



# FORTY & EIGHTER



The official publication of

Spring 2020

## La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

### Chef de Chemin de Fer Mike McGary



Chef de Chemin de Fer Mike McGary

The first thing I'd like to say is to thank everyone for their cards and emails expressing their sympathies and condolences on the passing of my mother last month. Although unexpected, at 91, she had a very good life. Dad has been gone for 34 years so I think it's about time they're back together again. I would also like to thank those of you that donated to my program, Boxcar, in her memory. She will be greatly missed by all who have known her, but she will never leave us as long as we keep her in our minds and hearts. Thanks again.

I hope all of you had a very Blessed and Happy Easter. I know it is a time to come together with family and friends. A time to be thankful for the graces we have received over the past year. Although I know a lot of us were forced to spend the holiday apart from our loved ones, I for one am very thankful for the family and friends I have acquired in the first six months of my year.

Travels have been restricted due to the spread of the "China" virus. With the states locking everyone and everything down until sometime in May (depending on the state you're in), who knows when circumstances will improve to the point where those of us in the over sixty age brackets will be able to venture out safely? Needless to say, this is not the year I had envisioned as being your Chef. Being that as it may this organization WILL go on. With most of America working from home, we need to follow suit, not only with our programs but most importantly getting the membership in.

I know most of us are sitting at home watching reruns or trying to make the honey do list disappear. Since membership is everyone's job, how about spending a few minutes a day working on membership. It can be done from the comfort of your Lazy-boy recliner while watching tv, practicing 12oz curls, or in between naps, pick up the phone and call a member. Check on their welfare, see if there is anything you can do to help them with any of their needs, all the while checking on the status of their membership card for the current year. With most of us having received our tax dollars returned to us in the form of a stimulus check, money should not be an issue. But there is always an exception and it doesn't have to be an older member. Perhaps a newer one with a family and no job, in that case pay it forward, so they will still be around to help the Forty and Eight in the future. One thing that may also help is if the Locale Correspondant would email a list of those members

who haven't renewed their membership as of yet and ask for the other members to help in contacting a friend. Reaching out to the membership, whether active or not, is what defines La Société. While we have a little lapse in our schedules, let's get it in so when the all clear is given we can prepare for the future and increase it to 105%.

Our programs still need to be worked also. Although we may not have had the opportunities to raise money, there is still money to be spent. Most schools have closed for the current year, but there are student nurses that need our help, as we are surely going to need theirs in the future. The Boland Trust fund is there to help Locales who haven't raised the required scholarship funds to meet their current needs. Check it out, or contact your Directeurs and Sous Directeurs for the program. This also holds true for the Ardery Trust Fund. The money is there to be used, let people know we are still serving the public.

The Memorial Day Celebration at Arlington Cemetery is still up in the air and a decision will be made May 1st as to whether it will proceed as scheduled. But whether the activities are cancelled or not, Memorial Day must still be remembered by those of us that can. Display your flag, go to the cemetery and place a flag on the grave of those in your family that gave so we may serve in freedom.

Lastly to answer the many phone calls I have been receiving ---- right off the website

\*\*\* Organizing for Promenade Nationale to be held in Sandusky, Ohio September 16-19, 2020 is progressing well. Decisions are being evaluated as time progresses during these unchartered times. You will be notified via this website of any major decisions, changes, cancelations or postponements. We wish you safety and good health. \*\*\*

Regards.  
Mike McGary  
Chef de Chemin de Fer 2020

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID INDIANAPOLIS, IN PERMIT NO. 963

### MEMORIAL DAY AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Due to the Covid - 19 virus, all Forty et Eight activities for the Memorial Day observance at the Arlington National Cemetery in Washington DC have been cancelled this year.



Chef de Chemin de Fer Mike McGary along with his four Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer's at his Homecoming banquet in Ft. Wayne, Indiana on March 7th. L to R: Dave Hill - South Carolina; Frank Campo - California; Big Chef Mike; Frank Kronen - Ohio and Ted Canellos - Illinois.

## VOITURE NATIONALE OFFICERS 2020

Mike McGary	Chef de Chemin de Fer	Indiana
Terry Sims	Correspondant National	Indiana
Frank Kronen	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	Ohio
Frank Compo	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	California
Dave Hill	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	South Carolina
Ted Canellos	Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer	Illinois
John Murphy	Aumonier	Ohio
Mike Wood	Avocat	Georgia
Dan Dumas	Commissaire Intendant	California
David Cook	Conducteur	Ohio
Ron Pfalzgraf	Historian	Wisconsin

## FORTY & EIGHT COMMUNICATIONS STAFF

Publiciste	Bruce Kouba	Kansas
PALS	Renslar Keagle	Texas
Public Relations	Robert Cearlock	Illinois
Photographe	Larry Butts	Georgia
L'editeur	Tom Orval	Wisconsin

.....

This newspaper is owned by Voiture Nationale of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux. It is published quarterly with editorial offices at 250 East 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN. 46205. Phone 317-634-1804; FAX: 317-632-9365; E-mail: [voiturenationale@msn.com](mailto:voiturenationale@msn.com). The official website is [www.fortyandeight.org](http://www.fortyandeight.org). Price per single copy is \$2.00 and a yearly subscription is \$7.00.



## VOITURE ACTIVITIES

John Helgeson - National Directeur



The Voiture Activities program's purpose is to measure the overall activities of a Voiture Locale or Grande Voiture as a unit and measure member involvement. It also includes involvement of La Femmes. The higher the percentage of involvement, the better the program! Ideas for activities can be found at our website, [fortyandeight.org](http://fortyandeight.org). Click on "Programs" and then on "Voiture Activities".

By this time of year, your Voiture's will have engaged in several, perhaps many, of these events.

The report form can be found by going to the website, clicking on "Resources" then "Forms & Petite Communique" and finally to "Locale or Grande Voiture Activities Report" as appropriate. The information you report will also be applicable to completing most of the other program reports. All that is required for a Voiture Activity is that two or more voyageurs plan the activity and at least one voyageur takes part in the execution. If you have any questions about what qualifies or how to make out the report, my contact information is at the end of this article.

As I write this article, the world is in the middle of a pandemic. Many of our activities have been up-ended and we are not sure when "normality" will return. Keep in mind you may have to re-plan many of our spring/summer events and that will factor in to your reporting. While our "regularly scheduled programming" is interrupted, this is an opportunity to use creative thinking. You (Voiture officers and voyageurs) might want to do "Buddy Checks" to make sure your members are doing well. That personal contact will reassure them we are a caring organization. It is also a chance to pick up dues renewals while you are at it.

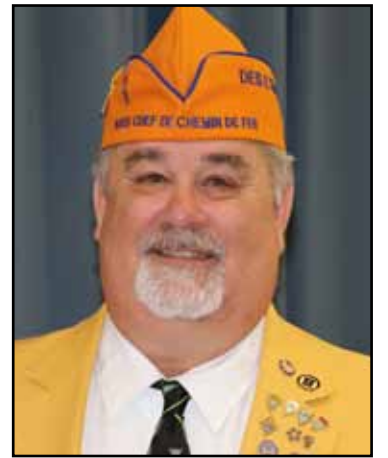
I want to thank all voyageurs and dames for what they do for the organization, veterans and our country. Keep up the great work. If you have questions about the Voiture Activities program, feel free to contact me at 715-381-3945 or at [jhelges98c@gmail.com](mailto:jhelges98c@gmail.com).



# MEMBERSHIP 2020

## May 1st, 2020

AREA	2019	2020	PERCENT	
ALABAMA	3	110	82	74.55%
ALASKA	1	125	110	88.00%
ARIZONA	2	413	367	88.86%
ARKANSAS	4	118	99	83.90%
CALIFORNIA	2	914	733	80.20%
COLORADO	2	79	82	103.80%
CONNECTICUT	1	110	105	95.45%
DELAWARE	1	38	22	57.89%
DIST OF COLUMBIA	3	6	3	50.00%
FLORIDA	3	817	683	83.60%
FRANCE	2	120	136	113.33%
GEORGIA	3	448	380	84.82%
GERMANY	1	82	70	85.37%
IDAHO	2	93	92	98.92%
ILLINOIS	4	1182	1076	91.03%
INDIANA	4	2513	2001	79.63%
IOWA	4	333	284	85.29%
KANSAS	2	378	310	82.01%
KENTUCKY	3	263	228	86.69%
LATIN AMERICA	4	11	11	100.00%
LOUISIANA	3	684	576	84.21%
MAINE	1	136	115	84.56%
MARYLAND	1	253	230	90.91%
MASSACHUSETTS	1	134	118	88.06%
MEXICO	3	5	1	20.00%
MICHIGAN	2	918	830	90.41%
MINNESOTA	1	1060	967	91.23%
MISSISSIPPI	3	173	145	83.82%
MISSOURI	1	730	670	91.78%
MONTANA	2	79	80	101.27%
NEBRASKA	4	354	331	93.50%
NEVADA	2	19	17	89.47%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1	108	101	93.52%
NEW JERSEY	3	142	129	90.85%
NEW MEXICO	2	33	20	60.61%
NEW YORK	1	894	724	80.98%
NORTH CAROLINA	3	553	521	94.21%
NORTH DAKOTA	4	237	198	83.54%
OHIO	1	1250	1069	85.52%
OKLAHOMA	4	107	75	70.09%
OREGON	2	176	157	89.20%
PENNSYLVANIA	3	1077	818	75.95%
RHODE ISLAND	4	2	2	100.00%
SOUTH CAROLINA	3	370	287	77.57%
SOUTH DAKOTA	4	350	324	92.57%
TENNESSEE	3	104	63	60.58%
TEXAS	2	254	259	101.97%
UTAH	2	24	17	70.83%
VERMONT	1	32	35	109.38%
VIRGINIA	3	406	341	83.99%
WASHINGTON	2	577	476	82.50%
WEST VIRGINIA	1	171	145	84.80%
WISCONSIN	2	987	928	94.02%
WYOMING	2	22	10	45.45%
V2000		462	402	87.01%
TOTALS		21036	18055	85.57%
			-2981	



