



Communiqué



La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux

Grande Voiture du Missouri

March 2026 - Grand Chef de Gare Rose Noonan

L'Editeur Robert C. Emery



Greeting Voyageurs

I want to thank everyone that attended the 2026 Grande Spring Wreck in Springfield, MO. Congratulations to our 5 Voyageur Militaire's who endured the Spring Wreck activities and Welcome to the 40/8 Organization. It was an honor and pleasure for Grande du Missouri to host our 40/8 Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Ralph Binion from Idaho who took the time to enjoy some Missouri hospitality. Thanks to our Grand Chef de Train Ben Sargent and his wife Shelly for their time and effort hosting the hospitality room. It is truly appreciated.

Reminder - Central States Promenade 2026 is being held in North Platte, NE on 23-26 April 2026. I would like to see a good showing from Grande du Missouri and support Grande du Nebraska. Registration and Ad Forms are located on the Grande Webpage.

The Grande Promenade will be held 19-21 June 2026 - looking forward to seeing everyone there. Registration forms are available on the Grande du Missouri Website. Reminder for each Voi-

ture to bring door prizes for the Banquet.

I look forward to the Truman Pilgrimage on 7-8 May 2026 in Independence, MO and laying a wreath on behalf of Grande du Missouri

MEMBERSHIP: As of 12 March 2026, Grande du Missouri is at 77.85%. We made some more headway this past month and I appreciate everyone's effort. We still have a way to go - keep up the work.

Rose Noonan

Grand Chef de Gare
Grande du Missouri.



SPRING GRANDE CHEMINOT March 08, 2026
Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri

With a rap of the gavel, Grand Chef de Gare Rose Noonan opened the Grande Cheminot at 9:00 am surprisingly on time today with a salute to the Flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a prayer by Grand Aumonier Ted McCart. Note: Aide de Camp, Correspondant, Historien etc. paid a \$20 fine for the Grand Chef de Gare for being 2 minutes late on Saturday for the opening of the Spring Wreck.

Roll call of the Grande Officers were made followed by the roll call of Grand Chefs de Gare Passe. There were thirteen Grand Chef de Gare Passe present. Roll call of Grand Cheminots showed we had a quorum with ten Voitures represented. Fines were collected for those answering incorrectly. Absent were Voitures 38, 130 (Excused due to illness), 966, 1402 and 1403.

Grand Chef de Gare Rose Noonan recognized Ralph Binion Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer from Idaho who wished to remain in the gallery. He discussed the importance of membership and thanked everyone for their hospitality during his visit.

Grand Avocat Kevin Johnson stated we will follow the Voiture National Constitution and then Roberts's rules.

Notion offered by Ralph Turner, seconded by Kevin Johnson, that the Fall Grande Cheminot minutes are accepted as printed and sent out...passed.

Grand Correspondant AJ Noonan said he received flyers from Deb Reynolds (Grande du Florida) and Bob Hickey (Grande du North Carolina) as candidates for Chef de Chemin de Fer 2027. Received 100% membership pins from Voiture Nationale for Voiture 130 Chef de Gare and Correspondant. Grand Chef de Gare Rose Noonan will present them during the Grande Promenade in June. Grande Chef de Gare presented certificates to Voiture 333 for 2025 Anderson Award Excellence for Nurses Training and 2025 Excellence in Communications.

Grand Correspondant AJ Noonan stated he had received the following resolutions: Ben Sargent for Grand Chef de Gare, Forrest Johnson for Grand Chef de Train, Dan Levasseur for Commissaire Intendant and AJ Noonan for Grand Correspondant. Action on these resolutions will be at the Grande Promenade through the Resolution Committee.

Grand Commissaire Intendant, Forrest Johnson, presented the finance report. Notion offered by Kevin Johnson to accept the finance report subject to audit, second by Calvin Bumgarner... passed.

