

GRAND CABANE DE ILLINOIS



DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAMS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Americanism Program

When Americanism comes to mind, one thinks of things like love of country, respect for freedom, participation in a democratic society, white picket fences and 4th of July parades. Things like the red white and blue star spangled banner and singing 'My Country Tis of Thee' at baseball games. Hot dogs and apple pie are even synonymously American. For many generations patriotism has been engrained into the fabric of what makes us Americans.

The 40&8 has a long history of supporting patriotic acts and helping to keep America a better place to live. From participation in veteran memorial ceremonies, to marching in parades, to helping the sick and needy, the 40&8 have shown what it means to be true patriots.

The 40&8 Voyagers across the country spend countless hours educating young Americans in flag etiquette and the significance of the flag colors thru their "Flags for First Graders" Program. Each year they go into the elementary schools with a flag for each first grader and they spend time teaching what the flag and patriotism is all about. This also introduces the kids to the world of veterans.

Another patriotic thing the 40&8 does is to give out the annual Americanism Award that takes place yearly at Promenade Nationale. Under the guidance of the Nationale Americanism Directeur, the Voiture's Americanism Committee search for a nationally known citizen who is has done something that is patriotic and who exhibits true patriotism. Then that nominee is given the Americanism Award and shown gratitude and honor for their selfless acts and contributions to society.

LA Societe Cabanes can do so much for our communities that count for the Americanism program: Just a few things are listed below, there is so much more out there that all you have to do is look around.

- Buy and sell the Americanism pins.
- Volunteer for the VAVS (Veteran Administration Voluntary Service)
- Assist foreigners to become U.S. Citizens.
- Participate in Veterans week.
- Participate in parades.
- Place flags on graves.
- Cleaning untended gravestones for Memorial Day.
- Place pennies on veterans grave stones.
- Provide meals for veterans at the local chateau or post.
- Provide transportation for a veteran to a doctor's appointment , shopping , or running errands.
- Donate flags "Flags for First Graders" or better yet take part in the day.
- Visit VA clinic or VA hospitals.
- Send veterans at the VA hospitals Christmas Cards.
- Visit Veterans in the local nursing homes.
- Hold bake sales for donations to the VA Nursing homes in your state.
- Collect Socks and care packages for the vets in nursing homes.
- Hold an American Essay writing contest for students at the local high school.

- Assist with Boy scouts and girl scouts.
- Create Hero Signs to honor those soldiers in your home town who are serving in the military.
- Donate to homeless veterans.
- Donate to homeless shelters.
- Volunteer in hour local food pantries.
- Hold soup dinner events to raise money for flags and other patriotic things.
- Write thank you cards to first responders.
- Support your local firemen by taking them food and water when they are on a long fire call.
- Donate time and or money to the "Honor Flight Program"
- Do a shoe box gift drive to help local veterans.
- Do "blessing in a back pack" programs for the homeless.
- Volunteer with ESDA or the Red Cross to help with disasters.
- Run or walk in relay for life.
- Put on funeral dinners for military veterans families.
- Volunteer for highway clean-up projects.
- Christmas Baskets for the needy.
- Hospital volunteering.
- Volunteer or donate to "meals on wheels".
- Do Flag burning ceremonies.
- Do Memorial and Veteran Day ceremonies.
- Good neighbor yard clean ups and repairs for the elderly or disabled.
- Volunteer at the polling booths.
- Volunteer on suicide hotlines.
- Volunteer at your local Humane Societies.
- Donate blood.

Youth Sports Program

In 1994 the 40&8 established the Youth Sports Program with the motto: "No athlete should stay at home for a lack of funds." The mission of the program is to assist athletes, ages 7 to 20, in all amateur sports programs, to promote sportsmanship, citizenship, and to emphasize safety to athletes and coaches alike.

While establishing the Program it was also decided to expand on the boundaries of the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympics (AAU/JO) program to include all youth sports and all athletes. The program was run under the auspices of Child Welfare until 1995 when it split off to become its own program.

