

THE BADGER FORTY et EIGHTER



VOLUME 57 NUMBER 1

MARCH/APRIL/MAY 2023

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RCHS DRUM DONATION

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FLAGS FOR 1ST GRADERS

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MIDWINTER SCENES

Grand Chef de Gare's Message

John Edelblute IV



Greetings to all my Forty and Eight Family,

Since we last met at Le President Barb Dotzauer's and my Testimonial dinner October 23 in Black River Falls held at the Big Orange Moose, I have been very busy as your Grand Chef. Thank You for those who helped organize and helped me through this event and for those who attended.

I have been traveling around attending Promenades in Jefferson, Dodge, Milwaukee and Washington counties. I have enjoyed the camaraderie and the invitations but mostly I just show up, sometimes planned and sometimes not. I would love to come visit your Locale before my term is up in August so please talk amongst yourselves and pick a date and I will be there. Thanks in Advance.

I also attended the famous Richland County Voiture 1268 pancake breakfast on November 6. Veterans Day I attended the program held at the War Memorial in Milwaukee sponsored by American Legion Post 415, which they have been doing for decades. It was on my bucket list and I thoroughly was quite impressed with the attendance especially with people that traveled a distance to get there. November 17 found me a little hungry that day so I traveled to La Crosse County Voiture 830's Turkey and Pie Dinner. The food and the camaraderie were just exceptional. I plan on making this a yearly event as it was a unexpected treat. December 13 I celebrated the Christmas season with my fellow Milwaukee County Locale 1519 at our annual Christmas Promenade at American Legion Post 120 in West Allis. A good time of course was had by all, but the highlight of the evening was talking to a fellow Voyageur who recently returned from deployment. It feels good to welcome people home.

January 12 thru the 15th I attended the American Legion Dept. of WI Midwinter Conference in Green Bay. As the Scouting Chairman for Department, I relayed the message about last year's Scouts helping with the cleanup at the Rainbow Flowage and Camp AL. I am hoping to secure some help again when we go up in May for our annual work days. I had the unexpected pleasure of sitting with Camp Director Jim Klement and his

wife at the Saturday night banquet.

A huge thanks to La Crosse County Voiture and Cabane for hosting the 2023 Midwinter Petite, which we just held. I believe a lot of good times were had to include a very fun and yet productive Promenade. I was fined a few times, which was obviously to be expected. I cannot wait until the Grand Promenade in August, to see what it will bring your Grand Chef de Gare for fining purposes. I hope everyone, Dames and Voyageurs who attended, took some good memories home with them.

Now I am going to talk a little VAVS. In December I presented the CDCE office at the Zablocki VA four \$25 gift cards from a local grocery store on behalf of the Grande du WI to help needy Veterans for some extra money for Christmas dinner. I am currently volunteering there a few hours a week in the DAV Transportation area visiting with Veterans in the waiting room and confirming and scheduling rides for them. I am working my Keep the Wheel Chairs Rolling request for needed items by Zablocki off of their wish list. Although I know funds are limited this year for this program, I am confident Zablocki will be awarded some funds.

February 17 myself and other members of Milwaukee County Voiture 1519 presented our first of the year Flags for First Graders program at St. Matthews school in Oak Creek. We had 22 students in attendance and the TEAM really did a wonderful job as always. We have many more planned. It is just an awesome Forty and Eight program.

Upcoming events for me as Grand Chef de Gare will be Richland County Voiture 1268 Pancake breakfast on March 5th and also a White Collar Wreck sponsored by Monroe County Voiture 804 on March 11. Looks like March is starting out like a Lion for your Grand Chef de Gare. LOL

In closing I hope to see all of you soon and stay safe.

Until next time...



ABOVE: (left to right) Chef de Gare Passe Don Anderson, Caitlyn Lee, Voyageur Wayne Norling, Chef de Train Terry Hendricks. AT LEFT: Madison Thiex. BELOW: (left to right) Chef de Gare Passe Bob Buhr, Brittany Buhr, Abigail Schradle, and Chef de Train Passe Don Fansler.



Polk-Burnett doles out scholarships to quartet

Polk-Burnett 40 et 8 Voiture Locale 236 recently presented \$600 Scholarship checks to four women from Polk and Burnett Counties to help them achieve their goals to become Registered Nurses.

Voiture 236 Forty et Eight presented end of fall semester 2022 scholarship checks to the following nurses training students from Polk and Burnett Counties. Each student received a \$600 scholarship check that is renewable up to four years for a potential total amount of \$2,400 to help these young women obtain their nurses training objectives.

Madison Thiex is a 2021 Siren High School Graduate and is in her second year at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. Madison's parents are Travis and Amy Thiex from Webster.

Caitlyn Lee is a 2021 Grantsburg High School Graduate and is in her first year at the University of Northwestern in St. Paul. Caitlyn's parents are Curt and Julie Lee from Grantsburg.

Brittany Buhr is a 2022 Clear Lake High School Graduate and

is in her first year at Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire. Brittany's parents are Jason and Jenn Buhr from Prairie Farm.

Abigail Schradle is a 2021 Clayton High School Graduate and is in her 2nd year of studies at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. Abigail's parents are Jeremy and Amanda Schradle from Clayton.

40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux (Forty and Eight) was formed after WWI as the fun and honor society of the American Legion. In 1941 Forty and Eight began issuing Nurses Scholarships to deserving individuals willing to undergo formal training and make a career of that very noble profession. In 1946, an acute shortage of nurses came to the attention of Voyageurs and a Nurses Training Program was initiated at the Voiture Locale level.

In addition to annual Nurses Training Scholarships, Voiture 236 also provides funds for unmet emergent needs of children 17 years of age or younger. These situations may arise out of natural disasters, i.e., floods, tornadoes, fire, etc.

