



Communiqué



La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux

Grande Voiture du Missouri

September 2022 - Grand Chef de Gare Hallie Williams

L'Éditeur Robert C. Emery



Greetings Voyagers,
During my visits around
the state, we are well
received. It's time al-

ready for the Grande Chef de Gare Homecoming and Cheminot. We are looking forward to having a great event.

The time is fast approaching to make your hotel reservations. We will be looking forward to seeing you there.

Membership is very important to our growth. Remember the Buddy Check. Keep up the good work. Alone we can do little, but together we can do so much more. Our goal is RECRUIT RECLAIM RETAIN.

Hallie Williams

Grand Chef de Gare du Missouri

Sous Grand Correspondants Notes

Another year is upon us and it is time to hear from our new dirigeants. The articles for the next newsletter will be due by September 30, 2022 Ritual, Carville Star, and Child Welfare

Please share with others.

If your Voiture is planning an event be sure to send me the information so I can include it in the Grande Newsletter and Grande Web Site.

Please keep me updated on your email address so you may keep receiving the Grande newsletter.

If you know anyone who would like to receive the newsletter please send me their email address (remery18@comcast.net)

Status of the 40&8

oyageurs,

I hope this letter finds all of you well. This email has come about as a result of some phone calls I have received in the last couple weeks since getting home from the Great Lakes Promenade in Rochester, New York. For those who have called me to let me know about some statements that were made while we were there, I sincerely appreciate it and will not mention your names here. There are some others I need to contact to verify that other people also heard these statements along with other thoughts that need to be expressed. I hope to get this letter out soon, but I feel it may take a while to write as there is some passion I need to express, and some that I may need to suppress; but when you do receive this, please read all the way to the bottom as the information contained herein may pertain to you as well. I apologize ahead of time if you receive this more than once, as I hope it is widely distributed.

Let me start this with some history and by saying that I have been a Member of La Société for almost 2 decades; however, today's Organization is not even close to the same Organization that I was wrecked into. For starts, there are over THIRTY THOUSAND LESS Voyageurs in the Organization than there was when I joined. We have some Members that remember when we were at 80,000 Members strong, yet now we only have 17,000 paid Voyageurs and I think our average age is 65-70 years old.

Even though I seemed to be the youngest Voyageur in La Société, I spent the first couple of years traveling to Wrecks and Regional Promenades all over the Southeast and enjoyed my locale Promenades with 20-30 Voyageurs laughing and carrying on, all while doing a TON for Nurses and people in our local Community. My first Promenade Nationale was in Cincinnati, Ohio where I sat up front and listened to all the hours, mileage, and money that was spent in support of our Programs and even more amazed by the amount of money in the Program accounts. I decided then and there that I was going to be a card carrier in the other Organizations that I was a Member of, and concentrate my time, money, and attention to the 40&8.

I felt very confident and proud of that decision until a few years ago.

Back when I joined, the title of Chef de Chemin de Fer was a highly respected position and those who had attained that

Title had held many different Offices in La Société. Most resumes even included being a Directeur of one or more of our Programs as well as being a part of the Membership Team. To obtain that position, one had to be a Member of La Société for many years and have a great deal of knowledge regarding our Programs and La Société. It was a position that even I aspired to attain, so I spent 6 years on the Nationale Americanism team, and then 6 years on the Nationale Membership Team. During this time, I was attending every function I could find that my family and job would allow and enjoying every minute of it.

Hell, I even met my wife thru this Organization; although made up rumors were all over the place about us getting together (and why), which turned out to be just that – made up bs. I felt the worst part was that the rumors were being spread by some of whom I admired most! I was also helping with different wrecking crews and moving up the chairs in my Locale and Grande, culminating in being elected as Grande Chef de Gare on two separate occasions and then Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer (for two years due to Covid) with the Honor and privilege of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

A few years ago, I took on quite a few Events and positions including President of the Joint Carolina's Promenade (I had been Secretary for a few years, and I am now again the Secretary), President of the 100th Promenade Nationale and Southland's Dixie Promenade President. Each of the three Events resulting in profit for the Grande, and I thoroughly enjoyed it all. I hope everyone else enjoyed themselves as well.

Then in 2019, after running the Memorial Day Program for quite a few years, Dick George turned it back over to Bob Kaseman. Bob asked me if I would help him and of course I said "yes" - not knowing that my "helping" would include having to figure everything out and doing everything myself; nor did I commit to being the scapegoat.

