

**MINUTES OF THE 2021  
MIDWINTER PETITE PROMENADE / CHEMINOT  
TOMAH, WISCONSIN  
FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> - 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup>**

**COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE** – Grand Chef de Gare John Aasen called the meeting to order at 2:00 P. M. in the Oak Room of the La Quinta Hotel & Suites. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call was taken by the Grand Correspondant. Due to the circumstances of the Pandemic; everyone was invited in for the meeting. Correspondant Orval informed those present why we have a Committee on Committee and their main purpose. Chairman Doug Schaller read off the resolving clauses of all the nomination papers that were turned in. One was missing but will be turned in tomorrow. No one has sent in nomination papers for running for Grand Commis Voyageur as of the 12<sup>th</sup>. Nominations were read for the following.

Cheminot National – Jim Bassett  
Alternate Cheminot National – John Aasen  
Grand Chef de Gare – Larry Winger  
Grand Chef de Train – John Edelblute IV  
Grand Sous Chef de Train – David Behling  
Grand Conducteur – Ken Laatsch  
Grand Garde De La Porte – Melissa Guthmiller  
Grand Commissaire Intendant – Jim Vissers

Question on why we don't interview each of the candidates every year as what done in years past. Discussion on getting back to having interviews up at St. Germain during 40 et 8 Days at Camp.

Question on who is going to run for Grand Commis Voyageur. No answer at this time.

**TIME AND PLACE** – Grand Chef de Gare John Aasen called the Time & Place Committee meeting to order. Following a Salute to the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance it was opened for such business as to come before it. The meeting was turned over to the Grand Correspondant. First off was the National Promenade that we will be hosting next year in Green Bay. Corporation President Don Emley and Vice President Jim Bassett were both excused. Some of the various committees were filled that included; Golf – Jim Vissers; Children's Party – John Helgeson; Early Bird Party – Tom Orval; Registration – Tom Orval Chairman, Assistants Ken Laatsch, Doug Schaller, Dale Mitchell, Joe Story, Dave Wegener and John Helgeson.

A discussion on the tradition of hosting a hospitality room in Springfield Missouri this year! This will be coordinated as to beer, soda, and various liquors with final arrangements to be done at the Grande Promenade later this August. There will not be any snacks. John Edelblute, Dale Mitchell, John Aasen, Jim Vissers, John Helgeson and Dave Wegener all volunteered to work the room. Tom Orval will contact Terry Lanning of Missouri to make arrangements in securing a hospitality room for Wednesday evening 09-15-21.

Doug Schaller would like a list of booze that is needed for he can get it from the class VI store in Fort McCoy.

Monroe County # 804 has submitted a bid for the purpose of hosting the 2022 Grande Promenade which will be held in Tomah.

No update on this summer's Grande Promenade. Jim Chapin will give us an update on this event tomorrow.

Barbara Dotzauer spoke on Sheboygan County # 1080 hosting next year's Midwinter Petite. They ran into a problem with the hotel in Port Washington. Members are currently checking out the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc and also the hotel in Oostburg.

Questions were asked on when was the vote taken on going to Sandusky in 2023. Being that the 2020 National Promenade & Rendezvous was cancelled in Sandusky due to the pandemic, they were automatically given the bid for 2023. Some upset individuals expressed their feelings due to there not being an airport close by. Most of the Wisconsin delegation is driving anyway. You can make it in less than a day.

### **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>**

Grand Chef de Gare John Aasen called the Midwinter Petite Promenade/Cheminot to order at 9:00 A.M. Colors already being posted the membership came to a right hand salute and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The POW-MIA empty chair ceremony was performed by Grand Chef de Train Larry Winger and Grand Aumonier Ray Kline gave the opening prayer. Chef John Aasen welcomed everyone present and then turned the podium over to the Grand Correspondant who did the Roll Call.

### **REPORT ON THE VARIOUS GRAND DIRECTEUR'S AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

**VOITURE ACTIVITIES** – Directeur Ken Kozubek explained what qualifies as a Voiture activity and what should be reported in the annual Activities reporting. Need at least two Voyageurs for something to be considered a Voiture activity. Notion was offered and seconded to accept the report as given. Carried!

**AMERICANISM** – Ken Laatsch had nothing to report at this time except for the 2021 Americanism pins that he has for sale. Notion and second to accept. Carried!

**NATIONAL BOX CAR ASSOCIATION** – John Aasen just sent a check to National for 100% of his current inventory. Still have some pins and cards for sale. Remember that all of the funds raised over the year by the Box Car program are used to fund the rest of the programs in La Societe. A notion and second was offered to accept! Carried!

**CARVILLE STAR** – Jim Witte was excused. He did have a report that was read. He has attended the Fall Cheminot and Grand Chef's Homecoming, the Wreck in Tomah and his own Locales Promenades. Forty pins have been sold for 2021 and he still has some available. Notion was offered for acceptance of the report. Seconded and Carried.

**CHILD WELFARE** – As reported by Eric Diekmann Directeur; there have been numerous fires in Wisconsin but only one which was responded to by Voyageurs. Monroe County #804 had one child they assisted due to a home fire. During this cold

period we need to respond to those in need whenever there is a fire. \$300 per child and \$1,000 per family! He has 13 pins left for sale.

Notion was offered and seconded for acceptance of the report. Carried!

**NURSES TRAINING** – It was reported that Voyageur Pat Sukowski was taken to a Nursing Home recently due to falling down. Pretty obvious he was unable to have a report on the progress of the Nurses Training program. Might have to resign his position as Nurses Training Directeur due to his health!

