



Communiqué



La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux

Grande Voiture du Missouri

June 2026 - Grand Chef de Gare Rose Noonan

L'Editeur Robert C. Emery



Greeting Voyageurs

It has been an Honor this year to serve as Grand Chef de Gare for Grande du Missouri. I want to thank everyone for their support and hospitality throughout this past year. This is a special Veteran Organization and I am proud to be a part of this group of Veterans.

I attended the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery at Fort Leonard Wood this past week. A solemn ceremony remembering those Veterans that gave the ultimate sacrifice for the Freedom and Liberties that we have each and every day.

I look forward to the Grande Promenade on 19-21 June 2026 - If you haven't submitted your Registration Form and payment to the Grand Chef de Train- please get those in ASAP so we have accurate numbers for the Banquet. Reminder - Please get those Annual Reports to the Grand Directeurs so they can consolidate and submit to Voiture Nationale. This is n oppor- tunity to showcase our efforts, dedi- cation and

volunteerism throughout the year

MEMBERSHIP: As of 29 May 2026, Grande du Missouri is at 89.60%. We made more headway this past month and I appreciate everyone's effort. We are still making progress but have a way to go (62 short) - The Grande gained 23 this past month. Keep those renewals coming in.

Congratulations to the following Voitures for achieving 100% this year: Voiture 460,760 and 966.

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

REMINDER:

For those attending the banquet

Please bring some door prizes to hand out at the banquet.

NOTE: from Grand Chef de Train

Comrades,

I hope this finds everyone doing well. My update on our membership is as follows. As of 31 May 2026, Grande Du Missouri is at 89.7% and 62 short of quota. The individual region Sou Chef statistics show Roger Wallenberg (V460, 760, and 1321) leading with 95.28% V760 Kickapoo and V460 at 100%, Great Job. Hallie Williams (V38, 448, 966 and 1541) comes in next at 92.7% with V966 Mark Twain at 100%. Calvin Bumgarner (V3, 130, 1379 and 1402) at 88.9% thus far with V130 Jesse James leading the way in that Region with 102.50% that's 1 over, great job. Dan Levasseur with (V292, 333,1292 and 1403) is at 83.9%, V1403 Lake of the Ozarks still needs that 1 to hit their mark. 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 1 month 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 for those "D"s and "I"s in the status column and reach out thru E-mail and phone calls to those who have not renewed. If it is a "D" that Voyageur did not pay last year and if He or She does not renew they will drop this year. If your roster shows an "I" in the status column that means incomplete data which usually means the address is no good and when national sent out the renewal reminder it was returned as undeliverable.

If that Voyageur is a PLM member He or She is not being counted. 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 lean forward in your foxhole and reach out and find those last renewals. Membership being addressed, I am looking forward to Grand Promenade and Cheminot

June 19th through the 21st . I have 23 registrations and it looks like 32 rooms booked so, obviously, I am missing some registrations. I would like to have registration forms by 10 June 2026 to advise the catering staff. If you have not sent one, please send it or email me a copy by June 10th , you can pay at the registration table when you arrive, I just need a headcount. I have talked to the Hotel, and they have a full house that weekend. 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 as we will be finalizing that roster Friday evening and Saturday morning that weekend. Thank You for all you do and have done for La

Societe.

V/R

Ben Sargent

Grande Chef de Train

msgsgt2@yahoo.com

Ardery Trust

What is the Ardery Trust? The Charles W. Ardery Trust is a Trust established to provide reimbursements of funds expended by a Voiture Locale or a Grand Voiture to provide an emergent need for children of families up to 17 years of age.

The definition of emergent is any situation which has occurred of a serious nature demanding Prompt Attention.

These situations may arise from natural disasters. Examples being floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, and fires. Fire being the most claims we deal with.

These emergent cases are given top priority and are undertaken by Voiture Locales and Grands in these effective areas when those established agencies like Red Cross and Churches and Community Welfare are unable to immediately assist. Be advised however that this aid is not intended to actually replace or supplement any assistance which may be available through those previously mentioned agencies.

Those Locales and Grands can take the effected families shopping and replace up to \$500 in clothing per child. However, there is a \$2000 cap per family. You assisting Locales and Grands need to then submit to the Ardery Trust Committee receipts and reports from agencies, such as fire departments, for the listed disaster . The committee swiftly reviews the documentation when received from the Nationale Office and promptly acts upon it. Usually with in the same day. Voyageurs, I encourage your Locale and Grand utilize this Amazing Ardery Trust fund for any disaster in your areas. Once again all required for reimbursement of your expended funds is filling out the required forms off the National Website. The 2 required forms are listed. Once filled out, send all information to the Nationale, along with receipts and any agency reports of the disaster.