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer  
**Frank Campo**



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer  
**Frank W. Kronen**



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer  
**Ted Canellos**



Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer  
**Dave Hill**

AREA	2019	2020	Percent	
Area - 2	5086	4514	88.75%	1st Place
<b>Frank Compo</b>				
Area - 1	5123	4481	87.47%	2nd Place
<b>Frank Kronen</b>				
Area - 4	5207	4401	84.52%	3rd Place
<b>Ted Canollos</b>				
Area - 3	5158	4257	82.53%	4thPlace
<b>Dave Hill</b>				
V2000	462	402	87.01%	

# PUBLIC RELATIONS

La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
Paul C. Yager - Sous Public Relations Directeur Area 2



## Voyageurs

Like you I feel confined during this crisis. NO Promenades, NO Wrecks, NO contact face to face with your fellow companions. Well people have been inventive and created a thing call the INTERNET. It does require that you have a computer or Smart phone. With these devices one can go ON LINE (connect to the internet) and use a program (instructions that a computer follows in order to perform a particular task) and use that program of video/audio conferencing. That means you can talk and see people at the same time, a whole bunch of people. Your friends, your comrades, your fellow officers are all connected just like a promenade.

Lots of these programs exist and some are free and some cost lots of money. Usually one person becomes the lead and signs up for one of these programs and sends a message via email on when and how to join these conferences. That requires that all who want to join the conference call needs

to have an email address the lead can send the invitation to. One such video/conferencing program I use is WebEx. During this time they are offering free unlimited call time and up to 100 connections at one time. There are other companies such as Zoom, Google Hangouts, GoToMeeting and Skype but I prefer WebEx.

This might be a way to connect for the time being, but not an official way to conduct business for our 40 & 8. In my opinion the future Constitution and Bylaws may need to be changed to include pandemic type situations as we are under now.

I really miss Promenades and wrecks and seeing friendly faces of my 40 & 8 family. Hopefully this communication finds you well and safe and God bless you and the 40 & 8.

Paul C. Yager  
pcyager@gmail.com  
Sous Public Relations  
Directeur Area 2

# BOX CAR

Frank W. Kronen,  
Secretaire Treasurer, National Box Car Association



In this article, I will present to you Voyageurs, the answer to a question some of you possibly have asked yourselves but the question never went any farther than your own self. Why are the National Box Car Association

Crew and Associate cards the colors they are? And do the colors represent anything in particular? Well the answer is yes. During my tenure as Secretaire/Treasurer, one of my responsibilities is the ordering and payment of all items sold for our program.

My colors are related every year to a specific type of CANCER. This year I've had to revisit colors from past years use. Pink is once again the color of the Associate cards representing Breast Cancer. Many of our La Societe family suffer from asbestosis. We have also lost some of our family to the final stage of asbestosis which is mesothelioma. I myself have been diagnosed with asbestosis. That is why the color Lunar Blue has once again been chosen for the Crew Cards. So, should someone ask

why are they a specific color? You now know what answer to give. All family of La Societe, be you a Voyageur or a Dame. Stay safe and please practice the 6+ foot social distance. God Bless all and keep from harm!!!!

Yours in Service to La Societe and National Box Car Association

Frank W. Kronen  
Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Area 1  
Secretaire/Treasurer National Box Car Association



# RITUAL

Steve Bradley National and Grand Voiture Directeur



I hope you and your families are safe and healthy. Wash hands often, stay home, and continue to keep 6 feet from others. I hope your Celebration for the Birthday of La Societe was a success and that you sent pictures to

the Forty et Eighter magazine L'editeur Thomas Orval at wigrandvoiture@tds.net. I have received some comments from Voyageurs about our Birthday Ritual. Some feel it is lengthy, that it is a copy of the Marine Corps League Birthday Ritual, and the ritual does not flow well. Please contact me if you have any suggestions or comments at stevepkst@gmail.com or 233 Park Street, Antigo, WI 54409. This month we are preparing for The Calvin Kain Memorial Service (on or around Memorial Day), Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery, and completing our Petite Communique.

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. 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. If your Voiture does 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. Bob Kaseman, Chef de Chemin de Fer Passe, and his 40 et 8 Memorial Day Committee do 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 Notes" and then "Events". Remember all your time, talent, and treasure for La Societe should be recorded in your Petite Communique. Keep track and report your numbers. In Service Steve!

Steve Bradley,  
National Directeur Ritual,  
stevepkst@gmail.com

# TIME AND PLACE

Joe Dolwig - Chairman



101st Promenade & 57th Rendezvous Nationale Promenade, Sandusky, Ohio, September 15th, 2020 Through September 19, 2020.

Voyageurs and Dames free transportation will be provided from the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. (CLE). Before your flight you need to call Mike McClain and give him your date, flight # and time of arrival for Promenade Nationale. We are only using CLE Airport which is approx. 25 to 30 minutes away. Mike's e-mail is GrandeDuOhio@yahoo.com. Phone Number is 330-923-7146

More to follow in Voyageurs Briefs.

Next year in 2021 we are scheduled to go to Springfield, MO. for the National Promenade & Rendezvous. The Headquarters Hotel in Springfield is the University Plaza. All meeting rooms are in the hotel and the Promenade will be held in the Convention Center connected to the hotel. There is a restaurant for all of your needs in the hotel and plenty of other restaurants, eateries and shops throughout the city. The early

bird party is scheduled at the American Legion Post approximately 5 blocks away. There is free parking and the airport is just two miles from the hotel.

The Radisson Hotel and Convention in Green Bay is again the site for the 2022 Promenade & Rendezvous. The establishment is being completely remodeled and will be finished before 2022. This will include another restaurant (4) in the hotel and an outside bar & lounge area. Free parking and many restaurants a short distance away! The airport is across the street. Tours are again being planned for wineries, breweries, the National Railroad museum and of course Lambeau Field. By the way, the Packers no longer stay at this hotel the night before a home game!

Are you interested in placing a bid for a future National Promenade & Rendezvous! Please contact National Headquarters or myself for any information needed. And trust me; it's not as hard as everyone thinks.

# WHAT IS THE TRUE MEANING OF EASTER?

John Murphy/ Aumonier National



If you ask your young child or grandchildren, I'm sure they would answer that is when the Easter bunny brings baskets filled with colored eggs, jellybeans and chocolate bunnies etc. and of course they would be right, naturally. But there is so much more concerning this spring holiday.

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. Easter is the fulfilled prophecy of the Messiah who would be persecuted, die for our sins, and rise on the third day (Isaiah 53). Remembering the resurrection of

Jesus is a way to renew daily hope that we have victory over sin. According to the New Testament, Easter is three days after the death of Jesus on the cross.

Easter follows a period of fasting called Lent, in which many churches set aside time for repentance and remembrance. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Good Friday, the day of Jesus' crucifixion. The 40-day period was established by Pope Gregory I using the 40-day pattern of Israel, Moses, Elijah and Jesus' time in the wilderness.

The week leading up to Easter is called The Holy Week, or "Passion Week", and includes Palm Sunday (the day Jesus entered Jerusalem and was celebrated), Maundy Thursday (the "Last Supper" where Jesus met with his disciples to observe Passover), and Good Friday (when Jesus would be crucified on the cross).

Easter is a very significant date within Christianity and is the foundation of the Christian faith. Jesus, the Son of God, fulfilled prophecy and through his death, has given the gift of eternal life in heaven to those who believe in his death and resurrection. Read the entire Biblical account of Resurrection Day in Matthew 28, Mark 16, and Luke 24.

Shortly, another holiday that will be coming up in May and I'm sure you know what I'm referring to and that's the day we take hopefully the entire day to show our respect to those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice to the Country they so loved. Of course, I'm now referring to Memorial Day. I have been blessed over the years serving La Société including this year as your Aumonier National. The other was in 2019 as one of the Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer's. Each Memorial Day, the Chef de Chemin de Fer, the Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer's as well as the Les Presidente Nationale and her Sous Presidente's Nationale

have the pleasure of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown's in Arlington Cemetery. Besides visiting the grave sites of Premier Chef Joseph W. Breem, General John "Black Jack" Pershing and Sergeant Edward F. Younger. I don't think any of the Passé Chef's or Sous Chef's would disagree with me that this visitation was the highlight of their year. If you ever have the opportunity I would strongly recommend or suggest that you attend the ultimate Memorial Day observances at Arlington. Go onto the National website under events for further information.

