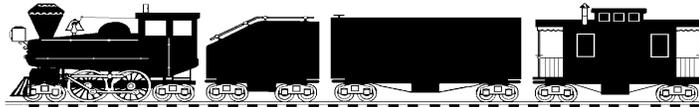




Communiqué
La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux
Grande Voiture du Missouri



March 2011 - Grand Chef de Gare Larry Ebersold

- L'Editeur Grant Willis

The Grand Chef Sez

Fellow Voyageurs:

The Chef has been sick, so everyone send him some cheering up in the form of cards or calls.

**Sous Grand
Correspondants Notes**

Any Voiture's that will have PG's for the Spring wreck needs to notify the Grand Conducteur and the Grand Correspondent.

Below is from the Voiture invoices received from Voiture Nationale on February 28, 2011. Most show a credit. A Voiture can use up the credit by applying their membership dues or ask Voiture Nationale to send a check. This will be put in the newsletter once a quarter and the invoices will not be mailed to the Voiture Correspondant unless otherwise requested.

Voiture 292 \$(81.35) Voiture 333\$(14.00)
Voiture 460 \$(158.00) Voiture 520 \$(1.00)
Voiture 1321 \$(100.00) Voiture 1379
\$(101.50)
Voiture 1395 \$(45.00) Voiture 1403 \$12.00

Central States Promenade

With the Central States Promenade in Kansas City coming up there are a few things that are needed from either a Voiture and/or individual:

1. Donations for the Women's Luncheon for attendance gifts
2. Raffle prizes and Raffle tickets
3. We would like to raffle off baskets with items in them worth \$50. If a Voiture wanted to put together a basket it would be appreciated or you can send \$50 and one will be put together in a Voiture or individuals name.
4. Donations of food or drinks for hospitality room
5. Prizes for the Golf Tournament

If items are going to be donated then either bring them to the Spring Wreck or let John Kopp, Terry Lanning, or Gary Reno know what you are going to donate.

If a Voiture or individual doesn't have the specific items to donate a cash donation will be gratefully appreciated. Send a check made payable to the Central States

Promenade 2011, Rich Heigert, 3202 Elm Grove Court, Arnold, MO 63010.

We are also in need of ad's for the program. We would like to have all Voiture Local Correspondant's to pass this information on to the membership in an attempt to get more ad's. A copy of the Ad form is in this newsletter and can be used to make copies.

Distinguished Voyageur Award

Each year at the Grande Voiture Promenade Banquet, the Distinguished Voyageur Award is bestowed upon an outstanding member of our organization and approval by Voiture Locale. Locales are not Obligated to submit nominations, nor is the committee obligated to make awards.

The governing rules and qualifications will be applied to every nominee application and must be adhered to for approval. The main award qualifications are:

- a. Submitted on forms designated by the committee. The form is available through the Grand Correspondant.
- b. All Voyageurs Militaire with ten (10) years or more in membership that has personally contributed to the success of our programs and work are eligible, with the exception of the Grand Chefs de Gare Passe.
- c. Awardee should be present at the Grande Voiture Promenade Banquet to receive said award. His or her Locale is responsible for the attendance of the recipient.
- d. All Distinguished Voyageur Award applications must be received by the award committee prior to the Grand Voiture du Missouri Spring Cheminot.

These are a few of the main rules of the award project. Application forms and complete rules and regulations governing

this worthy program can be obtained by request through the Grand Correspondant.

AP

In a May 26, 2008 file photo Frank Buckles receives an American flag during Memorial Day activities at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Mo.

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. - He was repeatedly rejected by military recruiters and got into uniform at 16 after lying about his age. But Frank Buckles would later become the last surviving U.S. veteran of World War I.

Buckles, who also survived being a civilian POW in the Philippines in World War II, died of natural causes Sunday at his home in Charles Town, biographer and family spokesman David DeJonge said in a statement. He was 110.

Buckles had been advocating for a national memorial honoring veterans of the Great War in the nation's capital.

When asked in February 2008 how it felt to be the last of his kind, he said simply, "I realized that somebody had to be, and it was me." And he told The Associated Press he would have done it all over again, "without a doubt."

On Nov. 11, 2008, the 90th anniversary of the end of the war, Buckles attended a ceremony at the grave of World War I Gen. John Pershing in Arlington National Cemetery.

This August 1917 file photo provided by the Buckles Family shows Frank Buckles' enlistment photo into the U.S. Army.

He was back in Washington a year later to endorse a proposal to rededicate the existing World War I memorial on the National Mall as the official National World War I Memorial. He told a Senate panel it was "an excellent idea." The

memorial was originally built to honor District of Columbia's war dead.

Born in Missouri in 1901 and raised in Oklahoma, Buckles visited a string of military recruiters after the United States entered the "war to end all wars in April 1917. He was repeatedly rejected before convincing an Army captain he was 18. He was actually 16 1/2.

"A boy of (that age), he's not afraid of anything. He wants to get in there, Buckles said.

Details for services and arrangements will be announced later this week.

