations that the other programs require to Nationale.

Until my next article or until I see you again, be safe and lets recruit and retain our members

PLEASE DO NOT WEAR ANY 40 ET 8 REGALIA TO ANY POLITICAL EVENTS

GRANDE DU SOUTH DAKOTA YOUTH SPORTS

We extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the brave men and women of the Custer SD Sheriff's Department, who work tirelessly and selflessly to keep our community safe. In a world full of uncertainties, these dedicated law enforcement officers come together as a united front, facing the challenges and ensuring the hope and safety of our beloved community in the year 2024 and beyond.

The 40&8 Honor Society of Veterans, through its remarkable program Blue Chevaliers, recently paid tribute to the Custer SD Sheriff's Department by honoring them with a well-deserved lunch. Not only did they provide a delicious meal for everyone, but they also presented the department with the funds raised through their inspiring "Here's your Sign" Campaign. This campaign exemplifies the unwavering support and appreciation we have for our men and women in blue, highlighting the unity and strength of our community.



In a memorable gathering, we were honored to have, in this photo from left to right: Julie Jennings, Gena Keller, the Public Relations Directeur for SD, and Daisy, standing alongside Sheriff Marty Mechaley, Lieutenant Jeff McGraw, and Sergeant Derrick Reinfenrath. Their presence reminded us of the dedicated individuals who willingly put their lives on the line every day to protect us. They exemplify what it means to be a true hero and deserve our utmost respect and gratitude.

As we embrace the hope and safety that the year 2024 brings, let us remember that it is through the unwavering commitment and sacrifices of our law enforcement officers and staff that we can face any challenge with confidence. They work tirelessly to ensure our community remains a safe place for us all, risking their lives to protect ours. This campaign serves as a heartfelt thank you to all those who embraced the opportunity to show their support and appreciation for these extraordinary individuals in blue.

Together, we stand united in gratitude for the Custer SD Sheriff's Department and all law enforcement officers across the nation. Their unwavering dedication and commitment to keeping our community safe inspire us all. Let us continue to come together, demonstrating our support and appreciation, as we face the hope and safety of 2024 with unwavering unity. Thank you to our men and women in blue for your selfless service. Gena Keller - Public Relations Directeur

Greetings Voyageurs from your Youth Sports Directeur Randy Shrader

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. It is time to really get involved in our programs for the Forty and Eight. Let's make the push to make our programs a success between now and the end of summer.



Did you know that Youth Sports is great for building our nation's youth to be responsible adults?

Here are Five Lessons that can carry our youth into successful business:

Set clear goals. You work for the team's success.

Having clear goals not only helps your work succeed, but helps you learn what is needed to succeed.

Take the blame for your failures. If you're leading a sports team or a company, you must be a role model for others by taking the blame for your mistakes and rewarding others who do the same.

Learn from successes and failures and keep going.

Prepare -think clearly about the outcome you want
and the details of making that happen.

Know critical details – Learn what goes into making a winning team. Apply the knowledge you have gained to be on top. If you keep applying the lessons you've learned from sports, your business success could turn you into a very wealthy person.

Did you know that 95% of Fortune 500 executives participated in high school athletics and 96% of dropouts in 14 school districts in seven regions of the nation were not participating in an athletic program.

Youth Sports are a great way for children to start respecting authority other than parents or teachers. A large part of life is about learning how to handle and interact with authoritative figures. Respecting authority goes a long way for you to become successful.

Our nation's young women also benefit form youth sports. Did you know that female high school athletes

92% less likely to get involved with drugs. 80% less likely to get pregnant.

3 times more likely to graduate than non-athletes. The Forty and Eight can do great by seeking out those teams in need of a financial boost.

Grandes, here are you Sous Directors for Youth Sports for 2024.

Area A, Sous Director Gary P. Howe: Michigan, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Germany, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Area B, Sous Director Nickolas Weyers: Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Latin America, Mexico, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.

Area C, Sous Director William Martin: Indiana, Arkansas, France, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, , Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming.

Area D, Sous Director Kenneth Kozubek: Alaska, Wisconsin, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

RITUAL

At the beginning of this new year, let's talk about Memorial Services.

The Blue Ritual & Manual of Ceremonies states: "There is a great need for Memorial Ceremonies for our deceased Comrades. This work would be carried out by (Grandes)



Voitures Locale in those counties (states) where organized. Each Voiture of La Societe shall, at lease once each year, carry to completion a Memorial Ceremony in respectful memory of those veterans who have passed to the great beyond during the preceding year." There are five different Memorial Services listed in the Blue Ritual & Manual of Ceremonies, each for a different purpose Let us look at two of the Memorial Services

You are encouraged to conduct a Memorial Service For A Deceased Voyageur during the Promenade following the death of a Voyageur from your Locale. Review this service and notice the draping of Voiture Banner. At your following Promenade, follow the Ritual for Undraping the Voiture Banner. In a Promenade the first Order of Business is Roll Call Of Officers-Memorial Service for a Deceased Voyageur (when necessary).

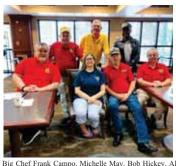
In 1940 the Calvin Kain Memorial Service was officially adopted by Voiture Nationale. Conducting this service will include all Voyageurs from your Locale who have passed to the great beyond during the preceding year.

The Calvin Kain Memorial Service is a stand-alone service and is not to be conducted during a Promenade. It can be conducted prior to a Promenade or after a Promenade but not during a Promenade. Guests are welcome to attend. Family members of a deceased Voyageur are often invited to attend this ceremony.

The Ritual & Manual of Ceremonies makes it easy to conduct a dignified and respectful Memorial Service.

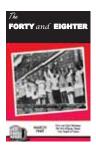
Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year. Please contact me about any questions Steve Bradley, 715-216-0776, stevepkst@gmail.com

Joint Carolinas



Big Chef Frank Campo, Michelle May, Bob Hickey, Al Simteson, Bill Simpson, Correspondant Ron Rolfes and Aumonier James Bowman share a lighter moment at the Joint Carolinas in Goose Creek, SC on January 26th.





NURSES TRAINING

What is the Nurses Training Program? Why purchase pins? Why do Locales give scholarship and what is the Nurse of the Year? All good questions that may never get answered if we are not communicating at all levels of our organization. The program was established in 1955 at Voiture Nationale for all Locales and Grandes to establish scholarships to help those want to be Nurses. The program today continues to provide those who need a scholarship to aid in pursuing Nursing Degrees. The sale of pins is just one way to help raise a little money, but it really is more than that and they're not for us to buy and keep. I have plenty of pins like most of you over the last thirty years, it should be a way to honor those Nurses that welcome in contact with a way to say thank you and get our name out in our local communities.

I would ask are you visible in your community? Do people know about the Forty-eight or are we just a secret? The pins are a good way to be visible and relative where we live and it's never too late to purchase those pins. Scholarships are easier to raise funds for and find a local school that has a Nursing Program and make contact. Have a fund raiser to raise the money or join other Voitures to make it happen. If you can't fund on your own, the Boland Trust is available to apply for a \$1500 scholarship, Contact Terri Taylor for the paperwork and she will gladly send it out. A little effort on our part changes a life and may save a life when they become a Nurse. Nurse of the Year is a way to honor a Nurse at your local Hospitals or Clinics. There are a lot of Nurses who deserve to be honored for the great work they to each day, why not honor them?

