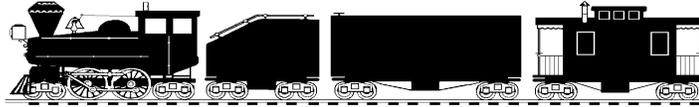




Communiqué
La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux
Grande Voiture du Missouri



November 2009 - Grand Chef de Gare Gary Reno - L'Editeur Grant Willis

The Grand Chef Sez

Fellow Voyageurs;

Well, here it is November already and somehow I have managed to visit almost half of the Voiture's, attend promenade Nationale the Pouvoir Banquet, Fall Conference, and the Saint Louis Past Commanders Club Banquet. The traveling is great. So far I think Anne and I have hit every Truck Stop going and coming. If we weren't stopping for necessity it was to explore all the unique bargains they have to offer.

The learning experience is fantastic and the hospitality is far more than I could ever expect. For those of you who have hosted the Grand Chef, I thank you for the warm receptions.

Membership, of course, is the buzzword of the day. Grand du Missouri has always been in the forefront when it comes to membership and as it should be. However, we seem to wait till the last minute and then jump through hoops to just "squeeze by." Why not do the work first then sit back the rest of the year and enjoy those new members who make us even better? Remember, first Voiture "over the top" gets to tap my wallet for \$25.00. Make the phone call, knock on the doors and get those stragglers and holdouts to pay their dues

now. Anne and I wish everyone a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving. Please pray for our troops that he will keep them from harms way and a Special prayer for the family of Voyageur Militaire Tom Hanks who passed on to the Commander of us all on October 21.

WE HAVE TO TRY!!!

GARY RENO
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 se 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:

December – Youth Sports and Box Car

January – Americanism and Voyageur Activities

February – POW/MIA and Special Awards

March – Distinguished Voyageur Award



UPCOMING DATES

- Grande Cheminot and Spring Wreck March 26 – 29, 2010, Jefferson City MO at the Truman Hotel

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.

A Couple of Grand Chef de Gare Passé who were under the weather are:

Update

Rich Heigert – who is doing great and should be back with us in the spring.

Art Wilson –had open heart surgery and is also doing great and should also be back with us in the Spring.

Keep both of these Grand Chef de Gare Passé in our prayers. If anyone knows of someone who is sick or is recovering from a sickness please let me know and I will be glad to put it in the newsletter.

It is with great sadness that I must report the passing of Tom and Shirley Hanks. Tom passed on October 21, 2009 and Shirley passed on October 29, 2009. They were both buried on November 6, 2009 at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

**Military Appreciation Monday
Free "Thank You" Dinner
Monday, Nov. 16, 2009,
5 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

Golden Corral's 9th annual Military Appreciation Monday dinner will be held on Monday, November 16, 2009, from 5 to 9 pm in all Golden Corral restaurants nationwide.

The free dinner meal is a special "thank you tribute" to any person who has ever served in the United States Military. If you are a veteran, retired, currently serving, in the National Guard or Reserves, you are invited to join us for Golden Corral's Military Appreciation Monday dinner.

To date, Golden Corral restaurants have provided over 2.2 million free meals and contributed over \$3.3 million to the Disabled American Veterans organization.

To locate a Golden Corral near you, visit www.goldencorral.com/locator.

Also on Wednesday November 11, 2009 Applebee's will also have free meals for Veterans who are serving or have served.

FALL GRAND CHEMINOT, OCTOBER 3, 2009
Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri

With a rap of the gavel, Grand Chef de Gare, Gary L. Reno, opened the Fall Grand Cheminot sharply at 1:02 PM with a salute to the Flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a much needed prayer by Grand Aumonier, Marvin Harper.

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 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, 520, 966, and 1395.

Grant Willis gave the Rules of Procedure. Notion offered by Virgil Morice, seconded by Robert Phillips, that the Grand Promenade and Cheminot minutes are accepted as printed and sent out...passed.

