



# Communiqué



## La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux

### Grande Voiture du Missouri

May 2026 - Grand Chef de Gare Rose Noonan

L'Editeur Robert C. Emery



**Greeting Voyageurs**  
Doesn't seem possible it is already May - not sure where the year has gone. It has been an enjoyable and rewarding time and I am proud to serve as your Grand Chef de Gare.

Last month I attended Central States Promenade 2026 in North Platte, NE on 23-26 April 2026. There was a great showing from Grande du Missouri while supporting Grande du Nebraska. Grande du Missouri took home the traveling trophy for having the most Voyageurs in attendance at the banquet. Looking forward to handing the trophy off to our incoming Chef de Gare during the Grande Promenade Banquet in June. Just returned today (8 May) from the Truman Pilgrimage in Independence, MO. Presented a wreath on behalf of Grande du Missouri. It was nice to continue our Camaraderie and Fellowship with the American Legion Family showing our respect to Harry S. Truman on this day. I had the opportunity to visit with Departmental Chapeaux Ms. Janyce

Chouteau-Musgrove and the 8 & 40 National Le Chapeau Ms. Doris Werlinger who were also in attendance. Memorial Day Weekend is just around the corner. Let's not forget the real meaning of this weekend. It is more than BBQ's, camping and float trips. As Veterans - we know this is a time to reflect and show our respect to our Fallen Comrades who gave the ultimate sacrifice for the Liberties and Freedoms in this country so many take for granted. The Grande Promenade will be held 19-21 June 2026 - looking forward to seeing everyone there. Registration forms are available on the Grande du Missouri Website. Reminder for each Voiture to bring door prizes for the Banquet. **MEMBERSHIP:** As of 07 May 2026, Grande du Missouri is at 85.74%. We made more headway this past month and I appreciate everyone's effort. We still have a way to go (85 short) - keep up the work. I encourage everyone to get those renewals submitted. There are several Voitures that are with 1, 2 or 3 Voyageurs to reach 100% Membership.

Rose Noonan  
Grand Chef de Gare  
Grande du Missouri.





## 2027 Voiture #1541 "Night at the Races" fundraiser

As we have had the first Saturday in March for the past 25+ years, we have confirmed with the St. Charles American Legion Hall Rental Chairperson March 6, 2027. Mark your calendars.

Al Schultz

Voiture #1541

## GCDT membership article for Communiqué

Comrades,

29 April 2026

I hope this finds everyone doing well. My update on our membership is as follows. As of 23 April 2026, Grande Du Missouri is at 83.56% and 98 short of quota. The individual region

Sou Chef statistics show Roger Wallenberg (V460, 760, and 1321) leading with 93.7% V760

Kickapoo is at 100%, Great Job. Hallie Williams (V38, 448, 966 and 1541) comes in next at 84.2% with V966 Mark Twain at 100%. Dan Levasseur with (V292, 333, 1292 and 1403) is at 79.41%, V1403 Lake of the Ozarks still needs that 1 to hit their mark. Calvin Bumgarner (V3, 130, 1379 and 1402) at 78.81% thus far with V130 Jesse James leading the way in that Region with 102.50% that's 1 over, great job. If these numbers or the numbers sent out by Bob Emery each week are not correct, please let me know. As we are now just 2 months away from the end of our membership year, I continue to encourage the Chef De Gare's, Chef De Train's, and Correspondents to scrub your rosters and reach out thru E-mail and phone calls to those who have not renewed. I also encourage all Voyageurs to reach out to qualified Veterans

you feel would/could bring something to this great organization and invite them to join. It is now time to reach out and find those last renewals.

Membership being addressed, Spring Wreck was a great success and I thank all who provided assistance. I am looking forward to Grand Promenade and Cheminot June 19th

thru the 21st If you have not made your motel reservation yet I remind you that the cut off for our room rate is 24 May 2026. I would like to have registration forms by 10 June 2026 in order to advise

the catering staff. We will be starting a new year of leadership, and I would ask all to look at the voyageurs in your locales and recommend any you feel worthy of serving in a grande officer or directeur position for the upcoming year to myself or the grande membership committee.

Thank You for all you do and have done for La Societe.