**POW-MIA** – Directeur Jim Bassett was excused because he was attending to his wife Sherry was very ill. A letter was read on her situation. A Get Well card was passed around on her behalf. His report was read. He spoke about the Scholarship program and how it relies on the merchandise sales as a main source along with donations to make these scholarships a reality. Jim has danglers for sale at \$5.00 a pair. Notion was offered and seconded for acceptance. Carried!

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** – Ruland was not in attendance, No report was submitted!

**RITUAL** – V. Bradley was excused. His report was read. In his report Steve stressed conducting a 40 et 8 Birthday Celebration and the proper way to do so. He encourages everyone to take pictures and get them into the National and Grande Voiture magazines. Notion and second for acceptance. Carried!

**SPECIAL AWARDS** – V. Ron Pfalzgraf was excused. His wife has been going through chemo treatments. Hopefully each Locale can nominate someone for Voyageur, Law Officer, Hero and City of the Year awards. Don't forget under age of eighteen for Hero of the Year. Nomination must be in no later than June 15<sup>th</sup>. Notion was offered and seconded for acceptance of the report. Carried!

Question on how does V. Pfalzgraf get these nominations within his own Locale every year. You'll have to ask him!

**YOUTH SPORTS** – V. Joe Ternes is having heart problems and was excused. His wife was supposed to bring his report with her this morning. Due to the weather she may not have made the trip either.

**HISTORY ROOM** – Ruland was not in attendance. No report was forwarded to Grande.

**VAVS EMBLEM SALES WEBSITE** – V. Dale Mitchell gave all three reports. Think about Veterans from where you live. Check on the older Vets. Grocery shopping for them, etc. is what a good 40 et 8 er is all about. He also spoke on the Keep The Wheelchairs Rolling program. VA Hospitals are always looking for volunteer drivers. Short presentation of the Wisconsin 40 et 8 website. Emblem Sales he has items for sale. Notion to accept the three reports. Seconded and carried!

**KING DAY** - V. Vissers spoke with the Waupaca Post Commander and to his knowledge it has been cancelled again this year due to the pandemic. If anything changes, the information will be sent out. Notion for acceptance! Seconded and carried.

**CAMP AMERICAN LEGION CONSULTANT** – John Helgeson reported that no decision has been made yet on the opening of Camp. You need to use the new application form.

The donation Wish List is on the American Legion website. The new cabin will be dedicated in May. Motion to accept the report, Seconded and carried!

A short discussion on the work detail that is being planned for the flowage in the spring! It is scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> of May. Hotel reservations can be made at the Rustic Manor or other hotel in the area!

**FORTY et EIGHT DAYS AT CAMP** – Chairman Tom Orval gave a program report on what to expect this year. Tours of the Camp will be Friday morning and we hope to secure a pontoon boat for rides on Lake Tomahawk. Dale Mitchell will again have a fishing tournament on Saturday morning. Friday beanbag tournament and picnic behind the Rustic Manor and the picnic at the flowage on Saturday! The dates this year are June 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. Motion to accept the report! Seconded and carried!

**CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS** – Chairman Jim Chapin was excused; he was at the State Oratorical contest. There was nothing to report on any changes anyway except for moving from 12 Cheminot to 4 Cheminot this coming August.

#### **REPORT OF DISTRICT CHEMINOT PRESENT**

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> District Cheminot  | David Behling      |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> District Cheminot  | Ray Pasbrig        |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> District Cheminot  | Melissa Guthmiller |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> District Cheminot  | Jim Vissers        |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> District Cheminot | John Helgeson      |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> District Cheminot | Wayne Hancock      |

#### **REPORT OF THE GRANDE VOITURE OFFICERS**

|                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Grand Historian             | Dale Mitchell                  |
| Grand Avocat                | Dave Wegener                   |
| Grand Aumonier              | Ray Kline                      |
| Grand Commissaire Intendant | Jim Vissers                    |
| National Alternate Cheminot | Jim Bassett (report submitted) |
| Cheminot National           | Joe Story                      |
| Badger Forty et Eighter     | Tom Orval                      |
| Grand Correspondant         | Tom Orval                      |
| Grand Commis Voyageur       | Melissa Guthmiller             |
| Grand Garde de la Porte     | Ken Laatsch                    |
| Grand Conducteur            | Dave Behling                   |
| Grand Sous Chef de Train    | John Edelblute IV              |
| Grand Chef de Train         | Larry Winger                   |
| Grand Chef de Gare          | John Aasen                     |

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Bid was read for the 2022 Grande Promenade to be held in Tomah. It was voted on at the Time & Place Committee meeting. Voted on at the Cheminot and passed.

Short presentation on the hosting of the 2022 National Promenade!

Attendance drawing was won by Dave Behling. Raffle prizes were donated by Al Ross and Tom Orval.

Chef de Train Larry Winger isn't sure where the Fall Cheminot and Homecoming banquet will be held.

Badger Forty et Eighter deadline is the 28<sup>th</sup> of February. It was also mentioned that you can get a personal Ad in the Badger for \$25.00 a year. See the Grand Correspondant for details.

One item was mentioned. With the Grand Chef de Gare saluting everyone when they come up to the head table to give a report from the podium or are leaving it really messed up the flow of things. It was suggested we return back to the old way. It really was a disaster. A resolution on this matter will be presented before the Grande Promenade in August.

With no further business to come before this Midwinter Petite Promenade/Cheminot it was closed in proper Forty et Eight fashion with a closing prayer, removal of the POW-MIA Seat Cover and Salute to the Colors.

John Aasen  
Grand Chef de Gare

Thomas J. Orval  
Grand Correspondant