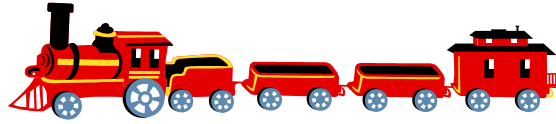


**La Societe Des Quarante
Hommes et Huit Chebaux
Grand du Texas**



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The year 2011 is coming to a close and Grand has not reached its membership goals. The fact that Odessa is folding also sets that goal back another twelve members. Last year was a banner membership year for Texas and with anticipation was hoping to at least match it this year. We still can make goal for the membership year and with the passing of the holidays January should be the month to catch up.

We still have one locale with a 0%. Locale Chef and Correspondants need to start calling and get there membership on board. If you're in an area calling is not cost effective at least send a renewal notice out. Some say they were never given notice membership was due? Division Chefs need to get busy and assist the locales with membership, that's your job. I've done some traveling and will continue to travel to ANYONE requesting me to do so. I do have plans pending already and look forward to visiting those locales.

For the size of Texas, its membership isn't even half of what it could be. With all the military bases and reserves one would think Texas would stand out from all the rest.

Most of us moved here from other states for one reason or another, so I looked up there membership. All are smaller in size for population, military bases and reserve units.

South Dakota—no mans land 513 members---still more than Texas
Michigan---1616
Wisconsin---1463---my former work area
Ohio---2258

My wife said I'm not being fair because these states don't have anything else to do in the winter. Well, they do have winter sports that keep them as busy as we do taking care of our burnt lawns.

OK, moving on, we all need to do our part and get those memberships in ASAP.

Don't forget box car in Austin February and get reservations in for the room rate set for us.