

Voiture Nationale 40&8

VOYAGEUR BRIEFS

Ken Lafleur – Chef de Chemin de Fer



Last September at our 98th Promenade Nationale in Bossier City Louisiana we witnessed one of the greatest acts of heroism ever performed by a Forty and Eighter. That bravery is attributed to one of our successful candidates for Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer. Michael Robberstad acting alone and without protection entered a pond of less than one-acre in size. On the surface of that pond were thirty-nine mallard and Wood ducks guarded by two seemly vicious twelve-foot alligators from Pierre Part Louisiana. Michael retrieved a duck for himself to be shared with our Presidente Nationale Joyce. He was then urged by friends to retrieve ducks for them. Mike continued in that dangerous and arduous enterprise until all the ducks were retrieved. We have never witnessed a finer job of duck retrieval by any Golden or Labrador retriever.

Jack Eaton, with anticipated help from Steve Brady, had his heart set on taking the two alligators home with him to Gleason, Wisconsin. When Jack arrived at the pond very early the following morning the two alligators were gone.



Jack was heartbroken. The alligators safely arrived at Lake Bistineau. There they were seen sunning themselves on Hank Kwiatkowski's boat dock.

Dudley Leblanc could not abide Jack wearing his totally broken heart so openly on his shirtsleeve. Dudley had his buddy Troy Landry send him two twelve-foot alligators. Troy caught those two in the marsh near his home in Pierre Part. Jack was, as anticipated, delighted with that gift.

Our 99th Promenade Nationale is in the land of fast horses, exquisite Bourbon, blue grass, the Louisville Slugger, Kentucky Colonels, and Fried Chicken. One of our Nation's finest Southern Gentlemen, Silas Noel (Chef de Chemin de Fer Passé), is prominently involved in facilitating having our Nationale Promenade being informative, productive, and fun.

Patricia and I arrived at the Louisville airport on the banks of the Ohio River early on

the afternoon of Sunday, November 9th. The reason for Louisville's existence is the rapids immediately down stream. Flat-bottomed river boats from as far upriver as Pittsburg had to use the dock there, for a fee, to unload their cargo. Then came the twenty-three mile portage downriver past the rapids. The empty flat bottoms could then run the rapids and pick up their cargo. Just upriver from the rapids was a very good place to convert low value corn into high value Bourbon and ship the Bourbon both up and downstream. Our Presidente Nationale Joyce Robberstad's hero, Evan Williams, was the first to do that on a large scale.

The Crown Plaza hotel shuttle took Past Presidente Pat Jones and her husband Roland to our quarters. Pat and Roland did arrive at the shuttle a little ahead of us since they were in First-Class seats and debarked the plane relatively early. We did arrive at the hotel at the same time with confusion prevailing for a while when Roland walked off with a piece of my luggage. That turned out to not be a significant problem and the luggage was returned before the police arrived. At the hotel entrance was Tom Orval, the Voyageur who can make any one of us famous. Just inside the door was the great Alaskan Chef de Chemin de Fer Passé Tom Stockmal who was not accompanied at that particular instant by the Queen of Alaska Deana Scamolla. Scotty, another Alaskan, was on his motorcycle in Illinois or some other state and did not arrive until Monday.

Patricia and I went up to the Presidential Suite 2¼ times the size of our newlywed

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Ken Lafleur -Cont'd

apartment in New Orleans. The suite has a full-kitchen, two TV sets, and except for the clothes in the closed it was just like being at home. Silas Noel a Paris Island drill instructor and the 99th Promenade Convention Corporation selected an excellent hotel conveniently located near the airport with plentiful, pleasant, and competent staff.

That evening we had dinner in the very good hotel restaurant with Presidente Joyce, Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Michael Robberstad, Correspondant Carrol Austin, the eminent Kay Wesner and twelve other Voyageurs and Dames all of whom are excellent conversationalists.

