

Voiture Nationale 40&8

# VOYAGEUR BRIEFS

## Ken Lafleur – Chef de Chemin de Fer



All has been relatively quiet for me in La Société until the beginning of the Florida mid-winter Cheminot in Melbourne on January 12th and 13th. Our Florida comrades were gracious hosts to Joyce Robberstad and me and our spouses.

I continue to find diligent and inspired members working our programs and membership with varying degrees of success. Observing them is quite encouraging.

Our nation is doing extremely well in many respects. Time for selfless volunteerism seems to be in decreasing supply in many parts the United States. On the other hand, some of our Voitures and some units in other organizations are doing very well in membership and service.



Words can inspire you and I suggest we read and listen to those of Mike Wood. The effectiveness of words he writes and speaks far exceed the effectiveness of any of mine. Mike

would be delighted to send them to you and point out where they are available.

In the recent past one needed to know about wartime service to successfully recruit a member into the 40 & 8. Now we only need to know if a person is a veteran with a satisfactory DD-214 or other acceptable discharge papers and that the person is the type we would like to join us.

It is difficult to tell someone else what to do. Mike has plenty of recruiting suggestions. You pick something of your own to do this month to maintain or increase membership and do it. Nearly all of us can ask acquaintances that we like whether they are veterans. And then ask them to join us.

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## Membership by Mike Wood

To All Nationale Membership Committee Members;

As of this weeks Nationale membership report we are a little over 2000 members behind where we were at this same time last year. That is quite a large number considering that our year ended 31 Dec 2017 and now all non paid Voyageurs are delinquent. A 2000 member loss this year would be a critical blow to our organization. Now the question is.....WHAT ARE YOU PREPARED TO DO ABOUT IT? It will take extra effort and time to turn this around, but if you are as dedicated to this organization as I believe you are, then you will be willing to do whatever is necessary. One excuse that I get quite often when I ask members for their dues is "I'll pay them when I get around to it." So I always give them one.....a round tuit and that solves that problem.



You may want to download this one and make copies so when you hear this excuse you can hand the member one and say now you have gotten a round tuit so give me your dues. This won't answer all excuses but it will take care of one.

CONGRATULATIONS, Grand du Mexico on being the first Grand to achieve quota and earn 100%.

Mike Wood  
Nationale Membership Advisor

## Merci Beaucoup!

-to all the volunteers who helped mail out 8,000 renewal notices.



## Emblem Sales Highlight of the Month



This months highlight features our Business Attaché Bag. The main compartment has two flat pockets in front and a media pocket on the inside. Another zippered pocket is on the flap, an ID window on the back, a cell phone pocket on the side and a mesh water bottle pocket on the other side. The size of this bag is 13"x16"x 4". The part number for this item is 19BAG—\$29.95. You can purchase this item at

our emblem sales store online at <http://store.fortyandeight.org/> or contact Landry Foley,

E-mail: [lfoley@fortyandeight.org](mailto:lfoley@fortyandeight.org)  
Ph. (317) 634-1804  
Fax. (317) 632-9365

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### Voiture 1154 Nurses Training



Hassayampa Voiture 1154 awarded a \$500 scholarship to Marina Alafriz-Darlington, a nursing student at Chamberlain University College of Nursing. Shown above is Finance Officer George Van de Langeryt, Marina Alafriz-Darlington, and President Ken King. The Voiture meets the 1st Saturday every month and holds a Pulled Pork Luncheon to earn funds to support the Nursing Scholarship Program. In 2017, Voiture 1154 gave six \$500 scholarships to nursing students.

### Grand du Texas Hurricane Harvey Aid



Grand du Texas continues with the aid in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey with Youth Sports donations. Grand Organizer David Knutson reports “These kids lost things we take for granted every day”! One school has yet to reopen and they still need our help. Grand du Texas has reached the \$5,000 mark toward their goal of \$20,000 for the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund. You can help with a donation via the Grand du Texas Hurricane Harvey Fundraiser at: <https://www.texasboxcar.org/hurricane-harvey-relief.html>

### Voiture 1510 Toys for Tots (Voyageur Gonzalo Reyes collected 978 toys)



### Voiture 605 G. I. Josh Dog Deployment Children in Need Whose Fathers are Deployed



## Presidential Biographies

“A Great Society” for the American people and their fellow men elsewhere was the vision of **Lyndon B. Johnson**. In his first years of office he obtained passage of one of the most extensive legislative programs in the Nation’s history. Maintaining collective security, he carried on the rapidly growing struggle to restrain Communist encroachment in Viet Nam.

Johnson was born on August 27, 1908, in central Texas, not far from Johnson City, which his family had helped settle. He felt the pinch of rural poverty as he grew up, working his way through Southwest Texas State Teachers College (now known as Texas State University-San Marcos); he learned compassion for the poverty of others when he taught students of Mexican descent.

