



Greetings and Blessings to the Voyagers and La Femmes of
Grand du Ohio

The Ohio 40&8 News

FALL EDITION

The Official Publication of the Honor Society of Ohio Veterans

October November and December 2025



GRAND CHEF de GARE TODD P. McILRATH

Greetings Voyageurs;

Welcome to the new membership year. My goal is to exceed 100% membership within our Grande. To reach this, we need to recruit as a team. It's not just about our Locale or our Grande, but for the good of the Forty & Eight. Get with your current Voyageurs and have them contact fellow Veterans who would make good Voyageurs. Help grow our membership. It doesn't matter if these veterans are in your city or state, once they are invited and wrecked, they can always transfer to a more convenient Locale for them.

Like Chef de Chemin de Fer Passe' Kronen said, "Get in contact with your Snowbirds and get them renewed before they head south for the winter".

I ask that each of you to maintain contact with your Locales and Chef de Trains to assist them in renewing their memberships, making it a top priority. Let's keep what we've got and then add on. Recruit...Recruit...Recruit!

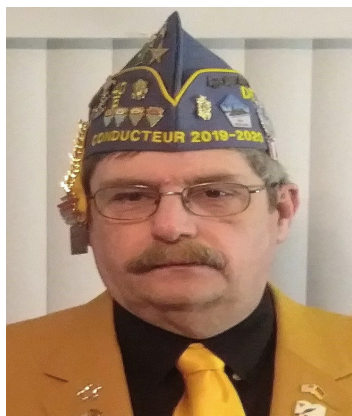
Please be safe and hopefully we will see more of you at our meetings and Promenades. Remember, any current Voyageur can attend and is more than welcome. We need your input. In Service to La Societe

Todd McIlrath

Grande Chef de Gare

Grande du Ohio 419-706-8099

dagidy@aol.com



GRAND CORRESPONDANT DAVID K. COOK SR.

Communication is the key to having an effective Locale. Reminder to the Officers and Directeur's, get your news articles in by the dead line, so we have good communication with our membership. Your work is not done, tell the paperwork is done. Speaking of paperwork, let me remind the Locale Correspondants that you make or break the Locale, as far as the reports to the Grande goes. Your Office is a major part of the Locale. It's not just taking the minutes and reading them back at the next Promenade. It's up to you to see they are done, correct and timely. It's also on you to see that all reports are also done, correct and timely.

Don't wait tell the last minute to gather what you will need. Over the course of the year, keep some notes on what your Locale has done. Not every Locale does every- thing, but you do something. Keep notes. **Examples:** your locale was at the Veterans Day event in your area, Memorial Day event, Color Guard, Honor Guard, sponsored a Nurse, Community events, etc. This is all reportable on one or more of the reports. Not only should you get as much of this in your Locale news, to let others in your area know what you've done, it's important that we send this information up the chain by reporting. Also, other veterans see this in your local paper, hear about the 40 et 8 on the news, they will also want to be part of a group of veterans that are active in local events. **Another report that is sometimes slow** to come in is your Certification of Officers and Delegate's to Grand Promenade. They need to be completed and sent in, so the Grande knows who to get in contact with, to pass on information that your Locale needs to know. The same goes with Delegates. The Grand needs to know who they are, so they can register quickly up on arrival. On the Officer Certifications and Delegate form, they are **to be sent to the Grand Correspondant by JUNE 1st, NOT Nationale**. Nationale **DOES NOT send that information back** to the Grande. Later on in the year, Nationale does ask you to send them a copy of who you're Officers will be and **delegates to Nationale later on around mid to latter July/August**. Also, the Grand Directory cannot be put out/correctly without this information.

David K. Cook Sr.
DAVID K. COOK SR.
Grand Correspondant

WE NEED YOU

This is your Grande.

WE NEED YOU TO ATTEND

Cheminot Meetings.

WE Need your impute.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE AN
OFFICER TO ATTEND.

THIS is OPEN to any Member with a
Current membership card.



GRAND CHEF DE TRAIN

HAROLD E. WADE JR.