Monday was the date of the Louisville Slugger factory visit and a visit to the Evan Williams Distillery about three doors down from the bats. That is the visit that absolutely delighted Joyce Robberstad our Presidente Nationale

and our tour leader. That evening we had a very pleasant dinner with Chef de Chemin de Fer Passé Don Emley, his wife Fay, and Steve Brady. Steve was bearing gifts from our regrettably absent Lampiste National Jack Eaton.

Tuesday was the first Registration Day with an Early Bird Party at 6:00 pm. We had a large festive group attending the party all in a very good humor. Wednesday was the day for The Walk and the National Color Guard Competition. Finishing in First Place was an excellent team from the Grande Voiture du Louisiana. Following was the Past Chef's Breakfast and a delightful Children's Party. Later that day we participated in the revelous Germany Party.

Thursday we had one committee meeting after another followed by a Memorial Service expertly MC'ed by our National Aumonier Bill Stroud. Our leading candidates for Chef de Chemin de Fer (Rick Williams) and Presidente Na-

tionale (Sheryl Jammick) hosted a very well attended Meet and Greet. Grande Voiture de South Carolina hosted a party promoting our next Promenade Nationale in Myrtle Beach.

On Friday three resolutions were considered. The Resolution having us change from Registered Mail to Certified Mail for some of our communications passed. The Resolution to have us Lobby to have the last World War II Medal of Honor Recipient have a State Funeral Passed. The Resolution calling for some changes to the Committee on Committee failed. A motion to have the Committee on Committee no longer name a leading candidate passed.

Rick Williams was installed as our Chef de Chemin de Fer 2019 on Saturday morning. A list of our new National Officers will appear on our National Website shortly. Let's wish them all well.



MID ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION

Midwinter Cheminot

October 26-28, 2018

For more information go to:

<http://www.fortyandeight.org/events/>



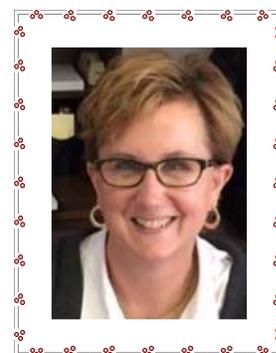
Emblem Sales Highlight of the Month



This months highlight features an item that can be used to organize and advertise all of your 40&8 activities. One recommended use is as a membership tool to give to a prospective Voyageur. Just fill this attractive pocket folder with your most important membership information. The price for this item is \$15.00 for 10 folders. This item is

only sold in multiples of 10 and can be ordered at our emblem sales store online at - <http://store.fortyandeight.org/>

or contact Landry Foley, E-mail: lfoley@fortyandeight.org
Ph. (317) 634-1804
Fax. (317) 632-9365
Voiture Nationale
Emblem Sales
250 E 38th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205



Chef's Travels



**The Dames
Holding
Oregon's
Keeper
of the
Box Car
for Ransom**

While the Dames were visiting Grande du Oregon's Prom they Introduced Chef de Chemin de Fer, Kenneth Lafleur to kidnapping and ransoming Grande du Oregon's Keeper of the Box Car, Norm Fraser.

Pictured Nationale Presidente Joyce Robberstad, Norm Fraser, Keeper of the Box Car (after the Dames worked him over), Chef de Chemin de Fer Kenneth Lafleur, Grand du Oregon's Chef de Gare Garry "Double RR" Klinghammer and Oregon's La Femmes Presidente Pam Seelye.

Looking at Norm it is amazing Grande du Oregon Voyageur's did not tell the Dames to Keep Him!

Terry Sims- Acting Correspondant National

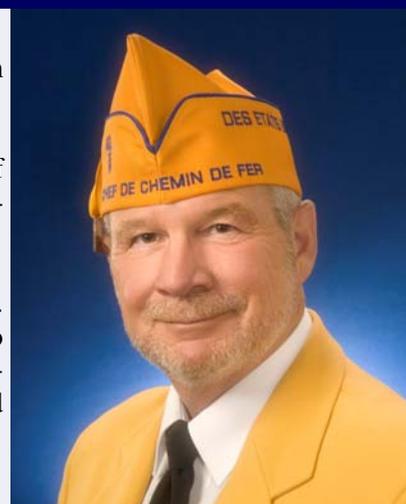
I hope everyone has or will arrive home safely, especially if you are from the areas in the wake of the storm. I know it can be devastating to you and your loved ones.

