

LA SOCIETE DE FEMME MOST ASKED QUESTIONS AND THEIR ANSWERES

LA SOCIETE DE FEMME

Who are the La Femmes? We are the Fraternal Organization composed of female members 18 years of age or older who have an affiliation with a veteran.

Are you an Auxiliary of the 40 et 8? No, we are not. We hold our own independent Charter and Nationale Constitution.

Are you part of the Eight and Forty (8 et 40)? No we are not. During an NEC Board meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary in Indianapolis, Indiana in June 1922, an idea was suggested for a playground Society for Auxiliary members and women of the Legion. During the Omaha National Legion Convention in 1925, 8/40 was recognized by the Legion as a playground and honor society for the women of the Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. (This information is derived from the article "Things you should know about Eight and Forty, by May Malone, La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale. July 1986.)

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

What is your eligibility for membership? Only females, 18 years of age or older, with an affiliation with a Veteran may be admitted to membership in La Societe de Femme.

May a male become a member of La Societe de Femme? Yes, as so provided in the Constitution and By-laws, a man may given the status of an Honorary member, serving only as an advisor and liaison officer.

Who usually appoints the Honorary member? The La Presidente Locale usually makes this appointment; this is the same with La Grande Presidente. Each year upon request each Grande Cabane and Cabane Locale may receive one Honorary card at no charge from Cabane Nationale.

Are Women allowed to be an Honorary Dame? If the Lady is a Voyageur Militar then yes, she may be given an Honorary Dame status. If you wish to honor a Lady that is not a member of the 40 et 8, then Cabane Nationale has a certificate of appreciation that may be purchased.

Forming a Cabane Locale

How many Ladies must a new Chartering Cabane have? A new Cabane Locale must have 10 ladies who will be eligible to become La Femmes.

Can transferring Dames count towards this ten? Yes, they must fill out a transfer form and also list their names on the Charter application form. A Cabane Locale can actually start with 10 transfers.

When do cards expire? Membership cards expire on March 31st of every year. A 2008 membership card is no longer valid as of March 31, 2009

When must I have my membership reports turned in? Membership reports have to be submitted to Cabane Nationale by July 31st for renewing Dames and July 30th for reporting new Dames.

When is a Dame expelled for failure to pay dues? If any member fails for one year to pay her dues, she would stand expelled as of December 31st.

How do I replace a lost or stolen membership card? If a Dame's membership card is lost in the mail, stolen, or even washed in the washing machine, a solution is at hand. Call or write to Cabane Nationale and you will receive a free replacement card. All Cabane Nationale will need is the name of the Dame who has lost her card. After verifying current membership a replacement card will be shipped. Please note that the replacement card will be a different number and will be stamped duplicate on the back of the card.

Membership forms are confusing. Do you have sample forms? Yes please see attached forms.

Miscellaneous

Information on Dames wearing 40 et 8 Paraphernalia: see attached page, and also information regarding the use of the Official La Femme F Logo.

Can I use our mailing list to solicit funds for a program? In accordance with number 13 of the Nationale Standing Rules, the answer is no. All Dames, including officers past and present on all levels, may use the Nationale Mailing list strictly for the purpose of announcing their candidacy for election in La Societe de Femme. Any Grande or Locale hosting Rendezvous Nationale is able to use the Nationale Mailing list for the purpose of soliciting booster ads for Promenade & Rendezvous Nationale programs with money to be used for any Voiture sponsored activity.

How many years may a Resolution of Endorsement cover? A resolution of endorsement is for the current year only. Also, the Resolution of Endorsement must come from the Cabane Locale and then from the Grande Cabane at Grande Rendezvous. A Resolution may not be sent to Cabane Nationale from a Grande Cheminot.

It is suggested that a Candidate send out a flyer to the Grande Cabanes and Cabane Nationale early in the year so that the possibility of duplicate candidates could be eliminated.

How many copies of my Resolution should I send in? You should send in the original resolution. Cabane Nationale will make the needed copies. Please make sure you keep a copy for your files.

How does a Grande Cabane go about inviting our La Presidente Nationale for a visit? A formal letter of invitation should be sent as soon as possible. Many Grande Cabanes send their invitation to La Presidente Nationale Elect in order to have their request on record first.

If you are sending in an invitation to La Presidente Nationale Elect, two copies need to be sent into Cabane Nationale at least three weeks before Rendezvous Nationale.

Otherwise one copy of your letter should be sent to Cabane Nationale and one copy should be sent to La Presidente Nationale soon after she has been elected.

For proper protocol please refer to the attached sheet.

What is the best way to make a donation towards Programs such as Nurses Training, Child Welfare, etc.? The best way to make a donation towards any program of Voiture Nationale-40 & 8 is to donate items or money directly to your Voiture Locale.

This way you get credit. If you have a Grande Cabane, it will receive credit at year-end on Grande Trophy and Awards forms. Also, your Voiture Locale will receive credit as well as the Grande Voiture.

The most asked question regarding Trophy and Awards is, “what can I count on a trophy?” This question is best answered by asking yourself the question, “Was your event a Voiture Sponsored activity?” If the answer is no, then you generally may not count the donation.

You should also check the bottom of every Trophy and Awards form. Each trophy has a brief list of what may be counted on each from.

Please feel free to make comments in care of Cabane Nationale, 777 N Meridian St. Rm 218. Indianapolis, IN 46204. We would love to hear from you. Maybe your question can make next years most asked question list.

Sincerely,

Barbara Shaffer
La Correspondante Nationale