

Volume 7, Issue 6



June15, 2020

Voiture Nationale 40&8

# VOYAGEUR BRIEFS

### Mike McGary – Chef de Chemin de Fer



Well here we are in the middle of June and things are starting to get back to normal. My travels start in July and I'm booked every weekend until the middle of August. Happy days!

Everything is starting to look up, that is except our membership numbers. With only seven more reporting Thursdays left in this membership year, it's looking pretty sad. We are currently thirteen percent (13%) from our 100% goal. This is almost triple our normal 4-5% lost per year. How long can we survive at this rate? Talk about feeling helpless in this situation. I can't do anything but lend a hand to my own Locale Correspondant. It just wouldn't be prudent for me to stick my nose into the business of the other Locales. Can we save this organization? Just like Uncle Sam said back in the forties "I NEED YOU". Let's give it a push, I think this organization is worth saving.

Promenade Nationale is on schedule at this time and is definitely going to happen. There have been a lot of questions about this over the last month and that's understandable only for one reason. It shows that we have



a major communication problem. This information has been distributed through the Forty & Eighter, the Briefs, and our Nationale website, and still there are voyageur's asking if it's going to happen. The information is out there, and just like membership, needs a little effort to get it. Come on voyageurs let's get it in gear. Remember we are the best of the best, let's be proud of that and take care of business.

It's that time of year again for your reports to be sent in, whether to the program Directeurs or Grand Correspondants. This information is very important. I know the programs have been working very hard in this trying year to continue our work. It's not only important, for us to be able to tell the world who we are and what we do, but also for ourselves. Not every Locale and Grande is actively supporting each program of La Société, but that doesn't mean they aren't interested in what's being done. As members of this organization they can be just as proud of the accomplishments other members do in the name of the Forty & Eight. So, if we're not going to tell the world what we're doing let's at least tell each other. Let's get the reports in.

Sorry if this brief is a little short and on the sour side, I guess these four walls are starting to get to me. Thank goodness my legion post opens this Monday (the 15th), and I'm definitely going to make an appearance, and have me a social cocktail. Be safe out there and if I don't see you in my travels the next two months, I sure hope to see everyone in Sandusky, Ohio for Nationale.

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### Terry Sims -Correspondant National

Donations from Voyageurs and the monthly payment to the mortgage have brought it down to \$55,000. We thank each and every member and Grande Voiture for their donations, it sure has helped. Donations can be made to Voiture Nationale and direct it towards the mortgage.

Registrations for Promenade Nationale to be held September 13-19, 2020 are being processed daily and the number is rising quickly. The Kalahari Resort is a beautiful facility on Lake Erie in Sandusky, Ohio. Since the Heritage Co., that printed our Program booklet and solicited business ads for Promenade Nationale, has gone out of business, it put quite a burden on Grande du Ohio. There is an ad form on the National website for you to place an ad.

Voiture Nationale Headquarters is now open and the Staff is comfortably back in their offices. There are five Staff members including Carol who is Correspondante Nationale, and there are five restrooms and each has their own. Each member also has their own office.

Grande Voitures are following their Constitutions and using orders from their Grand Chefs de Gare to elect their 2021 Grande Officers. Some Grandes



are shortening their schedules to accomplish this situation. I commend them for their work during these unchartered times this year.

### **Emblem Sales Highlight of the Month**



**40&8 Commemorative Coin** celebrating 100 years of La Societe. 1-3/4" diameter. Part number 18COIN \$10 each or 10 for \$80 part number 18COIN10.

This item can be ordered at our emblem sales store online at: http://store.fortyandeight.org/ Terri Taylor, E-mail: ttaylor@fortyandeight.org Ph.(317) 634-1804 Fax.(317) 632-9365 Voiture Nationale Emblem Sales, 250 E 38th Street Indianapolis, IN 46205



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# **Promenade Nationale**

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



If you will be needing transportation from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, contact Grande Correspondant Howard (Mike) McClain. Phone (330) 571-1374, email: grandeduohio@yahoo.com

Please indicate Date of arrival, Airline, Flight number and Arrival time.

# "Taps".... A History -Fredrick Falls V-20

With notes on a staff written in pencil on the back of an envelope, a wonded Union General Daniel Adams Butterfield called his brigade bugler, Oliver Wilcox Norton, to his tent on a night in July, 1862. Butterfield had Norton sound them on his bugle, made some changes, and then directed Norton to sound that call for "Taps" thereafter in place of the regulation call borrowed from the French. The music was beautiful on that still summer night and was heard far beyond the limits of the brigade.

