



La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chebaux  
Grande Voiture du Texas



TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND du TEXAS

WINNER OF THE ARTHUR McDOWELL AWARD 1991 – 1992 – 1993 – 1994 – 1995 – 1996

BEST GRAND VOITURE PUBLICATION IN THE NATION WITHOUT ADVERTISING AND WINNER OF THE ROBERT KASEMAN AWARD 2018

Winter 2019

Volume 62 Issue 4

FROM THE  
GRAND CHEF DE GARE



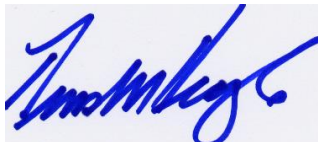
I hope to see a good turnout at Merci Boxcar in Austin. If you have never attended or it has been awhile, I ask you to make the trip. Since we did not have a Fall Cheminot, we will be honoring the Grand du Texas Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Hero of the Year and City of the Year.

My good friend Ronnie Wheeler is planning to attend. Even after falling and breaking his leg a few weeks ago! Some of you may have good reason for not attending. For those who can – I hope you make the effort and come to Austin. You will be most welcome!

The day is here! Please remember - anyone who has not renewed their membership is no longer in good standing as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. Those members not in good standing cannot attend promenades or enjoy any of the rewards or benefits of being a Voyageur Militaire.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and remember those who are serving and unable to be with their family this time of year. Keep them in our prayer.

Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year to come!



Renslar "Renny" Keagle  
Chef de Gare, Grande du Texas



JUST AS SOON  
AS I GET  
A ROUND TO IT!

Have you ever told someone that you will do what they ask as soon as you get around to it? During my military days I used that phrase a few times too often and a young Sergeant who worked for me got me good. Soon after using this common phrase he came in and gave me a "round to it". It took a few minutes to register what it was and then I got it! That was nearly 30 years ago.



I bring this up because we need everyone to work together to be successful. Too often we are quick to criticize but slow to help.

If something needs to get done and it is your responsibility, then GET IT DONE! If you need help – ASK! I know our Grand Officers are willing to help as needed. If they are not

# 2020 Membership Report

December 26, 2019

Division / Locale	Location	Current	Goal	Percent
<b>1st Division</b>				
689	Amarillo	10	12	83%
1185	Ft. Worth	1	10	10%
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>2nd Division</b>				
163	Houston	16	21	76%
266	Copperas Cove	29	32	91%
312	Beaumont	14	14	100%
980	Willis	15	19	79%
1031	Killeen	37	25	148%
<b>Total</b>		<b>111</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>3rd Division</b>				
175	Austin	15	15	100%
231	La Feria	3	6	50%
542	San Antonio	11	22	50%
1134	Kingsville	4	12	33%
<b>Total</b>		<b>33</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>4th Division</b>				
605	El Paso	40	49	82%
1055	Kerrville	14	17	82%
<b>Total</b>		<b>54</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>209</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>82.28</b>

The 2020 membership year started August 1, 2019.

**MEMBERSHIP IS DELINQUENT AFTER DEC 31, 2019!**



## FROM THE GRAND CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

#### Section 12.

#### DUES.

- a) Dues shall be payable to Voiture Nationale in advance of December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year and payment thereof constitutes the payer a member in good standing until the end of the following calendar year. Dues paid prior to August 1 of any year on account of new members shall be considered as for the current year and those paid on or after August 1 of any year on account of new members shall be considered for the ensuing year.
- b) Dues for Grand Officers, Grand Directeurs and Grand Cheminot members shall be payable for the term of years for which they are elected or appointed before the Fall Cheminot convenes.

#### Section 13.

#### PENALTIES FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Any member who fails to pay his dues for the current year on or before December 31 shall not be permitted to attend any Promenade until such dues have been paid; any member who shall be in arrears one (1) year in the payment of his dues shall stand suspended and notice to that effect shall be given to him by the Correspondant of his Voiture Locale, addressed to his last known place of residence, and if he shall fail within 1 month from the date of the mailing of said notice to pay the arrears, and such reinstatement fees as may be required by the Grand Voiture or Voiture Locale, he shall stand expelled and may not be readmitted except upon petition in accordance with Section 6 of this article.

### ON THE MEND!

Ronnie Wheeler home nursing a broken leg but doing good most days. Kathy Wheeler had shoulder surgery and doing good as well. Lowell Mix had a car accident and is also on the mend. Doing better now.



