



FORTY & EIGHTER



The official publication of

Summer 2018

La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

Chef de Chemin de Fer Lafleur



*Chef de Chemin de Fer
Kenneth C. Lafleur*

Upon arrival at the airport in Portland on Thursday, July 26th, Danny Evers and Brenda welcomed Patricia and me to Oregon and the Grande Voiture du Oregon's Promenade.

On the way to the charming seaside resort town of Seaside it was hamburgers, Sloppy Joes, and chocolate milkshakes at Crane's Restaurant. The restaurant is owned, manned, and managed by Jacob Crane, the

great-great-great-great-great nephew of Ichabod Crane of Headless Horseman fame. The owner's ancestors arrived in Oregon on the same wide-wheeled wagon train as the fraternal great-great grandparents of our La Femmes Presidente Nationale Joyce Robberstad. Joyce's ancestors halted their trip in Salem where their wagon developed a broken axle. Crane went on a little further towards the seacoast but not all the way to Seaside.

In Seaside we enjoyed dinner at Doogers with our Paul-Bunyan-Hammer-Carrying Garry Klinghammer and wife Terry. We were a party of six with the addition of our two airport transporters. Doogers is a crowded restaurant with very pleasant and efficient waitresses and excellent food expertly prepared. After an across the street venture into an ice cream parlor it was back to the Ebb Tide Resort Motel for the evening. The resort has a full breakfast every

morning with the breakfast room filled with Voyageurs, Dames, guests, and beautifully active children. Every mother at breakfast was a good mother and picked up all food children spilled on the floor. The floor clean up dogs were not needed and were kept on the porch outside the breakfast room.

We spent part of the morning and afternoon on Friday with Frank and Glenda Wells in their second floor room viewing the beautiful Seaside beach and the peaceful Pacific. Just as Sarah Palin could see Russia from her back porch we could almost see Russia from that elevated position.

A seafood lunch with the Klinghammers in Norma's big blue building one block from the beach was quite enjoyable. Dinner was at the American Legion Post 99 and consisted of hot dogs and hamburgers. A colorful meeting of the Grand Cheminot followed. The Grand Cheminot was notably graced by the

presence of Alaska's Chef de Chemin de Fer Passé Thomas Stockmal. Tom's sometimes constant companion, Alaska's "Scotty" Jim Scott, was notably absent and missed. Scotty could not attend because he had to build a gate to keep a moose from eating his garden.

Saturday morning at 7:00 eight Voyageurs, including me, were interviewed, instructed, and then tested for possible membership in the Oregon Gandy Dancers. Six of us passed both the written and dancing part of the exam. I am now a proud member of the Oregon Gandy Dancers. The two who did not make it will be retested after taking remedial courses. It is a great organization and I hope you become a member someday.

We were visited by a Loci and the multi-million dollar WW I Battle of the Marne Paris Taxicab owned by Voiture Locale 25. The Grande Promenade was held later Saturday and

Officers to be installed the next day were elected. The Grande Promenade was markedly festive.

At the Saturday night Banquet revelry continued unabated. Our National Presidente, Joyce Robberstad, gave a great talk as expected. Jerry Klinghammer brilliantly conducted banquet proceedings. Among the notable gifts Patricia and I received that night was an Oregon Duck. The Duck fans apparently dominated and we did not receive a live Oregon State Beaver. The Duck-Beaver football rivalry is intense marked by occasional riots at the game.

Sunday morning new Grande Voiture officers were installed and our departed comrades were honored with our Calvin Kain Memorial Service. Joyce drove us to Portland and then it was off to the airport for the journey home.

Kenneth C. Lafleur
Chef de Chemin de Fer

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Chef de Chemin de Fer Doc and National Presidente Joyce at the Grande du Oregon Grande Promenade held at Seaside, Oregon.



VOITURE NATIONALE OFFICERS 2018

Kenneth C. Lafleur	Chef de Chemin de Fer	Louisiana
Patrick Mobley	Correspondant National	Indiana
Angie Lee Anderson	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	Virginia
Dennis Engdahl	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	Louisiana
Michael Robberstad	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	Oregon
Dan Tarbell	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	Washington
William Stroud	Aumonier	Louisiana
Henry Kwiatkowski	Avocat	Louisiana
Terry Lanning	Commissaire Intendant	Missouri
Dan Klein	Conducteur	Kentucky
Charlie Craddock	Historian	Louisiana

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KEEP THE WHEEL CHAIRS ROLLING CONTEST



Voyageur Jack Le Roy presents a check to Mark Roundtree, Chief of Voluntary Services, Dwight D. Eisenhower VAMC, Leavenworth, KS. First Place Winner \$1358.00 for two Bariatric Wheel Chairs.



Voyageur and VAVS Representative Carl Boyle presents a check to David Ramsey, PTSD Nurse Manager at the Batavia VAMC, Batavia, New York. Second Place Winner \$575.00 for Table Tennis table for PTSD unit.



MEMBERSHIP 2018

August 8, 2018

AREA	2017	2018	PERCENT	
ALABAMA	2	128	118	92.19%
ALASKA	3	142	148	104.23%
ARIZONA	3	453	412	90.95%
ARKANSAS	2	140	121	86.43%
CALIFORNIA	3	1070	968	90.38%
COLORADO	3	113	101	89.38%
CONNECTICUT	1	99	104	105.05%
DELAWARE	1	40	41	102.50%
DIST OF COLUMBIA	1	7	6	85.71%
FLORIDA	3	939	864	92.01%
FRANCE	3	109	109	100.00%
GEORGIA	2	517	496	95.94%
GERMANY	1	97	80	82.47%
IDAHO	3	125	118	94.40%
ILLINOIS	3	1352	1266	93.64%
INDIANA	2	2596	2499	96.30%
IOWA	4	387	367	94.83%
KANSAS	4	455	417	91.65%
KENTUCKY	2	310	300	96.77%
LATIN AMERICA	1	13	8	61.54%
LOUISIANA	2	720	684	95.00%
MAINE	1	165	152	92.12%
MARYLAND	1	301	271	90.03%
MASSACHUSETTS	1	167	153	91.62%
MEXICO	2	18	18	100.00%
MICHIGAN	4	1050	1016	96.76%
MINNESOTA	4	1148	1079	93.99%
MISSISSIPPI	2	260	229	88.08%
MISSOURI	3	857	776	90.55%
MONTANA	3	86	79	91.86%
NEBRASKA	4	455	394	86.59%
NEVADA	3	25	18	72.00%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1	132	120	90.91%
NEW JERSEY	1	168	154	91.67%
NEW MEXICO	2	34	39	114.71%
NEW YORK	1	1009	884	87.61%
NORTH CAROLINA	2	601	549	91.35%
NORTH DAKOTA	4	288	261	90.63%
OHIO	1	1504	1340	89.16%
OKLAHOMA	3	127	125	98.43%
OREGON	3	200	200	100.00%
PENNSYLVANIA	1	1491	1215	81.49%
RHODE ISLAND	1	17	2	11.76%
SOUTH CAROLINA	2	469	414	88.27%
SOUTH DAKOTA	4	363	355	97.80%
TENNESSEE	2	117	118	100.85%
TEXAS	3	299	272	90.97%
UTAH	3	34	19	55.88%
VERMONT	1	35	31	88.57%
VIRGINIA	1	471	454	96.39%
WASHINGTON	4	704	660	93.88%
WEST VIRGINIA	2	202	179	88.61%
WISCONSIN	4	1075	1037	96.47%
WYOMING	3	48	43	89.58%
V2000	405	443	109.38%	
TOTALS	24137	22326	92.50%	
		-1809		



Angie Anderson



Dennis Engdahl



Mike Robberstad



Dan Tarbell

AREA	2017	2018	PERCENT	
Area - 1 Angie Anderson	5715	5015	87.75%	4th Place
Area- 2 Dennis Engdahl	6077	5725	94.21%	2nd Place
Area-3 Mike Robberstad	6014	5557	92.40%	3rd Place
Area-4 Dan Tarbell	5294	5586	94.29%	1st Place
V2000	405	443	109.38%	

SOUS CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER, AREA 1

Angie Anderson



My year as Sous Chef has been one I will not forget!

It truly is and has been an honor to be selected as 1 of 4 Sous Chef's for La Societe! As the first female in this position I hope I have paved the way appropriately for female voyageurs in the future. Our organization has truly embraced "All" veterans.

I've been to New York, Louisiana, North Carolina, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Oregon, California and of course Virginia. The hospitality, respect and comradery have been "Top Notch"!

