



Voiture Nationale 40&8

VOYAGEUR BRIEFS

Bill Simpson – Chef de Chemin de Fer



La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux... What is that??? This past March we celebrated 102 years of fun, fellowship and promoting our programs within our organization. We, as members, know what our organization stands for and are very proud of it. Although this has provided all of us with a great deal of self-satisfaction and memories, it has done very little to promote our organization in our communities or state. Does your neighbor, your mail carrier, the person you sit next to in church or at a ball game know of the 40/8? In everyday conversations you hear talk of the American legion, VFW, Masons, shriners and different fraternal organization on what they are doing but, mention the 40/8 and you get the “deer in the headlight look”. I believe we have stood in the shadows of these organizations long enough. I know this pandemic crisis has really hurt our efforts but now that some of the restrictions and mandates have been lifted, it is time to hit the road running and let our voices and actions be known. In my travels and the correspondence I have received, our activities are starting to get back to normal. Information is being sent out by the



directeurs of our programs but, is it getting passed on outside of your grand or locale? PR (public relations) is the key for success. Summer is upon us and different activities are starting up. Now is the time for the 40/8 to shine and get involved with your community projects and activities.

My travels during this time had me hosting my Homecoming in March. I want to thank those who took time out of your busy schedule to attend this event. I hope everyone enjoyed their visit. A “HUGE” thank you goes to Voiture and Cabane 1067 for all you did to make my homecoming fantastic. Later in the month it was off to Cleveland TN for the Hillbilly Wrek where we inducted two new members into La Société. I officially appointed them my body guards while there (have to see the pictures). The hospitality and fellowship was great (karaoke not so much). It was then off to Columbus, GA for La Madame Presidente Nationale (Janet) Homecoming. What a blast. The Hawaiian theme was a great idea for eve-

ryone got a Hawaiian Lei.

April came and went with travels to the Great Western in Tombstone, AZ. I must say thank you to Don and Gail Reed for the hospitality and care you provide for Dell and me. It was great seeing friends and making new ones. A fun time was had the entire time we were there. Upon returning home it was a quick repack for my whirlwind tour of Indiana to Lafayette (Friday) for the 75th Annual Razzberry Nurse’s training banquet where they (Voiture 364) awarded 23 nurses with scholarships. What a spectacular event to witness. Saturday had me travelling with my aide de camp Tom Russell to Anderson to the Brass Hat for a wonderful lunch and camaraderie. We were then off to Shelbyville for more hospitality and fun at the Chateau for the Chef’s Wreck. We inducted 6 new members into our organization. A wonderful time was had by all. A big THANK YOU goes to Nationale Correspondante Terry Sims and Joyce Low for their hospitality, to Tom Russell (my aide de camp) and to Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Mike Worrell for seeing that I got around on this trip and wanted for nothing.

As of the writing of this article I am preparing to attend the 36th Annual Gator Wreck. Don’t have far to travel for this one for it is right here in Goose Creek. Memorial Day is fast approaching and I am so excited to be part of the ceremony of the wreath placement at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. What a privilege and honor (more to come in next brief). Until then, God bless each of you and your families. Remember our troops deployed. Be strong and stay safe.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Chef Bill Simpson | 1 |
| Youth Sports | 2 |
| 40&8 Locale News | 3 |
| 40&8 Locale News | 4 |
| 40&8 News | 5 |
| Vice Presidential History | 6 |

Little Chef's 50/50 Raffle

Here's your chance to determine who you think the shorter Chef is between Chef de Chemin Der Fer Bill Simpson and Chef de Chemin Der Fer 2003 John Digilio.

Proceeds Benefit the Boxcar ASSOCIATION \$1.00 Donation. Drawing to be held September 16, 2022

For tickets contact Terri Taylor at Nationale (317) 634-1804 or ttaylor@fortyandeight.org



Emblem Sales Highlight of the Month



This months highlight is a 100% cotton baseball cap with a Velcro closure. 40/8 emblem embroidered on the front in full color. Part # 08BFLAG \$18.75. It can be ordered at our emblem sales store online at -

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

or contact Terry Taylor,

E-mail: ttaylor@fortyandeight.org

Ph. (317) 634-1804
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Youth Sports Randall Shrader -Nationale Directeur



Greetings Grandes,

I hope everyone is digging out of winter. Let's start checking with your various localities to see what sports are coming up. Do you have any teams that need help?

