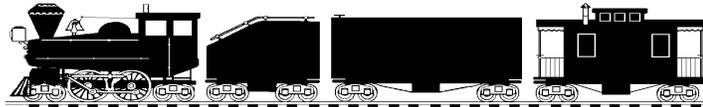




Communiqué
La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux
Grande Voiture du Missouri



April 2016 - Grand Chef de Gare David Bexten

- L'Éditeur Grant Willis

The Grand Chef Sez

Fellow Voyageurs,

The Grande Spring Cheminot and Wreck was this past weekend in Springfield, Missouri. I believe a good time was had by all who attended.

A special thanks to Chip Berkley, Terry McDonald and their crew for their great work on making this a great event. Also a special thanks to the wrecking crew who worked very hard to make this a great wreck. We had a very active wreck, bringing in 6 new voyageurs. I'd be interested in any pictures if anyone has any to share with me and my historian Richard Pack.

Also a special thanks to Leon and Linda Hill who did an awesome job with the Hillbilly Golf Grand Fundraiser. It was a big success you raised over \$1300.00.

We also had the pleasure of attendance by Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Bill Simpson. I think he had an enjoyable time with us and our Missouri hospitality.

I have to apologize for not having a voice for the wreck. It was very frustrating not being able to talk. Thanks Chip and Ralph for being my voice. As of this morning, I do have some of my voice back. Thank goodness!!

OK it's that time of year again. It's Push Time to get to that 100% membership. With the 6 new voyageurs we are 92 short of

100%, so let's get on the phone, letters, computers, I-Phones and get it done. We are around 90% and with a little push we can make it.

Now is the time to start planning to attend the next Grande function, the Grande Cheminot and Promenade on July 1st, 2nd and 3rd 2016 at Ramada Inn Oasis and Convention Center in Springfield, Missouri. Hope to see you there.

Patty and I will be leaving for Green Bay Wisconsin Friday morning to attend the Chef de Chemin de Fer Homecoming. As always if you have any questions or concerns you can always contact me at 573-690-4705 or davidhbexten@gmail.com. God Bless our troops and the United States of America.

Yours in Service

Dave Bexten

Grand Chef de Gare de Missouri

**Sous Grand
Correspondants Notes**

Articles for the Newsletter are due at the end of each month.

If you have anyone that would like to receive

this communicate electronically please provide their email address to:

willis.grant@sbcglobal.net.

All year end reports are due to the Grand Directeur's by June 15, 2016. This give the Grand Directeur's enough time to put their Grande reports together for the awards to be presented at the Grande Promenade and also to send off to the Nationale Directeur's.

Once again our Grande Fund Raiser was a success with many participants. Thanks once again to Past Grand Chef de Gare Leon Hill and Linda Hill for putting this together. The winner is shown below in his glory!



Some upcoming events for different Locales:

May 21, 2016 Voiture Locale 333 has a Dinner and Auction to save our box car.

June 4, 2016 Voiture Locale 448 will be having a BBQ at Cabela's at the St Louis Outlet mall.

July 1st through the 3rd will be the Grand Promenade in Springfield Missouri.

August 20th will be the Auto Show sponsored by Voiture 1541 to be held out at Purina Farms.

August 20th will be Voiture Locale 1379 ChickNic

August 27th will be a trivia night sponsored by Voiture 38

There will be more about these events as they get closer along with some that are not mentioned here.

Youth Sports

ATTENTION!! ☺ VOITURES Youth Sports Committee Voyageurs ☺

As the Sous Grand Directeur Youth Sports, I am thankful for the responsiveness of the Voiture's in Grande du Missouri for their youth sports activities and the amount of pins thus far that has been purchased this year. There are pins still available. "No athlete shall stay at home for lack of funds." This is 40 & 8 Motto for Youth Sports. Along with the financial support like I received from Voiture 1379 as an example, there is another need that is just as important as financial support, and that is 'individual volunteer support' that many voyageur gives to youth sports in their committees. I like to inform you though that there is a drastic 'need' for volunteer male coaches, chaperons, volunteers that can and are willing to be a bench coach, chaperon etc. for males as Special Olympics 'males' participate in District, Regional, or State Games throughout the year. This is rewarding too. For example, the team that I coach is called, "Shining Stars." It consist of both male and female intellectually disabled Special Olympic athletes. We could not go to Indoor State Games this year because I did not have a 'male' chaperon or volunteer to watch over and help care for the male/boy

athletes. In any event, we do continue to participate in sports in area day games.

