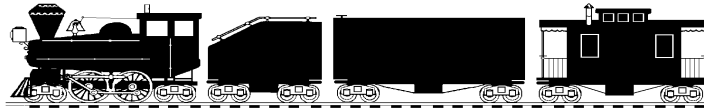


# *Communiqué*

## *La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux*

### *Grande Voiture du Missouri*



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**September 2015 - Grand Chef de Gare David Bexten**

**- L'Editeur Grant Willis**

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#### **The Grand Chef Sez**

Whoever said time fly's when you are having fun sure said a mouth full. August is all but over. I would like to say a great big thanks to all the Voitures I've attended for their great hospitality and warm welcome they have shown Patty and myself during this past month. We started out in Ashland V292 on August 5th. August 13th found us in Jefferson City with V1292. August 15th we attended a car show at Purina Farms hosted by St. Charles V1541. What a great time we had among friends. The locomotive from V38 was there. The young kids (and old kids alike) really enjoyed it. Might have even caused a little stir (Hugh Mike?) What a great time we had! That evening found us at St. Charles V1541 for installation of officers and more fun and food. I actually won a wine basket in a drawing that night. We spent the night in St. Charles and headed back Sunday morning after a fine breakfast. Monday evening found us at V38 in St. Louis for installation of officers and guess what? Yes more great food and hospitality. Tuesday Aug 18th we were invited to American Legion Post 5 in Jefferson City for installation of their Legion, Legion Riders and Axillary officer's. Yep you guessed it more great food and great hospitality & fellowship. Then August 25th found us in Springfield at V760 for their installation and yep more great food and

hospitality, and of course we spent the night and headed back next morning. Again, thanks to all Voitures and fellow Voyagers & friends for all the wonderful hospitality as always we get treated like royalty. The future looks full of fun and exciting travels. I'm hoping to see many of you at the 96th Promenade Nationale in Green Bay Wisconsin in September.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming Grand Cheminot and Homecoming Oct 2nd, 3rd and 4th at the Truman Hotel in Jefferson City, MO. As most of you may already know, our dear friend and great supporter Jerri Smith has recently had surgery. Please say a special prayer for her for a quick recovery. In closing I am always here to serve you, feel free to contact me anytime. You can contact me at 573-690-4705 or by email at [davidhbexten@gmail.com](mailto:davidhbexten@gmail.com). Looking forward to visiting all Voitures in the upcoming months.

Dave Bexten  
Grand Chef de Gare du Missouri

## Sous Grand Correspondants Notes

Articles for the Newsletter are due at the end of each month. For the following months I would like to receive an article from the following Directeur's:

October – POW-MIA, Nurses Training

November – Carville Star, Box Car

December – Child Welfare, Youth Sports

January – Voiture Activities, VAVS

February – Special Awards, Distinguished Voyageur Award

March - Ritual

If you have anyone that would like to receive this communiqué electronically please provide their email address to:

[willis.grant@sbcglobal.net](mailto:willis.grant@sbcglobal.net).

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### Grande Voiture du Missouri Youth Sports-News

News from Sous Director Youth Sports-Ann Roberts. Whats happening in Youth Sports in Special Olympics-North area Missouri and around the state?



One Special Olympics team-“Shining Stars, Agency # 88.058, where Ann Roberts is the Head Coach held an ‘end of the season fun softball game’ in Tarkio, MO. Shining Stars played softball with unified community

volunteer players Sunday evening at 7:00 pm. The athletes are in blue enjoying hitting, running and catching softballs. Next sport events coming up is bowling, bocce, tennis, basketball.

\*There are other Special Olympics Softball games going on throughout the state. See ([somo.org](http://somo.org))

\*Sports like Bocce, Bowling, Basketball, volleyball and much more ALWAYS are looking for ‘volunteers’ 2015 State Outdoor Games - Friday September 25<sup>th</sup>-competition assistant, videographer, parking attendant, sports assistant volunteer, and much more GO TO...[volunteer@somo.org](mailto:volunteer@somo.org)



AND, .....

Missouri Training for Life Center to be located in Jefferson City, MO off US 54 at Missouri 179 is similar and a little different than in other states where the 40 & 8 support Special Olympics in various ways. In Missouri this campus will for example: all 21 sports training for over 16,569 Special Olympics athletes, coaches training, health and fitness clinic, community building, and much more. Go to...([www.somo.org](http://www.somo.org); [shadoan@somo.org](mailto:shadoan@somo.org)) for more information. BE A VOLUNTEER, COACH, UNIFIED PLAYER, FUND RAISER, AND MUCH MORE. NO ATHLETE SHOULD STAY AT HOME FOR LACK OF FUNDS. (pg. 30-31 Voyageur's Guide).

