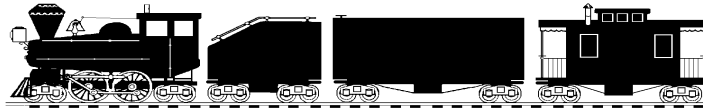


Communiqué
La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux
Grande Voiture du Missouri



December 2008 - Grand Chef de Gare Robert Phillips - L'Editeur Grant Willis

The Grand Chef Sez

Fellow Voyageurs;
Things have slowed down regarding my travels as Grand Chef. Since my last newsletter, Tina and I had the honor of attending the St. Louis Past Commanders' Banquet on October 27th. The reception we received was fantastic and the Banquet was very, very well attended. Approximately 200 to 250 attendees!! I wish our Banquets could be that well attended.

By the time this issue of the newsletter is distributed; the Holiday Season will be upon us. I am sure everyone can find something to be thankful for. If for some reason you cannot; be very thankful for our freedom. Without the courage, determination and tenacity of the World War II veterans, we certainly would not be free. Unfortunately, we are loosing approximately 1200 of these brave Americans each day.

I want to take this opportunity to wish every Voyageur, Legionnaire, Wife and family a **HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON**. Be very careful attending Christmas Parties..

Have a **“Cool Yule”** and a **“Frantic First”**!!

Remember our programs and membership.

WE HAVE TO TRY!!!

BOB PHILLIPS
GRAND CHEF DE GARE

**Sous Grand
Correspondants Notes**

If you have something that your Voiture is holding please send me a flyer and I will see that it is put into the newsletter. We do have certain months when the newsletter is limited to space, such as this month, November and April, but I will see that they get into the previous month if given enough time before the event.

Address changes are always needed to keep the mailing list updated along with deaths within your Voiture.

Articles for the newsletter are needed by the end of the month, which you can send to e Mail willis.grant@sbcglobal.net or mail to Grant Willis, 8 Shireford, Ferguson, Mo. 63135.

The following is a schedule for articles due from the Directeur's:

January – Americanism and Voyageur Activities
February – POW/MIA and Special Awards
March – Distinguished Voyageur Award

The Grande du Missouri web site is at:
grandedumissouri.com

If anyone has anything they want to add or comments on the web site send it to Robert Emery at his e-mail address remery18@comcast.net and copy Grant Willis at willis.grant@sbcglobal.net.

Correspondant Nationale

I want to take a moment to thank all who had the confidence to appoint me to this position. I will be available most of the time by calling Voiture Nationale anytime between 7-4 Eastern Standard Time. Please feel free to call if I can be of assistance.

I have received many requests for the new constitution. It is being looked over at this time by the Avocat Nationale. He is taking his time to be sure that everything is correct to avoid having to reprint. The major question everyone is worried about is the membership requirements. I received this from the Avocat to help dispel any question. THIS IS HOW IT WILL READ

ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. WHO MAY BECOME MEMBERS: No persons other than honorably discharged U.S. military personnel and active duty U.S. military may become members of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chaevaux. No Grande Voiture or Voiture Locale may prescribe or establish any eligibility qualifications for membership in La Societe which are in conflict with the Constitution of Voiture Nationale.

This being said please feel free to start taking in those members which are not members of the Legion. Please do not forget the Legion members they are still a vital part of La Societe and will always be a part of our history and future. Also remember we now have to check DD214's. It would be wise to get a copy of everyone's and keep them in a safe place. The IRS is looking real hard at all non-profit organizations. If we start doing this it could save all of us problems in the years to come. Thank you for all the work you do for La Societe.

Yours in service;
Bernie Sampson

Correspondant National

Voiture #1541's annual "Coon Supper" will be Saturday January 24th 2009 at the Wentzville American Legion. Happy hour is 6-7PM. The meal is at 7PM. Donations accepted after the meal. Cash Bar.

Central States Promenade

You will find Applications for the 2009 Central States Promenade in this issue of the newsletter. It is being sent out prior to the normal mailing to try and get a jump on Ad's and reservations. Please pass this information out at you Locale Promenade and get some interest in attending this great fun filled week end.

An article from Nationale Aumonier Preston Olson is shown below for your reading along with this message:

Greetings fellow Voitures:

Hope all of you had a Happy Thanksgiving as we did in our family. Our Thanksgiving started last weekend and is still going. I personally have so much to be thankful for. Would like you all to get this letter and attachment to your Grand Aumonier so they can get it to all of their Locale Voitures. I also would also like the e-mail address of your Grand Aumonier. The article attached to this made me even more grateful for each day. Hope all of you read it and appreciates the message Private Galley wrote.

