

THE BADGER FORTY et EIGHTER



VOLUME 59 NUMBER 3

THE HONOR SOCIETY OF AMERICAN VETERANS

SEPT./OCT./NOV. 2025

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40ET8 DAYS AT CAMP

Grand Chef de Gare's Message

Melissa Guthmiller



Greeting Fellow Voyageurs!
I hope everyone had an amazing summer. It went by way too fast. I would first like to say thank you to Ken & Beth Laatsch for a wonderful year they had in La Societe! We had a blast at the annual 40&8 Days at Camp American Legion; and the weather held up nicely this year.

The Grande Promenade & Rendezvous went well in Antigo this last August. Langlade County Voiture 1204 put on a great event. Thank you to all who came.

The weekend after Grande, I volunteered with my daughter Ashley for the Arts Festival in Arcadia for her Show Choir. It was extremely warm sitting in a ticket booth, but we faced the bands and had great entertainment while we volunteered. We were able to stay after our shift and see ZZ Top and Brad Paisley. If you have never attended this event and you don't mind about a million people, it is a lot of fun.

If you are around for Cranfest, on Sunday, September 28, be sure to stop at the parade. The La Crosse 830 Lockie is always there and they usually have room for you to climb aboard. Be sure to bring your chapeau.

Monroe County Voiture 804 will be hosting their yearly wreck

on October 4, at the American Legion in Tomah. This is always a great time, send your PG's our way, we promise to take care of them. There will be no lunch held but the bar will be open at 9 am for socializing. You do not need to RSVP, however if you have questions, please contact me.
I am excited for the Fall Cheminot and Testimonial Dinner that will also be held at the American Legion in Tomah on October 18. My parents are driving in from Nebraska and I am excited for them to meet everyone in this organization that I love to be a part of. I hope to see more Voyageurs attend the Mid-Winter Petite Promenade February 13-14 in MINNESOTA. I am sure Eric Diekmann will wear his Vikings shirt proudly at some point that weekend. I am looking forward to a busy and crazy year and hope to see everyone at some point.



Let's Get Together

Testimonial dinner
in honor of:

**Grand Chef de Gare
Melissa Guthmiller
and
Grande Cabane President
Barbara Dotzauer**

Saturday, October 18

**American Legion Post 201
800 Wisconsin Ave
Tomah, WI 54660**

Cocktails at 5:00 pm – Dinner at 6:30 pm
Beef Tips & Gravy / Bourbon Baked Chicken Legs
with sides. \$27

Dinner Reservation Deadline October 1
Make Checks payable to Melissa Guthmiller & mail to:
326 West Milwaukee St, Tomah, WI 54660

Lodging:
Tomah Best Western Hotel
1017 East McCoy Blvd
Tomah, WI 54660
\$94 (2 queen room)
608-372-3211

Reserve by October 1, 2025 and mention 40&8

The 2025 Fall Cheminot will take place at the Tomah American Legion Post 201 at 1:00 pm October 18, 2025. Reports from the National Committee meetings, election results, resolution or constitutional changes, if any, password change, appointments, etc. will be discussed.

Periodical Rate
Paid
Johnson Creek, WI
and
Additional
Offices

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



Richland County Donkey Crew

Members of the Locale visited assisted living/nursing homes in Richland County and beyond this year. Most of these visits were during the month of June. They also participated in our Memorial Day Parade in May. Those on our donkey crew are our Locale 1248 Chef de Gare - Marlin Clark, Past Chef de Gare Sandra Kramer, 40 et 8 member Dan Kramer and Kerry Melby. We also were assisted by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 13.

We have two more events to attend. Sept. 19, Our House Assisted Living/Nursing Home in Richland Center and on October 25, The Annual Veterans Organizations Trick or Treat at American Legion Post 13 from 1-3 p.m.



GRAND VOITURE OFFICERS 2026

Grand Chef de Gare	Melissa Guthmiller	Tomah
Grand Chef de Train	George Heck	Green Bay
Sous Grand Chef de Train	Jack Vissers	Appleton
Grand Conducteur	Andrew Minch	Milwaukee
Grand Garde De La Porte	Lori Zimmerman	Tomah
Grand Commis Voyageur	Mikki Bradley	Tomah
Grand Aumonier	Ray Kline	Onalaska
Grand Avocat	John Helgeson	Hudson
Grand Historian	Open	
Grand Commissaire Intendant	Jim Vissers	Appleton
Sous Grand Commissaire Intendant	Ray Pasbrig	Racine
Sous Grand Commissaire Intendant	George Heck	Green Bay
Cheminot National	Dave Behling	Lake Mills
Alternate Cheminot National	Ken Laatsch	Phillips
Grand Correspondant	Tom Orval	Johnson Creek
Grand Sous Correspondant	John Edelblute IV	Cudahy

GRAND CHEMINOT 2026

Region 1	Raymond Pasbrig	Racine
Region 2	Mikki Bradley	Tomah
Region 3	Jim Vissers	Appleton
Region 4	John Helgeson	Hudson



THE BADGER FORTY & EIGHTER STAFF

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Grand Sous L'editeur	John Helgeson
Grande Cabane Sous L'editeur	Mary Orval
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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

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	2023 John Edelblute IV
2011 Jim Vissers	2024 Dave Behling
2013 John Helgeson	2025 Ken Laatsch



GRAND CORRESPONDANT

Thomas J. Orval



If you have not yet received the 2026 40 et 8 memberships cards for your Locale, contact Grande Headquarters and I'll assist you with obtaining a new set. Problems with the USPS have delayed arrival to some Locales.

Randall D. Addezio of Appleton has been chosen as the 2025 "Hero of the Year" in both the Grande Voiture and National. He will receive this very prestigious award

in Gettysburg in a few weeks in conjunction with the national Promenade & Rendezvous.

