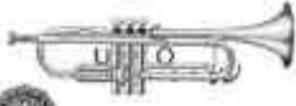


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The Reveille

Official Publication of "The Best in the West!"



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God and Country

VOLUME LXXXVII

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NUMBER 3



SPECIAL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS EDITION



CONGRATULATIONS!

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1 extends its congratulations to the 40 & 8 for its Centennial celebration of 100 years of exemplary service to Veterans and their families.

A job well done.

Enjoy your year and look forward to another 100 and beyond.

40/8 GREETINGS



**VOITURE 97
WISHES TO CONGRATULATE
THE AUXILIARY**

CENTENNIAL – 1919-2019

GOD BLESS OUR VETERANS



In honoring our fathers, grandfathers, mothers and grandmothers who serve or served this great nation, the Sons of The American Legion Squadron 1 congratulate the Auxiliary and 40 & 8 for 100 years of service to our Veterans and Communities.

FROM YOUR LCW POST 1 COLOR GUARD

Greetings And Congratulations To The Auxiliary and 40 & 8 On Celebrating 100 Years Of Service To Veterans, Active Military, And Communities. If We All Keep Doing Our Part, The Next Century Will Be More Successful Than The First.



WHAT IS THE 40 & 8?

March of 1920, Joseph W. Breen, a member of the newly formed American Legion and an officer of Breen-McCracken American Legion Post 297, met in Philadelphia with 15 other prominent Legionnaires where they originated the idea of The Forty and Eight.

The organization was named **La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux** (The Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses). Its members were called Voyageurs Militaire (military travelers) and candidates for membership were called Prisonniers de Guerre (Prisoners of War).

The cargo capacity sign "40 Hommes/8 Chevaux" emblazoned on each French boxcar that carried American doughboys to the front, and "French horizon blue" color, became symbols of the new society.

The first statewide Forty and Eight Promenade (meeting) was held in June 1920, following the 2nd Annual Convention of the American Legion's Department of Pennsylvania.

The new Forty and Eight organization agreed to send a delegation to the Legion's national convention in Cleveland, Ohio, with as much fanfare as possible in order to introduce the Forty and Eight to the nation and to other Legionnaires.

1921 — During the Forty and



Eight's Promenade Nationale (national convention) in Kansas City, a national constitution was adopted, and a national headquarters was established in Seattle, Washington.

1922 — During the Promenade Nationale in New Orleans, a Children's Welfare project was established, with monies to be raised via an annual assessment of 50 cents from dues collections, to be used for the care of orphaned children.

1923 — The National Headquarters of the Forty and Eight was moved to Indianapolis. The Forty and Eight was integrated as an equal

partner with The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary, all with common interests in Child Welfare. Forty and Eight Welfare Program funds (\$24,823.91) were safely invested to grow to meet future needs. A joint policy committee of members from all three organizations was established.

1926 — At Promenade Nationale in Philadelphia, Forty and Eight membership was reported to be 32,449. A major focus of discussion was the growth of American Legion membership, which had previously been declining annually since the Legion's inception. Much of the Legion's new growth was attributed to extraordinary recruiting efforts by The Forty and Eight's Voyageurs who had brought in more than 17,000 new members for the American Legion. Voyageur William Mundt of Voiture 24, Bloomington, Illinois, was recognized for having signed up 509 new Legion members.

1928 — Forty and Eight programs expanded in concert with The American Legion. Membership, Child Welfare, Junior Baseball, Americanism and Emergency Relief became key Forty and Eight programs. Annual donations continued to the Child Welfare Fund, with \$18,960 earmarked for 1928. Additionally, Voitures Locaux devised their own charitable programs, such as Voiture 220 of Chicago sponsoring a youth summer camp.

During the depression years, The Forty and Eight and The American Legion grew steadily. Forty and Eight Voyageurs enrolled 27,000 new members in the Legion during 1928-1929 and were instrumental in helping The American Legion to pass the one million members mark.

1932 — The Forty and 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 and 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 and 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 and Eight brought in 111,159 new American Legion members. The efforts of The Forty and Eight ultimately helped convince Congress to pass, over a presidential veto, the compensation act for America's war veterans.