The information is on the Forty & Eight website. Again, a little effort and a big reward! As an organization we can only grow, if we grow what we stand for and that is our programs! When we don't purchase pins, fail to give scholarships, never honor a Nurse we not only fail our organization, but we also fail ourselves our Locales and Grandes and our communities. We do great work each year and our end of the year reporting is a way to show what amazing things the Forty & Eight does. Please take the time to fill our and help is just around the corner when needed, it takes each of us to do our part. Thank you for what you do to support our great organization! It does matter.

Kevin Owens Nationale Sous Directeur Nurses Training

CARVILLE STAR

Tom Adams - National Directeur

As I write this article, we have just concluded "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year." I hope your most wanted gift did not elude you and the gifts you gave brought joy beyond measure. As voyageurs in La Société we are blessed to be part of an



organization that is all about giving. Scholarships, aid to those in distress, recognition of heroes, and support of youth activities are just some of the ways we give of what we earn through pin sales and fund raising.



The cover of The STAR in December 1943 featured an airplane with tail marking "40/8" piloted by the jolly old man himself and parachuting a printing press with a gift tag to "The STAR, USMH (United States Marine Hospital), Carville, LA." The printing

press was a gift beyond all measure transitioning The STAR from crude mimeo graphic printing.

Inside the STAR is the editor's explanation that Sam Rubin, Grande Chef de Gare of Louisiana is Santa Claus donating a new printing press that represents the first step in an ambitious expansion plan of The STAR for 1944. Ms. Ann Page writes in her column of this issue "We of The STAR staff know there is a real live Santa Claus. He may not have a long white beard and a sled with reindeers (sic) but he certainly delivered that long looked for printing press...Cheers for the 40&8. We can't help but succeed in our work with you fellows behind us." Circulation increased as the result of the new printing press, and over the years the 40&8 continued to keep The STAR rolling out by upgrading the printing presses and donating folding machines and paper cutters. The STAR eventually reached a circulation of over 60,000 per issue, fulfilling its mission of radiating the light of truth on Hansen's disease.

Though the printing presses of old gave way to methods of modern technology, uninterrupted publication and distribution of The STAR continued through help of the 40&8. Twice yearly printing and mailing of The STAR is now funded as a gift from La Société's Carville Star Program. (Please help our Program by subscribing to The STAR for only \$2.00 per year. A subscription form is included in "forms and petite communiqué" on the 40&8 website.)

Besides the gift of funding for The STAR, your generous donations allow gifts of projects that support Carville's Historic District (the grounds of Carville) and the National Hansen's Disease Museum at Carville. In the words of a delegate to the recent 150th Anniversary Celebration of the discovery of the bacterium that causes Hansen's disease "...we must talk about it, write and listen to people who have been affected by leprosy, and preserve the objects that are part of this story and that tell it as a human and social phenomenon. If we don't we run the risk of these traces of history disappearing. Remembering is preserving and not forgetting so as not to repeat."

In 2024 all of us must strive to continue the provision of the many gifts offered by La Société. Happy new year!



GATHERING TO PRESENT THE NEW PRINTING PRESS

SPECIAL AWARDS

Wayne Sorrentino - National Directeur

Greetings Voyageurs and Dames. My name is Wayne Sorrentino from the Grande du New York. I'd like to address our Special Awards Program and some of the special timing needs involved for your consideration and



First of all, a big Thank You to Big Chef Frank Campo & the COC for my second appointment as the Directeur of Special Awards. I am honored by your continued confidence in me and my abilities and, of course, those of my six Sous Directeur's to handle this most important J O B.

During the Early Bird Dinner at Prom Nationale part of the discussion within my committee members of myself and my four Sous Directeurs, was how do we generate many more nom packages from our Grandes to make the selection process much more arduous for the four Sous Directeurs / Judges? How do we encourage more Voitures Locale to take up the fight and produce a FLOOD of high quality

nominations for their candidates to be submitted to their Grande Special Awards Directeurs by June 1st? Remember that each Voiture Locale can only send in one nomination for each of the four awards

The discussion centered around those Grandes (and we don't know how many Grandes this impacts) who hold their annual Proms AFTER July 1st. The selected nom for each of the four categories must be sent by the Grande in order to reach the appropriate Sous Directeur BY July 1st. Does this mismatch of critically important dates impact the number of nominations being sent and received for consideration for our four Nationale awards at Prom Nationale? Or is this a Pandora's box which should be left alone and not opened (and has each Grande already figured out how to handle these associated deadline dates)? How can we help these Locales and Grandes achieve our common objective?

Anything we do or propose will, hopefully, achieve the goal of more nominations. If we do nothing, we should expect nothing to change regarding how many (or how few) nominations each Sous Directeur receives by the July 1st deadline imposed by Nationale.

From here (late-January) we have about 4 months to get to June 1st deadline, which is the published deadline date for your nominations to be received by your Grand Special Awards Directeurs.

Our SIX Special Awards Sous Directeurs have been working very hard writing and submitting their monthly guidance letters to our Grande leaderships, requesting your cooperation with generating the nominations for each of our FOUR categories. These guidance letters, of course, need to be pushed by EACH Grande's Leadership to the Voitures Locale level so the WORD is getting out to the individual worker bees who Page 2 are, in reality, charged with generating these actual nominations. <u>Please notify me by phone or email (see below) if you are not receiving these monthly letters.</u>

I would doubt if a similar discussion on this topic at the Prom Nationale Special Awards Committee meeting could be concluded within about 20 minutes, so we don't go over our allotted time and interfere with the next committee's use of the same meeting room. Any comments or suggestions would be greatly appreciated in a letter format. Please email your letters / suggestions on this topic to me directly. I'll collate & share your comments with my committee and our Nationale Officers. Thanks for any help you may offer in advance.

Please consider joining or renewing your membership in The Past Chef's Club, The General's Club and the new Blue Chevaliers Project, launched in November 2021. Please view these minor expenses as a part of your investment and support for the future of La Societe.

Merci Beaucoup.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Prom Nationale in Sandusky in September.

Stay safe out there and safe travels to all.

For La Societe,

Home: 716 891 5164

Email: wayne.sorrentino868@gmail.com



I hope this article finds you doing well. The information I am working from is from 18 January 2024 Membership updates from Nationale. I wanted to have the most up-to-date statistics when I wrote this article, before my deadline.



Let me start out with Membership is the lifeblood to this Outstanding Organization and every other organization out there. We have outstanding programs to give assistance to a variety of needs. but we need the members to make these programs successful. We also need our members to let everyone know about our Outstanding Organization and what we do. I know I wear 40 & 8 shirts and ballcaps every chance I get to try to promote and advertise our Outstanding Organization. Unfortunately, you could ask ten veterans if they have ever heard of the 40 & 8 at least 70% or more of them are going to say NO. Unfortunately, when this Outstanding Organization was formed, we were formed as a secret society. We must get our name out there and what we do to help generate interest in the 40 & 8.

