

Whistle



Stop



February 2025



A publication of the Grand du Michigan Forty and Eight

From the Grand Chef de Gare

Greetings Voyageurs,

I hope you had an enjoyable Christmas holiday and a safe and enjoyable New Year's celebration bringing us into 2025. It's been a bit cold leading up to Groundhog's Day, and apparently the rodent saw his shadow, so we're in for another six weeks of winter.

We have a lot of events coming up, and I'll get into them later on. Right now I want to talk about membership.

We have several Voitures that have hit 100% for 2025, which is admirable.

Thanks go out to those Voitures for their persistence. Please check your membership - if you do not have a 2025 membership card, then you need to pay

your dues, please, and be brought up to date. You are currently not a member in good standing and not eligible for the benefits of being a member of La Societe. Please help us attain as close to 100% membership as possible.

I would hate to be upstaged by Ohio in terms of membership at the Great Lakes Promenade.

I know many of us have seen our ranks shrink. A few years ago Voiture 868 in St. Johns indicated it might be disbanded. There were only three members and Promenades were not taking place.

In January I was approached by Voyageur Jeff Nichols, who said there was interest in not only continuing V868, but adding members who have shown interest in the 40



From the Grande La Presidente

Hello Dames,

I hope this new year is so far being kind to you. Except for this cold, right? Just remember, spring is not far away!

Looking at membership, we have three Cabanes at 100%, one at 95% and the others still working on theirs.

Let's get all those renewals in and recruit some new faces to join our fine organization.

I would like to ask everyone to think of a fundraising project for the Grande Cabane. We need to do something to raise some funds. So put your thinking caps on! We can discuss it at Spring Cheminot. Speaking of which, this event is coming up on March 8, I believe in the Detroit area. More info will follow soon. Mark it on your calendar to attend! It's also close to time to think of officers for next year. Please consider taking one. Nothing is difficult to do. Reach out to myself or any other officer for more information (or so we can twist your arm a little).

Lastly, we were all so sorry to hear of Erica's father, Eddie Mac, passing away. I was able to attend his service, as were Lori Bolley and Carrie Haynes. So, until March, be happy and healthy, and warm!



Lori Coe
Grande la Presidente

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From the Grand Chef

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et 8. I commend Voyageur Nichols for spearheading this effort and am extremely pleased that an inactive Voiture could be brought back to La Societe. Our next gathering will be Spring Cheminot. It will take place March 8 at American Legion Hall Homer Wing Post 172, 234 Walnut Blvd. Rochester, MI 48307. Executive Committee meets at 11 a.m., lunch is at 11:30 and Cheminot begins at 1 p.m. The official call and registration sheet are included in this edition of The Whistle Stop and can be downloaded at the Grand du Michigan website. Having Cheminot in a Detroit-area city should make it more convenient for northern Michigan Voyageurs to attend without having to travel the extra hour-plus to Lansing, where recent Cheminots have taken place. I certainly hope more members attend this Cheminot. We have some decisions to make before Grand Promenade in August. We also are planning a Mother's Day Wreck at Voiture 946 in Lansing. It will take place on May 10, and I urge all Voitures to bring their PGs to be initiated into La Societe.

A few suggestions: First, stress to your PGs that this is not hazing. It is a fun ritual that has roots in World War I. Secondly, remember to bring chapeaus for

your PGs.

We are going to use coveralls during the ceremony, and unfortunately all of the coveralls at Voiture 946 were too damaged to be used again and were tossed out. If anyone has several sets of coveralls, please reach out to me via email or phone and let me know if we can borrow them for the wreck. Also, feel free to bring any stunts you think could be included in the wreck. Let's make it as fun as possible!

Another event this spring is my Homecoming, taking place 4 p.m. April 12 at Voiture 946 in Lansing. The menu is corned beef and cabbage and chicken piccata, with a few side dishes and desserts.

At Homecoming, we will have a drawing for a Wagon of Fun I have assembled. It includes a nice wagon filled with a variety of alcohol. Also included is a weekend hotel package in Mackinaw City, a wall clock depicting the Three Soldiers Memorial statues, an 8-foot by 5-foot knitted American flag throw, a small Fallen Soldier Cross and a 42-inch-long wooden train.

