

Voiture Nationale 40&8

# VOYAGEUR BRIEFS

## Mike McGary - Chef de Chemin de Fer



As almost everyone knows by now, Promenade Nationale has been cancelled. A lot of our Grands have held a year end Cheminot to take care of their business including election of officers. This would have been an impossible job on the National level. So, according to our constitution all ELECTED officers will remain in place for next year. Appointed officers will be announced probably sometime in September, after they have been reviewed. This has been an uncharted course we have had to establish this year and definitely a year of firsts.

One of those firsts, I am really embarrassed about is this will be the largest percentage decline in our membership in the thirty plus years that I've been a member. This year as in the past, we have recruited enough new members to cover our taps but failed to get the renewals turned in. One would think that the biggest issue was either the "China virus" or the five-dollar dues increase, but it's not. After talking to Membership Officers, Correspondants, and the members themselves, the predominant reason is the lack of Voitures Activities. They joined to make a difference and volunteer to get it done. They didn't join to be a bar fly or attend quarterly or semi-annual Prome-



nades; they are proud of our programs and the accomplishments they produce. I don't have a solution other than breaking out those old moth-balled members from the nursing homes to start mentoring. Take a look at what YOU can do at your Locale to get them involved.

I encourage everyone to keep monitoring the national website. It is being updated with new information as it becomes available. It will be used extensively in the

next few months as new information needs to be passed on.

Since I haven't had any travels or events since my homecoming the first weekend in March, there's not a lot to report. I can say the honey-do list is growing and my gas mileage has increased to about two weeks to the gallon. I guess that only means I'm getting very lazy.

This month I received a letter of resignation from Passe Chef de Chemin de Fer Paul Sorrentino from the finance committee due to personal and health issues. I want to express my appreciation for all of the work and guidance that Paul has given this organization. In his place I have appointed Joe Dolwig out of Ohio as his replacement. I have all the confidence that this committee will continue to make the right decisions for our future.

In closing, keep the faith. This organization will continue on but it's up to us to make it grow.' I saw a phrase from Indiana's web master that goes: "What we, as Voyageurs, achieve today will impact the Forty and Eight of tomorrow." What are YOU going to do to make this a better organization? Stay safe and stay healthy.

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## Terry Sims -Correspondant National

Promenade Nationale to be held in Sandusky, Ohio in September has been cancelled by a vote of the National Executive Committee for the safety of our membership that would be attending.

All elected National Officers will retain their positions until the election in Springfield, MO next September. Appointed positions will stay in place unless changed by the Chef de Chemin de Fer.

The next three Promenade Nationales will be as follows: Springfield, MO-2021, Green Bay, WI-2022, Sandusky,

OH-2023 (Kalahari Resort).

Most Program awards will be mailed from Voiture Nationale for the 2020 year. These awards will also be acknowledged on the Promenade Nationale floor in Springfield, MO in September, 2021.

Holly has credited your credit card accounts if you registered for Promenade Nationale via a credit card. If you registered by personal check, Tammy has written Voiture Nationale checks to you for reimbursement. If you have questions about your reimbursement,



contact Holly at Voiture Nationale.

## Emblem Sales Highlight of the Month



This months highlight features our lapel pin celebrating the 40 & 8's 100th anniversary. The Centennial 100 Years of Giving Pin. 1-1/2" x 1-1/2". The part number for this item is 02100TH—\$5.00. You can purchase this item at our emblem sales store online at:

<http://store.fortyandeight.org/>

or contact Terri Taylor,  
E-mail:  
ttaylor@fortyandeight.org

Ph. (317) 634-1804  
Fax. (317) 632-9365

Voiture Nationale  
Emblem Sales  
250 E 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205



## National Box Car Association

July 13, 2020

To; Dames, Voyageurs and Various Grands

With the cancellation of Promenade Nationale, all who would normally pickup this years consignments and purchases from the National Box Car Association table. Please, at this time order direct from me what items are desired.

All avenues of contact are listed within this letterhead. However, I prefer an email for the fact I print two copies and return one copy as your packing slip. Note, that all orders received by noon go out the same day. Any received after noon are shipped the next day. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Frank W. Kronen, 6903 Chapel Ln., North Ridgeville, OH 44039-2944, (216) 210-1898, fwkron@gmail.com  
Secretaire, Treasurer National Box Car Association  
Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Area 1



## Corps of Discovery

The foundations for the Corps of Discovery were laid when Thomas Jefferson met John Ledyard to discuss a proposed expedition to the Pacific Northwest in the 1780s. In 1802, Jefferson read Alexander Mackenzie's 1801 book about his 1792–1793 overland expedition across Canada to the Pacific Ocean; these exploratory journals influenced his decision to create an American body capable of reaching the Pacific as well. Two years after taking the presidency, Jefferson asked Congress to fund an expedition through the Louisiana Purchase.