Hopefully everyone carries at least one membership form with them, so they have it when they need it, the wallet size is an excellent option. Hopefully, everyone Nationale https://www.fortyandeight.org and knows in the home tab it has the history of the 40 & 8. Remember we have to get out of the previous mindset of having to be a Legionnaire for several years, before being invited into our Outstanding Organization. We need to start bringing in a lot of new Voyageur Militaires to help replace our Voyageur Militaires that were summoned by the Commander of us all. We also need to bring back our Voyageur Militaires that have not renewed for several years and that have dropped from our rosters.

Our current Membership stands at 11,615 paid members with a 71.32% of our goal. We are currently behind last year's pace by 914 members. I know the Membership Team that has been assembled from Nationale, Grande to the Locale are working very hard for you so we can achieve our GOAL of 100% in Membership! If you are reading this article and do not have your 2024 Membership Card, please reach out to your Locale Voiture and pay your dues.

If anyone needs any assistance from the membership team, please do not hesitate to reach out to us either by email or phone and we will gladly do whatever we can to assist. We have great programs in this Outstanding Organization, but we need the members to make those programs successful.

En Service, Franklin V. Angelo Directeur Membership Nationale franklin.v.angelo408@gmail.com 1-217-416-5695 Cell Phone

GRANDE DU NEW YORK



Voiture 759 restarting with a formal Wreck Ceremony conducted on Sunday 11-12-23 at the American Legion Niskayuna Post 1092 in Schenectady, NY to bring in FOUR NEW Voyageurs Militaire into La Société. L to R: Abe Zino, Pam Saunders, Randy Weaver, Jeannine Mannarino, William Frank. Andrew "Doc"

The Formal Wreck was performed by Grand Chef de Gare Wayne Sorrentino with the assistance of Abe Zino and Jim DeLair.

Berry with their new charter & Grand Chef de Gare Wayne Sorrentino, Chef de Gare of V-1637.

MEMBERSHIP 2024

January 25th, 2024

	AREA	2023	2024	PERCENT
ALABAMA	3	97	89	91.97%
ALASKA	1	132	98	74.24%
ARIZONA	1	387	207	53.49%
ARKANSAS	3	74	40	54.05%
CALIFORNIA	2	604	452	74.83%
COLORADO	1	50	36	72.00%
CONNECTICUT	4	105	95	90.48%
DELAWARE	2	27	20	74.07%
DIST OR COLUMBIA		15	6	40.00%
FLORIDA	3	517	388	75.05%
FRANCE	3	98	98	100.00%
GEORGIA	3	296	215	72.64%
GERMANY	4	68	61	89.71%
IDAHO	1	95	67	70.53%
ILLINOIS	2	920	666	72.39%
INDIANA	1	1955	1401	71.66%
IOWA	2	220	135	61.36%
KANSAS	2	288	271	94.10%
	3	148	124	83.78%
KENTUCKY				
LATIN AMERICA	2	10	10	100.00%
LOUISIANA	3	462	323	69.91%
MAINE	4	86	54	62.79%
MARYLAND	4	208	107	51.44%
MASSACHUSETTS	4	101	66	65.35%
MICHIGAN	4	724	498	68.78%
MINNESOTA	4	862	646	74.94%
MISSISSIPPI	3	124	99	79.84%
MISSOURI	1	682	542	79.47%
MONTANA	1	73	59	80.82%
NEBRASKA	2	264	188	71.21%
NEVADA	1	17	12	70.59%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1	68	52	76.47%
NEW JERSEY	2	57	35	61.40%
NEW MEXICO	1	13	4	30.77%
NEW YORK	4	685	472	68.91%
NORTH CAROLINA	3	459	291	63.40%
NORTH DAKOTA	2	166	107	64.46%
OHIO	3	961	711	73.99%
OKLAHOMA	2	109	55	50.46%
OREGON	1	140	95	67.86%
PENNSYLVANIA	4	855	578	67.60%
SOUTH CAROLINA	3	250	180	72.00%
SOUTH DAKOTA	2	323	266	82.35%
TENNESSEE	3	60	51	85.00%
TEXAS	2	246	177	71.95%
UTAH	1	14	0	0.00%
VERMONT	2	28	23	82.14%
VIRGINIA	3	330	251	76.06%
WASHINGTON	1	420	256	60.95%
WEST VIRGINIA	3	128	128	100.00%
WISCONSIN	4	808	636	78.71%
WYOMING	1	22	5	22.73%
V2000	1	434	364	83.87%
TOTALS				
IUIALS		16285	11810	72.52%

AREA	2023	2024	Percent	
Area - 3 Ron Garland	4004	2988	74.63%	1st Place
Area - 2 John Rodgers	3277	2411	73.57%	2nd Place
Area - 4 John Edelblute	4502	3213	71.37%	3rd Place
Area - 1 Kevin Johnson	4068	2834	69.67%	4th Place
V-2000	434	364	83.87%	



Kevin Johnson



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer John Edelblute IV



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer John Rodgers



Ron Garland









GRANDE DU FLORIDA



On 11-8-23, on behalf of Grand du Florida, Terry Lee, Sous Nationale Directeur and Grand du Florida Directeur for Child Welfare presented a check in the amount of \$250 to the Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville. In the photo with Voyageur Lee is Brooke Hays, Director of Development for the association and Raymond Tetschner, who has Down Syndrome. The presentation took place at Bitty and Beau's coffee shop, who employs people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Raymond is employed at Bitty & Beau's, where Voyageur Lee first met him last month when he performed there, playing his drums.

GRANDE DU NEBRASKA



Chef de Gare Carl Christensen of Nebraska City, NE, 40 & 8 Voiture 1015 presents a check to Ms. Sarah Hahn McMillan of Omaha. She has been working for the last five years as a Licensed Practical Nurse in a family clinic in Millard, NE.

Sarah will graduate from her online class at Purdue University Global in West Lafayette, IN, in 2025. Sarah's ties to Nebraska City are through her mother, and her grandfather, Lester L. Kinnison, former Correspondant of the locale 40 & 8.

Also pictured is Roger L. Kopf.

GRANDE DU OREGON



Oregon Voiture #153, Cabane #153 & Grande La Femmes raised money for V153's Child Welfare Program. Current Locale Chef de Gare Frank Wells & Past Grande/Locale Presidente Linda Wells presenting a check for \$700 to the Boys and Girls Club, Knudson Branch 12/11/23.

GRANDE DU ARIZONA

POW / MIA Recognition Day Ceremony

A POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony was held at Wayne V. McMartin American Legion Post 91, Chandler AZ on Friday, September 15th, 2023 at 1900.

Our guest of honor and keynote speaker was Mrs. Beverly Berry, who is the descendant of a POW from WWII. Beverly's Father, Clayton Herman Kahler was born September 3, 1921.

There were 7 boys in the family, and those who were of age during WWII enlisted – and all came home. On September 16, 1942, Clayton enlisted in the Army Air Corps, 100th Infantry Division. He attained the rank of Staff Sergeant. He served in both the Middle East Theatre and in Greece. Staff Sergeant Kahler was a POW in Stalag 17B Braunau Gneikendorf – near Kerms, Austria. Quoted from Beverly:

"My father did not talk about his experiences in the war. I did not know he was a POW until I was an adult. The only story I remember was about an Italian woman who gave him wine and taught him how to make spaghetti sauce."

"I believe, as a result of things that happened to him during the war, he turned to alcohol to banish the demons. This did not make for a good home life. He was not home a lot, and not at all emotionally available."

