

Voyageurs,

We had our usual turnout at Spring Grand Cheminot in March. There were only 27 Voyageurs who ventured to Brooklyn for our annual event, and I want to thank those who attended. We had some good discussions and will need to make some decisions about future Cheminots and Promenades.

I also want to thank those who attended my Homecoming after Cheminot. I appreciate your support and was pleased to share a good meal with all of you.

Prior to Grand Promenade, which takes place Aug. 10 in Okemos, I urge you all to consider getting into the Grand line. While we have a full line at the time, not everyone is going to move up to the next office. I appreciate those who are currently serving in elected or appointed offices: Grand Chef de Train John Bradford, Commissaire Intendant Randy Gregor, Conducteur Alan Hyde, Avocat James Coe II, Aumonet Tom Trumble, Cheminot Nationale Michael Spitzley, Correspondant Rich Adams, Garde de la Porte Ted Hendges and the Directeurs of the various programs the Forty et Eight supports. If you are interested of throwing your chapeau in the ring for an office, please let any of the current officers know about your plans.

As I mentioned, Grand Promenade is a one-day affair this year at the Best Western Okemos Hotel & Suites, 2209 University Park Drive in Okemos. Registration will take place beginning at 1700 Friday evening, and we will have a hospitality room Friday and Saturday. Registration continues at 0800 Saturday, and our Memorial Service takes place promptly at 0900. Executive Committee meets at 1000 and Grand Promenade begins at 1030. We will

break for lunch and reconvene at 1300 for elections and any unfinished business not resolved in the morning. The Chef de Chemin de Fer will then install our new officers. Because communication has not produced good numbers at Grand events, Correspondant Adams has received permission to mail the Official Call to all Michigan Voyageurs who do not have an active email address. If the email comes back undeliverable, a snail mail version will be sent to those individuals.

Don't forget Great Lakes Promenade is June 6-8 in Appleton, Wisconsin. It's a fun time and a chance to meet Voyageurs from other states.

Please remember your oath to take part in your Voiture's Memorial Day ceremonies and parades. If you are going away for the observance, I wish you safe travels.