Some travel has been requested other travel was of my own choosing. I've traveled over 12,000 miles and logged over 500 hours. The dollar value is irrelevant, because when you take on a position such as this one you shouldn't worry about the cost. You worry about the members.

I've made new friends, hung out with old friends, and unfortunately had to say fair winds to several very special folks this year.

In my travels I've stressed the importance of membership, mentoring and molding new voyageurs, and mostly keeping in tradition of having FUN. As most you know I love to smile and laugh, humor truly is the best medicine.

Sharing my year and travels with Big Chef Kenneth Lafleur, his lovely wife Patricia, Madame Pres Joyce Robberstad and her entertaining husband Mike truly made the year that much more delightful.

Thank you to my "Mentors" for all your guidance and tutelage. Thank you to my family for the support and understanding of my busy schedule. Most of all "Thank you" to my wonderful husband Jerry for standing beside me this hectic year and taking care of everything while I was running the roads.

I look forward to another year and whatever La Societe has in store for me!

SOUS CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER, AREA 3

Michael Robberstad



First, I would like to thank all of you who have given me guidance and support during my year as your Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer, (AKA: Bag Man), this past year. It has been an experience I will never forget. Also, a huge hug and thank you to those Grands that

hosted my wife and myself on our visits.

Our year started with our first trip to Birmingham, Alabama, for their annual Veterans Day events and Parade. While my wife, Madame Presidente Joyce, was well taken care of in her ride, I had the pleasure of riding in the Loci in the Parade. Wow, what an event. And what an Honor to be there.

Our next trip as Bag Man, took us first to Melbourne, FL, for their Mid-Winter Cheminot. Then to Greensboro, NC, where we were again taken very good care of by the crew for the 48th Annual Joint Carolinas. Then back to Oregon for our Winter Cheminot. February started with a trip to Osseo,

MN for their Mid-Winter. Of course, with Madame Presidente, we had to go to Mall of America for a shopping excursion. Her favorite sport.

The next weekend took us back to Lafayette, LA for Doc's Homecoming and the Cajun Wreck. I really enjoyed the hospitality and the Cajun food there. I always have a great time in Louisiana.

March was a busy month. First with Madame Presidents Homecoming in Portland, OR. Then off to Missouri for their Grand Cheminot and Wreck. Made many new friends while in Springfield. Had a great time.

April saw us in Tombstone, AZ for Great Western. Very

nice Post in Tombstone and great hospitality. Then off to Gatlinburg, TN, for Southland Dixie. Thanks to Rob and Angela for going out of their way on such a busy weekend to tend to our needs. Next it was back to Oregon for our Spring Cheminot.

After a short break, May took us first to Goose Creek, SC, for the Annual Gator Wreck. Thanks to Bill, Dave, Michele and everyone involved for a great time. I even got to be Judge at the PG trials. Next week we headed to Lorton, VA, for Memorial Day Services at the Post and at Arlington. What a privilege and an Honor to Lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown. Dick, Angie and Jay did a very

good job as usual. Thank you all.

June was a trip to Lafayette, IN, for Great Lakes Promenade. July had us in Albany, NY for their Grand Prom. My job as Bag Man has me scheduled to travel to Seaside, OR for our Grand Prom. Then off to Lake Mills, WI and then to Lansing, MI. And finally to Promenade Nationale in Louisville, KY.

Through all our travels this past year, we have had our share of Airline mishaps, (delays, diversions, lost luggage, etc.). My wife, Madame Presidente Joyce and I, would like to thank all those who have made our trips both pleasurable and memorable. Hope to see you all in Louisville.

SOUS CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER, AREA 4

Dan Tarbell



Monsieur's and Madame's, The question to each of us Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer was, "What was my experience as Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer over the past year?" Unbelievable!! I would probably describe my experience and am very glad to be writing this article. I was so honored to have been selected to represent our Chef

de Chemin de Fer Kenneth "Doc" C. LaFleur. Our Chef "Doc" set an honorable and high standard for us Sous Chef's to live up to representing the Forty and Eight thru out the year. When selected to become a Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer, you are directed to be part of the Membership committee with an assigned area. My area was area # 3 WA, WI,

MI, MN, ND, SD, IA, KS and NE. I would like to thank all the Grande's for their efforts in trying to keep up and better our Membership. I see the membership declining every year. Every voyageur should make it their goal, not to let this happen. As National Membership Director Joe Story showed us all his masterful ways of leadership. I would like

to thank Joe and his Sous Directeurs Wayne "Red" Costa, Leon McGee and John Demoss for their support and word of wisdom in these articles. Wish I could have done more.

Dan Tarbell
Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer

VOITURE ACTIVITIES

Joe Dolwig



Voiture Activities is exactly what the name implies. Every activity that you do as an individual Voyageur Militaire, or any activity that a group does, is of interest to

the Voiture Activities Committee. The next step and most important of all, is the report of those activities. Twenty Grand Voitures out of fifty-four, reported in 2017. If this decline continues the 40 & 8 will become known as a do nothing organization.

Each Grand Voiture and each Voiture Locale should have an Activities Directeur. These with ALL activities to promote established programs and create new programs, where it is advisable, which would cause more activity and keep the

membership interested.

Membership is a very important part of Voiture Locales Activities. A Voiture Locale without a membership program to bring in new, younger and active members are vital to continuing the Voiture Locale's programs and activities. Many Voyageurs have reached the age that they have become inactive and the Voiture Locale are deteriorating from the lack of activities!

Every Directeur Locale makes a complete report

of the Voiture Locale, for the entire fiscal year (July 1st, thru June 30th) on the forms provided by Voiture Nationale. In compiling his report, he should work in closely with the Directeurs Locale of all the committees in his Voiture Locale.

Once the Voiture Activities Report is completed, the Directeur Locale forwards it to the Grand Directeur who then compiles the reports from all of the Voitures in his Grande Voiture Activities report and forwards this to, Joseph Dolwig, Directeur National. On or before July

25, 2018.

I will then compile a "National Voiture Activities Report" from all the Grande-Voitures reports and submit a final report during Promenade Nationale to be held in Louisville, KY in September 2018.

I would like to thank all the Grands who submitted their Voiture Activities Reports in a timely manner. I would also like to thank my Sous Directeurs for all the hard work they have done through out the past year.

CHARLES WALKER ARDERY

July 1963



Charlie Ardery is dead.

We buried him on July 2 in a little cemetery near his farm home in Indiana. Voyageurs were there from many parts of the country-friends-family.

The longest of days must reach evening at last. Charlie Ardery's days had been long and full of achievement in the vital field of leadership -- crowded with deeds of kindness for his fellow man. All of us knew that we were laying to rest a truly great man. All of us were grateful that we had been privileged to know him, to have him as a friend.

Memory flew back over the years as we sat in his church, looking to where he lay amid mountains of farewell flowers. Some of us could remember back to when he first came to Indianapolis to begin his work in the newly established headquarters of Voiture Nationale. That was in 1924. He looked like a boy then, but he was not so young as he looked. Behind him already were years of rugged work in the building of the Pacific Northwest of driving railroads through the mountains of war service and of organizing the veterans of that war. He was, in fact, in his middle thirties.

The office of Correspondant National was entrusted to him that year of 1924. And for 39 years he was Correspondant National-the National Executive Officer of the Forty and Eight. Also during many of these years he contributed much to the national leadership of the America Legion, his counsel helping guide the Legion along the course which made it such a powerful force for the good of the war veteran and the good of America.

Although he was 76 years of age and had been on sick leave much of the time since last fall, we were not prepared for the departure of Charlie W. Ardery. It happened suddenly on Sunday morning, June 30, as he was getting ready to go to church. His call came and in thirty minutes he was gone.

Telephones carried the news to close friends over the country. Airplanes brought them swiftly, sorrowfully, to say a last good bye. Among the first arrivals was the Chef de Chemin de Fer, J. Frank Graham, Jr., from Texas.

Following the Chef de Chemin de Fer came Voyageurs from all over the

nation-Chefs de Chemin de Fer Passé, officers of Voiture Nationale and Grandes Voitures-friends of forty years, friends of a few years. From those who could not come there came messages and flowers. All La Société paid a heartfelt tribute to its greatest Voyageur.

Memorial Service was conducted in the Mortuary in Westfield the night of July 1, led by Voyageurs from many parts of the United States.

Funeral Service was held the afternoon of July 2 at First Baptist Church of Indianapolis. Service at the grave was conducted by the Masonic Lodge of Westfield.