I would like to encourage all Youth Sports Directors from the Grandes reach out to the Special Olympics in your state to see where you can help. The Special Olympics are very involved with our young people in almost every community.

One way I have found is helping your states team that will attend the Special Olympics USA Games coming up in Orlando in June.

I would like to thank the Grande du Virginia for stepping up and sponsoring a team member of TEAM VIRGINIA Special Olympics. This donation will cover the costs for a team member to travel and compete in the USA Games.

The challenge is out now. What can your Grande do to meet or beat Grande du Virginia in supporting the Special Olympics? Send me a copy of what your Grande has done so that I can put it in future communications, Voyager Briefs or even in the newsletter.

Here is just a reminder for any Voyageurs who are in Florida or are looking to travel to Orlando for a way to help. Not all athletes have families and friends that are able to travel to Orlando and show their support in person. This is where you come in. Imagine the feeling an athlete has with a crowd of supporters behind them? Wave signs, clap, make up chants, and let these Special Olympics athletes know they are supported!

How it works;

- Rally a group of your coworkers, peers, friends and family to attend as a group of 10 or more.
- Sign up for Fans in the Stands and work with a USA Games team member to pick a sporting event to support.*
- Fans of ALL ages are welcome and encouraged to be involved.
- Group leaders will receive a pack of cheer gear for the group, including cheer cards.

Do you have a group of Voyageurs who want to be a fan in the stands?

Register at <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/1c5e5730c9f845c5b7dab92d79c8d2d4>

Voiture 605 Flags for First Graders



Voiture 1



Grande du Pennsylvania celebrated the anniversary of the 40/8th with Voyageurs from Voiture 1

Voiture 1457



Minnesota V-1457 Nurses Training Scholarship Program

Voiture 281 Wreck



L to R: Chef de Gare Larry Helland, Voyageur Roxanne Zoet, Voyageur Doug Landsteiner, Voyageur Jodi Sheely, Voyageur Jerome Roiger, Voyageur Patty Fields, Voyageur Dean Zoet, Grand Chef de Gare Cliff Teigland, Correspondant James Olson

Voiture 58



On March 5th nine hundred concert goers got to hear the Queen of Bluegrass and Grand Ole Opry Member Rhonda Vincent, and Rage perform at the Historic Fox Theater in Hutchinson, Kansas.

Following the half time intermission, Voyager Militaire Bill Doll presented Rhonda with a handmade Wooden American flag on behalf of Voiture 58, Wichita, Kansas and was able to share with her and the audience what the Forty and Eight was all about and the wonderful programs we support.

When the presentation concluded Rhonda and Rage performed "Till They Come Home", a song to honor all veterans and those who gave their all. This tribute was followed by "America the Beautiful" to the audience's delight.

Voiture 899

WE, At Voiture 899 have completed our fundraising events for this fiscal year. Due to having funds set aside for our usual donation, we went a different route this year and raised money for Paws Of Honor.

An organization that cares for retired military dogs and helps the veteran handlers. We raised \$2000 which was more than my goal was. I was so happy to be able to help this organization.

From left to right, Don Wittenberg, Chef De Gare V899, Debbie Griffin, Commissaire Intendent V899, Bob Wilcox, Commander Amvet Post 21, Nikki, Garde De La Port V899, Kathy Traye, Auxiliary President Amvet Post 21, Mike Grant, First Vice, Amvet Post 21 -He is with his service Dog "Jack", Bob Sanders, La Correspondant V899



Voiture 36



Our Voiture 36 du San Bernardino's Child Welfare Chairman, Thomas Giltner, and our adjutant, Paul Pfeiffer, presented two separate non-profit youth organizations with \$500 each on March 10. The organizations were: 1) Youth Hope in Redlands who serves at-risk, underprivileged, runaway and homeless youth (ages 14-24) of Redlands, Yucaipa, Loma Linda and surrounding areas of the Inland Empire. They provide a wide range of services to enable our youth to move forward, get off of the streets and become healthy, self-sufficient adults. The attached picture shows Heidi Mayer, Executive Director; and, Rick Ferguson, Board Member, accepting the check. As you can see in the picture they provide clothing, have a food pantry for the youth and their families, and provide training. 2) The Children's Fund in San Bernardino serves children in San Bernardino County. They focus on providing services to foster youth and other children under case management services. They serve over 35,000 throughout the county. The attached picture shows Beth Spalding accepting the check. Each organization was very appreciative of Voiture 36's third donation to them. —Tom Giltner, Child Welfare Chair, Chef De Garde, Voiture 36 du San Bernardino

Law Enforcement Scholarships



Many communities are facing shortages when recruiting new police officers, and we would like to help.