Grand Correspondant Terry Lanning gave the minutes of the Executive Meeting. The Executive Meeting was held on October 3, 2009 starting at 9:06am. The budget was read and Dave Christian made a motion to approve, 2nd by Don Fligge...passed. Discussion was held about the next raffle. It will go out in January 2010. It was suggested extra raffle tickets be sent to the Locale Chef or Correspondant to sell. After discussion Terry Lanning offered a notion to accept the raffle letter after a reduction of prize money to be \$250, \$150, and \$50, 2nd by Chubbs Buckley ...passed. Discussion was held on the minimum qualifications to be Grand Chef de Gare. They are:

- Must have been in the 40/8 for at least 5 years.
- Must have been nominated by your Locale Voiture and have served as your Locale Voiture's Chef de Gare.
- Must have served as a Grand Sous Grand Chef de Train.
- Must have served as a Grand Directeur or in a comparable Grande Officer position.
- Must have demonstrated the ability to be a leader in your Locale and/or Grand du Missouri.
- Must have the time, ability, and means to be Grand Chef de Gare.

Terry Lanning offer a motion to accept the minimum qualifications to be Grand Chef de Gare, 2nd by Chubbs Buckley ... passed. Terry Lanning explained Voiture 848 had sent in a resolution stating they wanted to dissolve. The Grande Executive Committee was polled and they agreed to accept Voiture 848 resolution to dissolve. Notice was sent to Voiture National and the dissolution of Voiture 848 was accepted at Promenade Nationale. Terry sent a letter to the members of Voiture 848 asking them to transfer. Executive meeting closed 9:41am. Grant offered a notion to accept 2nd by Robert Phillips ... passed.

Grand Correspondant Terry Lanning told everyone that the new yearbooks and envelopes for the Grand Directeurs are in the back of the room. Next years La Petite will not be mailed out but can be obtained from the 40/8 web site.

Grand Commissaire Intendant, David Christian, reported that the finance report was placed on the chairs and asked if there were any questions. Notion offered by Grant Willis, second by Robert Phillips, to approve the budget and accept the Finance report subject to audit... passed.

Grand Chef de Train, Larry Ebersold, reported on the current Grande membership. The Grande has 416 members, 35%. There is one Voiture that have not turned in any membership. Larry asked the Sous Chef de Trains to report to which Robert Fletcher, Chip Berkley, and John Paul Kopp reported on the Voitures they are assigned. Chef Gary Reno presented last years Grand Chef Robert Phillips with the three awards that Missouri won at Promenade Nationale.

Cheminot Nationale Grant Willis reported on the Nationale Promenade. Grant attended the Child Welfare meeting and they said the Ardery claims are not being sent in correct. There is a new password. Chubbs Buckley went to the Nurses Training meeting and stated there were 23 Boland scholarships approved. Terry Lanning attended the Finance Meeting and stated the finances are in pretty good shape. No talk of a dues increase. Gerald Brady was elected Chef de Chemin de Fer, he is out of Texas. Tony Gallagher was appointed as the National Public Relations Directeur and Terry Lanning was elected Commissaire Intendant National. Voiture 333 won three awards.

The next Nationale Promenades will be at:

2010 - September 8 to 11 at Springfield, Illinois

2011 - September 7 to 10 at Vancouver, Washington

2012 - September 12 to 15 at Northern, Kentucky

Grand Cheminot reports were given by Voiture 3, 38, 130, 292, 448, 760, 1292, 1321, 1379, 1402, 1403, and 1541. Some of the highlights are Voiture 3 budgeted \$30,000 for their programs and budgeted \$21,000 for nurses training; Voiture 38 had 250 special kids at Grants Farm; Voiture 130 has 14 nurses in training, they are selling towels to fund their nurses training, Washington's Birthday Party (next year it will be 2/13/2010); Voiture 292 has 12 nurses and looking for 8 more, they had a patient jamboree at the VA Hospital; Voiture 448 had its installation of officers; Voiture 760 made some donations; Voiture 1292 has 7 nurses, a Christmas party for special kids will be 12/8/09; Voiture 1321 has 5 nurses and their cooker is out, their xmas party will be 12/20/09; Voiture 1379 had their ChicNic in September, has 1 nurse but is looking for two more; Voiture 1402 has 2 nurses and is looking for 2 more; Voiture 1403 had a successful BBQ, 4 nurses and will have a xmas party; Voiture 1541 has 5 nurses in training.