As we left the cemetery, we found ourselves wondering what made Charlie Ardery the man he was-what rare ingredients went into his life.

Charles Walker Ardery was born in Savannah, Missouri, on November 27, 1886. His boyhood was spent in Montana when life there was frontier living, and boys had adventure and worked hard. He lived in Virginia City, gold mining town famous for its vigilantes, and his life there must have been strenuous and exciting. He handled horses, dug gold, hunted over the sweeping hills of southwestern Montana, and did the heavy chores that came to boys of that place in those days.

Although he never grew very tall, not more than five-foot-six, he developed a pair of shoulders and a set of legs that were adequate for any situation, even in frontier Montana. He could run like an Indian, was as quick as a mountain lion and just about as hard to handle. When he went to the University of Montana, they found the little guy useful as a ball carrier in the battering-ram type of football played in those days. If they couldn't blast a hole in the line, they just picked him up and threw him over it. He also ran on the University track team.

For a time Charlie worked in the County Clerk's office in the Court House at Virginia City, where he learned a lot about people as they developed in the West. He also worked in a lawyer's office in Virginia City, where he learned a lot more about people of all kinds, their troubles and how to handle them. But at this time the railroads were pushing their lines through some of the roughest of territory the West had to offer, and Charlie was naturally attracted to the tough job of railroad construction.

A railroad construction camp in the mountains in those days was a rugged place for a rugged man. It took a quick mind and hard fists to handle a crew of the robust characters which the railroads assembled to hew out road beds and lay steel through the mountains of the north-west. This life must have hammered strength and toughness into Charlie.

Sometimes he would be in the mountains for six months before coming out of the wilderness to visit a town. And when a roaring gang of railroad builders finally did get to town, their enthusiasm for civilization just about wrecked the place.

One day in the spring of 1917, Charlie happened to be in Seattle when he heard something about a war being declared. He ran directly to an Army recruiting station. Private Ardery was a good soldier from the start. Soon he was recommended for promotion to Private First Class but his promotion was turned down because there were no vacancies in that grade.

In the confusion of these early days of World War I, when green, inexperienced officers were trying frantically to whip together a fighting army out of a herd of eager but militarily ignorant men, finding a man like Charlie Ardery was like finding a five-dollar gold piece in a pile of pennies. Before he had picked up many cigarette butts at Fort Lawton, he was sitting at a desk in his Major's office with sergeant's stripes on his sleeves. He didn't know much about the Army but he did know how to handle men and get things done. He also knew when to throw the book of regulations out of the window and use common sense.

All of this ability didn't help Charlie in his desire to get to France where the fighting was going on. No Commanding Officer in his right mind would have approved the transfer of a sergeant like Charlie. He was too valuable right where he was. It was only by putting through his own application for officers' training camp that he got away from his administrative job at Fort Lawton.

With the gold bars of a new Second Lieutenant on his shoulders, Charlie went to San Antonio, Texas, under what he thought were orders assigning him to an outfit ready to start overseas. Things turned out otherwise. He found himself attached to a supply company of some 500 men, and before long he was in command of this company.

The end of the war found Charlie still in San Antonio, where he stayed during the demobilization period. When Alamo Post No. 2 of The American Legion was organized in San Antonio in 1919, he became a charter member, beginning his long career of American Legion service.

After separation from the service, he returned to Seattle and transferred his American Legion membership to Seattle Post No. 18. Before long he was Post Adjutant.

Now being Adjutant of a big American Legion Post in those early days was a full-time, night and day job with no pay. There was no Veteran Administration, no organized system for taking

care of the sick, disabled or jobless veterans, so the burden fell on the American Legion. In addition to handling all the problems of the newly returned veterans, the young Seattle Post undertook several big projects. Charlie put in a couple of busy years as Post Adjutant.

Meanwhile, an inner-Legion society known as the Forty and Eight had sprung up and was sweeping the country, Charlie Ardery was one of its first west coast members. Then, in 1921, when Howard E. MacDonald of Seattle was appointed Correspondant National and moved Voiture Nationale headquarters to Seattle, Charlie went to work as MacDonald's assistant.

After serving a couple of years as Sous Correspondant National, Charlie was appointed Auditeur National at the Fourth Promenade Nationale in San Francisco in 1923, at which Lyle D. Tabor of Michigan was names Correspondant National. In January, 1924 Voiture Nationale Headquarters were moved from Seattle to Indianapolis, Charlie coming along. In May of that year he took over the job of Correspondant Welfare Committee. After George Dobson was elected Chef de Chemin de Fer in August, 1924, he appointed Charlie as Correspondant National.

At that time the Forty and Eight had about 25,000 Voyageurs and was just beginning to feel its way into the big service programs through which it contributed so much to the growth and achievement of the American Legion.

When Charlie Ardery took over at Voiture Nationale a steady, sound build of strength and activities began. This continued, interrupted only by the worst of the depression years, until Voyageur strength doubled and redoubled, reaching a peak of more than 100,000 with a corresponding increase in accomplishments.

All through the years between the wars, Charlie had been an officer in the Army Reserves and when the bombs fell on Pearl Harbor he was a Major. Called to active duty in the summer of 1942, his age and organizational experience dictated an administrative assignment for him.

During his three years of service in World War II, he had various assignments in the Adjutant General's Department, in Selective Service, and in WAC Recruiting. His ability to cut through red tape and things done kept his part of the Washington operation moving forward efficiently. He won promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and the Legion of Merit decoration.

As soon as the war was over and he was out of uniform, Charlie was back in his office at Voiture Nationale in Indianapolis. The happiest man to see him come was N. Carl Nielsen, Commissaire Intendant National, who at severe personal sacrifice filled the

office of Correspondant National while Charlie was away. Carl Nielsen, along with Joel Bunch, Sous Correspondant National, who took over during Charlie's illness, are probably the only two Voyageurs who have a realistic conception of how much work of how many different types Charlie turned out from the Correspondant National's office.

When he moved back to Indianapolis from Washington with his wife and son at the end of World War II, Charlie bought a farm north of the city with perhaps some idea of rural relaxation. As it happened, his wife, Jane, had to take charge of the farm operations. His son, Charles, Jr., was a six-foot college senior at this time. For Charlie, Sr., there was the Forty and Eight, growing bigger and demanding almost every minute of his time. Days, nights and weekends he gave to the affairs of La Société, working countless hours with untiring devotion.

When he was 65 years old in November on 1951, Charlie tried to comply with the compulsory retirement mandate of American Legion National Headquarters, but it didn't work, The Executive Committee of the Cheminaux Nationaux accepted his retirement with the provision that he continue to serve in an advisory capacity. A new Correspondant National was named but it was soon apparent that the highly complex job of La Société's Executive Secretary could not be mastered by a new man overnight, so Charlie had to stay at his desk. And when the new man didn't work out, Charlie took up the whole load again.

So it went on through the years, with Charlie working practically night and day-no vacations, few holidays-for the Forty and Eight. Then one day last September while in Washington, D.C., on Forty and Eight duty, Charlie Ardery at last felt the weight of his years and his hard work. He suffered a sudden stroke from which he never fully recovered.

Friends in every part of the country were united in grief at the passing of Charlie Ardery. He was known everywhere there is a Voiture of the Forty and Eight or a Post of the American Legion. And wherever he was known, he was admired as a man, and loved as a friend. Expressions of sympathy and grief came in hundreds of letters received by Jane Ardery, his wife, who with his son, Charles, Jr., Judge of the Hamilton County, Indiana, Circuit Court; two granddaughters, and a sister survived.

When we left Charlie there beneath the maples, all of us felt that we had been highly privileged to have known him, to have worked with him, to have been associated with his full and purposeful life. We knew that we had said a last good-bye to a great Voyageur and Legionnaire, and to a great American.

AMERICANISM

Tom Smith, National Directeur Americanism Committee



This year's Americanism Award Winner is Mrs. Janice Collee from Salem, OR. She is a veteran of the U.S. Army, a Military Spouse and a Blue Star Mother. She has been volunteering

for over 30 years. As a Military Spouse she served as the Senior Advisor for the U.S. Army Signal Corps and Fort Gordon, advisor for the Darmstadt Red Cross, Senior Spouse for 22nd Signal Brigade and 440th Signal Battalion and Fort Gordon Family Readiness Groups. In 2003 as Senior Advisor she was part of the Yellow Ribbon Room Coat Drive. She coordinated several Back-to-School Brigade Drives, Holiday Meals for Military Families and Holiday Toy Drives helping those military families in need.