Periodical Rate
Paid
Johnson Creek, WI
and
Additional
Offices

Grande Voiture de Wisconsin
312 Hillside Circle
Johnson Creek, WI 53038-9700



GRAND VOITURE OFFICERS 2023

Grand Chef de Gare	John Edelblute IV	Cudahy
Grand Chef de Train	Dave Behling	Lake Mills
Sous Grand Chef de Train	Ken Laatsch	Philips
Grand Conducteur	Melissa Guthmiller	Tomah
Grand Garde De La Porte	George Heck	Green Bay
Grand Commis Voyageur	Jack Vissers	Appleton
Grand Aumonier	Ray Kline	Onalaska
Grand Avocat	John Helgeson	Hudson
Grand Historian	Dale Mitchell	Eagle
Grand Commissaire Intendant	Jim Vissers	Appleton
Grand Sous Commissaire Intendant	Phil Nelson	Shawano
Cheminot National	John Aasen	Whitehall
Alternate Cheminot National	Larry Winger	Richland Center
Grand Correspondant	Tom Orval	Johnson Creek
Grand Sous Correspondant	John Edelblute IV	Cudahy

GRAND CHEMINOT 2023

Region 1	Raymond Pasbrig	Racine
Region 2	Pat Young	La Crosse
Region 3	Jim Vissers	Appleton
Region 4	John Helgeson	Hudson



THE BADGER FORTY & EIGHTER STAFF

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REPRESENTING LA SOCIETE FEMME GRANDE CABANE DE WISCONSIN

La Grande Presidente	Barbara Dotzauer	Fredonia
La Grande Correspondante	Mary Orval	Johnson Creek

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you are moving, advise Headquarters of your new address as soon as possible before you move. The Grand pays 50 cents for each newspaper that cannot be delivered to the address as shown.

GRAND CHEF DE GARE'S PASSE GRANDE VOITURE DE WISCONSIN

1978 Norbert Lohuis	2013 John Helgeson
1986 Ralph Ricker	2014 Lloyd Granberg
1992 Jerome Warner	2015 Dale Mitchell
1998 Gary Dotzauer	2016 Ken Kozubek
2001 Roger Oleson	2017 Richard Ruland
2002 Carl Sjolander	2018 Doug Schaller
2003 Lloyd Koeller	2019 Joe Story
2007 Don Emley	2020 Jim Bassett
2008 Tom Orval	2021 John Aasen
2009 Ron Pfalzgraf	2022 Larry Winger
2011 Jim Vissers	2023 John Edelblute IV



GRAND CORRESPONDANT

Thomas J. Orval



To begin with, I'd like to thank everyone who came to the Midwinter Petite Promenade in West Salem last month. Very fine mid-term reports from most and I am pleasantly surprised at the membership numbers and enthusiasm shown towards the various programs in La Société. Another item of encouragement is that we have Voyageurs who are planning on running for Line Offices for the next number of years. The

new portable speaker system was used on Friday. Everyone was very satisfied with it.

Over the last three weeks, the Grande Voiture has experienced (3) home fires involving children. Two of them were in the La Crosse County #830 and one in Richland County #1268. I commend those who filled out the Charles W. Ardery Memorial Child Welfare application. I was also asked who Charles W. Ardery was and why is this Fund named after him. He was our National Correspondant from 1924 -1941, 1944 -1952, 1953 -1965. He died in office. Need I say more?

Many if not all are aware that the Grande Voiture is giving a gift to Camp American Legion a new Kubota tractor. If all goes accordingly to plan, the keys will be presented to Camp Director Jim Klement and Department Commander Julie Muhle on May 12. This will be in conjunction with the annual spring cleanup at the Rainbow Flowage. Bring your chapeaus for a group photo of the event.

I was recently informed that on the Nurses Training pin, it says Nurses Training Club. It got me thinking as to why is it on there. Well except for 2004 and 2011 every Nurses Training pin from 1980 says that on it. I have everyone of them in my display case. Don't know why it says that. If anyone knows the answer, please let me know.

We have been informed that for those attending the National Promenade in Sandusky, Ohio this coming September that the Kahlari where the Promenade is being held has gone paperless, meaning that absolutely no money will be used for any purchases. All credit cards.

The Grande Voiture Finance Committee is made up of the Grand Chef, Grand Correspondant, Grand Commissaire Intendant/Sous Grand Commissaire Intendant and three Committee members. The Grand Chef is supposed to select a new member every year. Over the last number of years those selected members never came to a Grande or Midwinter. We currently have three members John Helgeson, George Heck and Ken Kozubek who are regulars at all Grande Voiture functions and very knowledgable in the Grande Voiture finances. Chuck Cooney was on the Committee but due to advanced age and illnesses, asked to be replaced. Article IV, Section 1 on page 13 of the Grande Voiture Constitution & Bylaws does have to be changed and we will be voting on this at the Grande Promenade later this summer. Hope to have a resolution sent out to all Locales this May.

The Great Lakes Promenade is June 1-3 in Okemos, MI. Wisconsin has taken out a full page Ad and some of us have sent out our own Ads to assist in defraying the cost of hosting such an event. Information on the event is on the National website.

Frank Campo of California by way of Illinois is running for Chef de Chemin de Fer this coming year. As soon as Frank retired in 2021, along with wife Jodie they moved back to Springfield, IL. Best of luck to Frank.

We've been asked what is the best time of year for your Locale to put on the Flags for 1st Graders in your area. Anytime is a good time. Due to the pandemic among other things, anytime the 1st Grade Class is available it is suggested that you proceed.

April 13-15, a good number of us will be in Rapid City, SD for the Great Western Promenade. They have a bus tour lined up for a trip to Mount Rushmore and the Crazy Horse Monument.

In a short while, I'll be sending out membership rosters that I have on file for each Locale. This is for updating the Badger Forty et Eighter mailing list. When finished updating the list, send it back noting any and all corrections, additions or deletions.