Membership Report

Good Morning! To begin with the attached spreadsheet for Grand Du Ohio Membership is outdated and at the present time I don't have permissions to update it. I need to work on this and hopefully next week I will be able to update this spreadsheet. We had a great week, membership numbers increased by 20 (475 now) and our percent quota is now 56.68% (was 54.30%). We dropped one place nationally to 22 which at this point is no big deal. Voiture 50 is now 100% (congrats!), Voiture 273 increased by 4 members, Voiture 420 increased by 13 members and Voiture 601 increased by 2 members. Have a great week!

ARTHUR G.FELTY
GRAND CONDUCTEUR

Let me know any special requests for items we don't have. Also please let me know of any themes you would like us to do for the Hospitality room.

We are also open to any donated finger foods, appetizers, and snacks.

Thank You

In Service to La Societe

Arthur G. Felty.

Grande Conducteur

937 -303- 353



GRAND NURSES TRAINING TODD P. MCILRATH

Directeur Nurses Training Todd McIlrath

Cell: (419) 706-8099 Email: Dagidy@aol.com

Dear Grande Nurses Training Directeurs,

Good morning Voyageurs.

It's the start of a new year for our Nurses Training programs. Coming out of our 2025 Nationale Promenade we have a new Chef de Chemin de Fer, Jim Vissers from Wisconsin. Let's make a difference with our program and help the future nursing students financially become the nurses that we need for the future generations of Veterans. The Boland Trust Fund has lots of money available towards scholarships. The money is there, we just have to apply for it! This year's Nurse of the Year was from North Dakota.

The new 2026 pins are out and I have 50 of them to sell. Please buy 5-10 for your Locale, your help is needed and appreciated. I also need to have updated e-mail addresses from Locales for the Chef de Gare, Correspondant, and Nurses Training Directeur. These e-mails are needed to keep everyone informed as to what is going on with our program..

In Service to La Societe

Todd McIlrath

Grande Directeur of Nurses Training

419-706-8099

dagidy@aol.com



HAROLD E. WADE JR.

Carville Star

No Report

Harold E. Wade Jr.
HAROLD E. WADE JR.
Carville Star Directeur



SPECIAL AWARDS DAVID K. COOK Sr.

We have started a new year and we need to be looking for those who we can nominate for one of the Special Awards.

As a reminder of what they are: **Hero of the Year, Law Officer of The year, Voyageur of the Year and City/Town of the Year.**

Also, the Grande has another award, it is: The Grand Chef de Gare Passe Ray Clark Service to Veterans Award.

This award is to be awarded to a **non-Veteran**, for the work they do to help a Veteran or Veterans. Let's make this the year that all 5 are awarded. There is a new Project at Nationale: Blue Chevaliers. This is in support of Law Enforcement.

David K. Cook Sr.

DAVID K. COOK SR.

Grand Special Awards Directeur



JOSE L. RIVERA SR. CHEMINOT NATIONAL

Greetings Fellow Voyageurs,

I have no new information at this time.

JOSE L. RIVERA SR

JOSE L. RIVERA SR

Cheminot Nationalé



NATIONAL BOX CAR ASSOCIATION FRANK W. KRONEN

Greetings Fellow Voyageurs, No report

submitted.

Frank W. Kronen

Frank W. Kronen Grand Box Car Directeur



CHARLES "SPECIAL K" KVOCHICK GRAND AMERICANISM DIRECTEUR

No Article Submitted.

Charlie "Special K" Kvochick
CHARLES E. KVOCHICK
Grand Americanism Directeur

GRANDE FALL CHEMINOT MEETING

Country Inn and Suites Sandusky-South

October 4, 2025

Grand Chef de Gare Todd P. McIlrath opened the Grande Cheminot Meeting in proper form at 9:00 a.m. The Colors being in place, the Grand Chef de Gare asked Grande POW Directeur to Place the cover on the empty Chair. Grand Aumonier Webb offered the Divine Blessing.