This past year she coordinated 3 major events during the Holidays in November

she worked with her Locale Voiture 153 to get 200 turkeys with full meals to help needy families and veterans. In December she conducted Operation Santa which provided 1500 turkeys, 68,000 pounds of food, 500 pairs of children's pajamas and \$5,000 worth of toys for Military service families. In January she coordinated and served 1,000 turkey dinners to veterans in need.

Janice is an active 40&8er, Commander of American Legion Post 9 and active in the Fraternal Order of the Eagles. She lives by the motto "Once a Soldier always a Soldier". She has received many

awards for her volunteerism.

Tom Smith,
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LA FEMMES CONTRIBUTION TO VOYAGEURS

By Mike Wood

During the Great Lakes Promenade this year on June 9, 2018 in Lafayette, IN the La Femmes demonstrated just how much they contribute to not only Voyageurs but to all Veterans as well. They were informed that there was the Indiana State Soldiers Home in Lafayette so a handful of Dames sprang into action. The Voyageurs were busy that day with the Great Lakes Promenade meetings and business, so these Dames decided to visit the Veterans at the Soldiers Home. They went to the WalMart and purchased cookies and treats, paid for out of their own pockets and returned to the hotel. They gathered in the empty

hospitality room and formed an assembly line that Henry Ford would have been proud of. The Dames wrapped the goodies and placed them in individual bags so they could present them to each of the over 200 Veterans at the Home. When they arrived at the Soldiers Home they visited with each of the Veterans going floor by floor to bring them their goodies, a smile and their gratitude for their service to this Great Country. This seemed to bring some smiles and joy to these Veterans who enjoyed the visit as much as the Dames enjoyed being there. After visiting and exchanging stories with these men, they returned to the hotel.

The purpose of me bringing this up is two-fold. Number one, these dedicated, unselfish and hardworking Dames decided to do something to bring a little joy into these Veterans day instead of going shopping, having a group luncheon, visiting a winery or just doing what women do with their spare time. These were not just a group of women, these were Dames and that takes a special lady. They made this trip as Dames, but they were also promoting the Forty and Eight to these eligible Veterans as prospective members.

Reason Number two is that the next time a Voiture Locale even has to wonder if a Cabane would be of value

to them, well I guess this unselfish act would answer that question, you are damn right they would be an asset to any Locale.

This is just one example of what they do, I could name several things I have seen them do over the years that has nothing to do with ritual or duty, they do these things to serve and for that very reason they have my upmost and sincere respect. The Dames that gave their time and the cost of the goodies to those Veterans that day were led by La Presidente Nationale Joyce Robberstad and included Lori Coe, Patricia LaFleur, Cheryl Jamnick, Carol Kaiserian, Sandy Wood and Michelle DeJonghe-Hill.

These Dames did something that is just as important to the Public Relations of our organization as many of the things that we do and even better than some of those things. Merci Beaucoup Dames for a JOB WELL DONE. I would not normally list the names of those involved, but in this case I believe that they have earned the recognition from all of us. They were transported to the Soldiers Home by the shuttle bus from the Lafayette Voiture Locale and their driver and escorted by Voyageurs Mike Robberstad, Dave Hill and John Kaiserian to carry all the bags for the Dames.

Mike Wood



NOMINATION FOR LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR

By Wally Hammond, Sous Directeur National Special Awards

The Grande Voiture du Texas is proud to submit Master Corporal John Coffey of the Austin Police Department for Law Officer of the Year. Corporal Coffey was selected as the Grand du Texas Law Officer of the Year at our Grand Promenade held on June 6, 2018 in El Paso, Texas.

Corporal Coffey is a dedicated law enforcement professional who has contributed superior training and guidance to his fellow officers both inside and outside of the Austin Police Department. His involvement in a deadly use of force incident in 2002 augmented his ability to teach others. His split-second decision to use deadly force resulted in

saving the life of another. This experience adds to his firm belief in maintaining physical and mental health for everyone.

Maintaining a positive mindset and training are critical skills that help our law enforcement community stay safe. Corporal Coffey has spent his career honing these skills for thousands of officers throughout his career and he continues this work to this day. He has done this both on and off duty and never turns down the opportunity to help an officer improve his or her skills.

For several years Corporal Coffey has donated off-duty time to train civilians

who are taking firearms or defense tactics training. He provides valuable self-defense strategies, skills and encouragement which helps instill confidence in the students he teaches both young and old alike.

Now serving over 32 years with the Austin Police Department, the example he has set and continues to set each day is an inspiration to many others and we are proud to recognize one of Law Enforcement's finest.

Attest:
Milton Chatham,
Correspondant
George Murphy,
Chef de Gare



AROUND LA SOCIETE



Nutcracker - Pascagoula Mississippi - May 2018
Rick Williams, Big Chef Doc and Mike McGary at the Nutcracker Wreck on May 20th.



Big Chef Doc and National Presidente Joyce ride in a 1911 Marne Taxi. It's a Renault that was used in WWI to transport troops to the front line.



Razzberry - Lafayette Indiana - May 2018.
Last members ever to be inducted into the "Dicky Doo Club" by the Grand Voiture du Indiana.
L to R: Tony Cross, Chef de Gare Grande Voiture du Indiana—Kenneth "Doc" Lafleur, Chef de Chemin de Fer—Brad Young, Chef de Gare V364 and Grand Chef de Cuisine.



Chef de Chemin Doc received a plaque from the Grande Voiture de Wisconsin when he visited the Badger State for their Grande Promenade & Rendezvous. He is shown here along with Grand Chef de Gare Doug Schaller and Chef de Chemin de Fer 2016 Don Emley.



Oregon Grande Promenade - July 28, 2018
L to R: Kenneth "Doc" Lafleur Chef de Chemin de Fer, Thomas Stockmal Chef de Chemin de Fer 2006, Garry Klinghammer Grand Chef de Gare.

NURSES TRAINING

Ernest Lane Jr., Nationale Nurses Training Directeur



What a wonderful time of year with summer is in full bloom, and many of our summer events have slowly ended. We can begin to display our Nurses Training activities and share those events which echos our organization's enthusiasm. Just like the Triple Crown winner, "Justify," who showed the country what he could accomplish, let us illuminate our existence and show our fellow citizens what we have achieved

for our veterans. Many of our Locales and Grands have displays on Nurses scholarship events, which demonstrates our devotion to eliminating the nurse shortage in America. Our young people all over America are rolling up their sleeve to learn by attending an Accredited Nursing Training program at many of our colleges and universities with the willingness to devote their skills and services to others. Besides, provided each with a professional that can improve their standard of living for themselves and their families.

Our program directive is to give a helping hand with community sponsor donations and Lapel Pins merchandise



that fuels our program initiative with the assistance of our entire Voiture family and community. You now begin to understand the need for our pin acquisition program and purpose that we provide. In the mid-month of June, we launch our new Pin program for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. You can



attain our merchandise by communicating with any of our four Nationale Sous Directeurs or myself. The cost of \$3.00 remains the same as last year. Each Nurses Training Directeur(s) should begin canvassing their Locale/Grande and community for their commitment. Remember that increasing sales and donations will fuel, improve and advance our program to greater heights.

All Voitures, there is one more challenge we must seek out and encourage the veteran to join our mission and belong. I salute each one of you for the job you do and may God bless you.

Ernest Lane Jr.
40 & 8 Nationale Nurses Training Directeur
Tel. 480-390-3424
elanejr3688@gmail.com

SOUS NURSE TRAINING DIRECTEURS

- NE Region - James A Coe - 517-582-1035 - csmcoe@yahoo.
- NW Region - Kris Struwe - 605-695-2270 - kris_struwe@yahoo.com
- SE Region - Kelvin Owens - 544-756-2390 - kkaowens@msn.com
- SW Region - Jim Vissers - 920-739-4506 - jvissers8@new.rr.com



FLAGS FOR 1ST GRADERS

V-751 Grande de Wisconsin



Winnebago County Voiture Locale #751 Grande de Wisconsin visited 44 schools and handed out over 1900 miniature flags to 1st graders and the teachers. The wood bases for the flags were made by 4 area High School shop classes. The wood is donated by Oshkosh Tool, Inc.

