

Whistle Stop



October 2017

A publication of the Grande du Michigan Forty and Eight

Grande officers installed for 2017-18

New Grande de Michigan officers were installed during the annual Grande Promenade at the Causeway Bay Hotel in Lansing on Aug. 11-12.

Elected as Grande du Michigan officers were:

- Grand Chef de Gare James Coe II
- Grand Chef de Train Robert Bialecki

- Grand Conducteur Lonnie Haynes
- Grand Garde de la Porte Lori Barber
- Grand Lampiste Bob Berger

Next edition: a look at the officers for the Grande La Femmes.



James Coe II is installed as Grand Chef de Gare during an installation banquet in Lansing.

From the Grand Chef

It certainly is a great pleasure to address the Grande du Michigan as your newly elected Chef de Gare! My policy is communication, programs, fun and honor. This all leads to our ultimate goal—membership.

We must work hard to increase our pool of qualified members who we can groom into the leaders of tomorrow.

I have said before, many of you meet at a local legion post or another venue. You must do something in your Voiture that sets you apart and thus makes the 40 & 8 an attractive proposition. Get the train out, have dinners, fun stuff that extolls the privilege of membership in the Fun and Honor Society of American Veterans. This bulletin is the first of many



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From Grand La President

Greetings!

I would like to thank everyone for their wonderful support and confidence in me. I appreciate and love you all, thank you.

I look forward to a challenging and fruitful year working together with everyone. I am currently on my way to nationale and am excited to see a variety of friends.

I hope to see you all at Fall Cheminot, so until then be safe and happy

Respectfully yours in service

Lori Bolley-Majeske

From the Grande Chef

Continued

the first of many where several Grande Officers can share information and ideas. It is the responsibility of the Grand Cheminot and Chefs Locale to see that this information is passed on to the membership. My contact information will be included somewhere here along with the Grand Correspondant. Don't hesitate to contact us for questions, upcoming events, etc.

Right now, we are packing to head for Bossier City, LA for Promenade Nationale. A select few of us will be representing our state during this five-day convention. We will also be picking up pins for the various programs.

That brings up another issue—I need a Director for Carville Star. Someone please step up and take this program. It is a great opportunity to get involved .

All of what we get in Louisiana will be disseminated at Fall Cheminot on 7 Oct. in Oscoda. This is a Saturday only meeting. Executive Committee at 10 a.m., lunch available at noon, Cheminot at 1 p.m. All Grand Cheminot, Grand Officers and Locale Chef de Gare's are invited. This is THE most important of meetings, as it kicks off the whole year. All pins will be available then.

Next up is 21 Oct. in Lansing for another wreck. We have a few PGs lined up and need more. PGs report at 10:00 a.m., Wreck at 1:00 p.m. Here's the deal—you bring 'em, I'll wreck 'em! Let's get this year started with a bang! Like the new Avocat stated at our Grande Promenade, "There's a new sheriff in town!"

By the way, I must thank everyone who attended Grande Promenade in Lansing. It was by far the biggest and could have been close to the best, if it wasn't for the choice of background music. You missed a good one! See you down the road soon! Let's get this train back on the track, roll up our sleeves, and go to work. Thanks!

Chef Jim



Grand Chef de Gare James Coe II arrives at the podium to take the oath of office, administered by Chef de Chemin de Fer Passe Joe Jammick.

From the Grand Correspondant

As of August 29th 2017 . We still need a Carville Star Director, Historiane and an Activities Directeur.

I also need several address from the U.P. for V-1288 cheminot and sous cheminot. Remember - the Fall Cheminot is at Oscoda V-669 on Oct. 7. Copies of the Grande Minutes and a roster.

Remember, we are only as good if we work together instead of going in different directions.

Thanks,

Dave Webb

a Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux
Grande Voiture du Michigan

WHISTLE STOP"



From the Grand Chef de Train

Greeting Fellow Voyageurs,

Here we are starting a new year in Grand du Michigan. New challenges. New opportunities.

