

# *La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux Grand Voiture du Florida, Inc.*

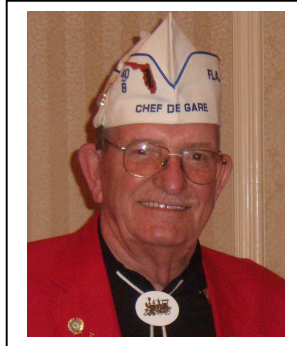
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February 2010

## "Marching with Archie"



### *From the Grand Chef*

Back from the Petite Prom and Cheminot held at the Hilton in Ocala January 8-10, 2010. It was well attended.

Chef de Chemim de Fer Jerry Brady was our honored guest along with Mrs. Brady. Merci Beaucoup and hope you both enjoyed your visit. Jerry was escorted by Past Chef de Chemim de Fer "Mac" McCarthy. Good Job Mac, and I know you and Patty had a good laugh over "Tanglefoot".

Membership could be better - Florida is currently in 32d place with 76.23 %. I know we can do better. There are Voitures that need only one or two for 100% - Chefs local and your correspondants, make that effort to bring those in at 100% or better.

John Gore and his gang did a great job making the arrangements for a productive Petite Promenade and Cheminot.

See ya all at the Emerald Coast in wreck Panama City, Feb 5th - 7th or somewhere.

**Archie Pairadee**  
**Grand Chef de Gare**

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## ***Grand Correspondant***

Well Petite is over and its time for the Emerald Coast Wreck which started events like this many years ago and has led us to forming Regional Wreck Associations. Panama City has proven to be a very good time so mark your calendars and head West young man.

Now is the time to reinforce our commitment to La Societe and our programs. Look for that veteran that is still serving the community and invite him/her into the fun of our organization that is still serving.

See you at a wreck or somewhere

### ***Joe Nolan***

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## ***Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer***

### ***Pat Beamer***

Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer  
Grand Ritual Directeur

## ***Grand Chef de Train***

## **MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP**

### **“JUST ASK”**

For those of who that missed the Grand Petite Prom here is the membership report.

The figures in this report are as of December 30, 2009. Du Florida has slipped down to 34<sup>th</sup> place in the national standings. Only nine of our forty two Voitures are at one hundred percent or better. They are Voitures 400, 472, 492, 728, 863, 1388, 1571, 1598, and 1606. We still have two goose egg s and two Voitures with only one up to date voyageur each. There are seven

Voitures that are only short by one voyageur and two that are short by two. I'm sure that with a little extra effort they will be at a hundred percent by the end of this month.

How many Voitures have collected due and not submitted them to National. Please submit them so they will count.

By now all Voitures should have sent out membership renewal notices to all their unpaid voyageurs. If you haven't, please do so immediately.

Check with your unpaid voyageurs to find out why they haven't sent in their dues. If they have fallen on hard times, became ill or indigent, your Voiture should consider paying their dues. All it takes sometimes is personal contact to get your voyageurs active again.

Don't forget to seek that eligible veteran and honor him or her with an invitation to join the forty and eight. Remember **“JUST ASK”** and **“ALL THE WAY FOR LA SOCIETE”**.

Since the above report, Voitures 769, 1219 and 1621 have been added to the 100% plus list.

While on the subject of Grand Proms, I'd like to discuss accommodations. The host Voiture must guarantee numbers - the number of rooms rented each night (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) and the number of meals sold for the banquet. These numbers are used to get you the best possible price for the best possible accommodations and meeting spaces. Yes, part of your room rate goes to pay for the meeting rooms and program tables. Some of you stay at another hotel/motel down the road to save money. This does not properly support Voiture Grand du Florida and makes it hard for a host Voiture to attain the required numbers to fulfill its contract with the hotel. This also gives a low room count so the next host Voiture can't bargain for a better room rate for YOU. Please stay at

the hotel/motel contracted for Petite and Grand or at any of the Regional Wrecks. If you are unhappy with the accommodations, feel free to submit a bid with the Time and Place Committee to host the Petite or Grand.

Many of you think your registration fee or your dues go toward the cost of the hospitality room at Petite or Grand. This is not true. This room is paid for by some of the candidates running for Grand Voiture and Cabane offices, your donations, and raffle tickets sold in that room. The hospitality room at Petite was hosted by Marie Pink, Henry Legros, Jim Knese, Ron Garland and me, and the cost was in excess of \$ 1,000.00. We would like to thank the many Voyageurs and Dames that volunteered to help us in the hospitality room at Petite. In past years some Voyageurs have gotten drinks in the hospitality room and taken them down to the lounge or banquet room. Because of this, the hotel asks that no food or drink be taken out of that room. Food and drink sales and event income is also used by the hotel in contract negotiations with the host Voiture. The hosts of the hospitality room hope you enjoyed it and had a chance to meet with old friends, as well as make new ones.