The basis of the youth sports program is assisting young athletes or teams in being able to partake in their sports whether it is with buying equipment, uniforms, supplies, or sponsorship of an individual athlete on the Locale level. Nationale has funding available to provide assistance to young athletes thru the Grande. They allow \$1000.00 per Grande per year. Voitures limits are \$200.00 but that can be up to the full amount if only one Voiture is seeking funding.

This program encompasses all amateur sports for all youth's ages 7 to 20 years of age. The type of sports include softball, soccer, bowling, baseball, football, basketball, table tennis, volleyball, gymnastics, trampoline and tumbling, weight lifting, hockey, martial arts, wrestling, swimming, track and field events, Special Olympics, and any other youth sport that is an individual event or team effort. At Promenade Nationale 2017 team aerobic dance and equestrian activities were also added to the list of included sports. Financial need is a prerequisite for qualification.

Assisting in the program helps young athletes to grow into adults who understand team work, sportsmanship, good citizenship, and leadership. It strengthens their bodies and minds and teaches them to be respectable leaders in society.

There are several ways that La Societe Cabanes can contribute to the Youth Sports Programs:

- Buy and help sell Youth Sports Pins so funding can go back to the Nationale Program.
- Collect "Change for Champions"
- Assist with Voiture fundraisers or hold youth sports fundraiser of their own earmarking the money to go to the youth sports program.
- Create a Youth Sports Program of your own on the Locale level.
- Seek out and report needy Youth Groups to their Voiture Locale.
- Get out and involved with the youth sports programs by assisting them in their daily needs such as providing bottled water, Gatorade, working at concession stands, ticket sales at games, transportation, program promotion, or helping in any way that each program will allow you to help.

Nurses Training Program

Nurses have and always will be essential to society. There has always been a shortage of nurses. From the times of Clara Barton society has realized the need for nurses. It was she, a simple self-taught nurse who founded the American Red Cross which was a huge life saver during war times. How many men would have perished had it not been for a nurse? In the beginning the shortage in nurses was due to lack of schools, but as time went on the main reason became a lack of student funding to pay for schools. Funds were needed to cover tuitions and educational supplies and the students were having a hard time paying for school. With the coming of WWII the need for nurses during wartime was evident. There was a great drive to help with the war effort during the war and in 1941 the 40&8 was out there helping. They were great volunteers. Some volunteered for the military service while others did a variety of other behind the line jobs like air raid wardens, civil defense, salvage drives, bond drives, blood drives, recruiting, and some visited hospitals. During all this they realized that there was a drastic need for more nurses and during that year of 1941 the 40&8 issued their first Nurses Training Scholarship. By the time September of 1942 rolled up the 40&8 had issued over 100 scholarships to needy nursing students. In 1946 the nation once again suffered a huge shortage of nurses and the effects were felt all through society, including being felt by our Veterans. In 1955 Voiture Nationale formerly established the nationwide Nurses Training Program. They challenged each Grande and Locale to develop a Nurses Training Program and it became one of the most important programs at Locale level. The Nurses Training Program was designed to provide assistance to nursing students who needed the extra help to achieve the goal of becoming a nurse. Each student must fill out an application and meet specific criteria to qualify for the scholarship. The guidelines concerning number of scholarships and amount of money awarded per scholarship vary with each Locale according to the amount of funding the Locales can raise. The types of fundraising also vary among the Locales. Once the student goes thru the process of meeting the criteria and is accepted into the scholarship program they receive a specified amount of money to go towards their school needs per semester. Since the beginning of the Program in 1955 the scholarship program has resulted in nearly 50,000 students being assisted. Today nurses are still needed for almost every aspect of health care whether it is for giving birth, working with pediatrics, nursing homes, hospitals, Doctor offices, surgeries, emergency rooms, missionaries, or on the battle field. There is also still a huge need for assistance with school funding.

