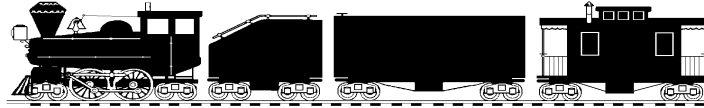


Communiqué
La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux
Grande Voiture du Missouri



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

The Grand Chef Sez

Fellow Voyageurs;

First of all, I want to personally thank each and every Voyageur, their wives and any guest who attended the Fall Cheminot and Homecoming. The cards and gifts I received are most appreciated.

The Banquet was fairly well attended with 63 people seated. We all know our attendance has "fallen off" the past several years and some how, some way; we have got to turn this trend around.

If we do not entice Voyageurs to attend these functions; the organization will cease to exist!!

On another note, membership is picking up, slowly but surely. Some Voitures are on the move while other Voitures are Dragging.

Let's "**Git-R-Done**". Remember, the change in membership requirements. If your Voiture chooses to accept a non-legionnaire for membership; it is the responsibility of the Voiture to check his or her DD-214 for verification. I reiterate, the choice of membership is till invitation **ONLY** and the Voiture has the final say.

I remind everyone that Veterans' Day is approaching. I know that parades are no longer as popular as they once were due to the fact that Veterans' Day is no longer a National Holiday; why I don't know!! Veterans Day was originally designated to

honor the living veterans. Even the school districts do not have the day off. Perhaps our "leaders" should read the following phrase:

**"If you can read this,
 Thank a teacher.
 If you can read this in English,
 Thank a Veteran."**

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:

December – Youth Sports and Box Car

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.

READING PLEASURE

Four retired guys, two from California and two from Arizona, are walking down a street in Chicago. They turn a corner and see a sign that states: "Old Timer's Bar" "ALL DRINKS 10 CENTS!" They look at each other and then go in. The old bartender says in a voice that carries across the room, "Come on in and let me pour one for you. What'll it be, Gentlemen?" There seems to be a fully stocked bar, so the men all ask for a martini. In short order, the bartender serves up 4 iced martinis and says, "That'll be 10 cents each, please." They can't believe their good luck. They pay the 40 cents, finish their martinis, and order another round. Again, four excellent martinis are produced with the bartender again saying, "That's 40 cents, please." They pay the 40 cents, but their curiosity is more than they can stand. They've each had two martinis and so far they've spent less than a dollar. Finally one of the men couldn't stand it any longer and asks the bartender, "How can you afford to serve martinis as good as these for a dime a piece?" "Here's my story. I'm a retired tailor from Brooklyn,

and I always wanted to own a bar. Last year I hit the lottery for \$25 million and decided to open this place. Every drink costs a dime - wine, liquor, beer, all the same." "Wow!! That's quite a story," says one of the men. The four of them sipped at their martinis and couldn't help but notice three other guys at the end of the bar who didn't have a drink in front of them, and hadn't ordered anything the whole time they were there. One man gestures at the three at the end of the bar without drinks and asks the bartender, "What's with them?"

The bartender says, "Oh, them...They're Forty & Eighters waiting for happy hour!"

V.A.V.S.

Fellow Voyageurs,

We are off and running on a new year and it is already time to be thinking about a donation to your local Veterans Home. Christmas is quickly approaching and wish lists will be coming from our Veterans Home residents making this a great time for Voitures not close to a V.A. facility to donate to the Homes. We have seven homes in the state and I will be mailing out a list of them to all the Voitures. I would like to see 100% participation in this program. Please think of your Comrades at Christmas in these homes. Remember, "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living" and "Keep them Smiling in beds of White".

Report, Report, Report,

Don Newman Jr., V.A.V.S. Chairman
720 Mayer Dr.
St. Charles, MO 63301

Motel 6 BANQUET ROOM, WENTZVILLE, MISSOURI

With a rap of the gavel, Grand Chef de Gare, Robert W. Phillips, opened the Fall Grand Cheminot sharply at 1 PM with a salute to the Flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a much needed prayer by acting Grand Aumonier, Dave Christian.