Grand Chef de Train Ben Sargent recognized his Sous Chef de Trains and reported the Grande had a membership of 71.48% and are still short 170 membership renewals. There is still time to get those renewals. Two Voitures are at 100% - 966 and 130. Reach out and scrub your memberships roster and talk to those members who have not renewed. Look for good Voyageurs to be a part of this organization. Notion by Frank Angelo and second by Dan Levasseur to accept the report...passed

Cheminot Nationale Mike Scruby had nothing to report along with Alternate Cheminot Nationale Ron Leverenz. Some of the highlights of the Grand Cheminot reports are: Voiture 3 – no report. Voiture 130 provided the following report due to Dan Petit departing early due to illness – hope your feeling better. V130 gave out over \$12,000 in Nursing Scholarships; conducted 12 Veteran breakfasts. Participated in 13 events at Schools and Nurses Homes for Veterans Day. Currently working with the American Legion to help support the Nations 250th Birthday. Donated a mobility scooter to Abundant Acres Nursing Home. Volunteer hours to date: 9,560, Mileage 30,183 and Cash \$12,283. Total cash and services \$75,175. Voiture 292 reported that Lora Berkley had to step down at Chef de Gare due to medical issues. Voyageur Militaire Chris Neal has assumed duties as Chef de Gare. Voiture 333 reported that their membership is currently at 93%. Unfortunately, 6 Voyageur Militaire's have passed away this year. Allocated \$11,000 in Scholarships this year and currently accepting applications. Recipients will be presented during the June Promenade. Grand Chef de Gare has been invited to present. Veterans Day at Smith-Cotton High School guest speaker was Voyageur Militaire LTC(R) Joey Sullinger who is also the Commander of the High School JROTC Program. Voiture 333 purchased the trophies for the Fall JROTC Drill Meet and presented by members of the Voiture. The Trophy for Cadet of the Year was also purchased and presented by the Voiture. Voiture 448 promenade held every other month. Looking for childrens homes within the St. Louis area to support. June 27th 2026 will be their annual Murder Mystery Fundraiser; Voiture 460 membership is at 80.36%. Awarded three Nursing Training Scholarships for \$500 each Semester. Participated in Veterans Day placement of flags at 5 local cemeteries. 4 Voyageurs went thru the Spring Wreck yesterday . Voiture 760 sadly reported the passing of their Chef de Gare Carrie Watkins due to medical issues. Voiture 1292 had one Voyageur went thru Wreck yesterday. There

were 8 Nursing Scholarships awarded. Each is \$1000 per year. Special Needs 2025 Christmas Event handed out 292 Teddy Bear/Goodie Bags. Golf Tournament- Date has been set for July 11 – looking for sponsors. Please contact Dan Levasseur for more information. Voiture 1321 Mineral Area has one Promenade each month at a post home throughout the 13th District of the American Legion Department of Missouri. Voiture 1321 reported over 40 funerals conducted. Currently supporting 5 Nurses in training. They have conducted 5 Blood Drives. Provides support to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Perryville, MO. Membership is currently at 51%. Sponsoring 1 for Boys State this year. Participated in Wreaths Across America at Jefferson Barracks and surrounding Cemeteries. Conducting fundraiser BBQs for Nursing Training Scholarship and Child Welfare. Voiture 1541 conducted Memorial services and the colors were draped for Victor Hernandez and Richard Trammel. The local Missouri Veterans Home is upgrading their audio-visual room. Locale donated \$200 towards the project. The Missouri Order of the Devil Dogs is having their annual golf tournament fundraiser at Top Golf. They are seeking hole sponsorships. Sponsoring a hole at the cost of a \$200 donation. Larry Dufour, Dan Sauer and Al Schultz assisted with the American Legion High School Oratorical in December at the St. Charles Legion. We had our annual join Voiture #1541 and Salon 771 Christmas Party at the Wentzville American Legion December 17th. Box Car - 39 box car cards and 5 pins were sold and have been paid. Membership: 39 paid for the year. Nurses Training - The Locales Nurses Training program is back up and running. We currently have 3 Nurses in training. 2 of the 3 are slated to graduate this month. Voiture 1541's annual Night at the Races fundraiser is happening March 7th at the St. Charles American Legion Post.