This year, the Memorial Day Ceremony was turned over to the Secretary of Defense, the Military Unit of Washington, and the VA; something that, in the past was handled thru the VA Department of Intergovernmental Affairs Office and Arlington National Cemetery. This year was run in conjunction with the National Veterans Day Committee (an Event we do not participate in at Arlington). The problem was the right hand had no idea what the left hand (nor the White House) was doing. While we all (other VSO's as well) waited to hear if this year's Ceremony at Arlington was even going to happen, let alone be open to the public, I had to file paperwork

with the Hotel, the Bus company, the caterer, and the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to get a liquor license to be able to "give away" beer & liquor at the Hotel during this Event. I also contacted other VSOs to keep me in the loop in case they heard anything regarding the Ceremony and calling SOMEONE every single day, whether it be the VA, Arlington, and even the White House itself. NO ONE heard anything until late Friday night May 13th (and I was notified Monday, May 16th which left the Event only 2 weeks away) that there would be a Ceremony, but with limited invitees and even more limited attendance by the General Public. We did not know what limited attendance meant until the following Monday (which left 1 week before the Event) when we were told that there would only be 25% capacity allowed to watch the Ceremony, and no one allowed to watch the President lay his wreath at the Tomb of the unknown Soldier.

Our ONLY job at Arlington is to pass out American Flags to everyone who enters the Amphitheater and if there is no, or limited public to hand out Flags to, there is no purpose for us to be there. Yes, we could have stood at the gate at the entrance to the Cemetery and handed out Flags, but we had Voyageurs coming from all over the Country and they would not have appreciated the fact that they came all this way and would not be allowed near the Amphitheater or the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Especially since I can set it up for the Chef de Chemin de Fer & La Presidente Nationale to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier anytime, as I have done the last 2 years.

The Chef de Chemin de Fer, along with La Presidente Nationale were kept apprised of all of this starting May 14th and were consulted on May 17th at 12:12 pm (2 weeks prior to the Event) where the Chef de Chemin de Fer said in his opinion, we should cancel it and go at a later date to lay the wreath "so consider my vote to cancel it and go at a later date", and the La Presidente agreed. Just as Chef de Chemin de Fer Mike McGary was also given that option in 2021 and also voted to cancel and go to Arlington at a later date to lay a wreath, etc. No one was given an option in 2020, as covid has just started and Arlington Cemetery was closed to visitors. I was called again the week prior by Arlington asking if we wanted to go ahead and lay a wreath Memorial Day and I thanked him but told him what our main purpose is, and then he remembered and apologized again for the lack of communication this year. Turns out they had a lot of Groups canceling their wreaths because they had made plans to attend other Memorial Day Events (like the Program at the

Vietnam Memorial) due to the notices going out late. However, after I returned from the Great Lakes Promenade, I was called by 4 different Voyageurs & Dames that wanted to let me know that the Chef de Chemin de Fer was at Great Lakes complaining and saying that "Dave forgot to file paperwork, and that is why we did not go to Memorial Day". If you reread above, there are a LOT of calls and forms that need to be filled out, but yea - I forgot to file THE paperwork for us to even GO?!?!? Really??

Rumors, lies, and slander like this spread by the leader of a 17,000 or even 200,000 Member Organization, does affirm that our current leader has little integrity and one who has no business wearing that coveted Gold Chapeau. Good leaders do not tear down or lie about others to "make themselves look better", or smarter, or whateverthehell THIS was. "The function of true leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers"

I have been told, as many of you have seen yourselves, that along this year's travels, there have been many statements made by the Chef de Chemin de Fer that have not been factual and other statements that relate to a "me, me, me" attitude.