THE GREATEST GENERATION

Soldier left memory of love,

In the midst of the horrors of war, Army Pvt. Harold Galley found reason to be thankful.

"I've learned many things in this war. It never came to my mind before that people could endure so much and still live and be thankful just to be alive and thank God for being spared to live another day. I do realize it now."

Galley wrote those words to his daughter, Carolyn, during World War II.

Galley worked for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. in Omaha

when he was drafted in March 1944. He went through basic training in Camp Fannin, Texas, and was sent overseas in September. Just a few months later, Carolyn, then 9, and her mother, Irene, would receive the terrible news.

"In late 1944, there were so many American soldiers being killed in action that there were no military personnel to visit the family and give them the news," Carolyn remembers. "A telegram was sent and delivered to the home. I remember that day very well. My mother was at

gratitude

work and I was outside playing when the dreaded telegram arrived."

Carolyn Givan, now living in Greeley, Colo., has many mementos of her father: a letter written to her and her mother by the secretary of state, a letter from President Franklin Roosevelt, her father's Purple Heart — and a touching, heartfelt letter he wrote her from Belgium.

My Dearest Daughter Carolyn:

It has been a few days since I have written to either you or your mother. At times writing is out of the question.

I hope the both of you will understand that if it were possible I would write you every hour of the day.

For the first time in several days I am at least dry again and the sun has come out of hiding. It seems to rain more here than anything else. I don't mind it in the least, I'm getting used to it now.

In the country that I am in, the people really know what war is. Their homes have been bombed and shelled until there just isn't much left to them. The windows are broken out

See *Soldier*: Page 2

Soldier: He gave thanks amid the horrors of

war

Continued from Page 1

and even sides of the houses are gone too, but they live in them just the same. Many of the children have very few clothes, let alone enough to eat. Wouldn't it seem very funny to you to have to beg soldiers of another land in order to get a little bit of sugar or candy or cookies or gum that you might have any at all. You see their stores don't have it to sell, there just isn't any to be had here. And how would you like to wear wooden shoes like the little Dutch children do, or even worse yet wear heavy high-top shoes that in many cases don't fit with wooden soles on them. I also saw little children that are crippled because they get hurt in the awful war.

I went to their church for services, this church had been bombed or shelled and was caved in, the windows broken and it was cold but they went anyway. I saw them pray and sing and give their money and be thankful that they could do so without being bombed or shelled while they were at church.

Yes, Carolyn, I've learned many things in this war. It never came to my mind before that people could endure so much and

still live and be thankful just to be alive and thank God for being spared to live another day. I do realize it now. And I only hope that another war does not come again. I realize that you are young and it is hard for you to understand the evils of war and I also suppose you have many times wondered why your daddy had to go to war. At times I did too. It is only natural that to save the best country on earth, the best people. I have discovered that we are the best, the strongest, the bravest, the most ingenious, the brightest people in the world today. I know we have more of everything and better things than any other people in the world today. The way we live and think and do was not given to us, you or I but it was paid for by our forefathers, by fighting, bloodshed, prayer and the will to live as free people. And to achieve, and don't you ever let anyone tell you different. Your daddy is fighting to cause the rest of the world to be free and live like we do.

I have been writing at this letter now for a couple of weeks or more and feel that I should end it soon, but before I do I imagine you would like to hear about how

we travel around over here. One way, of course, is in trucks, but generally not very far at a time. Mostly, it has been in boxcars, such as your grandpa sends cattle or sheep to market in. On the outside of the car is a sign painted worded like this "40 Hommes or 8 Chevaux" which mean 40 men or 8 horses in one box car.

Well, that's how we ride — 40 men in a car plus our packs and rifles, to say the least, it is very crowded in the daytime, but at night it is even worse trying to sleep. Everyone tries to lay down on the floor. Some, of course, can't but if you do lay down, you soon wake up because of being cramped or someone has his foot in your face. You can imagine the groans and grunts all night long. Just as everyone is all settled again, someone decides that he must go to the toilet, so he gets up and starts to walk over the other. My, how everyone howls when you step on someone by mistake. At least you get to the door that is the toilet. If the train is stopped you can go to the toilet outside on the ground during the daytime. Just as soon as the train stops, the fellows climb out and run around the train to see what they can see.