Frank W. Kronen

Ardery Trust National Member Advisor

Chef de Chemin de Fer 2023

MEMBERSHIP

Greetings Voyageurs, I hope this article finds you doing well. The information I am working with is from 30 April 2026 Membership updates from Nationale. Our current Membership stands at 12,694 paid members with a 89.60% of our goal and are short 1,474 Voyageurs for the Membership year. If we maintain are Membership numbers on the weekly update, we will attain our goal of 100% in Membership. If we have a bad week in Membership numbers, it will be difficult to attain our goal. In my weekly Membership update, I send out I put out that I would like each Voyageur to bring in at least one new Voyageur every year. In those updates, I have also stated that our New Voyageurs outpace our Voyageurs that reported to Voiture everlasting, this has been going on for several years. We lose our Membership numbers for not getting our Voyageurs to renew. We must ensure that our Voyageurs have a job and feel like they are needed, but we do not want to overwhelm them. The Membership system works as designed, the Locale is where everything happens, if the Locale does not reach out to their Voyageurs to get them to renew it throws the whole system off balance. I know the Membership Team that has been assembled from Nationale, Grande to the Locale is working very hard for you and our Organization. Every Voyageur is part of the Membership Team, so if you think someone would be a good Voyageur Invite them. If anyone needs any assistance from the Membership team, please do not hesitate to reach out to us either by email or phone and we will gladly do whatever we can to assist. We have great programs in this Outstanding Organization, but we need Voyageurs to make those programs successful

En Service,

Franklin V. Angelo

Directeur Membership Nationale

RITUAL

Grande Directeurs Ritual, This month we focus on The Calvin Kane Memorial Service and Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery. It is important to remember that The Calvin Kain Memorial Service is a stand-alone service and should not be included with in a Promenade. It can be held before or after a Promenade but not during a Promenade. The recommendation is to hold the Calvin Kain Memorial Service the evening before Memorial Day, but it can be held to accommodate your Voiture's schedule. The Blue Ritual and Manual

of Ceremonies, page 62, has instructions for a successful service. If you do not conduct this short but meaningful service, you should begin the tradition. Guests are welcome to attend this service of La Societe. Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery is well worth attending. The 40 et 8 Memorial Day Committee does a fine job with lodging, meals, transportation, and hospitality. You can find the information about Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery on the 40 et 8 webpage under "News" and then "Events". Remember all your time, talent, and treasure for La Societe should be recorded in your Petite Communique. Your Petite Communique should be sent in soon. In Service to La Societe, Steve Bradley

HIDDEN HEROS—Caregivers of our HEROS

Behind every wounded, ill, or aging veteran, there is often an unseen hero—most commonly a spouse, partner, or family member—quietly carrying the responsibility of caregiving. These individuals manage medications, attend appointments, provide emotional support, and often sacrifice their own well-being in the process. While their service is rarely recognized in uniform, their commitment is no less significant. Caregiving is not a part-time role. For many, it is a 24-hour-a-day responsibility that brings with it emotional, physical, and psychological challenges. Caregivers of veterans frequently experience anxiety, depression, sleep disruption, and social isolation. Despite these challenges, many continue their work without accessing the support systems designed specifically for them. The Invisible Burden The majority of caregivers for veterans are spouses or close family members, many of whom never formally identify themselves as "caregivers." Instead, they see their efforts as part of their commitment to their loved one. However, this sense of duty can mask the growing toll caregiving takes on mental health. Caregivers often experience chronic stress, emotional exhaustion, isolation, disrupted sleep, and increased risk of anxiety and depression. A significant number of caregivers receiving support services have diagnosable mental health conditions, reinforcing the urgent need for awareness and intervention. The Awareness Gap One of the most critical issues facing caregivers today is not a lack of resources—but a lack of awareness. Many caregivers report that they were unaware of available programs or only learned about them through informal networks such as friends or fellow caregivers. This gap in communication means that countless individuals endure unnecessary hardship before discovering that help exists. Early access to support services can significantly reduce stress, im-

prove mental health outcomes, and enhance the quality of care provided to veterans. Programs and Support Available The Department of Veterans Affairs offers a range of services through its Caregiver Support Program. This program provides access to mental health services, caregiver training, peer support, respite care, and financial assistance for eligible participants. In addition to VA programs, caregivers can also access support through Military OneSource, VA Vet Centers, the Elizabeth Dole Foundation, and local community organizations and faith-based groups. What Caregivers Truly Need Caregivers consistently express the need for recognition, education, mental health support, respite, and community. Supporting caregivers is not simply about providing services—it is about ensuring they feel seen, valued, and supported. A Shared Responsibility As a community, we must do more to recognize and support those who care for our nation's veterans. Caregivers are a critical part of a veteran's recovery and quality of life. When we invest in their well-being, we strengthen families and communities alike. Closing Thought The next time we honor a veteran, we should also remember those standing beside them— the spouses, partners, and family members who continue to serve in their own quiet way. Their sacrifices may not always be visible, but they are deeply felt and profoundly important. Respectfully,