V-1466 Grande de Arizona



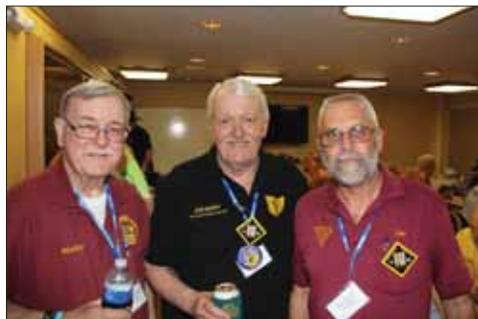
Arizona Voiture Locale No. 1466 getting ready to present Flags to 1st Graders in four different schools in the Gilbert Arizona area.



GREAT LAKES PROMENADE



The Memorial Service



Wally, John and Joe enjoying the hospitality.



The Illinois group at the Saturday evening banquet.



The Girls



Big Chef Doc asking Joe Jamnick how come he didn't go bald in his year as the Big Chef!



Bob & Todd Cearlock before the Saturday morning session.



FROM LA PRESIDENTE JOYCE ROBBERSTAD



Greetings from Cabane Nationale to all the Dames and Voitures of this extraordinary organization.

The hospitality experienced by Mike and me this year as we have traveled is fabulous. We have been made to feel welcome thru act and deed. From the warm smiles and the easy conversations to the beautiful wel-

come baskets and gifts. It just reaffirms my beliefs from the very beginning when Mike and I first joined this organization, this is an exceptional group of people doing great things for our Veterans, Communities and Children.

The only way we fail is in not sharing just how wonderful we are and how much fun we have with all those prospective members out there. People should be breaking down our doors wanting to be a part of these organizations. Dames remember to wear your berets if you are participating in an official event. People will ask about the group and it will open a door to begin a dialogue about all the wonderful things that we do. About the voyageurs programs that we support and assist with and why we do the work.

In my home Cabane, 153 Oregon, we have connected with a group at our local hospital. They were looking for a service opportunity for their annual charity drive. After sharing information, they have joined with us to collect plastic bags that we process into mats for the homeless. They are so excited about this project that they now want to do it annually and help us with the crocheting of the mats also. This is opening a door for future members as we work this project. It is also opening doors for future nurses for the Voiture's Nurses Training project. This is a win for everybody.

I know that other Cabane's and Voitures have similar partnerships that benefit our organization and their communities. Please take the time to share these successes.

As we speak of Programs, please remember that it is our responsibility to assist the Voitures with the programs. Buy a pin, I know, you have a bucket full in the back of that hall closet. But you can also use those old program pins along with this year and next years to give to youth in your community. Sponsoring a Little League team, give the team members a Youth Sports pin. Giving out those flags to First Graders, include an Americanism Pin. Nurses Training? Do those nurses that you sponsor have a pin? Send Box Car pins to the Hobo's to give to the children at the Kids Party at Nationale. You get the idea, we don't have to hide them away so that we feel that we don't have room to continue to help. You all know the smile of a child that you just gave a pin to, it warms your heart and keeps you going. Let's make lots of smiles, get a picture and send them to the Editor so we can share. And don't forget to send pictures and articles to your local papers also.

Oh, and I hope that everyone sent in their reports. They are extremely important to show just how much we do for our Veterans, Community and Children.

Cabanes Locale and Grande, please make sure that you send in the Purple and Green forms with your new officers. We need them even if you are not going to Nationale. This is how we update our rosters so that Nationale can continue to communicate with everyone. You are important, and we want you to get all the needed information.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Louisville, KY in September. If you cannot make it, you will be missed.

Yours in service for La Societe,

Joyce Robberstad, La Presidente Nationale 2018

LA FEMMES MEMBERSHIP 2018

August 8, 2018

GRANDE	2017	2018	2018	% OF	SHORT
		GOAL	RPTD	GOAL	
ALABAMA	29	32	26	81.25%	-6
ALASKA	10	11	10	90.91%	-1
ARIZONA	23	24	23	95.83%	-1
ARKANSAS	20	25	19	76.00%	-6
CABANE NATIONALE	18	22	22	100.00%	0
CALIFORNIA	18	58	5	8.62%	-53
FLORIDA	218	238	193	81.09%	-45
GEORGIA	148	179	136	75.98%	-43
IDAHO	13	14	6	42.86%	-8
ILLINOIS	98	108	98	90.74%	-10
INDIANA	463	471	460	97.66%	-11
KANSAS	13	24	12	50.00%	-12
LOUISIANA	53	56	53	94.64%	-3
MAINE	45	48	40	83.33%	-8
MASSACHUSETTS	32	35	21	60.00%	-14
MICHIGAN	185	204	187	91.67%	-17
MINNESOTA	156	162	132	81.48%	-30
MISSISSIPPI	10	27	30	111.11%	3
MISSOURI	29	30	29	96.67%	-1
NEBRASKA	52	62	51	82.26%	-11
NEW JERSEY	12	13	10	76.29%	-3
NEW YORK	165	173	145	83.82%	-28
NORTH CAROLINA	94	97	69	71.13%	-28
OHIO	32	33	31	93.94%	-2
OKLAHOMA	39	48	45	93.75%	-3
OREGON	61	65	68	104.62%	3
PENNSYLVANIA	38	48	32	66.67%	-16
SOUTH CAROLINA	124	140	127	90.71%	-13
SOUTH DAKOTA	9	10	10	100.00%	0
TENNESSEE	9	10	10	100.00%	0
TEXAS	45	51	41	80.39%	-10
WASHINGTON	171	172	183	106.40%	11
WISCONSIN	143	172	155	90.12%	-17
VIRGINIA	37	48	15	31.25%	-33
TOTALS	2612	2910	2494	85.70%	-416

VAVS/SVH

Ron Rolfes, Nationale Directeur



Greetings Voyageurs! Well as the 2017-2018 year comes to a close, there have been some highs and some lows. Everyone likes the good stuff so let's start with that. I am proud to say that the "Keep the Wheel Chairs Rolling Contest" was yet

another success. Twenty-seven requests were sent in and we were able to stretch the budget to ensure that each facility received funds. Congratulations to all who took the time to submit their entry and especially our "first place" winner Voyageur Jack Le Roy, Grande du Kansas for his submission for the Dwight D. Eisenhower VAMC, Leavenworth, Kansas. They received a check for \$1,358.00 to purchase two heavy duty Bariatric Wheel Chairs.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Past Nationale President 2000, La Femme Fay Cook. She was awarded the 2018 Female Volunteer of the Year award at

the William Jennings Bryan Dorn VAMC located in Columbia, South Carolina. Looking at the photo that was sent in I see that Sabrina Clark, Director of Voluntary Service Central Office, Washington D.C. was on hand to make the presentation.

In other news the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee were successful in passing legislation on a whole array of Veterans Healthcare issues, including improvement to Women Veterans Health Initiatives. It goes without saying that all these bills will continue to improve Veterans Health Care across the board. Regardless of what you hear, VA Health Care continues to be the best care anywhere.

Now onto the not so good stuff. Although we were able to certify over 30 new Representatives or Deputies, our numbers continue to drop regarding representation in our VA Facilities. The numbers keep going down because our Reps/Deps aren't attending the Quarterly VAVS Meetings. As a Rep/Dep you may have hundreds of volunteer hours but if you don't attend the meetings then we do not get credit thus La Societe being dropped from the VAVS Committee at that facility. We all need to remember that when you volunteer to represent La Societe on the VAVS Committee you are REQUIRED to attend the meetings. It is not an option! Bottom Line the downward trend needs

to stop!! With that said, I challenge every Grande Chef de Gare, Grande Correspondant and Grande VAVS Directeur to seek out Voyageurs and La Femmes willing to represent La Societe on local VAVS Committees. Your Goal is 100%. Use the three R's. **"Recruit, Retain or Reinstate"**. NOTE: This also applies to membership. Remember!

The Power is in the Ask!

Lastly, there are many Voyageurs and La Femme's representing La Societe on VAVS Committees across the Nation and they do it well. I personally want to thank each and everyone of you for your continued Service to our Nation's Veterans.

MUSINGS ON LA SOCIETE DE FEMME

By Sharon Schulte

It is very difficult to remember all the details of an organization that was founded in 1963. There were many important events over that period, but I don't believe that the individual events or the order in which they occurred, are the most important things to remember. What we need to remember are the people and the feelings they instilled in us by their efforts on our behalf as an organization.

In the beginning was a vision of what could be, developed by Voiture Nationale La Correspondante Joel Bunch and a small group of ladies who shared his dream. It was a dream of service and assistance to the 40/8 and their many worthwhile programs. It was a way to make the Voiture a more family friendly environment. Much more could be accomplished with more support at home for what was, at the time, an all-male organization. In many places, the wives of the Voyagers were already a big help - from cooking for events, making sure Ritual Team, Wrecking Crew and Box Car Crew uniforms were always clean and ready to go, to typing reports and newsletters. La Societe de Femme became a way to provide recognition for their contributions and to increase participation in Voiture activities.