Thank you for your helping hand.

Sous Grande Director Youth Sports,  
Ann Roberts

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**Peace Love and Music Dance  
Hosted by  
40ct8 Voiture 1379**

**Music from the 40's, 50's 60's 70's  
Tunes Spun  
by  
TUNZ 4 LESS DJ Jerry Rodriguez**



**"Let's do the locomotion"**

**When: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
7:00 P.M. till 11:00 P.M.**

**Where:**

**Our Lady of Mercy Country Home  
2115 Maturana Drive, Liberty, MO**

**Donation:**

**Couples \$10 Singles \$5**

**BYOS - Bring your favorite snacks - water, tea, and lemonade provided**

**GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI  
FALL GRAND CHEMINOT and HOMECOMING  
OCTOBER 2, 3 and 4, 2015**



**TRUMAN HOTEL JEFFERSON CITY  
1510 JEFFERSON STREET  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65109  
Phone: (573)-635-7171  
1-800-392-0202  
Fax: (573)-635-7519**



Room Rate is \$65.00 (plus tax) per night  
Room Rate includes breakfast for up to 2 people per room  
For Standard King or Standard Double Queen Occupancy

**So Register EARLY**

**Handicap rooms available**

**Make Hotel reservations directly with Truman Hotel by September 1, 2015.  
Mention 40 & 8 Honor Society, for special rates when making reservation.**

**Friday, October 2, 2015**

Registration: 3:00 until 6:00 P.M. (In Hospitality Room)

Hospitality Room 3:00 P.M. - ????

**Saturday, October 3, 2015**

Registration 9:00 A.M. until Noon

Executive Meeting 9AM

LUNCH 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Grande Cheminot 1 P.M. - 4 P.M.

Hospitality Room open after Cheminot until 5:30PM

Grand Chef de Gare Passe' Social Hour - 5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Social Hour 6:00 P.M. - Cash Bar

Banquet: 7:00 P.M.

Hospitality Room: After Banquet - ??????

**Sunday, October 4, 2015**

Check Out

**HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME**

**Deadline for registration for the banquet is September 26<sup>th</sup>, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

To register for the Cheminot, make Check payable to Voiture 1292

Send to:

**LARRY ALDERSON  
1809 SHOSHONI DRIVE  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65109**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Voiture Number \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet/Person \$30.00 X No. Guests \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee \$5.00 (Voyageurs Only) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Meal Choice (circle one) Top Inside Round of Beef (or) Grilled Chicken Italiano**



La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux  
Grande Voiture du Missouri

**OFFICIAL CALL**

TO: ALL GRAND CHEMINOTS  
ALL GRAND OFFICERS  
ALL GRAND CHEFS de GARE PASSE  
ALL VOITURE'S CHEFS de GARE & CORRESPONDANTS  
ALL VOYAGEURS OF GRANDE VOITURE du MISSOURI

This is the OFFICIAL CALL for the Grande Fall Cheminot and Grand Chef de Gare David Bexten Homecoming to be held October 2nd to October 4th, 2015 at the Truman Hotel, 1510 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109, phone (573) 635-7171, or (800) 392-0202.

There will be an Executive Board Meeting on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM. Place will be posted in the Hospitality Room.

The Fall Grande Cheminot will be held on Saturday October 3rd, 2015 at 1:00 PM at the Truman Hotel.

ALL GRAND OFFICERS AND GRAND CHEMINOTS ARE EXPECTED TO GIVE A REPORT OF THEIR ACTIVITIES AND SUBMIT A COPY IN WRITING TO THE GRAND CORRESPONDANT.

All Voyageurs are to be in proper attire. The following Officers are expected to be in coat, tie, shirt, long pants, socks and shoes: Grand Chef de Gare, Grand Chef de Train, Grand Commissaire Intendant, Grand Correspondant, Grand Garde de la Porte, Grand Lampiste, Grand Conducteur, Sous Grand Conducteurs, and Grand Aumonier.

Terry L. Lanning  
Grand Correspondant

David Bexten  
Grand Chef de Gare

SPRING GRAND CHEMINOT, JUNE 27, 2015  
TRUMAN HOTEL, JEFFERSON CITY, Missouri

With a rap of the gavel, Grand Chef de Gare Leon Hill, opened the Grand Cheminot sharply at 1:00 PM with a salute to the Flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a much needed prayer by Grand Aumonier John Kopp.

