

Merry Christmas!

Whistle Stop

December 2023



A publication of the Grand du Michigan Forty and Eight

From the Grand Chef de Gare

Greetings fellow Voyageurs,
I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving, sharing the feast with family or friends. And maybe you even found some Black Friday deals in preparation for Christmas Day.
Back to business: We need to think membership. Current Voyageurs have until the end of this month to renew their membership, or face being left out of Locale Promenade, among others.
We also need to grow our membership. If you are a member of the American Legion, DAV, VFW or other veteran organizations, try to recruit members of those organizations to add to your membership. Have you been considering Special Awards, such as someone in your town or county who has made a difference in someone's life? Perhaps a member of your police force, a firefighter or someone who has done something bold? Celebrate a Hero of the Year and send the information to the Grand Correspondant. You also may designate a town or city in your district as Most Patriotic Town in Michigan,



From the Grande La Presidente

Hello to all!
Hopefully everyone survived Thanksgiving, Black Friday and all that goes along this time of year. This will be short. Thanks to everyone who attended Fall Cheminot in October. It was great to have our Nationale La Presidente in attendance. I had the privilege, along with our Nationale La Presidente, to attend November Rendezvous at Cabane 997. They provided a lovely lunch for us, and great fellowship. It's always nice to see the 997 Dames.
Membership for Michigan is coming along, we have two Cabanes at 100% or higher, 1536 and 669. The others are above 50%. Spring Cheminot will be in Brooklyn on March 16, which will also be the Grand Chefs' Homecoming. More will be posted on that as we get closer to the date. I wish everyone a blessed holiday season, and good wishes for a healthy and happy 2024. Take care of yourselves and others who may need assistance.
Yours in service.
Lori Coe
Grande La Presidente
Grande du Michigan



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From the Grand Correspondant

Fellow Voyageurs,

I realize it is still three months away, but it definitely merits a mention: Spring Cheminot. The turnout at our Grand du Michigan events has been underwhelming. I have attempted to get the word out to every Voiture Locale by emailing the Official Call to each Chef de Gare and Correspondant Locale for whom I have a valid email. I also send the Official Call to each of the aforementioned via USPS. I also have compiled an email list based on the information Nationale provides in the Grand du Michigan membership roster.

I post the Official Call on our website and on the Grand du Michigan Facebook page. A quick browse through the membership document indicates we have approximately 750 Voyageurs. If I were to mail each one listed it would put Grand du Michigan out \$412.50 in postage alone since we no longer have a bulk mailing rate, but even then it would cost \$127 in postage alone, not to mention the paper, ink and envelopes.

I understand many of you don't use computers and don't have access to the online resources. But it is the responsibility of the Locale officers to keep their members informed, even if it means calling Voyageurs and passing on the information. Perhaps if the word were spread we would have more than 27 in attendance, as was the case for Fall Cheminot. That's 3.6% of our total membership, and that's just unacceptable.

Sorry for the rant, but it is frustrating. I will continue to attempt to get the word out as I have in the past, but I don't realistically expect the numbers to change.

Respectfully,

Rich Adams

Grand Correspondant

Richadams946@gmail.com

517-388-4962

From the Grand Avocat

Greetings, Voyageurs.

Wishing everybody a fine holiday season. I still have around 15 Nurses Training pins; first come, first served! Enjoy the Holidays and be safe. Don't forget our overseas troops and our children.



James Coe II
Grand Avocat

From the Grand Chef de Gare

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While I personally have much to be thankful for, it is with great sadness I announce Voiture 746 had to move out of our Chateau for financial reasons. We have been busy working on that problem since we sold the Chateau.

A flyer is included in this edition for my Homecoming, which will be shortly after Spring Cheminot on March 16.

May you have a merry Christmas, and keep those who are deployed who will be missing celebrating the holiday with family.