Attending the banquet is our way of thanking our officers for the time given to La Societe and more importantly to honor our invited guests. The cost is low for a banquet, so let's all plan to attend the banquet and show our support of La Societe and Grand du Florida.

## ***John A. Kaiserian***

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## ***Grand Conducteur***

Petite Promenade is over and now the spring wrecking season is here. I am looking forward to the Emerald Coast Wreck and all that follow. To all please try to participate as much as possible without outside help. Remember the same crutches we lean on year after year may not always be available.

## ***Henry Legros***

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## ***Box Car***

I attended the Petite Prom in Ocala and let me tell you it was cold. I saw a lot of old friends and met some new ones. The Box Car Program picked up some needed money from the sale of pins and crew cards. A big mercy !!!! I picked up two Voitures who had not taken any pins or cards. Only have to get 16 more. If your Voiture has not participated in the program as yet contact me and I will get back to you. I know every voyageur can afford \$1.00 for a card. I am on my way to the Emerald Coast Wreck in February. I hope to see many of you there.

## ***George Guglielmo***

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## ***POW-MIA***

Honoring All Who Served

The Grand du Florida Petite Promenade 2010 is now behind us and we can now work on gathering

the information to complete our reports for our programs. The POW-MIA Committee met at Petite with 14 Voyageurs in attendance from 7 Voiture locales. It is always great to see some new faces at the meetings and sincerely hope they return to their Locales with the information they learned and can get the ball rolling on submitting the program reports in a timely manner this year. Last year out of 41 Voitures in Grand du Florida only "12" submitted reports for me to compile and send to Nationale. I know we can do better than that and many of you have miles, hours, and expenditures you can submit on the report form but for some reason I do not receive them. You can fill out and print the report on the 40/8 web site at [www.fortyandeight.org](http://www.fortyandeight.org) go to main index-Petite Communique-POW-MIA report. If do not have the computer technology please contact me and I will mail the report form to you. The reports are due to me before July 1<sup>st</sup> so I will be able to submit the Grand report to Nationale before July 31<sup>st</sup>. I may ask for the reports to be submitted before July 1<sup>st</sup> so it is completed before our Grand Promenade in Ocala. I will keep you informed on this date in later Grand Bulletins.

Until They All Come Home

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### **Voiture Activities**

Well the Petite Promenade is over and my new Sous Directeur got a rude welcome with only three voyageurs showing up for the meeting. This is truly pathetic. This program is the key to increased membership. Without fun activities we are just another veteran's organization. Chuck Furgeson said he was not discouraged and would hang on.

Remember the Petite Communiqué will not be mailed this year and will be available only on the Nationale website.

Spring is gust around the corner, I hope, and there are many chances to create and enjoy a Voiture Activity. Try to plan one today.

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### **Directeur of Special Awards**

The 2010 Petite Communique has been posted on the Nationale website. All essential instructions, forms and reports are ready to be downloaded.

As has been demonstrated, experience is not necessary to be successful submitting a nomination packet.

I will gladly assist anyone who requests my help in the filing of the paperwork.

Producing an Awardee in your Locale is a sure-fire way to obtain free press in your area newspaper and that is definitely great advertisement for La Societe` at all levels.

The General's Club helps fund Promenade Nationale Award winners. Dues are only \$15.00 annually. I will be happy to get your new member paperwork filed.

Another group that assists in that funding is the Boxcar Association, so we are committed to supporting them as well.

FLY YOUR FLAG !

### **John W. Walker**

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## AMERICANISM

2010 is here and I am looking forward to a very active and prosperous year. I want to thank all who made the Grande Petite in Ocala, FL such a great event. I would also like to say it was great meeting and greeting new and old friends. Chef De Chemin De Fer Jerry Brady and his lovely wife attended and it was a pleasure being in their company. I would also like to commend the Grande on arranging the snow fall we witnessed in Ocala. How did you folks get Mother Nature to cooperate?