Speaking of the National Promenade, Jim Vissers was given the nod to become our next Chef de Chemin de Fer for La Societe in 2026. Can't say much more until after the election and swearing in at the National Promenade in Gettysburg.

The 2025 Grande Promenade is now history. Melissa Guthmiller of Tomah is our new Grand Chef de Gare. Her theme is Drive to Membership. This year's membership Directeur is George Heck and is more than happy to assist any Locale in need of assistance. Other items of interest from the Grande Promenade are Lisa Allen of Columbia Voiture 840 received the Grand Voiture Voyageur of the Year award. David Behling of Jefferson Voiture 750 was presented with the Harald Kahlert Meritorious Service Award. Cathy Heck won the 2025 Dame of the Year award. For the very first time, I was presented with the Grande Voiture Correspondant of the Year award for my 30 years as Correspondant of my Locale and 20 years as the Grand Correspondant.

During the Cheminot Saturday morning after the elections, Grand Chef Melissa appointed myself to another 5-year term as Grand Correspondant. It was with the approval of the Grand Cheminot. That's my 5th, consecutive 5-year appointment which is very significant because I have now passed Arthur N. Jacoby for 2nd place on the longevity list. Art was a dear friend and mentor to me when I first took over this position.

In a few weeks many of us will be traveling to Gettysburg, PA, for the 106th annual National Promenade & Rendezvous. Committee meeting assignments have already been handed out and reports on those meetings will be presented at the Fall Cheminot in Tomah on October 18th in conjunction with Grand Chef de Gare Melissa Guthmiller's testimonial dinner.

By now most of you have been made aware that Jim Vissers was given the nod to become the next Chef de Chemin de Fer for La Societe. We all wish Jim the very best in his endeavors with leading this organization for the coming year.

For the coming year, membership assignments are as follows: Grand Sous Chef de Train Jack Vissers - Locales 751, 774 986, 1080, 1140, 1156 and 1204. Grand Conducteur Andy Minch - Locales 410, 497, 526, 683, 750, 840, 844, 856, 898 and 1519. Grand Garde de La Porte Lori Zimmerman - Locales 236, 525, 804, 830, 1139, 1323 and 1455. Grand Commis Voyageur Mikki Bradley - Locales 260, 652, 821, 831, 904, 1372, 1268 and 1485.

On October 4 at the Tomah American Legion, Monroe County 804 will be conducting their famous Brown Collar Wreck. Details are forthcoming as to time.

It's been a wonderful summer for the Wisconsin 40 et 8. Many new Voyageurs and Dames are joining La Societe. The Grande was but 19 short of obtaining 100% for 2025; a feat that has not been accomplished since Grand Chef de Gare Lloyd Granberg in 2014. Getting closer all the time.

I wish to thank Voyageur Tom Demerath from Langlade Voiture 1204 for the beautiful U.S. Army challenge coin he presented to me at the Grande Promenade last month. Very appreciative of this gift.

FAITH FAMILY FORTY et EIGHT

Grande Voiture de Wisconsin Past Chef de Gares Club



ORGANIZED FOR THE
CAMARADERIE OF OUR FELLOW
VOYAGEURS



For More Information Contact

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
John Edelblute	Jim Bassett	Tom Orval

Sgts - At - Arms

Lori Zimmerman & Dave Behling

Grand Voiture Membership 2025 FINAL

VOITURE/COUNTY	AREA	2024	2025
236 POLK-BURNETT	1	28	23
260 TREMPEALEAU	4	30	34 *
410 KENOSHA	3	20	22 **
497 RACINE	3	11	14 **
525 EAU CLAIRE	1	0	4 *
526 WALWORTH	3	4	5 **
652 SAUK	3	19	29 **
683 DANE	2	30	23
750 JEFFERSON	3	39	36
751 WINNEBAGO	2	20	21 **
774 BROWN-KEWAUNEE	1	38	36
804 MONROE	4	38	39 **
821 CLARK	1	15	10
830 LA CROSSE	4	81	71
831 PORTAGE	2	21	23 **
840 COLUMBIA	2	6	8 **
844 ROCK	3	7	6
856 DODGE	2	27	24
898 WASHINGTON	2	16	16 *
904 PIERCE	4	43	41
986 SHAWANO	1	37	38 **
1080 SHEBOYGAN	2	11	9
1139 WOOD	4	4	4 *
1140 OUTAGAMIE	2	25	28 **
1156 VILAS - ONEIDA			
- LINCOLN	1	14	11
1204 LANGLADE	1	38	38 *
1268 RICHLAND	4	41	41 *
1323 JUNEAU	2	31	26
1372 GRANT	3	9	9 *
1455 IOWA	3	8	8 *
1485 ST. CROIX	1	5	5 *
1519 MILWAUKEE	3	39	34

TOTAL 755 736
** OVER THE TOP (10) * 100% (19)

AREA STANDINGS

	2024	2025	Percent
AREA 1 - 4th Place			George Heck
TOTALS	175	165	94.28%
AREA 2 - 3rd Place			Jack Vissers
TOTALS	187	178	95.18%
AREA 3 - 1st Place			Andy Minch
TOTALS	156	163	104.48%
AREA 4 - 2nd Place			Lori Zimmerman
TOTALS	237	230	97.48%
GRAND TOTAL	755	736	97.48%
		-19	

LA CROSSE COUNTY VOITURE LOCALE 830

Turkey
and
Pie Nite



Saturday
November 15

Social Hour: 5 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Roast turkey with all the trimmings,
plus different pies ... Cost: \$12

West Salem
American Legion Club
148 South Leonard Street
West Salem, Wisconsin

To make reservation contact
Douglas M. Schaller
608-385-6812 • dougshaller@hotmail.com

Keep the Wheelchairs Rolling



Dale Mitchell presenting Keep the Wheelchairs Rolling check to James Barnett. Community Relations and Volunteer Services for homeless veterans.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tom Orval, Grand Directeur

The meaning of Public Relations is the practice of managing and disseminating information from an individual or an organization (such as a Veterans organization) to the public in order to influence their perception. As a firm believer of the Who-What-When-Where-Why when sending information to the local newspapers, Facebook, internet community pages, etc. about your Voiture Locale programs, scholarships, Child Welfare or even elections of new Officers, you need to get as much information to the general public as possible. In the simplest of terms, "toot your own horn".

