



Communiqué



La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux

Grande Voiture du Missouri

May 2023 - Grand Chef de Gare Hallie Williams

L'Editeur Robert C. Emery



Greetings Voyagers,
I hope all is
well. Central
States went well in
Manhattan, Kan-
sas. We reconnected

with old friends and made new
ones. We also won the Traveling Tro-
phy again.

We are on track with membership, keep
pushing. Some of our younger soldiers
will be in attendance at the Jefferson
Barracks Memorial Day Service on May
30, 2023.

Please let me know if I can be of as-
sistance in your membership
drive. Don't forget the Buddy
Check. Alone we can do little, but
together we can do so much more. Our
goal is to RECRUIT RECLAIM RETAIN.

Hallie Williams

Grand Chef de Gare du Missouri

**Attention all Locale Di-
recteurs reports are due to
Grand Directeurs by June 15,
2023.**

Address updates:

Ronald Turner
2601 North Oakland Ave
Springfield, MO
Phone: 417-860-5924

Take your digital vaccine card with you wherever you go

VA, in partnership with CLEAR, a private
sector company, has launched a digital
tool that makes it possible for Veterans
and family members to transform their pa-
per vaccination cards or forms into a dig-
ital format that is easily accessible via
smartphones and tablets.

Located for download at VA's Find Apps You
Can Use webpage, the application lets us-
ers transform their paper vaccination
cards or forms into a digital format that
is easily accessible via mobile, desktop,
or other devices.

CLEAR makes it safe and easy to create a
digital vaccine card that you can carry
and use wherever you choose. It's secure,
voluntary, and takes just minutes. While
paper cards can be lost or easily de-
stroyed, CLEAR helps you keep your vaccine
info safe and accessible on your
smartphone or tablet to show whenever you
need it. Access your digital vaccine card
using the CLEAR app whenever and wherever
you may need it. Scan the QR code below to
download the Clear app. For any questions
or more information please
email VHASCMSDIGITALVACCINECARD@VA.GOV.

It has been tradition for many years for each Voiture to bring
some attendance prizes to the Grande Promenade. Last year
there were very few attendance prizes that were brought. This
is a reminder for all Voitures to bring some attendance prizes
to the Grande Promenade this year.



La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux Grande Voiture du Missouri

OFFICIAL CALL

TO: ALL GRAND CHEMINOTS
ALL GRAND OFFICERS
ALL GRAND CHEFS de GARE PASSE
ALL VOITURE'S CHEFS de GARE & CORRESPONDANTS
ALL VOYAGEURS OF GRANDE VOITURE du MISSOURI

This is the OFFICIAL CALL for the Grande Promenade and Cheminot to be held June 30 to July 2, 2023 at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, 2546 North Glenstone Avenue, Springfield, MO 65803, phone (417) 866-5253.

There will not be an Executive Board Meeting. If one is needed, it will be posted in the Hospitality Room. The Grande Promenade Committee Meetings will be held on Saturday morning and the time and place will be posted in the Hospitality Room.

The Grande Cheminot will be held on Saturday, July 1st, 2023 at 1:00 PM at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center. The Grand Chef de Gare, Hallie Williams urges all Grand Directeurs that are giving out awards to the Locales to do it during the Cheminot on Saturday. It could save you a fine.

The Grande Promenade will be held on Sunday morning, July 2nd, 2023 starting at 9:00 AM sharp. Chairmen of the Grande Promenade Committees, Audit, Credentials, Constitution, Nominations, and Resolutions, will give their reports at this time along with the election of new Officers, Delegates and Alternates for the 104th National Promenade, September 12-16, 2023 in Sandusky, Ohio.

ALL GRAND OFFICERS AND GRAND CHEMINOTS ARE EXPECTED TO GIVE A REPORT OF THEIR ACTIVITIES AND SUBMIT A COPY IN WRITING TO THE GRAND CORRESPONDANT.

