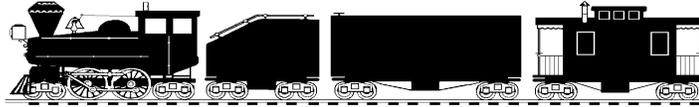




*Communiqué*  
*La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux*  
*Grande Voiture du Missouri*



---

October 2009 - Grand Chef de Gare Gary Reno

- L'Editeur Grant Willis

---

**The Grand Chef Sez**

Fellow Voyageurs;

First, I would like to start by thanking all of the Voiture Locale's that I have visited. The hospitality that you extended to my wife and I has been overwhelming. We cannot thank you enough.

Our trip to Promenade Nationale was interesting to say the least. The drive along the Lake Erie Region was loaded with miles of vineyards. Very reminiscent of my days stationed in Germany. Of course, with turnpike tolls, you have to pay to see them. After bribing a local out of a couple bottles of wine it was on to Rochester New York .

As most of you know, membership standings determines where you sit on the convention floor and this year Grand du Missouri had earned a front row seat. What an honor it was to represent each of you sitting on that front row. But it didn't stop there. It was time for awards to be passed out and once again, Grand du Missouri brought home it's share as well. First, Tony Gallager and his Voiture 333 "Army " came away with three membership awards. The Don Collins Award for best use of Public Media to promote the 40/8, The LaVerne Eccleston Award for excellence in promoting 40/8 programs within the Community, and The Sam Friedman Award for the Voiture Locale Wrecking Crew, who conducted the greatest number of wrecks

during the fiscal year 08-09. Grand du Missouri Awards were, The John M. Hoble Award for the Grande Voiture over 1,000 but under 2,000 with the greatest increase in members, The James W. Burden Award for Grand Voiture in excess of 1,000 but less than 2,000 which first equaled its membership, and The John M. Hobbles Award for Grand Voiture over 1,000 but under 2,000 with the greatest increase in members. The Paul E. Howard Award for Grand Voiture over 1,000 but under 2,000 with the greatest percentage of increase in membership. What a proud moment that was.

As is with any convention, there is always something humorous taking place and this one was no different. We were told of the Voyageur who trusted his GPS more than his instinct when it told him to take the next turn, taking him into Canada. They welcomed him with open arms as he crossed the border. He, very quickly, realized his mistake and turned around. But when he tried to cross back into the United States the same welcoming committee wasn't so nice. It seems that he could not produce a Passport. After being detained about four hours he managed to convince the Canadians that he was a harmless, disoriented, veteran who made a wrong turn and not a terrorist.

Please keep up the great work you are doing. I look forward to meeting with those Voitures that I have not visited yet and hope to see you at the Fall Grand Cheminot in

Kansas City. God Bless

WE HAVE TO TRY!!!

GARY RENO  
GRAND CHEF DE GARE



**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](mailto:willis.grant@sbcglobal.net) or mail to Grant Willis, 8 Shireford, Ferguson, Mo. 63135.

The September issue of the Communiqué we will have articles for Carville Star and VAVS. The following is a schedule for articles due from the Directeur's:

November – Ritual and Child Welfare

December – Youth Sports and Box Car

January – Americanism and Voyageur Activities

February – POW/MIA and Special Awards

March – Distinguished Voyageur Award



- Grande Cheminot and Homecoming October 2 – 4, 2008 at Kansas City, MO

---

**The Grande du Missouri web site is at: [grandedumissouri.com](http://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](mailto:remery18@comcast.net) and copy Grant Willis at [willis.grant@sbcglobal.net](mailto:willis.grant@sbcglobal.net).**

---

### NURSES TRAINING

I ATTENDED THE NURSES TRAINING MEETING AT PROMENADE NATIONALE. AGAIN ONLY 25 GRANDS SUBMITTED REPORTS.