Grand Medicin Tommy Thomas reported 5 PGs went through the Spring Wreck and there were no injuries that were reported. Great job keeping our PG's safe once again.

Grand Historien AJ Noonan said if any Locales or individuals from this weekend have pictures, they would like to include in the Grande History scrapbook send them to him.

Grand Directeur Nurses Training Dan Levasseur said to capture all information and send to him by 01 June 2026.

Grand Aumonier Ted McCart said to send him the names of the recently deceased Voyageur Militaires to Honor them in the Memorial Program at the Grand Promenade.

Grand Drapeau West Ron Leverenz stated he is donating the helmet and trench coat for the Tomb of Unknown Soldier and the service crosses to be maintained in the trailer for future Spring Wrecks.

Grand Conducteur Steve Rossberg said there were 5 PG's wrecked and estimated the PG's collected over \$225 in coins and cash. Actual amount was \$226.75. Amount was rounded up to \$230.00 with a very small fine from the MC for his Gavel being stolen during the banquet. Note: All of the money the PG's collected during the Spring Wreck will go the National Fund for Kevin Johnson's candidacy for Chef de Chemin de Fer 2028 and the fines from the Grande Cheminot will be decided during the Grande Promenade in June. Wanted to thank all the Sous Conducteurs / Wrecking Crew who supported the Wreck. He will be fined next time for not wearing his White Jacket for the Grande Cheminot.

Grand Directeur Ritual Frank Angelo requested all reports be sent to him by 01 Jun 2026 so they can be consolidated and awards be presented during Grande Promenade.

Grand Directeur Carville Star Roger Wallenberg reiterated the importance of sending your Voiture Local reports on time so he can consolidate and send to Nationale.

Grand Directeur Special Awards Wade Mano said he has received a Law Officer of the Year from Voiture 1321 and the packet was being processed.

Grand Directeur VAVS Chip Berkley reiterated the importance of sending reports in and accounting for volunteer hours at the VA Hospitals. Also stated the new requirement to obtain Federal Background check before being allowed to volunteer.

Grand Directeur Youth Sports Chip Berkley debated how he assumed these duties. It fell on deaf ears since he is currently the Sous Directeur Youth Sports at Nationale and was unanimously voted in during the Grand Homecoming. Send your reports to him so he can consolidate.

MAVO Delegate at Large Dan Levasseur stated MAVO has a Veteran Website newly developed that includes all Veteran Organizations. Cost to maintain / sponsor this website is \$100 annually. Voiture 1292 sponsored this website for this year with a \$100 donation. Rock the Rotunda is scheduled for 9 Mar 2026 to voice our Veteran concerns and support.

Time and Place Committee Chairman Kevin Johnson reported the following: Central States is: April 23-26, 2026 Place: Best Western Plus, 3201 South Jeffers St, North Platte, NE The room rate is King \$114.00 per night plus tax and Double Queen \$119.00 Registration Fee: \$95.00 Luncheon: \$30.00. Grande Cheminot & Promenade June 19-21, 2026 Place: Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, MO Hotel Rate: \$119 (plus tax) per night. Registration Fee: \$15.00 Banquet Fee: \$42.00 107th Promenade Nationale: September 22-26,

2026 Place: Gettysburg, Pa. Registration: \$30.00 before 6/1/25 \$35.00 after. Add \$5.00 Banquet: \$45.00 choice of London Broil or Chicken Marsala Early Bird: \$30.00 (9/22/25) Cost of Rooms: \$129.00/ Total stay. Fall Grande Cheminot & Grand Chef de Gare's Homecoming: October 16-17, 2026 Place: Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, MO Hotel Rate: \$119 (plus tax) per night. Registration Fee: \$15.00 Banquet Fee: \$42.00. Spring Wreck 2027 is pending final coordination and distribution of information

Distinguished Voyageur Award Calvin Bumgarner Chairman. No report.