Tickets are \$10 each and only 100 tickets will be sold. If you want to buy a ticket in advance contact me and I'll reserve one for you. I will add spirits to the wagon based on anyone desiring to donate a bottle or two to the

cause.

Grand Promenade will be conducted Aug. 9 at the Best Western, located at 2209 University Park Dr., Okemos. We will have a hospitality room with food and beverages on Aug. 8 and 9. We have a pretty decent Grand line, but some positions will be coming open for the 2025-26 year. I encourage Voyageurs to consider running for a Grand office or offering their services as a Directeur for one of the appointed positions. The registration sheet for Grand Promenade, as well as for Great Lakes Promenade, are in this edition.

Feel free to reach out to me at 517-388-4962 or via email at richadams946@gmail.com. I am eager to travel to as many Voitures Locale as possible between now and August. If you would like a visit, please let me know.

Respectfully,
Rich Adams
Grand Chef de Gare
Grand du Michigan

From the Grand Correspondant

Voyageurs,

It was good to see the number of Voitures that attended the last Cheminot at Voiture 946 in Lansing. We have an upcoming Spring Cheminot that will be held on Saturday, March 8, 2025, at American Legion Hall Homer Wing Post 172, 234 Walnut Blvd, Rochester, MI 48037. See the Grand Chef's article for more information on the Spring Cheminot, and the registration sheet is in this edition of The Whistle Stop. I hope that we will have more Voyageurs at this next Cheminot. We should be working on membership every day. I hope most of you are doing Buddy Checks on your members. We also need to start tracking our Annual Reports.

Respectfully,

Gary Bourdeau

Grande Du Michigan Correspondent.

From the Grand Chef de Train

Voyageurs,

I hope everyone is doing well and celebrated holidays with loved ones and fellow veterans. Twenty twenty four has been a good year for membership, but let's make 2025 even better. Next time you attend a veteran's event, reach out and promote the 40 & 8. Wear your Chapeau, 40 & 8 shirt, talk about our programs and pass out a brochure. Bring in two new members and receive an "I Got Two" pin and help the 40 & 8 grow. Remember to visit the 40 & 8 website, www.fortyandeight.org and Whistle Stop, www.40et8michigan.com to stay updated of important information.

If you have thoughts on how to improve membership, please contact me.

Respectfully,

Alice Berger

Grand Chef de Train

(269) 832-5046

Mark Your Calendar

Feb. 19: Coast Guard Reserve Birthday

March 3: Navy Reserve Birthday

March 8: Grand du Michigan Spring Cheminot, Rochester, MI

March 20-24: Chef de Chemin de Fer Homecoming, Wilkes-Barre, PA

March 25: Medal of Honor Day

March 29: Vietnam Veterans Day

April 3-5: La Presidente Nationale Homecoming, Durham, NC

April 12: Grand Chef de Gare Homecoming, Voiture 946, Lansing MI

April 23: Army Reserve Birthday

May 10: Mother's Day Wreck, Voiture 946, Lansing MI

May 17: Armed Forces Day

May 23-26, 40 et 8 Memorial Day ceremonies, Arlington National Cemetery, VA

June 5-7: Great Lakes Promenade, DeKalb, IL

June 6: D-Day Anniversary

June 14: Army Birthday, Flag Day

June 23: Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday

June 27: National PTSD Awareness Day

July 4: Independence Day

July 27: Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

Aug. 4: Coast Guard Birthday

Aug. 9: Grand Promenade, Okemos, MI

Sept. 11: Patriot Day

Sept. 18: Air Force Birthday

Sept 19: POW/MIA Recognition Day

Sept. 23-27: Promenade Nationale, Gettysburg, PA

Oct. 13: Navy Birthday

Nov. 10: Marines Birthday

Nov. 11: Vetreans Day

Dec. 7: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Dec. 13: National Guard Birthday

Dec. 20: Space Force birthday



Homecoming

Grand Chef de Gare Rich Adams requests your presence at his

Homecoming celebration

Saturday, April 12, 2025

At Voiture 946, 2949 S. Waverly Highway, Lansing, MI 48911

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

Menu is buffet of Corned Beef and Cabbage and Chicken Picatta.

Cost is \$10 per person. A cash bar will available.

Drawing for Wagon of Fun raffle will take place during dessert

RSVP to Rich Adams by April 1, 2025 at richadams946@gmail.com or via mail at 1283

Chartwell Carriage Way N, East Lansing MI 48823

Please dress casually for comfort.

