



Voiture Nationale 40&8

# VOYAGEUR BRIEFS

## Mike McGary - Chef de Chemin de Fer



Happy new year to all. I hope you survived the New Year's Eve parties and of course the outcome of all the football games. Needless to say, I was a little disappointed with the outcome of a few of them.

This year so far seems like *deja vue*, as this is starting out like last year ended. So far the Joint Carolina's, the Cajun Wreck, and now the Hillbilly wrecks have been cancelled due to Covid. I'm sure that when the vaccine has been completely distributed the travels will get back to normal. Along with the Voiture Activities of our Locales and Grandes. I miss seeing old friends and have yet to attend a function with our new Madam Presidente. I don't think life could be that cruel as to having to be the first Chef to serve consecutive terms and not go anywhere to thank everyone for this great honor. Time will tell, but I have to admit, I'm rather looking forward to the Nutcracker Wreck and the Southland Dixie in April.

It's time for my monthly comment on our membership. We did make some gain on last month as we are only 700 behind last year's numbers



at this time. I really don't know what to say or recommend on getting the numbers turned in. It's all been said before, and most likely will be said again in the future. But the fact of the matter is, without membership, we don't exist. To be honest with you that is one thought I can't wrap my arms around, nor do I want to. I do believe that this is the time that all members, young and old, male or female, or whether you're wearing a blue, red, or gold chapeau, to put all differences and other priorities aside for an hour or two and dedicate themselves to

contacting our delinquent members and get them paid. We need to put forth the effort required to get the job done. Please help your organization survive this problem.

I'm sorry to tell everyone that we lost another National officer, our National Lampiste, Harrold Kliene. Harry was from Voiture 37 in Fort Wayne Indiana. He also held the Grand office of Directeur of Santa Clause. Making sure kids received a letter from Santa Clause Indiana just before Christmas. He and his wife were well known for playing Mr. & Mrs. Clause at many Christmas parties around Indiana and surrounding States. He will be sorely missed by those that knew him.

This brief is going to be just that, brief. I'm not one to ramble on about nothing and quite frankly with the way things are there really isn't much for me to say. I would like to express a BIG THANK YOU to all of those that sent Christmas cards to Peggy and I. It was nice to hear from so many. I wish you and yours a very happy and prosperous New Year. Please stay safe, hug your family and get the membership in.

God Bless to all!

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## Terry Sims -Correspondant National

Some Correspondants are sending their per capita for membership to Voiture Nationale in the envelopes that are designated for raffle tickets. Please do not do this because it could cause a delay recording your membership.

The annual "Dues Notices" will be sent toward the end of January. Due to the restrictions for Covid19 we will not be asking Voyageurs and Dames for their help stuffing envelopes. Our

Voiture Nationale Staff will accomplish the task.

Shirts for the "Frank Martin Memorial Walk" to be held at Promenade Nationale in Springfield, MO will be by pre-order only from Emblem Sales for \$25 including shipping. Your order must be placed by August 27, 2021 to receive it by Promenade Nationale. An ad will be placed on line in the near future giving directions about ordering.

Several changes have occurred at Voiture Nationale involving our Staff. Terri Taylor has agreed to resume full time employment duties which include assuming the position as Office Manager which was previously held by Bill Beaumont. Bill will still be our IT staff member and handle all of the duties he had prior to this change except Office Manager. This transition is working excellently because of the professionalism that our Staff members possess.

## Emblem Sales Highlight of the Month



This month's Emblem Sales Item is the Swiss Knife. This knife is 2 3/8" long, red, and comes with the 40/8 emblem and La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux silk screened. Knife implements include scissors, nail file, tooth pick, and one sharp blade. (02SWISS \$3.50). This item 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  
Fax. (317) 632-9365

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



## Voiture 605 Flag Retirement Ceremony (Over 500 Flags)



## Wreaths Across America



On December 19, 2020 at the Wake Chapel Cemetery, Fuquay Varina, NC Voiture Locale 620 members (Left to Right) Directeur Membership Nationale Terry Chatfield, Lampiste Keith Craven and Voyageur Militaire Faith Jungmahn participated in placing of wreaths on the graves of veterans. This event was organized by Voyageur Militaire Jungmahn as part of the Wreaths Across America program. Also participating were members of various other organizations.

## Voiture 145 Activities



POW/MIA Chair and display V-145 purchased and set up in the new VFW Post 5864 Home, Greenwood, Indiana to recognize and keep alive the memories of our missing/unaccounted for Military members.



Voyageur Militaires from V-145 presenting a check for \$500 dollars to the Beech Grove Police Department's "Shop with a Cop" program L - R: Voyageur Dave Hogan, Correspondent Mike Delaney, Grande Chef de Gare du Indiana Jim Maxwell, Lt. Mike Treat, Chef de Gare Jay A. Collars, Voyageur Ed Dunham and Chef de Train Ralph Schuster.