1938 — The Forty and Eight began sponsoring Boys State in 20 states. Charitable efforts increased as Voitures provided negative pressure ventilators (iron lungs) for polio vic-



40 & 8 Charter

tims, sponsored anti-juvenile delinquency programs, and supported Legion Baseball and Scouting.

1941 — During World War II, The Forty and Eight rolled up its sleeves. Individual Forty and Eight members volunteered for military service, served as air raid wardens and in other civil defense capacities, aided in salvage drives, bond drives, blood drives, visited hospitals, and helped recruiting efforts for the Armed Services.

The Forty and Eight made a special effort to ensure every serviceman on transport ships overseas had a deck of cards. Over 60,000 decks were initially distributed, 610,498 decks in the second year, and a million decks in 1943-1944. Ultimately, over 4 million decks of cards were distributed.

The Forty and Eight also began issuing Nursing Scholarships. By September of 1942, over 100 nurses had received education grants.

Increasing American Legion membership was deemed vital to organizing veterans to help the war effort. The Forty and Eight exceeded its goals by gaining 211,301 new Legion members, thereby helping to bring the American Legion to an all-time high in membership.

1947 — The Forty and Eight began its long association with the Hanson's Disease (leprosy) research hospital in Carville, Louisiana, by funding all publication costs for the hospital's patient-published magazine "The Star." The Forty and Eight purchased a printing press and other equipment to help the patients carry on "their fight against the ignorance which surrounds this disease."

1949 — The Forty and Eight welcomed The Merci Train, also known as the French Gratitude Train.

The Merci Train was the 1949 Europe to U.S. response to the 1947 Friendship Train, which collected food-stuffs from American

donors for transport to the struggling people of post war France and Italy.

The Merci Train, composed of 49 cars, and filled with "gifts of gratitude"; the Merci Train arrived in New York City on February 3, 1949, and was divided amongst the 48 states with the remaining car to be shared by the District of Columbia and Hawaii.

Donations from the Merci Train came from over six million citizens of France and Italy in the form of dolls, statues, clothes, ornamental objects, art, and furniture.

1955 — The Forty and Eight formally established its Nurses Training program.

1959 (1960) — The Forty and Eight severed ties with the American Legion and became an independent organization.

There had been ripples of discontent for several years. The organizations were fundamentally different. The American Legion was large, easy to join and non-fraternal. The Forty and Eight was elite, by invitation only, and racially restrictive. The Forty and Eight had monetary resources many in the Legion deemed theirs. Conversely, The Forty and Eight objected to funding

(Continued on Page 4)



THE REVEILLE

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MEMBER



AMERICAN LEGION
PRESS
ASSOCIATION



COLORADO
PRESS ASSOCIATION



About The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1

The power of service to others not to self

This is your Invitation to join the American Legion Auxiliary LCW Unit One.

We are located at 5400 East Yale Avenue, Denver, CO. We meet on the second Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. monthly September through June. Membership applications can be obtained at the Post building or can be downloaded at www.legion-aux.org. Fillable or printable applications can be obtained after clicking on membership at the auxiliary web site. Unit 1 dues are \$30 per year which includes unit, department and national dues.

Senior membership is offered to anyone over the age of 18 who is an immediate family member of an American Legion member or a deceased veteran. Junior membership is offered to anyone from birth to the age of 18 who is immediate family member of an American Legion member or a deceased veteran. The exact dates of eligibility are found on the application form.

As the world's largest women's patriotic organization, the American Legion Auxiliary sponsors volunteer programs on the national and local levels, focusing on three major areas: veterans, young people and the community. Through your volunteerism in various programs and services involving veterans and communities, you can become a strong leader in your community, have the chance to educate children and advance the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Our Vision

The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion while becoming the premier service organization and foundation of every community providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families by shaping a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace and security.