Complete the information below and mail to Rich Adams at 1283 Chartwell Carriage Way N, East Lansing MI 48823 or scan and email to richadams946@gmail.com. Please make out checks to V946.

Date sent _____ Amount _____ Check # _____

Name(s) _____

Date received _____

DON'T DELAY earn your "I got 2 pin" TODAY!

Please be advised that Voyageur Militaire

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Has recruited the following 2, new and/or reinstated members into La Societe, during the membership year. (If you have recruited more than 2 members list the additional names on the back of this form)

1.

2.

Voiture Number Grand du

Locale Correspondant or Chef de Gare

Please mail your completed form to:

Voiture Nationale
Att: Tammy
250 E 38th St
Indianapolis IN 46205



64th Great Lakes Promenade
June, 5, 6 & 7, 2025



Wisconsin-Michigan-Illinois-Indiana-Ohio-New York-Pennsylvania
Hosted by the Grande Voiture d' Illinois, Voyageurs & Dames

All attendees are responsible for making their own hotel reservations. The block of rooms will expire on May 16, 2025. All prices are plus tax. When reserving your room, say you are with the **40&8 Block of Rooms** and you are attending the **64th Great Lakes Promenade**. Any problems with your hotel reservations, contact Frank Beierlotzer, 815-901-3834 or ffb66@juno.com.

Headquarters Host Hotel Site: Red Roof Inn and Suites, 1212 West Lincoln Hwy, DeKalb, Illinois 60115 815-758-8661, WWW.DEKALB.REDROOF.COM Two levels with no elevator. If you are able to do steps, **please reserve an upper level** so that those that need a lower level will have a room available at the Headquarters Host Site. Lower Level \$94.99 and Upper Level \$89.99.

Overflow Hotel: Comfort Inn, 1314 W. Lincoln Hwy, DeKalb, Illinois 60115, 815-748-7100, IL323@stayatchoice.com \$109.00 and there is an elevator. About .1 miles west of Host Hotel Site.

Registration Form

Anticipated arrival day: _____ Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Grande: _____ Voiture# & Name: _____

Guest Name: _____ Phone: _____ Title _____

Registration (\$60.00) per person includes Host Site Hospitality Room and Banquet.

Registrations: # _____ Times (\$60.00) Equals \$ _____ Check# _____

Great Lakes Promenade Boosters \$2.00 each:

All checks payable to: Voiture 207 – 64th GLP

Any Questions: Todd Latham

Mail to: Todd Latham, 115 Boulevard St., Sandwich, IL 60548 815-786-4095, greatlakespromenadeillinois@gmail.com

Tours, events, banquet, program schedule, will be available in February 2025.

Ad Book: Please email graphic to greatlakespromenadeillinois@gmail.com and indicate selection below:

- Full Page Interior \$50
- Half Page \$25



**Grand du Michigan
Grand Promenade & Rendezvous
Hosted by Voiture 946
August 9, 2025**

Name _____ Grand _____ V/C _____

Address _____ City, State, ZIP _____

Dame Name _____ Grand _____ V/C _____

Registration: \$10 Voyageurs # _____ \$15 Dames # _____

Ads: Half page \$25, full page \$50

Boosters: \$2/name

Boosters _____

**Best Western Hotel & Conference Center
2187 University Park Drive
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-8700**

Room block held until July 19. Use code Forty and Eight.

Nightly rate \$105.00, suite \$135.00, if available

Attendees responsible for making their own reservations.

All activities (Memorial Service, Promenade and Rendezvous) held on Saturday, There is NO banquet. Hospitality room will be open Friday from 10 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. and Saturday after Promenade. Specific times for Memorial Service is 0900 Saturday. Promenade and Rendezvous will be held at 1030.

Send Voyageur registration fee, booster and ad monies to Rich Adams, 1283 Chartwell Carriage Way N, East Lansing MI 48823, payable to Grand Voiture du Michigan.

Send Dames registration to Lori Coe, 277 Maple Run, Mason MI 48854, payable to Grande Cabane du Michigan. You can also register on site Friday or Saturday

Registration(s): \$ _____

Ad: \$ _____

Booster(s) \$ _____

Total amount sent: \$ _____

Please return this form with registration.