



The Palomar Observer

“THE HONOR SOCIETY OF AMERICAN VETERANS”

Volume 6, Issue 9

www.palomarvoiture1406.com

April 2009

The Palomar Observer is the official publication of Palomar Voiture 1406 of the Grand Voiture du California of La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, The Forty and Eight.

Chef de Gare: Rene Cortez.

I would like to thank all who have stepped up to help me and Voiture 1406 be successful so far this year. I also want thank any new Voyagers who joined this great organization and hope to meet them soon at an upcoming event.

As a reminder we do have event this April 26 to help boost our membership and to celebrate with members we haven't seen for awhile. I hope to see a lot of them there. On April 29, the last Wednesday of April, Voiture 1406 will be hosting the weekly meal on the patio. We will be serving a Mexican dish so all help with preparation and serving the meal will be appreciated. Best regards Rene.

Palomar Voiture Officers for 2009

Chef de Gare
Rene Cortez

Chef de Train
Freddie Sisario

Correspondant
Carl Asher
Grand Chef Passé

Comm. Intendant
Ivan "Ernie" Pyle

Conducteur/ *Chef de Cuisine*
Richard Cross

Guard de la Porte
Art Ramirez

Drapeau
Mark Stephenson

Commis Voyageur
Howard Haworth

Avocat
Harvey Benne

Lampiste
Bernard Homberg

Aumonier
Lanny Peterson

Cheminot
Joe Donovan
Tom Rauscher
Larry Lynch

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Correspondant:

Palomar has received a letter from Riverside Voiture 394 requesting the services of the Grand Wrecking Crew (South) for an "Active Wreck". A quick check around those Voitures represented at the 5th District Cheminot on March 21 indicates there will be several PG's to initiate; between 5 and 10 as I understand.

The Perris "Clean-Up Wreck" is May 16 at Perris Post 595. The Wrecking Crew should be there by 10-10:30 AM at the latest in order to properly evaluate and prepare the candidates for initiation.

We have 1 prospective PG, I say prospective because I have not heard whether the prospective PG has accepted our invitation and paid the appropriate fees (\$65.00). Since I have no information on the desires of the individual as per the wreck preferred, Active or Formal, I don't know whether he would go to Perris to be initiated or not.

Party Time: Mark your calendars; April 26 following our monthly breakfast, Cheminot and Promenade Palomar Voiture will hold an "Appreciation Party" for our members and their guests. The party begins at 2 PM, the Voiture will provide steaks for you to charcoal grill to your specifications (aka-cook your own), and a baked potato. We ask each member to bring a covered cold or hot dish. Please contact our Conducteur and let him know what you would like to bring....someone has to coordinate or we will have 15 gallons of bake beans and no salad....or contact Carl with your choice. Richard and Carl will work closely to ensure we have a good variety of dishes you provide.

In addition to your 1 guest, most of us our wife or lady friend, you may bring a qualified prospective member and their 1 guest. We need members, so take a look around at some qualified Veterans who you think would like to associate with us in our support of the community and other veterans. Remember, they do not have to be a Legionnaire.

The Ladies of Palomar Salon 621 are our guests for the party.

Now the hard part: PLEASE CONTACT RICHARD CROSS and advise him if you are attending the party and if you are bringing a guest, and veteran and guest; and your covered plate. NLT April 22.

You must be a current (2009 dues paid) member to attend Voiture or Forty and Eight functions.

Pay your dues today, don't miss out on a great time.

What a way to recoup your \$25 dues, fee steak dinner for you and a guest. Can't beat it with a big stick.

VAVS: Mark Stephenson, VAVS Deputy Rep.

Fellow Voyageurs, Legion Day February 14, at the VA Hospital was a huge success. To briefly describe the activities that took place;

There was a Mariachi band playing for the inpatients on the wards & guests in the multipurpose room, there were many Legionnaires visiting patients on the wards. A Color Guard was provided by the Young Marines, High Desert branch. There were light refreshments offered. There were approximately 130 or more in attendance, a good mix of District 22 Officers, Legionnaires, Woman's Auxiliary, & Sons of the American Legion, & Moi, the only Voyageur Militaire in Chapeau, representing V1406 of the 40 & 8.

To my delight, there were Legionnaires, The S.A.L. & Auxiliary Members present, representing Post 149. In the future, I hope to see more members of V1406 in their chapeaus attend Legion Day at the VA Hospital.

There was Bingo & prizes, but I was unable to remain for that activity.

I understand there was a meal being provided later that afternoon. VAV is a worthy activity, so feel free to become a Volunteer. The next VAVS meeting will take place April 13th at 1:00 PM at VAMC La Jolla.

Membership: As of this issue Palomar Voiture is at 65 members transmitted to Nationale for 84.4% of goal. Our goal this year is 77 members.