And as worded in the Preamble of La Société it is our duty "to participate in all memorial services for and to be present at the funerals of departed comrades; to take part in and encourage others to participate in the proper observance of all days honoring veterans; to preserve the memories of our Service in the Armed Forces of our Country."

I remind all to remember to conduct your Annual Calvin Kane Ceremony during your Promenade or other fitting time during the month of May as close to Memorial Day as possible, in Memory of those Voyageurs that had reported to Voiture Everlasting during the year. And, remember to report it on your Annual Ritual Report.

In closing, let us pray; Lord, we lift our hearts to you. As the dawn breaks, may we carry the unity we share into every moment knowing that we are one with the risen Christ. Lord we lift our eyes to you. As the sun rises, may this moment stay with us, reminding us to look for the beautiful colors of promise in your word. Lord, we lift our prayers to you. As the dew air falls, may we breathe this morning in and know that like the earth, you sustain us, keep us and work within us always.

Further, we pray the truth of the Scriptures for our Nation, our military and their families. We lift all the family and friends of our fallen men and women in uniform. We pray your peace would keep them and give them hope. Help them remember the sacrifices of their loved ones with tears of pride and sorrow - knowing their loved ones didn't die in vain - but secured our liberties for another generation. For each military member and their families, we pray protection and provision. Protection for Marines, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Coasties in the field of service and here at home for their families. Also, provision for them all by your hand of grace and mercy because of the great sacrifices they make on Memorial Day and every day. In the name of the one who also died for our freedom - our King Jesus. "In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" now and forever more, Amen.

# NURSES TRAINING



For the past few months, I heeded to the politicians and news commenters on the outcome and recall the latest impact of this invisible enemy. We call it the Coronavirus and its endurance results in our Country and communities. I believe that our long history of support of our program pays dividends far more than we imagine. Many students may have become disgruntled due to the lack of financial worthiness and may have to select another career field. Can you envision what this current virus war would be like with fewer Nurses to staff our hospitals and research centers? They may have been the ones that gave comfort to one of your loved ones in their time of need, what a tragedy to know that because of funding this person could not pursue their dream of service to others. Also, give credence to why we generate Merchandise, Scholarship, and Nurse of the Year Programs to recognize our Nurses for what they do. While many of our events and presentations were canceled due to the trail of suffering caused by this virus. In addition, our Country's financial endeavors turn upside down, some of our Locales and Grande (s) are continuing their efforts to meet the organization's objectives. They are finding ways to advance the Nursing Program, and acquiring membership. Let us keep inspiring!

We were able to continue our merchandise

program with the assistance of our team by acquiring additional pin supply, and now that inventory is almost exhausted.

Boland Trust is still available; please communicate enrollment needs by having your Grande/Locale(s) to increasing applicant's submission for both the Undergraduate and Advanced Degree.

Finally, it is time to remind our members to think about the end of the year reports. There should never be a report that says, "NO ACTIVITY." Our goal each year is to attain a yearly highlight from every locale, and that they provide at least one Nurse's Scholarship. We have revised the two forms into one under Nurses Training consolidation and located on the National website under Petite Communique forms. I applaud you for the hard work and dedication.

Many Nurses Training Grande and Locale Directeurs.

Sous National Directeurs  
Kevin Owens - kkaowens@msn.com - NE Region  
John Alicea - graywolf737@msn.com - SE Region  
Jim Vissers - jvissers@new.rr.com - NW Region  
Rodger Decker kdecke@bellsouth.net SW Region

Ernest Lane Jr  
Directeur Nurses Training  
In service to our Country



# FROM THE NATIONALE PRESIDENTE



Penny Prevette Haigler, Nationale Presidente



Greetings,

March started with going to the Chef de Chemin de Fer Mike McGary's homecoming in Fort Wayne, Indiana. There was a huge crowd and we all had a lot of fun. The weather was very cold for a couple of days while we were there. On the drive back to North Carolina I got to see the snow that fell over the weekend. It was beautiful to see. Had a good time meeting all the Dames from Indiana.

Then the country was put into a whirlwind from this coronavirus. With stay at home orders, not

being able to work, trying to find any kind of paper or cleaning products in stores.

Getting word from Nationale that traveling was suspended until only God knows when. I had to cancel traveling to the Hillbilly Wreck in Cleveland, Tennessee, Southland Dixie in Columbus, Georgia, Central States Promenade in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Gator Wreck in Goose Creek, SC. Praying we will be able to do the Memorial Service at Arlington Cemetery in Washington, DC.

The last time there was a disaster that affected the Forty & Eight was September 11, 2001 Nationale Promenade in Hagerstown, Maryland. Even though it still took place so many of us could not



attend. Our Presidente Nationale was Ethellynn Neville.

I have rescheduled my homecoming for June 18 - 20, 2020. Also, I had to change where we will be staying. New Hotel is the Drury Inn at 1767 Glidewell Drive Burlington, NC.

The hotel is located directly in the food and shopping area and just off the I-40/I-85 highway. Reservations can be made on-line, 800 number or call direct. If you already sent your registration to me, you do not need to do another, but you must make your own reservation. The new rate is \$90 plus tax. See the new registration form here in the paper.

I have received cards and gifts from Dames & Voyageurs that are not able to come to my homecoming. The surprise I received a couple of days ago, a package the mail lady delivered. Thank you, Tom & Mary Orval, for the beautiful eagle with plaque. I will treasure it always. It sits on the mantle in my living room.

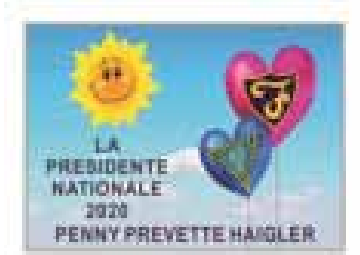
My condolences and prayers to any of the Dames who have lost a loved one during this epidemic. This is a time that we all must pull together, stay safe and we will all

come through this.

I have received and accepted invitations to Memorial Day Weekend, New York, Oregon, and Wisconsin and looking forward to attending their Grande Cheminot or Rendezvous. I am also looking forward to receiving many more invitations.

If I can be of service to you for anything do not hesitate to ask, send me an email, text or call me.

Yours in Service,  
Penny Prevette Haigler  
Presidente Nationale 2020



## REMEMBER WHEN...A LOT OF STEPPIN' STONES

Tom Adams, National Directeur Carville Star



Life has presented its challenges to all among our ranks, but did you ever envision that an unseen enemy would present such a universal challenge to all? Like you, at the time of this writing, I am "sheltering in place"



Indian Plantation House, circa 1894

fighting the enemy and finding plenty of time to "Remember When" - when I could roam freely in conduct of volunteer activities, attend 40&8 functions, go to church on

Sundays, and hug my kids and grandkids. To paraphrase the great Alan Jackson, we have some time to look back at the things we've done and recognize that they are just steppin' stones that got us where we've been and where we are now, and we can do it all again when the enemy is defeated.

At our Carville Star Committee meeting during the Cajun Wreck, we reviewed recent Program accomplishments. Restoration of the Daughters of Charity Cemetery plot was a huge success thanks to financial generosity of many voyageurs and dames. The interpretive signs that we funded now guide Carville visitors to more points of interest throughout the Carville Historic District. Moving forward, not even the invisible enemy was able to stop the

recent completion of our first 2020 project. We funded the reconstruction of a capital that stood atop one of the columns of the Indian Plantation House in the 1850's. (A "capital" is a decorative



Unreconstructed Column Capital

piece found at the top of column.) The Indian Plantation House became the Carville hospital after the first Daughters of Charity showed up in 1894 to care for Hansen's Disease (HD) patients. Recently discovered in storage at a Carville warehouse, one damaged capital and pieces of others were reconstructed to make a complete capital. Soon to become the centerpiece of an exhibit about the earliest

days at Carville, the capital will be the oldest artifact on display in the museum.

The Carville Star Program has been a steppin' stone for the Forty and Eight. In 1943, the era of 40&8 at Carville began with the donation of a printing press. The printing press supported the mass distribution of The Star, a publication dedicated to HD patient advocacy and ultimately responsible for a sequence of events that improved the plight of HD patients. (The Star helped dispel the notion of extreme "sheltering in place" imposed upon patients at Carville.) Thanks to our 40&8 funding, publication and distribution of The Star continues today, still with a mission to educate and reduce stigma about a disease state that has plagued mankind for centuries.

The Carville Star Program, Child Welfare, Nurses Training, Youth Sports, Americanism, POW/MIA, Box Car, and VAVS are all steppin' stones that got us where we are today. Through service to veterans and citizens of our communities, our 40&8 programs define who we are now and how



Plaster artisan delivers reconstructed capital to Carville Museum

we got here while assuring that we can do it all again when the scourge is past. Then, "we won't be sad, we'll be glad for all the life we've had and we'll remember when."



**ERYKA PAIGE RECEIVES RN PIN FROM THE 40 & 8**

Steve Ash, Nurses Training Director for Voiture 1261 Grande du Kansas of the 40 & 8, presents Eryka Paige with her RN pin after graduating from school as a Registered Nurse. Eryka is now working full time at Stormont Vail in Topeka in the surgical ICU. She also works as a PRN in Council Grove one day a week.