In 1937 he campaigned successfully for the House of Representatives on a New Deal platform, effectively aided by his wife, the former Claudia “Lady Bird” Taylor, whom he had married in 1934. During World War II he served briefly in the Navy as a lieutenant commander, winning a Silver Star in the South Pacific. After six terms in the House, Johnson was elected to the Senate in 1948. In 1953, he became the youngest Minority Leader in Senate history, and the following year, when the Democrats won control, Majority Leader. With rare skill he obtained passage of a number of key Eisenhower measures.

In the 1960 campaign, John-



son, as John F. Kennedy’s running mate, was elected Vice President. On November 22, 1963, when Kennedy was assassinated, Johnson was sworn in as President.

First he obtained enactment of the measures President Kennedy had been urging at the time of his death—a new civil rights bill and a tax cut. Next he urged the Nation “to build a great society, a place where the meaning of man’s life matches the marvels of man’s labor.” In 1964, Johnson won the Presidency with 61 percent of the vote and had the widest popular margin in American history—more than 15,000,000 votes.

The Great Society program became Johnson’s agenda for Congress in January 1965:

aid to education, attack on disease, Medicare, urban renewal, beautification, conservation, development of depressed regions, a wide-scale fight against poverty, control and prevention of crime and delinquency, removal of obstacles to the right to vote. Congress, at times augmenting or amending, rapidly enacted Johnson’s recommendations. Millions of elderly people found succor through the 1965 Medicare amendment to the Social Security Act.

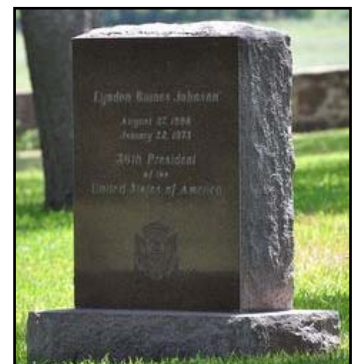
Under Johnson, the country made spectacular explorations of space in a program he had championed since its start. When three astronauts successfully orbited the moon in December 1968, Johnson congratulated them: “You’ve

taken ... all of us, all over the world, into a new era. . . .”

Nevertheless, two overriding crises had been gaining momentum since 1965. Despite the beginning of new anti-poverty and anti-discrimination programs, unrest and rioting in black ghettos troubled the Nation. President Johnson steadily exerted his influence against segregation and on behalf of law and order, but there was no early solution.

The other crisis arose from Viet Nam. Despite Johnson’s efforts to end Communist aggression and achieve a settlement, fighting continued. Controversy over the war had become acute by the end of March 1968, when he limited the bombing of North Viet Nam in order to initiate negotiations. At the same time, he startled the world by withdrawing as a candidate for reelection so that he might devote his full efforts, unimpeded by politics, to the quest for peace.

When he left office, peace talks were under way; he did not live to see them successful, but died suddenly of a heart attack at his Texas ranch on January 22, 1973.



Building Donation Challenge Grand Total \$148,471.10



December 2017 Donations

| NAME         | VOITURE | GR | AMT       |
|--------------|---------|----|-----------|
| Voiture 395  | 395     | CA | \$ 100.00 |
| Voiture 1539 | 1539    | AK | \$ 20.00  |
| Voiture 456  | 456     | MD | \$ 14.00  |
| Voiture 222  | 222     | OR | \$ 12.00  |
| Voiture 523  | 523     | CO | \$ 10.75  |
| Voiture 386  | 386     | NY | \$ 6.00   |
| Voiture 1536 | 1536    | MI | \$ 5.50   |



Old Man Winter decided to head south a few weeks ago and in the process dumped 6½ inches of the white stuff on our friends at **Voiture 1067** in Goose Creek, SC. Boys and girls, and kids of all ages got to enjoy the snowy weather. Voyageur Deb Reynolds sent us a picture of “Frosty the P.G”. adding “...in sunny yet very cold South Carolina, even the snowmen want to join the 40 & 8!”

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

National Nurses Training Program



The 2018 Nurse Training Pin Program has reached the end of the 2017 year with excellent participation from our Voyageurs Militaire. We are now embarking on the New Year 2018 with great expectations for the trend to continue as Pin sales and requests have increased thanks to the great efforts of our Sous Directeurs.

The pride that goes with being a member of a contributing Grand goes a long way in indicating the attitude and dedication of the Voyageurs of that Grand. While many Grands are putting forth those extra efforts, there is always a Grand Voiture that stands out with their hard work at any given time.

This month one such Grand from the Southeast Region has shown a great effort in support of the National Nurse Training Program by demonstrating the commitment needed to effectively support this vital program of the 40/8.

**GRAND VOITURE of the Month for DECEMBER**  
**“GRAND du ARIZONA”**

**Southwest Region**

Posted earned sales to-date of 242 Pins for \$726 and a member per-capita of \$ 1.82

“MERCI, Fellow Voyageurs Militaire”, National Secretaire/Treasurer, *H.T. “Terry” Sharp*

