

# THE KORAN IRON HORSE

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THOMAS WILLIAM FAY, JR. AWARD FY 2005

JOHN W. EMERSON AWARD FY 2001 – 2007 - 2010



May – June 2011

# America

Still the Land of the Free . . .  
Because of the Brave

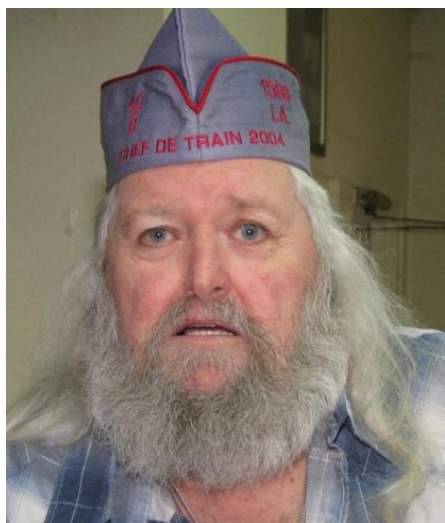
God bless and protect our military troops



## Voiture 1588 Officers 2010-2011

Chef de Gare	Donnie Glasgow	Commis Intendant	Hank Kwiatkowski
Chef de Train	James Vise	Commis Voyageur	Steve Chesney
Chef de Train	Larry Aytes	Garde de la Porte	Paul Roland
Correspondant	John DeMoss	Aumonier	Carl A. Barr
Avocat	Burt Pitts	Publiciste	Carl A. Barr
Conducteur	Jesse Morrison	Cheminot	James Brumley
Sous Conducteur	Jack Steranski	Cheminot	Robert Zirkle
Lampiste	J. R. Johnson	Cheminot	Paul Strange
Medicin	Chuck Rodgers	Cheminot	Dick LaDue

### Chef de Gare Donnie Glasgow



Election is at the 23 June Promenade—installation of officers will be on 28 July.

Please make an effort to be at the Cheminot and Promenade always on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, beginning at 6:00 PM. at the home of A/L Post 388 in Koran. Voiture 1588 has fifty-four Voyageurs; it is a rare thing for more than eight to be here for a Promenade or Cheminot. Come out and be a part of our programs and activities.

We welcomed three new Voyageurs on 21 May—Andy Coburn, Jack Fesmire and Walter Sedleiki, wrecked at Voiture 137.

Your 40 & 8 Dues are still only \$25.00 per year. Please send your \$25.00 check to: Commissaire Intendant Hank Kwiatkowski, 5401 Highway 527, Haughton, LA 71037. Hank will in turn send your 2012 Membership Card to you.

### *Chef Donnie*



Voyageur J. R. Johnson of West Monroe will be installed as Chef de Gare of Voiture 1588 at the Promenade on 28 July.

This photo was taken at the Testimonial Dinner during the Louisiana Department Convention in Alexandria.

Wreck at Voiture 137 – 21 May 2011



George Wine 137, Andy Coburn 1588, Glen Wilburn 137, Jack Fesmire 1588, Walter Sedleiki 1588, James Beard 137, Ed Jackson 137, Charles Davis 137



National Cheminot Joe Caldwell served as Obligating Chef and Grand Chef de Gare Don Schreiber was Wrecking Chef.

Larry Aytes played the Mayor and Chuck Rodgers was the owner of the Soft Soap Manufacturing Co.



Andy Coburn



Jack Fesmire



Walter Sedleicki



George Wine



Glen Wilburn



James Beard



Ed Jackson



Charles Davis

## 4<sup>th</sup> District A/L Spring Conference



Travis Brevell of Post 202 in Benton was elected as 4<sup>th</sup> District Commander for 2011-2012. He is here congratulated by Nick Yates who is now 4<sup>th</sup> District Department Executive Committeeman



Nick Yates is with Legionnaire Harold Culpepper, Jr., 4th District winner of the *Mike Gehr Blue Cap Award*. Luther Riley of 7<sup>th</sup> District was selected as the Department winner.



Our selection of Educator of the Year from District is Stephanie Johnson of Byrd High School in Shreveport. Her father is Legionnaire Steve Laverty of Post # 14. With them is Carl A. Barr, 4<sup>th</sup> District representative on the Department Education & Scholarship Committee.