See You Around the State
Faith - Family - Forty & Eight

Compliments Of GRANDE CABANE DE WISCONSIN PRESIDENTE'S PASSE



Grand Voiture Membership 2023

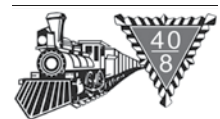
FEBRUARY 23

VOITURE	COUNTY	AREA	2022	2023
236	POLK-BURNETT	1	26	27**
260	TREMPEALEAU	1	42	21
410	KENOSHA	4	11	17**
497	RACINE	4	11	9
525	EAU CLAIRE	1	9	2
526	WALWORTH	4	5	5*
652	SAUK	2	32	17
683	DANE	2	39	23
750	JEFFERSON	4	49	38
751	WINNEBAGO	3	27	15
774	BROWN-KEWAUNEE	3	40	40**
804	MONROE	2	37	32
821	CLARK	2	16	15
830	LA CROSSE	2	86	70
831	PORTAGE	3	19	20**
840	COLUMBIA	4	9	7
844	ROCK	4	8	8*
856	DODGE	4	38	32
898	WASHINGTON	4	21	19
904	PIERCE	1	42	42**
986	SHAWANO	3	36	30
1080	SHEBOYGAN	4	15	11
1139	WOOD	3	4	4*
1140	OUTAGAMIE	3	19	20**
1156	VILAS-ONEIDA	1	16	12
	LINCOLN			
1204	LANGLADE	3	40	38
1268	RICHLAND	2	43	37
1323	JUNEAU	2	38	38**
1372	GRANT	2	8	8*
1434	CALUMET	3	11	11**
1455	IOWA	2	9	8
1485	ST. CROIX	1	6	1
1519	MILWAUKEE	2	43	39

TOTAL 855 716
**OVER THE TOP * 100%

AREA STANDINGS

	2022	2023	Percent
AREA 1 - 4th Place			Ken Laatsch
TOTALS	141	105	74.46%
AREA 2 - 3rd Place			Melissa Guthmiller
TOTALS	308	248	80.51%
AREA 3 - 2nd Place			George Heck
TOTALS	196	178	90.81%
AREA 4 - 1st Place			Jack Vissers
TOTALS	195	185	94.87%
GRAND TOTAL	855	716	83.74%
		-139	



RICHLAND COUNTY VOITURE 1268

LA SOCIETE DES 40 HOMES et 8 CHEVAUX

AMID THE SCENIC HILLS OF SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN

RICHLAND CENTER, WISCONSIN



GRANDE PRESIDENTE

Barbara Dotzauer



HAPPY NEW YEAR! Hoping everyone had a blessed Christmas and festive New Year.

Midwinter Rendezvous is behind us and what a great job Cabane 830 did! Thank you for your warm and friendly hospitality. For those who don't know, this was the first time that a Cabane, rather than a Voiture, hosted this Grande event. And they proved without a doubt that it can

be done. I commend them for stepping up and daring to be different.

I'd also like to thank the Cabanes that handed in mid-year reports. These reports are very important for our programs and our organization. Year-end reports are due in June. Those who reported at Midwinter are halfway finished with theirs.

With that said, now is the time to roll up our sleeves and get to work on our programs. Pins are still available to be purchased, just reach out to the program directeur.

I want to congratulate our Cabanes for a great job getting your memberships in. According to our membership report for January there is only one Cabane still with a goose egg. But another one is really kicking butt at 116%! Yes, it can be done, so let's get to work on those renewals.

Our next Grande get-together will be Forty and Eight Days at Camp American Legion. This year it will be held June 22-25. If you have never attended you don't know what you're missing. It's a relaxing, food and fun-filled weekend and a chance to let your hair down (well, some of us) and enjoy each other's company.

In closing, I just want to remind everyone if you have any questions or need anything explained, please feel free to reach out to me. If I don't have an answer I will get one.

Richland County #1268 Drum Donation to RCHS



During the Veterans Day Program this past November, Forty et Eight Chef de Gare Sandra Kramer observed that the 5th and 6th grade students were using five-gallon pails as drums in their band. Upon further investigation, Chef de Gare Kramer learned that when the 7th and 8th grade students were transferred to the Richland Center High School two years ago, they took all the percussion instruments with them. After discussing the lack of percussion equipment with Lisa Brown, the Intermediate School Principal and Sierra Calabria the school Instrumental Music Teacher, Chef de Gare Kramer put in motion a plan to solicit the financial assistance of various veterans' organizations in and around Richland Center as well as some private donations to purchase snare drums and stands for the school. \$1,200 was raised. Chef de Gare Sandra Kramer is in the front row with her red chapeau on.

GRANDE PRESIDENTE'S SWEEPSTAKES REPORT

Beth Laatsch

We have just returned from a wonderful weekend in West Salem, where, for the first time ever, a Cabane Locale hosted the Grande Midwinter Petite Promenade and Rendezvous. Now, I know they got help from their Voiture, it was really a joint effort. But kudos to Cabane 830 for stepping up and offering to host when, quite frankly, their Voiture was not willing to take it on. As it turned out, the weekend was very successful for both the Voiture and Cabane Locale.

The Grande Presidente's Sweepstakes is well on its way to another successful year; we're almost halfway there. As a fundraiser for Grande, the sweepstakes alone takes in \$1,000, and that money is turned over to the Grand Voiture, this year being earmarked again for Camp American Legion and the POW/MIA scholarship program.

As I have previously explained, each \$10 ticket sold has 20 chances to win a cash prize of \$50. With odds like that, the tickets are easy to sell. I would like to see more Cabanes contact me to have tickets sent to them. You can't win if you don't enter! Give me a call at 715-332-5288 or text 715-820-3776.

CAMP AMERICAN LEGION

Cathy Heck

I attended the Camp American Legion Committee meeting at the 2023 Wisconsin American Legion Midwinter Convention in January. Camp Director Jim Klement reported on a successful 2022 season, noting there was an increase of campers over the previous season.

Notable improvements made last summer include:

1. Four new cabin roofs, a very nice donation.
2. Cabin 12 is a manufactured home.
3. Decks were added to Cabin 15.
4. A Camp Store was erected with volunteers from one SAL Squadron donating all time and materials.
5. Several trees were also cut down during the summer.
6. In the closing weeks of the season the pipes in the basement of the main lodge were insulated, electrical panels marked, and temperature regulators changed to zone thermostats to handle the three floors more efficiently.

Activities taking place during the off-season include ice fishing and tapping trees for maple syrup. Also, Camp is hosting the 2023 Wisconsin American Legion Spring Conference on April 11.

The 2023 season will see more changes, including having Monica as Volunteer Coordinator and Kristy as Office Manager.

The Camp Store will be open for business. Volunteers will be scheduled to run it. And yes, it will have a Square to take care of credit card purchases.

Other projects in the works include:

1. The crosswalk relocation, which sounds like it is close to happening. There have been so many pieces to this project.
 2. The Century Wall, "A promise that was made" will happen.
 3. A large monetary donation was made for which Jim has three separate camp improvement projects in mind.
 4. The old tractor is being worked on with progress being made in keeping the engine running. The hydraulics are another matter, however, and need to be taken care of before someone gets hurt.
- Jim was praised by the committee for doing an outstanding job.