Roll call of officers showed more absent than excused and the rest were being a pain in the rear. Roll call of Grand Chefs de Gare Passe showed that nine-answered roll call. Roll call of Grand Cheminots showed that we had a quorum. Voyageurs don't know how to answer roll call and many paid fines for it. Absent were Voitures 293, 333, 447, 460, 848, 966, 1395, and 1402.

Notion offered by Art Wilson, seconded by Ed Jones, that the Grand Promenade and Cheminot minutes are accepted as printed and sent out...passed.

Sous Grand Correspondant Grant Willis gave the minutes of the Executive Meeting. The Executive Meeting was held on October 4, 2008 starting at 9:09am. The budget was read and Art Wilson made a motion to approve, 2nd by Rich Heigert...passed. Art passed out the letter for the next raffle. It will go out in January 2009. After discussion Art offered a notion to accept the raffle letter, 2nd by Rich Heigert...passed. Discussion was held on the next Central States in Missouri, which will be in 2011. Grande will plan on Gary Reno being the President of Central States when in Missouri. Discussed where to have the Central States at, either at Kansas City or Branson. Gary will talk to Howard Johnson's hotel, near KC Airport about having it there. Executive meeting closed 9:32am.

Sous Grand Correspondant Grant Willis reported that the National Correspondant Bernie Sampson stated the Voitures need to check the DD214 for new members, if they do not belong to the American Legion. Grant told everyone that the new yearbooks, stationary, and envelopes for the Grand Directeurs are in the back of the room. He had the last monthly Voiture statement from Voiture Nationale if anyone wanted there's, to see him.

Sous Grand Correspondant Grant Willis announced he had the following resolution for Grand Commissaire Intendant for David S. Christian, Voiture 38.

Grand Commissaire Intendant, Larry Ebersold, reported that the finance report was placed on the chairs and asked if there were any questions. Notion offered by Rich Heigert, second by Art Wilson, to approve the budget and accept the Finance report subject to audit.... passed.

Grand Chef de Train, Gary L. Reno, reported on the current Grande membership. Gary stated that the Grande has 493 members, 41%. There are three Voitures that have not turned in any membership. Gary talked about what the Chef de Chemin de Fer had said on the Nationale 40/8 web site as to his goals. Gary also talked about the change in the Nationale Constitution whereby anyone with military service is eligible to join the 40/8, although it is by invitation only. Grand Chef Phillips talked about Voitures 293 and 447 struggling but they are going to try and improve their membership this year.

Cheminot Nationale Donald Fligge reported on the Nationale Promenade. Don said he attended the Finance Commission meeting and they said the audit was not completed but Nationale ended up with more money this year. The change in the constitution was passed whereby anyone with military service can join the 40/8.

Alternate Cheminot Nationale Grant Willis reported the change in the constitution allowing all servicemen (women) to join the 40/8, passed by 5 votes. There was a resolution to have a nurse of the year, this was rejected and sent back to committee to be reviewed and determine who would pay for it and the cost. There was a resolution to change the amount from dues from \$.25 to \$.50 for the Ardery Fund and change the limit per Grande from \$5000 to an amount based on membership and/or usage and to also use the principle. This was rejected and sent to committee. At the Child Welfare committee they discussed the Boland Fund limit of \$5000 per Grande. The Child Welfare committee will look into setting a different allocated amount for each Grande.

Missouri needs to check to ensure they have sent their money in for the Child Welfare pins. Missouri did not send in a year end report. At the Youth Sports meeting it was stated Missouri did not turn in their money for the 2008 pins. At the Ritual meeting Missouri did not turn in a report. Washington won the Color Guard Contest. The password will remain the same this year.

Art Wilson attended the Time and Place committee, at Promenade Nationale, and said the next Nationale Promenades will be at:

2009 - September 9 to 12 at Rochester, New York (although Art tried to say it was going to be in Minnesota)

2010 - September 8 to 11 at Springfield, Illinois

2011 - September 7 to 10 at Vancouver, Washington (Art said the best way to get to Washington was to take a train.)

