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THE HAT BOX

Greetings from Le Chapeau National



Lisa Hoyland

Greetings, Partners, and Happy October and Happy Thanksgiving!

All Aboard!

I first want to say, Thank You for electing me as your Le Chapeau National for 2026-2027. As we begin our Tracks we have been building in October, we are securing a strong foundation for our Partners, who travel the miles ahead, we must first make sure we have a strong foundation, **YOU**-our Partners! It was great seeing so many of you in Rapid City, South Dakota as we boarded the train. I am excited to begin visiting Departementaux and meeting Partners along the way. During each visit, I look forward to hearing about the wonderful things you are doing for our Special Children, learning about your local projects, and sharing more about Le Chapeau All Partners Project. This is a project that is very close to my heart as we support babies in the NICU at National Jewish Health. I am asking each Partner to Contribute $8.40 toward this year's National Chapeau project.

"Miles" has arrived!

You may have heard the Clickety – Clack of the Wish Expresses "Miles" begins traveling from the station. Each stop is an opportunity to celebrate the work being done, encourage one another and invite others to climb aboard.

Partnership is so important, and our first goal date is right around the corner, December 31st! Our goal is 50%. Let's try and get a least one new Partner this month. At Post Marche Pouvoir, I gave out our first challenge. Think of three women you could invite to become a Partner and join us on the Partnership Train.

Now, here is my November Challenge:

Write one encouragement card. Invite ONE potential Partner. It can be a card to a Partner who needs a little encouragement, a thank you to someone who has gone the extra mile, or simply a note letting someone know their work matters. And then, invite one potential Partner to Join you at a meeting or event. Let her see firsthand friendship, fellowship and purpose that make our organization so special. You never know, your invitation could be the first mile of someone else's journey with us. Each month, we will have one simple focus to carry with us.

Our Monthly Journey

September focus; use the B**e Kind** sign at your Departemental meetings and your events? I hope you will continue spreading kindness wherever our Wish Express stops. **Continued on page #2**

October Focus – Building track

Our Monthly Focus gives us something simple to put into action as we travel together throughout the year. Our train is moving, our track is being built, and there many miles ahead of us. Let's make every mile count! Different Les Departementaux and Les Petit Salons, Different miles. One mission.

Le Chapeau National Lisa's Special All Partners Project



Blood Analysis System for NICU every year, nearly 10% of babies in the U.S. are born prematurely and spend the first weeks or months of their lives in a neonatal intensive care unit NICU. After they leave the NICU, parents are tasked with caring for their fragile newborns, while the babies are still on oxygen.

The Post NICU Clinic at National Jewish Health supports the ongoing needs of these babies after they leave the NICO. We help them learn to swallow and breathe safely on their own, while also managing their extreme susceptibility to infection. By following these children closely, we can identify issues early and help them thrive.

To help grow this program, we plan to purchase equipment to better serve small babies and other children on oxygen. For instance, the team seeks to purchase at least one epoc@ Blood Analysis System, a handheld, wireless device that provides blood gas, electrolyte and metabolite results that help determine whether the child is on the appropriate level of oxygen.

Currently, babies must go to another hospital for this blood test. With the blood analysis system, a nurse or respiratory therapist can take the blood sample in the National Jewish Health clinic, receive results in as little as 30 seconds and make appropriate oxygen adjustments within minutes.

The epoc@ Blood Analysis System costs about $5,000 and the Post NICU team plans to invest in more than one device. Our Goal will help us give them 4 units to service more children.

I would like to close with Guiding Thought:

Theme words for this Holiday Season.

- **November – Gratitude**
- **December – Joy**
- **January – New Beginnings**

"Guided by hope and carries forward together, every mile of this journey is dedicated to our Special Children." With love, friendship and fellowship, Le Chapeau National Lisa



ONE TRAIN RIDE AT A TIME - ALL ABOARD!!!