In summary, this was a very positive meeting and I feel the Camp is in good hands.

Lest We Forget

MARCH—APRIL—MAY

VOYAGEURS

ROBERT BLOMGREN	V-236
ROBERT DANIELSON	V-236
CHRISTOPHER SOWER	V-236
JAMES E. BEREGEMANN	V-497
BUD MAUTZ	V-683
JAMES ENGBRESTEN	V-774
RICHARD VOGEL	V-774
EDWARD H. CHRISTIAN	V-856
ROBERT SCHOENWETTER	V-856
JERRY BENTFIELD	V-898
ROBERT POLASKE	V-986
GRAND CHEF DE GARE 1972	
WILLIAM C. GUESS	V-1323
LEE ORMSON	V-1323

MAY THEIR SOULS REST IN PEACE

La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux



The Voyageurs And Dames Of



Shawano County #986 Voiture & Cabane

Home of Grand Chef de Gare Passe

Norman Kelly Ralph Ricker
Norman Habeck Roger Oleson
Lloyd Koeller Don Jahnke Bob Polaske

La Grande Presidente Passe

Marjorie Ricker Jermaine Engel
Rosemary Koeller Liz Jahnke



Chef de Gare	Jack Beggs
Correspondant	Arien Herminath
Commissaire Intendant	Phil Nelson
Cabane Presidente	Sandra Beggs
Cabane Correspondante	Kathy Gramza

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

VOITURE / CABANE #1080

Chef de Gare
Mark Degner



Correspondant
Joe Ternes

Presidente
Mary Orval



Correspondante
Barbara Dotzauer

Working Together As One We Get The Job Done



Promenades Held Every Third Wednesday of Each month @The Tomah American Legion 1900hrs

Chef de Gare Correspondant
David Linenberg Melissa Guthmiller

Get Wrecked With Us

MILWAUKEE COUNTY VOITURE 1519

Member of the Mighty 4th District

Chef de Gare

Andrew Minch

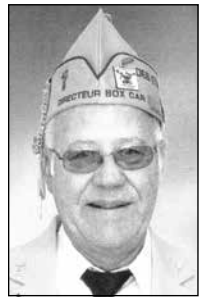
&

Correspondant

Linda Pfeiffer



GRAND COMMISSAIRE INTENDANT
Jim Vissers



This is your reminder that if your Locale's finances are based on the calendar year, you have until May 31st to file your IRS form 990 or 990EZ. It is very simple to do the 990EZ online, provided the person trying to do so has the Voiture Employer Identification Number (EIN). If that number seems to elude you locally, your Grand Commissaire Intendant should be able to assist you in that matter. Please don't

let yourself fall out of good graces with the IRS.

I feel it best to point out once again that our tax exempt status pertains ONLY to income tax. There is not a veteran's service organization in Wisconsin incorporated as a 501(C)19 entity, which covers our Posts and Voitures, that is exempt from Wisconsin state sales tax. Lest there be any doubt, we are required to pay state sales tax on our purchases for the Voitures.

Our investments so far this fiscal year have not been great, but we are in the black. During the month of January we did pretty good. The profits from the investments so far this year will be going toward the tractor the Grande will be purchasing for Camp American Legion. Hopefully, the rest of the fiscal year will be as profitable as January was.

Membership dues should provide the largest source of income to the Grand Voiture, but that share has decreased over the years. Please do not allow your Voiture to become stagnant by not recruiting new members to overcome our losses. These are the Voitures that come to the point of having just a few elderly voyageurs, no longer able to function as a unit, and are forced to turn in their charter. We need fresh younger blood to remain vibrant and grow. Believe it or not, they are out there. We just need to seek them out and invite them to join this great organization.

This fiscal year's current financial information was distributed to those who attended the Midwinter Petite Promenade in West Salem. If you need a copy of them, please let me know and I will send them to you by email.

In closing, please keep yourselves safe and don't let your guard down on some of the illnesses going around this year. If you haven't, make sure you and your families get vaccinated. God Bless all of you and God Bless America!

GRAND COMMIS VOYAGEUR
Jack Vissers

Greetings from your Grand Commis Voyageur! As you know, Commis Voyageur means Commercial Traveler and Property Man. Well, I have been traveling so far this year since being elected to this position of the Grande Voiture de Wisconsin. I have also carried the Grande Colors to where they needed to be.

Since the Grande Promenade in Tomah, I have attended Promenade Nationale in Green Bay where I performed the duties of National Sous Garde de La Porte. After that, I attended the Fall Cheminot and Testimonial Dinner for Chef John in Black River Falls. The next Grande function was the Grande Midwinter Petite Promenade in West Salem. I have enjoyed attending these events and meeting new Voyageurs and dames.

As your Commis Voyageur, I am in charge of membership for Area 4 which includes Kenosha, Racine, Walworth, Jefferson, Columbia, Rock, Dodge, Washington, Sheboygan, and Milwaukee Counties. As of February 23rd, Area 4 leads the Grande with 94.87% of last year's membership. We are leading the way, but still need 10 new or renewed Voyageurs to reach 100%. I know all of you are working hard to achieve this goal.

In closing, I would like to thank the Voiture Locales who have reached 100% or better. They are Kenosha, Walworth, and Rock Counties. Congratulations!

Compliments of
WINNEGAGO COUNTY
VOITURE 751
LET'S ALL BE GREAT IN THE BADGER STATE

40 ET 8 DAYS AT CAMP
Tom Orval
Chairman, 40 et 8 Days at Camp



The spring cleanup at the Flowage. It'll be held May 11-13. Raking and some removal of brush along with cleaning the siding, etc. We'll also be taking an assessment of the window sills in the pavilion and kitchen buildings.

Depending when the new Kubota is delivered, we hope to make a presentation on Friday afternoon to Camp Director Jim Klement and

Department Commander Julie Muhle, if she is available with the keys. If you are going to be there for the cleanup; bring your chapeau for a photo session.

The 54th Installment of Camp Days will be held on June 22-25. You can make reservations at the Rustic Manor by calling 715-479-9776 and please mention the 40 et 8 when doing so.