Art also attended the Box Car meeting and said they are working on a new pin design.

Grand Chef Phillips attended the Americanism committee, at Promenade Nationale, and said there will not be a new pin this year because they still have 800 pins left to sell. There were 50,000 flags for 1st Graders given out last year. At the Voiture Activities meeting they said the reports will not change, but we will see about that, and anything involving a voyageur is an activity and should be reported. There was \$366,000 spent in VAVS. We have 140 hospitalists with voyageur representatives.

Grand Cheminot reports were given by Voiture 3, 38, 130, 292, 448, 520, 760, 1292, 1321, 1379, 1403, and 1541. Some of the highlights are Voiture 3 budgeted \$34,000 for their programs and budgeted \$21,000 for nurses training; Voiture 38 had their special kids at Grants Farm; Voiture 130 has 15 nurses in training, had a dinner for the new nurses in training and everyone seemed to have a good time at Washington's Birthday Party (next year it will be held on 2/21/2009); Voiture 448 had its installation of officers; Voiture 520 will have an amateur boxing match to raise funds, Voiture 1292 will have a Steak night at the Legion Convention and a Christmas party for special kids; Voiture 1379 had their ChicNic in September, has 2 nurses tin training and wrecked 4 PG's; Voiture 1403 had a golf tournament and had a successful BBQ; Voiture 1541 has 3 nurses in training.

Since everyone was falling off their chair asleep the Grand Chef rang the bell three times to get everyone up to wake up.

Grand Historien, Kevin Gurlen, stated he has been taking pictures of the Grand Chef at various functions. If anyone has any pictures of the Grand Chef then send them to him for the yearbook.

Grand Publiciste, William Hilker, reported for everyone to check out the Nationale 40/8 web site for some interesting things.

Grand Directeur Box Car, Bill Evans, stated he only has 6 Box Car pins left but will order some more. If anyone needs any pins or cards to let him know. All Box Car money for pins, cards, or donations should be sent to him with the report form filled out.

Grand Directeur POW/MIA, Dave Diaz, stated he attended a POW/MIA service at VFW Post 3944 and he attended the "March to the Arch" where the names of the MIA's from Missouri and Illinois were read, on October 9-12, 2008 Desoto is hosting the Vietnam Veterans Traveling Wall.

Grand Directeur Ritual, John Partin, stated what is normally considered "light" duty for anyone serving as Grand Directeur Ritual, this year has seen a twist to that logic. Due to some changes voted in at the National Promenade, we will find ourselves making some change to our Ritual Manual. He will be working on those and will present the updated information as the adjustments are made. So far this year, my activities have included one Voiture Locale visit and ritual review, but he is available to visit with other locales upon request. He encourages every Voiture Locale to submit a Ritual report this year. Many have not done that in the past. If your Locale does not submit a Ritual report, they will not be eligible for any Ritual awards. Let him know if any blank ritual reports are needed.

Grand Directeur Special Awards, David Brazie, stated he has not received any applications yet.

Grand VAVS Chairman, Donald J. Newman Jr., stated Veterans homes at Christmas are always in need of donations. Art Wilson said for everyone to get familiar with vets coming home and go see them.

Grand Directeur Youth Sports, David Christian, said he only received 9 reports last year. Youth Sports cards can be sold for \$1 and a Voiture only pays .50 for each; pins sell for \$3.00. Let him know if anyone needs any.

Sous Correspondant, Grant Willis, said to send him any articles and flyers to be put in the Grand Newsletter.

Executive Committee Advisory & Protocol, Richard Heigert, stated most of the Executive Committee did not want his advice. (There are only two on the Executive Committee.) Raymond Brodzinski (the other one on the Executive Committee) said he did not like remark.

Time & Place Committee, Art Wilson, reported that the Spring Grande Wreck and Cheminot would be in Kansas City, by the airport, at the Howard Johnson's Hotel. Grande Promenade and the Fall Grand Cheminot & Homecoming will also be held there.