Pictures need explanations as to what they are about. When promoting an upcoming event, have flyers made up and put in grocery stores, bowling alleys, social gatherings, and work places.

The mission of every Public Relations Directeur is to get the word out about our wonderful organization and everything we do for our fellow Veterans, community, and the children in the area.

GRAND SOUS CHEF DE TRAIN

Jack Vissers

If you do not have your 2026 membership card, it's time to send in your dues to your Locale Correspondant. If you have not paid your dues by the 31st of December, you will be considered delinquent. Please help your Locale Correspondant out by sending them in today.

I hope everyone that attended the Grand Promenade in Antigo had a good time. The current Chef de Chemin de Fer, Paul Emmert and his wife Christine from Maryland were present. Again, Wisconsin treated them to a very memorable time. They were very impressed with their visit to Camp American Legion and the Rainbow Flowage.

Soon it will be time to head to Gettysburg, PA, for Promenade Nationale. Looking forward to seeing some old friends and maybe making some new ones. After Promenade Nationale, it will be off to the Fall Cheminot and Testimonial Dinner for Grand Chef Melissa. Hope to see many of you there.

CHILD WELFARE

Eric Diekmann, Directeur

Once again, this past year Wisconsin has assisted with disasters and used the lion's share from the Charles Ardery fund. As a Grande Voiture, we spent \$3,560 and assisted multiple families with a total of 13 children. These were all due to fires.

This program is not limited to fires, tornadoes, floods, etc. It's been a quiet spring and summer so far; let's hope it remains that way heading in fall and winter.

Winter is when this program sees the most use. I encourage all of you participate in this program by spreading the word on how we can help families after a disaster.

I have the 2026 pins, they are \$3 each. I can send them to your Locales if you let me know how many you want. I ask for all to support this program.

Remember you can spend up to \$500 per child with a max of \$2,000 per household. This is for immediate need items only. Immediate need items are not limited to clothing; it can be book bags, backpacks, eyeglasses, etc. The key word is "need".

As a Grande this past year we spent a total of \$14,492, assisting 986 children through various programs. Man hours reported were 652 with 258 miles driven. We only sold 50 pins.

CABANE NURSES TRAINING

Mary Schaller

Hello Dames.

I have just learned of a program available in our state. It's called the Wisconsin Nurses Honor Guard, and it recognizes nurses at the time of their passing. The Wisconsin Nurses Honor Guard will provide a final tribute, free of charge, to any licensed/registered/advanced practice nurse, active or retired, within the State of Wisconsin, given the availability of volunteers.

It is a statewide network of volunteer nurses who provide their time and effort to honor a fallen colleague. The tribute lasts approximately 8 minutes.

Guard uniforms are white, with caps, and vintage style capes. A short biography of the nurse's career is read aloud with the Florence Nightingale tribute. Tribute is completed with a final call to duty for the fallen nurse.

Donations are appreciated. Although it is not actually a nurses training program, any support your Cabane gives the Wisconsin Nurses Honor Guard could be reported on your Americanism report.

Contact me for more information.

CABANE YOUTH SPORTS

Beth Laatsch

The Nurses Training program was the one that my Cabane and Voiture was most active in historically. We were always able to find a nurse or two to sponsor. Well, as the years have gone by and the members of my tiny Cabane have become more geographically distant, we just haven't been able to find any nurses to sponsor.

If this is the case with your Cabane, let me suggest you consider the Youth Sports program. I'll bet many of your Cabane members are grandmothers. And most kids nowadays participate in some kind of organized sports. No doubt you have spent plenty of money on pizzas, cookie dough, popcorn, calendar raffles and other such fundraisers. Teams need equipment and uniforms as well as money for transportation to their sports events.

I suggest your Cabane seeks out a youth group to donate to. That's what mine did. In fact, we found two. It was easier than a nurse's scholarship since it's a one-time gift with no need to track student grades. We drafted an application by following the format of the one that appears on the national Forty and Eight website.

Bonus: Your Cabane can apply to either Grand Voiture or Voiture Nationale for reimbursement of the money you spent.

And the best part: The kids are so grateful! It's rewarding to know you helped them out, so that maybe they didn't have to sell so many pizzas.

So, if your Cabane is looking for a meaningful program to sponsor, I suggest you consider Youth Sports.

NATIONAL BOX CAR ASSOCIATION

John Aasen, Directeur



As Grand Directeur, I have obtained the new 2026 NBCA Crew and Associate cards. These along with an ample supply of the 2026 pin for the upcoming year. They will be for sale or on consignment at the Fall Cheminot and we'll have a table set up for sale of the cards which are \$1 and the pin is \$3.

Do thank Dodge 856 and Jeffer-

son 750 for their continued sale of cards each year. As a matter of fact, I took 100 Associate cards and Voiture 750 took all of them and already sold them all.