THE BOLIN TRUST 30 APPLICATIONS THIS YEAR AND 23 WERE APPROVED. IF YOUR VOITURE HAS COMMITTED THEIR NURSES TRAINING FUNDS FOR THE YEAR, THEN THEY CAN REQUEST ONE MORE FROM THE BOLIN TRUST. IF THEY HAVE REQUESTED A BOLIN TRUST SCHOLARSHIP, THE GRAND DU MISSOURI HAS UP TO FIVE.

SO YOU CAN SEND AN ADDITIONAL APPLICATION TO ME (WITH A COVER LETTER RECOMMENDATION) AND I WILL FORWARD IT TO THE GRAND CORRESPONDANT, WHO WILL SUBMIT IT TO NATIONAL.

I HAVE NURSES TRAINING PINS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

CLARENCE (CHUB) BUCKLEY

---

**HAVE YOU HEARD:** Murphy's Law's of Combat:

- You are not a superman; Marines and fighter pilots take note.
- If it's stupid but works, it isn't stupid.
- Don't look conspicuous - it draws fire. (This is why aircraft carriers are called bomb magnets.)
- When in doubt, empty your magazine.
- Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons.
- Field experience is something you get ten minutes after you need it.
- The cost of a weapon has a direct correlation with how far you have to send it to get it fixed.
- Happiness is a belt-fed weapon.
- Never share a foxhole with anyone braver than you are.
- Never forget that your weapon was made by the lowest bidder.
- If your attack is going really well, it's an ambush.
- No OPLAN ever survives initial contact.
- If the enemy has done nothing for the past half hour while you dig in it's probably because they've been in the tree line right behind you the whole time.
- If you find yourself in a fair fight, you didn't plan your mission properly.
- Who cares if a laser guided 500 lb. bomb is accurate to within 9 feet?
- Bravery is being the only one who knows you're afraid.
- Any ship can be a minesweeper... once.
- There is no such thing as a perfect plan.
- All five-second grenade fuses will burn down in three seconds.
- Try to look unimportant; the enemy may be low on ammo and not want to waste a bullet on you.
- If at first you don't succeed, call in an airstrike.
- If you are forward of your position, the artillery will fall short.
- The enemy diversion you are ignoring is the main attack.
- There is no such thing as an atheist in a foxhole.
- You can win without fighting, but it's a lot harder to do. And the enemy may not cooperate.
- A retreating enemy is probably just falling back and regrouping.
- Never tell the Platoon Sergeant you have nothing to do.
- The important things are always simple; the simple things are always hard.
- The easy way is always mined.

- The only terrain that is truly controlled is the terrain upon which you're standing.
- The law of the bayonet says the man with the bullet wins.
- The easy way gets you killed.
- If you are short of everything except enemy, you are in combat.
- When you have secured an area, don't forget to tell the enemy.
- Never draw fire; it irritates everyone around you.
- Incoming fire has the right of way.
- Friendly fire isn't.
- Recoilless rifles - aren't.
- Suppressive fire - won't.
- If the enemy is in range - SO ARE YOU.
- No combat ready unit has ever passed inspection.
- No unit that ever passed inspection has passed combat.
- Things which must be shipped together as a set, aren't.
- Things that must work together, can't be carried to the field that way.
- Radios will fail as soon as you need fire support desperately.
- Radar tends to fail at night and in bad weather, and especially during both.
- Anything you do can get you killed - including doing nothing.
- Tracers work both ways.
- The only thing more accurate than incoming enemy fire is incoming friendly fire.
- Make it tough for the enemy to get in and you can't get out.
- When both sides are convinced that they are about to lose, they are both right.
- Professional soldiers are predictable, but the world is full of amateurs.
- If you take more than your fair share of objectives, you will get more than your fair share of objectives to take.
- Whenever you lose contact with the enemy, look behind you.
- Military Intelligence is a contradiction.
- Fortify your front; you'll get your rear shot up.
- Weather ain't neutral.
- The most dangerous thing in the combat zone is an officer with a map.
- The quartermaster has only two sizes, too large and too small.
- If you really need an officer in a hurry, take a nap.
- There is nothing more satisfying than having someone take a shot at you, and miss.