Lane County Voiture 80 Grande du Oregon traveled to Oakridge Elementary School, Oakridge where they presented their Flags For First Graders Presentation to both Mrs. Maher and Mrs. Shafor's 1st grade students. Pictured with the students and teachers are Voyageurs Cab Clark, Steve Woodford and Voiture 80 Chef de Gare Phyllis York.



**GRANDE DU INDIANA NO. 364 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

Voiture Locale No. 364 held the birthday ritual for the 100th year celebration during their Friday night dinner which is open to the public so they could share with all family and friends. Our locale Cabane 364 Dames presented the Voiture with a check for \$500 as a birthday present.  
L to R: Gary Steinhardt, Grande Aumonier, Brad young, locale Chef de Gare, Voyageurs Mary Handcock, Mike Lucas and Grand Chef de Train Al Dyer.



**VOITURE NO. 15 GRANDE DU OHIO NURSES TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

Locale No. 15 presented two \$450 checks to Benhur Ayettey and Kelsey Maier. Ben is also a Health Care Specialist with the Ohio National Guard  
L to R: Benhur Ayettey, Correspondant Ernest Massie, Awardee Kelsey Maier and daughter Brooklyn, Chef de Gare Paul King



**GRANDE DE WISCONSIN BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

Following Their Flags for First graders Presentation March 12, 2020, Lane County Grande du Oregon Voiture 80 presented Lundy Elementary School, Lowell, Oregon, Principal Mrs. Edgerton a 40 & 8 POW/MIA Brooch. Pictured with Mrs. Edgerton, L-R, Jerry Shorey, V-80 Flags for 1st Graders Directeur, Steve Woodford and Cab Clark.

On March 12th, Jefferson County Voiture Locale No. 750 celebrated the 100th Anniversary of La Societe at their monthly Promenade. Pictured are 95 year old WWII Veteran Kurt Troemel who slept in the hedge rows in Normandy on the night of D-Day; Locale Chef de Gare Dave Behling and their newest member Bill Imsland.



**Grande Voiture du New Hampshire**

On March 1st the Grande Chef de Gare Joe Di Chiaro of Grande Voiture du New Hampshire gave out certificates of appreciation to different venues for promoting the NH Merc Box Car on behalf of Voiture 70 NH. Shown above Owen Provencier receives certificate from Grand Chef Di Chiaro as other Voyageurs look on all on behalf of Voiture 70 NH.



**GRANDE DU ARIZONA**

Voiture No. 1466 Arizona handed out over 200 flags to 1st Graders at the East Mesa Elementary School. Students were asked questions about the American flag, it's history, and how we should always honor our flag. They were then presented with an American flag and small wooden stand so their flag could stand and be honored in their homes



**GRANDE DU INDIANA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**  
 Voyageurs from both Locales No. 642 & 37 joined to celebrate the 100th year of La Societe. Seated is 100 year old Voyageur Jack Garrett who is a WWII Navy Veteran.



**SCENES FROM CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER MIKE MCGARY'S HOMECOMING**



A special surprise gift to Sandy Wood from Mike by way of Jim & Lori Coe and Cabane No. 946



Big Chef Mike along with Aide de Camps Mitch Newell, Gary Parker and Tom Russell



Chef de Chemin de Fer Mike and the hospitality room hostesses from Cabane No. 364 and New York



Proof what too much Botox can do!



A 40 et 8 family get together would not be complete without a game Of Mexican Train



Big Chef Mike and National President Penny.



Wayne & Paul Sorrentino before the Saturday evening banquet.





**CARVILLE STAR DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY PROJECT**

Carville Star National Directeur Tom Adams visits the Daughters of Charity cemetery plot at Carville. Restored as a special project of the Carville Star Program. Through the generosity of Voyageurs and Dames, donations exceeded the project's goal by enough to purchase a recognition marker for the plot that reads, "This Site Restored by The 40&8 Honor Society of American Veterans". The restored plot was dedicated during the Cajun Wreck's annual pilgrimage to Carville.



**GRANDE DU TEXAS**

V-605 Locale Correspondant Renslar "Renny" Keagle also Grand Chef de Gare du Texas, engages first grade students at Logan Elementary school during their Flags for First Graders Program. After discussion on the meaning of the 50 stars, several students are asked to try and find the "Texas" star. After 4 years and 46 school programs - not been found yet. This was the last flags Americanism program of the year due to school closures.



The Forty et Eight Voiture 1237 of Burlington, NC has been presenting the Flags for First Graders Program in Alamance County, NC since 1997. This year there were 20 public and 7 private schools visited beginning October 2-December 19, 2019 with class sizes ranging from a low of 12 to a high of 141 First Graders. Fourteen volunteers drove a total of 3,418 miles, expended 319 man hours and distributed 2,186 flags to first graders and teachers. The presentation consists of a short history of our Flag, the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance, the history of when and who wrote the National Anthem and we demonstrate how to correctly fold the Flag along with the meaning of each fold. A poem "For The Love of My Old Glory" is read at the end of the presentation, the teachers are given a condensed copy of the presentation and the students are given a letter to take home to their parents explaining why they have a small flag and our presentation. Certificates are presented to the fourteen volunteers at the end of the school visits expressing appreciation for their support as illustrated in the picture of Presidente Nationale 2020 Penny Haigler receiving her certificate of appreciation.



**GRANDE DU NEW YORK**

On December 19, 2019 Grande du New York Madison Co. Voiture 554, through their youth sports program, Past Grand Chef Cindy Sheckler proudly presented the Cato-Meridian Blue Devil's Varsity basketball cheerleading coach, Brooke Fraser, a check for new uniforms for the squad. Opportunities such as this, allow us to experience, firsthand, the good our great organization does in communities for our children. For some of these cheerleaders, decreasing the financial burden of being 'on the team' makes it possible for them to participate.



**GRANDE DU ARIZONA COPPERTRAIN NO. 987**

L-R 1<sup>st</sup> row: Marty Lodge, Cary Foy, William McCutchan "Bill", Ed Nazimiec, Mark Spear, Bob Herne, Tim Wilson, Tom Thomas L-R 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Mike Magnuson, Ray Hopkins, Dennis Harbison, Ron Tucker.

**Grande du Illinois No. 433 Celebrates 100 Years**

The Illinois Henry County Voiture #433 celebrated the 100th Birthday of their great organization. About 50 voyageurs and guests gathered at their Chateau located in Annawan on March 14, 2020. Cutting the Cake are Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Ted Canellos and Grand Chef de Train Paul Pardo.



### SOUS CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER COMPO ATTENDS PATRIOT AWARD DINNER SPONSORED BY CONGRESIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR SOCIETY



On February 5, 2020, I was invited to attend the Patriot Award Dinner sponsored by the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. The event was held at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum. Master of Ceremonies were actor, Joe Mantegna and comedian, Tom Dreesen. The event was to recognize actor, musician and Veteran supporter Gary Sinise, and Dave McIntyre, President and CEO of Triwest Healthcare. The event was attended by 25 Medal of Honor recipients, active duty, veterans, VSO leaders and citizens.

As my wife, Jodie and I checked in to the event, I noticed several looks that I received from the public due to my gold jacket and funny hat. Once the event opened and the social hour began, I noticed a group of ROTC cadets milling about. I approached them and asked them about their prospective service in the Army. One question asked of me was why I was dressed the way I was. I informed these cadets of the 40&8 and our beginnings. To be honest, they looked like deer in the headlights. They hadn't even heard of the Legion. As I continued to walk around the venue, I had several other attendees ask me why my chapeau was different, what did the pins mean on my chapeau and my officer bars. I explained.

My wife and I had the opportunity to have our photo taken with Gary Sinise. I gave him a Grand du California Challenge Coin. He was very much appreciative of that. I also gave Joe Mantegna a California Coin, I was surprised to receive one of his in return. My wife and I made it over to our table only to be seated next to a MOH recipient. I had the distinct privilege and honor to sit next to Colonel Barney Barnum, USMC retired. Barney earned the MOH on December 18, 1965 in the RVN. Ironically, this date was 2 days after I was born. I think Providence prevailed that night. After Barney retired from the Corps, he was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy by Bush #43. Barney knew all about the 40&8 and told me he was an invited guest to our national promenade in SC 10 or so years ago. He said he still gets out mailings. At the end of the night, we both exchanged challenge coins. So although I didn't get any membership last night, I did serve as a public relations piece by discussing the 40&8.

### 2020 CAJUN WRECK & CARVILLE STAR



#### TIGERS CROPPED

The one-loss 40 & 8 Tigers Unified Basketball Team sponsored by Gulf Coast Voiture 1411 pause for a team photo before ending the Coronavirus-interrupted season. On the back row left are Coaches Pat Adams Cabane 1411 and Tom Adams Voiture 1411



At the Cajun Wreck for a \$200 donation to his Program, Carville Star Directeur Tom Adams agrees to take a pie and use it as mousse for a new hairstyle.



#### CHEF AT MUSEUM

At the Carville museum during his visit as part of the Cajun Wreck, Chef de Chemin de Fer McGary takes the opportunity to tell Daughters of Charity guests all about the 40 & 8.