If you know of others who we should add to our prayer list for a speedy recovery please contact Grand Aumonier J. Sean Habina at: [jseanh@yaho.com](mailto:jseanh@yaho.com)

**La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chebaux  
Grande Voiture du Texas**

# **TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS**

## **FROM THE GRAND CHEF DE TRAIN**

Well we made some progress we are up to 82% of our goal. We are currently stand 8<sup>th</sup> Nationally.

We still have 2 locales that need 10 or more renewals, reinstatement or new Voyageurs to make goal.

We need only 45 to make goal for Grand. So if the 2 locales made their personal goal we would be really close to goal.

I'm hoping that we continue to make progress. While we may not make 100% by the end of the year I ask all to be diligent and keep the progress moving forward.

I also ask that if you make goal do not stop at 100% keep moving forward. I challenge you to invite in a new member. That can help bring new life into the organization.

Keep in touch with your members. Some are not in good health or cannot travel far, but they can still be a great resource for the locale

If you need help with membership, please contact me at (512) 713-9178.

John Rodgers  
Grand Chef de Train



## **JUST AS SOON AS I GET A ROUND TO IT!** **(continued from page 1)**

– let me know and I will assist or find someone else who is willing to assist.

Running a locale cannot be successfully done by one or two. Others need to step up and help. If you are able to be an active member then you should be an active member. Even helping in small ways makes a big difference. Hopefully your willingness to help will be appreciated and at times we disagree. If you don't agree then get more involved. We see this in our political system all around us every day. If you don't like how things are being run, then vote to change it. This works at the Locale level as well as anywhere else. The important thing is to GET INVOLVED.

*If you come together and sponsor a Nurse – you can change their life!*

*Flags for First Graders is a great and wonderful program. Voiture 605 has it down pat and has made a difference for the many children they have addressed and to many adults who learn about their activities.*

*Voiture 266 in Copperas Cove gives frequently to student nurses and to their community from backpacks and school supplies to food and cleaning supplies.*

*We have several who volunteer many hours to VAVS and they all make a difference!*

Many of you may also help out, but the program reports are blank or missing! We need to work together starting at the Locale level. Some of our locales are in desperate need of help. When you became a member of La Societe you pledged that you would help. We need your help!

David J. Knutson  
Grand Chef de Gare Passe

**La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
Grande Voiture du Texas  
TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS**

**GRAND CALL**

**LA GRANDE VOITURE DU TEXAS**

Grand Chef de Gare

Renslar Keagle

915-346-6099

[rennykeagle@gmail.com](mailto:rennykeagle@gmail.com)



Grand Correspondant

Milton R. Chatham

409-889-3013

[ccsam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ccsam@sbcglobal.net)

**LA SOCIETE DES 40 HOMMES ET 8 CHEVAUX**

December 30, 2019

To: Grand Officers Grand Directeurs  
Grand Committeemen Grand Cheminots  
Voiture Officers Interested Voyageurs

Subject: GRANDE SPRING CHEMINOT / BOX CAR ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

By order of the Grand Chef de Gare, Grande Voiture du Texas, the Spring Grande Cheminot will be held Saturday, March 7, 2020, in Austin, Texas.

The Spring Cheminot is hosted by Travis County Voiture Locale 175.

Hotel Accommodations are located at: Best Western Plus / Austin Airport Inn & Suites  
1805 Airport Commerce Drive, Austin, Texas 78741 Phone: 512-386-5455

Committee meetings 8:00 – 10:30 am at the Best Western Plus / Austin Airport Inn & Suites

2020 Spring Cheminot starts at 1:00 (location to be announced)

Grand Officers and Grand Directeurs are advised to, as appropriate; provide a written copy of their report to the Grand Correspondant NLT February 28, 2020.

The Annual Pilgrimage to the Texas Merci Boxcar will be held at 9:00 am on Sunday, March 8, 2020 inside the Hall of Honor of the Texas Military Forces Museum, Camp Mabry, Austin, Texas  
Photos will follow at the Texas Merci Boxcar in the Great Hall after the memorial service

ATTESTED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Milton R. Chatham'.

MILTON R. CHATHAM  
GRAND CORRESPONDANT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Renslar Keagle'.