Kevin T. Johnson

National Directeur of Nurses Training

← Honoring Our Nurses During National Nurses Week →

Each year in May, our nation pauses to recognize a group of professionals whose compassion, skill, and dedication form the backbone of healthcare—our nurses. During National Nurses Week, we are given the opportunity to reflect on the invaluable contributions nurses make every single day in our hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and communities. For members of La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux (40&8), this recognition holds even deeper meaning. Supporting nurses is not simply an initiative—it is a cornerstone of who we are as an organization. Since 1957, the 40&8 has proudly sponsored its Nurses Training Program, a long-standing commitment to strengthening the nursing profession across the United States. Through this program, Voitures and Grandes have worked tirelessly to provide financial assistance, encouragement, and recognition to nursing students pursuing their education. What began as a focused effort decades ago has grown into a nationally respected program that continues to make a lasting difference in communities

large and small. This enduring commitment reflects the values upon which our organization was founded— service to others, support for our veterans, and dedication to the well-being of our communities. Many of the nurses who have benefited from this program have gone on to serve in critical roles, providing care not only to veterans but also to families, children, and individuals in need across our nation. Nurses are often the first to respond in times of crisis and the last to leave a patient's side. They provide not only medical care, but also comfort, reassurance, and dignity. Whether caring for our nation's veterans, our children, or members of our local communities, nurses embody the very spirit of service that our organization values so deeply. National Nurses Week concludes each year on May 12th, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, who is widely regarded as the founder of modern nursing. Her pioneering work during the Crimean War revolutionized patient care, emphasizing sanitation, organization, and compassion—principles that remain at the heart of nursing today. As members of the 40&8, we have a unique opportunity—and responsibility—to carry that legacy forward. By continuing to support the Nurses Training Program, engaging with students in our communities, and recognizing excellence in nursing, we ensure that our organization remains a vital part of the future of healthcare. We also encourage every Voiture and Grande to take time this month to personally thank the nurses in their communities. Whether through recognition ceremonies, scholarship presentations, handwritten notes, or community outreach, these acts of appreciation reinforce the bond between our organization and the nursing profession. In honoring nurses, we honor a tradition of care that strengthens our nation. Through our continued efforts and unwavering support, La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux reaffirms its commitment to those who dedicate their lives to caring for others. On behalf of our organization, we extend our deepest gratitude to all nurses—past, present, and future—for their unwavering dedication and service.

Kevin T. Johnson

National Directeur of Nurses Training



GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI
Grande Cheminot and Homecoming
October 16 to October 17, 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 21 September, 2026

Friday October 16, 2026

Registration 1500 – 1800 Kalahari/Mojave Lobby
 Hospitality Room 1500 - ??? Kalahari / Mojave Room
 Past Chefs meeting 1800-UTC Arabian Room

Saturday October 17, 2026

Registration 0900 – 1200
 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 Fiji Ballroom
 Banquet 1900-UTC Fiji Ballroom
 Hospitality Room will be open after the Banquet

Sunday October 18, 2026

Have a safe trip home.

To register for the Grande Promenade and Cheminot. Make check payable to Voiture 460
Please have registrations sent in by 01 October 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: _____

Membership Grande du Missouri

28-May-26

Voiture Name	Voiture	2025 Year End	2026 To-date	2025 Quota	Sh/Ov Quota	% of Quota
HEART OF AMERICA	3	32	27	32	-5	84.38%
SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS	38	44	42	44	-2	95.45%
JESSE JAMES	130	40	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	60	58	61	-3	95.08%
CENTRAL OZARK	460	43	56	56	0	100.00%
KICKAPOO	760	24	24	24	0	100.00%
MARK TWAIN	966	2	2	2	0	100.00%
CAPITAL	1292	70	54	72	-18	75.00%
MINERAL AREA	1321	34	41	47	-6	87.23%
NEUF COMPT	1379	30	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		563	534	596	-62	89.60%