As the year comes to a close please think about the above need and know that the Sous Directeur Youth Sports appreciates all those who make Special Olympics possible in Missouri.

At the end of the year there is also a 'Report' that has to be filled out to explain and show all the fun, achievements, time financial support given to Youth Sports in Grade du Missouri. Please email your locale's youth sports report to me. I am assisting the Grand Directeur Youth Sports Curtis Russell with this form. Email address:

ann.roberts1@hotmail.com. Or mail the report to me at: 507 Park St. Tarkio, MO 64491. Thank you all for your strong support to Youth Sports and Special Olympics Missouri.

SOMO Youth Activation Committee

We are currently working to build and expand our SOMO Youth Activation Committee (YAC). The mission of YAC is to strive for building an inclusive school environment and community through sports and youth engagement. Our statewide committee acts similar to a high school student council group and meets regularly to build friendships, discuss how we can unify our community and plan events to help fulfill our mission. We currently have a

state YAC group, but are making our first move to develop regional groups who can work closely in their community and feed information and ideas to our statewide YAC program. To be eligible to participate, athletes must be between the ages 14 and 21, active participants in SOMO events (athletes or partners), be able to express themselves in a group setting, and commit to attending at least two meetings at year. This is a great way for our athletes and partners to make friends across the state, develop leadership skills and make a difference in their communities! If you know of an athlete who would be a great fit for our group, please contact Alyssa at Humphreys@somo.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is the life blood of every organization and without members we will cease to exist. It is every members responsibility to collect membership and not just the membership team. Missouri as a whole is doing great in membership and this past week end at the Grande Wreck we initiated another 6 members into our great organization, but we can not stop now. We still have a few to go to reach our goal of 100% by the end of April.

GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI



GRANDE CHEMINOT and PROMENADE



JULY 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 2016
Ramada Plaza Hotel & Oasis Convention Center
2546 North Glenstone Ave
Springfield, MO 65803
417.866.5253
888.532.4338

Room Rate: \$82.00 (+Tax) per night
For Deluxe King or Deluxe Double
Room Rate includes

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE

Handicapped Rooms Available

Make your reservations directly with Ramada Plaza by June 3rd

Mention 40 & 8 Honor Society for special rate when making reservations

Friday

Registration 1500 until 1800
Hospitality Room 1500 until ????

Saturday

Registration 0900 until 1200

LUNCH 1130 - 1300

1300 - ??? Grande Cheminot

Grande Chef de Gare Passe' Social Hour 1700 -1800

Social Hour 1800 – Cash Bar

Banquet 1900 Hospitality Room: After Banquet until ????

Sunday

Grande Promenade 0900 - 1200

Check Out

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME

Deadline to register for the banquet is 21 June, 2016 NO EXCEPTIONS

Make your check payable to Voiture 202 for registration.

Send to: TD Berkley
2545 County Rd 209
Columbia, MO 65202

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Title: _____ Voiture Number: _____

Banquet \$25.00/Person x Number Guests _____ \$ _____

Registration Fee \$5.00 (Voyageurs Only) _____ \$ _____

Meal Selection: Chicken or Beef _____ Total _____ \$ _____

Voyageur: Garlic Chicken or Mesquite Pork Loin (circle one)

Guest: Garlic Chicken or Mesquite Pork Loin (circle one)

SPRING GRAND CHEMINOT, APRIL 3, 2016
RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL, SPRINGFIELD, Missouri

With a rap of the gavel, Grand Chef de Gare Dave Bexten, opened the Spring Grand Cheminot at 9:00 AM with a salute to the Flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a much needed prayer by Grand Aumonier John Kopp.

Roll call of officers showed more absent than excused. Roll call of Grand Chefs de Gare Passé showed that eight answered. Roll call of Grand Cheminot showed that we had a quorum. Voyageurs don't know how to answer roll call so they paid a fine. Absent was Voiture's 760, 966, 1395, and 1402. After the Grand Chef Bexten opened the Cheminot he turned it over to Grand Chef de Train Berkley since Grand Chef could hardly talk.