Thursday evening is set aside for camaraderie and good food. We all know there is an abundance of outstanding restaurants in the area.

On Friday morning we will be planning a shopping spree to Eagle River. This will be from 10:00 a.m. to NOON. So many stores and souvenir shops in town it may take longer to go through them all. I have watched the show "Discover Wisconsin" with Eagle River featured and had no idea there are that many shops, restaurants and sights to see. George and Cathy Heck will give Camp tours to anyone who wishes to see just what has been improved or added to the facility. Have been informed that the clothing - souvenir store is now operational.

The Bean Bag Tournament will begin at 1:30 p.m. behind the Rustic Manor along with the Friday afternoon picnic. There will be bonfires all three evenings weather permitting.

At approximately 9:30 a.m. Saturday morning we will meet under the open pavilion by the breakfast nook for the purpose of selecting worthy Voyageurs who wish to have their names submitted to the National Committee on Committee for consideration in being appointed to a National Program Committee. In other words, a Gold Chapeau!

Saturday morning Dale Mitchell is planning on having another fishing tournament but this time at the Rainbow Flowage. George Heck and Jim Klement are hoping to bring over a pontoon boat for the tournament and then give sightseeing rides on the Flowage that afternoon. The annual picnic at the Flowage will start from about 2:30 p.m. that afternoon. I am sure Beth Laatsch will be sponsoring bingo in the pavilion that afternoon before donation presentations to Camp and we eat.

Since 2014 the format/program for 40 et 8 Days at Camp has changed in many ways. The emphasis is on having fun with your La Societe family members in the great North woods. If you've never experienced Camp Days I highly recommend you take a trip there for 40 et 8 Days at Camp. You won't be disappointed.

Grande Voiture de Wisconsin
Past Chef de Gares Club

ORGANIZED FOR THE
COMRADERAIRE OF OUR FELLOW
VOYAGEURS

For More Information Contact

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
Doug Schaller	Ken Laatsch	Tom Orval

Sgts - At - Arms
Dale Mitchell & Raymond Pasbrig

Compliments of
Rock County
Voiture Locale 844

Bill Babb
Chef de Gare Correspondant
& Commissaire Intendant

SOUS CHEF DE CHEMIN DE FER
Steve Dierks



Greetings Grande de Wisconsin, On behalf of Pam and myself, I would like to say once again Thank You.

Thank you for the friendships shared and the comradery over the Petite Midwinter Promenade weekend.

Thank you to Grande Chef Jon and also to Grande President Barbara for having such a successful Promenade and Rendezvous.

Special thanks goes out to the Voyageurs that got Pam and me from point A to point B and back again.

I would also like to thank Locale President Mary Schaller and Cabane 830 for the beautiful fruit basket and for stepping up to host the Midwinter Petite.

Milwaukee VA Donation

Grand Chef de Gare John Edelblute IV presents Torrie Hutchison of the Zablocki Voluntary Services with (4) \$25 Pick & Save food cards from the Grande Voiture.

ADDRESS CHANGE / CORRECTION
If you are moving, advise Headquarters of your new address as soon as possible before you move. The Grand pays 50 cents for each newspaper that cannot be delivered to the address as shown.

CONTACT US:
Phone: 920-699-5676
Cell: 920-253-3064
wigrandvoiture@spectrum.net

Voiture 804 Wreck
Come get Wrecked with us!

March 11, 2023
Tomah American Legion
800 Wisconsin Avenue
Tomah, WI 54660

PGs arrive at 1000 hours (10:00 am)
NO LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED
There are numerous places to eat in Tomah
Wreck will follow lunch

For any questions, or if you would like to RSVP, contact:
Melissa Guthmiller
326 West Milwaukee St,
Tomah, WI 54660
Call/Text 814-421-0203
Email mguth1280@yahoo.com

Nurses Training Donation



Carl Sjolander and Al Johnson present a check for \$500 to Aubree Schmitz, one of La Crosse Voiture's #830 Nurses Training Scholarship recipients. She will graduate in May, 2023.

CABANE NURSES TRAINING

Mary Schaller

As spring arrives, we look forward to warm weather, graduations, and scholarships.

Have you given any thought to having a gathering to honor your nurses? Let me tell you about what we do in La Crosse County.

Voiture 830 sponsors five student nurses from its own treasury. In addition, this year one of their nurses applied to the Grand Voiture's Jack D. Wilson fund and received one of five \$500 scholarships that were awarded. Voiture and Cabane 830 have a tradition of getting together and hosting a banquet to honor their scholarship students, as well as the hard-working Voyageurs and Dames who raise the funds they give to the nurses. This Femme Party, as we call it, is usually held in April. Because of the pandemic we have not held this event the last couple of years but are hoping to change that this year.

The Femme Party is the highlight of our year. The nursing students come and express their appreciation for the scholarship money they receive, and that makes all of us feel that our efforts are worthwhile.

So, Dames, why not think about it? Find a student who is going for a degree in the health care field and make a commitment to help him/her achieve that dream. To raise funds, you could hold a brat fry at your local grocery store or have a drive-thru at your local American Legion post. Other ideas include 50/50 raffles, meat raffles, steak fries, meatball dinners, or fish fries. Be creative, there are many ways to help. Enlist the aid of your Voyageurs and share the expenses and the profits.

Nurses Training pins are available and if you need some, please contact me and I'll be happy to send them to you. And don't forget to get one for each of your student nurses.

GRAND CHEF DE TRAIN

David Behling



So you may be wondering what I am doing. Well, I was waiting until the Midwinter Petite was completed to assess my next move. The Midwinter Promenade was attended very well. I generated the most current membership report and presented it to the Grande.

Now we still have a lot of ground to cover but overall we are at 83.51% in membership. (Keep up the good work!)

I was busy at the Grande Midwinter Petite gathering Voyageurs for my Directeurs and Chairpersons in 2024. I wish to thank everyone in advance for maintaining their current positions and also to those who are accepting new positions. It means a lot to me to have the bases covered.

Am now aware of who the incoming Cabane Grande Presidente will be: Jennifer Larson. She will share the year with me so congratulate her when you see her.