The Convention Corporation in Louisville deserves much credit for their handling of the 99th Promenade Nationale. Everything went well from my perspective, the Southern hospitality was at its' finest and the food was fantastic.

We had discussions on the Promenade floor and that is where they should be held. They were diplomatic and conducted properly. If we don't bring matters of interest to the floor that are of interest, we would not get anything accomplished in this organization, but always remember the trait of a 40/8er when they are over- "An outstretched hand with a smile on your face".

We wish Chef de Chemin de Fer Rick Williams and his National Officers a very prosperous, successful and safe year.

We also wish LaPresident National Cheryl Jamnick and her Dames a very successful and safe year.



Presidential Biographies

During the administration of William Jefferson Clinton, the U.S. enjoyed more peace and economic well being than at any time in its history. He was the first Democratic president since Franklin D. Roosevelt to win a second term. He could point to the lowest unemployment rate in modern times, the lowest inflation in 30 years, the highest home ownership in the country's history, dropping crime rates in many places, and reduced welfare rolls. He proposed the first balanced budget in decades and achieved a budget surplus. As part of a plan to celebrate the millennium in 2000, Clinton called for a great national initiative to end racial discrimination.

After the failure in his second year of a huge program of health care reform, Clinton shifted emphasis, declaring "the era of big government is over." He sought legislation to upgrade education, to protect jobs of parents who must care for sick children, to restrict handgun sales, and to strengthen environmental rules.

President Clinton was born William Jefferson Blythe III on August 19, 1946, in Hope, Arkansas, three months after his father died in a traffic accident. When he was four years old, his mother wed Roger Clinton, of Hot Springs, Arkansas. In high school, he took the family name.

He excelled as a student and as a saxophone player and once considered becoming a



professional musician. As a delegate to Boys Nation while in high school, he met President John Kennedy in the White House Rose Garden. The encounter led him to enter a life of public service.

Clinton was graduated from Georgetown University and in 1968 won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University. He received a law degree from Yale University in 1973, and entered politics in Arkansas.

He was defeated in his campaign for Congress in Arkansas's Third District in 1974. The next year he married Hillary Rodham, a graduate of Wellesley College and Yale Law School. In 1980, Chelsea, their only child, was

born.

Clinton was elected Arkansas Attorney General in 1976, and won the governorship in 1978. After losing a bid for a second term, he regained the office four years later, and served until he defeated incumbent George Bush and third party candidate Ross Perot in the 1992 presidential race.

Clinton and his running mate, Tennessee's Senator Albert Gore Jr., then 44, represented a new generation in American political leadership. For the first time in 12 years both the White House and Congress were held by the same party. But that political edge was brief; the Republicans won both houses of Congress in 1994.

In 1998, as a result of issues surrounding personal indiscretions with a young woman White House intern, Clinton was the second U.S. president to be impeached by the House of Representatives. He was tried in the Senate and found not guilty of the charges brought against him. He apologized to the nation for his actions and continued to have unprecedented popular approval ratings for his job as president.

In the world, he successfully dispatched peace keeping forces to war-torn Bosnia and bombed Iraq when Saddam Hussein stopped United Nations inspections for evidence of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. He became a global proponent for an expanded NATO, more open international trade, and a worldwide campaign against drug trafficking. He drew huge crowds when he traveled through South America, Europe, Russia, Africa, and China, advocating U.S. style freedom.