Grand Avocat Rich Heigert said the same rules as usual.

Notion offered by Tom Goodin, seconded by Sam Guenther, that the Grand Fall Cheminot minutes are accepted as printed and sent out...passed.

Grand Correspondant Terry Lanning stated there were folders for each Grand Directeur and Locale Correspondant. Received a letter from Errol Wilson stating he was resigning from Locale 760 Correspondant due to medical reasons.

Since then Errol has passed away, he will be missed. Roger Wallenburg is taking over as Voiture 760 Correspondant. We received an announcement that Mark Moots was a candidate for Chef de Chemin de Fer for 2016-2017. We also received information on the Forty & Eight Memorial Day activity at Arlington National Cemetery. Also we received a thank you card from Sam Guenther for being an Honorary Grand Chef de Gare. Finally we received resolutions for Grand Chef de Gare for Thomas "Chip" Berkley and Grand Chef de Train for David Voyles. A report was given on Dave Christian who had fallen and broke his ankle, some ribs and other injuries.

Grand Commissaire Intendant, David Voyles, stated the finance report was passed out and he discussed it. Notion offered by David Voyles, second by Janice Hartley, to accept the Finance report...passed.

Grand Chef de Train Berkley said we are at 90% and called on the Sous Chef de Trains to report on their Voiture's, to which A. J. Noonan, Janice Hartley, Calvin Bumgarner, and Richard Pack did. The Grand has a total membership of 881. This is 48 members less than at this time last year.

The highlights of the Grand Cheminot reports are: Voiture 38 their rolling stock put on 100 miles and 90 hours, had a Christmas Party for kids, will have a trivia night on August 27, 2016; Voiture 130 sells towels and has bought a trailer for the towels, they are getting some more voyagers to help out; Voiture 292 had a BBQ at Veterans Home for patients, \$1,500 for Nurses Training, \$1,500 for Child Welfare, 1 boy to Boys State and 2 girls to Girls State, had a Christmas party to which Grand Chef Bexten was present, sponsored American Legion baseball; Voiture 333 will be having a fundraiser on May 21, 2016 at the Agriculture Building at the Missouri State Fairgrounds to do major renovations to the Box Car, they figure it will cost about \$20,000; Voiture 448 will have a BBQ on June 4th at Cabela's, had a Christmas Party and Easter Party at Marygrove kids home; Voiture 460 have 15 nurses at \$7,500, spent \$507 on some local sports teams, \$2,134 on several children in need, \$2,250 on five occasions for Americanism, membership at 106%, made a donation to Voiture 333 for Box Car, just wrecked this weekend 2PG's; Voiture 760 2 nurses in training, had an Christmas party for 2nd graders, 1 boy to Cadet Patrol; Voiture 1292 spent \$1,500 for nurses in training, had kids Christmas Party, had a Sausage sale fundraiser, had a Ham & Chicken dinner at Legion Fall Conference, on June 18th will have a BBQ at Schulte's parking lot, planning a golf tournament in 2017, donated \$200 to Save our Box Car, donated to American Legion Boys State, had 2 PG's this weekend; Voiture 1321 has their cooker out in Herculaneum once a month, have 4 nurses in training; Voiture 1379 will have their ChickNic on August 20, 2016, had a Christmas dinner to collect canned goods for needy vets; Voiture 1403 have had several deaths, 3 nurses in training, will be having a BBQ fundraiser; Voiture 1541 will have their Car Show on August 20, 2016, had a Christmas party, had a Night at the Races.

Grand Historien Richard Pack said to make sure to give him the Voiture History books for judging.

Grand Avocat Richard Heigert said he has received 6 updated Voiture Constitutions. All of the other Voiture's also need to see about updating theirs.

Grand Directeur Child Welfare Benjamin Sargent said he has turned in the money for all of the 2016 pins. Get your report into him by June 15, 2016.

Grand Directeur Voiture Activities George Ridley - Terry Lanning reported for George. Make sure to put everything in the Voiture Activities report. Reports are due by June 15, 2016.