Yours in comradeship ,
Your Grand Chef de Gare
Clare W Knickerbocker
Grand du Michigan
ckcovv@yahoo.com

Grand du Michigan



Grand Chef de Gare
Clare Knickerbocker
2360 Tecumseh Drive
Brooklyn MI 49230
970-946-9756
ckcovv@yahoo.com

Grand Correspondant
Rich Adams
1919 Danbury E
Okemos MI 48864
517-388-4962
richadams946@gmail.com

La Societe Des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

To: Grand Officers
Grand Cheminots
Voiture Officers

Grand Committeemen
Grand Executive Committee
Interested Voyageurs

By order of the Chef de Gare, Grand du Michigan, the Spring Grand Cheminot will be held Saturday, March 16, 2024 at American Legion Post 315, 211 Chicago St., Brooklyn, MI 49230

Pre-registration \$10, mail to Rich Adams, 1919 Danbury E., Okemos MI 48864.
MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO VOITURE 746.
Snacks and coffee will be available at registration.

Registration for Voyageurs begins at 1200.

Uniform of the Day: Red Shirts and Chapeaus

SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 16, 2024: Executive Committee meets 1430.

The Executive Committee will open the meeting then each committee will be called in the following order; Finance and Audit, Time and Place, and Credentials and Resolutions, then the Executive Committee will close the meeting.

Grand Cheminot begins at 1500

All Officers, Cheminots and Committee Directeurs are advised to provide a written copy of their report to the Grand Correspondant when giving their report.

The Grand Chef's Homecoming will follow Spring Cheminot with Cocktail Hour from 1600 to 1700. Registration for Homecoming is included in this mailing, It also will be in the February edition of The Whistle Stop and on the Grand du Michigan Facebook page and on the Grand Website at www.40et8michigan.com.

Clare Knickerbocker
Grand Chef de Gare

Rich Adams
Grand Correspondant



La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, Grand du Michigan

Homecoming

for Grand Chef de Gare Clare Knickerbocker.
Homecoming will follow Spring Cheminot on

March 16, 2024

**At American Legion Post 315, 211 Chicago St.,
Brooklyn, MI**

**Cocktails from 4-5 p.m.
Dinner at 5 p.m.**

Menu is hot beef or hot turkey sandwich and dessert table.

Cost is \$15 per person.

A cash bar will available.

***RSVP to Clare Knickerbocker by March 1, 2024 at
ckcovv@yahoo.com or via mail at 2360 Tecumseh Drive, Brooklyn
MI 49230***

Room reservations at the Super 8 by Wyndham, rooms available for \$102 a night.

Call (517) 592-0888

Mention 40 et 8 for a military discount



The Voyageurs & Dames of Grande du & de Wisconsin

63RD GREAT LAKES PROMENADE

Wisconsin - Michigan

Illinois - Indiana - Ohio

New York - Pennsylvania

June 6, 7 & 8th, 2024



Hotel Information

You are responsible for making your own reservations

LaQuinta by Wyndham

3800 W College Ave, Appleton WI 53914

HOTEL RATE: Single or Double Queen , King \$75 plus tax per night

Free Continental Breakfast

Code: Great Lakes 40 & 8 Promenade

Microwave, Refrigerator, WIFI

Hotel Direct Line: 920-734-7777

Fitness Center

Room Block Held Until: May 6th 2024

Accessible rooms available

To View the Hotel and its guest rooms, amenities, local restaurants and the Fox Valley attractions visit the following website links:

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/laquinta/appleton-wisconsin/la-quinta-appleton-college-avenue/overview?checkInDate=06/05/2024&checkOutDate=06/09/2024&groupCode=40GL624>

www.foxcities.org

Program Ad Information

Great way to **advertise** your future **Grand & Local events** seen by **40 & 8 members** of the **Great Lakes State's**. **63RD GREAT LAKES PROMENADE Program Booklet** will be 5½ x 8½

Full-page: \$50.00

Half-page: \$25.00

Checks:

Voiture 1140

Program Ads: Word format and Email to: edelblutejohn@gmail.com

Deadline: We must have received your ad, booster sheet & payment by: May 10th, 2024