As the Grand Chef de Train one of my main responsibilities is to promote membership and not only is it mine, it is all voyageurs' responsibility.

Increasing membership has been very challenging the last few years. We as a Grand need to come up with new ways to recruit new, younger members to help carry the Grand into the future or we will quickly disappear. If anybody has any ideas to help recruit new members, please share them with the rest of the Grande, even if that idea only brought in one new member.

We need to be open to new ways to recruit or maybe some old ways will work again. Social media is being used by most everyone under the age of 50. There must be a way the 40 & 8 can use this as a resource to contact potential new members.

Many of us belong to other veterans' organizations, we might be able to use any

recruiting techniques that are working for them. Membership renewals always seem to be a problem. Especially in my Voiture. We have written letters and those get ignored. What we have found that works best is to talk to them in person. We can solve our membership problems if we work together. I have faith in us.

Next, I would like to congratulate Grand Chef de Gare Jim Coe on an excellent Grande Promenade. It went very well and it was enjoyed by everyone. Also, Congratulations to the Grande Officers on moving up the Grand line and thank you to our new Grand Lampiste Bob Berger for stepping up.

And finally, Thank you to my fellow Voyageurs for having faith in me and selecting me as the Grand Chef de Train. I will do my best and try not to let anyone down. It is an honor to serve.

Sincerely,

Robert Bialecki
Grand Chef de Train
Grande du Michigan

From the Grand Chef Passe

I would like to thank you for letting me serve you as your Grand Chef de Gare from 2016 to 2017.

The Grande Promenade was a success. I would like to wish Jim and Lori a successful year. We all need to help as much as we can.

Membership is number one .

Thanks again.

David G Bunch

Grand Chef de Gare Passe

From the Grand La Presidente Passe

I can't believe how fast the year went. I would like to thank all you dames for supporting me during my year as Grand La Presidente.

We need to support Lori as our Grande La Presidente; answer her questions and give her a hand up.

I know that she is very capable of a wonderful year if WE ALL stand behind her.

Thank you

Laurie Bunch

Grande Voiture du Michigan

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Grand Correspondant
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La Societé des Quarante Hommes ET Huit Chevaux

To: Grand Officers
Grand Cheminots
Voiture Officers

Grand Committeemen
Grand Executive Committee
Interested Voyageurs

By order of the Grand Chef de Gare, Grand Voiture du Michigan, The Fall Cheminot will be held on Saturday October 7, 2017
At Voiture 669, 849 S. STATE ST Oscoda, MI 48750
AMERICAN LEGION POST 274 US 23 Hwy

Hotels: Lake Trail Resort 5400 N US 23. ROOM RATE \$64.25. Phone 1-800-843-6007
Aspen Motor Inn, single \$58.12, double \$69.12, king \$63.72. Phone 1-877-628-0006
MUST MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATIONS

Pre-registration \$10.00 send to: David Webb, 4662 f 30, Greenbush, MI 48738
MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO VOITURE 669

Femmes pre-registration \$10.00 send to: Adel Astala, 3661 River Rd. Oscoda, MI 48750
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO Cabane 669

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE meets at 10:00 a.m. then each committee will be called in order, then the EXECUTIVE Committee will close the meeting.

SCHEDULE

Friday, Oct 6 Brats and hot dogs available
Saturday, Oct 7 Time and place 10.30 a.m.

Saturday 11.30 a.m. lunch SOUP AND SANDWICHES \$6.00

CHEMINOT CONVENES at 1 p.m. Aka 1300 hrs.
ALL OFFICERS, CHEMINOTS AND COMMITTEE DIRECTEURS ARE ADVISED
TO PROVIDE A WRITTEN COPY OF THEIR REPORT TO Correspondant.

James A Coe II
Grand Chef de Gare

David Webb
Grand Correspondant