Roll call of officers showed more absent than excused and the rest were paying their fines. Roll call of Grand Chefs de Gare Passe showed twelve answered. Roll call of Grand Cheminots showed there was a quorum. Voyageurs don't know how to answer roll call and many paid fines for it. Absent were Voitures 3, 333, 447, 520, 966, 1395, and 1402.

Grand Avocat Rich Heigert said we will follow the same Rules of Procedure as last time.

Notion offered by Kevin Johnson, seconded by Art Wilson, that the Spring Grand Cheminot minutes are accepted as printed and sent out...passed.

Grand Correspondant Terry Lanning said he needed the Voitures to send in their Officers and Directeurs. There a handout of information on buying an ad in the 2016 Promenade Nationale program and a handout that explained what the 40/8 is.

Grand Commissaire Intendant, Chip Berkley, stated the finance report was passed out and discussed. It will be approved after the audit report.

Grand Chef Hill called on the Chef de Train Dave Bexten to report on the membership. Dave said we are at 90% of quota. We need 108 members to be 100%. Sous Chef de Train Janice Hartley reported she visited 4 of her assigned 5 Voiture Locals and commended Voiture 1541 for achieving over 100%.

Sous Chef de Train Franklin Angelo reported his area Voitures are at 89% and 18 short. Sous Chef de Train David Voyles stated Voiture 130 is at 94% and he will try to visit Voiture 333.

Some of the highlights of the Grand Cheminot reports are: Voiture 38 has their locomotive up and running. Loco attended two school parades. Had a memorial service at their Chateau on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Three voyageurs attended the 11/12 District memorial Day Service at Soldiers Memorial.; Voiture 448 had a BBQ on May 16, 2015 at Cabela's, are meeting at the Elks Lodge in Ballwin on the fourth Tuesday at 7:30pm, xmas and Easter party at Marygrove, and will have a fundraiser Fish Fry at Post 400 on October 9, 2015 in Fenton, and will have their Installation on July 25, 2015 at Post 397; Voiture 460 has 26 nurses at \$13,000, donated \$2,396 on Americanism, supported Child Welfare for \$7,750, supported several youth sport teams for \$2,068, sponsored 3 dinners for \$312, and membership is at 90%; Voiture 760 has 2 nurses in training, sponsored a xmas party for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders; Voiture 1292 membership at 97%, has 4 nurses in training, Flag Day program, wrecked 2 PG's; Voiture 1321 has its cooker out in Herculanum, has 4 nurses in training; Voiture 1379 ChickNick will be August 15, 2015, and will have a dance on September 26, 2015 at Liberty; Voiture 1541 Car Show will be August, 15 2015, Installation on August 15, 2015 at Post 312, membership at 111%.

Grand Directeur Historian Allen Schultz awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place to Voiture 1541.

Grand Avocat Richard Heigert said he has received 4 revised constitutions. All Voitures need to check theirs and see if they need to be updated.

Grand Directeur Child Welfare Calvin Bumgarner reported he received 9 reports and 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 1321, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 460, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 1292.

Grand Directeur Voiture Activities George Ridley reported he received 6 reports but he created a report for everyone. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 448, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 333, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 1292.

Grand Directeur Nurses Training Jim Hartley could not be here so Janice Hartley gave his report. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 460, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 1292.

Grand Directeur Aumonier John Kopp said to let him know if a Grand Officer is sick or passes away so he can send them a card. He has sent out 2 get well cards. Each Voiture should send him a list of their deceased for the Memorial Service.

Grand Organizer Robert Phillips said there was a possibility of a new Voiture.

Grand Publiciste Chris Bryson could not be here so AJ Noonan gave his report. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 333, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 448, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 760.

Grand Directeur Americanism Bob Emery reported he received 12 reports and 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 1321, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 460, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 38.

Grand Directeur Box Car Ed Schmidt reported he has 2016 pins and cards. The new coins will be out at Promenade Nationale. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 1379, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 448, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 760.

Grand Directeur Carville Star Mike Scruby reported he received 10 reports and 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 448, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 1541, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 460.

Grand Directeur Ritual Benjamin Sargent could not be here so Ralph Turner read Ben's report. He received 8 reports. We had a good turnout for the Spring Wreck and all went well. Some of the Voitures reported funerals attended but no miles devoted to ritual. Overall the reports showed dollars spent of \$1,048, hours 7323 and miles 21,050. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 1321, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 760, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 460.