STANDING: John Taylor, Travis Brevell, John Powers, Harold Burson SEATED: Don Vallery, Bob Petrus, Shawn Bohannon

The conference was held at Cedar Grove Post 6 in Shreveport.

[PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE COURTESY OF SHAWN BOHANNON, VOITURE 137]

## Department Convention 10-12 May 2011



New Department Officers are sworn in—Color Bearer Mike Strother, Sergeant at Arms Joe Malone, Color Bearer David “Skip” Butler, Vice Commander Terry Sharp, Vice Commander Billy Ray Foley, Commander Larry Abshire.



A gathering of Eagles (sort of)—Past National Commander Bill Detweiler, ANEC Harold Burson, National Commander Jimmie Foster, National Vice Commander Russell Henry, National Executive Committeeman Charlie Aucoin. All but Foster are Department of Louisiana Legionnaires.



National Commander Jimmie Foster offers congratulations to Department Commander Larry Abshire

Commander Foster is from the Department of Alaska. He visited with us through the entire weekend—said that he enjoyed the Louisiana hospitality.

Gil Lovelady and Paul Greer enjoyed some Louisiana fun with National Commander Jimmie Foster.



ANEC Harold Burson and Norma at the testimonial dinner on Friday evening.

## Memorial Day Weekend in Washington, D. C.

Chef de Chemin de Fer Hank Kwiatkowski, National Directeur of Nurses Training Dr. Kenneth LaFleur, Patricia LaFleur, and your Editeur were joined by about a hundred other Voyageurs and LaFemmes from all around the country for a weekend of honoring the graves of fallen veterans in Arlington National Cemetery and other smaller cemeteries in that area. Highlight of the weekend (for me) was the laying of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington. President Pat Jones presented a wreath on behalf of LaFemmes Nationale.



The VFW National Honor Guard (in white) accompanied wreath layers. Pictured with the 40 & 8 wreath are Chef de Chemin de Fer Hank Kwiatkowski and National Aumonier Carl A. Barr. The other gold blazers are on Sous Chefs de Chemin de Fer—from left, Deiter Grethmann, Joe Steil, Kent Molen (partially hidden), and Donald Emley.

[PHOTO BY DAVE HILL]

Saturday the group planted flags at veterans' graves in several smaller cemeteries. We visited the graves of 40 & 8 Founder Joseph Breen and of General of the Armies John J. Pershing on Sunday, presenting floral arrangements at each. Sunday evening we had a 40 & 8 dinner at the American Legion Post in Lorton.

We have posted more than a hundred photos of the weekend events on <http://www.cajunlink.org>

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# MEDAL OF HONOR



## MARCARIO GARCIA

Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army – WWII – Germany  
(Then Private)

Rank and organization: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company B, 22d Infantry, 4th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Grosshau, Germany, 27 November 1944. Entered service at: Sugarland, Tex. Born: 20 January 1920, Villa de Castano, Mexico. G.O. No.: 74, 1 September 1945.

**Citation:** While an acting squad leader of Company B, 22d Infantry, on 27 November 1944, near Grosshau, Germany, he single-handedly assaulted 2 enemy machinegun emplacements. Attacking prepared positions on a wooded hill, which could be approached only through meager cover, his company was pinned down by intense machinegun fire and subjected to a concentrated artillery and mortar barrage. Although painfully wounded, he refused to be evacuated and on his own initiative crawled forward alone until he reached a position near an enemy emplacement. Hurling grenades, he boldly assaulted the position, destroyed the gun, and with his rifle killed 3 of the enemy who attempted to escape. When he rejoined his company, a second machinegun opened fire and again the intrepid soldier went forward, utterly disregarding his own safety. He stormed the position and destroyed the gun, killed 3 more Germans, and captured 4 prisoners. He fought on with his unit until the objective was taken and only then did he permit himself to be removed for medical care. S/Sgt. (then private) Garcia's conspicuous heroism, his inspiring, courageous conduct, and his complete disregard for his personal safety wiped out 2 enemy emplacements and enabled his company to advance and secure its objective.

<http://www.history.army.mil/moh.html>