The Chef de Chemin de Fer that knew BEFORE the Great Lakes Promenade that I had worked and arranged it so that he would be laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as Chef de Chemin de Fer on July 8th. The same Chef de Chemin de Fer that acted SO, SO, happy and moved that he got to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as the Chef de Chemin de Fer, the only thing he had to say was "but it's not Memorial Day". The Chef de Chemin de Fer that even after being told that the Sales Manager required a "banquet license" (Virginia's 1 day liquor license) at the hotel to set up a bar in a public space, schmoozed a high school age front desk employee to let him do it anyway, by stating "My house is your House". The Chef de Chemin de Fer that just "showed up" a day early of his scheduled arrival date (2 days early of the Event) with no notice, no hotel room for the night (that I knew of) and expected me or Nationale to pay for it (he even submitted a request for payment to Nationale!). The Chef de Chemin de Fer that was told of all the events, dinner reservations, etc that would be happening that weekend (as did everyone else and agreed to it when asked) decided 3 hours prior to dinner that the dinner reservations needed to be changed to a different restaurant (no matter that the new restaurant would add extra cost from the Memorial Day

Fund). The Chef de Chemin de Fer that after being told the bus is contracted on a time limit, with only certain routes and stops, still thought that because he was Chef de Chemin de Fer, he could make the bus stop so they could "go shopping at the Gift Shop", which is never done when we go to the Cemetery to put flowers on the gravesites of Breen, Pershing, and Younger (which due to the road being redone, we were not able to visit Younger) due to time, etc. General thinking is, you are in town for 4 days, you're more than welcome to go on your own.

I know this may sound like I am disparaging the current Chef de Chemin de Fer, and that is not what I am trying to accomplish, but I was always told that the Office of Chef de Chemin de Fer should be above reproach and we should respect the Office that individual holds. Which I absolutely do, it's just been too hard to respect those who have held the Office in recent years, as well as WHY they were "Chosen" to be Chef de Chemin de Fer. For instance, when a Chef de Chemin de Fer attends an Event he is INVITED to, he is a Guest and should conduct himself in that manner. He is Not to demand things that are not on the schedule, not able to be scheduled, or in the best interests of the Host and/or other guests. It seems our current Chef de Chemin de Fer is lacking certain character and/or leadership qualities. Usually when someone slanders someone else, it is because they are intimidated or scared of what that other person can achieve, or who will actually listen to that other person resulting in them having more influence than the slanderer does. I will leave that with you to decide which is prevalent here.

When you get away from Protocol, History, and just the RIGHT way to do things, you end up with leaders like we have had lately that have only been hand-picked by a select few Past Chef de Chemin de Fers based on who they "like" better. In my opinion, our current Chef de Chemin de Fer should've been & would've been beaten in an ACTUAL "Election" by a Voyageur who has almost twice as many years in the Organization and has done more FOR the Organization. But that Voyageur was passed over yet again this year by the Committee and instead, we will have another Chef de Chemin de Fer whose only qualifications, as far as most of us can see, are a few years on 1 Committee as Secretary/Treasurer and now 1 year as a Sous Directeur. His history only contains 1 term on the Membership Team, and that was as a Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer (2 years due to covid). The character of year's "preferred Candidate" can be shown from a recent incident I was told about (same story, multiple people). I was told that he showed up at a Locale Promenade (not his own) in his home Grande which he was not invited to and proceed-

ed to berate and try to "kick out" a Voyageur because he "disrespected him as a Nationale Officer". He may be, but he was an uninvited guest and the Voyageur belonged to that Locale. What's worse is, he tried to bring the Voyageur up on charges, which were quickly dismissed. Come on, really? That tells me all I need to know.

The office of national leader (Chef de Chemin de Fer) should be based on qualifications not personal favoritism, and the Membership should have more of a say than just 1 choice of a Candidate on the floor and everyone yelling "oui" because there is no other choice than to do so.

"The core purpose of any successful organization is to operate to benefit the masses, not reward the selected few."

During these 3 years, it looks like between putting out the first Registration Form and the cancelation this year, I have only had 3 or 4 conversations with Bob regarding Memorial Day, and one of those email conversations was "I think on your way to becoming Chef de Chemin de Fer in the next few years, which I would support 100%". How soon things change.

A financial report wasn't even requested, except for each year after the Event was canceled. A financial report has never been available to our Membership (nor even Grande du Virginia who used to be a big part of the help for these Events, even though one was often requested) and was always a topic of conversation.