V/R

Ben Sargent

Grande Chef de Train

msgsgt2@yahoo.com

## Nationale BOXCAR Association

The Box Car program has been busy this year! I want to thank all that are participating in our program. Our new coin, which celebrates "America 250", is in production and will be available soon. The new pin, crew cards and associate cards will be available June 1st for consignment or cash sale. The new color for the crew card is light blue for Pancreatic Cancer. The Associate card is pink for Breast Cancer. Please continue working with your Sous Directors in getting your items. If you are ordering directly with me, please use the order form that is on the Nationale website. I also need a phone number to verify your order. The Merci Boxcar Maintenance deadline is July 1st. \$150.00 is given to every Grande that completes the form and buys at least \$150.00 of Box Car pins or cards. If you plan to have your locomotive at Gettysburg, PA, for Promenade Nationale 2026, please contact me or Director Dave Knutson. The deadline for paperwork to have a plaque printed is July 1st. The Box Car Hobo's are working on a party this year in Gettysburg. Box Car Association will give any assistance to help this be a success.



**GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI**  
**Grande Promenade & Cheminot**  
**June 19 to June 21, 2026**  
**Oasis Hotel and Convention Center**  
**2546 North Glenstone Ave.**  
**Springfield, MO 65803**  
**417-866-5253**

Room Rate \$119.00 (+Tax) per night for  
 Deluxe King or Deluxe Double  
**PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE**  
 Handicapped Rooms Available  
 Make your reservations directly with Oasis Hotel  
 Mention 40&8 Honor Society for special rate when making reservations  
**Cut off for reservations at Group rate is 24 May, 2026**

**Friday June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Registration 1500 – 1800 Kalahari/Mojave Lobby  
 Hospitality Room 1500 - ??? Kalahari / Mojave Room  
 2026-2027 Officer Slating Meeting 1800 Arabian Room

**Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Registration 0900 – 1200  
 Committee meetings/audit 0800-1100-Arabian Room  
 Lunch 1130 – 1300 Kalahari / Mojave Room (Hospitality Room)  
 Grande Promenade 1300 – 1600 Sahara Room  
 Grand Chef de Gare Passé Social Hour 1700-1800 Kalahari / Mojave Room (Hospitality Room)  
 Social Hour 1800 Cash Bar Maui Ballroom  
 Banquet 1900-UTC Maui Ballroom  
 Hospitality Room will be open after the Banquet

**Sunday June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

Grande Cheminot 0900-UTC Sahara Room

**To register for the Grande Spring Wreck and Cheminot. Make check payable to Voiture 460**  
**Please have registrations sent in by 10 June 2026**

Send to:  
**Ben Sargent**  
 25625 Swan Road  
 Richland, MO 65556

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Voiture \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet / Person: \$42.00 X No. Guest \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee \$15.00 (Voyageurs Only) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_



**Gateway Voiture 448 and Salon 116  
invites you to a**

***A Slice of Murder Mystery Dinner***

**When:** Starts 5:30 pm Saturday, June 27, 2026  
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](mailto:t_lanning@charter.net) There will also be  
tickets at Post 397 bar.



# Membership Grande du Missouri

7-May-26

Voiture Name	Voiture	2025 Year End	2026 To-date	2025 Quota	Sh/Ov Quota	% of Quota
HEART OF AMERICA	3	32	15	32	-17	46.88%
SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS	38	44	42	44	-2	95.45%
JESSE JAMES	130	39	41	40	1	102.50%
HEART OF MISSOURI	292	23	17	23	-6	73.91%
STATE FAIR	333	98	93	100	-7	93.00%
GATEWAY	448	59	58	61	-3	95.08%
CENTRAL OZARK	460	43	54	56	-2	96.43%
KICKAPOO	760	24	24	24	0	100.00%
MARK TWAIN	966	2	2	2	0	100.00%
CAPITAL	1292	69	45	72	-27	62.50%
MINERAL AREA	1321	16	41	47	-6	87.23%
NEUF COMPT	1379	28	26	32	-6	81.25%
ATCHISON NODAWAY HOLT Counties	1402	14	11	14	-3	78.57%
LAKE OF THE OZARK	1403	4	3	4	-1	75.00%
TWO RIVERS	1541	45	39	45	-6	86.67%
Missouri Total		540	511	596	-85	85.74%