Just recently I received an email from **Steve Ash**, Sous Directeur Nationale Americanism. In his email he attached a letter to a Voyageur addressing the lack of support for programs. I would like to take an excerpt from it. ***"I like this line when they say they can't afford to support all the programs. "Maybe the locale can't afford it, but can you? There are 7 programs that have pins to sell, and even if they were all \$3 each, that would only be \$21 a year to support our programs. Can't you afford \$21 a year for Patriotism?"*** This takes me to the issue of Americanism Pins, to date I have only been able to distribute 100 pins throughout all of Florida. That is \$300 that National Americanism has earned from Grande du Florida. Last I checked we have over 1300 Voyageurs in Florida not to mention Cabane Members. Wouldn't it be wonderful if Grande du Florida were able to get every Voyageur to buy 7 pins which support all of our primary National Programs? We would be sending \$27,300 to National who in turn would apply it to the programs. Come on folks lets support our Programs. Get your locales to contact me for Americanism Pins, they cost me \$3.00 and that's what I want from you.

I hope to see many of you at the Emerald Coast Wreck, Panama City, FL in February.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance with your Americanism Programs.

## Thomas "Tom" Smith

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## Child Welfare

The Russell Home for Atypical Children is again a GRAND project,. For those not familiar with the Russell Home, I will try to provide some background.

The Russell Home actually had it's beginning in 1949 when a doctor asked Mrs. Vantrease Russell if she would care for Marilyn Barnhill, a 3 year old child with Cerebral Palsy whose father was dying of brain cancer and her mother had to work to support the rest of the family. Expected to live only a few years, Marilyn never left the Russell Home - until she passed away - In September 2009, she was 64.

According to the Orlando Sentinel, The Russell Home for Atypical Children became the first NON-PROFIT institution in the country for brain damaged children in 1951, Their State License number is 0001. The rest as they say, is history. Since 1951 the home has operated with no Federal, State, or Local Government funding. Although it varies, occupancy averages about 25 clients, at a cost of about \$4500.00 per month.

Plans to demolish the old buildings and rebuild on the same site had to be scrapped because they could not raise to 2 to 3.5 Million needed for demolition and construction . The plan now is to renovate the home in phases as money becomes available. On that note, The Elizabeth Morris Genius Foundation has pledged to match, dollar for dollar, up to \$ 100,000.00 in donations, in other words if you give \$100.00 the home will receive \$200.00.

If you would like to donate money make the check, payable to "The Russell Home" The address is:

The Russell Home For Atypical Children  
510 Holden Ave.,  
Orlando, Fl. 32839  
Phone: 407.855.8063

Or you can mail it to me and *will be glad to deliver it in person. If you mail it direct, please let me know who made the donation and the amount for accountability and reporting purposes.*

*Contact me if you have any questions, I will do my best to answer them. Additional information is available at The Russell Home.Org or [spclks510@aol.com](mailto:spclks510@aol.com)*

### **Don Summers**

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### **Youth Sports**

**MOTTO: NO ATHLETE SHALL STAY AT HOME FOR THE LACK OF FUNDS.**

Well the Petite Promenade has come and gone. On behalf of the Nationale Youth Sports Program, we did a collection earmarked for Special Olympics. The Generosity of our fellow Voyageurs Militaries is remarkable. They donated \$120.00. On behalf the Grand we deeply THANK YOU.  
Forms for downloading are as follows.

The 3 forms are the following. 40 ET 8 YOUTH SPORTS APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF FUNDS. The locale needs to attach the paid receipt and a copy of both front and back of cancelled check this can be for any amount up to \$200 and must be signed by the locale youth sports directeur. Please forward this to me so it can be sent to the Nationale Youth Sports Committee. The 2<sup>nd</sup> form is 40 ET 8 YOUTH SPORTS APPLICATION FOR GRANTS. The grants can be for any amount up to \$1,000, but keep in mind that the Nationale Committee will only authorize a combined total of \$1,000 for the Grande per year. The 3<sup>rd</sup> form is the

ORDER FORM FOR PINS AND CARDS.

Till next month, remember the motto.

### **Andrew W. Nagy**

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### **Ways and Means**

**CRUISE CRUISE CRUISE**

**CRUISE** raffle tickets have been distributed throughout Grand.

This Cruise is for 2 people roomed in an Ocean View cabin for 4 days and 3 nights.

The dates are changable, but are tentatively scheduled for the last weekend in August, 2010.

In the Ways & Means meeting at the Petite Promenade it was voted that the expense for Passport Identification Cards, if needed, would be provided to the winners of this raffle.

Tickets are 5 for \$20.00 (or \$5.00 each).

This is a good deal with the usual great cruise cuisine to tantalize your palate.

As usual the drawing will be held at the Banquet during the Grand Promenade in June.

### **John W. Walker**

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**VAVS**

Mary and I just returned from Petite where a good time was **not** on my agenda as I had food poisoning from eating out. I missed the full day's events on Saturday but was recovered enough for the memorial service on Sunday.. While Friday was great and expectations high for the weekend, fate and a bug directed otherwise. Oh well, see you at Grand.