Sous Grand Directeur Special Awards Hero of the Year Mike Brueckmann reported he sent notices to all Voitures but did not receive any nominations.

Grand VAVS Chairman Don Newman reported he received 6 reports and 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 460, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 1541, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 1292. He put in for an award to get 10 robes for ladies at VA Hospital and won \$300 from Voiture Nationale.

Grand Directeur Youth Sports A.J. Noonan reported he received 10 reports and 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Voiture 460, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Voiture 1321, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Voiture 1379.

Grand Sous Correspondant, Grant Willis said the next newsletter will go out at the end of July.

Time and Place Committee Chairman Art Wilson said the committee has been looking for other places and it has not been easy. Art offered a notion to take the notion off of the table 2<sup>nd</sup> by Grant and passed. Art had a meeting with the Truman Hotel and they said right now they are not taking any reservation for 2016. He will know July 1, 2015 if that changes. Larry is going to check on the Doubletree at Jefferson City, this is the same owner. Rich Heigert offered a notion to have the Time and Place Committee be authorized to pick the best place possible, seconded by Kevin Johnson and passed.

Distinguished Voyageur Award Committee Chairman Grant Willis said he did not receive any nominations and there a number of worthy Voyageurs out there.

MAVO - Dave Christian said all beds are full and there is a long waiting list. We have more beds than are authorized. State is looking at approving a new Veterans Home.

Old Business - none.

New Business - Ed Jones offered some possible new passwords. They are:

WeWe - We expedite, we excel

OUI - Our United Interest

HUIT - Honor Underlies Implicit Trust

SERVICE - Societe earns/excels (with or in) Valor in Caring

Services

BOXCAR - Because of eXcelence Caring Always Rules

TRAIN - Truth Raises All in (the) Nation

LOYAL - Loyalty Over (the) Years Always Lasts

CHEVAUX - Courage & Honor Energy Valor Allow US eXcelence

Ann Roberts also offered some possible new passwords. They are:

QUARTER - Quality under adverse resistance takes exceptional resolve.

SERVANT - Serve every republic victoriously against narcissistic tyranny

Notion by Dave Voyles to send all of the possible new passwords to Voiture Nationale for consideration at the next Nationale Promenade.

Seconded by John Kopp and passed.

Good of the Grande Voiture - Art Wilson offered a notion to use \$50 of the fine money to sponsor a Department hole, seconded by Rich Heigert and passed. Art offered a notion to use the rest of the Fall Cheminot, Spring Cheminot and Grand Promenade fine money to go to Boland Trust Fund, seconded by Rich Heigert and passed.

Grand Chef de Gare Hill closed the Grand Cheminot in the proper manner at 2:55 PM.



Submitted by,  
Terry L. Lanning  
Grand Correspondant

**VA**



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

## News Release

Office of Public Affairs  
Media Relations

Washington, DC 20420  
(202) 461-7600  
[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 18, 2015

May 18, 2015

### VA Launches Campaign to Increase Veterans' Economic Potential

DALLAS — Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald, with leaders from national and local Veterans service organizations, corporate employers and government agencies, announced the launch of the Veterans Economic Communities Initiative, an effort focused in a total of 50 U.S. cities to promote economic success for Veterans.

The initiative is part of MyVA, which is dedicated to making Veterans the center of all we do.

"The best way to get things done for Veterans is to involve partners from both the public and private sectors — national to local," said McDonald. "If history has shown us anything, it's that all you have to do is give Veterans an opportunity and they will go beyond anything you could ever envision. Community leaders understand the purpose of MyVA and will find innovative ways to support it."

The goal of the VECEI is to increase education and employment opportunities for America's Veterans by bringing together local and national employers to coordinate services for Veterans, Servicemembers and military families.

With the sacred commitment of making customer service for Veterans the focal point, VA will look to communities around the country to help make the VA the best federal agency.

"MyVA will work State by state, community by community, person by person," said McDonald. "We want to expand our reach and collaboration in communities where Veterans live."

The Veterans Economic Communities Initiative launch event was hosted in Dallas. Secretary McDonald and Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings provided remarks, during the event. Campaign partners also participated in panel discussions on public-private partnerships.

Representatives from major corporations such as Hilton and TriWest joined Secretary McDonald in pledging their commitment to furthering Veteran economic opportunities.

The Veterans Economic Communities Initiative includes a VA Economic Liaison in each community who will expand and encourage collaboration among private and public organizations that offer resources related to education, training and employment. Through strategic partnerships, and by offering Veterans innovative forms of learning and employment opportunities, these communities will help Veterans gain competitive career skills and knowledge in locally in-demand fields.