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
- DAVE BEHLING 2024

- Dale Mitchell Directeur Nurses Training
- Ken Kozubek Directeur Youth Sports
- Tom Orval Directeur Public Relations
- Grand Correspondant

VOITURE LOCALE OFFICERS

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



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

Milwaukee County Voiture 1519

Member of the Mighty 4th District

Chef de Gare

Andrew Minch

&

Correspondant

Linda Pfeiffer



JUNEAU COUNTY VOITURE LOCALE # 1323

CHEF DE GARE CORRESPONDANT
Everett Burdick Jim Frisch

*Wisconsin's Only
Nurses Training
Scholarship Forest*



RICHLAND COUNTY VOITURE 1268

LA SOCIETE DES 40
HOMES et 8 CHEVAUX

AMID THE SCENIC HILLS OF
SOUTHWESTERN
WISCONSIN

RICHLAND CENTER, WISCONSIN



GRAND VOITURE AMERICANISM Ken Laatsch

With my term as Grand Chef complete, I am now able to focus again on serving as Directeur Americanism, a role to which Grand Chef Melissa has reappointed me.

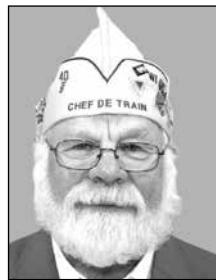
Congratulations to the award-winning Voitures for 2024-25 as announced at the Grand Promenade at Antigo in August. First place in Americanism went to Shawano County Voiture 986, second place was Langlade County 1204. And I thank every Voiture that submitted a report.

A suggestion for the person who fills out the annual Americanism report: PLEASE FILL OUT THE TOP PORTION OF THE REPORT! Do not neglect that section for fear that I will call and bug you about anything else regarding the report. That is not my duty as Directeur. I will only contact you if I need to verify something in the report. In all the years I have been Directeur Americanism, I have never called anyone concerning their report.

I want to remind all Voyageurs to continue to keep track of everything you do for the Americanism program and make sure you report to your Voiture Locale. Just about everything you do as members of the Voiture for the betterment of your communities can be reported under Americanism.

It was bound to happen; the pin prices have gone up this year. The 2026 Americanism pin is now \$4.00; still a small price to pay when you consider the impact that pin sales make in raising money for the program. I can send yours to you if you call me at 715-332-5288 or email knb4575@pctnet.net.

GRANDE VOITURE MEMBERSHIP George B. Heck, Chairman



The 2026 membership drive is now under way. Everyone should have gotten their membership dues notice in the mail have you returned it to the Correspondent? What are you waiting for?

2025 ended with 18 Voitures out of thirty-two with at least 100%. Out of the eighteen there were eleven that exceeded 100%. Congratulations to

Voitures 260, 410, 497, 526, 652, 751, 804, 831, 840, 898, 986, 1139, 1140, 1204, 1268, 1372, 1455, and 1485. Again, congratulations on the job well done. Which tells us there are candidates who want to belong, they just need to be asked by a voyageur. So do your part and make Grande de Wisconsin a 100% Grande. It can be done!

As summer is ending, we have enjoyed our travels to many functions of La Societe. Our work bee at the Rainbow flowage, Great Lakes Promenade in De Kalb, Ill., the always outstanding 40 et 8 Days at Camp in St. Germaine and of course our Grande Promenade in Antigo. Loads of fun activities were had by all.

Back to paragraph one, did you pay your dues yet? Get it done. Let us make Grande Voiture de Wisconsin a 100% Grande by January 1, 2026. IT CAN BE DONE!

GRANDE VAVS DIRECTEUR John W. Edelbute IV



Greetings to my Grande de Wisconsin Forty and Eight Family.

Well, as usual, I am busy as normal here at the Zablocki VA in Milwaukee and with other organizations that I am associated with. As the saying goes, if you want something done ask the busy person. Speaking of the VA, this year Zablocki, Middleton and the Tomah VAs put in requests for the Keep the Wheelchairs Rolling Contest once again. Tomah and Middleton both received monies for their requests. Unfortunately, here at the Zablocki VA we were not so lucky. Due to a shortage of funds this year there was not enough to honor my request. This is the first time I was denied after all these years. It's okay though; hopefully I will have better luck next year.

I have attended all of my VAVS quarterly meetings and am up for my annual review in September. Things are good.

Had the honor and privilege to escort our National Guest, Chef Chemin de Fer Paul Emmert Sr. and his wife Christine at our Grande Promenade in Antigo this year. They both enjoyed our Promenade & Rendezvous, the state of Wisconsin and our hospitality. I also had the honor to be acting Aumonier for the weekend to include our Memorial Service. No complaints, so I must have done an acceptable job. I am always willing to assist in this capacity if needed.

As for upcoming activities I am planning to do they are the National Promenade in September, attending Voiture Locale 1519 Promenades, the Brown Collar Wreck in Tomah on October 4 and Cheminot/Grand Chef de Gare Guthmiller's Testimonial and whatever my honey do list says for me to do. I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe.

Until next time...

CARVILLE STAR Dave Behling, Sous Directeur

I trust everyone has been in good health. We are beginning to sense the closure of summer and the entering of fall. Some in my area have cleaned off gardens and donated produce to family and friends. It's a good time to interact with family and neighbors.

As Sous Directeur I do want to address the ongoing problem of Hansen's disease. It's a lifelong problem for victims with little hope of a cure. Since funding for almost everything is being cut, it is paramount that we keep focused on the program. The victims of this disease live mostly in lonely isolation and mental anguish.

Recently at our Grande Promenade, I gave a short report about the disease. Chef de Chemin de Fer Paul Emmert Sr. added some extra insight. He also had visited the "Home" in Carville, LA. Big Chef Paul spoke highly on the advances being achieved but it has been a long "Arduous" path that the victims have endured. There is still hope in more medical advances and researchers have deployed multiple drugs to combat the bacteria.