**VA Blue Water Claims Update :** The VA is currently building their list of Blue Water Navy ships (which include Coast Guard vessels) that performed duties on inland waterways. The Washington office at VA Headquarters is spearheading this effort and they have notified all the Regional Offices that whenever they get information regarding Blue Water Navy ships that sailed on inland waters and/or BWN ships that docked in Vietnamese ports or harbors, they are to submit that information to the DC offices for verification. Information from Deck Logs and other sources will be investigated for credibility. In filing a claim based on presumptive exposure to herbicides if your ship was in port or on inland waters, the best thing you can do is present the Regional Office (RO) along with your claim submission certified copies of the information you are using to prove this situation. In many cases, information from a Cruise Book is ideal. Information from your ship's history from Internet sites is also good. [www.bluewaternavy.org/10-19-09-VA-Shinseki-response.pdf](http://www.bluewaternavy.org/10-19-09-VA-Shinseki-response.pdf).

**Tricare Vaccines:** Tricare beneficiaries can now receive select vaccines with no out-of-pocket expense at retail pharmacies. For the first time ever, beneficiaries can visit Tricare retail network pharmacies to receive seasonal flu, H1N1 flu and pneumonia vaccines at no cost. This expanded coverage is available to all Tricare beneficiaries eligible to use the Tricare retail pharmacy benefit. Other vaccines must still be administered in a doctor's office or authorized convenience clinic to be fully covered.

**VA Home Loan Services:** The VA offers a number of home loan services to eligible Veterans, some military personnel, and certain surviving spouses. **Guaranteed Loans:** VA can guarantee a portion of a loan made by a private lender to help you buy a home, a manufactured home, a lot for a manufactured home, a condominium unit, or a unit in a cooperative dwelling. VA also guarantees loans for

building, repairing, and improving homes.

**Refinancing Loans:** If you have a VA mortgage, VA can help you refinance your loan at a lower interest rate. You may also refinance a non-VA loan.

**Special Grants:** Certain disabled Veterans and military personnel can receive grants to adapt or acquire housing suitable for their needs. **Time**

**Limits:** There is no time limit for a VA home loan. [Source: VA Pamphlet 21-00-1 JUL 09 ++]

**VA Hospital Report Card:** For the second consecutive year, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has released a "hospital report card" as part of VA's effort to provide the public with a transparent accounting of the quality and safety of its care. In addition, for the first time, data from both the 2008 and 2009 reports will be available to the public in machine-readable format on [www.Data.gov](http://www.Data.gov).

**VA Benefits Assistance:** If you need help learning about VA programs or with a VA application process, recommend you work with an approved Veterans Service Organization (VSO). It's their job to help you at no cost. To find a VSO go to VA's Directory of Veterans Service Organizations: [www1.va.gov/vso/index.cfm](http://www1.va.gov/vso/index.cfm). You can also check with your state VA department and your state's network of county veteran service officers. Most are listed at [www.va.gov/statedva.htm](http://www.va.gov/statedva.htm). If someone approaches you to help with a VA application, claim, or appeal, check to see if they are a VSO. Chances are they won't be because VSOs don't solicit for your business, you have to find them. There are a few organizations which use the front of helping with VA benefits as a way to meet prospective customers. These groups solicit for your business. They offer to get you money from the VA for long term care cost, assisted living, or survivor benefits. **Tread lightly around these offers. On the surface, they appear legitimate but if not, it could wind up costing you time and money in the long run.**

Yours in Service

**Robert "Bob" Jones**

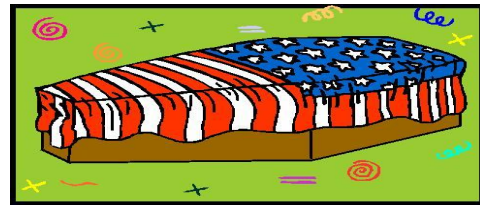
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**REMINDER.....**

Communication!!!! Each correspondant of each Voiture locale in Grand du Florida **will** receive a **FREE** copy of the Grand Bulletin. Take it to the Prom and read it. Make copies for any Voyageur that asks and make sure that any pertinent officers get any information that will help them with their duties. Make sure that your officers' lists have been sent to the Grand Correspondant. We can't send a bulletin to a Correspondant whose name and address has not been sent in.

Email me, to request your free copy.  
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All Voyageurs who wish to subscribe to the Grand Bulletin. Please use the form below.