Yesterday, July 16th after waiting until after I was able to take the Chef de Chemin de Fer and La Presidente Nationale, I told Bob I was going to turn over everything I had regarding the Memorial Day Program and he could do whatever he liked with it (I suggested a Nationale Program with a Directeur, Sous Directeur, and Secretary/Treasurer). I have always been transparent about any Event or funds I have been in charge of. If anyone would like to see the financial report I gave Bob that lists everything to the penny, just ask. But like our Programs that are under the Umbrella of Voiture Nationale, everything should be transparent. Allowing others to view the report adds a layer of accountability and tames rumors of misappropriation of funds, etc. You would also notice that there are no debit or ATM withdrawals from this account; as when Bob opened this account with me, I told him that unlike my predecessor, I did not want a debit card. It was understood that everything I paid for would have receipts/invoices and would be reimbursed by check. With the information that will be turned over to Bob there is a receipt or invoice for EVERY transaction – deposits AND disbursements. I have always asked people who had debit cards for Events "If you go to an ATM and withdrawal \$200, and you spend \$136

of it, is there then a deposit for the remaining cash (\$64)?? Yet, I have never seen any financial report that shows any deposits matching that description. Every penny in the Memorial Day Account is accounted for with explanations of every check written and received.

Thankfully, after having to manage under poor superior Officers and poor leaders in the past, I learned a long time ago to "cover my ass"; as a poor leader, who has NO business in the position they are in, will spread rumors or tell falsehoods about others just to make themselves "look better", or assign blame and responsibility.

Everything today is done by phone calls, texts, and emails, and there is a Memorial Day file that has EVERY email that was sent and received, and there are call logs and notes of EVERY phone call that was made and received.

I am now thinking that there may be some other things that Voyageurs need to or would like to know regarding other happenings in La Société, and you can come to your own conclusions, but it may help you understand my frustration.

For instance, as I said above, Grande du South Carolina has put on 3 major events in 2 ½ years (anywhere from 85 to 575 attendees). Each of which brought in a profit for the Grande. Also, those Events had different people in charge of Hotel, Registration, etc and someone else in charge of deposits and expenditures. I only mention this because I have recently been informed about our last Event here in South Carolina. Last July, after objections and compromise, Grande du South Carolina Cheminots voted to bring a Resolution to the Grande Promenade floor for a vote. That resolution was to "In case needed", provide the Chef de Chemin de Fer with funds "UP TO" \$4,000 to make him whole in case he overspent on his Homecoming after registration, banquet, program book ads and donation income. This was approved with proper receipt/income documentation required to receive payment. We were all under the understanding that at the following year's Grande Promenade, the Grande Cheminots would check all the receipts and income to see if the Chef de Chemin de Fer did require any funding to "make him whole". However, when we received our yearly Grande Finance Report prior to the Grande Promenade, we see that the Chef de Chemin de Fer had actually received a check for the entire \$4,000 in January of 2022 – which was a whole 2 months PRIOR to his Homecoming with no explanation given to the Membership as to why there was a premature payment. None of us can figure out how he overspent by \$4,000 when the Event had not even happened yet. As there may be an acceptable expla-

nation, for the life of us we cannot come up with one. While almost every other Chef de Chemin de Fer of late has had a "campaign manager" or someone to take care of the registration money, Ad money, and donation money as well as expenditures so that not only is that one less thing a Chef de Chemin de Fer has to worry about, but it also adds some accountability to it. Again, I only bring this up as it goes to character, integrity, and transparency of someone holding the Office of Chef de Chemin de Fer. I did not attend our Grande Promenade due to another commitment, but I was told that this was not brought up even though the question was asked prior to the Grande Cheminot and Grande Promenade.

Speaking of the Office of Chef de Chemin de Fer, sometime a few years ago, some of us started seeing more and more that the Voyageurs being "selected" for the Offices of Grande Chef de Gare, Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer, and even the Office of Chef de Chemin de Fer itself, were pursuing the Title for the Tiara they believed came with it. This has only been cemented in recent years. The actual (and even assumed) requirements for the Office of Chef de Chemin de Fer have also changed in recent years. As I mentioned before, it used to be that you had to have been a Sous Directeur of a few different Programs and it was preferred for a Candidate to have also been a Directeur of one of those Programs. Membership was also inferred to be a very important Program to be a team member of before submitting a resolution for Chef de Chemin de Fer. But now it seems that the main requirement is to be the best "Beer fetcher" and/or be a better kiss up than the other Candidate or Candidates. Sometime in the last 5 or 6 years, I decided that being a Chef de Chemin de Fer passe was not a "club" I wanted to be a member of. We have had more qualified Candidates be "turned down for the Office" and not even "recommended" by the Committee on Committee on the Floor of Promenade Nationale, that have been in the Organization longer and have more experience than the Candidates that were "given the nod" (or "Howdy Doody" – or whatevertheyell they want to call it!).

