

Whistle Stop

December 2020

A publication of the Grande du Michigan Forty and Eight



From the Grand Chef de Gare

Greetings Voyageurs,

It sure was great to see some familiar faces at Fall Cheminot, thanks to all that showed up. I know we are still in trying times, but I know working together we can get through this. I would like to take a minute to talk about membership; it all starts with our Locales. There are a lot of Veterans out there. It only takes a minute to talk to them about the 40 et 8. As we all know, we are losing more Voyageurs and we need to at least replace the ones we have lost. I believe, by working together, we can make our membership grow.



With the spike in COVID-19 cases in Michigan, our Veterans clubs will be impacted. Limiting capacity, moving to take-out only or shuttered for three weeks. Please keep this in mind and find new ways to help support these clubs during this difficult time. Consider ordering take-out or making a gratitude cash donation in the spirit of the holidays.

Our next Grand function is Spring Cheminot on the 13th or March. Voiture 746 will be the host and it will be held at American Legion Post 324 in Michigan Center. With this crazy year I will keep you informed of changes. Once everything reopens, I plan to visit some Voiture Locales.

That's it for now. Please have a safe and happy holiday season!

Yours in service

Grand Chef Lonnie Haynes

From the Grande La Presidente

Dear Dames,

I hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving. I am sure many of us have had to make changes to our holiday traditions. I hope you and your families are all staying well and staying safe in these very unusual times.

Looking forward I hope you have a blessed Christmas and can share it with your family members in a safe way. That could mean setting up a Zoom virtual meeting so you can share season's greetings. It could mean family members visiting and remaining outdoors, talking on the phone as you stand in the window or doorway of your home. Be merry and safe. It was fantastic seeing each and every one of you who were able to attend Fall Grand Cheminot at Cabane 946 in Lansing. We were able to have some time together and catch up with each other. It was truly a joy to see those who attended.

I look forward to seeing you at Spring Grand Cheminot on March 13, 2021. Hosting will be Voiture 746 in Michigan Center. The location will be American Legion Post 324 at 1190 Falahee Road. Until then, at the risk of sounding like a broken record, please be safe and stay well.

Yours in Service,

Grande La Presidente

Lori A. Bolley-Majeske



From the Grand Correspondant

Greetings Voyageurs,

With the restrictions imposed by the state because of the pandemic, I don't have a lot to write about this month.

I am constantly updating the roster, and if you have had changes in your officers I need that information. I often do mailings to all the individuals I have listed as Chef de Gare and Correspondant Locale. If you receive mail from me and you are no longer an officer, could you please pass it on to the current officer and have them notify me of the change? We are working to improve communications, and knowing who the officers are in every Voiture Locale is essential to our success.

It was great (and encouraging) to see everyone who came to Fall Cheminot. I am sure everyone took home good information to pass on to your voyageurs. I hope Spring Cheminot on March 13 has a similar turnout.

I hope everyone is staying safe during these trying times. As you are aware, those most susceptible to the virus are seniors who have underlying health issues. That's us, my friends. Simple precautions include wearing a mask over your mouth and nose. I always have a small container of hand sanitizer in my jacket pocket. As always, you can contact me at (517) 388-4962, email at richadams946@gmail.com, or snail mail at 15855 Turnberry, Lansing MI 48906.

Have a happy holiday season.

**Yours in service,
Rich Adams
Grand Correspondant**

From the Grand Avocat

Greetings! I hope this finds everyone well, under the circumstances.

One thing is certain, we need to get serious about membership! We currently have two and maybe three Voitures that are planning to fold up. Just remember that you are required to turn everything, including Charter, to Grand. It is all in the Ritual, under Installation of Chef Locale.

Several other Voitures do not hold any Promenades. We need members bad. We must stop the bleeding soon.

We recently lost 3rd District Cheminot Mike Hemker out of Coldwater. He was one of only a handful we could count on to show up. RIP comrade! I still have several new 2021 Nurses Training pins—let me know. Happy holidays, be safe, and take care of yourselves and each other.



**Yours in service,
James Coe II
Grand Avocat
Nurses Training Director
Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Passe**

Submissions accepted

We encourage any Voyageur or Voiture Locale to submit articles and photos to be used in the Whistle Stop. Email submissions to richadams946@gmail.com or via mail to 15855 Turnberry St., Lansing MI 48906.