"After he lost everything, he went to Hawaii and sobered up at the Veterans hospital on Oahu. He passed away sober at the age of 52 and is buried at the National Cemetery in Albuquerque, New Mexico."

Additionally, one of our local AFJROTC programs (a combination of Basha, Perry, and Casteel High Schools) were present and performed their POW/MIA Ceremony for all in attendance.

This was a very heartfelt and emotional ceremony, and the weight of the enormous sacrifices made by both servicemembers, and their families could be felt within the room. It was yet another reminder to us that we must continue in our mission to support our POW/MIA Families to the fullest extent possible and to continue onward until are all home.

The event was advertised inviting any POW/MIA servicemember, their family, and all gold star family members to attend. A meal was offered free of charge using funds raised by Voiture 987, Grand du Arizona. The event was a success as we also spoke of our scholarship program. Fliers and applications were handed out, and many pins were purchased by the supporting guests in attendance.



Christmas time is here and that means it is time for the Novant Matthews Medical Center's annual festival of trees. Each year the hospital opens its lobby for businesses to put up a tree to benefit charity through an online auction bid. Beautiful trees (as many as 40+) line the corridors of the main lobby.

An evening is set aside for the official tree lighting with an appearance by Santa Claus, cookies, treats, and a train for everyone to enjoy. It is a large community event in the Matthews/Charlotte area that brings out families everywhere to see this beautiful spectacle. At the heart of all this planning are the ladies from Guest Services: Crystal Moore, Manager of Guest Services and Millie Jimenez, Office Coordinator of Guest Services. These ladies, in addition to members of Administration, make sure all the details ensure you will be transported in time back to childhood with the excitement of waiting for Santa to come!

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This year, the 40/8 Grand du NC participated in this event by purchasing and erecting a tree on behalf of the Grand. This tree will be going up for

bid to help the hospital build a respite room. As we all know, our medical people work hard and endure long nights with no rest, and difficult situations. This Respite room will give them a place to relax and refresh for duty.

Nationale Directeur of Nurses Training Robert Hickey; Nationale Sous Directeur of Nurses Training Michelle May; Nationale Aumonier James Bowman, and Nationale Chairman of Nurses Training La Femme Cindy Hickey put up a beautiful white tree with various military ornaments, including a 40/8 emblem to top off the tree.

Sous mes indy ents,

A QR code was placed at the bottom of the tree, which when scanned will bring up information on the 40/8. There were also pamphlets at the bottom of tree for the public to pick up and become educated about our organization. The pamphlets have already generated a great amount of interest.

We are very excited to be a part of this event and likely will continue to do this on an annual basis. It gave us an opportunity to attend the lighting ceremony and do a meet and greet with the community and with the hospital administration. Plus, Directeur Robert Hickey and Aumonier James Bowman had the opportunity to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas!

Many people who were not familiar with the 40/8 have now become acquainted with us, including many nurses. A nurses training program pin was placed on our tree, encased in a beautiful patriotic red, white and blue ribbon. Thank you Novant for allowing us to participate in this wonderful event!!

GRANDE DU TEXAS

Voiture Locale # 605 and their award winning Flags For 1st Graders Program







CHILD WELFARE

Joe Donovan - National Directeur

WHY A CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM? Do YOU know the history?

1922 During the Promenade Nationale in New Orleans, a Children's Welfare project was established, with monies to be raised via an annual assessment of 50 cents from dues collections, to be used for the care of orphaned children.

1923 The Forty & Eight was integrated as an equal partner with The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary, all with common interests in Child Welfare. Forty & Eight

Child Welfare Program funds (\$24,823.91) were safely invested to grow to meet future needs. A joint policy committee of members from all three organizations was established.

1925 During the 6th Promenade Nationale, in Omaha, Nebraska, \$25,000.00 was set aside to establish a Child Welfare Fund. (This was a precursor to today's Charles Ardery Child Welfare Trust).

1928 Forty & Eight programs expanded in concert with The American Legion. Membership, Child Welfare, Junior Baseball, Americanism and Emergency Relief became key Forty & Eight programs. Annual donations continued to the Child Welfare Fund, with \$18,960 earmarked in 1928. Voiture Locales devised their own charitable programs.

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.

1938 The Forty & Eight began sponsoring Boys State in 20 states. Charitable efforts increased as Voitures provided iron lungs, sponsored anti-juvenile delinquency programs, and supported Legion Baseball and Scouting.

1945 The Forty & Eight's annual contribution to the Legion's Child Welfare Fund continued throughout the war. Due to an increase in numbers of World War II veteran's children, the Forty & Eight increased its annual Child Welfare contribution to \$30,000 in 1945 and to \$50,000 in 1946.

1959 (1960) The Forty & Eight severed ties with the Legion and became an independent organization. The Forty & Eight had monetary resources many in the Legion deemed theirs. Conversely, the Forty & Eight objected to funding Legion programs with large amounts of money, without adequate recognition in return. These differences brought the two organizations to logger heads. The Forty & Eight thus became independent.

1964 Recognizing that its previous donations to the Legion's Child Welfare Fund had amounted to over 1.2 million dollars, the Forty & Eight established the new *Charles W. Ardery Child Welfare Fund* as an irrevocable trust, seeded it with \$300,000 and drew up rules governing the dispersal of its funds as reimbursements to Voitures for local instances of rendering aid/assistance.

<u>1965</u> At the Promenade Nationale in Baltimore, Maryland, it was announced that 51 Voitures had aided 770,086 children with a total Child Welfare expenditure value of \$2,690,296.

1969 The Charles W. Ardery Child Welfare Trust Fund grew to over \$400,000. The trust's growth was attributed in part to a 50 cent assessment for Child Welfare in members' annual dues.

1972 The Ardery Trust Fund presented a \$10,000 grant to the University of Kentucky for research into Cystic Fibrosis. A \$4,363 grant was made to the University of Illinois for research into the causes of Childhood Diabetes. Total Ardery Trust expenditures for the year were over \$37,000.

1973 (1974) A Child Welfare grant of \$10,000 was made to the University of Wisconsin for Juvenile Diabetes research.

1978 - 1979 The Charles W. Ardery Child Welfare Trust Fund granted \$15,600 to the National Jewish Hospital in Denver to purchase special medical equipment. A second grant of \$10,000 was made to Children's Hospital of St. Petersburg, Florida for Newborn Intensive Care Unit equipment. \$16,600 was granted to Saint Jude's Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, to purchase a new spectrophotometer. \$6,329,276 was reported expended in money, materials, mileage and man hours throughout the Forty & Eight for the Child Welfare program.

1982 The Forty & Eight adopted, as a Child Welfare subsidiary program, AAU/USA Junior Olympics.

1992 In response to hurricanes in Florida, the Forty & Eight responded with donations of clothing, household goods and medical supplies. In Florida City alone, 255 children were provided food vouchers, clothing and household goods and \$11,000 was granted to needy families. Relief teams of Voyageurs traveled into disaster areas to distribute clothing and supplies. In Hawaii, where a hurricane had come ashore on Kauai, the Ardery Trust assisted 80 children.

1993 Additional to it conducting its many ongoing charitable program efforts, the Forty & Eight assisted victims of natural disasters in Michigan and Missouri. \$30,000 in aid was given to families of children in flooded areas. This is the reason we have a Child Welfare Program. Are YOU and your Voiture doing your part?