All Voyageurs are to be in proper attire. The following Officers are expected to be in coat, tie, shirt, long pants, socks and shoes: Grand Chef de Gare, Grand Chef de Train, Grand Commissaire Intendant, Grand Correspondant, Grand Garde de la Porte, Grand Lampiste, Grand Conducteur, Sous Grand Conducteurs, and Grand Aumonier.

Terry L. Lanning
Grand Correspondant

Hallie Williams
Grand Chef de Gare

GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI

GRANDE CHEMINOT and PROMENADE



June 30, July 1 and 2, 2023

Oasis Hotel and Convention Center
2546 North Glenstone Ave.
Springfield, Missouri 65803
417-866-5253



Room Rate \$104.00 (+TAX) per night
NO BREAKFAST INCLUDED

For Deluxe King or Deluxe Double

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE

Handicapped Rooms Available

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

Friday, June 30, 2023

Registration: 1500 until 1800

Hospitality Room 1500 - ????

Saturday, July 1, 2023

Registration 0900 – Noon

Committee Meetings: 9:00 – 11:30 AM

LUNCH 1130 – 1300

Grande Cheminot 1300

Hospitality Room opens after Cheminot until 1700

Grand Chef de Gare Passe' Social Hour – 1700 – 1800

Social Hour 1800 – Cash Bar

Banquet: 1900

Hospitality Room: After Banquet – ??????

Sunday, July 2, 2023

Grande Promenade 0900 - NOON

Check Out

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME

Deadline for registration for the banquet is June 18, 2023

To register for the Grande Cheminot, make Check payable to **Voiture 1379**

Send to:

Robert C. Emery

16001 E 31ST ST S

Independence, MO 64055-2709

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Title: _____ Voiture Number _____

Banquet/Person \$35.00 X No. Guests _____ = _____

Registration Fee \$10.00 (Voyageurs Only) _____

Total \$ _____



**La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux
Voiture Nationale**

Gena K. Keller & Daisy



Membership Directeur Nationale

Nationale Paid Life Membership Drawing

1. The nominee must be a member in good standing. You can nominate yourself.
2. The cost of nomination is \$10.00, the Voyageur being nominated cannot already be a life member.

Send your nomination and \$10.00 to: (one nomination per form) Make Checks payable
40&8 Life Membership Drawing 2023:

40 & 8 Life Membership
c/o Paul Emmert, Directeur Nationale Box Car Association
345 Moores Branch Circle
Westminster MD 21158

3. All mail in entries must be received NLT September 1st, 2023. Submissions will be accepted during the 104th Promenade Nationale in Sandusky OH for \$20.00. Lucky Voyageur will be announced during the banquet. Winner does not need to be present to win. (Cannot be redeemed for Cash) Remaining money from the membership drawing will be donated to the Nationale Box Car Association.

Voyageur: _____ Phone: _____

Grande: _____ Voiture Locale: _____

Membership number: _____ Age: _____

Person making nomination: _____ Grande: _____

Address: _____



Gateway Voiture 448 and Salon 116

invites you to a

Murder Mystery Dinner

When: Starts 5:30 pm Saturday, June 17, 2023
Doors open 4:30 pm

Where: American Legion Post 397

934 Rue De La Banque Drive, Creve Coeur, MO

Cost: \$30.00/person (Includes dinner and show
plus three Sodas and/or Beers)

***Join us at your own risk...for dinner and a
murder!***

For Tickets, contact Terry Lanning 314-839-2032
or email t_lanning@charter.net

Sturgeon: The Navy Nuclear Submarine Built For War With Russia

The Sturgeon-Class Was the Cold War Backbone of the U.S. Navy's Attack Sub Fleet – Until the introduction of the Los Angeles-class, the Sturgeon-class was the backbone of the United States Navy's Cold War-era submarine fleet. The boats were dedicated to seeking out and destroying enemy submarines

What to Know:

Both the United States and the Soviet Union had begun developing hunter-killer submarines in the late 1940s, but their paths certainly diverged. The United States Navy concentrated on submarines that were armed with weapons launched by torpedo tubes and those designated as SSNs, whereas the Soviets developed subs that were capable of launching both torpedoes and anti-ship missiles. Such vessels were designated SSGNs.