At the Grande Promenade in my report, I stated the actual name of the bacteria: mycobacterium Leprae (Leprosy) (Acid Fast Bacillus) very communicable to 5% of the population with most cases found in Texas, Louisiana, Hawaii, California, Florida and New York city. It was thought to be spread by skin-to-skin contact but recent studies have shown it to also be transmitted through respiratory-air.

The Chef de Chemin de Fer went on to speak of the devastating effects of "stigma". We all saw the movie Ben Hur from the 60's, as a young boy was terrified about leprosy!

I have some medical knowledge; it's helped me understand the pathology of this. I have a quote from Maquette Ndiaye from India; we suffer from stigma because people don't have enough information about leprosy. When people don't have enough information, they are scared. A very true statement.

In closing, I hope you keep pushing onward. Enjoy your Locale Promenades and Wrecks! Do hope to see many of you at the Fall Cheminot and Grand Chef Melissa's Testimonial Dinner.

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

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



2025 Officers

Chef de Gare
David Hale

Correspondant
Charles Hizer

Commissaire Intendant
David Aldach

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

Lest We Forget

SEPT—OCT—NOV

VOYAGEURS

GARY SKOGEN V-830
ALLEN NEWMAN V-1485

MAY THEIR SOULS REST IN PEACE

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RAINBOW FLOWAGE
Grande Voiture \$2,000

CAMP MERCHANDISE STORE
Tom & Mary Orval \$40
Eric Diekmann & Melissa Guthmiller \$50
George & Marian Bloom \$25
Doug & Mary Schaller \$25
Terry & Mary Boettcher \$50
Jim & Cher Vissers \$50
Outagamie Voiture 1140 \$50
Ken & Berry Kozubek \$100
Eric Vissers \$40
Robby Robinson \$50
Paul Braman \$100
Jefferson Voiture 750 \$100
George & Cathy Heck \$100
Jerry Holscheh \$50
Tom Saalentine \$40

NOTE: Most donations were in gift cards.

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John Edelblute (1 year term)
Dave Behling (2 year term)
Ken Laatsch (3 Year term)

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Grand Correspondant
Grande Cabane Presidente
Grande Cabane Correspondante
George Heck (1 year term)
Jack Vissers (2 year term)
Andy Minch (3 year term)

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CABANE AMERICANISM

Beth Laatsch, Directeur



We had a beautiful weekend for this year's Grande Rendezvous in Antigo. Shared a lot of fellowship and camaraderie, much of the time while outdoors enjoying the great weather.

Six out of seven Cabanes submitted Americanism reports. The winners were 856, 830 and 986. This year's totals were \$8,500 more than last year's, for a grand total of \$31,410 for the Americanism

program. It's obvious the Dames of Wisconsin love their country, their communities, and their Veterans.

The Americanism program is something that even your less active Dames can participate in. It might take a little thinking on your part, but have no doubt you could record Americanism activities almost weekly. Some of the activities reported this year included riding on Voiture locomotives in parades, helping Voiture with the Flags for First Graders program, assisting Veteran neighbors with meals, errands or appointments, participating in the community by helping at food pantries, bloodmobiles and road clean-up. Then there are the individual and Cabane donations to

charities like Red Cross, Salvation Army, American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, as well as local charities that our members support. And the easiest way of all to support the program: buy an Americanism pin!

Dames, I know this has been stressed before, but it is important and it's so easy if you make it a habit. Keep a running list of everything you do as a Dame in your community. You will be surprised at the number of hours your volunteer time adds up to. And on your annual reports, every hour is worth \$10!

Patriot Day on September 11 and Veterans Day on November 11 are upcoming observances, each offering opportunities to participate in activities that honor patriotism. Find out what's happening in your community and get involved, either by participating or observing.

Visit Grand Voiture de Wisconsin on the Web at www.wifortyandeight.com




Voiture 804 Wreck
Come get Wrecked with us
October 4, 2025
Tomah American Legion
800 Wisconsin Avenue
Tomah, WI 54660

PGs arrive at 900 hours (9:00 am)
Wreck Starts at 1000 hours (10:00 am)
NO LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

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715-250-1305
sklineto@charter.net

Cabane 1080 – Sheboygan
Locale Presidente
Mary Orval
312 Hillside Circle
Johnson Creek, WI53038
920-699-5676
thomasmmary750@spectrum.net

Cabane 1372 – Grant
Locale Presidente
Jane Knutson
24004 Sorge Lane
Muscodia, WI53573
608-348-7403 (Delores Woolf)

CORRESPONDANTES

Cabane 526 – Walworth
Locale Correspondante
Mary Kohler
9023 East Wyman Drive
Clinton, WI53525
608-676-4774
knb4575@pctcnet.net

Cabane 830 – La Crosse
Locale Correspondante
Marian Bloom
505 Kilbourn Avenue
Tomah, WI54660
608-372-2096

Cabane 856 – Dodge
Locale Correspondante
Judy Pfalzgraf
625 Oak Lane
Horicon, WI53032
920-212-0007
rjpfalz7@gmail.com

Cabane 986 – Shawano
Locale Correspondante
Kathy Gramza
W7687 Poplar Road
Shawano, WI54166
715-526-6993
khgramza@gmail.com

Cabane 1080 – Sheboygan
Locale Correspondante
Barbara Dotzauer
N6346 County Road I
Fredonia, WI53021
262-689-8089
bdotz1@earthlink.net

Cabane 1372 – Grant
Locale Correspondante
Germaine Hying
23870 Sorge Lane
Muscodia, WI53573
608-739-3367
jghying@country-speed.com