Adapted from the "History of the Forty and Eight" Pins and Shirts are available from your Directeur:

Joe Donovan, 4660 N River Rd Spc 12, Oceanside CA 92057-5879 760-721-9405 jdonovan4660@hotmail.com



GRANDE DU GEORGIA



Voiture and Cabane 217, Atlanta, GA held their annual Thanksgiving/ Christmas/Toys for Tots event at V217s Chateau. Pictured are the Voyageurs and Dames in front of V-217 Train. The two Dames are Bea Ayton, Child Welfare Chairman and Betty Hanna, Sous Child Welfare. These two Dames purchased over \$50,000.00 of Toys and coordinated with Toys for Tots pickup, which is Pictured with Chef Paul Todd, Janet Walsh. Betty, Bea and the Toys for Tots representative. Thanks to Bea and Betty for an Excellent Job!!! Group Photo Below



Grande du Illinois Grande du Oregon



Steve Bottorff, V1100 Voyageur and Terry Bigham, Correspondant presenting Christmas gifts to Activity Director, Tonya Goddard for 5 Veterans in the Rushville Nursing & Rehabilitation



Presenting over \$800 in toys to the Marion Co. Fire Department District #1 for their Volunteer Fire Fighter Childrens Program.

On behalf of the members of Voiture & Cabane #153, Oregon, Chef de Gare Frank Wells & Presidente Janet Zook 12/12/23.

GRANDE DE WISCONSIN



Sous Chef de Chemin de fer John Edelblute with Voyageurs from Locale # 1519 preform a Flags for 1st Graders seminar at a local Cudahy grade school this last November.

GRANDE DU NORTH CAROLINA



The 40/8 Veteran's Honor Society Voiture 1237 has completed the Flags for First Graders Program for the elementary schools in Alamance County for the 2023-2024 school year. The first school, River Mill Academy was done on September 25th and the last, Grove Park Elementary on December 7th. We were pleased to be able to visit all 29 Elementary Schools in Alamance County this year, 20 public, 6 private and 3 charter schools. We distributed 2,269 Flags to students and teachers this year, drove 3,621 miles and expended 359 manhours.

NATIONAL BOX CAR **ASSOCIATION**

The Box Car program has been busy this year! I want to thank everyone that has participated in our program. This year, in honor of the 75th anniversary we are offering a new coin that will be ready for sale on the June 1st roll out of merchandise. A cost has not been set



The new poster for sale is going well. We have two posters for sale that were introduced at the Nationale Promenade. The cost is \$5.00 for the large and \$3.00 for the smaller poster. The cost for shipping is \$5.00. I would like to have the order be \$25.00 in posters and merchandise. I can help add other items if you are not interested in 5 posters.

The Merci Maintenance deadline is July 1st. \$150.00 is given to every Grande that completes the form and buys at least \$150.00 of Box Car pins or cards. 17 Grandes received their check last year. If your state has the Merci Boxcar you are eligible to get this check. This is a great way to improve your boxcar. I have enjoyed talking to several Grands as to programs that are being prepared. Please call or email me as to the date you are celebrating the 75th anniversary.

If your Grande plans to have your locomotive at Sandusky OH for the Nationale Promenade please send me a message by the July 1st deadline. There is a form that needs to be completed. Any Lockies that arrive and do not have the form completed will not be eligible for the money stipend for attending the Prom.

My address, phone number and email: Virgil Blum 7511 S. 128th St.

Omaha NE 68138 Cell: 402-779-6827.

Email: virg4huskers@yahoo.com

VETERANS AFFAIRS VOLUNTARY SERVICES

D. Davis - National Directeur

I hope you all had a joyous and relaxing holiday season and are looking forward to a monumental year in La Societe. On the forefront, we have the Keep the Wheelchairs Rolling contest. The deadline for submissions is March. Your facilities have needs. What



do you need that will benefit most of the veterans you serve? Let us know what the facilities need by submitting a short description to include what is needed, how much and a dollar amount for what vou are requesting. You can send me an email or even a text message. I have less than 10 requests currently

Some of us are tech savvy and some are not, so how do we protect ourselves while zipping around the internet and sending messages and emails and such? While at Promenade Nationale, my bank account was backed, then my email and I do have several security measures in place. If you sent something to me and I didn't respond, chances are, I haven't seen it. Please send it again. My email has been diverted to the black hole of the internet. I guess. Use an anti-virus program and use BCC when sending out your emails.

I have a new email address and I am ready to receive all your correspondence. I have regained access to the other email addresses as well, but I don't know if I can recover all the emails I have missed. VAVSNationalDirector@gmail.com

That brings me to another topic, communication. To run a successful operation, such as this, the La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Cheveaux,

everyone must be on the same page and communicate with each other and necessary departments. Here we have different programs, and each program has a working team. These folks must send out letters and emails and get input from their respective Grandes. Current officer reports sent to Nationale will help immensely. I don't know who I am supposed to be sending correspondence to if I don't have a name and working address for your Grande. This is something each program's Sous Directeurs can assist with. Each of us should know who our respective Grand Chef de Gare and Correspondant are so let's get these blanks filled in soon. My Sous Directeurs need to know who the Grande VAVS Directeur is. This is the person who will be the liaison to the facilities in that Grande. I should be getting correspondence from my Sous Directeurs and LaFemme Liaison who should be getting correspondence from the Grande Directeurs. Implementing this will result in accomplishing the goals within our programs faster with less manpower than we are currently exerting.

send in the needs of your facilities for Keep the Wheelchairs Rolling, fill in the blanks, and communicate! Get to know the folks you're working with. Take care of yourselves and stay safe.



IN MEMORY VERN ECCLERSTON CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER 1999







VOITURE 506 GRAND DU NORTH CAROLINA TEAMS UP WITH NOVANT MATTHEWS MEDICAL CENTER NURSES

Every year the Nursing Leadership at Novant Matthews Medical Center go on a nursing retreat. On these retreats, the nurses seek to find a mission of service. This year the Nursing Leadership, which consisted of 40+ nurses, decided that a Veteran's related mission would be their theme. Novant Nurse Shannon Pierce, RN, contacted Novant Employee and 40/8 Nationale Sous Directeur of Nurses Training, Michelle May (V 506) to orchestrate this mission.

Having recently read an article and an email regarding the needs of homeless and in need Veterans, Voyageur May knew what those needs were: Gloves, socks, hats, bottled water, snacks, and hand warmers. The nurses jumped into action gathering all the needed goods, and so much more. At the retreat, the Novant Matthews Nurses prepared 60+ bags for the Veterans.

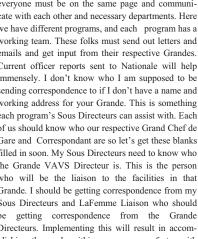
Following the retreat, the



Nurses met early one morning with Voyageur May at the hospital to give the bags. (see photograph). The packages were thereafter given to Nationale Directeur of Nurses Training Robert Hickey (V 506) who delivered them to Servant House (see photograph). Servant House is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower the homeless and disabled, particularly veterans. Many veterans this winter will be warm, thanks to the kind and caring Nurses at Novant Matthews Medical Center.