William J. Clinton Library

Building Donation Challenge Grand Total \$160,674.66

August 2018



| NAME | VOITURE | GR | AMT | NAME | VOITURE | GR | AMT |
|--------------|---------|----|-----------|--------------|---------|----|----------|
| Voiture 104 | 104 | CA | \$ 177.00 | Voiture 1606 | 1606 | FL | \$ 14.50 |
| Voiture 1351 | 1351 | LA | \$ 175.96 | Voiture 598 | 598 | KS | \$ 8.00 |
| Voiture 1055 | 1055 | TX | \$ 145.25 | Voiture 523 | 523 | CO | \$ 6.25 |
| Voiture 448 | 448 | MO | \$ 126.00 | Voiture 108 | 108 | LA | \$ 6.00 |
| Voiture 353 | 353 | TN | \$ 60.00 | Voiture 576 | 576 | SC | \$ 5.60 |
| Voiture 1268 | 1268 | WI | \$ 54.50 | Voiture 1634 | 1634 | FL | \$ 5.50 |
| Voiture 1457 | 1457 | MN | \$ 53.00 | Voiture 1301 | 1301 | NC | \$ 5.05 |
| Voiture 1172 | 1172 | NC | \$ 51.50 | Voiture 632 | 632 | IA | \$ 4.50 |
| Voiture 1098 | 1098 | AK | \$ 45.50 | Voiture 530 | 530 | SD | \$ 3.75 |
| Voiture 443 | 443 | OH | \$ 43.50 | Voiture 405 | 405 | IL | \$ 3.50 |
| Voiture 731 | 731 | PA | \$ 38.55 | Voiture 386 | 386 | NY | \$ 3.00 |
| Voiture 1485 | 1485 | WI | \$ 17.50 | Voiture 773 | 773 | SD | \$ 2.00 |
| Voiture 1061 | 1061 | MI | \$ 16.00 | Voiture 1387 | 1387 | KY | \$ 2.00 |
| Voiture 594 | 594 | IL | \$ 15.00 | | | | |

40&8 Membership the Past 20 Years

| Membership Year | 1998 | 2008 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|---|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Length of time between membership years (in years) | 20 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| End of Membership Year Total | 56,235 | 37,128 | 30,175 | 28,628 | 26,889 | 25,899 | 24,173 | 22,326 |
| Total Membership Decline in 10 years (1998 - 2008) | | -19,107 | | | | | | |
| Percent Membership Decline in 10 years (1998 - 2008) | | -34% | | | | | | |
| Total Membership Decline in 5 years (2008 - 2013) | | | -6,953 | | | | | |
| Percent Membership Decline in 5 years (2008 - 2013) | | | -19% | | | | | |
| Total Membership Decline in 1 year (2013 - 2014) | | | | -1,547 | | | | |
| Percent Membership Decline in 1 year (2013 - 2014) | | | | -5.1% | | | | |
| Total Membership Decline in 1 year (2014 - 2015) | | | | | -1739 | | | |
| Percent Membership Decline in 1 year (2014 - 2015) | | | | | -6.1% | | | |
| Total Membership Decline in 1 year (2015 - 2016) | | | | | | -990 | | |
| Percent Membership Decline in 1 year (2015 - 2016) | | | | | | -3.7% | | |
| Total Membership Decline in 1 year (2016 - 2017) | | | | | | | -1,726 | |
| Percent Membership Decline in 1 year (2016 - 2017) | | | | | | | -6.7% | |
| Total Membership Decline in 1 year (2017 - 2018) | | | | | | | | -1,847 |
| Percent Membership Decline in 1 year (2017 - 2018) | | | | | | | | -7.6% |
| Total Membership Decline in last 5 years (2013 - 2018) | | | | | | | | -7,849 |
| Percent Membership Decline in last 5 years (2013 - 2018) | | | | | | | | -26% |
| Total Membership Decline in last 20 years (1998 - 2018) | | | | | | | | -33,909 |
| Percent Membership Decline in last 20 years (1998 - 2018) | | | | | | | | -60% |