Distinguished Voyageur Award Committee, Ray Brodzinski, stated that he did not have a report but it took him 2 minutes to say that after he explained about sex and old men.

Distinguished Guest Committee, Rich Heigert, stated the Grand Correspondant will send out an invitation to the Chef de Chemin de Fer for the Truman Day affair.

Grand Chef de Gare Phillips spoke on the Central States Promenade. In 2011 it will be held in Missouri and Gary Reno will be nominated for Vice President so that he will be the President in 2011. The Central States Promenade will be in Wichita, Kansas in 2009 at the Best Western Hotel.

New Business, Grand Chef de Gare Phillips stated Terry Vogel resigned from the 40/8 so he is no longer a Sous Grand Directeur Voiture Activities. Art Wilson talked on the Grande Raffle, which will have the same format and prizes, \$2.00/ticket or 6 for \$10. Individuals should cut up tickets, if not Larry Ebersold will have to do that and we don't want Larry to have to do that!! The raffle tickets will go out in January 2009 and the drawing will be at the Grande Promenade. We need everyone to buy tickets.

Under Good Of The Voiture, Rich Heigert said to get out the vote.

Grand Chef de Gare Phillips got on the Past Grand Chefs for having nothing to say. A suggestion was made for everyone not to shave and to turn in your razor blades to a Veterans Home instead.

Grand Chef de Gare Phillips closed the Fall Grand Cheminot in the proper manner at 2:50 PM.

Submitted by,
Terry L. Lanning
Grand Correspondant

I would like to personally thank Grant Willis for sitting in for me at the Fall Grand Cheminot. As most of you know my wife (Linda) went into the hospital on Friday, October 3, 2008. She was released Monday and is doing a lot better now. Linda wants to thank everyone for their cards, emails and thoughts. This came on so fast but it looks like everything is ok now.



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 Spring Grande Cheminot and Wreck to be held March 27th, March 28th, & March 29th, 2009 at the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel, 7301 Tiffany Springs Road, Kansas City, MO 64153, phone (816) 268-1600.

The Active Wreck will be held on Saturday, March 28th, 2009, at 9:00AM at the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel in Kansas City.

The Spring Grande Cheminot will be held on Saturday March 28th, 2009 at 1:00 PM at the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel.