In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson commissioned the Corps of Discovery, and named as its leader his personal secretary and U.S. Army Captain, Meriwether Lewis, who selected William Clark as his partner. The goals of the Corps of Discovery, whose cadre would be raised primarily from the U.S. military, was to explore the Louisiana Purchase, and establish trade and U.S. sovereignty over the native peoples along the Missouri River. Jefferson also wanted to establish a U.S. claim to the Pacific Northwest and Oregon territory by documenting an American presence there before other Europeans, such as the British, could lay title to the land.

The U.S. mint prepared special silver medals with a portrait of Jefferson and had a message of friendship and peace, called Indian Peace Medals or peace medals. The soldiers were to distribute them to the nations they met. But the Corps would be prepared for any acts of hostility because it would be equipped with the most advanced weapons available, such as rifles and a .46 caliber Girandoni Air Rifle. The Corps of Discovery was equipped with sufficient black powder and lead for their flintlock firearms, knives, blacksmithing supplies, and cartography equipment. They also carried flags, gift bundles, medicine and other items they would need for their journey. Much time went into ensuring a sufficient supply of these items.

To create the Corps of Discovery, and to ensure any chance of success, Lewis wanted to find the best possible men he could and recruit them to join his expedition. Men were expected to be excellent hunters and possess skills that would ensure their survival in the wilderness. He also wanted men who were brave, unmarried, and healthy. Lewis entrusted recruitment to Clark. He first went to Louisville, Kentucky where he found his first recruits in then Clarksville, Indiana. This group eventually became known as the "Nine Young Men from Kentucky": William Bratton, John Colter, Joseph Field, Reubin Field, Charles Floyd, George Gibson, Nathaniel Pryor, George Shannon, and John Shields. In total almost a third of the party's permanent members – forming the heart of the Corps – were from Louisville, Clarksville or their surrounding areas.[citation needed] Lewis conducted interviews and recruited at Fort Massac, and at the old French Mississippi River village of Kaskaskia. At Kaskakia, he recruited the expedition's chief non-commissioned officer, John Ordway.

A total of 33 volunteers, including 29 in training, spent the 1803–1804 winter at Camp Dubois in Indiana Territory. On May 14, 1804, the Corps left Dubois by canoe in order to meet up with Lewis at St. Charles, Missouri. The expedition then set off west following the Missouri River on 21 May. Three days later, they passed La Charrette, the western-most Euro-American settlement on the Missouri.

The expedition followed the Missouri through what is now Kansas City, Missouri, and Omaha, Nebraska. On August 20, 1804, Sergeant Charles Floyd died, apparently from acute appendicitis. He would be the party's only death on the expedition over the next two years. Floyd was buried at Floyd's Bluff in what is now Sioux City, Iowa. During the coming weeks, the expedition would reach the Great Plains. They would be among a select group of white people to see the area abounding with elk, deer, bison, and beavers before the large-scale encroachment of European settlement.

Over the next two years, the Lewis and Clark Expedition established relations with more than two dozen indigenous nations between Missouri and the Pacific Ocean. Researchers now acknowledge that without such contact or help, the Corps of Discovery would have undoubtedly starved to death or become hopelessly lost in the Rocky Mountains.



**The Corps of Discovery meet Chinooks on the Lower Columbia, October 1805.**

**Active 1803–1806, Disbanded September 1806, Country United States  
Branch Army, Role Exploration, Size 2 officers, 5 NCOs, 30 enlisted men  
Civilians 3 permanent, 12 temporary Commanders**

**Commanders**

**Captain Meriwether Lewis  
Second Lieutenant William Clark**

## Voiture 1496 Nursing Scholarships



Left; Ms Keri Weismann attends Palomar College near San Diego, CA. The check is presented by Dr. Michael LaMar who is a member of both Voiture 1496 and China Post 1, AL

Right; Ms Nicole Johnston attends Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, OR. She is the daughter of (Cpt) Alan and Cheryl Johnston of Windsor, ME who is also a member of both Voiture 1496 and China Post 1, AL

## Marines

Marines are about the most peculiar breed of human beings I have ever encountered. They treat their branch of service as if it is some kind of cult, plastering their emblem on almost everything they own, making themselves to look like insane fanatics with haircuts of ungentlemanly lengths, worshipping their Commandant as if he were a living God, and making weird animal noises like a band of savages. They'll fight like rabid dogs at the drop of a hat, just for the sake of a little action, and they are the cockiest sons of bitches I have ever met. Most have the foulest mouths and drink well beyond a normal man's limits, but their high spirits and sense of brotherhood sets them apart from others, and generally speaking, the United States Marines I have come in contact with are the most professional soldiers and the finest men I have ever had the pleasure to serve with and be dependent upon in battle.