National Chapeau's Passe' luncheon meeting - September 2026 in South Dakota

“EXTRA, EXTRA, READ ALL ABOUT IT”

The following discussion was held on National Passe' Awards. The re-naming is listed below: The Beverly Stites Award – To be awarded annually to the Salon Departemental with the largest gain over previous year, based on per capita, by May 31 of each year, will now be the **Linda Diebel Award**. The Elsie Hemphill Award - To be awarded to the Departemental showing the greatest percentage of partnership gain as of March 31. will now be the **Barbara Rutherford Award**

National Chapeaux welcomed Sandra Winchester as Honorary National Chapeau Passe for the 13 years of service as La Secretaire/La Caissiere Nationale. Congratulation Sandra and enjoy your retirement.

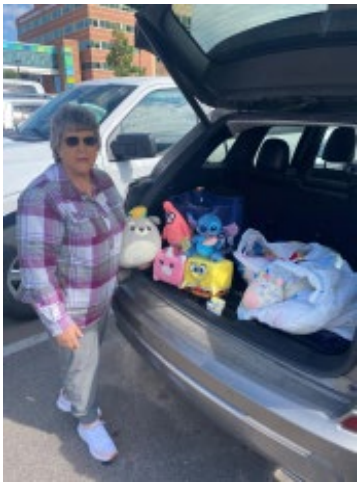


“ALL ABOARD for our SPECIAL CHILDREN”
Hop on the train as “Every Mile Matters”
Leadership—October Fall Bulletin

I hope you all enjoy the beautiful fall weather and foliage.

First and foremost, we encourage you to use the tools provided to all partners. Your Ritual tells you how to conduct a meeting, initiation, and installation. You have a Procedure Manual and the Handbook. Take some time to read, it will help you understand the 8 and 40 and enable you to tell others. Chapeau’s, please provide your Partners with what their office or committee duties include. Each one needs to know what is expected of them and when their reports are due. Have a good meeting. Then relax and enjoy your fun and fellowship!

Linda Kilmer, Leadership



This month I would like to highlight Pamela Way and give her a special shout out for making the first of stuffed animals and toys delivery to NJH for our Special Children. Thank you for being such an important part of this journey. I’m looking forward to seeing where the Wish Express takes us next!

Have you got On Board Yet?

With warmest regards,

Chapeau Lisa National Chapeau 2026–2027



"Get on Board for Our Special Children"
The Southern Division 8 & 40 Salons are proud to promote partnership, unity, and service as we work together to support our special children. Through our partnership, we encourage every Salon member to get involved and make a difference. We are excited to support the National Chapeau's Special Project and its mission of helping children in need. Each Salon is encouraged to participate by contributing donations and encouraging others to join our efforts. Our donations will help support important National programs, including the Nursing Scholarship Program and Child Well Being. These programs provide meaningful opportunities, support, and resources that can positively impact lives. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a difference. Together, we can strengthen our commitment to service and show what can be accomplished through teamwork. Let us continue to build strong partnerships throughout the Southern Division. We encourage all members to share the theme and spread the word about this important mission. As we come together, let us remember that our children deserve love, care, encouragement, and opportunities for a brighter future. Congratulations de Florida and de Kentucky, I have heard and seen that you are having your Fall meetings **Get on Board for our Special Children!**

***L' Aumonier Nationale* - Dorothy Jackson**

I hope all of you are doing well. We have the prayer email up and running so if you have a partner in need of prayers, please let me know. Also, I would like to send emails out for birthdays, anniversary's births and any special blessing you would like to share with the rest of our partners.
Let's just not send emails for partners in need of prayers for but the many blessing that God gives us every day. On the 8 and 40 National website I have been sharing good mornings, good evenings and inspirational quotes for you. Please take a look and let me know how you like them. I want to share God's blessing for you each morning and evening. I'm adding names every day to the prayers list so if you have not received one then please send me your email to me at Please remember to send me your decreased partners so we can remember them at our Nationale La Marche. It is very important that we remember our deceased partners so I can let their 8 and 40 friends know that they have entered the gates of heaven into God's loving arms and that they will never be forgotten.