Not all Voyagers were

as supportive of these efforts as was Joel Bunch. The 40/8 was a male organization and some were afraid that to bring the women into the mix would create tensions and interference they did not want. This concern was addressed by the formation of a Cabane Locale needing to have the Voiture Locale's approval and that we would have no programs of our own. Things did not always go smoothly, but as time went on, the Voitures that had Cabane became more successful and often turned to us for help and assistance. This example of peaceful co-existence and cooperation led to the chartering of more Cabanes across the country. Today we have almost universal support.

Our earliest Dames set the tone for what we would become. Well over 90% of these members had lived through WWII and the Depression. They had been raised to be of service and assistance, because that is how everyone got through those trying times - by helping their neighbors when and where they could. They were true ladies, as befitting the times. Rendezvous floor was a sea of ladies in dresses, hats and gloves (no slacks-ever). Official banquets called for formal attire. The Dames were always aware that they represented La Societe de

Femme and they regularly were being watched. They always reflected credit upon La Societe.

In the early years La Presidentes' Nationale did not travel very much. It was the rule that Madame Presidente did not go anywhere she was not invited. Traveling could be more difficult in those days, as well as expensive. The traveling that was done was done totally at her own expense. In the month after her election there was a mandatory trip into Indianapolis for an orientation. The only other mandatory trip was to Arlington for Memorial Day. In the beginning, the Veterans Day trip to Birmingham was not on the schedule.

In many organizations, when members reach high National offices, they seem to place themselves above the other members. They only seem to associate with those of equal status - that has never happened in this organization. The reason may be because we were a new organization and no one had more time and experience in the organization than anyone else. I prefer to believe that because many of these Dames had been friends and acquaintances (through their husbands) for many years, they simply did not let the titles go to their heads. They were friendly with everyone. Many went out of their way to meet and

get to know the new faces who were always coming to the first few Rendezvous Nationale, as the organization continued to grow. In 55 years we have had only 6 La Correspondants Nationale, leading to continuity at the top. This accessibility to our Nationale officers continues to this day and makes our organization much more cohesive than other organizations.

Our Nationale officers have come from New York to California, Michigan to Florida and everywhere in between. We have had 3 Nationale Presidentes Passe (Lee Cherepes, Esther O'Kane and Sandy Sostack), who began their membership, in the Grande Cabane de Germany, when their husbands were stationed there. We have had little, tiny La Presidentes, like Ruth Wilkenson, who had the most infectious laugh and Donnie Wheldon, a big Georgia farm girl who often wore bib overalls to Hospitality Rooms. One year (1967) we had 3 Dames run for La Presidente Nationale. It was very close. The 2 defeated candidates did not disappear because they lost. They ran again later and both were elected down the road. The competition is good for the organization and we could use more of it now.

Our membership grew every year up to and

including 1994, when we reached all-time high of 7573 under the administration of La Presidente Nationale, Marge Coykendall. La Societe, like all membership organizations, have struggled in recent years, but our solid core continues to work diligently to strengthen this great organization.

Our officers have come from many backgrounds, in many sizes, shapes and personalities, but what has been consistent is their ongoing love and support for this organization. While we don't always agree with each other, we have always been able to talk about those differences and find a way to reach a consensus, based on what was best for La Societe.

As time has gone on we have seen the emergence of second and third generations of those original Dames, who were brought up with that same love and caring natures as their mothers and grandmothers. Their contributions have been immeasurable on many levels. It has helped to transmit our traditions and pride in all we have accomplished and continue to accomplish. It also proves the validity of our programs and how we support them.

As we move forward, let us all treat our sisterhood of La Societe de Femme with all the love and support which has been shown in the past.



99TH Promenade Nationale

Louisville, KY

September 11-15, 2018

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

5:00 p.m.

Early Bird Party CROWNE BC

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Registration: REG BC
First Aid: KNOX
C. Frank Martin Memorial Walk - Assemble outside in Portico near Registration
Boxcar Hobos/Business Meeting: PERRY
Finance/Directeurs: CARROLL
Color Guard Competition: CROWNE A P
Committee on Committees: LUERSEN
Past Chef's Club Breakfast: TAYLOR-WHITLEY
Children's Party: CORONET
Resolutions/Constitution: WHITLEY
Cheminot Nationaux 2018: CROWNE A P
Attitude Adjustment (pre-Germany Party): CORONET
Germany Party: CORONET

Thursday, September 13, 2018

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Registration: REG BC
First Aid: KNOX
Finance/Directeurs: LUERSEN
Committee on Committees: CARROLL
General Session/Memorial: CROWNE A P

PROMENADE NATIONALE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

1. Rules and Order: GRANT
2. Child Welfare: PERRY

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

1. Box Car Assoc: MADISON
2. Membership: RUSSELL/SHELBY

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

1. Finance Meeting: LUERSEN

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

1. VAVS Meeting: GRANT
2. Carville Star: PERRY

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

1. Time & Place: WHITLEY

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

1. Public Relations: RUSSELL/SHELBY
2. Historien Meeting: MADISON

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	1. Special Awards: PERRY 2. Youth Sports: RUSSELL/SHELBY 3. Nurses Training: MADISON
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	1. Americanism: PERRY 2. Ritual Meeting: RUSSELL/SHELBY 3. POW/MIA Meeting: MADISON
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	1. Finance Committee: PERRY 2. Voiture Activities: RUSSELL/SHELBY 3. Credentials Meeting: MADISON
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	OPENING SESSION/MEMORIAL – CROWNE A P Call to order: Chef de Chemin de Fer: Kenneth Lafleur Opening Ceremony – Advance of Colors Memorial Service Bill Stroud, Aumonier National Greetings by Dan Klein, Conducteur National Introduction of Distinguished Guests by Dan Klein
Response from Guest	Response by Chef de Chemin de Fer, Kenneth Lafleur Recess

Friday September 14, 2018

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Registration: REG BC
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	First Aid: KNOX
8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.	General Session I: CROWNE A P Call to Order; Chef de Chemin de Fer: Ken Lafleur Reading of the Promenade National Call By Correspondant National, Patrick Mobley Introduction of National Officers and Chefs de Chemin de Fer Passé
	REPORTS OF NATIONAL OFFICERS Chef de Chemin de Fer: Ken Lafleur Commissaire Intendant National: Terry Lanning Historien National: Charley Craddock Correspondant National: Patrick Mobley
	REPORTS OF TRUST CHAIRMEN C. W. Ardery Child Welfare Trust: Mac McCarthy George B. Boland Nurses Training Trust: Gerald Brady Trophies: Wm. Joe Jamnick - Chef de Chemin de Fer 2004 Award Silas Noel - Chef de Chemin de Fer 2001 Award
	REPORTS OF COMMITTEES 1. Resolution Meeting: National Avocat, Hank Kwiatkowski 2. Rules & Order: Angie Anderson, Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer
Fer	3. Finance: Terry Lanning 4. Child Welfare: Directeur, Joe Donovan Trophies: John T. Digilio, Jr. Award Carl Nielson Award Charles W Ardery Jr, Award 5. VAVS: Directeur, Ron Rolfes 6. POW/MIA: Directeur, Tony Cross 7. Carville Star: Directeur, Willie "Red" Miller Awards 8. Credentials: Angie Anderson, Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer 9. Constitution: Avocat National, Hank Kwiatkowski 10. C. Frank Martin Memorial Walk Recess for Lunch Generals Club Brunch: CORONET GENERAL SESSION II: CROWNE A P
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Call to Order – Kenneth Lafleur, Chef de Chemin de Fer Directeur of Special Awards, Dennis Engdahl City of the Year Voyageur of the Year Presentation of the Hero of the Year and Law Officer of the Year Awards
11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Trophies: Irvin M "Hal" Halpern Award & William P Lyons Award
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.	
RECONVENE SESSION:	

6:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Youth Sports: Directeur: James Boyd Trophies: Donald K "Bucky" Harris Award E.A. "Andy" Buchta Award Michael Wood Award A. C. "Scottie" Scott Award
2. Nurses Training: Directeur, Ernest Lane Trophies: Voiture 510 Award J. Earl Simpson Award Michael R. Verville Award
3. Voiture Activities: Directeur, Joe Dolwig Trophies: Doyle Webb Award C. James Littorin Award David B. Oliver Award
4. Americanism: Directeur, Thomas Smith Trophies: Paul J. Sorrentino Award J. Frank Baker Award Paul L. Landry Award
5. Public Relations: Directeur, Robert Cearlock Trophies: John E. Kilgus Award Thomas William Fay Jr. Award Art McDowell Award John W. Emerson Award Robert Kaseman Award LaVerne Eccleston Award Don Collins Award
6. Ritual: Directeur, Wally Ciokajlo Trophies: Sam Friedman Award Joel Bunch Award
7. Time & Place: Chairman, John Aldecoa 8. Box Car Association: Directeur: Jim Maxwell Awards
9. Membership: Directeur: Joe Story Presentation of Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Plaques Membership Awards
10. New Business
11. Announcements
Benediction; Aumonier Bill Stroud
Promenade Nationale Attitude Adjustment Hour: CROWNE A P Promenade Nationale Banquet: CROWNE A P

Saturday, September 15, 2018

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	First Aid: KNOX
9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Closing Session: CROWNE A P
9:30 a.m.	CLOSING SESSION: CROWNE A P Call to Order by, Chef de Chemin de Fer, Kenneth Lafleur
	REPORT OF COMMITTEES 1. Historien: Charley Craddock Trophies: Ralph Stovall Award 2. Box Car Round-Up Prizes Supplementary (if any) ELECTION OF OFFICERS 1. Chef de Chemin de Fer 2. Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer (4) 3. Commissaire Intendant National 4. Gardes de La Porte Nationaux (2) 5. Historien National 6. Drapeau National
	Recess Installation of Officers:
	Benediction Closing Ceremony – Retirement of Colors Adjournment
	Meeting of the Cheminot Nationaux 2019 Immediately following the close of the 2018 Promenade Nationale

LEISURE TIME IN LOUISVILLE

Louisville has steadily become one of the hottest travel destinations in the U.S. From its booming bourbon renaissance, to its culinary jewels, to its one-of-a-kind attractions, the city offers a menu of things to see and do all wrapped within its hallmark Southern charm. Urban distilleries, culinary artisans, burgeoning neighborhoods, classic cocktail bars, great places to eat and iconic attractions and events make Louisville a top destination.

With more than 120 attractions Louisville has something for everyone to see and do. The iconic Churchill Downs and Kentucky Derby Museum pay homage to the thoroughbred horse – a symbol of what makes Kentucky so special. The bat of most major league baseball

teams is made at Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory. The Belle of Louisville is the oldest operating steamboat still in existence. And, Louisville's native son, Muhammad Ali, is now remembered with a self-guided tour of "Ali's Footsteps of Greatness" which includes his boyhood home, the Muhammad Ali Center and his final resting place in Cave Hill Cemetery.

Museum Row on Main Street is a must on your first visit to the city. Make sure to notice the original cast iron building facades that have been preserved since the late 19th century. On this brief walk, you will see the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory, the Frazier History Museum, the Kentucky Science Center, KMAC Museum, a few

bourbon distilleries and tons of restaurants.

Another hallmark of Kentucky – bourbon – has taken center stage as a "must do" when visiting the city. The Urban Bourbon Experience is comprised of ten distilleries within the city limits that are open for public tours and tastings. The Urban Bourbon Trail boasts over 35 bars and restaurants with more than 50 bourbons and bourbon-inspired culinary delights – so grab a passport, collect your stamps and enjoy a special prize at the end.

If the arts are more to your liking, Louisville is one of only a handful of U.S. cities with a professional full-time orchestra, opera, ballet, children's theatre, dinner theatre and Broadway

Series. The Speed Art Museum and the Kentucky Museum of Art & Craft both recently underwent renovations. These, plus a zoo, amusement park, breweries, historic homes, confectioneries, parks and music festivals comprise the fabric of Louisville's cultural scene.

Speaking of festivals, visitors are likely to run into one of many of the city's festivals during their visit, from the world-renowned Forecastle Music Festival, Bourbon and Beyond Festival to the neighborhood gems like Old Louisville Springfest, St. James Court Art Show and Downtown's WorldFest.

Louisville's growing food reputation is putting the city on the national culinary

map. And it's not just the city's eclectic, innovative and award-winning restaurant scene, but also locally made products that are setting the city apart (with and beyond the bourbon!). The accolades continue to grow, from Saveur's recognition as a Notable City in its Culinary Travel Awards to Southern Living magazine's "Top 10 tastiest towns in the South," to Zagat naming Louisville "one of the top eight 'awesome foodie getaways in the world'".

Louisville's also easy to get to. It is within a day's drive of nearly half the U.S. population and the Louisville International Airport is serviced by nearly every major airline with non-stop service to 23 destinations and convenient connections to cities worldwide.

2018 NATIONAL HERO OF THE YEAR



Mark Dallas is a 15 year Veteran of the Dixon Illinois Police Department. Mark has 24 years of experience in Law Enforcement. He has been serving at Dixon High School's Resource Officer for 4 years.

On May 16th at approximately 8:00 A.M. as assailant entered the Dixon High School Lancaster Gymnasium with a 9mm rifle and started firing rounds into the air. This was done as the graduating class of the 2018 Dixon High School was practicing graduation ceremonies. Officer Dixon was present and heard the rounds being fired and immediately responded to the area. He confronted the perpetrator who at the time ran from the building and away from the school. When Officer Dallas was attempting to apprehend the perpetrator, the individual fired rounds at Officer Dallas. Officer Dallas returned fire wounding the individual in the shoulder. Officer Dallas was then able to place the individual into custody. Due to Officer Dallas's immediate response and courageous professionalism there were no fatalities and the only one injured was the assailant.



October 26 – 28, 2018
Wyndham Garden Hotel, 2101 S Meridian Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73108

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL/WORK PHONE: _____

Voiture/Cabane #: V- _____ / C- _____ GRAND DU: _____

Will Spouse/Guest attend? (YES) _____ (NO) _____ NAME: _____

REGISTRATION REMITTANCE
Registration Fee: _____ X \$40.00 = \$ _____

ADVERTISEMENT REMITTANCE
Full-Pg - \$40, Half-Pg - \$25, Qtr-Pg - \$15, Business Card - \$10 _____ \$ _____

TOTAL REMITTANCE _____ \$ _____

MEMO: Your registration fee includes your Saturday evening banquet and Hospitality Room. No registration charge for PG's being wrecked; however, they must make arrangements for their own rooms.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS REGISTRATION FORM CLEARLY AND RETURN TO: Joseph Steil, Grande Commissaire Intendant, 17921 Groveton Blvd, Edmond, OK 73012-4572. Registrations need to be received prior to October 20, 2018. If you are coming, let us know. Call if you have to, 405-657-2228. Thank You.

MAKE ALL CHECKS (except Hotel reservations) PAYABLE TO: Grande du Oklahoma

THE FINAL DATE FOR SUBMISSION AND RECEIPT OF ALL AD REQUESTS AND AD COPY IS OCTOBER 20, 2018. Please submit all Ad Copy to Joseph Steil, 17921 Groveton Blvd, Edmond, OK 73012-4572. If possible, please submit ad in digital format (.jpg, .doc, etc.) to jsteilok@gmail.com

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS
Wyndham Garden Hotel, 2101 S Meridian Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73108
Telephone 1-405-685-4000

All rooms are \$89.00 for 1 to 4 persons (including free breakfast), plus tax. There are smoking rooms and handicap rooms. Pets are allowed with a \$75 pet fee. Cutoff date for guaranteed reservations for these rooms is October 15, 2018. After this date, rooms are on a first come, first served basis. Be sure to mention **40&8** when you are making your room reservations. The hotel will provide airport transportation.

Friday, 26 October 2018		Saturday, 27 October 2018	
Wreck - 1st Degree	7:00PM	Wreck - 2nd & 3rd Degrees	9:00AM
Kangaroo Kourt	8:00 PM	Fall Cheminot	1:30PM
Wyndham Garden		La Femmes Fall Rendezvous	1:30PM
		Banquet	6:30PM
		Wyndham Garden	Wyndham Garden



KANSAS DEDICATION OF MERCI BOX CAR



Rededication of the Grande du Kansas Merci Box Car on June 16 in Hays, KS as the Kansas Governors PROCLAMATION declaring June 16th, 2018, Kansas Merci Boxcar Day, as well as all of the Veteran Service Organizations involved.