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**Robert D. 'Bob' Sahagun**  
**Voiture 954**

**Region 12**  
**Joaquim M. Roderick (PLM)**  
**Voiture 954**

**GRAND VOITURE du FLORIDA  
 BULLETIN SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Voiture/Cabane \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Make check payable to "Grand Voiture du Florida".**

Give or mail to Ben Meredith,  
 Grand L'Editeur,  
 136 Menzel Street  
 Valparaiso, FL 32580  
 850-240-5227

**Subscription good for one year**

Email Subscription: \$7.00  
 First Class Mail Subscription: \$15.00

***Upcoming Events***

**February 5 to 7, 2010**  
 Emerald Coast Wreck  
 V-1606 Host  
 Panama City, Florida

**April 30 to May 2, 2010**  
 Space Coast Central Florida  
 Wreck Assn.  
 Location to follow

**Saturday May 15, 2010**  
 Grand Chef Archie  
 Pairadee, Jr.  
 Madame Presidente Kelly  
 Bush  
 Homecoming Sponsored by  
 Voiture and Cabane 1219 at  
 Post 155 Crystal River

**June 10 to 13, 2010**  
 Grand Promenade  
 V-1219 Host  
 Ocala Hilton, Ocala Fl.

***Remember ALL Activities for this calendar must be sent to Joe Nolan, Grand Correspondant***

Locale	Region	County	Meets	2009	2010	% of Quota	Short/ Over
199	15	Hillsborough	Tampa	34	31	91.18%	-3
202	6B	Orange	Orlando	35	28	80.00%	-7
215	5	East Duval	Jax Beach	92	44	47.83%	48
218	7	Polk	Winter Haven	37	28	75.68%	-9
290	11	Palm Beach	W. Palm Bch	48	35	72.92%	13
294	17	Volusia	Daytona Bch	88	66	75.00%	-22
304	5	<b>Duval</b>	<b>Jacksonville</b>	71	49	69.01%	-22
334	12	St. Lucie	Fort Pierce	30	11	36.67%	19
400	6A	Lake	Mt. Dora	20	21	105.00%	1
472	<b>4A</b>	<b>Marion</b>	<b>Ocala</b>	15	20	133.33%	5
478	6B	Seminole	Sanford	14	0	0.00%	-14
492	1B	Okaloosa	Crestview	3	17	566.67%	14
541	16	Upper Pinellas	Clearwater	46	17	36.96%	-29
569	<b>6A</b>	<b>Sumter</b>	<b>Bushnell</b>	17	16	94.12%	-1
728	9	W. Broward	Plantation	20	22	110.00%	2
769	17	Flagler		9	10	111.11%	-1
790	13A	Lee	Fort Myers	57	41	71.93%	16
795	<b>13A</b>	<b>Collier</b>	<b>Naples</b>	25	11	44.00%	-14
797	8	Sarasota	Venice	25	24	96.00%	-1
822				12	1	8.33%	-11
863	8	Highland	Lake Placid	26	29	111.54%	3
880	8	Manatee	Bradenton	31	28	90.32%	-3
890	9	Broward	Ft. Lauderdale	57	31	54.39%	-26
899	8	Highland	Avon Park	15	14	93.33%	-1
954	12	Brevard	Cocoa	50	33	66.00%	-17
1120	<b>2</b>	<b>Leon</b>	<b>Tallahassee</b>	18	16	88.89%	-2
1219	4A	Citrus	Crystal River	75	75	100.00%	0
1233	1A	Okaloosa	Ft. Walton Bch	17	16	94.12%	-1
1352	3	Columbia	Lake City	24	11	45.83%	-13
1388	<b>4B</b>	<b>Alachua</b>	<b>Newberry</b>	12	14	116.67%	2
1490	1B	Okaloosa	Niceville	27	15	55.56%	-12
1526	13B	Charlotte	Port Charlotte	36	25	69.44%	-11
1562	14	S.Dade/Monroe	Key Largo	6	5	83.33%	-1
1571	<b>1A</b>	<b>Escambia</b>	<b>Warrington</b>	32	34	106.25%	2
1576	16	South Pasco	New Port Richey	9	9	100.00%	0
1580	4A	South Marion	Bellevue	21	19	90.48%	-2
1598	6A	North Lake	Lady Lake	48	49	102.08%	1
1604	5	North Duval	Jacksonville	25	14	56.00%	-11
1606	1B	<b>Bay</b>	<b>Panama City</b>	42	42	100.00%	0
1610	5	St. Johns	St. Augustine	11	10	90.91%	-1
1619	<b>11</b>	<b>Okeechobee</b>	<b>Okeechobee</b>	9	0	0.00%	-9
1621	12	S. Brevard	Palm Bay	28	29	103.57%	1
<b>TOTAL</b>				1317	1010	76.69%	-117

La Société des Quarante Hommes Et Huit Chevaux  
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