The emotive and powerful twenty-four-note "Taps" was soon adopted throughout the military. In 1874, it was officially recognized by the U.S. Army, and became standard at military funeral ceremonies in 1891. This wonderful call's melancholy strains, full of rest and peace, linger in the heart.



More than likely, the word "Taps" comes from the three drum taps that were played as a signal for "Extinguish Lights" when a bugle was not used.

While there are no official lyrics for "Taps," the unofficial verse (author unknown) is often used:

#### FADING LIGHT DIMS THE SIGHT, AND A STAR GEMS THE SKY, GLEAMING BRIGHT. FROM AFAR DRAWING NIGH--FALLS THE NIGHT.

DAY IS DONE, GONE THE SUN, FROM THE LAKE, FROM THE HILLS, FROM THE SKY; ALL IS WELL, SAFELY REST, GOD IS HIGH.

<u>THEN GOOD NIGHT, PEACEFUL NIGHT,</u> <u>TILL THE LIGHT OF THE DAWN SHINETH BRIGHT;</u> <u>GOD IS NEAR, DO NOT FEAR--FRIEND, GOOD NIGHT.</u>

# **COVID** Corner

COVID Corner is a collection of "Good News" Stories that we thought we would share nationally. If you or someone you know might want to share their story then please send your "Good News" Story by simply e-mailing Nat'l Directeur VAVS/SVH Ron Rolfes at rolfesr@hotmail.com. Please be sure to include pictures if you have them. Stay Safe!



#### Florida

Grande Chef de Gare Mike Klyap and Grande La Presidente Erica Klyap (Florida) sew masks for Veterans and members of the community. To date they have distributed well over 200.

Susan G. of Cabane 304 has made over 167 masks. They have gone to First Responders, Service personnel stationed at NAS Jacksonville, and members of American Legion Post 137 and their families.



Virginia

Dame Margaret (Dolly) Lyles Virginia Cabane has sewn and delivered over 168 masks and hats for local nurses.

#### Vermont

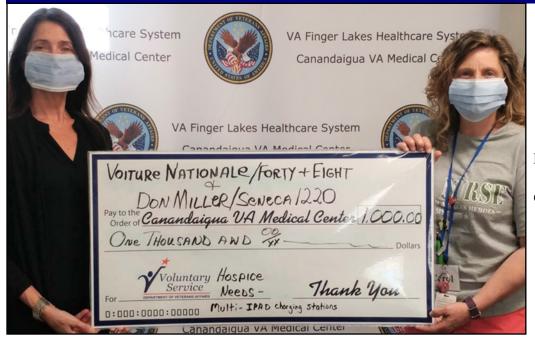
Beverly Farnham and Dean Jackman of Voiture 646, Grande du Vermont, currently reside in "The Villages" (a retirement community made up mostly of Veteran's) near Ocala, Fl. They have played an active part assisting around the community by shopping for neighbors to providing masks and food for those in the community.

### **Keep the Wheelchairs Rolling**

The Harry S. Truman VA Medical Facility was awarded \$500.00 for the "Sweats for Vets" Campaign. We are still having to improvise on check presentation's due to COVID-19. Pictured left to right, Ron Graves, Chief of Voluntary Service, Big Bird and Sous Directeur VAVS and Volunteer Chip Berkley.



### **Keep the Wheelchairs Rolling**



Voiture Nationale's KWTCR and Voyageur Donald Miller/ Seneca Voiture 1220, Grande du New York join forces to award Canandaigua VAMC \$1000.00 for their Hospice wing. Pictured left to right, Robin Johnson, Voluntary Services Program Manager and Carol Thompson, RN, Hospice Coordinator.

Due to COVID-19 an official presentation of the check was not possible. Leave it to the Voluntary Service staff to improvise.

# **Gardens of Stone**

Today we will visit Americas Gardens of Stone to pay our tributes and respect to those brave fallen Americans that rest at our National Cemeteries. Precious are Americas Gardens of Stone. Its rolling hills and grassy slopes are decorated with the snow white blossoms of stone making this a very bountiful garden. The reasoning behind the fertile Garden is that so many seeds have been planted by the blood of American Patriots, and that seed never fails to produce another stone blossom. The Gardens also stay well watered by the tears of those family members and friends that were left behind to tend to the Gardens. This maintenance is done by the many visits to the Gardens, not only by family and friends, but by a grateful nation of Americans as well. As the Gardens continue to expand, the new caretakers of the Gardens, generation after generation, stand ever vigilante to make sure the Gardens are well maintained just as it has been in the past. One