63RD GREAT LAKES PROMENADE

June 6, 7 & 8th, 2024

Preliminary Schedule

Thursday, June 5th	9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Registration
	10:00 A.M. - Midnight	Hospitality Room Open
Friday, June 6th	10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Registration
	9:00 A.M. - Noon	Bloody Mary Party (Hickory Rm)
	10:00 A.M. - Midnight	Hospitality Room Open
	4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.	Great Lakes Promenade
		Session I
	5:30 P.M.. - Midnight	Hospitality Re-opens
Saturday, June 7th	9:30 A.M.	Memorial Service
	Immediately Following	Great Lakes Promenade
		Session II
	11:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.	Hospitality Room Open
	5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Attitude Adjustment
	6:00 P.M.	Banquet
	30 Minutes After the Closing Hospitality Re-opens	



63rd Great Lakes Promenade June 6-8, 2024

Registration Form
Ad & Booster's

Banquet Meal

Friday Fish Fry (additional cost) at American Legion Post 38

Johnston-Blessman Post 38, 3220 W. College Ave., Appleton, Wisconsin

Dinner Choices: Broasted Chicken (Mashed potatoes, Stuffing and Vegetable)
Beef Stroganoff and Noodles. Vegetarian Option: Large Salad (Must indicate Vegetarian choice
in advance) Dinner Rolls, Coffee and Dessert. Served Family Style

Voyager and Guest Registration Fee & Family Style Dinner is \$60 per person

Anticipated day of arrival: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____ V# _____ C# _____ Grand: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Chicken & Beef _____ Vegetarian _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ V# _____ C# _____ Grand: _____

Chicken & Beef _____ Vegetarian _____

Registrations ____ X \$60 = \$_____ Name: _____ V# _____ C# _____

Boosters ____ X \$2.00 = \$_____ Name: _____ V# _____ C# _____

\$2.00 for each name. example: Mr. & Mrs. Smith = \$4.00

Program Ad: \$ _____ ½ page \$25.00 full page \$50.00

Total amount enclosed: \$_____ Ck#: _____ Date: _____

Checks: Voiture 1140

Mailed: Jim Vissers 130 E. Hoover Ave., Appleton, WI 54915 (920) 739-4506

Program Ad's: Word format and Email to: edelblutejohn@gmail.com



Forty & Eight veterans support future nurses through new scholarship

This article was featured in the Fall edition of Delta College's Journeys publication and was shared by Voiture 600 Correspondant Boyd Poppy:

Delta College recently received a generous donation to establish a new scholarship endowment.

The Saginaw Forty & Eight organization will proudly carry on its legacy of providing financial support to students pursuing a nursing degree. The Forty & Eight was founded nationally in 1920 by American veterans returning home from World War I in France. Originally an arm of The American Legion, the Forty & Eight became an independent and separately incorporated veterans organization in 1960.

The title of their organizations comes from the box cars used to transport

troops to the front in France during World War I. The cargo capacity sign "40 Hommes/8 Chevaux" was written on each box car that carried American doughboys to the front. Each car could hold 40 men or eight horses - known as forty-and-eights that the troops considered a miserable travel method.

At a recent meeting of the Saginaw group only six of their 18 members were in attendance, discussing how to respectfully wind down the group and leave a legacy. They donated their "street legal" train engine, involved in parades for decades, to the Great Lake Loons. During the meeting they voted to donate much of their funds to Delta College and Saginaw Valley State University to support nursing. The Saginaw Forty & Eight members are proud of their years of fundraising (primarily through community bingo

games in Saginaw Township), their ability to support Saginaw Township Little League teams and their prior support of individual nursing students. But, as with many other social organizations of decades past, they have struggled to gain and retain members. The Saginaw group's membership reached a high point of 105 over the decades, but now includes just 18 members.

Nationally, Forty & Eight has been committed to charitable and patriotic aims, including our nation's health, by fostering a nurses' training program for nearly 70 years. Delta College is proud to partner with the local Saginaw Forty & Eight group to honor their contributions and build a legacy that will last long into the future.

Pam Clark from Delta College, with members Bob Pence, Bernard Craig, Edward Haller, Robin Heise, Boyd Poppy and Frank Rocha.