One day a couple of fellows ran over into a pasture and tried to

milk a cow. I guess he got some to drink, at least I hope he did, he tried hard enough to get some. The fellows are always trying to build a fire to make coffee or warm up some food. Generally, as soon as the fire gets going good the train starts to go again. The fellows will play with handcars that are along the tracks, push them around or play with some farmer's dog that is close by.

Sometime when you are with mother down in South Omaha, have her stop in and you talk to Mr. Flynn. He will tell you all about the box cars and 40 & 8. He was over here last war.

I hope you and mother are both feeling well and that your mother's business is good. I nearly forgot to ask about how the cats are or do you still have them? I thought they were so cute. I suppose Mischief will have some more by the time I get home again. And how is your music teacher. Are you learning anything from her? And did Uncle Milton have to go to the Navy and stay.

Well, Carolyn, you can look at the map and find Belgium on it. That is where I am at now. So, Carolyn, with all my love to you and mother.

Your Daddy.

★ Service in War, Charity in Peace ★

La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux
"The Society of 40 Men and 8 Horses"



Preston R. Olson

43526 264th St. • Bridgewater, SD 57319

605-729-0333 • cell: 605-661-1909 • proolson@unitelisd.com

1207

GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI

Spring Wreck and Grand Cheminot

March 27 through 29, 2009

Will be held at the

Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel

7301 Tiffany Springs Road

Kansas City, MO 64153

Phone: 816.268.1600

FAX: 816.268.1607

Hotel Rates are as follows:

\$75.00 for Single and Double Occupancy

\$75.00 for Triple and Quad Occupancy

Make all reservations directly with the Hotel by March 3, 2009.

When you make reservations please mention you are with the 40et8 Honor Society.

Friday, MARCH 27th, 2009

Registration: 3:00 till 8:00 P.M.

Hospitality Room 3:00 P.M. till ????

Saturday MARCH 28th, 2009

Registration: 9:00 A.M. till NOON

Spring Wreck 9:00 A.M.

LUNCH 11:30 A.M.

Cheminot 1:00 P.M.

Cocktails 6:00 P.M.

Banquet: 7:00 P.M.

Hospitality Room opened after Banquet

Sunday MARCH 29th, 2009

Donuts – Coffee 7:00 A.M. till 9:00 A.M.

Make checks payable to Voiture 1379

Send to

Robert C. Emery

11501 E 14th ST S APT Q

INDEPENDENCE, MO 64052

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Voiture Number _____

Banquet per Person \$28.00 _____

BBQ Buffett

Registration Fee \$5.00 _____

(Voyageurs only)

CENTRAL STATES PROMENADE 2009
Registration from April 30 to May 3, 2009

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL/WORK PHONE: _____

Voiture/Cabane #: _____ GRAND DU: _____

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

HIGHEST OFFICE HELD: VOYAGEUR: _____

DAME: _____

DO YOU PLAN TO PLAY IN THE GOLF TOURNAMENT? _____ HANDICAP: _____

WILL SPOUSE PLAY IN THE GOLF TOURNAMENT? _____ HANDICAP: _____

Are you interested in the Trap Shoot at Voiture 58's Chateau? Yes No

Are you interested in the Fishing Tournament at 58's Chateau? Yes No

DO YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEN'S LUNCHEON ON SATURDAY? _____

WILL YOUR SPOUSE ATTEND THE LADIES' LUNCHEON ON SATURDAY? _____

REGISTRATION AND ACTIVITIES REMITTANCE

Registration Fee:----- X \$50.00 = \$ _____

Men's Saturday Luncheon:----- X \$15.00 = \$ _____

Ladies' Saturday Luncheon:----- X \$15.00 = \$ _____

Golf Tournament:----- X \$30.00 = \$ _____

Fishing and/or trap shoot:--To be paid at Voiture 58's Chateau—Cost TBA

Registration Fee:----- No Cost = \$ 0.00

Total amount of Remittance ----- \$ _____

Men's and Ladies' Luncheon: **Grilled Pork Loin**

Banquet: (Check One Or indicate How many) **American Pot Roast:** _____

Chicken Marsala (Boneless chicken breast sautéed in shallots & marsala) _____

MEMO: Your registration fee includes a personal set of Credentials; the 2009 Souvenir Central States Program book; the Official Central States Promenade 2009 Pin; your Friday evening

Bar-B-Que; your Saturday evening banquet; and the great twin Hospitality Rooms of your Host the Grand Voiture du Kansas.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS REGISTRATION FORM CLEARLY AND RETURN TO: Central States Promenade 2009, PO Box #12765, Wichita, KS 67277.