Lastly, I hope you all have been informed that there is a Resolution being circulated that was approved by Grande du New York (please see attachment) that would REQUIRE an election on the floor of Promenade Nationale; with the Committee on Committee only vetting the Candidates that according to our Constitution, the only current qualifications that are needed is to be a current Member in good standing, and have had submitted a Resolution correctly and on time. It is also preferred they have previously held the Offices of Grande Chef de Gare & Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer, but not required per our Constitution. This will still allow the Com-

mittee on Committee to do their job of vetting the Candidates (Constitutional Requirements) but will have NO PREFERRED Candidate being announced ahead of time OR on the floor. That means that when we get to the Election portion of our Promenade Nationale and the Correspondant Nationale usually reads "The Committee on Committees recommends....."insert THEIR preferred Candidate's name here.....for the office of Chef de Chemin de Fer", the Correspondant National will now be {and should've always been) required to say "The Committee on Committee recommends..."insert ALL Candidates names here"....for the Office of Chef de Chemin de Fer".

There is some misunderstanding and misinformation out there that this Resolution will "change" the Constitution, but all this Resolution does is define what the Constitution already says. By "giving the nod" (or "howdy Doody", as passed a few years ago and now called "preferred Candidate") the Committee on Committee is actually violating YOUR Constitution of La Société by NOT reading ALL the names of "Eligible/Qualified Candidates". It is also worded to take effect "immediately" and that means (if the Resolution passes on the floor BY the membership) that BOTH of the Candidates' names, that have Resolutions in for Chef de Chemin de Fer this year, will be read on the floor of Promenade Nationale in Green Bay and then we will have an ACTUAL Election.....imagine that!!

Not everyone should be a Chef de Chemin de Fer, but we as Voyageurs have the Right to Elect the Chef de Chemin de Fer of OUR choosing.

That is another reason I am sending this out, as I have already heard that the "powers that be" have started the campaign to "kill this prior to, or in the Resolutions Committee. It seems those fighting it most are the ones who this will take power away from most (and their lackeys). I cannot believe all the Voyageurs who have put their lives on the line for this Country, but are scared to speak up, and stand up for themselves. It's funny that their reasoning is, "But I have aspirations and they control that". Do you even listen to yourselves?? THAT'S THE PROBLEM and this resolution fixes that. Make your Grande & Locale Delegates to Promenade Nationale read the Constitution (Article VIII, Section 15) and then read the Resolution. After that, they need to go to the Resolutions meeting on Wednesday, September 14th at 3pm in the Huron Room. Don't let them be bullied in the hallway as has been done in the past.

If you haven't figured it out so far, please consider this my resignation from all Offices and positions within the realm of La Société. Please remove me from all email lists except necessary communication regarding my personal Membership from Nationale.

This has been coming for a while now. I have seen our Membership DROP by THIRTY THOUSAND Voyageurs since I joined almost 20 years ago, and that drop is not just a result of TAPS – we do a decent job of replacing those every year but the drop in Membership is attributed to Voyageurs losing interest and just dropping out. I have seen some really good Veterans (male AND female) come and go during these years, and it is easy to see why. The drop in Membership coincides with the participation in our Programs and quality of those "chosen" or appointed. We all have seen and heard that in some cases, you do not even have to be productive in your Grande to be an appointed Nationale Sous Directeur anymore (refer back to the Beer Fetcher/kiss up comment from earlier) Hell, we have Voyageurs who are currently wearing that Gold Chapeau as Sous Directeurs who have already been FIRED at least once from Nationale Sous Directeur positions. It just doesn't make sense, and some of those same Voyageurs are about to be promoted again next month.....

At the Locale level, almost all of us are "just filling positions with bodies of those who show up to that Promenade", instead of electing or appointing those who will actually DO the job, and not electing those who just want the Tiara. If that continues, it's time to shut the doors, what's the point? Those Voyageurs aren't doing anything productive.

Do not get me wrong, this Organization has been a HUGE part of my adult life and have enjoyed most of it, but it has come time that I cannot continue to be an active part of La Société. If I didn't care, I would've just quit and disappeared, but my love for this Organization and the brotherhood of some I have gained thru it, I was compelled to write this (mostly after seeing that no one else has the stones to). I have put my heart & soul into this Organization and have decided that I am tired of the disrespect that I have received, let alone the disrespect I have seen targeted at others in recent years by those who are in positions of power that requires them to be better than that.