Knowing this, I can now finish the design on my "Pin". The theme will be medicine through medicine! Since Jenny and I both have a medical background, it should work out perfectly. I have my fine box completed and it is loaded with "Program Pins". What do we do with all the pins? Well I repurposed a lot of mine this way.

One "Bright Light" from the recently concluded Midwinter Petite was that the Grande Voiture voted on to purchase a new Kabota Tractor for Camp American Legion. It will do the job and last for decades to come.

One problem we do have moving ahead. The Grande Voiture has not secured a venue for the Grande Promenade and Rendez-vous yet this summer. The leadership is working on it and we will inform everyone as to the location as soon as it is secured.

Well that's about all of the current news that I have. Again, if you need any help with your Locale, I am but a phone call away. 920-648-2994. Dave!

Fishery Raises Money for Camp American Legion



Beth & Ken Laatsch, Mary & Doug Schaller, Matt McCallson, Jack Vissers and Jim Vissers were all up at the Flambeau Forest Inn the weekend of February 25th-26th for the fishery fundraiser. Through the efforts of these Dames and Voyageurs, over \$2,000 was raised by the Cabane for Camp American Legion.

AT LEFT: Mary Schaller and Beth Laatsch selling tickets for the numerous raffles.

BOTTOM LEFT: Doug Schaller pulling out the winning ticket. No it wasn't his own.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Matt and Beth pose for the camera after a very busy day of raising funds for Camp American Legion.



La Crosse County #830 Helps Victims of House Fires



La Crosse County #830 assisted two families who were victims of house fires over the last month. Voyageurs Al Johnson and Carl Sjolander helped the Borst (left) and McLaurin (right) families using the Charles W. Ardery Memorial Child Welfare fund to get the children clothed after losing everything in the fires.

Last Sunday of Every Month
Except in December
THOMAS-HOLCOMB POST 304
PALMYRA AMERICAN LEGION



7:00 A.M. to Noon
Pancake Breakfast
115 North 3rd St, Palmyra, WI
ALL YOU CAN EAT FOR \$7.00
ONE OF EVERYTHING FOR \$4.00
Children Under Six Years FREE

Our breakfast includes **Pancakes, eggs** (no omelets), **sausages & toast**. Free with meal coffee, tea, milk, water, orange juice.

Take out is Available.



40 & 8
VOITURE 830 & CABANE 830
LA CROSSE COUNTY

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

NURSES TRAINING ~ CHILD WELFARE
YOUTH SPORTS ~ BOXCAR
CARVILLE STAR PROGRAM

BANGOR 40 ~ WEST SALEM 51 ~ LA CROSSE 52
HOLMEN 284 ~ ONALASKA 336 ~ FRENCH ISLAND 417
MINDORO 507 ~ LA CRESCENT 595

CABANE AMERICANISM

Beth Laatsch, Directeur



As Directeur Americanism, I expected to receive more than three reports at Midwinter Rendezvous. After all, we have seven Cabanes, five of which were present. I did notice, however, that some of the submitted reports were missing some pertinent information. I will take this opportunity to remind you about some obvious activities that every Cabane can report.

First, and most evident: every Americanism pin that is purchased by members of your Cabane can be reported. And this is true for every program. So even if you do nothing for the program except buy a pin, you have something to report. And believe it or not, there have been instances of a Cabane getting an award whose only activity was purchasing pins.

Next, since we have discontinued the Badger Forty and Eighter as a separate program, then anything you do for the Badger can be entered onto your Americanism report. This includes \$1.00 per member that is built into our dues amount. So that's another given that every Cabane can add to the report.

Finally, once you have completed your reports, please, please, please be sure to check your math. As a director, I have seen a Cabane miss out on a much-deserved award simply because of errors in simple arithmetic.

I hope all seven of the Wisconsin Cabanes will submit Americanism reports this year. The forms have been streamlined and simplified by our Grande Correspondant Mary over the past couple of years. And she gets the report forms mailed out early enough that the Cabanes can look them over and know what is reportable. That is very helpful, in my opinion.

Americanism is one of the easiest of all our programs to participate in. I suggest you get started at your next Rendezvous. Have a look at the blank report forms to get an idea of reportable activity and start compiling information. Good luck, I have faith in you.

SPECIAL AWARDS

Ron Pfalzgraf, Grande Special Awards Directeur
Grande de Wisconsin

Special Awards for the Forty et Eight is very important. Voitures please keep an eye out for people that are worthy of these awards. We should have entries from all or our Voitures. This is one way to get the 40 et 8 Veterans organization recognized.

Remember that Wisconsin also has an Award for Hero of the Year under the age of 18. A plaque will be given to the Locale to present to the Hero under the age of 18.

Special Awards nominations can be sent to me at any time but are due by June 15, 2023. Remember that all nominations must be accompanied by a Participation Reporting Form to be considered.

Hero of the Year: Can be anyone that does anything heroic, not only police or firemen. There are so many heroes out that everyday someone is helping and doing something heroic.

Law Officer of the Year: Recognize outstanding performance of duties both past and present, also off-duty contributions to community or state. (Must be in Wisconsin's Grand, but not required to be in Locale Jurisdiction.)

Voyageur of the Year: All Locales should submit a Voyageur of the Year. It is not a requirement that this Voyageur holds an office, or has held an office. We need to honor those hard workers.

City or Town of the Year: Recognized for doing something significant for Veterans in your town or city. Who does a lot of publicity to help promote our veterans and great Forty et Eight. SINCE I BECAME THE GRAND SPCL AWARDS DIRECTEUR, I HAVE NOT HAD (1) APPLICATION FOR CITY OR TOWN.

Each Locale may enter only (1) candidate for each of the Awards.

Important: The Generals Club supports the Special Awards Program thru their Funds. Which are generated by their annual dues of \$10. I have applications if anyone is interested.

There is also a new program called the BLUE CHEVALIERS, that also supports the Law Enforcement Program, Initial dues are \$15, with renewals at \$2. Please email me for more information if interested.

The Special Awards Forms with the rules and regulations are on the Nationale Website. If you have any questions or need help in any way please call me at 920-485-0107 or email me at rjpfalz8@gmail.com.

CABANE CHILD WELFARE

Judy Pfalzgraf

This is the last issue of the Badger before annual reports are due, so let me remind you that the reports should be in the hands of Grande Correspondante Mary Orval on or before June 24. I hope you have been keeping track throughout the year of the hours, miles, and money spent on the programs.