Grand Historien, John Paul said history is a go.

Grand Aumonier Marvin Harper says God bless everyone.

Grand Conducteur Robert Emery says he was collecting fines and selling pins.

Grand Directeur Box Car, Bill Evans, stated he only has Box Car pins left for \$3.00 each. If anyone needs any pins 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, sent in his report. The POW/MIA issue will always remain as long as we have troops stationed in harms way. As of now the most important legislation is House Resolution #111. What this means is to establish a select committee on POW/MIA affairs. This resolution will insure that the government will never stop searching for POW/MIA comrades. He encourages all voyageurs to contact their US Rep and encourage them to support this action.

Grand Directeur Ritual, John Partin, stated the new ritual books are out and you can obtain them from Voiture Nationale. Every Locale should have one.

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

Time & Place Committee, Robert Eisenbath, reported that the Spring Grande Wreck and Cheminot would be in Jefferson City, at the Truman Hotel (room rate \$55.00), on March 26-28, 2010. Spring Wreck Banquet will cost \$25.00 with a registration fee of \$10.00. Grande Promenade (June 25 to 27, 2010) and the Fall Grand Cheminot & Homecoming (October 1 to 3, 2010) will also be held there. The Grand Promenade and Homecoming registration fee will be \$5.00.

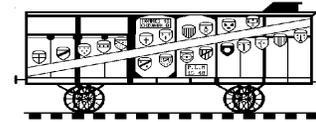
Grand Chef de Gare Reno spoke on the Central States Promenade. In 2011 it will be held in Missouri. Friday there was a meeting on the Central States.

New Business, Grand Chef de Train Ebersold stated we need to outlaw chili in the hospitality rooms. Grand Commissaire Intendant Christian said all of the Voitures need to publicize their events and what they do more. He encourages everyone to send the info to Robert Emery and let him put it on the Grand web site.

Under Good Of The Voiture, Robert Phillips presented a new podium that he built to the Grand Chef with the understanding that the Grand Chef is responsible for it and if they lose it then they have to pay a \$50 fine.

Grand Chef de Gare Reno closed the Fall Grand Cheminot in the proper manner at 2:39 PM.

Submitted by,
Terry L. Lanning
Grand Correspondant



MEMBERSHIP GRAND VOITURE DU MISSOURI
as of October 30, 2009

LOCALE	2009	2010	PERCENT	Short/Over
3	71	60	85%	-11
38	145	80	65%	-55
130	29	15	52%	-14
292	56	42	75%	-14
293	12	11	92%	-1
333	160	101	63%	-59
447	2	2	100%	0
448	177	31	18%	-146
460	63	56	89%	-7
520	10	9	90%	-1
760	80	58	73%	-22
966	8	7	88%	-1
1292	76	36	47%	-40
1321	78	58	74%	-20
1379	42	29	69%	-13
1395	22	10	45%	-12
1402	34	22	65%	-12
1403	45	24	53%	-21
1541	66	54	82%	-12
Totals	1,176	705	60%	-471

Membership is coming in very close to what it did last year, but we should see some radical improvements over the next couple of months. There is absolutely no reason why the Grande du Missouri should not be at 100% by December 31, 2009. I do believe that the Grand Chef de Gare would be absolute ecstatic if the Grand would reach that goal as would all the officers in the Grande.

The Goal from Nationale this year is to surpass your 2009 numbers by 5%. This is not an exceedingly high number for many Voitures and is very attainable.