There are still 1 or 2 Voyageurs on the Committee on Committees that I still admire, and I do not want anyone to think I am attacking anyone on the Committee itself, just the way individuals ON that Committee handle themselves. I even remember back in '08 standing outside the Promenade Nationale room (the hallway talk again) and hearing one of the current Committee mem-

bers telling a Grande Chef de Gare at the time that he may want to vote a certain way or South Carolina would not get any Gold Chapeaus (or lose a couple). The Grande Chef they were speaking to was an ass, but I admired the man because he said, "I cannot change the way our Grande voted at our Grande Promenade and the way they voted is how they told me to vote here today". Seems some people should not have power to begin with, and if they use that power to threaten someone to vote a certain way, the point is solidified. There also comes a time when age creeps up and it is time to retire, enjoy life and give up that power. It is apparent that most of our politicians and even some in our Organization seem hell bent on dying in power.

Something for some (all the way down to the Locale level) to remember: if miraculously La Société lasts another 10-20 years (probably only 2-3, but 5 years at most in my opinion), most of you who in my opinion, have destroyed this Organization, will not be around - but I will be.....

Since the completion of this letter, there have been a few things come up that I also want to pass along with an explanation.

I have been hounded for every day (sometimes twice a day) for the last 8 days from Bob Kaseman demanding I bring a cashier's check for the balance of the Memorial Day Funds. I have told him that I was not comfortable with that and would not be doing that. Especially since when he opened the Bank Account, he put it in his name and in addition to that, his full name is even on the top of the checks themselves. He can write a check to the new account he opens (there is no branch of the current account in Michigan) or whatever he wants to do with it. That is the intelligent and transparent way to handle the transferring of funds. I know Bob has had some health issues, and I am not attacking him, just saying that's not the correct way to do things

Tomorrow (Saturday August 13th), I am turning everything back over to Bob exactly as it was given to me, but with more resources than we started with. If I had not already paid for next year's buses in full and purchased enough Flags already, there would be approximately \$13,000 in the account. This does not include spending approximately \$3,000 on taking the last 2 Chef de Chemin de Fers to Arlington to lay wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown soldier (La President Nationale also this year) with no registration money or other income for those 2 Events. So would've had a balance of around \$5,000 more than what I started with. I want to personally thank each of you who made a donation the last few years. The Event could not continue without you. Also, if you remember,

last Veteran's Day was the Centennial (100th) Commemoration of the Tomb of the Unknown. They commissioned an Artist to make a rendering of all the symbolism of the Tomb. I purchased one of the prints with Memorial Day Funds to raffle off at this year's Promenade Nationale in Green Bay. Bob now has that print, so I hope that still comes to fruition as it is a beautiful piece of artwork.

I do have to say, out of all the Events I oversaw, or even played a part in, the Memorial Day Committee was the most special to me. That is why I have attended every Memorial Day in Arlington since 2005 and will continue to attend, we just will not be part of the 40&8 Memorial activities. We can actually play tourists for a change, maybe even go on the annual Motorcycle ride.

Everything regarding Memorial Day has now been turned into Bob, and I am sure there are already stories out there disparaging me, but now you know the truth. After that, I could not care less. Prior to covid, my personal Americanism Report usually listed a total cash + services of around \$25,000 and even during covid it has been \$15,000 - \$20,000. Many of you know what I have put in this Organization and unfortunately, now I will put that time, effort, and personal money into a different Organization. I will continue to serve my Community, just not on behalf of the 40&8.

Again, I apologize for the length of this letter, and I hope everyone got all the way thru it. Besides the fact that there was a lot I had to say, since I started this Michele and I contracted covid, and I wanted to wait until I dropped the Memorial Day stuff off with Bob, and then after that I have been in the ER and had some health complications this past week! It's all good now though! I have gone thru this, but please excuse any errors or if the structure seems confusing. It has taken me about two months to put this together and editing has just been adding events as they happen.

Voyageurs, Grande Chefs, Grande Correspondants, it has been a pleasure and please forward to whomever you think may benefit from all, any, or some of this information.

Dave Hill

Sous Directeur - Nationale Special Awards

Committeeman - 40&8 Memorial Day Committee



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