The family asks that donations be made to the National World War One Legacy Project. The project is managed by the nonprofit Survivor Quest and will educate students about Buckles and WWI through a documentary and traveling educational exhibition.

More than 4.7 million people joined the U.S. military from 1917-18. As of spring 2007, only three were still alive, according to a tally by the Department of Veterans Affairs: Buckles, J. Russell Coffey of Ohio and Harry Richard Landis of Florida.

The dwindling roster prompted a flurry of public interest, and Buckles went to Washington in May 2007 to serve as grand marshal of the national Memorial Day parade.

Coffey died Dec. 20, 2007, at age 109, while Landis died Feb. 4, 2008, at 108. Unlike Buckles, those two men were still in basic training in the United States when the war ended and did not make it overseas.

The last known Canadian veteran of the war, John Babcock of Spokane, Wash., died in February 2010.

There are no French or German veterans of the war left alive.

Buckles served in England and France, working mainly as a driver and a warehouse clerk. The fact he did not see combat didn't diminish

his service, he said: "Didn't I make every effort?"

An eager student of culture and language, he used his off-duty hours to learn German, visit cathedrals, museums and tombs, and bicycle in the French countryside.

After Armistice Day, Buckles helped return prisoners of war to Germany. He returned to the United States in January 1920.

Buckles returned to Oklahoma for a while, then moved to Canada, where he worked a series of jobs before heading for New York City. There, he again took advantage of free museums, worked out at the YMCA, and landed jobs in banking and advertising.

But it was the shipping industry that suited him best, and he worked around the world for the White Star Line Steamship Co. and W.R. Grace & Co.

In 1941, while on business in the Philippines, Buckles was captured by the Japanese. He spent more than three years in prison camps. "I was never actually looking for adventure," Buckles once said. "It just came to me."

He married in 1946 and moved to his farm in West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle in 1954, where he and wife Audrey raised their daughter, Susannah Flanagan. Audrey Buckles died in 1999.

In spring 2007, Buckles told the AP of the trouble he went through to get into the military.

"I went to the state fair up in Wichita, Kansas, and while there, went to the recruiting station for the Marine Corps," he said. "The nice Marine sergeant said I was too young when I gave my age as 18, said I had to be 21.

Buckles returned a week later. "I went back to the recruiting sergeant, and this time I was 21," he said with a grin. "I passed the inspection ... but he told me I just wasn't heavy enough."

Then he tried the Navy, whose recruiter told Buckles he was flat-footed.

Buckles wouldn't quit. In Oklahoma City, an Army captain demanded a birth certificate.

"I told him birth certificates were not made in Missouri when I was born, that the record was in a family Bible. I said, 'You don't want me to bring the family Bible down, do you?'" Buckles said with a laugh. "He said, 'OK, we'll take you.'"

He enlisted Aug. 14, 1917, serial number 15577.

JANUARY 7, 2011

Greeting Fellow Voyageurs,

I hope all of you were with family and friends for the Christmas Season and especially on our Saviors birthday.

I wish all of you happiness and good health this coming year. May this be a good year for you, your family, your Voiture and La Societe.

As it is the start of a new year I thought I ought to read and study our "RITUAL & MANUAL of CEREMONIES" again. The best place to start is the "FORWARD". Our new manual was adopted in 2004 so if you have an older one maybe you ought to consider buying a new one. It makes it easier if we are all on the same page.

When we give our new Voyageurs a RITUAL & MANUAL OF CEREMONIES and if we are using an outdated one it can be confusing at a Promenade or working with them one on one guiding them through our Rituals.

In the Forward it states "**it is important**

that each Voiture have a Ritual Team".

Also it states "**all spoken parts should be committed to memory**". I would like hear from YOU. Does your Voiture have a Ritual Team? Who is your Ritual Team comprised of? Are all spoken parts committed to memory in your Voiture? We would like to know if your Voiture follows the guidelines of OUR Manual.

Many Wrecks will be performed in the next few months. It is recommended that Grand Voiture place responsibility for inspection of all Wrecks on certain GRAND OFFICERS, and that a Wreck not be allowed to proceed unless one of these GRAND OFFICERS is present. Additionally, any National Officer shall have the power to "stop" any Wreck considered not to be in the best interests of La Societe. Remember NO profanity, NO alcohol, NO indecent exposure, NO cameras and NO PUBLIC EXHIBITION of P.G.'s. More on Rituals later.

May all the Voyageurs in your Voiture sign up at least two (2) new members in 2011. May we all remember La Societe is a fun organization, helping children, nurses, veterans, our communities, our states and our Nation.

Thanks for all you do. And thanks for following our "RITUAL & MANUAL OF CEREMONIES".