For your Cabane's Child Welfare report, please be sure that any projects your Cabane does are Voiture-sponsored. Simply ask the Voiture to donate money or to physically assist you with the project.

Child Welfare activities include donating to your local food pantries anything designated for children. A joint food pantry drive with your Voiture is a great way to get the men involved. Dames who are handy that way can knit or crochet afghans, scarves and mittens, having the Voiture donate money towards the yarn. Toy banks and giving trees are great ways to remember children at Christmas. Your local library can give you a list of children's books you could donate. Again, ask your Voiture for a contribution.

Every community has needy families that you can help through tough times. Have you ever seen the list of required school supplies that districts put out each fall? A family that is hurting financially could go broke! A school supply drive with your Voiture is a great way to help local kids.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding the Child Welfare program or filling out your reports. I can be reached at 920-485-0107 or rjpfalz7@gmail.com.

AIDE TO THE VOITURE

Judy Pfalzgraf

Dames, it is time to start thinking about year-end reports.

The Aide to the Voiture report should include anything you do to support your Voiture Locale in their programs and activities. This includes any related typing and bookwork for your Voyageur husband, including working on the Badger Forty and Eighter. You can also report transporting veterans who are not your husband to meetings or appointments. You can report things like cooking meals for Promenades and any help you give the Voyageurs in their fundraising efforts, like working in their food booths or donating baked goods that they sell. Even if you just give them money to purchase the things they need, that can also be reported. You can include hours and money spent, the value of material used, and miles driven.

Please start to compile a list of activities that you can put down on the report and send your reports to Mary Orval before the deadline of June 24. If you have any questions, please let me know. I will be more than happy to help. You can reach me at 920-485-0107, or rjpfalz7@gmail.com.

GRAND GARDE

DE LA PORTE

George B. Heck

Oh my Gosh! By Golly!

What a great year my wife, Cathy and I have had. Attending many functions of La Société starting with the Midwinter Petite in Manitowoc, WI, the work bee at the Rainbow Flowage, Great Lakes Promenade in Rochester, NY, 40 et 8 Days at Camp, Grande Promenade in Tomah, my 1st National Promenade in Green Bay, and the Cheminot in Black River Falls. Plus a few weeks volunteering at Camp American Legion.

Now it's time to focus on a new year. The focus being membership. We need to make every effort to be 100% in your Voiture by the end of the year. Congratulations to the following Voitures who achieved this for 2022. Voitures 410, 831, 904, 1139, 1140, and 1372.

Let's stay WISCONSIN STRONG!

Visit Grand Voiture
de Wisconsin
on the Web at



www.wifortyandeight.com

AMERICANISM

Ken Laatsch

At Grande Promenade in August 2022, the report I gave was very encouraging. Out of 34 Wisconsin Voitures, I received 17 reports: 50 percent reporting. That is better than it has been in a few years.

However, it was very disappointing that of the 17 reports I received, there were only 10 that included the name and address of the person filling out the report. And not only that, some of them didn't even have the Voiture name or number that submitted them. Since I do not have the gift of ESP and I am not psychic, there was no way for me to know where those reports came from.

So, please be sure to fill out the reports completely and accurately. Not only does it make my decision easier, but it gives your Voiture a better chance for awards, since incomplete reports are ineligible for judging.

Of the 34 Voitures in our Grande, only one reported Badger Boys activity. I have no way of knowing whether the other 27 Voitures have done anything for the program or not. I know you have all heard this before, but I will say it again: even if your Voiture does not actively participate in this or any program, please send a report anyway. Just fill in the pertinent information, like your Voiture Number and the name of the person filling out the report and write "no activity" across the top of the report. That way we will know for sure what your Voiture is participating in.

The 2023 session of Badger Boys State will be held June 11-17 at UW-Eau Claire. Sponsorship is \$400 per student. If your Voiture has the funds, it would be money well spent.

I have four (4) of the 2023 Americanism pins that I had. I also was informed by National Americanism treasurer Ron Garland that the remaining pins are for sale for three (3) dollars each or can be taken on consignment. So, if anyone needs more pins, contact me and I will contact Voyageur Ron and get them for you. Or you can contact him at 1-904-316-9251.

If any Voiture Locale wants to nominate someone for the annual Americanism Award, all the information is on Voiture Nationale's website under the Americanism program tab. The nominee does not have to be a Voyageur or a Dame, but the person should be very active in supporting his or her community or Veterans. If you do have someone in mind, follow the protocol on the Americanism website.

You should have received your Petite Communiqués from Grand Correspondant Tom Orval. Please, when filling them out, be sure to fill in all the information at the top of the report. As in, the name of the person doing the report, the Voiture number, the Voiture name, etc. If the report is not filled out correctly, it cannot be used for award judging, or for my report to Nationale on all you do for La Societe.

Thank you for your participation in the Americanism program and for everything you do to help your fellow veterans and the communities you live in.

I hope to see a lot of you up at Camp for the Spring cleanup, and then again at Camp Days at the end of June! Take Care everyone!!

OUTAGAMIE COUNTY VOITURE LOCALE 1140



Jim Bassett
Chef de Gare

Jim Vissers
Correspondant

Home Of
Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Passe

Jim Vissers

Grand Chef de Gare Passe

John Marr

Jim Vissers

Jim Bassett



DANE COUNTY
Voiture & Cabane 683

GRAND CHEF DE GARE PASSE

Reginold C. Golden	1961	Tom Borman	1999
Lloyd Richardson	1968	Ken Kozubek	2016
Jim Wages	1988	Richard Ruland	2017

CHEF DE GARE
Gerry Scalissi

PRESIDENTE
Chris Schaefer

CORRESPONDANT
Keith Lovell

CORRESPONDANTE
Sandy Lovell

LA GRANDE CABANE CORRESPONDANTE
Mary Orval



The Midwinter Rendezvous was held February 11, 2023 in West Salem, Wisconsin. I would like to say a special thank you to the Dames of Locale 830 for an outstanding job for our weekend. The weather was perfect just like our wonderful 40 & 8 friends.

We had a wonderful time with our Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer, Steve Dircks and Pam Reimann from Minnesota.

Congratulations to all of Grande de Wisconsin for 100% in membership overall. Great and Awesome Job Dames!