- If your sergeant can see you, so can the enemy.
- If you can't see the enemy, he still may be able to see you.
- Ammo is cheap, your life isn't.
- The only time you can have too much ammo is when you are drowning or you are on fire.
- You'll only remember your hand grenades when the sound is too close to use them.
- Close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades.
- The spare batteries for the PRC-whatever your troops have been carrying are either nearly dead or for the wrong radio.
- The enemy invariably attacks on one of two occasions: 1. When you're ready for them. 2. When you're not ready for them.
- Teamwork is essential; it gives the enemy someone else to shoot at.
- If you can't remember, the claymore is pointed at you.
- When the pin is pulled, Mr. Grenade is not our friend.
- Air defense motto: shoot 'em down; sort 'em out on the ground.
- 'Flies high, it dies; low and slow, it'll go.
- The Cavalry doesn't always come to the rescue.
- Napalm is an area support weapon.
- B-52s are the ultimate close support weapon.
- Sniper's motto: reach out and touch someone.
- Killing for peace is like screwing for virginity.
- The one item you need is always in short supply.
- Interchangeable parts aren't.
- It's not the one with your name on it; it's the one addressed "to whom it may concern" you've got to think about.
- Mines are equal opportunity weapons.
- A Purple Heart just proves that were you smart enough to think of a plan, stupid enough to try it, and lucky enough to survive.
- Don't ever be the first, don't ever be the last and don't ever volunteer to do anything.
- It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed.
- The side with the simplest uniforms wins.
- Combat will occur on the ground between two adjoining maps.
- If you can keep your head while those around you are losing theirs, you may have misjudged the situation.

- If two things are required to make something work, they will never be shipped together.
  - Why does your 500-watt VRC-26 (real old) not make it across 200 miles while a ham with 50 watts on the same MARS frequency can be heard from Stateside?
  - Murphy was a grunt
- 

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

Rich Heigert – who is doing well and may be back with us in the spring, but has come through his surgeries and is recuperating at home.

Art Wilson – will be having open heart surgery and will not be with us until the spring also.

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.

# La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer

Preston R. Olson

605-729-0333

[prolson@unitelsd.com](mailto:prolson@unitelsd.com)

*The Society of*



43526 264<sup>th</sup> St.

Bridgewater, SD

cell 605-661-7839

*40 Men & 8 Horses*

September 21, 2009

**Greetings Voiture,**

What a wonderful Promenade Nationale hosted by Grand du New York. They know how to put on a great Promenade. Our group from South Dakota and I think everyone had a grand time. If you missed it, I am sorry, but do not miss next year in Springfield, IL as I know they also do a grand job. So get out and meet Voyageurs and Dames from other areas.

I had a busy year and a busy Promenade Nationale serving as your Aumonier National. What a wonderful experience and I thank you for the opportunity.

As I am sure you know by now I was elected to serve as Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer for 2009 – 2010. I thank you for this honor and look forward to serving you and La Societe to the best of my ability. I know it will not be enough without your assistance and we all work together, that includes all Grandes, Locales and every Voyageur.

My area is AREA II, which includes Alaska, France, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Voyageurs our goals and time of our goals will be a different than what we have set in the past. This change was needed to meet the goals of our NATIONALE MEMBERSHIP TEAM which is Uncle "SAM TEAM", "Sponsor Another Member", "Together Everyone Accomplishes More". This year OUR GOAL is to increase our membership by TEN (10) percent %. That is 10% OVER GOAL... To reach this, our time goals will be as follows:

(Last Thursdays of the month.)

September 24, 2009	50 % of Goal	(Ought to be there about NOW)
October, 29, 2009	75 % of Goal	(Do you have to catch up or work on 90%)
November 26, 2009	90 % of Goal	(How appropriate, Give Thanks(Giving day) for your hard work)
December 24, 2009	100 % of Goal	Christmas Eve, what A Christmas Present Merry Christmas

WE ARE AT WHERE WE WERE LAST YEAR ---- WE START WORKING ON WHERE WE NEED TO BE

We have so many positive go getters in this North Central Region, La Societe calls AREA II that there is no doubt in my mind we can get this on schedule, but we must start NOW.