The American SSNs were designed to hunt their quarry by listening with sensitive sonar devices mounted on the hull. Apart from the high-tech sensory systems, the main advantage of the U.S. Navy's hunter-killer submarines was that they could remain submerged on patrol for virtually unlimited periods. The diving depth of a hunter-killer could match, and even often exceed, that of a ballistic missile submarine.

Meet the Sturgeon-Class

The Sturgeon-class was an enlarged and improved version of the Thresher/Permit-classes that directly preceded it, but with additional "stealth" features and electronic systems. These were the largest class of nuclear-powered submarines until the advent of the Los Angeles-class, and were frequently used in intelligence gathering, which involved carrying special equipment and National Security Agency (NSA) personnel.

USS Sturgeon (SSN-637) began her operation patrols in 1968, and during one series of exercises, she played a partial role in the evaluation of new equipment mounted in the U.S. Navy's maritime patrol aircraft.

Her longest deployment took place in 1974 when she

was detached to the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean for a six-month period.

Key Specifications

The Sturgeon-class was equipped with a Westinghouse S5W pressurized-water reactor, which powered two steam turbines that drove a single shaft. That enabled a speed of 18 knots on the surface and 26 knots surfaced.

The original electronics suite consisted of a BPS-15 surface-search radar, a BQQ-sonar suite and later a towed array, as well as a Mk 117 torpedo fire control system, a satellite communications system and an underwater telephone.

The hunter/killer attack submarines were originally armed with 533mm (21-inch) torpedoes that were later upgraded to include Sub-Harpoon and Tomahawk submarine-launched ballistic missiles. Data on each torpedo tube could be displayed on a control panel in the boat's control center, and relayed to the sub's combat system. The control center also included a Target Motion Attack (TMA) system, which allowed the crew to track targets using only passive sonar bearings.

The crew complement was 14 officers and 95 men. Some of the boats of her class were modified with compartments for U.S. Special Forces, notably Navy SEALs, as well as the associated equipment.

A total of thirty-seven of the boats – as well as one modified version for experimental research – were produced. Construction on the lead boat began in 1963, and multiple shipbuilders including General Dynamics Electric Boat, Ingalls Shipbuilding, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, New York Shipbuilding, Newport News Shipbuilding, and Mare Island Naval Shipyard produced the submarines until 1975.

The final boat of the class, USS Richard B. Russell (SSN-687), was commissioned in August 1975. Originally designed for twenty-year operational lives, boats of the Sturgeon-class had this lengthened to thirty years, with a further planned three-year extension. The first to be decommissioned, in October 1991, was USS Sea Devil (SSN-664); the last, USS Parche (SSN-683), was decommissioned in July 2005.

Free Lifetime National Parks Passes Are Here for Veterans and Gold Star Families

All U.S. veterans and Gold Star family members can get a free lifetime entrance pass for federal parks and recreation sites nationwide starting Nov. 11, 2022.

The pass, an expansion on the annual free pass for currently serving troops and their families, grants free access to about 2,000 parks and lands managed by the National Park Service; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Bureau of Reclamation; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, according to an announcement on the park service website. It also gives discounted amenity fees in some locations.

While not every park or visitor area requires an entrance fee, many do. For example, Yosemite National Park in California charges a \$35 entrance fee per vehicle, while Craters of the Moon National Monument charges \$20. Other locations charge for entering museum or curation areas in the visitor center. For instance, the Begich, Boggs Visitor Center in the Chugach National Forest, Alaska, charges \$5 per adult to access a film and exhibits.