As many of you know, the 40/8 provides nursing scholarships through the purchase of pins and other fund-raising efforts. Please keep these angels of mercy in your thoughts. Nurses are amazing people and they do so much to give back to the community.





Until next issue, let's go recruit more volunteers,

Thoughts to ponder: Why pray? – The purpose of prayer is to conform us to God's will, and prayer change us. It changattitude from complaint to praise. It enables us to participate in God's eternal plan. It makes us aware of our total inadequacy. The goal of faith is to bring us into direct, personal

Greetings Voyageurs and Dames

As we enter another new year,

I pray and hope that you and

your family have a blessed and

Let us all continue to pray for

our country, for peace and unity. "Delight yourself in the

Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart" (Psalm

prosperous year.

37.4)

fellowship with God.

I'd like to take this moment to again remind all Voyageurs that I am here for you and if I can be of any assistance please don't hesitate to call, or email me. I would love to talk with you. We all need someone that we can share our concerns and thoughts with sometimes, and if the time arises reach out to me. I'll be there for you.

I look forward to serving this great organization in 2024 and beyond. May God bless you all and keep you in the palm of his hand. I hope to see you in the near future.

Sincerely in Christ's Service James Bowman Aumonier Nationale

IN MEMORY HANK KWIATKOWSKI CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER 2011

Louise Canellos - Aid to Voiture Chairman

Aid to Voiture includes all of the programs that the Dames and Cabane work to support their Voiture's and their programs.

This year we have a new trophy it is Box Car the information is on the website.

Aid to Voiture is an overall program. If it is Voiture sponsored program it can be counted. Please, do not count work for other organizations.

I ask that the Locale Aid to Voiture Chairman go online to <u>fortyandeight.org.</u> under La Femmes go to Trophy and Awards.

Read and save the <u>General Reporting Information</u> and the <u>Trophy and Awards Guide Lines</u>. Then get together with the other Chairmen in the Cabane. You will need their reports to be included on your report. Remind them when filling out the report to ask is this a Voiture sponsored program, if not don't count it.

Remember to make sure to **check your math**, not just once, but twice or more.

It is very important that you have your Presidente and Correspondante signature and information on your report, and you <u>MUST</u> have verification from one of your Voiture Officers, without these signatures you report cannot be counted.

If you have any questions or need help you can contact me. My telephone number is (309) 525-2167, you can call or text me. My email is com, Please put Aid to Voiture in the subject line of your email.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who took their time to fill out their Cabane reports last year.

Nurses Training Program Cindy Hickey

Dames for those of you, who don't know me my name is Cindy Hickey and I am the Chairman of Nurses Training. I hail from the state of North Carolina.

I wanted to show you a picture of the Nurses Training Program Pin and let you know that Dames can purchase these pins, if you desire. I have had calls asking if the Dames can purchase and wear them, because they do include the La Femme emblem you can wear these pins. You have a few ways to purchase these pins, from your, Local, Grand or on consignment from the secretary/ treasurer of the program, Ralph Turner. Ralph can be reached at ralph.n.turner@hotmail.com. Obviously, the best way to get a pin is from your own Voitures.

The reason I am letting you know is so that you can promote the Nurses Training Program with the sale of pins and also, they only have about 800 pins remaining for the whole organizations.

Please remember any thing you do for Nurses Training, throughout the year keep a note book at your Rendezvous so monthly you can record your activities, so that when it comes time to do reports all the information will be right at your fingertips. If you have any thought or questions, please feel free to call me at 617-230-1109 or email me at cynhickey@aol.com. We all need to help to promote the Nurses Training Program, at the Local, Grand, and

Program, at the Local, Grand, and Nationale for scholarships due to the shortage of Nurse in our Country.



Laura Blue – Carville Star Chairman

What an exciting chairmanship to take on this year! I am so glad that I have some very good resources to guide me along. There are two things that have really help educate all of us, that are looking for more education on this very important program that centers around Hansen's Disease otherwise known as Leprosy.

There is a book written, "Carville's Cures" that helps dispel a lot of the myths that date back to biblical years and gives a great understanding of modern-day ways that further our education. It's a great read and the 40 & 8 is also mentioned several times in the writings.

The Carville Star Committee and the Nationale Chairman of the committee, for the Voyageur, Tom Adams has been very kind including the La Femmes, in their every other month, zoom meetings. They all are willing to ask for my input and ideas to help the program.

If your Cabane is looking for a way to boost the funds to help, for a great program, you can always purchase a Carville Star pin from the committee and have a bauble to show off this wonderful program.

You as a member of the 40&8 are welcome to purchase a subscription to the "Star" newsletter for \$2.00, which is published twice yearly. Addition donations are greatly welcome.

You can consider having fundraisers and consider buying a clinic, state or country, it only requires a \$50.00 donation. Make a donation from your Locale Cabane or Grande straight to the Museum.

You may go to the Voyageur's website at: www.fortyandeight.org then click on Programs: Carville Star.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (763) 742-5593 or email me at

bluetatto1@hotmail.com

Suzanne Burger - Youth Sports Chairman

Good Day to Dames Everywhere,

I'm Suzanne Burger, you're Nationale Youth Sports Chairman.

What is Youth Sports, you ask? Youth Sports is a Voiture program set up to assist athletes, ages seven (7) to twenty (20), in all amateur sports programs to promote sportsmanship, citizenship, and to emphasize safety to athletes and coaches alike.

Its motto is that no athlete should stay at home for a lack of funds.

How can you help? Look around your community there is always some young person who could use our help. It could be as simple as paying the fees for a young girl to play soccer. Your neighbor might need help getting her kids to and from practices because she works two (2) jobs to support her family. Maybe your grandson needs someone to come and sell tickets for his football game or work at a concession stand.

Get involved, go to games, and cheer the kids on. Let them know what a good job they are doing and how proud you are. It isn't always about money.

Youths need encouragement to continue to get out and try new things. Playing sports is great for kids, it helps develop physical skills, get exercise, make friends, have fun, learn teamwork, learn to play fair, and improve self-esteem.

Fundraisers of all kinds can be done to raise money for Youth Sports. Raffles, dinners, Karaoke nights, breakfasts, and 50/50s are just some of the things we can do.

It all counts, the time, the materials, the monies to keep track fill out your reports. Turn in all your time to your Locale Directeur. Reports are important for all the Voiture programs.

If you have questions, just ask. If I don't know I am sure I know someone who does.

Please reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or comments and I will do my best to get you a prompt and effective response. Please contact me at (517) 202-9575 or email me at

suzburger@comcast.net. For the Good of La Societe!



Barbara Dotzauer - POW/MIA Chairman

Greetings it's another year to hit the ground running. We now have the current POWMIA pins available. These pin sales along with the Pennies for POW/MIA keeps our program successful.

The scholarships that have been giving out, are just a small jester to show our appreciation for the devotion and sacrifice their family member gave up to secure our freedoms we take for granted. By keeping this program going, we not only are supplying an education they might not be able to afford but reinforce our future generations.

Some ideas to raise funds are as simple as collecting pennies, pop tops and of course raffles. We can have the same fundraises and we can use for all our other projects.

With the season of giving is approaching instead of giving a present to someone who doesn't really need it, please make a donation in that person's name. What a wonderful way to "play it forward."