Grand Conducteur Felty introduced the National Officers and Distinguished Guests that were present:

Sous Chef de Chemin Defre Todd P. McIlrath

Chef de Chemin Defre Pass'e Frank W. Kronen

Audery Child Welfare Trust Frank W. Kronen

Nationale Membership Advisor Frank W. Kronen

Cheminot Nationale Jose L. Rivera Sr.

Alternate Cheminot Nationale Francis "Spider" Webb

Nationale Time & Place Joe M. Dolwig

Sous Nationale Directeur Youth Sports Bill Martin

Roll call was then called by Grand Correspondant Cook.

A notion was offered by Rivera and seconded by Felty to suspend with the reading of minutes of the last Cheminot and Grand Prom, as they were in the last issue of the Ohio 40et8er. Notion passed.

Reports of the Grande Officers were given as follows:

Grand Chef de Train Harold Wade Jr., there has been no report out yet from Nationale. He handed out membership awards received after the Grand Prom. Kronen stated that David Burnett asked to be transferred to V 498. Frank looking into. The Grand Chef de Train offered a notion his report be accepted, the notion was 2nd and passed. Grand Chef announced that V 498 won award at Nationale for membership.

Grand Commissaire Intendant Dolwig went over his report. Beginning Balance (June 27th) of \$6,016.32 ending Balance (Oct.2nd) of \$3,901.18. Savings Beginning (June 27th) \$80,702.59 and ending (Oct.2nd) 80,703.13. Total Balance (Oct. 2) Checking & Savings \$84,604.31 and American Funds \$108,492.00. Total Assets \$193,096.31. He offered a notion to except report. Seconded. By Felty. Notion Passed.

Grand Avocat: Spider- No Report.

Grand Americanism: Grand Chef read the report sent in by Kovchick- We had received 43 reports by the July 15th Dead Line. You the Voyageur Militaire are the back bone of Americanism. With your support

purchase of pins, going into schools and teaching first graders about the Nationale ting them to give me information symbol, the American Flag, helping out locale boy scouts, running/supporting blood drives. With the coming year, I will be attempting to contact locale Correspondant's and expecting them to give me what their locals are doing.

Grand Chef gave an overview of what happened at Nationale: Wording on flags for first Graders needs to be updated-to be more first grade friendly.

Audit and Finance Committee- Joe Dolwig- No Report

Grande Box Car Directeur – Kronen Calendars are out. Ohio is not on it this year. Kronen offered a notion to except the report. Seconded Notion Passed.

Kronen stated change to Constitution - Page 4 Art 3 (Could not make it out on Tape) and Nominations on membership-Need to be Honorably Discharged from the Military and also Nationale Guard. He then talked on Time and Place- Again this year will be Gettysburg and then Kansas next two years after that. 2027 \$132 .00 per night and 2028 \$130.00 per night.

Grande Carville Star Harold Wade Jr.- At Nationale it was handed out a star Magazine folder with applications to buy a Country or sponsor a hospital in support of Carville Star Program. Curator at the Carville Star Museum unexpectedly retired, having trouble finding replacement. Next Year at Promenade Nationale a Carville Star traveling exhibit will be there (Hopefully) Water Buffalos in India, Red Squirrels in England and Mice worldwide have found out recently can transmit leprosy to humans. Finally, Nationale Directeur retiring from program after many years of faithful service. He offered a notion to except report, seconded. Notion Passed.

Child Welfare: Spider reported He did not get to go to Nationale, but had the following report-Now that school has started again, it's kids' sports events time. These events keep kids busy all year. Even if your locale does not have the money to donate, your time to help with events and or even show up to watch them, this is all valuable in reporting on your report. I know we have grand kids, even scout troops, they sell cookies or other items, that's your donation. Remember, our yearly report to Nationale shows we are concerned with children in our state. He then offered a notion to except report, seconded. Notion Passed. He has pins for \$3.00 ea. or two for \$5.00. Grand Chef stated had ordered 2K pins was reported at Nationale.