Our Purpose

In fulfillment of our Mission, the American Legion Auxiliary adheres to the following purposes:

- To support and advocate for veterans, active military and their families
- To support the initiatives and pro-

grams of The American Legion

- To foster patriotism and responsible citizenship
- To award scholarships and promote quality education and literacy
- To provide educational and leadership opportunities that uphold the ideals of freedom and democracy and encourage good citizenship and patriotism in government
- To increase our capacity to deliver our Mission by providing meaningful volunteer opportunities within our communities
- To empower our membership to achieve personal fulfillment through Service, Not Self

We support the legislative agenda of The American Legion with elected officials at all levels of government (local, state, national). Learn how you can get involved.

Our Mission

In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

Our Values

Our statement of values is predicated on the founding purposes:

- Commitment to the four founding principles: Justice, Freedom, Democracy, Loyalty
- Service to God, our country, its veterans and their families
- Tradition of patriotism and citizenship
- Personal integrity and family values
- Respect for the uniqueness of individual members
- Truthful open communication in dealing with the public and our members
- Adherence to the adopted policies and rules

Getting Involved

Volunteering alongside women of all ages and different life experiences, by giving of your time and heart to the auxiliary programs, you



will have memories and develop life-long friendships. Your knowledge will give you the ability to mentor younger members as they learn life experiences and also as an adult member. The services provided by the American Legion Auxiliary directly and indirectly touch the lives of all Americans.

If you love your country and have a patriotic heart and want to learn more about the Auxiliary programs as well as other worthwhile charities, join us in our endeavors to participate and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion.

The following are brief descriptions of some of the programs Unit One is involved in. For further information contact the unit president or unit member.

Americanism: We work with Post One to provide flag education and other education to promote patriotism and citizenship in the youth and community.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund: Members helping members in time of crises. This fund, administered through the national auxiliary organization, is designed to assist eligible auxiliary members who have suffered a financial crisis, require food and shelter due to weather-related emergencies and natural disasters, or require educational offerings due to life changes such as a death of a spouse, divorce or separation. To be eligible the auxiliary member must have maintained membership for two years and dues must be current. Contact the unit president for an application. Unit One has at least one fund raising project for this program per year.

Education: Unit One has a scholarship fund to provide education for veterans at a local college.

Girls State: The unit sponsors delegates to attend a week at the American Legion Auxiliary Colorado Girls State. The purpose of this week is to provide citizenship training to girls who have completed their junior year of high school. The delegates are then eligible for election to serve as delegates to Girls Nation held each July in Washington, D.C.

Junior Activities: This program involves members from birth to 18 years of age. At age 18, junior mem-



Auxiliary Unit 1 Charter



Unit 1 President Donna Thompson presenting National Auxiliary President Nicole Clapp with a check, a donation to her project to help Veterans obtain adaptive sports equipment.

bers graduate to senior membership. The mission of this program is to promote volunteerism and services that involve veterans and to teach the principles of loyalty to God and country, justice, freedom, and democracy.

Membership: The life blood of any organization is its members. This committee focuses on recruitment and retaining members to reach established goals and to broaden public recognition of the American Legion Auxiliary, its mission and programs.

National Security: This committee maintains and promotes a strong national defense by providing the necessary means to strengthen our military families and prepare our citizenry for response to natural and man-made disasters.

Poppies: Each year, the unit pur-

chases poppies to distribute to the public for monetary donations to the poppy fund. These donations are used for veterans rehabilitation and children and youth programs.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: The mission of this committee is to initiate, sponsor, and participate in programs and services that assist and enhance the lives of veterans and their families; ensuring restoration and/or transition to normally functioning lives-physically, mentally, socially, and vocationally.

Fundraising: The unit sponsors Sunday breakfasts, Wednesday hamburger nights, Holiday fair (craft fair), and spaghetti suppers to raise money to fund our donations to benefit the state veterans nursing homes and other projects such as Past Presidents Nurses Scholarship, and the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.



Unit 1 President Donna Thompson giving Welcome Address for the Auxiliary 100th Anniversary Dinner (cake at right).



School supplies collected for Kenton Elementary School.



WHAT IS THE 40 & 8?

(Continued from Page 2)

Legion programs with large amounts of money without adequate recognition in return. The Legion pressed The Forty and Eight to change its constitution to be racially inclusive. These differences brought the two organizations to an impasse. Eventually, the American Legion refused to allow The Forty and Eight to hold its Promenade Nationale in the same city as the American Legion National Convention.