Lord, I ask you to bless our partners and keep them in your loving arms. Please continue to give us the strength and time to continue adding the miles because every mile matters and every child matters.
We ask this is your name. Amen.

I wish all of you a very Happy and safe Thanksgiving. May each of you feel the true blessing of the birth of our Lord on Christmas day. Going into the New Year 2027 let's continue our dedication in getting on board for our special Children. May God continue to hold you in his loving arms.

Nursing, Respiratory and Therapist Scholarship

This committee is tasked with supporting the medical community and finding deserving students while providing scholarships, so they have the means to help our special children with lung and respiratory diseases. The train symbolizes progress, teamwork, and moving toward a destination. So, the time is NOW to build the tracks by getting informational brochures to the schools, medical training hospitals, clinics, etc. in your area. Applications are available every year after January one (1). All completed applications must be received by May 15th each year. More information is contained in the Nursing & Respiratory Scholarship Brochure online at 8and40.org

The application may be typed or printed clearly with black ink. Answer all the questions. Please do NOT staple the pages together. Try to send all documents in the same email. They will need Three Forms of Reference (Supervisors, Recent employers, A Faculty member from the school) and Transcripts from each School of Nursing or Allied Health.

In order to stay on track & sustain the Wish Express travels, Partners may consider making a meaningful contribution by: *Monthly Giving (providing steady, reliable support); *Making a Major Gift ($1,000, $2,000, $5,000, or more); *Bequests & Estate Gifts (foundation that guarantees the future for our organization); *Stock Gifts (often with tax advantages); or *Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD's) – for donors 70 ½ + giving directly from an IRA (2025 limit $108,000). Check with your local CPA for details. Your generosity will keep us on track for the Nurses & Respiratory Therapy Scholarship for years to come. Thank you, Patty, Evelyn, Carol, Bonita, & Daphne for your commitment and kindness. Your support helps keep us on track, changes lives, and together we move forward. I can't wait to see how the Departementaux jump on the Wish Train and highlight their journey.

LaVeta Darbro, Vice Chairman, 8&40
Nursing, Respiratory Therapist Scholarship
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National Partnership - Amanda Akins

Happy Fall Partners,

I hope everyone is getting their Renewals in and getting new partners to fill out the boarding passes for the Partnership Express. Reminder that growing is an important part of Partnership we also need to retain the current Partners, so we have the mentor to help guide our new partners. The Goal this year is for each Departemental to get three new partners. Make sure you fill out the Boarding passes and either mail them to me or bring them to Nationale La Marche to be put in the drawing for prizes at the Pre-Marche Partnership Meeting. If you need more Boarding passes you can always make copies, and if you don't have a copy, I can send you the boarding passes either email or regular let me know. Remember that Partnership Express is your connecting train to get to the Wish Express Train with Conductor Miles.

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Happy Fall, Partners

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Le Demi Chapeau Nationale - American Legion Well-Being Foundation

As Demi Chapeau Nationale, it will be an honor to serve as your liaison between the Eight and Forty and The American Legion Well- Being Foundation (CWF). This year it is our updated 2026-2027 Year goal to raise $7,000.00 for the foundation. It is a grand privilege to work together with every one of our partners to raise money for the foundation. As a reminder, I challenge everyone to use your shoe size, or your birthdate if you are embarrassed by the size- ha ha. My size is nine and my birthdate is January. I invite each of you to contribute your desired number in dollars, so I would donate either nine or seven dollars to my salon for the ALCWF.

It will be an honor to see who can produce the most dollars and cents for our Wonderful Foundation to help our special children. Please keep a running tab of all sizes and dates, so that the salon with the most donations can receive a certificate of achievement and ribbons for the 100% Per Capita Banner Program.

We want to make this a successful fundraising event, so please be creative! If your department salon desires to use something else for fundraising, please share it with others. We want to achieve our goal of $7,000 for our special children.