day a year every Spring, the Gardens are in full bloom and in all her splendorous glory and that day is the National recognition of Memorial Day. Let us pay honor and tribute to our Gardens of Stone by decorating it even more beautifully with flowers, flags and the gratitude of a Nation. Let us visit our Gardens this year and reap the bounty it offers of freedom, liberty and the absolute right to pursue the American Dream, thanks to the fruit from these Gardens of Stone. Let us return with a spiritual fullness from reaping the bounty of the gardens and a heart full of joy and happiness for those rights provided to us by the harvest of the Gardens of Stone. --Mike Wood, Chef de Chemin de Fer 2015

## Grand d' Illinois Fulton County V-812 Parking Lot Parade

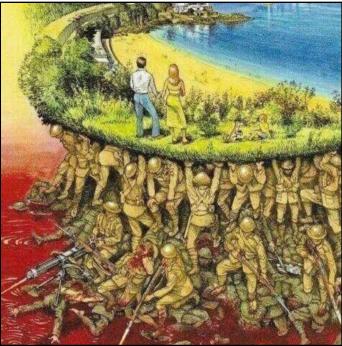


Fulton County V-812 Du Illinois received a call from one of its members asking if we would be willing to participate in a "parking lot" Parade at the Loft nursing facility on May the 9th 2020. We are always ready and willing to participate in any Community event when asked. True to our commitment, we got our Loci out of the winter mothballs and were proud to participate in the drive by! Residents that were able lined the sidewalk and waved with a big smile on their face. I am sure seeing our Loci, among the dozens of cars, helped them enjoy their day! Voyageurs on the Loci are Jon Johnson, Gerald Smith, John Smith, Dave Ferris, and Wally Hammond. The Loft provided PPE for all participants, Thank you!

Even in this time of social distancing, the 40/8 is willing to step up and help people have a Happy Day!



Voiture Nationale 40&8



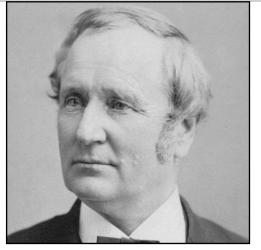
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# **Vice Presidential History**

Thomas Andrews Hendricks (September 7, 1819 – November 25, 1885) was an American politician and lawyer from Indiana who served as the 16th governor of Indiana from 1873 to 1877 and the 21st vice president of the United States from March to November 1885. Hendricks represented Indiana in the U.S. House of Representatives (1851 –55) and the U.S. Senate (1863–69). He also represented Shelby County, Indiana, in the Indiana General Assembly (1848– 50) and as a delegate to the 1851 Indiana constitutional convention.

Born in Muskingum County, Ohio, Hendricks moved to Indiana, with his parents in 1820; the family settled in Shelby County in 1822. After graduating from Hanover College, class of 1841, Hendricks studied law in Shelbyville, Indiana, and Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. He was admitted to the Indiana bar in 1843. Hendricks began his law practice in Shelbyville, moved to Indianapolis in 1860, and established a private law practice with Oscar B. Hord in 1862. The firm evolved into Baker & Daniels, one of the state's leading law firms. Hen-



dricks also ran for election as Indiana's governor three times, but won only once. In 1872, on his third and final attempt, Hendricks defeated General Thomas M. Brown by a margin of 1,148 votes. His term as governor of Indiana was marked by numerous challenges, including a strong Republican majority in the Indiana General Assembly, the economic Panic of 1873, and an economic depression. One of Hendricks's lasting legacies during his tenure as governor was initiating discussions to fund construction of the present-day Indiana Statehouse, which was completed after he left office. A memorial to Hendricks was installed on the southeast corner of its grounds in 1890.

Hendricks, a lifelong Democrat, was his party's candidate for U.S. vice president with New York governor Samuel Tilden as its presidential nominee in the controversial presidential election of 1876. Although they won the popular vote, Tilden and Hendricks lost the election by one vote in the Electoral College to the Republican Party's presidential nominee, Rutherford B. Hayes, and his vice presidential running mate, William A. Wheeler. Despite his poor health, Hendricks accepted his party's nomination for vice president in the election of 1884 as Grover Cleveland's running mate. Cleveland and Hendricks won the election, but Hendricks only served as vice president for about eight months, from March 4, 1885, until his death on November 25, 1885, in Indianapolis. He is buried in Indianapolis's Crown Hill Cemetery.