Pearl Harbor and 9/11 Monument



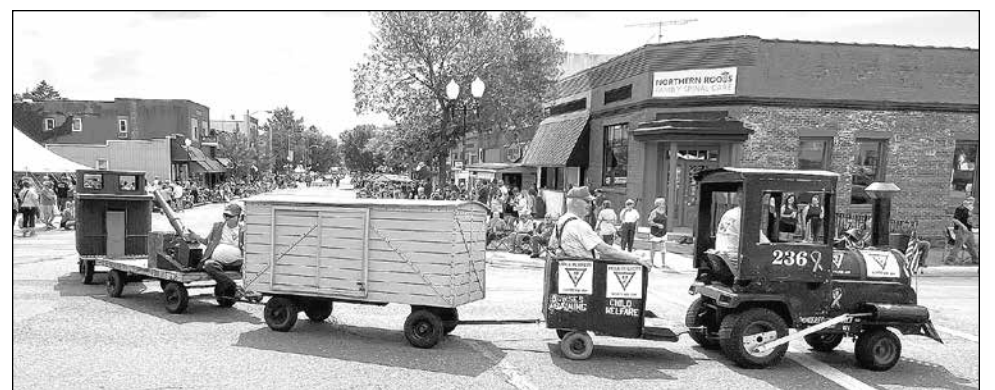
Garrick Manning visited Monroe County Locale 804 during their monthly Promenade on June 18. He is a Boy Scout working on his Eagle Scout project. He is working on a Pearl Harbor and 9/11 monument to be placed in the Veterans Park in Sparta Wisconsin. He is very well versed in the subject and a motion was offered and seconded to donate \$500 to his project. The locale voted and the motion passed. Director of Child Welfare Mikki Bradley is pictured presenting a check to Garrick Manning.

Washington County Voiture 898 100% Pins



Grand Correspondant Tom Orval presents Chef de Gare Joe Leone with Washington County's 100% membership pins for 2025. He and Correspondant Mary Millikan also were presented with Chef de Chemin de Fer Paul Emmert's pin.

Polk-Burnett Train at Clear Lake Days



The Polk-Burnett Voiture 236 Train was in the 2025 Clear Lake Days Parade in June. Wayne Hancock is in Car with Cannon, Roland Mortenson in the Coal Car and Chef Roger Northquest is driving the train.



Grande Promenade is Celebrated in Antigo

AT LEFT: Grand Chef de Gare Melissa Guthmiller being sworn in. ABOVE LEFT: Jim and Germaine Hying relaxing before the banquet. ABOVE RIGHT: Line Officers getting ready to take the oath.




AT LEFT: The new fine box received lots of money. ABOVE: Group picture after the Saturday morning session. BELOW LEFT: Award Winners (L-R) Cathy Heck – Dame of the Year, Dave Behling – Harald Kahlert Meritorious Service Award, Chef de Chemin de Fer Paul Emmert Sr., Lisa Allen – Voyageur of the Year Award, and Tom Orval – Correspondant of the Year. BELOW RIGHT: Christine and Paul Emmert Sr. presented with embroidered shirts.



Honor Flight

FAR LEFT: Voyageurs Ken Laatsch, Jack Vissers, Jim Vissers and John Aasen recently participated in the Honor Flight visiting Washington, D.C.

AT LEFT: Clarise Aasen, Cathy Heck, Beth Laatsch along with George Heck in the background were all on hand to welcome our heroes back home. George Heck had already been on a previous Honor Flight.



DANE COUNTY
Voiture & Cabane 683

GRAND CHEF DE GARE PASSE

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

CHEF DE GARE
Richard Ruland

CORRESPONDANT
Keith Lovell

COMMISSAIRE INTENDANT
Gerri Scalissi



Compliments of
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
VOITURE 751

LET'S ALL BE GREAT IN THE BADGER STATE

Compliments Of
DODGE COUNTY
VOITURE & CABANE #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 Intendante Judy Pfalzgraf

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
Joe Leone

Correspondant
Mary Millikin

Commissaire Intendant
Mark Baldwin



NURSES TRAINING
Dale Mitchell, Directeur

A lot of things happen at Grand this year in Antigo. We approved four nursing students to receive scholarship money again this year. One of the students actually graduated last year and she sent back our check, which was very nice. She sent me her grades but at the time she didn't tell me that she graduated. I'm going to have to be more careful. I would hate to spend the Grande's money when it's not needed and the scholarship can go to someone else. I can expect a fine coming this Mid-Winter.

As it stands now, we have three Grande openings. Two the Grande pays for and one goes to national. There's also a nurses training scholarship coming up from the nurses National Training Directeur. I'm not quite sure how that's going to work. I should find out more about that at Gettysburg where the National Promenade is being held. I would like to remind everyone that if your Voiture Locale fills up all of their nurses training scholarship quota they should send the scholarship application to the Grand Directeur, that's me. My email address is dmitchell012@centurytel.net. My home address is Dale Mitchell, N9470 Haltur Lane, Eagle, WI 53119.

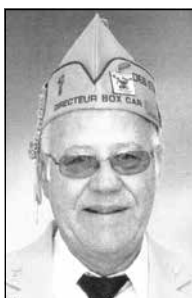
I will mention that if you have a nurse that's going on to higher education in nursing, for example their Master's degree or doctorates, you should have your correspondent or Chef de Gare request application for higher education from national. They should have the name of the applicant who is applying so that when they receive it back they know who to expect one from. I know that they will accept a nurse practitioner, but a physician's assistant. I'm not sure, but everything is worth trying.