1963 — The Nurses Training Program sponsored 2,129 nurses for a total of \$248,047 in scholarships.

La Société de Femme, a fraternal organization of women is formed by female relatives of Forty and Eight members. This non-political, non-sectarian organization was formed for the sole purpose of supporting the programs and principles of La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux. Cabanes (units) were formed in 15 states with over 1,000 initial members.

1973 (1974) — The Forty and Eight, by a vote of 1,280 to 467, amended its constitution to prohibit any Voiture from restricting its membership based on race.

1977 — The Forty and Eight established the Outstanding Law Officer of the Year award program. John C. Wodetzki, Chief of Police of Lincoln, Illinois, was selected as the first recipient of the award.

1978 (1979) — The Charles W. Ardery Child Welfare Trust Fund granted \$15,600 to the National Jewish Hospital in Denver to purchase special medical equipment. A second grant of \$10,000 was made to Children's Hospital of St. Petersburg, Florida, for Newborn Intensive Care Unit equipment. \$16,600 was granted to Saint Jude Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, to purchase a new spectrophotometer. \$6,329,276 was reported expended in money, materials, mileage and man hours throughout The Forty and Eight for the Child Welfare program.

Voyageurs contributed a total of



Visiting the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden, Colorado, are, left to right, standing: Glen Stenson, Marilyn Vroman, Tom Yagley and Jim Atkins; seated: Don Oldfield.

6,481 pints of blood. The Carville Star program had 100 percent participation and contributions exceeded \$93,000.

1980 — The Forty and Eight began its partnership in the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service program. By **1985**, Voyageurs were participating in 230 medical facilities serving veterans.

1991 — The Forty and Eight revised its Preamble to reflect its charitable, non-profit nature. — "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 the Congress of the United States, and their widows and orphans; to participate in all memo-

rial services for and to be part in and to encourage others to participate in the proper observance of all days honoring veterans, to preserve the memories of our Services 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."

1994 — This year marked both the 100th year founding of the Gillis W. Long Hanson's Disease Center (leprosy research) in Carville, Louisiana, and the 50th anniversary of The Forty and Eight's sponsorship of the patient-published Carville "Star" Magazine.

The Forty and Eight established a national Youth Sports program, to encompass and expand beyond the narrower scope of the existing Junior Olympics program.



40 & 8 Boxcar in Iowa.

2001 — The September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on New York and the Pentagon occurred one day before The Forty and Eight Promenade Nationale was scheduled to begin in Hagerstown, Maryland, not far from Camp David. Terrorists crashed a civilian airliner just north of town. Voyageurs already at Hagerstown were briefly isolated by security forces. Many Voyageurs and spouses were stranded at airports, some were mid-air during the attacks, and several found it impossible to reach Hagerstown. The organization voted total support for America in its war on terror.

The Forty and Eight immediately began around-the-clock delivery of relief goods to New York and Washington, D.C. 215 tons of relief goods valuing \$881,000 were reported delivered in the aftermath of the attacks. 11 trips by truck were made over 24 days to "ground zero" in NYC.

2006 — Women veterans become eligible to join The Forty and Eight. Like their male counterparts, women too must be members of the American Legion and be invited to join The Forty and Eight.

The debate on this issue was between honoring the all-male past that created the founders of this organization and honoring today's male-and-female combat veterans who make up America's modern military. It was decided that the best way to honor the past, is by recognizing all of America's veterans.

2008 — The Promenade National brought a major change to the Constitution of La Société. With two-thirds of the members at the Promenade Nationale in Orlando, Florida,

voting in the affirmative; the prerequisite for American Legion membership was abolished. All honorably discharged American veterans and active duty U.S. service members are eligible for membership.

Formal invitation by a member in good standing remains a requirement.

2014 — The Promenade National brought change to the Constitution of La Société. Wishing to more accurately reflect the demographics of our membership, a new preamble was approved:

"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 have served or are now serving in the Armed Forces of the United States and their widows, widowers 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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VOITURE 97 OF THE 40 & 8

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And

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