This states as of March 2023:

Cabane	2022 Renewals	New	Percent
526	8	8	100.00%
683	11	3	27.27%
830	17	17	100.00%
856	23	23	100.00%
986	16	16	100.00%
1080	16	17	106.25%
1372	6	7	116.67%
Totals	97	91	5
Total Percentage			91.83%

Reminders: Report Deadline: June 16, 2023 for mailing back reports to Grande Correspondante. Or if you are attending Camp American Legion Days, please bring them and give them to me.

Award Deadline: July 22, 2023 for emailing or mailing results of Cabane award winners for Grande. Get me the information soon for printing out the award certificates.

Awards for Nationale: Please look at the Nationale website for the list of Nationale awards that your Locale Cabane could be eligible to receive.

Reminder: Bring all your raffle tickets, stubs and money for Grande President's Project for Beth Laatsch, she must have them by Grande. If you have taken raffle tickets and cannot attend, please mail your ticket stubs and money to Beth Laatsch, W11885 County Road, Phillips, WI 54555 or call Beth Laatsch at 715-332-5288.

Grande - 2023 - No bid at this time. You will be notified if this information should change.

Raffles for Grande - Cabane 830, Cabane 1080 and Passé Presidentes' Club

Dates to Remember:

40 et 8 Days at Camp American Legion - June 23-24, 2023
 Nationale Rendezvous - Sandusky, Ohio - September 11-16, 2023

Spring is almost here. Let us wish for warmer, safer, healthier and better tomorrows. I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone for their help, hard work and support for the Grande de Wisconsin.

Flags For 1st Graders



Milwaukee County Voiture #1519 presented flags to the 1st grade class at St. Matthew's on February 17. Back Row L to R: Teacher Amy Oliden, Grand Chef John Edelblute, Aide de Camp Jeff Grom and Voyageurs Robert Sorrel, Stan Larson and George Rainer.

Dodge County Promenade



Grand Chef de Gare John Edelblute visited Dodge County at their February 8th Promenade in Juneau. He is shown here with Chef de Gare Dennis Bruesch, Correspondant Ron Pfalzgraf, and Voyageurs Wayne Brussel and J. Kim Breslow.

JUNEAU COUNTY VOITURE LOCALE # 1323

CHEF DE GARE: Everett Burdick
 CORRESPONDANT: Jim Frisch

Wisconsin's Only Nurses Training Scholarship Forest

WASHINGTON COUNTY VOITURE #898
 La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

GRANDE DE WISCONSIN HOME OF

Sous chef de Chemin de Fer Passe - Dave Wegener
 Grand Chef de Gare Passe - Roland Moericke
 Germantown Post #1

Courtney-Carr-Milner Hartford Post #19
 Lt. Ray Dickop West Bend Post #36
 Robert G. Romaine Kewaskum Post #384
 Fohl Martin Allenton Post #483
 S. Sgt Henry F. Gumm Jackson Post #486
 Goetz - St. Louis Hubertus Post #522

Chef de Gare: Craig Blawat
 Correspondant: Mary Millikin
 Commissaire Intendant: Mark Baldwin

JEFFERSON COUNTY VOITURE LOCALE #750

GRAND CHEF DE GARE PASSE

ART MINNING 1957
 JOHN MODEL 1973
 CHARLES LENZ 1985
 THOMAS J. ORVAL 2008
 DALE MITCHELL 2015
 KEN KOZUBEK 2016

GRAND OFFICERS 2023

Dave Behling Grand Chef de Train
 Pat Sukowski Directeur Nurses Training
 Dale Mitchell Directeur VAVS
 and Curator Grand Voiture website
 Ken Kozubek Directeur Voiture Activities
 Tom Orval Grand Correspondant
 and Directeur Public Relations

VOITURE LOCALE OFFICERS

Chef de Gare: Dave Behling
 Correspondant: Tom Orval
 Commissaire Intendant: Dale Mitchell



Scenes from the Midwinter Petite in West Salem



ABOVE LEFT: Lori Zimmerman and Larry Winger enjoying comradery as Dave Linenberg listens in the background before the banquet. **ABOVE CENTER:** 4438: Grand Commissaire Intendant Jim Vissers presents Cabane Presidente Barb Dotzauer and Grande Commissaire Intendant Carol Ternes with part of the profit from hosting the National Promenade. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Grand Chef John presents Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Steve Dircks with an award recognizing him for his work and dedication to the programs and membership of La Societe. **AT LEFT:** Eleven Grand Chef de Gare Passe with the current Grand Chef John and National Sous Chef Steve Dircks during the Saturday lunch hour. **BELOW LEFT:** La Crosse #830 Chef de Gare Dan Lefebvre gives greetings. **BELOW RIGHT:** The Grande Voiture Line Officers with Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Steve Dircks.



Compliments Of
**DODGE COUNTY
VOITURE & COBANE # 856**


Grand Chef de Gare Passe
Wayne Faber Ron Pfalzgraf

La Grande Presidente Passe
Joyce Kiel Mary Buschke
Gloria Faber Bea Griner
Judy Pfalzgraf Lisa York Jackie Mitchell

Voiture # 856
Chef de Gare Dennis Bruesch
Correspondant Ron Pfalzgraf
Commissaire Intendant Ron Pfalzgraf

Cabane # 856
Presidente Micki Polster
Correspondante Judy Pfalzgraf
Commissaire Intendant Judy Pfalzgraf

Compliments of
**Trempealeau County
Voiture No. 260**
Grand Voiture de Wisconsin



2023 Officers
Chef de Gare
Gavin J. Johnson

Correspondant
Charles Hizer

Commissaire Intendant
David Aldach


Teamwork and Having Fun Make the 40 et 8 No. 1

**LANGLADE COUNTY
VOITURE 1204**

Tom Demerath
Chef de Gare

Dan Kamps
Correspondant

HOME OF



Don Emley
Chef de Chemin de Fer 2016
Dale Oatman
Sous National Directeur
Special Awards Passe
State American Legion
Commander 2016
Jack Eaton
National Lampiste & Drapeau Passe
Steve Bradley
National Directeur Ritual
Richard Schuh
Grand Chef de Gare 2005
Marie Schuh
Grande Cabane Presidente 2005