Promenade registrations need to be received prior to 24 April 2009. If you are coming let us know. Call if you have to. Thank You

MAKE ALL CHECKS (except Hotel reservations) PAYABLE TO: Central States Promenade 2009

**HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS
FOR
CENTRAL STATES PROMENADE 2009**

April 30, MAY 1-2-3 2009

Airport Best Western Inn
6815 W. Kellogg (US 54)
Wichita, Kansas 67209
888-942-5666
316-942-5600 (Local)
316-943-1549 (Fax)

There are 100 rooms blocked for the Central States Promenade-2009 at this Hotel. Cutoff date for guaranteed reservations for these rooms is 16 April 2009. After this date, rooms are on first come, first served basis. To guarantee your room availability, call or mail this form to the above address prior to the cutoff date. Be sure to mention **CENTRAL STATES PROMENADE-2009** when you are making your room reservations.

All rooms are \$73.00 for 1 to 4 persons, plus a tax of 13.875%. Room prices are the same for the two days prior and 2 days following this event. **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY TO ENSURE YOU RECEIVE ONE OF THE BLOCKED ROOMS.**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **CELL/WORK PHONE:** _____

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ **DEPARTURE DATE:** _____

ROOM REQUEST: DOUBLE _____ **QUEEN** _____ **KING** _____ **SUITE** _____

HANDICAPPED FACILITIES REQUIRED: (YES) (NO)

SMOKING: (YES) (NO)

TYPE OF CREDIT CARD: _____

CARD NUMBER: _____ **EXPIRES:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____

If paying by check, make all room reservation checks payable to: Holiday Inn-Airport.

CENTRAL STATES PROMENADE - 2009

Advertisement Request Form

It is requested that the *attached ad copy* be included in the Central States Promenade – 2009 Souvenir Program Book. I have circled the size of the ad that I wish to be printed: (Don't forget to send in your ad with your money.)

Full Page Ad----- \$100.00

Half Page Ad----- \$ 50.00

Quarter Page Ad----- \$ 25.00

Business Card Ad----- \$ 10.00

Booster Club Ad (Per name)----- \$ 2.00

(Mr & Mrs Counts as 2 Names)

Booster Name: _____ Booster Name: _____

Booster Name: _____ Booster Name: _____

(Please Print Booster Names)

MEMO: Each Booster Club Ad Name will be printed in a special section of the Souvenir Program Book. You are not required to register nor attend the Central States Promenade – 2009 in order to place an ad in the Souvenir Program Book. Likewise, the same information applies to those who only wish to place their name in the Booster Club portion of the Souvenir Program Book. Full payment for all ad material and for Booster Club Names must accompany this request form. Make all checks payable to Central States Promenade 2009.

THE FINAL DATE FOR SUBMISSION AND RECEIPT OF ALL AD REQUESTS AND AD COPY, AS WELL AS BOOSTER CLUB NAMES IS 11 APRIL 2009. Please submit all Booster Club Names; all Ad Requests, and Ad Copy to: Central States Promenade 2009, P.O. Box #12765, Wichita, KS 67277.

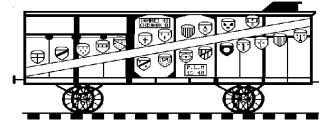
FROM:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS; _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE:() _____ WORK/CELL PHONE:() _____



MEMBERSHIP GRAND VOITURE DU MISSOURI
as of November 24, 2008

LOCALE	2008	2009	PERCENT	Short/Over
3	101	67	66%	-34
38	145	85	59%	-60
130	26	26	100%	0
292	57	46	81%	-11
293	12	8	66%	-4
333	111	58	52%	-53
447	2	2	100%	0
448	199	126	63%	73
460	62	59	95%	-3
520	14	11	78%	-3
760	81	53	65%	-28
848	17	10	59%	-7
966	9	4	44%	-5
1292	71	39	55%	-32
1321	82	57	69%	-25
1379	35	38	109%	3
1395	21	15	71%	-6
1402	35	23	65%	-12
1403	52	28	54%	-24
1541	64	49	77%	-15
Totals	1,196	804	67.22%	-392

Membership is coming in very slow and we need to pick up the pace. By Veterans Day we wanted to be at 70%, but missed that goal. The next goal is to be at 85% by January 1, 2009. Let's pound the bushes and get those members in now.