It is an honor to serve you and La Societe,
Preston R. Olson, Sous Directeur Ritual

Grand du Missouri Membership

Congratulations to Norm, Tony and Sam for the 47 memberships this week. This allowed Missouri to steam by Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Florida this week to advance from 41 to 37 ranking st th and to 81% of our membership Goal. We are just 2% below current Nationale membership of 83% of Goal. Let's keep those memberships coming in. This moves each Voiture, with 1 exception, above the 70% of Goal level of memberships paid. Our next milestone is 15 April 2011, or 6 weeks from now. We need 41 memberships per week to reach our Goal of 1289

which is 100%. We currently have 2 Voitures that are at 100% of Goal. Remember, our Grand Wreck and Cheminot is April 8, 9 and 10. Bring your PG's ready to Wreck that weekend. Make your plans to participate in a great weekend at the Wreck and at the Cheminot. You can help make this weekend memorable for each of the PG's. This is also your opportunity to express your ideas about the policies and practices of the Grand du Missouri.

David S. Christian
Grande Chef de Train du Missouri

Voiture du Missouri

As of 3 March 2011

| Voiture Name | Voiture | 2011 To-date | 2011 Quota | Goal 105% | Sh/Ov Goal | % of Goal |
|------------------------|---------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| HEART OF AMERICA | 3 | 61 | 76 | 80 | -19 | 76.3% |
| SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS | 38 | 116 | 146 | 153 | -37 | 75.8% |
| JESSE JAMES | 130 | 27 | 29 | 30 | -3 | 90.0% |
| HEART OF MISSOURI | 292 | 58 | 59 | 62 | -4 | 93.5% |
| CROSSROADS OF MISSOURI | 293 | 12 | 12 | 13 | -1 | 92.3% |
| RUSSELL H. MILLER | 333 | 201 | 250 | 263 | -62 | 76.4% |
| TABLE ROCK LAKE | 447 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 100.0% |
| GATEWAY | 448 | 120 | 154 | 162 | -42 | 74.1% |
| CENTRAL OZARK | 460 | 60 | 61 | 64 | -4 | 93.8% |
| COON COOKERS | 520 | 10 | 11 | 12 | -2 | 83.3% |
| KICKAPOO | 760 | 73 | 82 | 86 | -13 | 84.9% |
| MARK TWAIN | 966 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 100.0% |
| CAPITAL | 1292 | 70 | 91 | 96 | -26 | 72.9% |
| MINERAL AREA | 1321 | 57 | 81 | 85 | -28 | 67.1% |
| NEUF COMPT | 1379 | 31 | 42 | 44 | -13 | 70.5% |
| HEART OF THE OZARKS | 1395 | 14 | 17 | 18 | -4 | 77.8% |
| ATCHISON NODAWAY HOLT | 1402 | 23 | 29 | 30 | -7 | 76.7% |
| LAKE OF THE OZARK | 1403 | 32 | 43 | 45 | -13 | 71.1% |
| TWO RIVERS | 1541 | 68 | 66 | 69 | -1 | 98.6% |
| Missouri Total | | 1042 | 1258 | 1289 | -247 | 80.8% |

David Christian
Grande Chef de Train

GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI

Grande Cheminot and Wreck

April 8 through April 10, 2011

Will be held at the

Best Western Shalimar Plaza and Conference Center

1200 West Gannon Drive

Festus, MO 63028

Phone: 636-937-0700

Fax: 636-937-3723

Room Rate is \$62.10 per night

For Single or Double Occupancy

Make Hotel reservations directly with Best Western by **March 23, 2011**

Mention 40 & 8 Honor Society, for special rates, when making reservation.

Friday, April 8, 2011

Registration: 3:00 till 5:00 P.M.

Hospitality Room opens at 3:00 PM

Saturday, April 9, 2011

Registration 9:00 A.M. till NOON

Wreck 9:00 – 11:00 AM

LUNCH 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Grande Cheminot 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Grand Chef de Gare Passé Social Hour – 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Social Hour 6:00 PM

Banquet: 7:00

Hospitality Room: 9:30 PM – 11:30 PM

Sunday, April 10, 2011

Have a Safe Trip home

You may make Hotel reservations for Grande Promenade June 24, 25, 26, 2011 & Grande Cheminot and Homecoming October 7, 8, 9, 2011 at this time.

To register for the Cheminot, make Check payable to Voiture 38

Send to

James H. Gualdoni

11840 Eddie & Park Road

St. Louis, MO 63126

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Voiture Number _____ Banquet / Person \$25.00 x No. Guests _____ = _____

Registration Fee \$ 10.00 _____

(Voitures Only)

Total \$ _____

CENTRAL STATES PROMENADE - 2011

Advertisement Request Form

It is requested that the *attached ad copy* be included in the Central States Promenade – 2011 Souvenir Program Book. Circle the size of the ad that you wish to be printed: (Don't forget to send in your ad with your money.)

Full Page Ad (5 ½ x 8 ½) ----- \$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 2011 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 2011.

THE FINAL DATE FOR SUBMISSION AND RECEIPT OF ALL AD REQUESTS AND AD COPY, AS WELL AS BOOSTER CLUB NAMES IS APRIL 1, 2011. Please submit all Booster Club Names; all Ad Requests, Ad Copy, and check to: Art Wilson, 725 Beardsley Court, Ferguson, MO 63135.

FROM:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

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

E-Mail ADDRESS: _____