Old Business: Ben Sargent stated he is still working on the title for the Grande du Missouri trailer. He is working on the lost title paperwork but anticipates it will be ready to hand over before the fall Homecoming if not sooner.

New Business:

Grand Directeur Nurses Training Dan Levasseur challenged everyone to bring 1 person into the organization. We need to get new individuals involved to grow this organization.

Grand Chef de Gare Rose Noonan made the following Grand Promenade Committee appointments: Constitution Ralph Turner; Nominations Kevin Johnson; Credentials Ben Sargent; Resolutions David Bexten and Audit Chairman Terry Lanning with Frank Angelo and Janice Hartley. Motion was offered and approved. Pending confirmation of attending – notification letters will be sent to those individuals.

Good of the Grande Voiture:

Voiture 460 had the only jockey for the Fundraiser. Clay Williams raised \$214.00. Thanks for being a good sport and taking one for the team.

Grand Chef de Gare Passe Terry Lanning asked if anyone had any old military uniforms that he would like to have them. Please contact him if you have any available.

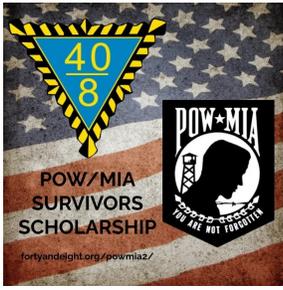
Distinguished guest speech – Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Ralph Binion addressed the Grande and thanked everyone again for their hospitality and wished to come back again and bring his spouse.

Kevin Johnson reminded everyone about bringing door prizes for the Grande Promenade in June.

No Grand Chef de Passe wished to speak. Thankfully.

AJ Noonan
Grand Correspondant
Grande du Missouri





POW/MIA Annual Consolidated Report

Date Prepared _____

Report for Voiture Locale # _____ Grand du _____ Total Locale Membership _____

Locale Report Grand Voiture Report (Please check one) Total Grande Membership _____

Directeur's Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

PLEASE COLLECT THE FOLLOWING DATA:

*#1, #2, and #4 will auto total. All you must do is input your total hours, miles, and expenditures in #3.
Pro tip: after typing each field, press tab to move between entires and finish each entry!*

1. **Total Man Hours**.....@ \$5.00 per hour \$ _____
(Include all hours of travel, computer time, phone time etc)
2. **Total Mileage**.....@\$.50 per mile \$ _____
(Inclue all travel to promenades, post office, lectures etc)
3. **Actual Expenditures**.....\$ _____
(Postage, printing, fuel, room&meals, donations etc)
4. **ACCRUED TOTALS**.....\$ _____
(#1 + #2 + #3)

(Although expenses are not reimbursable, they are tax deductible keep all receipts for your records)

5. **ACTIVITIES**.....
(List all activities attended at the Grande, Locale and Nationale levels, fund raising events, etc)

We encourage you to use this form to collect reportable information for the program, however when it is time to submit your report, we kindly ask that you do so electronically. The electronic form takes minutes and will calculate the totals for you. It will also deliver a copy to your email. The report can be submitted as often as you like; not just one time per year. Please navigate to the consolidated reports section of 40&8.org to find the link, or use this QR code to submit your report now. Automation is the way of the future and we hope you will join us in making it a success while seeing how easy it is to use.