#### FLAGS FOR 1ST GRADERS

Grande du Arizona Voiture Locale No. 1466 got an early start on their Flags for 1st Graders program presenting Flags to 1st graders throughout their area. Due to a request from one of their Voyageurs, they even made a presentation to a 2nd grade class teaching the students the meaning of our US Flag and proper educate of it.





# Grand Correspondant du Minnesota

Jerry Block - Correspondant Voiture 414, Hutchinson, Minnesota

There is a little bitter-sweet item I would like to share with you. About a year ago our Voiture decided to part ways with our LOCI which we have had for over 40 years. There comes a time when good things come to an end for whatever reason. I advertised it in the Forty & Eighter if you remember and there were a lot of "wishers" but no "havers". Last February I and my traveling companion took a road trip and, on this trip, stopped by to see Grand Chef de Gare du Kansas Doyle Wood in Wichita as he was the only one who really showed any promising interest. We chatted about the LOCI and he said he would really like to get it. Through the course of the year we

finally culminated a favorable deal and after approval by our Locale membership the LOCI was sold. March 6th, we got the LOCI out of storage where it had been over a year. Got it loaded on a semi-lowboy and Saturday the 7th, Lloyd and I followed the truck to Wichita. Chef Wood was anxiously waiting for his new toy. Sunday, we unloaded and spent a couple hours in "drivers training". Had to check out all the bells and whistles and handed over the keys. Hopefully the Kansas kids will enjoy the 7-ton LOCI as much as the 1000's of Hutchinson, MN kids did.



Parade Uniform

Loaded

Gr Corr Jerry, Gr Chef Doyle, VM Lloyd

## MEMBERSHIP

Joe Story, Nationale Directeur-Membership



Good Day Voyageurs Militaire. Well...this membership year has been extremely difficult for a lot of Voiture Locales and Grandes. We have had severe winter storms in a large part of the country; we have had severe rain storms and flooding in parts of the country; we have had tornados in part of the country; we have had earthquakes in part of the country and now we have this coronavirus pandemic in all of the country. All these events have influenced Voiture Locales ability to conduct promenades on a regular basis. My question now is "Can anything positive come from all these negative events?" My answer is YES!!!

I am sure that many Voyageurs are doing whatever they can to help those people who need help. I am delivering

meals (3 times a week) to those who are shut-ins due to disabilities. I wear my 40 et 8 baseball cap when I deliver those meals. When I am asked "what is the 40et8?" I give them a recruiting envelope that tells who we are and what we do on a local basis. Has this produced any new members? No! However, it does get our name out in the public. The key to successful membership is to keep talking about the 40et8. We all know Veterans who are qualified to be members of the 40et8. We need to invite them to become members The Honor Society of American Veterans.

Should you have any questions, or comments, regarding membership, please feel free to call me at 715-966-0261 or email me at joestory@charter.net.

Joseph Story  
Nationale Directeur-Membership

## POW/MIA Survivor Scholarship Program

Steven W. Slegers, Directeur Nationale POW/MIA Monsieur's and Madame's



Greetings from not so sunny Vancouver, Washington. I hope that everyone is doing well in this time of social distancing. These are extremely difficult times for everyone, so reach out via phone, e-mail or text to your friends to see if they are okay.

Do you have your 2020 POW/MIA Pin yet? If not, I have a supply of them for you at \$3.00 each. Call or e-mail me and I can send all that you need. I am starting to add the postage for shipment of merchandise. It will be \$8.30 or \$15.05 depending on the number of pins ordered. Previous years pins are also available as well as necklaces and earrings. Checks for payment may be sent to me at the address above. Checks need to be made payable to POW/MIA Scholarship Fund.

March has come and gone. That means that our third fiscal quarter is past. There's only three months left in our fiscal reporting period. With almost everything closed, several major functions have been cancelled. Proms and Cheminot's are not able to be held, so our programs are that much more difficult to complete. With that in mind, contact your areas of responsibility and have them try to work those programs via e-mail, text, or phone. If merchandise is still consigned, recommend that your Voitures and Grands pay them off. Right now I have about \$3,000.00 of outstanding merchandise.

Other programs are probably much the same. Start putting together the annual Consolidated Reports.

Information that I have received several times this month is vital to our POW/MIA Scholarship Program. Most Voitures do not understand that the POW/MIA Program is a Scholarship program, therefore they may not participate in this program. They believe it's just another merchandise sales program for them to give money. Please make everyone aware that this is a Scholarship Fund to help descendants of VERIFIABLE POW/MIAs. It's a worthy cause to support and honor those who have sacrificed so much for our country. I have received two packets of Scholarships to review. If you know of anyone who may be eligible, send them to our website for information on how to apply. The site is at www.APPLIC7.com.

In the meantime, everyone please be safe. DO NOT FORGET OUR FOUR GOALS:

- Merchandise Sales
  - Raising our POW/MIA Survivor Scholarship Fund Awareness
  - Consolidated Reports
  - POW/MIA Pin Design
- Again, any questions or ideas for the program email s.t.slegers@q.com

For La Societe,  
Steven W. Slegers, Directeur POW/MIA

## AMERICANISM

National Directeur - Dan Evers



AMERICANISM  
With everything going on it is hard to figure out what to write.

First of all, we need to be doing buddy checks on all our Friends, Comrades & neighbors.

Make sure everyone has what they need. I gave a class on how WWII soldiers conserved toilet paper. That did not go over as well as you would think.

As of now, Flags for First Graders has stopped since all the schools are closed down. So just do what you can for the rest of the year. Thank you to those that have participated this year. Remember this is our flagship program.

You still have time to get your nominees in for the Americanism Award. This is a very prestigious award and an Honor to whomever receives it. Please get them to me by June 1st.

The 2021 pins will be available soon the cost will be the same as before \$3.00 each, or \$2.75 each if you prepay for a roo that is a savings of \$25 you can use to buy Flags.

So get your orders into Milt Harrison,

127 CHIMNEY LN. HAUGHTON, LA 71037

Phone 318-949-8079

Email miltonh388@suddenlink.net.

Get your pins early that way you can hand them out at your Grand Proms this summer.

Consolidated reports are going to be due soon so it is time to start figuring just what we have done this year. I know we short ourselves on what we report. Reports are due to me by July 15th that means you have to have yours into your Grand Directeur before that. The reports are what we use to work out the Awards and if I don't receive one then you are just cheating yourself and your Grand. This year I will have a random drawing of all the Grand Consolidated reports that I receive for a special prize to go to the Grand Americanism Directeur that submits the report.

Get all your honey-dos done while we are on lock down, so we can hit the bricks running when it's lifted.

MERCI

## CABANE NATIONALE'S AMERICANISM

Gail Reed - Cabane Nationale Americanism Chairman

I would like to introduce myself to all Forty et Eighter's and Dames. My name is Gail Reed and I'm the current Cabane Nationale Americanism Chairman.

I'm a Dame of Cabane 1080 Grande de Wisconsin but live in Arizona where we don't have any Cabanes.

I worked with the Americanism Voiture's from V-1466 Arizona. We presented the Flags for First Graders for 190-200 first graders at Imagine East Elementary in Mesa, Arizona. Because the group was so big they divided them into 2 groups. These young students asked several questions about the American flag, it's history, and how we should always honor our flag. They were then presented with an American flag and small wooden stand so their flag could stand and be honored

in their homes.

Please send me copies of your Americanism reports. You can email your reports or articles of your Americanism programs to: Gsingior@aol.com or mail them to:

Gail Reed, 212 W Caroline Ln, Chandler, AZ. 85225

Thank you,

Gail Reed

Cabane Nationale Americanism Chairman

## CHILD WELFARE

Joe Donovan - National Directeur



As I write this article, I am confident we all have pulled through successfully from the Coronavirus Pandemic that affected our nation.

As we move into the summer months, with the anticipated upcoming Grande Promenades, I am announcing that we have the 2021 Child Welfare Pins in stock and ready to be sent to your Grandes and Locales. Having them in hand for your Promenade will assist you and our members in their participation of our National fund raising effort. Pins are \$3.00ea with shipments of 25 pins gladly sent on consignment. As in the past, a discount is being offered for advance payment of orders of or in excess of 100 pins. \$2.75ea paid in advance and sent with your order to National Directeur Child Welfare Joe Donovan, 4660 N River Rd Spc 12, Oceanside CA 92057-5879.

The sale of our program pins is the major fund-raising effort of your National Child Welfare program. Funds raised through the sale of our yearly pins fund the Ardery Trust, which is available to provide reimbursement to Locales and Grandes that provide assistance to children who have suffered from disasters, whether natural or man-made.

Lets talk about your Annual Child Welfare Report. Many Locales have parties for kids whether Halloween,

Holiday, Christmas, etc. I know, probably not springtime this year. Maybe you provided blankets for kids, perhaps a holiday meal? All of this can and should be reported on your Annual Report! There are three categories for reporting Awards: John T Digillio Jr - Best Grande Report 1 - 299 mbrs, N Carl Nielson - Best Grande Report 300 mbrs +, and Charles W Ardery - Best Locale. Honorable Mention Awards to runners-up in each category. With ACCURATE reporting by Locales and Grande Voiture's, you could receive one of these prestigious awards. Locale Reports are due in time for your Grand Directeur to prepare his or her Grande Report that must be received by me by July 15. Remember, ONLY Grande Voiture reports are to be sent to me. Although Grande Reports will be accepted until two days before National Promenade for inclusion in my annual report, Award deadlines are critical due to the lead time necessary for processing. Remember, YOUR reports are necessary!