Those fees are waived for holders of the new lifetime pass, as well as those with the free active-duty America the Beautiful military pass or other passes sold or awarded by the agencies. The new pass covers the holder and any accompanying passengers in a private vehicle at sites that charge per car, or the pass owners and up to three adults age 16 and over at sites that charge per person.

The new lifetime pass program does not exclude veterans with so-called "bad paper" discharges. To get the pass, veterans must submit one of the following:

Unexpired Department of Defense Identification Card (DD Form 2, DD Form 2765, or Next Generation USID replacement)

Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC)

Veteran ID Card

Veteran designation on a state-issued U.S. driver's license or identification card

To receive a pass visit a National Parks or parks and land agency store or staffed fee kiosk, or order via the U.S. Geological Survey store. Passes ordered online carry a \$10 processing and shipping fee. Passes received in-person are free.

Gold Star family members can receive the pass by presenting a self-verification form certifying they are the next of kin to a military member killed during service overseas. The form includes a signature block and confirmation that the user is

an "eligible next of kin (NOK) of a member of the United States Armed Forces who lost his or her life in qualifying situation."

No other identification or proof is required for Gold Star family members who want to get a lifetime pass.

New Panama Canal Zone Agent Orange Exposure Bill introduced in Congress

SLIDELL, LOUISIANA – Military Veterans Advocacy (MVA) has worked closely with members of Congress to introduce the Panama Canal Zone Veterans Act. The bill was introduced today in the U.S. House of Representatives and will provide healthcare benefits and disability compensation to Veterans who served in the Panama Canal Zone between 1958 and 1999.

The was introduced by Rep. María Elvira Salazar (R-FL), in conjunction with Representatives Dina Titus (D-NV), Joaquin Castro (D-TX), Mary Miller (R-IL), André Carson (D-IN), Darren Soto (D-FL), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). The Panama Canal Zone Veterans Act provides Panama Canal Veterans access to the healthcare they deserve to treat illness contracted through exposure to deadly herbicides. "This represents another significant step forward for Veterans exposed to toxic materials while serving in the U.S. Military," remarked Commander John B. Wells, USN (retired), MVA Chairman of the Board.

"This is one of several initiatives we are spearheading to ensure that Veterans receive the benefits they need to treat the illnesses caused by these toxic exposures." The Panama Canal Zone bill establishes a presumptive exposure to Agent Orange for those that served in active duty in this area. Under a presumption of service-connection, certain conditions diagnosed in veterans are presumed to have been caused by the circumstances of their military service. This means they could receive federal benefits and disability compensation from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

MVA was instrumental in achieving recognition of exposure to Agent Orange for Veterans who served in the Territorial Waters of Vietnam in 2019. A related bill for Guam (H.R. 1191 – Correcting Guam's History in the Pact Act) was introduced in the House in February at the urging of MVA leadership.



27-Apr-23

	Voiture	2021 Year End	2022 To-date	2022 Quota	Sh/Ov Quota	% of Quota
HEART OF AMERICA	3	34	34	34	0	100.00%
SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS	38	54	53	56	-3	94.64%
JESSE JAMES	130	37	39	37	2	105.41%
HEART OF MISSOURI	292	30	30	30	0	100.00%
STATE FAIR	333	104	103	105	-2	98.10%
GATEWAY	448	65	60	67	-7	89.55%
CENTRAL OZARK	460	59	54	59	-5	91.53%
KICKAPOO	760	23	22	27	-5	81.48%
MARK TWAIN	966	3	2	3	-1	66.67%
CAPITAL	1292	64	70	64	6	109.38%
MINERAL AREA	1321	73	67	73	-6	91.78%
NEUF COMPT	1379	38	37	38	-1	97.37%
ATCHISON NODAWAY HOLT Counties	1402	8	16	13	3	123.08%
LAKE OF THE OZARK	1403	12	9	12	-3	75.00%
TWO RIVERS	1541	55	54	55	-1	98.18%
Missouri Total		659	650	673	-23	96.58%