There are many ways in which a La Societe Cabane can contribute to their Locales Nurses Training Program:

- Assist your Voiture with their fundraising programs.
- Organize your own fundraising programs to earn money for Nurses training. (luncheons, soup dinners, bake sales, garage sales, craft sales, etc.)
- Start a "Nickels for Nursing" program.
- Start a student book fund collection.
- Look for scholarship applicants for the Voiture.
- Buy and sell your Voitures Nurses Training Program Pins.

- If your Voiture Locale doesn't have a Nurses Training Program make a donation to the Boland Trust fund.

The George B. Boland Nurses Training scholarship Trust Fund

There is a Nationale Scholarship Program that can be used when Locales have exhausted their scholarship funds but who still have needs. In 1976 the Boland Nurses Training Scholarship Trust Fund was created in the honor of the 1952 Chef de Chemin de Fer George B. Boland. He was also Nationale Advocate for many years. The Trust fund was set up for the specific need of providing additional funding. The Trust is administered by Voiture Nationale on a yearly basis with the year starting on July 1st and ending June 30th of the following year. There are qualifications and applications available thru Nationale. The Boland Trust fund has 4 different levels of funding:

1. TRADITIONAL - with a maximum of \$1,000.00 per academic year for Voitures who had supported at least one scholarship student.
2. LIMITED – with a maximum \$500.00 per academic year for Voitures who had a program but were unable to support a scholarship student.
3. ADVANCED DEGREE - with the amount of \$1,000.00 per academic year but in this case the scholarship is awarded by Nationale to applicants who meet the criteria of advancing their degree .
4. AT-LARGE – with the amount of \$1,000.00 per academic year submitted by a Grande Voiture with the applicant originating from a Locale within the geographic limits of that Grande.

Child Welfare Program

The Child Welfare Program is the first and oldest 40&8 program remaining in existence today. The program was founded in order to help the children of the many service men lost in WWI. At that time in the world families were almost entirely dependent on the man of the household for financial support. To lose a husband or father was a tremendous emotional and financial catastrophe for a family.

In 1922 the 40&8 membership gave a percentage of their dues to help care for children who were war orphans. The Child Welfare program became official in 1923 when the 40&8 became affiliated with the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary. The three organizations as a group held promoting the interests of child welfare as an important purpose in their organizations. Giving to that purpose became a foundational goal. They helped support orphans, supplied medical equipment sick children with everything from diphtheria to polio, they supplied medicine and vaccines, clothing for the destitute, supported youth camps, anti -juvenile delinquency programs, Legion Baseball, And even Scouting just to mention a few. Their history is rooted in helping Children.

In 1959 the 40&8 and American Legion parted ways and in 1964 after recognizing that its previous donations to the Legion's Child Welfare Program had been in excess of 1.2 million dollars, the 40&8 established the new Charles W. Ardery Trust Fund for Child Welfare as an irrevocable trust, seeded it with \$300,000. The Trust fund is in honor of Charles W. Ardery who was They drew up rules governing the how the fund would be dispersed as reimbursements to Locale Voitures for rendering aid/assistance to children in need on the Locale level.

The Charles W. Ardery Trust Fund states:

“The primary function of the Charles W. Ardery Trust Fund is to provide reimbursements of funds expended by a Voiture Locale or a Grande Voiture in meeting the emergent needs of children 17 years of age or younger. ‘ Emergent is defined as: A situation which has developed of a serious nature demanding prompt attention.’ This situation may arise out of natural disasters, i.e., floods, tornadoes, hurricane, fire, etc. Emergent cases are given prime consideration and are undertaken by the Local Voiture where established agencies, (Red Cross, churches, welfare, etc.), are unable to move rapidly or cannot act at all. However, this aid is not intended to replace or supplement that assistance which may be available through established agencies.”

The Ardery Trust sets limits of \$300.00 per child and \$1000.00 per family. There are qualifying guidelines to the program. While the trust is set up to cover replacement clothing, medical expenses, and subsistence, it will only cover what is not already covered by any other organization or civil agency. Applying for the funding is done thru Nationale.