I was also the Grand Historian but this was my last year. I'd been doing it now for 10 years. I feel sorry for Grand Chef de Gare Melissa as no one has stepped up to be her Historian. I'm hoping that someone will. I know the book is important to every Grand Chef who receives one. It's also a paid position. I want to say thank you to everyone who didn't give me a lot of trouble over the last 10 years taking pictures. I know I took some at very inappropriate times once in a while. Like when their mouth is full of food?

After National Promenade is over, I will start upgrading the website, putting in new officers for the Grand Cabane and the Grand Voiture. I will update the pictures too. But right now, I've been busy getting the history book completed before National.

I hope to see everyone at Melissa's testimonial in October in Tomah so get your reservations in soon. You can download an application for the testimonial on the wifortyandeight.com website.

GRAND COMMISSAIRE INTENDANT
Jim Vissers



This is a reminder to all Locales that base their finances on the fiscal year to file your IRS form 990EZ if your income is below \$50,000 or a 990 if it is over that amount within five months of the June 30 end to your accounting period. It is very simple to do the 990EZ online, provided the person trying to do so has the Voiture's 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.

Our investments portfolio for this fiscal year as of the end of June has shown a sizeable profit. The Grande has been favorable the last three years. We did lose some this past March and April with the announcement of the tariffs, but it did bounce back in May and June. Starting off the new fiscal year, July has also been favorable.

The books for the 2024-2025 fiscal year have been closed. Most of the accounts were favorable to the budget. The audit committee audited the book at the Grande Promenade in Antigo and all was found to be in order. All the information for the taxes was turned over to Tax Prep and Accounting Services for the taxes to be filed. This has been done and I have the finished taxes, which I will bring along to the Fall Cheminot and Grand Chef's Testimonial Dinner in Tomah if anyone would like to look at them.

In the next few weeks, I will be preparing for Promenade Nationale in Gettysburg, PA. I'm sure I will have plenty going on after I get there on Monday.

I am looking forward to Saturday when I should be sworn in at your new Chef de Chemin de Fer.

I hope to see many of you at the Fall Cheminot and Grand Chef's Testimonial Dinner in Tomah.

God Bless all of you, God Bless Our Troops, and God Bless America!

LA GRANDE PRESIDENTE
Barbara Dotzauer



Greetings Dames,
Our 2025 Grande Rendezvous is now just a memory for the records. Thank you, Voiture 1204 Langlade County, for hosting the Grande Promenade and Rendezvous. It was both successful and informative.

It pleases me to report that almost every Cabane submitted reports, providing helpful insights into how other Cabane run our pro-

grams. I hope we receive the same number of reports next year.

Another new membership year is upon us, time to hit the road and get those memberships in. Our motto is "Drive to Membership!" I'm extremely proud that every Wisconsin Cabane reached 100 percent or better this past year. Keep it up!

My program for this year is POW/MIA Scholarship, a program that most of you know is dear to my heart, having previously served several years as National POW/MIA Directeur, and currently serving as your Grande de Wisconsin POW/MIA Directeur.

My fines will be donated to Dogs2DogTags, an organization located in Plymouth that trains rescued and donated dogs, then gives them to Veterans diagnosed with PTSD and anxiety. There is no cost for a Veteran to receive a highly trained service dog, emotional support animal, or canine companion. Wisconsin Voyageur Joe Ternes is the recipient of one of these canine angels.

Upcoming events include Rendezvous Nationale in Gettysburg, PA, Sept. 22-27; and our own Fall Cheminot and testimonial dinner in Tomah on Oct. 18.

CABANE CAMP AMERICAN LEGION
Cathy Heck

The 100-year anniversary celebration at Camp American Legion was held on Saturday, June 14, 2025. I was among the volunteers who spent a week helping to prepare the camp for the event. We anticipated a big crowd and wanted everything to be perfect.

The camp had been open to campers for a few weeks already, so it was in pretty good shape. But the Northwoods isn't warm enough to encourage new plant growth in May, so flower beds and shrubs needed to be cleared of dead plants and branches. After that bit of cleanup, the gals went to work and added colorful flowers and policed the area from beach to boat house.

The Quonset hut-rec center, after extensive renovation, was finally ready for decorations. It is a huge space, and you would have to visit to appreciate the workmanship that went into getting it ready. The bathrooms could not be finished in time, but I have heard they are at the top of the current list for completion.

Wednesday evening there was a chapel service to bless new patriotic quilts. Monica, the previous Volunteer Coordinator, started the project of getting patriotic quilts for every bed on campus. As usual, after the request went out, every bed had beautiful quilt in time for the anniversary. Thursday morning we put them on the beds.

A huge tent was set up; tables and chairs were ready to go. The Porta Potty was delivered. Parking area off campus was marked off, and shuttle service would be available. All the volunteers' vehicles were taken to the parking area. This was the trial run for Saturday.

The volunteers were put in groups. Director Jim assigned jobs. Even the kitchen staff were enlisted as volunteers.

On Friday it rained; thankfully all the outside work was finished. The ladies made sure all cabins were perfect. It rained until 9:15 Saturday morning. I was in charge of making balloon centerpieces for the tables in the tent. It had been raining hard, but our prayers were finally answered and there was no rain during the celebration. However, it was damp, and if you didn't wear warm clothes you were cold.

The celebration began with presentation of the colors by a Color Guard led by Legion Riders. A few short speeches by dignitaries of the state followed. Then the group of 300 or so were encouraged to visit each cabin, then go to the dining hall for lunch. There would be music at 1, 3, and 5.

I made my way to the dining hall, which was filled to capacity. People were getting their lunch and heading back to the tent unless they were lucky enough to find a chair open in the warm hall.

Camp Director Jim Klement estimated around 500-600 people attended. The other volunteers and I were happy to see that after all the hours and hard work that went into planning this event, it was enjoyed by so many.