There will be piggy banks distributed to each division chapeau, for the coming year for their respective region. I will leave it to you all to decide whether to challenge other divisions to raise the most. A certificate will be awarded to the region that raises the most money by May 31st. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please also send all updates and news along the way, so that they may be included in the bulletin. Here is my contact information;

Patricia A Mann, Le Demi Chapeau National
103 Maple Terrace
Syracuse, NY 13210



Phone: 315-395-6270
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Special Announce: Linda Sullivan, Public Relations. Official … L a Boutique Nationale 8 and 40 website is created for our Officers and Chairman postings.

L'ARCHIVISTE NATIONALE - Karen Peel

Get on Board the Histoire Train! - Congratulations to all the Departemental and Petite Salon L'Archiviste!

Have fun in your Departemental and Salon meetings. Wind your train back through your histoire. Bring pictures and the histories' and have a fun trivia night at your meeting. "Remembering when" can be a lot of fun! It is always fun to remember our partners and an event that had been fun and beneficial to the mission of our organization. Give some prizes away and make it so much fun! Write about your meetings, fundraisers and events right after they have occurred while it is fresh in your mind. All you will have to do at the end of the year is put it all together. Personal Histoire and photographs are requested from eac National Officer and Chairmen, Nationale Chapeau Passe's, L'Archiviste Departementaux, as well as Les Departementaux and Les Petits Salon Officers.



Get On Board the Histoire Train! Embrace the ride! Take your Partners along for the ride! Make the journey fun and exciting! Make this year's journey (histoire) one for the memory book. A journey that the Partners of your Departemental or Petit Salon will want to remember for years to come. Let's ride the Histoire Train together for a fun, exciting, and unforgettable year serving our Special Children, our nurses and medical personnel, and the mission of the 8 and 40 organization. See you at the end of the journey!

Western Division - Eight & Forty Children and Youth - All Aboard the Wish Train!

Riding the Rails for Nation Jewish Health - Because Every Mile Makes a Smile! Partners of the Western Division, it's time to climb aboard join hands, and get our wheels rolling for a cause that is close to our hearts, Our Special Children and Youth. This year we are inviting every Les Departementaux, Les Petit Salons, and Partners to hop aboard the Wish Train as we ride the rails in support of National Jewish Health and our Special Children with lung disease and other breathing disorders.

RED represents our Passion and Determination. WHITE represents the Hope and the Love we carry for each Child. Let's paint the Western Division RED & WHITE with generosity, enthusiasm, and a whole lot of Eight & Forty Spirit! Remember, it doesn't take a giant contribution to make a giant difference. When we all work together, those little contributions travel a long way down the tracks! Don't forget the American Legion Child Well Being Foundation still needs our donations as well; they help so many children and youth all over the world. The Train is leaving the Station, ARE YOU ON BOARD? WHY NOT?



Western Division Children & Youth Pamela Way - **pamelaway58@gmail.com**

Central Division Le Demi Chapeau - Dorothy Stephens

All Aboard for Our Special Children-Hop on the Train. Congratulations to everyone on their new offices. We have a lot of work ahead of us and there is no time to waste. I hope every Partner is working very hard to help our Chapeau Lisa for her project. Please have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.



Salon La Boutique des Huit Chapeaux et

Quarante Femmes

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Le Demi Chapeaux, Southern, Diane Spencer **Le Demi Chapeaux, Western, Lila Speckels**

L' Archiviste Nationale, Karen Peel

L Aumonier Nationale, Dorothy Stephens

L 'Avocate, Pam Seelye

La Concierge Nationale, Rose Ring

Hat Box Editor Eight and Forty - Announcement...
Most articles need corrections, spelling and or correct information. Check our Handbook on pages with correct spelling... make copies of these three pages 72, 73, 74 and 75. This is solid information and will assist you in learning the spelling and what your office or chairmanship is about along with use for future reference and correcting your submissions to the Hat Box. Hugs. Mary "Sugar" White - *Thank You!*