January 28, 2010	102 % of 110 % GOAL
February 25, 2010	105 % of 110 % GOAL
March 25, 2010	107 % of 110 % GOAL
April 29, 2010	108 % of 110 % GOAL
May 27, 2010	109 % of 110 % GOAL

**June 24, 2010 110 % of 110 % GOAL**

**Many will say we can not do it or ask how can we accomplish this. Well, lets get out NOW and get our present members dues paid. Are they not due NOW? You can NOT serve as an officer after the 1<sup>st</sup> of January if your dues are not paid. If we add a few new members we have our 100% by December 25<sup>th</sup>. It is every members responsibility to bring in a new member to La Societe. If only 15 to 20 % of our members fulfill their responsibility we still are over our goal. Does that look so difficult? You can do, I know you can, but we have to get everyone involved.**

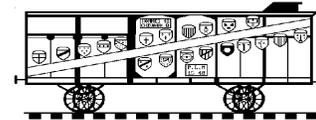
**Here is where your Grand is now; ( Of the 4 Areas, Area II is in last place) it is alright to start here, but we will not finish here ). I know you will not allow that to happen.**

Grand	2009	2010	short	Goal	% of Goal
Wyoming	25	24	-6	33	72.7 % of 110 % of GOAL
Iowa	641	330	-375	705	46.8 % of 110 % of GOAL
Montana	129	59	-83	142	41.5 % of 110 % of GOAL
France	92	38	-63	101	37,6 % of 110 % of GOAL
Kansas	645	264	-446	710	37.1 % of 110 % of GOAL
South Dakota	506	186	-371	557	33.3 % of 110 % of GOAL
Wisconsin	1556	564	-1148	1712	32.9 % of 110 % of GOAL
Alaska	156	56	-116	172	32.5 % of 110 % of GOAL
Minnesota	1510	426	-1235	1661	25.6 % of 110 % of GOAL
Missouri	1177	325	-970	1295	25.0 % of 110 % of GOAL
Idaho	238	51	-211	262	19.4 % of 110 % of GOAL
North Dakota	462	73	-435	508	14.3 % of 110 % of GOAL
Nebraska	712	101	-682	783	12.8 % of 110 % of GOAL
-----					
AREA II	7849	2497	- 5352	8641	28,8 % of 110 % of GOAL

**I want to visit your Grandes, so let me know what's going on in YOUR Grand. If I can be of any help, call me, write me, e-mail me, fax me or come to Bridgewater, SD.**

**This is going to be a challenge to all of us, but as a team we can do it. In our Rituals it says "However, other Voyageurs have traveled this road before you. We hope your efforts will be rewarded with success, as theirs have been".**

**Gods Peace Voyageurs, For God, Country & La Societe,  
Area II, Preston R. Olson,  
Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer**



**MEMBERSHIP GRAND VOITURE DU MISSOURI**  
as of September 24, 2009

LOCALE	2009	2010	PERCENT	Short/Over
3	71	43	61%	-28
38	145	61	42%	-84
130	29	3	10%	-26
292	56	13	23%	-43
293	12	0	0%	-12
333	161	10	6%	-151
447	2	2	100%	0
448	177	19	11%	-158
460	63	42	67%	-21
520	10	9	90%	-1
760	80	57	71%	-23
966	8	4	50%	-4
1292	76	32	42%	-44
1321	78	2	3%	-76
1379	42	22	52%	-20
1395	22	9	41%	-13
1402	34	22	65%	-12
1403	45	20	44%	-25
1541	66	1	2%	-65
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,177</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>-806</b>

Grand Voiture du Missouri  
Grant Willis  
Sous Grand Correspondant  
8 Shireford Ln.  
Ferguson, MO 63135