Repeating, order your pins AND send your reports to National Directeur Child Welfare Joe Donovan 4660 N River Rd Spc 12, Oceanside CA 92057-5879 Phone 760-721-9405 please leave a message if no answer. Jdonovan4660@hotmail.com Please make all checks payable to NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM.

# CRISIS DEFINES LEADERSHIP AND CHARACTER IN AMERICA

Mike Wood



I once read "that having big money or power does not change someone's character, it reveals it."

We are witnessing examples of this now in our country as we watch people react to the COVID-19 pandemic. We see their true character exposed and not all is what we would hope for. It is inspiring to see the majority of Americans doing the right thing.

In early March, when it was evident that the virus was all that was predicted and our social world turned upside down in effort to restrict the spread of this pandemic, our first responders answered the

call in true American spirit, spending extra hours preparing to spend even more hours caring for a restless population growing more nervous, antsy and agitated as each day's news brought results of the pandemic.

As many schools have closed temporarily or even for the balance of this school year, parents have now inherited the burden of learning to assist in teaching their children while the educators are forced to teach remotely from their homes creating new online programs and offering support to their students.

When state or federal governments ordered businesses to close or change their operating hours, those owners have done their best to adjust to new business practices that would allow them to survive for just one more week and maintain enough business to retain their loyal employees as their customers become more scarce due to responding to the sensible social distancing precautions and stayed at home. Some start up small business unfortunately never had a

chance to get off the ground.

Our health care workers, doctors, nurses, technicians and EMTs have faced even more difficult choices. Most of them would prefer to be at home with their families learning how to deal with our temporary 'New Normal World.' Instead they are dedicated to maintaining the health and safety of Americans by working long and extra hours dealing with a pandemic that seems to project raising numbers on a daily basis. Even many retired health professionals have returned to work to fight COVID-19. As the tremendous amounts of patients are straining the limits of our hospitals and health care facilities, they fight to save others while privately wishing they were at home caring for their families and loved ones.

Unemployment numbers have reached an all-time high. Americans have watched helplessly as their paychecks have disappeared, due to no fault of their own, and they now search in vain for ways to pay the bills and feed their families.

Within just a matter of weeks, COVID-19 has changed the lives of the citizens of this great country. The examples that I just listed preceding this statement are fine examples of character and leadership. This is what makes America a great country.

Only one group of Americans has escaped the hardships of the COVID-19 chaos. Members of Congress still haven't missed a paycheck, or had to lay off any of their staff workers or had their gold-plated benefits and health insurance packages disrupted in any way.

After an unreasonable delay and a display of political partisanship, Congress finally passed a bill that will provide financial relief to the rest of Americans and support to healthcare systems and businesses. This is welcome news, although it would have been better if the funds had been made available in a matter of days instead of weeks, as it now seems likely due to the political posturing. It seems as if certain Congressman had the attitude that "In the long run, the people

will eventually get financial relief," however they fail to realize that "People don't eat in the long run, they eat every day."

Our public health experts are reminding us constantly to wash our hands so they won't be contaminated, maybe it is time to wash our hands of self-serving politicians as well.

When this COVID-19 crisis passes, and it will pass, Americans can look back and decide who the real heroes were in the battle of America vs COVID-19 and then be able to really judge the people who displayed leadership and

character and those that were not gifted with these American qualities. When you go to the ballot box in November, please vote as an American, not as a democrat or republican, please vote for those candidates that displayed leadership and character during the biggest crisis we have faced in my lifetime. Political parties be damned, American interests are the real issues.

Mike Wood - Chef de Chemin de Fer 2015

## YOUTH SPORTS

William Stroud - Directeur



With the coming of Spring, we were all ready for spring time sports both on the professional and amateur levels. Many of us were planning to support a local Youth Sports event and use it as a springboard for our organization. When folks see a 40 & 8 banner, they want to know

what it is and what the organization is all about.

Instead, we have a COVID-19 Spring, which I suppose will go down in history as the "virus spring" or some other such name that someone will give it. As one fellow voyageur told me, "I knew it was bad when the bars and the Legion closed." Another said, "If they made a run on beer like the toilet paper, they'd need to have the cops in the grocery and liquor stores." Be what it may, it is what it is. I'm doing like everyone else, trying to stay away from crowds and using the time to catch up on some things in the office and at home. In my profession,

there's always something to do and the Courts are closed right now. Plus, I know the virus will be an excuse I can use for a while for things I haven't done after the lockdown is over. I am glad that I don't do divorces anymore. They say forced isolation will cause an increase.

The good news is that this won't last forever and things will get back to normal or a new normal. One thing we can count on is that Youth Sports will remain a part of our society. What can you do to help? While buying pins is important in the funding of our program, support of Youth Sports is much broader than buying pins. There

is someone in your area that will need your support. Call your local Little League or other Youth Sports activity and ask if there is a team or an individual that can use your support. I'll guarantee there is someone out there that needs your help.

In the meantime, take time to draw closer to your family. Check on your neighbors. Read some books with a grandchild if some happen to be around. This could give you an opportunity to spend some quality time with some of the "little people" and build memories. Make the most of it. Call up an old friend or relative you haven't talked to in a while. Use it as

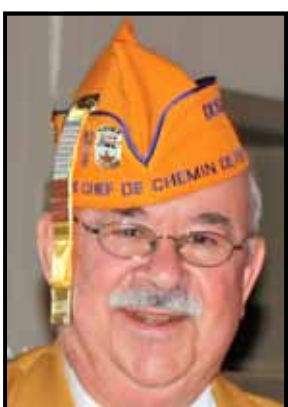
an opportunity to do some telephone recruiting for our organization.

If you need pins, please let me know at [bstroud@bossierlawoffice.com](mailto:bstroud@bossierlawoffice.com) or [wstroud40@gmail.com](mailto:wstroud40@gmail.com). Give me a call at 318 752-3335 or 337 591-2816. If you use the second number, please leave me a message and I'll get right back to you. If I don't recognize the number, I'll assume it's another politician who is robocalling to explain why my \$50 is necessary to save the free world.

In all seriousness, take care of yourselves and your families. "Social distancing" is important. Do your best to stay well.

## SALUTE FROM SPECIAL AWARDS 2020

National Directeur - Greg Hall



We are now into our 7th month of the 2020 Special Awards year and you should be really getting motivated in completing your Special Awards nominations.

The Sous Directeur's for Special Awards are: Directeur for Grand Hero of the Year is Courtland Bradbury from Auburn, CA. The Sous Directeur for Grand City/Town of the Year is Wayne Sorrentino from

Cheektowaga, NY. Sous Directeur Dale Oatman is handling the Grand Law Officer of the Year nominations and Dale hails from Antigo, WI. Sous Directeur James Carpenter is handling the Grand voyageur of the Year nominations and resides in Moorpark, CA. All the contact information is listed on the Special Awards page in the Petite Communiqué.

We would like to remind everyone that Special Awards is a Nationale Program and as such needs to be reported just like every other program at the end of the year. Year end reports are to be completed by each Voiture Locale and forwarded to the Grand Directeur of Special Awards who will compile all of the Locale reports and report the totals to the Special

Awards Directeur National on Page three (3) of the Special Awards Reporting form. The top of the page pertains to the reporting Locales and the bottom of the page pertains to the reporting Grands. Reports are due the Special Awards Directeur Nationale no later than August 15, 2020.

The Special Award Sous Directeur's have been sending out information to all of the Grands on a monthly basis and we hope they are being disseminated to the fullest.

We all know of Voyageurs who have spent years in La Societe mentoring, recruiting and working so hard to keep the organizations alive and well. It is your responsibility to recognize these Voyageurs by nominating them for

Voyageur of the Year.

The City of the Year is another special recognition that might take a little time to work up but is not an impossible task. If you know of a city or town that has and/or is doing something significant for veterans, we would suggest that you go speak with the mayor or town representative. It would surprise us if they wouldn't assist you with making up a packet for nomination.

Your 2020 Special Awards Team is looking forward to assisting you in any way possible for another great year. Whether it be the Hero of the Year, Law Enforcement officer of the Year, Voyageur of the Year of City or Town of the Year, they all need to be recognized.

If you would like to get involved with the Special Awards Program, we would suggest that you contact one of the Sous Directeur's of Special Awards and ask for his recommendation to become a member of the General's Club. The funds generated by this elite club underwrite the expenses of the Outstanding Law Officer of the Year program. In so doing, the General's Club affords each annual Outstanding Law Officer of the Year award recipient, the opportunity to attend Promenade Nationale as a guest of the Forty and Eight.

## GRANDE DU KANSAS VOITURE NO. 58

Bruce Kouba

First off, a belated Blessed Easter to just a few of my friends in La Societe. I hope this finds you and yours healthy, and safe from the COVID-19 virus. You are all in my thoughts and prayers as we chart these unfamiliar times together.