Campaign partners include the departments of Defense and Labor, the Small Business Administration and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, in addition to regional and national nonprofits, businesses and educators. The first 25 communities were chosen based on local Veteran unemployment rates, Veteran population and the projected increase in Veteran population.

Communities participating in the Veterans Economic Communities Initiative include:

Atlanta, Georgia; El Paso, Texas; Las Vegas, Nevada; New York, New York; San Antonio, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; Honolulu, Hawaii; Los Angeles, California; Norfolk, Virginia; San Diego, California; Cincinnati, Ohio; Houston, Texas; Louisville, Kentucky; Phoenix, Arizona; Seattle, Washington; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Jacksonville, Florida; Miami, Florida; Richmond, Virginia; St. Louis, Missouri; Dallas, Texas; Kansas City, Missouri; Nashville, Tennessee; Riverside, California; Washington, DC

Under the Veterans Economic Communities Initiative, communities will develop scalable, sustainable models over the next two years that include:

Resources and education for employers on hiring and supporting Veterans.

- Employment summits to connect talented job seekers with local employers who have immediate hiring needs.
- Policy academies where experts generate ideas, form partnerships and make policy recommendations that will help lower the unemployment rate and increase economic opportunities among Veterans and their families.
- Learning or resource hubs to help connect Veterans to economic opportunities including entrepreneurship, credentialing and skills building.

###



# Summer Service Volunteer Opportunities

- **Welcome Home  
Warrior Summit**

July 18, 2015  
9:00am to 4:00pm  
Chaifetz Arena

- **Local Golden Age  
Games**

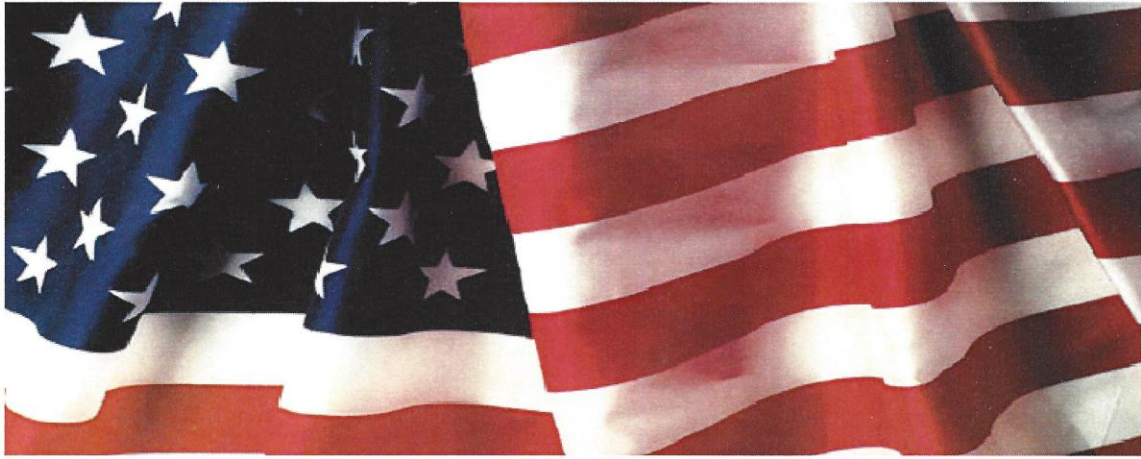
July 24, 2015 at 8:00am  
Jefferson Barracks Gym



- **Boots on the Lane**

August 14, 2015  
11:00am-3:00pm  
Stars and Strikes  
Bowling Alley

Voluntary Service  
VA St. Louis Health Care System  
915 N. Grand Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63106  
Phone: 314-289-6393 Fax: 314-289-7658



# **VETERAN'S APPRECIATION BBQ**

**"A SALUTE TO ALL VETERANS"**

**GUEST SPEAKER: CONGRESSWOMAN VICKY HARTZLER  
AND MAJOR JOHN SCHWENT, USMC**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2015, 3-6 P.M.**

**WHERE: CITY PARKING LOT SOUTH OF VFW  
(2<sup>ND</sup> & OHIO)**

**WE WILL BE SERVING HAMBURGERS, BRATWURST,  
CHIPS, DESSERT AND SOFT DRINKS  
ADULTS: \$5, CHILDREN 10 & UNDER: \$3  
VETERANS EAT FREE!**

**MUSIC BY "THE LEE STOVER BAND"  
(GOSPEL & OLDIES)**

***BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS, COME EARLY, STAY LATE!***