RCTC's law enforcement program is top notch in the state-and takes 2 years to complete. Our program currently has 32 students graduating-but we have the capacity to take up to 40 students in the program.

The RCTC Foundation is looking for scholarships for first year and second year students in the law enforcement program to help them afford college. We currently only have 2 scholarships available for students in this program. Our goal for next year is 10 scholarships for law enforcement students. Scholarships can start at \$500.

We partner closely with local law enforcement-including offering this police dog demonstration for our final year students. The Rochester-Olmsted K-9 Foundation helps to pay for training for the K-9 unit officers-and veterinary care, training and housing for the police dogs. The demonstration showcased these amazing animals.

Kristin Mannix, Advancement Coordinator, Rochester Community and Technical College Foundation, 851 30th Avenue SE, Rochester, MN 55904, (507) 281-7770 Email: kristin.mannix@rtc.edu

Building Donation Challenge Total \$196,008.15
April – May 2022



| <u>NAME</u> | <u>VOITURE</u> | <u>GR</u> | <u>AMT</u> |
|-------------|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Ron Rolfes | 1546 | GR | \$222.36 |
| Voiture 269 | 269 | PA | \$186.75 |
| Voiture 763 | 763 | ME | \$10.50 |

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Always Together on The Wall

A young girl, she once asked of me,
 “Why, oh why, how could this ever be...
 They gave their young lives, that’s plain to see,
 They gave it all for you and me,
 They sacrificed their future so we could live free.”

It’s quiet now, but many people still weep,
 They offer a silent prayer for the soldiers
 that sleep,
 God Bless you all, who answered the call,
 You are the silent heroes, always together on
 “THE WALL.”

Sleep in peace brothers, your battles are done,
 Be it known to all, that you have won,
 In the Kingdom of God, your life will never end,
 For it was you, who laid down his life, for his
 friends.

Vice Presidential History

Gerald Rudolph Ford Jr. born Leslie Lynch King Jr.; July 14, 1913 – December 26, 2006) was an American politician who served as the 38th president of the United States from 1974 to 1977. He previously served as the leader of the Republican Party in the House of Representatives, and as the 40th vice president of the United States from 1973 to 1974. When President Richard Nixon resigned in 1974, Ford succeeded to the presidency, but was defeated for election to a full term in 1976.

Born in Omaha, Nebraska, and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Ford attended the University of Michigan, where he was a member of the school's football team, winning two National Championships. Following his senior year, he turned down offers from the Detroit Lions and Green Bay Packers, instead opting to go to Yale Law School. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, he enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve, serving from 1942 to 1946; he left as a lieutenant commander. Ford began his political career in 1949 as the U.S. representative from Michigan's 5th congressional district. He served in this capacity for 25 years, the final nine of them as the House minority leader. In December 1973, two months after the resignation of Spiro Agnew,



Ford became the first person appointed to the vice presidency under the terms of the 25th Amendment. After the subsequent resignation of President Nixon in August 1974, Ford immediately assumed the presidency. To date, this was the last intra-term U.S. presidential succession.

As president, Ford signed the Helsinki Accords, which marked a move toward détente in the Cold War. With the collapse of South Vietnam nine months into his presi-

dency, US involvement in the Vietnam War essentially ended. Domestically, Ford presided over the worst economy in the four decades since the Great Depression, with growing inflation and a recession during his tenure. In one of his most controversial acts, he granted a presidential pardon to Richard Nixon for his role in the Watergate scandal. During Ford's presidency, foreign policy was characterized in procedural terms by the increased role Congress began to play, and by the corresponding curb on the powers of the president. In the Republican presidential primary campaign of 1976, Ford defeated former California Governor Ronald Reagan for the Republican nomination. He narrowly lost the presidential election to the Democratic challenger, former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter.

Following his years as president, Ford remained active in the Republican Party. His moderate views on various social issues increasingly put him at odds with conservative members of the party in the 1990s and early 2000s. In retirement, Ford set aside the enmity he had felt towards Carter following the 1976 election, and the two former presidents developed a close friendship. After experiencing a series of health problems, he died at home on December 26, 2006.