RENSLAR KEAGLE  
GRAND CHEF DE GARE



**La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux**  
**Grande Voiture du Texas**  
**TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS**

**GRAND DU TEXAS WINTER RAFFLE**

**Tickets \$5 each**

**Only 300 tickets available!**

**Tickets \$5 each**

**La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux**

Drawing set for Saturday, March 7, 2020



**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: REMINGTON MODEL 700  
243 WIN SYNTHETIC RIFLE WITH SCOPE**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: NexPac 18" Gear Bag**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Set of 2 Aardvark Insulated Tumblers**

Must be 18 or older to enter. Donations support 40 & 8 programs. Winner of any firearms is responsible for any transfer fees via licensed FFL dealer and must pass background check to legally obtain prize through FFL dealer.

Must claim prize within 30 days. (need not be present to win) Rules posted at [www.texasboxcar.org](http://www.texasboxcar.org)

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**FOR TICKETS CONTACT GRAND CHEF DE TRAIN JOHN RODGERS**

**[RODGERSJOHN393@YAHOO.COM](mailto:RODGERSJOHN393@YAHOO.COM)**

PHONE: 512-713-9178

OR

**DAVE KNUTSON / EMAIL: [DAVIDKNUTSON@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:DAVIDKNUTSON@SBCGLOBAL.NET)**

PHONE: 512-736-2377

La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
Grande Voiture du Texas  
**TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS**

**SPRING CHEMINOT**  
**MARCH 6-7-8, 2020 IN AUSTIN, TEXAS**

**HOTEL  
RESERVATION  
DEADLINE IS  
FEBRUARY 21,  
2020**

**MAKE YOUR  
RESERVATIONS  
TODAY!**

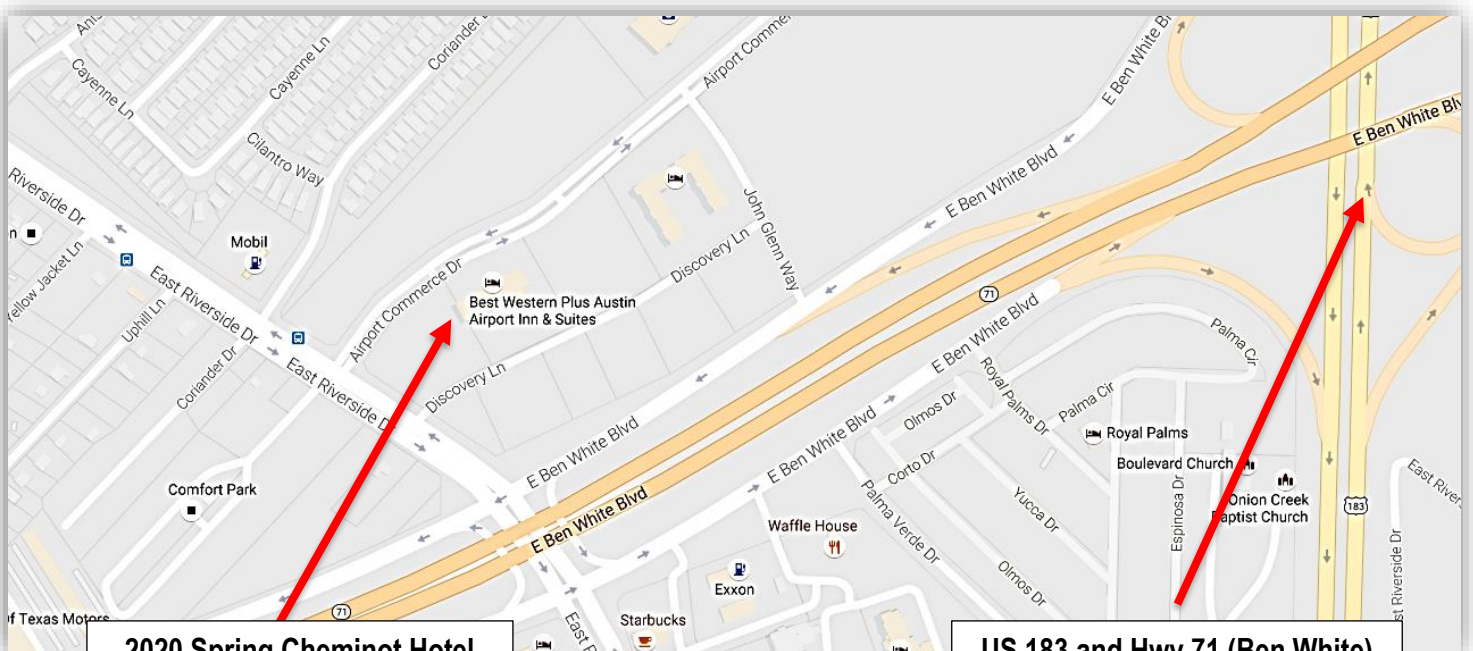
**HOTEL RESERVATIONS**  
**BEST WESTERN Plus**  
**Austin Airport Inn & Suites**