Second, as you all to know the 40 & 8 still continues (we do not stop because of the Virus) to promote and work our programs within our Locales, Grands, and Nationale. My Voiture #58 (Wichita, KS), had a very successful Wreck the second weekend in February with Chef Passe Mark Moots and Willa Dean in attendance. We Wrecked eight into La Societe, with four more to be Wrecked in July of this year. We held our last Promenade on February 11, 2020 prior to the COVID-19 shutdown, but we have accomplished the following for La Societe thus far since 1/1/2020. This does not take into account Voiture Programs from 8/1/2019 thru 12/31/2019 and Voiture Activities.

- 1) We had two Scout Troops use our Scout Camp for a winter campouts.
- 2) We support two high schools with the statewide Trap Shoot Sports Program at our facilities (on hold, with the close of schools).
- 3) Selected two Nurses from Newman University for \$500 each in our Nurses Training Program (Tessa & Karlea) without physical contact, and the University being closed.
- 4) Presented Flags to 1st Graders to sixty-eight children prior to the closing of all schools.
- 5) Selected a Youth Sports baseball team (Derby Panthers) to receive our support for the 2020 youth baseball season.
- 6) We have programs in place for CHILD WELFARE, VAVS, MIA/POW, BOXCAR and CARVILLE STAR, once things get back to normal (whatever normal is in the future).

Thus far in 2020, my Voiture has been blessed with three large donations. It never hurts to ask for help to support your Voiture Programs.

1) Many of you recall in 2015 we had the Law Officer of the Year. A gunman went into the Excel Corporation in Hesston, Kansas and killed three employees, and wounded fourteen others. Our National Law Officer of the Year killed the shooter prior to more carnage at Excel Corporation. This year the Excel Corporation is giving V-58 a new 72" mower for use on our eighty acres (YEA)!

2) One of our members (Eldon Butler), a two year member to our Voiture arranged all the materials and supplies required to re-roof our Chateau. A total of 27 squares of Impact Resistant shingles and 10 squares of TPO roofing free of charge to the Voiture from the company he works for, along with it's suppliers.

3) Our Range Chairman (Darrel Schenck), an eleven year member was able to get a local contractor to rework our 300 yard rifle range and berm free of charge. This was because of our support of Hunters Safety Classes, our Scout Program, and the fact that law enforcement classes are taught at the Chateau and use our range.

In closing, we are just one Voiture among many in the Mid-West (never have figured out how Ohio is in the Mid-West) along with all the others in Nationale that continue to work our programs in La Societe. Working together we can still have a GREAT 100 ANNIVERSARY YEAR! Chef Mike, hope you can still make the Grand Promenade in Kansas. I look forward to being with the rest of you in Ohio for Promenade Nationale.

## KEEP THE WHEEL CHAIRS ROLLING CONTEST

First and Foremost, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those individuals that took the time to submit an entry into this year's contest. Out of all the VA Facilities we received a total of 17 requests. Due to the response the breakdown has changed to best suit the needs of the entries.

Without further-adieu, I congratulate this year's winners of the 2020 "Keep the Wheel Chairs Rolling Contest".

Bogalusa, VA Out-Patient Clinic Bogalusa, La. (1 Biatric Wheelchair, 2 Wheelchairs)	\$800.00	Middleton, WI (Craft Supplies)	\$500.00
South Dakota Veterans Home Hot Springs, SD (Smart TV)	\$800.00	Batavia, VAMC Batavia, NY (Athletic Equipment)	\$500.00
Ralph Johnson VAMC Charleston, SC (Bus Passes)	\$750.00	Fresno VAMC Fresno, CA (Hospice/ Palliative infusion clinic)	\$400.00
Canandaigua VAMC Canandaigua, NY (1 Pad Charging station)	\$750.00	Norfolk Veterans Home Norfolk, NE (Bingo Cards)	\$400.00
Biloxi VAMC Biloxi, MS (6 Large Screen DVD Players @ \$120.00ea)	\$720.00	Hot Springs VAMC Hot Springs, SD (Rec Therapy/Rehab)	\$300.00
Tomah VAMC Tomah, WI (1 Pad Charging Stations)	\$600.00	Sioux Falls VAMC Sioux Falls, SD (Adaptive Sports)	\$300.00
Mexico Veterans Home Mexico, MO (Transportation Fund)	\$500.00	Ft. Meade VAMC Ft. Meade, SD (Coffee, Bus Passes, Crisis Fund)	\$250.00
Livermore VAMC Livermore, CA (Wheel Chair Gloves)	\$500.00		
Harry S. Truman VAMC Columbia, MO (Personal Items (Sweatpants))	\$500.00		
Palo Alto VAMC Palo Alto, CA (Wheelchair Gloves)	\$500.00		
Middleton VAMC			

## VETERANS AFFAIRS VOLUNTARY SERVICE/STATE VETERANS HOMES (VAVS/SVH)

Ron Rolfes, Directeur



Greeting's Voyagers. Needless to say it has been an interesting few months with COVID-19 wreaking havoc on our great Nation, turning many of our lives upside down. One can only hope that as you read this we are all safe and

getting back to our normal day to day lives. I can tell you that this virus created a great strain on our VA Healthcare system and it is going to take some time to get back on track, so I ask that you remain patient with your Facilities. Speaking of Facilities, our "Keep the Wheelchairs Rolling Contest" concluded the end of March and the checks were mailed out. This year, we had 14 requests, with La Societe donating a little over \$8,000.00 to VA Facilities across the country. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that took the time to submit a request and especially thank the Box Car Association, Grandes and Voiture's that donated to the VAVS program. Without you, La Societe would not be able to contribute to enhancing the Veterans Experience at our VA Facilities

and State Homes across the Nation.

The VAVS Program continues to seek out and recruit new Reps/Dep's for our facilities. There are still many holes to be filled and we need your help. Remember that the Le Femme's can and are encouraged to assist with this as well. Speaking of La Femme's, VAVS now has a Liaison for the La Femmes on that side of the house. We are hoping that this will aide in recruitment of volunteers as well as capturing the countless hours/donations that the Dames are putting into VA. With that said, we still want the Grandes to work closely with their Cabanes to recruit Reps/Dep's as well as record volunteer hours/donations.

Lastly, back by popular demand and if you will be attending Promenade Nationale in Sandusky, OH, we will be holding another VAVS Workshop. This will be open to Voyageurs, Dames and anyone wishing to attend. The workshop is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon and will provide a wealth of information pertaining to the program as well as other valuable VA information.

Many thanks for all you do for our Nations Veterans. If you have any questions

## VETERANS ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

Ron Rolfes, Directeur



The beat of the Native American drums reverberated through the halls of the clinic as Crow Nation drummers proudly sang a war song. The ceremony began with a Crow Nation prayer and the presentation of colors. Hundreds

were on hand to witness the long-awaited renaming ceremony of the Billings clinics for World War II Veterans Dr. Joseph Medicine Crow, the last member of the Crow Tribe to become a war chief, and Benjamin Steele.

There are days when many of us may feel an increased sense of anxiety and stress. This can be a normal response when our routines are disrupted and information changes from day to day. This can also create a sense of fear. Many times, it is the anticipation of what may or may not happen that can contribute to this stress as well.

Today's #Veteran Of The Day is Air Force Veteran Emma Breitbarth, who served in the 509th Bomb Wing and now helps Veterans with career advising. Emma J. Breitbarth served in the Air Force from 1985 to 1989.

We honor your service, Emma!

The Internal Revenue Service today issued a special alert for Supplemental Security Income and Department of Veterans Affairs beneficiaries to act by May 5 if they didn't file a tax return in 2018 or 2019 and have dependents so they can quickly receive the full amount of their Economic Impact Payment. Their \$1,200 payments will be issued soon and, in order to add the \$500 per eligible child amount to these payments, the IRS needs the dependent information before the

payments are issued.

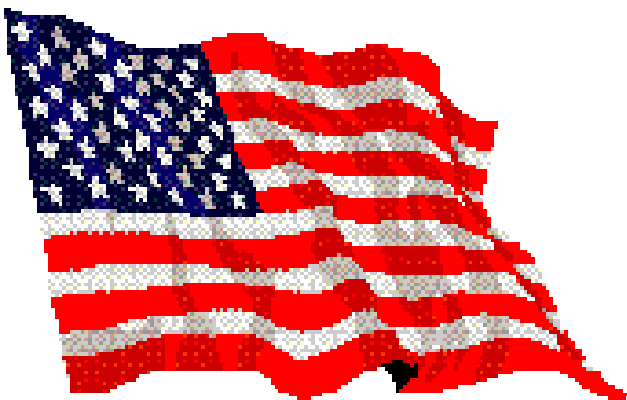
Think about a big purchase you made, maybe a new phone, a large-screen TV, or even a new car. Remember how excited you were when you brought it home? Depending on how long ago this purchase was made, there's a good chance it's now part of your surroundings and you don't consider it special anymore.


It's often asked what everyone can learn from America's greatest generation, a term used to recognize those who lived through the Great Depression and fought in World War II. What about selflessness? Veteran Oscar Gadson Jr. exudes that quality. Gadson, who is 100 years old, had the rare distinction of being both a Tuskegee Airman and a Buffalo Soldier in World War II.