L - R: President Brian Copes, Voiture Locale 145, Chef de Gare Jay A. Collars presenting a check for \$500 dollars to the "Helping Veterans and Families (HVAF) of Indiana".



L - R: Voiture Locale 145 du Indiana Voyageurs Doretta Boger, Don LaFontaine, Correspondant Mike Delaney, Mr. Dale True of Indy Honor Flight, Chef de Gare Jay A. Collars, Voyageurs "Butch Umphrey and G.K. Puckett presents Indy Honor Flight with a \$500 dollar donation in support of Indiana veterans.



Edinburg Good Cheer Fund "Toys"- L to R: Chef de Train Ralph Schuster, Good Cheer Finance Officer Ms. Nancy West, Correspondent Mike Delaney, Voyageur Joe Vidales and Directeur, Child Welfare Gina Owens

# Americanism



**Welcome 2021: It's going to be a great year.**

I know it's really hard to keep focused with all that's going on, but we have to keep going forward else we will be left behind. With all the volunteer work I see going on around the country, people helping people. Hopefully you will be putting a lot of them up for the Americanism Award. There are a lot of people out there that deserve the recognition. So let's get them recognized!



I am looking for a new pin design for next year. If you have a design, send it in. Everyone is eligible for the prize. The design I pick that person will receive a very nice prize. You do not have to be a 40&8er, it could be your grand kids or a competition at school. I am looking forward to seeing the ideas come in. Please have them in to me by February 26, 2021, either E-mailed or mailed.

Consolidated reports; we will also have a drawing for all that are sent in on time. All the names of the Grand Americanism Directors will be put into a hat and the one that is drawn will receive a prize. Milton Chatham won a beautiful pen in an engraved gift box last year. You cannot win if you don't send in a report.

Flags for First Graders; is going to be really hard this year. Trying to find schools open and be able to go in and do the presentation. Try Parochial schools, Charter schools and Private schools these seem to be the one's open now. Public schools you might be able to do a video presentation, but I think you would lose a lot not doing it in person.

We just need to keep plugging away until we can get back to business.

**Dan Evers**  
Nationale Americanism Directeur

## VAVS/SVH

### *“Keep the Wheel Chairs Rolling Contest”*



**With the deadline rapidly approaching, time is running out to get your submissions in.**

**This is your chance to help make a difference at our VA Facilities or State Homes.**

**Here's how to submit your request:**

- 1.) **Compose a short letter of 200 words or less stating what your VA Facility/ veteran patients need most.**
- 2.) **Include – What the item is, unit cost, how many and total amount requested as well as and intended use of the project or equipment.**



**Entries must be received by March 31, 2021**

**Remember ALL VA and State Facilities has a needs list!**

***“Don't delay, send your requests today”***

**Entries should be e-mailed or mailed to the following address:**

Ron Rolfes  
Nationale Dir. VAVS/SVH  
7701 Willow Brook Ct.  
Hudson, FL 34667  
[rolfes@hotmail.com](mailto:rolfes@hotmail.com)

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me @ (727) 267-0371 or e-mail [rolfes@hotmail.com](mailto:rolfes@hotmail.com).

## SOCIAL SECURITY UPDATES FOR 2021

### How much will Social Security benefits increase in 2021?

According to the Social Security Administration, approximately 70 million Americans will see a 1.3 percent increase in their Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in 2021. Federal benefit rates increase when the cost-of-living rises, as measured by the Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index (CPI-W). The estimated average monthly benefit for retired individuals in 2021 is \$1,543 per month, an increase of \$20 per month from 2020.

### What is Full Retirement Age for those turning 62 in 2021?

For individuals born in 1959 who will be turning 62 this year, the full retirement age (FRA) is 66 years and 10 months. Looking forward, for anyone born in 1960 or later, the full FRA is 67. It's important you understand your Social Security options, because if you claim benefits at any point prior to reaching your FRA, then you are accepting a permanently reduced monthly benefit.

### What if I receive Social Security Benefits before my Full Retirement Age and keep working?

Social Security has an earnings test for anyone receiving benefits before FRA and is still working. If you are not reaching FRA in 2021, you can earn up to \$18,960 per year before your benefits would start being withheld. For every \$2 you earn above \$18,960, \$1 will be deduct from your benefits. If you are reaching FRA in 2021, you can earn up to \$50,520 before your benefits would start being withheld. For every \$3 you earn above \$50,520, \$1 will be deduct from your benefits. Only your earnings up to the month before you reach your FRA will count, not your earnings for the entire year. The earnings test no longer applies once you reach full retirement age.