If I can be of any assistance or information on this great program feel free to reach out and I'll be more than happy to help out.

Now is the season of giving.

Let us never forget!

Child Welfare Chairman Judy Pfalzgraf

Dames and Cabane's,

Thank you to all of you who posted pictures on Facebook about you all did for Children and Youth for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays.

Some Cabanes donated food to food Pantries for Thanksgiving. One Cabane even cooked a meal for a needy family with six (6) children this is truly amazing.

Several Cabanes donated toys for children for Christmas by taking names off of Christmas Giving trees

A Cabane showed where their Cabane and Voiture donated over \$1000.00 in toys for Toys for Tots. One Cabane donated scarves, mittens and hats.

Another Cabane visited their local hospital and took a gift to all of the children in the hospital.

This is truly amazing. Thank you to all who posted pictures on Facebook.

Now that the holidays are over, we can do so many other things for our children.

Some suggestions are:

Donating to your local food Pantries items that are for children. Donate children's books to your school and local libraries.

Always remember anything you do for a child is good for our Child Welfare program.

Ask your Voiture to join you in what ever project you decide to do, so the project is Voiture sponsored.

Remember to report all of these projects at the end of the year.

Please keep posting pictures and include pictures in your Year End Reports.

Please reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or comments and I will do my best to get you a prompt and effective response. Please contact me at (920) 212-0007 or email me at ripfalz/@gmail.com.

For the Good of La Societe!

NATIONALE PRESIDENTE

Happy New Year Dames and Voyageurs!

I hope that all your holidays were festive and filled with family, friends, and the best new memories! On to more memories and good times with the New year. With the new year brings membership, your 2023 cards are no longer valid so if you do not have your



2024 card yet make sure you have paid your dues. On that note, as of January 18th we are at 80.59%. Currently we have 47 Cabanes at or over 100%, great job to those who have made it! I want to give a hug and a pat on the back for those that are still working on getting to 100% I have seen the work that is being put in to get it done. Thank you to our La Sous Presidente's for all their hard work and to all the membership chairman across the nation working on it as well. If your Cabane has not reached 100% look at your membership list, reach out to the dames you know, you might be just who they needed to hear from right now.

Looking toward the future as we do with everything, we do have 14 Cabanes that are over 100% I would like to say way to go, you are helping us to a more secure future! We have a lot to offer, I do not know about you but I always feel-good participating in our fundraisers for our programs. We have great programs to work, new friends to meet in our organization. Keep involving your newer dames so they can learn and maybe teach us who have been here awhile a few new tricks. So, what are you doing in your locale and Grande to keep and bring in new dames? What are you doing to support our programs? If you have suggestions for membership or any of our programs, I would love to hear them.

November and December brought me some local travel in my state. I was blessed to attend Rendezvous at Cabane 997 whereas always I have a wonderful time with old friends. I once again got to attend the 1536 Christmas party where I made in time for Rendezvous. Made some new friends visited with all of them old and new. I enjoy the party as it is a program function collecting stuff needed for children and young adults in the community. There was good food, raffles, friends, and family enjoying the function and of course Santa Claus. I participated locally at my own for our annual Champagne breakfast, which is a good time, but I appreciate the cause for the fundraiser I think more. The funds raised go to pay for a program the Chateau puts on in the late spring called Past Chef's Silver Key dinner. This dinner does certainly celebrate our passe Chef's and our passe La Presidente's which is nice, and I think everyone enjoys getting to see all of them as this sometimes is the only function a few of them are able to attend anymore. The special quality of this dinner is the Silver Key, the Voiture extends an invitation to the widow of Voyageurs who have passed, extending them, and cordially referring to them as Silver Key's. They are given a certificate to let them know that their service to their veteran during their service and during their time with the Forty et Eight is appreciated and to let them know that they are always welcome at the Chateau. It is a beautiful gesture.

I was invited to the Indiana Spring Cheminot and Lafayette 364 designer purse bingo. Shortly after arriving in Lafayette, I was informed that the Cheminot was postponed due to the weather. Needless to say, I was a little sad I will have missed a few people I truly enjoy seeing when I go to functions in Indiana. Now that's out of the way, I still enjoyed myself. I got to the Chateau and Shellie Dexter was working, Shaenna Marrin just

got done working and Marilyn Mikels came in to meet myself and Carrie Havnes who traveled with me. I was given a gorgeous basket with all kinds of goodies; a variety butterfly items and a beautiful butterfly quilt. 364 has a beautiful Chateau if you haven't been you should put it on your bucket list. I enjoyed a small visit on Friday at the Chateau and then on Saturday Marilyn Mikels picked us up for Dinner at Walt's Pub, where I had the pleasure of have dinner with Marilyn Mikels, Shellie Dexter, Shaenna Marrin, Marcy Leifert, Barb Howard, Kelley Farrell, Nina Lockhart, and Carrie Haynes. Enjoyed good conversation some of us went to the American Legion following dinner after Marilyn and Shellie stopped at the local Payless to get a few more things to make more chili for the Designer Bag Bingo. I arrived at the Bingo early where I got to watch the dames of 364 do their work, impressive to say the least! When I said watch I meant it I tried. and the best I got was a 3 second job. It was fun attending the Bingo, getting the time to visit with dames that I have missed, getting to know some of the dames I had only seen once or twice was truly enjoyable. To watch this group is impressive, they go in they each have jobs, and everyone does their job expertly. What a fabulous weekend and fundraiser, Thank you to the Dames of Lafayette.

For the Good of La Société de Femme, Lori Bolley



Enjoying a wonderful with fellow Dames.

LA FEMME MEMBERSHIP

	Jan	uary 25th		
GRANDE	2023	2024	GOAL	
Alabama	16	11	68.75%	
Alaska	10	10	100.00%	
Arkansas	6	6	100,00%	
Cabane Nationale	10	8	80.00%	
Florida	105	92	87.62%	
Georgia	85	77	90.59%	
Illinois	82	63	76.83%	
Indiana	377	288	76.39%	
Louisiana	26	19	73.08%	
Maine	29	29	100.00%	
Massachusetts	15	15	100.00%	
Michigan	162	125	77.16%	
Minnesota	99	88	88.89%	
Mississippi	13	14	107.69%	
Missouri	21	21	100.00%	
Nebraska	10	9	90.00%	
New York	68	17	25.00%	
North Carolina	59	54	91.53%	
Ohio	11	18	163.64%	
Oklahoma	35	28	80.00%	
Oregon	59	55	93.22%	
Pennsylvania	28	26	92.86%	
South Carolina	79	72	91.14%	
South Dakota	13	14	107.69%	
Texas	38	23	60.53%	
Virginia	9	9	100.00%	
Washington	150	90	60.00%	
Wisconsin	92	98	106.52%	
TOTALS	1705	1379	80.88%	-326



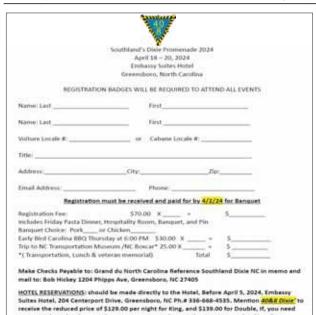
Carrie wanted a selfie in the grocery store.