What comes to mind when you hear the word "yoga?" Do you imagine a group of young and athletic women folded up like pretzels? The chair yoga video below may change your mind: Yoga is for EVERY BODY, and can help you to be flexible, balanced and calm.


VA and the Department of Defense (DoD) have taken action to minimize the number of non-essential required visits to identification (ID) card offices during the coronavirus public health emergency. If you have a VA or DoD ID card that has expired or is getting ready to expire, here are your options.

As part of its modernization initiative, Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E) is introducing the Electronic Virtual Assistant (e-VA) pilot. The Electronic Virtual Assistant (e-VA) allows Veterans to reach out to their VR&E counselors virtually.





Grande Voiture Du Ohio invites you to attend the  
101<sup>st</sup> Promenade & 57<sup>th</sup> Rendezvous Nationale  
Sandusky, Ohio  
September 13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
**Come Enjoy Ohio's Summer Playground**



Date form completed \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE SUBMIT SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH REGISTRATION**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity	Description	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/>	Voyageur's Registration @ \$30.00 <small>(NON REFUNDABLE)</small>	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Voyageur's Late Reg. Fee (AFTER 6/1/20) @ \$5.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dame's Registration @ \$25.00	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	La President Luncheon (9/17/20) @ \$28.00	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	One Night Room Deposit @ .109.00 (ONE FORM PER ROOM)	\$ 109
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early Bird "Assorted Buffet" (9/15/20) Tickets @ \$30	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Banquet (9/18/20) Tickets @ \$40.00 each	\$ 0
A. Herb Stuffed Chicken Qty - _____ B. Roast Pork Loin Qty - _____ C. Parmesan Crusted Walleye Qty - _____ Boosters @ \$2.00 each TOTAL \$ 0		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		\$ 109

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Guests in Room: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest name(s):  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by Check? (Enter Check Number): \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by Credit Card? (Check one below)

VISA  Master Card  Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Card Exp Date: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: American Express is NOT accepted!

BILLING ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE FOR CREDIT CARD REQUIRED

BILLING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

BILLING ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION AND RESERVATIONS**

NOTE: ALL VOYAGEURS & DAMES MUST REGISTER WITH THE PROMENADE NATIONALE CORPORATION. Requested lodging room types and preferences are a request ONLY, and CANNOT BE GUARANTEED by the Promenade Nationale Corp. Complete this form as applicable and either provide your credit card information or make your check payable to "101<sup>st</sup> Promenade Nationale Corp." Then mail form and payment to;

Voiture Nationale, 250 East 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 14, 2020**

Additional forms available on-line at [www.fortyandeight.org](http://www.fortyandeight.org)

The first night's room deposit is required (credit card or check) to guarantee your hotel room. The deposit will be deducted from your hotel bill. All rooms are subject to 7.0% State Sales and Local Room Occupancy Taxes. Parking at the Hotel is complimentary to guests.

**CHANGES AND CANCELLATIONS**

Reservations may be changed or cancelled 72 hours, or more prior to arrival to receive full refund less \$25.00 processing fee, by contacting the Promenade Nationale Corp. at 317-634-1804.

NOTE: REGISTRATION FEES ARE NON REFUNDABLE

**SORRY PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED**

THE KALAHARI RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER IS THE HOST FACILITY FOR BOTH VOYAGEURS AND DAMES

NOTE: Rates ONLY available through Promenade National Corporation.

Single Occupancy.....\$109.00

Double Occupancy.....\$109.00

Lodge Suite.....\$139.00

Combination Suite.....\$368.00 (Sleeps 6 - 8)

Village Suite.....\$397.00 (Sleeps 6 - 12)

HANDICAP ROOMS ARE LIMITED: PLEASE CONSIDER THIS WHEN MAKING YOUR REQUEST. HANDICAP ROOMS ARE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS BY REGISTRATION DATE.

Handicapped Room  Near Elevator


Two Beds  Low Floor

King Bed

Special Needs? \_\_\_\_\_

Print Form      Save Form

# 60th Great Lakes Promenade



State College, Pennsylvania  
July 23rd 24th 25th 2020  
Hosted by  
**The Grande Voiture du Pennsylvania**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration \$50.00 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

Booster Club Ad \$2.00 per name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tour of Happy Valley Winery \$35.00: \_\_\_\_\_

Tour of Penn State Creamery \$35.00: \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in Golf? ( ) Yes Need a Scooter? ( ) Yes

**BUFFET STYLE MENU**

**Prime Rib - Haddock - Chicken Marsala - Baked Potato  
Vegetable Medley - Rolls - Dessert - Drinks**

**DEADLINE** - for receipt of payment for  
Registration and Tours is  
May 12th, 2020

Make checks payable to Grande Voiture du Pennsylvania  
Mail checks C/O: Dave Kesslering  
92 Eves Street - Port Matilda, PA. 16820

**HOTEL INFORMATION**

Comfort Suites 132 Village Drive  
(off North Atherton Street)  
State Collage, Pennsylvania. 16803  
King or Double Rooms - \$79.00 per night Tax included  
You are responsible for your own reservations  
which must be made by May 12th, 2020



*La Presidente Nationale 2020*  
*Penny Prevette Haigler's*  
*Homecoming June 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020*





**Make hotel reservation directly: Drury Inn 1767 Glidewell Drive, Burlington NC 27407**  
Phone 800-378-7946 or 336-584-2004

**Mention Nationale Presidente Homecoming for special rate \$90.00 per night plus tax.**  
**Cutoff date for Registration and Hotel is: June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**  
(you can still receive special rate up to the day of the event if there are rooms available)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current Office \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation available from Piedmont Triad International Airport Greensboro, North Carolina. Please send your itinerary to [coppercent1penny@outlook.com](mailto:coppercent1penny@outlook.com)

**Schedule of Events:**

**Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup>** Hospitality Room 12:00 PM until 10:00 PM (dinner on your own)

**Friday June 19<sup>th</sup>** Hospitality Room 11:00 AM until midnight  
Shopping & Lunch (leave the hotel 12:00pm until 4:00pm) if interested check \_\_\_\_\_  
Golf (leave the hotel 7:00am for 18 holes of golf) if interested check \_\_\_\_\_  
(if not enough interest event will be cancelled)

**Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup>** Hospitality Room 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM (reopens after banquet)  
Social Hour 6:00 PM - Banquet 7:00 PM (Dress code "dressy" not formal)  
Transportation will start at 5:30 PM to American Legion Post 53

**Dinner** - Herb Chicken Breast & Roast Beef - served with salad, mashed potatoes, steamed veggies, buttered corn, bread and dessert

\$40.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_


Program Book Ads: Full Page \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ 1/2 Page \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Boosters (\$2 each) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total of check \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Booster Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Book will be 5x7 - Please email ad in word doc format to [coppercent1penny@outlook.com](mailto:coppercent1penny@outlook.com)  
Cutoff date June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Make check payable to: Nationale Presidente's Homecoming**  
**Mail to David Van Wormer 311 Chapel Hill Rd Burlington, NC 27215**



**Drury Inn & Suites Burlington**  
1767 Glidewell Drive  
Burlington, NC 27215  
Telephone: (336) 584-2004  
[www.druryhotels.com](http://www.druryhotels.com)

Thank you for choosing **Drury Inn & Suites Burlington** to be a part of your next great event! We are looking forward to seeing you soon and we are ready to uphold our reputation for great service & value. Rooms have been held for your group and to make reservations, please click on the link below.

[La Femmes Cabane Nationale 40/8](#)

At Drury Hotels, we know you have enough to worry about when traveling. In addition to the great rate, our generous amenities will brighten your group's day and make your journey easier.

- **Free Hot Breakfast** - Start every day with make-your-own Belgian waffles, scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, oatmeal, biscuits and gravy, KELSO+BROS® coffee and more. Free hot breakfast is served daily from 6-9:30 a.m. on weekdays and 7-10 a.m. on weekends.
- **Free 5:30 Kickback®\*** - Join us from 5:30-7 p.m. every evening to enjoy free hot food and cold beverages at our 5:30 Kickback®. We feature a rotating menu of hot food, beer, wine, mixed drinks and soft drinks.
- **Free Wi-Fi Throughout the Hotel** - Get the score, check your social networks or email family members from anywhere in the hotel - for free!
- **Free Soft Drinks and Popcorn** - Freshly popped popcorn and a refreshing beverage make a great snack! Stop by the lobby for free soft drinks and popcorn every evening.
- **On-Site Facilities** - Take advantage of the business center, fitness center or pool while you're away from home. Print your boarding pass, finish a presentation or check e-mail in our business centers.

\*Service of alcohol is subject to state and local law. Alcoholic beverages are not complimentary and require a nominal charge at the following hotels due to state and local laws: Drury Inn Bowling Green, Drury Suites Paducah, Drury Inn Paducah, and Drury Inn & Suites Louisville.

Please make your reservations by **Monday, June 1, 2020** to receive your group rate. Reservations made after this date will be subject to prevailing rate and availability. Reservations may also be made by calling **1-800-325-0720** and refer to your group number **2414860**.