Child welfare on a Locale level can include many ways to help children in need. While not every need is included in the trust fund or covered by Nationale, at the Locale level we can go beyond those needs and find other ways to cover different expenses of helping children who are in need of help. We have the largest population of needy children in the United States that we have ever had. There are so many things that children need today that the ‘need’ list could be endless. School supplies, hats mittens and

coats for winter, books to read, food to eat, summer lunch programs, clothing, beds to sleep in, toys for Christmas, a Thanksgiving dinner, money for going to camp, medical cost help, pediatric ward toys, music and arts equipment, and the list goes on and on. There are displaced children who live in homeless shelters, in squalor shacks with no heat, or even in cars with homeless parents. There are children out there who are going without food or clean clothes. There are still children in the United States who have no clean running water. While we can't cure all of humanity's problems, we can manage to help a few children within our abilities.

Child Welfare activities also include other possible ways of helping and assisting children. According to La Societe de Femmes Certificate and Awards regulations Child welfare activities include volunteering, supporting, and assisting in any of the following:

- All playground groups
- Programs for orphans and children's homes
- Programs at hospitals and schools
- Band and high school groups
- Boys Clubs and Boys Ranches
- Boys Town and Boys State
- Children's dental and health clinics or medical needs.
- Easter, T.B.Seals, March of Dimes, etc.
- Distribution of toys, food, and clothing.
- Drum and Bugle Corps
- Flag Presentations
- Girls Club and Girls State
- Girl Scouts and Brownies
- Easter egg hunts and parties
- Little League
- Junior Baseball
- Parties (Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.)
- Salvation Army activities for children
- Schools for the blind, etc.
- Shriner hospital Drive, etc.
- Volunteer service in Children's hospitals

There are many ways in which LA Societe Cabanes can help with the Child Welfare Program:

- Work with your Voiture and assist with their Child Welfare program and projects.
- Buy and sell Child Welfare pins for your Voiture.
- Seek out children in need by listening to the news, reading the paper and social media.
- Develop a Child Welfare Program for your Cabane and assist children on the Locale level.

POW/MIA Program

The day was June 30, 1967, the place, a jungle somewhere in South Vietnam. A United States Marine Core Lance Corporal by the name of Dewey Killen III was in the middle of the Viet Nam War. On that day Corporal Killen was reported missing in action as he served with the Third Reconnaissance Battalion. Lance Corporal Dewey Killen III did not make it home. He was not the first, but one of many to come up missing or be taken prisoner during wartime. Service personnel declared as prisoners of War or Missing in Action have been the subject of government accounting procedures since WWI and sadly the list continues. Veterans and citizens everywhere pay homage to our POW/MIA's. They are fathers, sons, uncles, brothers; these are our soldiers who aren't able to come home.

While as an organization the 40&8 has always honored and paid homage to our POW/MIA's they wanted to come up with a way to actually help the families that POW/MIAs left behind. In 1995 the 40&8 established a new Nationale Committee called the POW/MIA Committee to come up with a way to help the former POW's and families of MIA's. In 1996 the Nationale Committee came up with a great idea of a survivor's scholarship fund. This was the birth of the 40&8 POW/MIA Scholarship Fund Program. In 1997 the Scholarship fund was named in honor of Lance Corporal Dewey Killen III USMC.

The scholarship trust fund was created expressly for any spouses, sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, great grandsons, and great granddaughters, widow or widower of any known verified soldiers who were listed as POW/ MIAs and served in the U.S. Military after WWI Draft day of May 28, 1917. These scholarships are basically funded thru a perpetual trust and use only the earned interest and any cash reserves not required for operational expenses which means that money needs to come in to help fund the scholarships and keep the program going. The sale of POW/MIA pins is the primary source of funding. The La Societe Cabanes also help support the scholarships with their " pennies for pow" project.