### If I'm still working, then what is the Maximum Taxable Earnings subject to Social Security Taxes in 2021.

High income employees are required to pay a 6.2% Social Security tax (with their employer matching that payment) and self-employed individuals are required to pay a 12.4% Social Security tax on income of up to \$142,800. Any earnings above that amount were not subject to Social Security tax. There is no cap on Medicare tax earnings.

**Looking Ahead.** While Social Security may need to change so it can continue to pay full benefits and remain on solid ground, Social Security is not going away. Even if there are no changes, Social Security will still pay benefits, but adjustments may need to be made to prevent potential reductions in future benefits.

Finally, I encourage everyone to sign up for or log in to their personal "my Social Security" account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).

**Dan Dumas, Commissaire Intendant Nationale**

## NATIONAL NURSE TRAINING PROGRAM



### December 2020 GRAND VOITURE the MONTH

Our "La Societe" encompasses 54 Grand Voitures with a total membership of 19,304 Voyageurs Militaire. The level of participation in our National Nurse Training Club Pin program for the 2019 year stands at 39 participating Grands. There are 15 Grand Voitures that are not participating and these Grands make up a total of 1181 Voyageurs. The reasons may vary for their non-participation, but we must remain diligent and stress the importance of our Nurse Training Program. We must work extra hard to make sure these Voyageurs are aware of the primary purpose of our Pin program.



A token \$3 donation would provide these Voyageurs a Pin to proudly display on their Chapeau or Lapel and all participation levels go for a worthy cause. Talk with your fellow Voyageurs and Locales and urge them to contribute at some level.

The pride that goes with being a member of a contributing Grand goes a long way in indicating the attitude and dedication of the Voyageurs of that Grand. While many Grands are putting forth those extra efforts, there is always a Grand Voiture that stands out with their hard work at any given time.

This month one such Grand from the **Southwest Region** has shown a great effort in support of the National Nurse Training Program by demonstrating the commitment needed to effectively support this vital program of the 40/8.

### GRAND VOITURE of the Month for DECEMBER "GRAND du ARIZONA"

Southwest Region of Sous Directeur Robert Graves Posting earned sales to-date of **150 Pins** for **\$450** and a member per-capita of **\$1.15**

**"MERCI, Fellow Voyageurs Militaire" National Secretaire/Treasurer, H.T. "Terry" Sharp**

**Building Donation Challenge Total \$189,412.27**  
**December 2020**



NAME	VOITURE	GR	AMT
Voiture 35	35	AZ	\$41.00
Voiture 121	121	NE	\$27.00
Voiture 439	439	AZ	\$21.00
Voiture 1128	1128	CT	\$8.00



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## Vice Presidential History

James Schoolcraft Sherman (October 24, 1855 – October 30, 1912) was an American politician who was a United States representative from New York from 1887 to 1891 and 1893 to 1909, and the 27th vice president of the United States from 1909 until his death. He was a member of the interrelated Baldwin, Hoar, and Sherman families, prominent lawyers and politicians of New England and New York.

Although not a high-powered administrator, he made a natural congressional committee chairman, and his genial personality eased the workings of the House, so that he was known as 'Sunny Jim'. He was the first vice president to fly in a plane (1911), and also the first to throw out the ceremonial first pitch at a baseball game.

In 1908, Sherman was nominated as the Republican candidate for Vice President on the ticket with William Howard Taft.[8] Although not an obvious front-runner, he balanced Taft's profile, by being both an Easterner and a conservative (it was said that the two wings of the GOP 'flapped together'), and the New



York delegates pressed hard for his nomination. The Republicans won by a comfortable margin. At first, Sherman and Taft found themselves at odds over both tariff policy and the role of the Vice President. But Taft presently moved to the right, and the two of them worked together more harmoniously – a relationship eased further by

the First Lady's enjoyment of the company of Sherman and his wife. The President declared that Sherman accomplished much on Capitol Hill by his "charm of speech and manner, and his spirit of conciliation and compromise", backed by a "stubborn adherence" to his principles.

Diagnosed with Bright's disease in 1904, Sherman's health was failing by the time of the 1912 campaign. Less than a week before the election, he died at home in Utica, six days after his 57th birthday, and President Taft was left with no running mate, although Nicholas Murray Butler was designated to receive the electoral votes that Sherman would have received. Taft and Butler came in third place in the election, carrying only eight electoral votes from Utah and Vermont. Democratic candidate Woodrow Wilson and his running mate Thomas R. Marshall won the election while Progressive candidate Theodore Roosevelt and his running mate Hiram Johnson came in second place. The vice presidency remained vacant until Marshall's inauguration on March 4, 1913.