Voyageurs, I know there are Veterans in North County who have earned the right to become members of La Société; all you have to do is propose them, we will check them out, and if found worthy, and they accept our invitation, will become fellow Voyageurs Militaire.

Someone said to me, "The Forty and Eight isn't what it used to be!" That is true, and it will not return to its former character either. What must be done now is to get on with our great programs, recruit new members, and make the 40 et 8 better than ever. We can do it with your help. cea

The Grand Voiture and the California Legionnaire:

At the 5th District Cheminot (March 21, '09) we were advised by Past Department Commander Willie Wilkins that the Forty and Eight would no longer be granted/sold space in the CA. Legionnaire for our ¼ page article. Apparently, from information per my sources, this was decided as a course of action at the Spring DEC (Dept. Executive Committee). The DEC and National American Legion organizations are now unhappy that the Forty and Eight is obtaining our membership from other sources. As I understand it, the DEC doesn't want other veteran's, not Legion members, to receive the CA Legionnaire. Which the DEC believes would happen given the current guidelines for membership in the Forty and Eight. This seems rather silly to me. But we are not going to argue the point.

I contacted the Grand Publiciste regarding this issue. After a rather vigorous conversation with Voyageur Paul Terry, we are going to ensure this is addressed at the Grand Promenade in July. We were paying the Dept. of California a minimum of \$250.00 per issue for the ¼ page in the Calif. Legionnaire. I believe, with some constructive thought and action, Grande du California can publish its own newsletter and stay well within those prices charged by the Dept. of CA for our little corner in their quarterly news paper.

Of course it would most probably be cost prohibitive to publish a newspaper style publication. I will recommend the Grand newsletter follow our own award winning Observer format. Doesn't have to be 8 or 10 pages; a couple would do. Our Grand Officers and Directeurs would have a direct input to the publication. At least I would hope they would provide words of wisdom and encouragement.

Communication up and down the line is a must for the success of any organization. Of course being attentive to the communicated word is most important. Then take appropriate action as required.

One step that can be done to immediately reduce the cost of mailing is to follow the example set by Palomar Voiture and have as many members as possible receive their newsletter, aka bulletin, via electronic mail. I would venture to say that more than 75% of our Calif. 40/8 membership has access to the internet and email. Also the newsletter can easily be placed on the Grand web site for the entire world to see. I want ALL Veterans to read about the Forty and Eight and the wonderful programs we have for their benefit and that of their families and communities.

La Société is still the Honor Society of Veterans. Just because we no longer restrict our membership doesn't change a thing. It just provides another avenue for Veterans who have provided that something extra to their communities or other Veteran Organizations to become members of our "Honor Society"; And to do that without belonging to a large Veterans Organization first.

I believe we will publish a fine newsletter/bulletin, one that you will be please with. Oh, make no mistake about it, we may have to take small steps to begin, but we will in time have a newsletter that you will be proud to share with fellow non-member veterans.

You are very special veteran's...don't let any naysayer convince you otherwise. Carl

Birthdays



April

28 Donald Reeves

In Memoriam

Taps: Tony Ferrell (USMC) reported to Voiture Everlasting on March 19, 2009.

DID YOU KNOW

1932

The Forty & Eight declared War on Childhood Diphtheria. Vaccination toxin was distributed via Voiture Nationale to children whose parents could not afford it. Physicians donated their services, and educational campaigns were carried out to combat the disease.

From 1932 through 1936, the Forty & Eight sought to influence Congress regarding veteran's benefits.

These were the "Bonus March" Depression years when WWI veterans and the federal government were at times in open conflict.

The Forty & Eight sponsored national radio programs, featuring well known political figures, to bring equitable treatment of war veterans to the national forefront.

Realizing that power came with numbers, the Forty & Eight brought in 111,159 new American Legion members.

The efforts of the Forty & Eight ultimately helped convince Congress to pass, over a presidential veto, the compensation act for America's war veterans.

NOTICE:

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 2009
DUES BY APRIL 1, YOU WILL BE
DROPPED FROM THE ROLLS OF
THE FORTY AND EIGHT.

Please send your dues in today!

Make checks payable to: Palomar Voiture 1406

Dues = \$25.00

Preamble to the Constitution of the "Forty and Eight"

For God and country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To create a charitable and non-profit veterans organization; to uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America; to assist and promote the welfare and well being of those who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during all wars and conflicts, recognized by the Congress of the United States, and their widows and orphans; to participate in all memorial services for and to be present at the funerals of departed comrades; to take part in and encourage others to participate in the proper observance of all days honoring veterans; to preserve the memories of our Service in the Armed Forces of our Country; to actively participate within our membership in projects relating to (a) the welfare of the children of America; (b) the health of our Nation by fostering a nurses training program; and (c) selected charitable endeavors."



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First Class Mail

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