There are eligibility requirements for the scholarship as with all scholarships:

- Verifiable proof of relationship to soldier who was POW/MIA.
- School transcripts.
- Financial need.
- Written acceptance of enrollment from the college.
- Continuous of funding will be determined by grade average of C and above.
- The Directeur decides case by case on whether the funds will be paid directly to the college or to the student.

In our efforts to bring awareness to the POW/MIA Scholarship Program we cannot fail to bring awareness to our POW/MIAs. We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge our Brothers and bring awareness to the fact that they are still out there somewhere.

There are many ways for La Societe Cabanes to help support the POW/MIA Program:

- Assist your Voiture with any of the POW/MIA fundraising efforts.

- Collect "Pennies for POWs" and send the money to Nationale.
- Buy and sell the POW/MIA pins every year.
- Fundraise for POW/MIA (bake sales, garage sales, dinners, POW/MIA merchandise sales, raffles, etc)
- Bring awareness to the POW/MIAs by volunteering and taking part in parades, doing a table ceremony at banquets or for large gatherings, and even just talking to people. Awareness brings change and change brings funding.
- Visit a POW/MIA wall near you. Shake the hand of a veteran there and listen to their story then tell them about our mission.
- Hand out fliers at local veteran organizations telling about the scholarship program.

Carville Star

The Carville Star program is one of the 4-&8's seven major programs. This is a program that no other veteran organization does. What is Carville Star? Carville Star is an advocacy program supporting a cure for a disease that has been around since the Biblical days.

For Carville it all began in 1894 with patients actually being shipped like cattle in barges up the Mississippi River to an abandoned sugar plantation which was being used to warehouse and treat leprosy patients in Carville, Louisiana. This old plantation was the birth place of the institution that years later would be rebuilt and named the Gillis W. Long Hansen's Disease Center. In the past Hansen disease (leprosy) victims lost all of their freedoms because of the bigotry and lack of knowledge about leprosy. Eventually the cause of the disease was discovered to be a bacterial infection and scientists changed the name of the disease to Hansen's disease. Even with the name change victims still suffered involuntary seclusion and discrimination by society. Sadly they were still called lepers.

In 1931 a patient named Stanley Stein began a small newspaper called "The Star". It was a way for patients to get information to the public about the problems and issues related to having Hansen's in a time in history when patient advocacy didn't include such diseases. The fact that veterans were included in the patient population brought the Carville Center to the attention of Veterans organizations. One of those organizations was the 40&8. It was thru the Veterans Organizations advocacy, donations, and legislation that quality of care was improved for the entire patient population.

In 1943 the 40&8 Grande du Louisiana presented Stanley Stein with a new printing press. As time passed, knowledge of the disease has grown and the Center has long since closed. However the fight is not over; the disease and its stigma still exist today.

The Star magazine is still being privately published to help educate the world about the true facts relating to Hansen's disease and to advocate for its victims who are still out there in the world. There are over a dozen clinics treating Hansen's disease just in the United States alone. There is still a need for advocacy.

Today support from the 40&8 goes to help with the operation of the Hansen's Disease Museum in Carville, the various Hansen's clinics, and 'The Star' magazine. The 40&8 takes pride in supporting projects for the Carville Historic District which not only includes the Museum but also a cemetery where the past Hansen victims were laid to rest.

There are many ways La Societe Cabanes can contribute to the Carville Star program:

- Contribute \$50.00 to "Buy a Country", "Buy a State", or "Buy a Clinic" program and donate to help the clinics receive proper research materials.
- Donate funds to support operation of the Hansen's disease Museum in Carville Louisiana.
- Sell subscriptions to "The Star" magazine. They are published biannually and cost only \$2.00.
- Buy and help sell the Carville Star pins that are produced by the 40&8 to wear on chapeaus and berets.