Left to right: Grand Chef de Gare Tim Russell, Directeur Boxcar Ed Holzmeister, Hays City Mayor James Meir, New Directeur Boxcar Vance Chartier who was the Project Manager for all of this.

Also in attendance were the VFW who provided the 21 gun salute, PATRIOT OUTREACH ORG. COL. (R) Jack Shafferman who designed the MEMORIAL PARK CENTER MONUMENT and American Legion and Auxiliary, VFW Auxiliary, 40 & 8 Grand Aumonier Rabbi Jack Kume and Grand Directeur Americanism and Aumonier Jack Le Roy and Voyageur Grand Cheminot Tony Monaco and many more Voyageurs from Grand Du Kansas. Aumonier Jack Le Roy gave the benediction in French and English.

Official Call

99th Promenade Nationale
La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux
Louisville, Kentucky
September 12-15, 2018

In accordance with Section 1, Article VI, of the National Constitution of La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux, the 99th Annual Promenade Nationale is hereby called to convene in Louisville, Kentucky September 12 – 15, 2018.

Purpose

The Promenade Nationale is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, amending the Nationale Constitution, and the transaction of such business as may properly be brought before it.

Promenade Nationale Headquarters

Promenade Nationale Headquarters office shall be at the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky.

Promenade Nationale Sessions and Committee Meetings

Business Sessions of the Promenade Nationale, and all Committee Meetings of Promenade Nationale, shall be held in the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Hotel.

Expense of Delegates and Cheminots

Voiture Nationale shall assume no liability on account of expenses of any Delegate, Alternate or Cheminot National attending the Promenade Nationale. Such expenses shall be provided for as the Grande Voitures and Voitures Locales may individually determine.

Legislative Body

The legislative body of La Société shall be the Promenade Nationale, which shall be constituted of its constituent units, which are the various Grandes and individual Voitures Locales. Each constituent unit may act in congress or in separation of any other unit. The law of such Promenade shall be the National Constitution of La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux, as Amended by the Ninety-Fifth Promenade Nationale on September 27, 2014; and Roberts Rules of Order, current edition, to the extent such Rules do not conflict with the Constitution.

Forwarding of Promenade Nationale Related Reports and Documents

All matters relating to the Promenade Nationale should be addressed to the Correspondant National at 250 East 38th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46205, and shall be forwarded so as to reach the Correspondant National NO LATER THAN Friday, August 10, 2018.

Delegates, Alternates, and Basis of Representation

In accordance with Section 3, Article VI, of the Nationale Constitution, each Grande Voiture shall be entitled to five (5) Delegates and five (5) Alternates, and every Voiture Locale shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for its first fifty (50) members, and every Voiture Locale shall be entitled to one (1) additional Delegate and one (1) additional Alternate for each additional fifty (50) members, or major fraction thereof.

In addition thereto, and in accordance with Section 4, Article VI, of the Nationale Constitution, Voiture Locale 174, District of Columbia, and Voiture Latin America shall each be entitled to five (5) Delegates and five (5) Alternates for their first fifty members, and shall be further entitled to one (1) additional Delegate and one (1) additional Alternate for each additional fifty (50) members, or major fraction thereof.

Delegates may serve as a delegate for only one constituent unit (a Grande or a Voiture Locale) and must have been elected as a Delegate for such constituent unit, and must be a member of the constituent they represent.

However, a Delegate may also be elected as an Alternate in any other constituent unit to which the Voyageur is a member. An Alternate may be elected as an Alternate in more than one constituent unit, if the Alternate is a member of each such constituent unit. An Alternate may only be promoted to serve as a Delegate at Promenade Nationale for a constituent unit in which the Alternate was duly elected as an Alternate.

Membership will be calculated on the basis of members properly reported as of August 07, 2018 which is the date thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the Promenade Nationale, as provided in Section 3, Article VI of the National Constitution.

The preliminary Convention Roll will be made up at the close of business on August 13, 2018.

Upon certification to the Credentials official of an absence in a delegation of constituent unit, an Alternate may be certified as a Delegate for such constituent unit. Upon such certification, the Alternate being promoted shall thereafter be referred to as a Delegate so long as they serve as a Delegate, and shall receive the credentials and indicia of a Delegate.

Upon certification to the Credentials official of the attendance of previously absent Delegate, any Alternate promoted to fill such Delegate's position shall be reduced to Alternate again, and shall surrender any and all credentials and indicia of the office of Delegate.

Grande Voitures and Voitures Locales are urged to give the matter of election of Delegates and Alternates the serious consideration it deserves, and elect Voyageurs who will give their time to attend to the business matters to come before the Promenade Nationale.

Credentials, Contests and Filling Vacancies of Delegation

Certification of the election of Delegates and Alternates by each Grande and each Voiture Locale shall be delivered to the Correspondant National NOT LATER THAN August 13, 2018. The Certification shall clearly identify the constituent unit (the Grande or the Voiture Locale); the date of such election; the name, address and telephone number(s) of each Delegate elected; the name, address and telephone number(s) of each Alternate elected; the designation of which Delegate the Alternate shall stand for in the absence of the Delegate; and any Instructions voted and passed by the constituent unit.

Delegate and Alternate credentials will be available for pickup by the designated individual Voyageurs, upon presentation of proof of identity, at the Promenade Registration and Check-In site beginning on Tuesday, September 11, 2018.

The Credentials Official of the Promenade shall consist of the Credentials Committee of the Promenade or the Chairman of such Credentials Committee during the Committee's adjournment.

Should any contest, claim, complaint, challenge or certification arise regarding the Convention Roll; regarding the number of authorized delegates and alternates of any constituent unit; regarding the credentials of any Delegate or Alternate; regarding the absence or attendance of a Delegate, and the promotion or reduction of an Alternate; or regarding any other related matter, then such contests, claims, complaint, challenges or certifications shall be presented to the Credentials official of the Promenade. Any and all such matters should be presented at the earliest opportunity, but not later than one (1) hour before the opening Business Session of the Promenade.

All reports of absences of Delegates must be made to the Credentials official at the earliest opportunity, but not later than one (1) hour before any Business Session of the Promenade. Reports of absences in either a Grande delegation or a Voiture Locale delegation must be made by the highest ranking officer of the Grand in attendance at the Promenade.

Admission to the Promenade Nationale

Any Voyageur member of La Société may be admitted to the Business Sessions and Meetings of Promenade Nationale upon presentation of a current 2018 membership card.

Only Delegates and Chefs de Chemin de Fer Passé will have a vote in any matter coming before the Promenade; and only Delegates and Chefs de Chemin de Fer Passé may address the Promenade during any debate or discussion of any matter, resolution, or candidacy coming before the Promenade for a vote.

Voting

The manner of casting and counting votes at Promenade Nationale shall be in the order of precedence set forth in Roberts Rules of Order, latest edition. Roll Call Votes shall be by the constituent units of the Promenade, which are the Grandes and the individual Voitures Locales, and the attending Chefs de Chemin de Fer Passé.

Constitutional Amendments

In accordance with Section 1, Article XV of the National Constitution of La Société, proposed amendments to the National Constitution must be submitted in writing to the First Business Session of Promenade Nationale. Proposed amendments should be forwarded to Voiture Nationale, 250 East 38th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46205, at the earliest opportunity after passage by Grande Promenade, but not later than the end of business on Friday, August 10, 2018.

Resolutions

Proposed Resolutions must be in writing and should be submitted to Voiture Nationale, 250 East 38th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46205, at the earliest opportunity, but not later than the end of business on Friday, August 10, 2018.

Cheminot Nationaux

There will be a meeting of the Cheminot Nationaux 2018 at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, in the Crowne A P Ballroom. A Meeting of the Cheminot Nationaux 2019 will be held immediately following adjournment of the final session of Promenade Nationale 2018 in the Crowne A P Ballroom.

Promenade Nationale Banquet

The Promenade Nationale Banquet will be held Friday, September 14, 2018 in Crowne A P Ballroom in the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Hotel. Tickets for the banquet may be purchased in advance in conjunction with your advance registration, or by sending your order and check to: 99th Promenade Nationale Corporation, 250 East 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205. Tickets will also be on sale at the Registration booths. Ticket price is \$40.00 per person.

Hotel Accommodation

Hotel Accommodations may be reserved by contacting the office of the 99th Promenade Nationale, 250 East 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205.

Reading of the Call

This Call shall be read in each Voiture Locale and at each Grande Promenade. Correspondants should make it their duty to see that each Delegate and Alternate is familiar with its provisions.

Patrick Mobley

Correspondant National