LOCALE DEADLINE: JULY 1ST
GRANDE DEADLINE: JULY 15TH

If required, mail consolidated Grande Reports to:
Steven W. Slegers steven.tink4748@gmail.com
8503 NE 13th St
Vancouver, WA 98664



GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI
Grande Promenade & Cheminot
June 19 to June 21, 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 24 May, 2026

Friday June 19th, 2026
 Registration 1500 – 1800 Kalahari/Mojave Lobby
 Hospitality Room 1500 - ??? Kalahari / Mojave Room
 2026-2027 Officer Slating Meeting 1800 Arabian Room

Saturday June 20th, 2026
 Registration 0900 – 1200
 Committee meetings/audit 0800-1100-Arabian Room
 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 Maui Ballroom
 Banquet 1900-UTC Maui Ballroom
 Hospitality Room will be open after the Banquet

Sunday June 21st, 2026
 Grande Cheminot 0900-UTC Sahara Room

To register for the Grande Spring Wreck and Cheminot. Make check payable to Voiture 460
Please have registrations sent in by 10 June 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: _____



AMERICANISM

Consolidated Report

Report for (check one) Voiture Locale # du or Total Membership

Date Prepared Grande Voiture du Total Membership

Directeur's Name Telephone -

Address City/St/Zip

GRANDE ONLY: Outstanding Locale "Flags For First Graders" is Outstanding Locale is Attach Locale Report

Locale Mail to: Grand Voiture Directeur

Grand Directeur Mail to: (REPORT DUE July 15)
John Edelblute, IV 3952 E Edgerton Ave, Cudahy, WI 5311

ACTUAL HOURS	ACTUAL MILES	ACTUAL CASH	CATEGORY <i>(Example of Activity)</i>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	AMERICANISM AWARDS <i>School, High School, College, Jr. ROTC, Sr. ROTC, Community Organizations, Citizens (Private), Fire Prevention, Law Enforcement, Others</i>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	AMERICANISM SPEECHES AND FLAG ACTIVITIES <i>Flag presentations, Flag raising ceremonies, Flag retirement ceremonies</i>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	YOUTH ACTIVITIES <i>Band support, Baseball, Boys and Girls State, Oratorical Contests, Scouting (Boy, Girl, Cub), Valley Forge Freedom Foundation, Child ID Programs, Driver Training, FFA, 4H, PTA, etc.</i>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES <i>Blood donor, Community Services, Get out the Vote, National Security, Political Action, Senior Citizens, Hunter Safety Programs, Poppy Sales, Special Olympics Meetings/Promenades/Wrecks, Activities in other Fraternal Organizations</i>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	HOLIDAYS AND MEMORIALS <i>Calvin Kain Memorial Service, Grave Decoration, Memorial Day, Memorial Services: funerals, memorial dedications, Parade participation, patriotic events, Installations, Veterans Day</i>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	VETERANS <i>Veterans Home Activities, Transportation to Hospitals/Doctors, Veterans Employment</i>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	FLAGS FOR FIRST GRADERS PROGRAM- <i>How many flags were handed out</i>
			A. \$ <input type="text"/> Total Hours x \$5.00
			B. \$ <input type="text"/> Total Miles x \$.50 (\$1.00 for locomotive)
			C. \$ <input type="text"/> Total Cash Spent

TOTAL CASH AND SERVICES (A + B + C)

PER CAPITA (Total Cash divided by membership)

Membership Grande du Missouri

12-Mar-26

Voiture Name	Voiture	2025 Year End	2026 To-date	2025 Quota	Sh/Ov Quota	% of Quota
HEART OF AMERICA	3	32	15	32	-17	46.88%
SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS	38	44	42	44	-2	95.45%
JESSE JAMES	130	34	41	40	1	102.50%
HEART OF MISSOURI	292	23	17	23	-6	73.91%
STATE FAIR	333	87	93	100	-7	93.00%
GATEWAY	448	59	45	61	-16	73.77%
CENTRAL OZARK	460	43	45	56	-11	80.36%
KICKAPOO	760	24	14	24	-10	58.33%
MARK TWAIN	966	2	2	2	0	100.00%
CAPITAL	1292	65	45	72	-27	62.50%
MINERAL AREA	1321	16	24	47	-23	51.06%
NEUF COMPT	1379	28	25	32	-7	78.13%
ATCHISON NODAWAY HOLT Counties	1402	10	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		516	461	596	-135	77.35%