1805 Airport Commerce Drive,  
Austin, Texas, 78741-4538  
Phone: (512) 386-5455

**GROUP RATE: \$119 per night + tax**  
**(Advise you are with the Texas 40 & 8 Group)**

**HOTEL  
RESERVATION  
DEADLINE IS  
FEBRUARY 21,  
2020**

**MAKE YOUR  
RESERVATIONS  
TODAY!**



**2020 Spring Cheminot Hotel**  
**Best Western Plus**  
**1805 Airport Commerce Drive,**  
**Austin, Texas, 78741-4538**

**SAME HOTEL AS 2019**

**US 183 and Hwy 71 (Ben White)**

**Austin Bergstrom Intl Airport**  
**and Toll Road 130 just minutes**  
**east of the Best Western Hotel**

La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
Grande Voiture du Texas

# TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS

2020 SPRING CHEMINOT / MARCH 6-8, 2020

## REGISTRATIONFORM

Please fill in the following information to register for Spring Cheminot.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title or Highest Office held: \_\_\_\_\_

Voiture or Cabane #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title or Highest Office held: \_\_\_\_\_

Voiture or Cabane #: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Registration \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Advance registration is \$25 per person**  
**Advance registration must be received by March 1, 2020.**  
**Late Registration fee is \$30 per person**

## Program Book Ads

Full page Ad - \$30

Half page Ad - \$20

Business Card - \$10

In addition to a hard copy, please send ads via Email to:

[davidknutson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:davidknutson@sbcglobal.net)

**All program ads must be received by March 1, 2020**

SEND REGISTRATION AND PROGRAM ADS TO:

David Knutson  
1904 Rutherford Dr  
Leander, TX 78641-3138  
(Make Checks Payable to Voiture 175)

THE TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT [WWW.TEXASBOXCAR.ORG](http://WWW.TEXASBOXCAR.ORG)  
VIA OUR FACEBOOK PAGE "GRANDE VOITURE DU TEXAS"  
AND AT [HTTP://ISSUU.COM/GRANDEVOITUREDUTEXAS](http://ISSUU.COM/GRANDEVOITUREDUTEXAS)

**La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
Grande Voiture du Texas  
TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS**

**What to expect at the Spring Cheminot!**

**Hospitality Room opens Friday afternoon!  
Committee Meetings and Training Session Saturday Morning!  
Cheminot at Post 83 Saturday Afternoon!  
Banquet with Great Food Saturday Night at Post 83!**

**Program Awards, Law Officer of the Year, Hero of the Year  
and City of the Year**

**Come meet our recipients! Show your support!**

**Sunday morning / Annual Pilgrimage and Memorial Service  
at the Texas Merci Boxcar  
Texas Military Forces Museum, Camp Mabry**

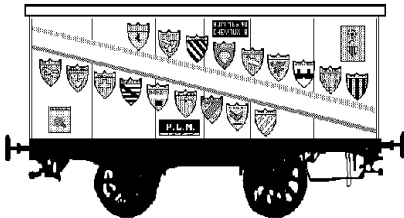
**La Grande Voiture du Texas  
La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
P.O. Box 170074  
Austin, Texas 78717**



Affix  
1<sup>st</sup> Class  
Postage  
Here



Addressee



ADDRESSEE: Please notify sender of name/address correction

**Grand Chef de Gare – Renslar Keagle  
Grand Commissaire Intendant – Roger Folmar**

**Grand Correspondant – Milton Chatham  
Grand Publiciste – Dave Knutson**

**THE TEXAS VOYAGEUR NEWS IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT [WWW.TEXASBOXCAR.ORG](http://WWW.TEXASBOXCAR.ORG)  
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