Aide to Voiture

One always hears about "Aid to Voiture", but we seldom if ever hear exactly what "Aid to Voiture" means. It's not complicated as Aid to Voiture is just exactly what it says. What it entails is also equally uncomplicated. Any aid or help that a Dame gives to the Locale Voiture or its programs is considered "Aid to Voiture". All of the work that a Dame does that falls under the Americanism, Nurses Training, Child Welfare, Carville Star, POW/MIA, and Youth Sports Programs count towards "Aide to Voiture". In addition to program work; all the work you do to assist your Voiture such as assisting with dinners, registration tables, book work, phone calls, mailings, help with fundraising events, etc, all count towards "aid to Voiture". Not just the work you do counts as Aide to Voiture! The miles you travel, hours you spend, money you spend, and the value of any material you use to help out the Voiture all count as well. When you fill out your Program reports be sure to also fill out the "Aid to Voiture" report and include everything in it as well. It is our job as Dames to always be there with a helping hand for our Voitures. We just need to keep track of what we do.

The Boxcar Association Program

Trains have always played an important role in transportation all over the world from hauling cargo to passengers. During wartime they were used for supplies and soldiers which is how the 40& 8 got its name. They could transport 8 horses or 40 soldiers in one boxcar. Trains were used as a primary source of transferring goods across countries. In 1947 France and Italy were suffering the aftermath of WWII. Drew Pearson was 50 years old at the time and a columnist for the "Washington Merry Go Round". As daily news reports from overseas came across his desk; the conditions in worn torn Europe hit him very hard. These sentiments moved him to call for action. While he was not always very popular with his political views and tended to write articles that were on the edge of controversy for the time, this gave him a huge following. He proposed a plan to collect supplies in America and ship them overseas. The "Friendship Train" departed from Los Angeles on November 7, 1947 with eight boxcars. The idea was for donations to be collected along the route as it crossed the entire country. By the time it made it to New York eleven days later the train was 700 boxcars long with donations worth over \$ 40 million thanks to the American people. These boxcars were shipped overseas to France where the grateful people of the French Veterans Association replied in kind with 49 WWI boxcars full of mementos to the American people. We called it the "Gratitude Train" and gave each of the then 48 states a boxcar to display as an act of goodwill between nations. Boxcars became synonymous with the idea of giving, gratitude, and goodwill.

In 1965 the 40&8 founded The Nationale Boxcar Association. Their primary purpose was to preserve the boxcar as the symbol of the 40&8. During wartime boxcars were the primary way of transporting soldiers to the front line in France. In keeping with the idea of the "Friendship Train" and doing good things for people they set up a fund. The NBCA donates contributions to hospitals, children's homes, orphanages, and VAVS hospitals and clinics. They also donate to the National Boland Trust Fund, the Charles Ardery Child Welfare Trust Fund, the 40&8 Magazine, Nationales Membership Committee, Law Officer of the Year Program, and many other special 40&8 programs. Funding is raised by sales of the Boxcar Pins, Crew Cards, and Associate Crew Cards. Crew Cards are only sold to 40&8 members, but the Associate Crew Cards are sold to anyone who wants to make a donation.

There are many ways that LaSociete Cabanes can help raise funds for the NBCA:

- Buy Associat Cards and Boxcar Pins from your Voiture Locale.
- Help sell Boxcar Pins, Patches, and Associate Cards.
- Participate in Child Welfare programs.
- Raise money thru fundraisers for the NBCA.

Boxcar Hobos

The Boxcar Hobos are a fun loving group of Voyagers and Dames who promote the Boxcar Association through their work on Child Welfare projects. The Boxcar Hobos were officially established in 1994. They visit hospitals, nursing homes, etc., to entertain those who are sick or isolated. They are brought to Nationale Promenade every year to help with the 40&8's Children's party. These Voyagers and Dames dress up like hobos and clowns and make the afternoon a fun time for the children at the party. There are also members of this group that don't dress up but serve in other capacities like food service and making sure their young guests get to eat. This group has annual dues and is open to any Voyager or Dame in good standing. It cost \$5.00 a year to belong or you can pay for a life membership for an amount that varies according to your age. If your dues lapses then your membership is dropped. For more information or to find application forms just look on the National 40&8 website under the Boxcar program.