An Anonymous Canadian Soldier

Building Donation Challenge Grand Total \$184,118.87

June 2020

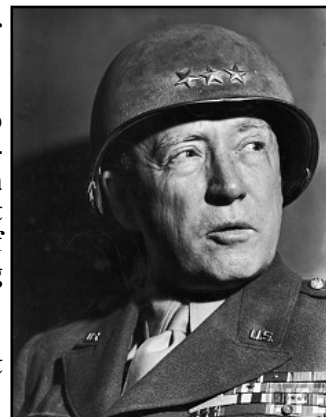


"Live for something rather than die for nothing."

"The soldier is the Army. No army is better than its soldiers. The Soldier is also a citizen. In fact, the highest obligation and privilege of citizenship is that of bearing arms for one's country."

"Lead me, follow me, or get the hell out of my way."

"Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity."



NAME	VOITURE	GR	AMT
GRAND CABANE DU OREGON	G	OR	\$ 309.00
VOITURE 10	10	OH	\$ 100.00
VOITURE 1496	1496	FR	\$ 54.00
VOITURE 17	17	NY	\$ 45.50
VOITURE 1098	1098	AK	\$ 45.50
VOITURE 10	10	OH	\$ 33.00
VOITURE 1539	1539	AK	\$ 25.00
VOITURE 1634	1634	FL	\$ 21.00
VOITURE 1171	1171	WV	\$ 7.50
VOITURE 1230	1230	MD	\$ 6.50
VOITURE 454	454	ME	\$ 1.00





**Voiture Nationale has Gone Social!**  
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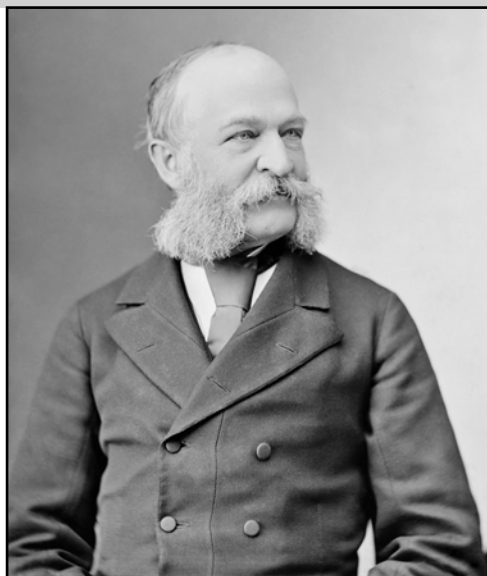
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## Vice Presidential History

**Levi Parsons Morton** (May 16, 1824 – May 16, 1920) was the 22nd vice president of the United States from 1889 to 1893. He also served as United States ambassador to France, as a US representative from New York, and as the 31st governor of New York.

The son of a Congregational minister, Morton was born in Vermont and educated in Vermont and Massachusetts. He trained for a business career by clerking in stores and working in mercantile establishments in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. After relocating to New York City, Morton became a successful merchant, cotton broker, and investment banker.

Active in politics as a Republican, Morton was an ally of Roscoe Conkling. He was twice elected to the United States House of Representatives, and he served one full term, and one partial one (March 4, 1879 – March 21, 1881). In 1880,



Republican presidential nominee James A. Garfield offered Morton the vice presidential nomination in an effort to win over Conkling loyalists who were disappointed that their choice for president, Ulysses S.

Grant, had lost to Garfield. Conkling advised Morton to decline, which he did. Garfield then offered the nomination to another Conkling ally, Chester A. Arthur, who accepted.

After Garfield and Arthur were elected, Garfield nominated Morton to be Minister Plenipotentiary to France, and Morton served in Paris until 1885. In 1888, Morton was nominated for vice president on the Republican ticket with presidential nominee Benjamin Harrison; they were elected, and Morton served as vice president from 1889 to 1893. In 1894, Morton was the successful Republican nominee for governor of New York, and he served one term, 1895 to 1896.

In retirement, Morton resided in New York City and Rhinebeck, New York. He died in 1920, and was buried at Rhinebeck Cemetery.