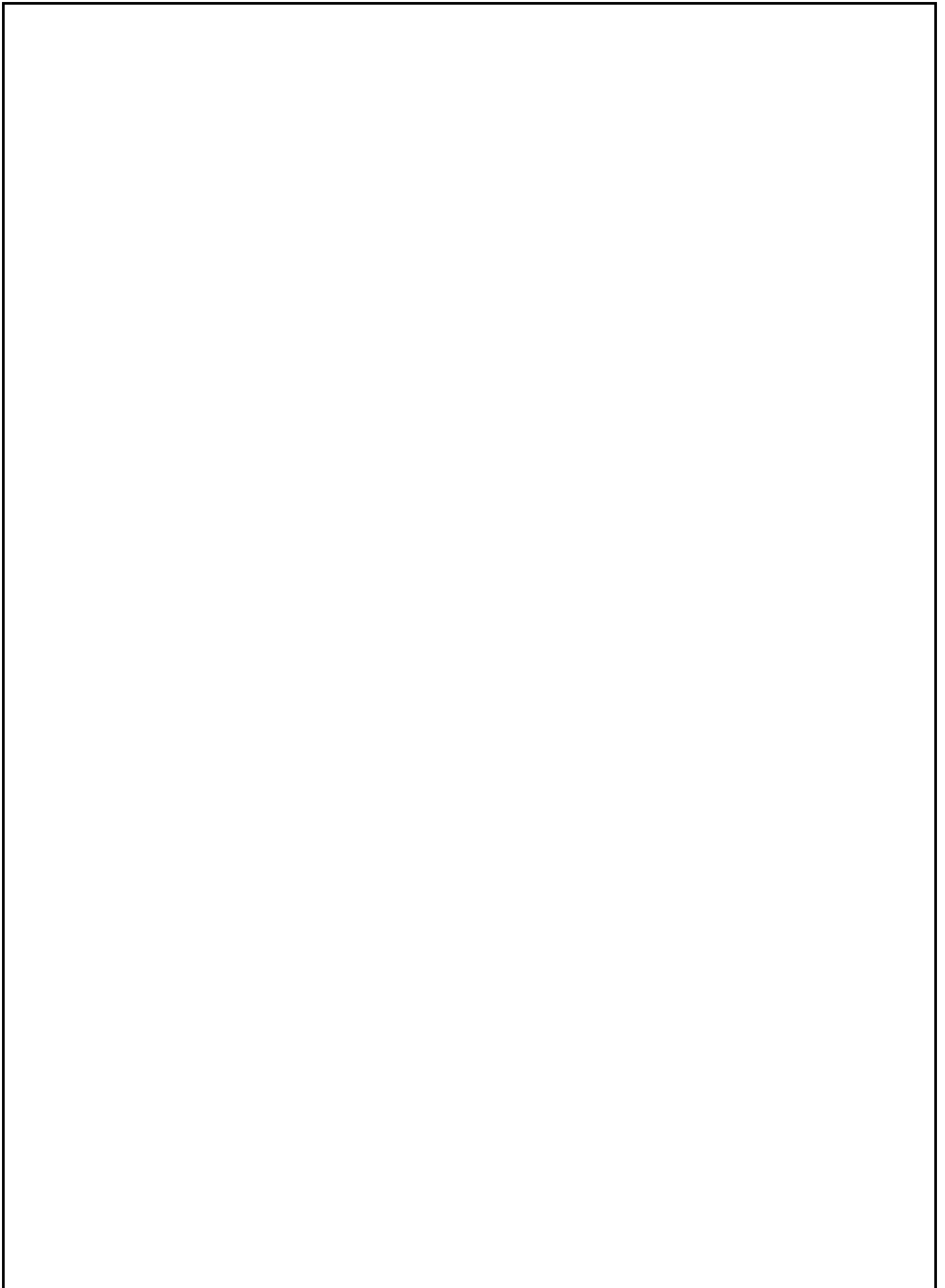
There is no Executive Board Meeting scheduled on Saturday morning. If this changes, the time and place will be posted in the Hospitality Room.

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

Robert W. Phillips
Grand Chef de Gare



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.

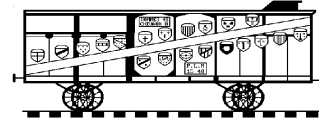
Friday, MARCH 27th, 2009
Registration: 3:00 till 8:00 P.M.
Hospitality Room 3:00 P.M. till ????
Saturday MARCH 28th, 2009
Registration: 9:00 A.M. till NOON
Spring Wreck 9:00 A.M.
LUNCH 11:30 A.M.
Cheminot 1:00 P.M.
Cocktails 6:00 P.M.
Banquet: 7:00 P.M.
Hospitality Room opened after Banquet
Sunday MARCH 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)



MEMBERSHIP GRAND VOITURE DU MISSOURI
as of October 30, 2008

LOCALE	2008	2009	PERCENT	Short/Over
3	101	67	66%	-34
38	145	78	54%	-67
130	26	26	100%	0
292	57	35	61%	-22
293	12	8	66%	-4
333	111	41	36%	-70
447	2	2	100%	0
448	199	83	42%	116
460	62	47	75%	-15
520	14	9	64%	-5
760	81	53	65%	-28
848	17	0	0%	-17
966	9	4	44%	-5
1292	71	35	49%	-36
1321	82	57	69%	-25
1379	35	31	88%	-4
1395	21	15	71%	-6
1402	35	23	65%	-12
1403	52	24	46%	-28
1541	64	38	56%	-26
Totals	1,196	676	56.52%	-520

Membership is coming in very slow and we need to pick up the pace. By Veterans Day we need to be at least 70% and we are pretty far away from that goal. Let's pound the bushes and get those members in now, especially the goose egg Voiture's.