Questions: Contact David Knutson at: doi:10.108/2317

Or CSP President Keith Reiss Jr at: grandchefersteiligenall com or 254-768-6155





MID ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION Promenade April 26-28, 2024 SureStay Plus by Best Western 70 N Tornado Way Keyser, WY 26726 304-597-1400 Room Rates are \$93.00 (no tax) Deadline for room reservations – April 8, 2034 Please notify the botel you are a member of the 40/8 Mid Atlantic Association Pets Welcome \$30.00 per night Name(s) Address: Phone: Volture: Grande: Registration: © \$25.00 # of Dinners: © \$30.00 # of Guests: © \$15.00 Male Checks payetile to: Steve Vaughn ofe Mid Atlantic Association Male Registration fee to: Steve Vaughn, 100 Curreingham Woods Drive Moorefield, WY 26536



any special needs, please make sure you request them at the time you are booking. Free Breakfast with Eggs to order and free afternoon Managers Cockteil Party with 2 drinks and

snacks and Free Parking.

The Grande Du Washington invites you to join us April 10-13, 2024 in beautiful Vancouver, USA! We look forward to welcoming you!

Hotel Info: DoubleTree by Hilton Vancouver, WA 12712 SE 2 nd Circle Vancouver, WA 98684 Reservation Phone

(360) 891-9777

Please mention that you are with the 40 & 8 Great Western Promenade

Single King or Double Queen rooms \$125+tax/night breakfast buffet included for registered guests and 20% discount at hotel restaurant.

Cutoff date 13 MAR 24,

We have several outings planned,

PT Boat 658, the last operational World War II Torpedo Boat

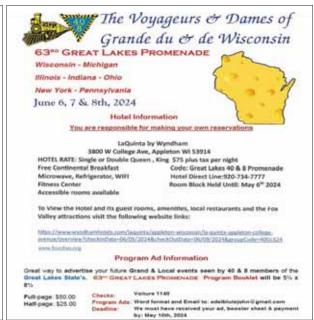
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and Environs Golfing at

Fairway Village Golf Course & Ilani Casino

Contact: y-99correspondant@yoiture-99.com for more info.







12 PAGE Grande du Indiana & Grande du Obio invites vou to attend the 105th Promenade & 61st Rendezvous Nationale Sandusky, OH September 17-21, 2024 Come Enjoy some Indiana/Ohio Hospitality Date fare completed PLEASE SUMMIT SEPARATE FORM FOR LIKEL BEGISTRAN Payment by Deed F (Drier Check Number): Payment by Credit Card? (Check one below) VSA Master Cerl Discover Questily BILLING ANDREES AND RIP COST, FOR CHEST CARD REQUIRED Voyageur's Registration (# \$10.00 YOR REPUBLIE BELLING ADDRESS Virginian's Late Reg. For SATTR 6/1,040 at SIK 50 S. BELINGTOP Grande Cabane: Cabane Goodle: REGISTRATION AND RESERVATIONS La President Luncheon (5/15/74) @ 535.00 NOTE: ALL VOYAGEURS & DAMES MUST REGISTER WITH Larly Red (N/11/24) Tokes @ \$20.00 THE PROMENAGE NATIONALE CORPORATION. Complete this form as applicable and either provide your credit card failed one must far each person. information or make your check payable to "IIII" Promenude Nationale Corp.* Then mail form and payment to: Pan Seared Stone in Chicken Volture Nationale Lemma Carlis Bakeri Kalman 250 East 38" Street ndianapolis, IN 46205 Or Email to ttaylor@fortyandeight.org THE KALAHARI RESORT IS FOR BOTH VOYAGEURS & DAMES RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY AUGUST 1, 2019 ALL VOYAGEURS & DAMES WILL BE EXPECTED TO MAKE Restrictions you may send in until the end of August 2019. THEIR RESERVATION WITH THE RESORT DIRECTLY THERE IS A LINK ON OUR WEBSITE OR YOU CAN CALL 1-NOTE: REGISTRATION FEES ARE NON REFUNDABLE 415-433-7200 MAKE SURE TO LET THEM KNOW YOU Additional forms are on line at www.fortyandeight.org ARE THERE FOR THE 105th 40/8 PROMENADE HANGICAP RODAYS ARE LIMITED; PLEASE CONSIDER THIS WHEN MAKING YOUR REQUEST, HANDICAP ROOMS ARE NOTE: Rates ONLY available through Promonade Nationals ASSIGNED ON A HAST COME FIRST SUPPLEMANT. Corporation MEMORIAL DAY IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY The sorty and Light Moreonial Day Coremony is an annual event facilited by the 40 8.0 Moreonial Englands for the eventure of a transport facilities of the front payers. Moreonial Englands for the most payers. Moreonial Englands for the most payers Moreonial Englands Adrington National Connetery. The Sounday evening Insequent location for Cablo Kaila Moreonial Service. Moreology is a solvene recasion where we attend and participate in the Institute of Moreonial Englands Marinal Connetery. 2t this event, Volture Institutes and Cabane Nationals Disaposas are marched into the Amphilibraire. After Moreonial Day addresses are given by the President of the World Solds and the Chalman of the Joint Disab of SLIT, the Code of the Chemin de Fer and La President in Marinal Conneces are invited to present a warraff at the tomb of the Unincount. This is the only time that the 40 8 is and La Femme is adent as accommission desiries by the Moreonia Connecessaries.





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he 2005 we started at radition of giving a U.S. Flag to <u>excepted</u> entering the amphilibrater. Because this requires about 30,000 flags, the committee requests disordions. If you can help, please send your contribution to the Committee (as shown on the negistration form). All disners will be listed in the Program Book. This is truly a weekend to remember and it is OPEN to everyone who would like to aftend. Sucause of limited space, we recommend you register early.

eliend is largely financed by the Niveorial Day Program Book, so even if you are unable to attend, please comider purchasing an ad or being a booster

Alvin R. "Dick" George, President Forty and Eight Memorial Day Committee



FORTY AND EIGHT MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM May 24" - May 27" 2024

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TOUTURE		 	

STATE: ADDRESS: CITY: PHONE

IF REGISTERING FOR MORE THAN ONE PERSON, PLEASE LIST NAMES BELOW WITH CURRENT TITLE

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Besides our honored Chef, Springfield is the home of Abraham Lincoln, 15[®] President of the United States. The only home he ever owned is open to the public to tour. His final resting place is at Oak Ridge Cemetery and is the second out visited cemetery in the country besides Arlington National Cemetery. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum to open to the public and charges a nominal fee for entrance. Springfield is also one of the stops on Historic Route 66 and home to the "corn dog".

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday: Hospitality Room 300 P.M. to close Hospitality Room 9:00 A.M. to closing riday Fodey Registration 12:00 P.M - 5:00 P.M Hospitality Room 9:00 AM - 12:00 P.M Saturday Cosh Bar 800 PM - 700 PM Banquet Dinner 700 PM - 900 PM Program Booklet

\$40.00 Full Page 900.00 \$ 2.00 Each Boosler Names

Meals: Choice of Chicken Cordon Bleu or Stuffed Roasted Pork Loin witpinach , pine mits, & crisons. All meals include mushroom rice pilaf, honey glazed carrols, tossed salad, rolls, dessert, iced les or coffee Banquet tickets are \$50.00 each.

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