Constatation Bylaws- No Report

Grand Activates: Felty- Hospitality room open after meeting. Will Close for Banquet and reopen soon after ends.

Grand Chef reported on meeting at Nationale- only had 6 attends. It was brought up need moer scrap books only had one this year. New award pins on vets. More you have better chance of winning. Must be worn, not photo of.

Nurses Training: Todd P. Mcilrath need up dated emails for chef de Gars and Correspondant's to get info out. Gave out scholarships out to 37 nurses. Each Grand can get 6K from Boland fund. He offered a notion to except his report. It was seconded. Notion Passed.

POW/MIA Harold Wade Jr. -\$37,000 was donated to this program last year. 26 scholarships were handed out last year, which was up from last year. The trust fund now has \$247,000. Reports submitted last year were up to 25 states. From state reports, over 1000,000 miles were driven and 48,272-man hours were used. All you need to do is submit request 3 times to receive scholarship. He offered a notion to except report, seconded. Notion Passed.

Grand Publiciste / Public Relations Rivera No Report.

Ritual: Martin noted new manual coming with the changes that were approved. Also Pass Word changed. It was given out to those in attendance. V 735 made new 3rd degree can show on comp. Is located in PO Box Cleveland Tn. 37320. Send them a stick and they will load it and send back to you.

Special Awards Directeur David K. Cook Sr. reports; It is time to be thinking about who you will be nominating for the following awards; Hero of the Year, Law Officer of the Year, Voyageur of the Year, and City / Town of the Year. Some awards have not had any entries for some time, please nominate someone for these awards. The deadline is May 1, 2025. This allows the committee to make the selections and get them into the Grande in time to make Nationale deadline. Also, the Grand has the Ray Clark Service to Veterans Award. Please be looking for someone to nominate for this award as well. Keep in mind that this award is for a non-Veteran. This is what they do for Veteran or a Veteran. I would like to see someone submit for City or Town. In the years I've been doing this no one has. Directeur Cook offered a notion his report be accepted, the notion was 2nd, and passed.

Time and Place: Kronen- Mid-Winter Quality Inn & Suites 9988 Market Street North Lima, Oh 44452. \$80.00 Per night. Cheminot will be at the Chateau 5.8 miles from hotel. Has blue Locie in front Has room for us and LaFemmes to meet. Do not have info for spring, as no info on when it will be. June 4-7 Bloomington IN is Great Lakes. He offered nation to except report, seconded. Notion Passed. Grand Chef stated Chery Vally in Newark would like to have us back. He will check in to it for down the road.

VAVS: Jose Rivera No Report

Youth Sports: Bill Martin- went over how and what you can use to do your report.

Grand Guard de Laport- Rivera. No Report

Grand Conducteur No report

Cheminot Nationale: Jose L. Rivera Sr. No Report

Grand Correspondant: David K. Cook Sr. – I would like to thank those who turned in a written report; this makes it easier to do the minutes. Also thank you to those who called to see how my surgery went. He read off the Districts and Locales that have not sent in officers certificate forms.

Grand Cheminot reports: 4th District Dolwig-no report. 6th District Cook- No Report. 7th District Emmitt Gregory – reported on what's going on in his district. He pointed out he has thunder mug with him. Hopefully at mid-winter he will be able to hand if off. District 9 Rivera- No report A notion to except all reports. Seconded. Notion Passed.

Words of Wisdom: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Good of the Grande Voiture: None

With no further business to come before the Cheminot Meeting, Grand Chef de Gare Todd P. McIlrath proceeded to close the Grand Cheminot Meeting in due form and it was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved By

David K. Cook Sr.

Todd P. McIlrath

David K. Cook Sr.

Todd P. McIlrath

Correspondant

Grand Chef de Gare

Grande Voiture Du Ohio

Grande Voiture Du Ohio

GRAND TIME & PLACE

Mid-Winter 2026

1/23 to 1/25,2026

Quality Inn and Suites
9988 Market Street North Lima, Ohio 44452
Phone 330-549-0157

Cut Off 12/31/2025

\$80.00 Per Night

TAPS