Grand Directeur Nurses Training Jim Hartley said the Grand has 2 Nurses in the Boland program. Most Voiture's are doing good in the Nurses Training program.

Grand Directeur Aumonier John Kopp said to let him know if a Grand Officer is sick or passes away so he can send them a card.

Grand Publiciste Bob Emery said to send items to him to put on the web.

Grand Conducteur Terry McDonald stated we had 6 PG's this weekend.

Grand Directeur Americanism Bob Emery said he has turned in all of the money for the 2016 pins.

Grand Directeur Box Car Ed Schmidt - Ralph Turner said Missouri is doing great in Box Car.

Grand Directeur Mike Scruby said to get your reports into him.

Grand VAVS Chairman Tom Goodin said to get your reports into him.

Sous Grand Directeur Youth Sports Ann Roberts said to let her know about events going on in your area.

Grand Sous Correspondant, Grant Willis said the Grand Chef and any other articles are due to him by the end of the month. If anyone else has anything to put in the Grande Newsletter then send it to him. If a voyageur wants the newsletter then send him their email address and he will email the newsletter to them.

Time and Place Committee Chairman Art Wilson said the next 5 events will be held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Springfield. Everyone needs to get their reservations in early.

Distinguished Voyageur Award Chairman Grant Willis said there is one nomination. The committee met and reviewed it.

Distinguished Guest Committee Richard Heigert stated Bill Simpson Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer had to leave this morning to go back home. He came in on Friday and Bill said he had a good time.

Old Business - Central States Ad Hoc Committee of Richard Heigert, Art Wilson and David Voyles. Rich said he has a bid from the Ramada Plaza Hotel.

The Committee will be getting another bid from the Kansas City Embassy Suites soon.

New Business - Terry Lanning received a letter from Grande du Kansas about proposed changes to the Central States Concept (like a Constitution). Most to the changes are minor but the major change is to make the Chairman, Commissaire Intendant and Secretary an elected 3 year term by the body. Grant offered a notion to accept the Kansas changes, Rich seconded the notion and it passed.

Grand Chef Bexten made the following appointments for the Grand Promenade committee chairmen: Nominations Kevin Johnson, Resolutions Art Wilson, Credentials Chip Berkley, Constitution Bob Phillips, and Audit Rich Heigert with committeemen Terry McDonald and Calvin Bumgarner. Rich offered a notion to accept the Grand Chef appointments, seconded by Ralph and passed. Good of the Grande Voiture - Rich offered a notion to have the Fall, Spring Cheminot and the Grand Promenade fines to go Voiture 333 for the Box Car renovations. Seconded by Jack Spitler and passed.

Grand Chef de Gare Bexten closed the Spring Grand Cheminot in the proper manner at 10:34 AM.

Submitted by,
Terry L. Lanning
Grand Correspondant

Membership April 7, 2016

Grande du MISSOURI

Voiture	2015	2016	2015	% of	short/over	Goal	% of	Short/over
	YTD	YTD	Year					
	Total	Total	End	Quota				Goal
3	46	41	47	87.23%	-6	50	82.00%	-9
38	90	83	97	85.57%	-14	102	81.37%	-19
130	22	30	30	100.00%	0	32	93.75%	-2
292	41	40	44	90.91%	-4	47	85.11%	-7
333	179	154	190	81.05%	-36	200	77.00%	-46
447	2	0	2	0.00%	-2	3	0.00%	-3
448	88	96	95	101.05%	1	100	96.00%	-4
460	64	69	65	106.15%	4	69	100.00%	0
520	10	0	10	0.00%	-10	11	0.00%	-11
760	61	52	64	81.25%	-12	68	76.47%	-16
966	4	4	4	100.00%	0	5	80.00%	-1
1292	72	65	75	86.67%	-10	79	82.28%	-14
1321	62	64	66	96.97%	-2	70	91.43%	-6
1379	55	49	55	89.09%	-6	58	84.48%	-9
1395	15	15	15	100.00%	0	16	93.75%	-1
1402	16	21	16	131.25%	5	17	123.53%	4
1403	22	22	24	91.67%	-2	26	84.62%	-4
1541	80	86	80	107.50%	6	84	102.38%	2
TOTALS	929	891	979	91.01%	-88	1037	85.92%	-146