LA GRANDE CABANE CORRESPONDANTE
Mary Orval



Greetings wonderful Dames of Wisconsin! I am honored to announce our new La Grande Presidente is Barbara Dotzauer – Cabane 1080. Congratulations!

Barbara Dotzauer was elected La Grande Presidente for 2025-2026. The logo is a: **Army Jeep**.

The theme is: **Driving to Membership**. Her project is **POW-MIA**

and her fine money will go to **Dogs2DogTags**.

I was very happy to see all the dedicated and hard-working Dames are still able to help with the programs. Wonderful job Dames!!

Congratulations to Cathy Heck – Cabane 1080 the Dame of the Year! Fabulous job!

Nationale Rendezvous is in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, September 22-27, 2025. Please bring white outfits and white gloves and beret, if you are able to help for the Memorial Service.

Many remarkable reports were submitted showing how hard the Dames have been working for the programs of La Societe. Let's keep up the good work this year. A list of the award winning Cabanes appears in this issue of the Badger Forty et Eighter. See below at the end of this article.

Directeur: New Directeur books: Lists of Officers, Directeurs, Locale Presidentes and Correspondantes, and our information booklet with copy of your membership all have been given to you at the Grande.

Membership: Started as of July 1, 2025, Cabane dues can be sent to Cabane Nationale. Please everyone, let us get Grande de Wisconsin 100% in membership as soon as possible. We are a strong, hardworking, dedicated group of Dames!! All Locale Cabanes have received an updated list of members. If there are any changes at all to your membership lists, please let me know.

Reminders: Check the Voiture and Cabane Nationale website, fortyandeight.org, for just about anything you need to know. Wisconsin has its own website, wifortyandeight.com. This website has all the updated forms. Thank you, Dale Mitchell.

All Dames, news articles are to be emailed to Beth Laatsch. She is doing all the proofreading for the Dames.


Dates to Remember:

- Our Fall Cheminot is held on October 18, in Tomah.
- Mid-Winter - La Crescent, Minnesota, February 13 – 14, 2026.
- Grande Promenade & Rendezvous -Tomah, July 31 – August 1, 2026

A very heartfelt thank you to everyone.

Congratulations to Walworth Cabane 526 and Grant Cabane 1372 Membership Awards

Visit **Grand Voiture de Wisconsin** on the Web at www.wifortyandeight.com



Grande Cabane de Wisconsin Presidente Passe Club

Organized to assist the Grande Cabane, and for fun and relaxation

Doreen Wages	Judy Pfalzgraf
Gloria Faber	Harriet Robson
Jeanette Riekkoff	Mary Schaller
Nina Means	Beth Laatsch
Barbara Dotzauer	Lisa York
Arlene Katcher	Jennifer Larson
Mary Orval, Honorary Presidente Passe	

Grande de Wisconsin Cabane Awards

<p>Aid to Voiture</p> <p>First Place Dodge 856 Second Place La Crosse 830 Third Place Sheboygan 1080</p> <p>Americanism</p> <p>First Place Dodge 856 Second Place Shawano 986 Third Place La Crosse 830</p> <p>Box Car</p> <p>First Place La Crosse 830 Second Place Dodge 856 Third Place Shawano 986</p> <p>Camp American Legion</p> <p>First Place Dodge 856 Second Place La Crosse 830 Third Place Sheboygan 1080</p> <p>Carville Star</p> <p>First Place La Crosse 830 Second Place Dodge 856 Third Place Walworth 526</p>	<p>Child Welfare</p> <p>First Place Dodge 856 Second Place Sheboygan 1080 Third Place La Crosse 830</p> <p>Nurses Training</p> <p>First Place La Crosse 830 Second Place Dodge 856 Third Place Grant 1372</p> <p>POW-MIA</p> <p>First Place Sheboygan 1080 Second Place La Crosse 830 Third Place Dodge 856</p> <p>Youth Sports</p> <p>First Place Dodge 856 Second Place Walworth 526 Third Place La Crosse 830</p>
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Membership Awards:
Walworth Cabane 526
and Grant Cabane 1372

Grand Total for Programs

Aide to Voiture	\$26,988.00	Nurses Training	\$11,171.00
Americanism	\$31,410.00	POW-MIA	\$1,043.00
Box Car	\$437.00	Youth Sports	\$10,872.00
Camp American Legion	\$4,089.00		
Carville Star	\$169.00		
Child Welfare	\$25,142.00		
Grand Total		Grand Total	\$111,321.00

A very heartfelt thank you to everyone.


OUTAGAMIE COUNTY VOITURE LOCALE 1140



Home Of
Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Passe
Jim Vissers
Grand Chef de Gare Passe
John Marr
Jim Vissers
Jim Bassett

Jim Bassett
Chef de Gare

Jim Vissers
Correspondant



Best wishes From your friends at

Voiture Locale 804 Monroe County


Promenades Held Every Third Wednesday of Each month @ The Tomah American Legion 1800hrs

Chef de Gare: Lori Zimmerman
Correspondant: Melissa Guthmiller
Commissaire Intendant: Eric Diekmann

LANGLADE COUNTY VOITURE 1204

Don Emley 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



40 & 8

VOITURE 830 & CABANE 830

LA CROSSE COUNTY

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

NURSES TRAINING ~ CHILD WELFARE
YOUTH SPORTS ~ BOX CAR
CARVILLE STAR PROGRAM

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

56th Forty et Eight Days held at Camp American Legion

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



What a wonderful time everyone had at Camp Days this year. Many first-time participants and almost all have already made reservations for next year.

Bonfires all three nights behind the Rustic Manor and, as a matter of fact, the circle of those in lawn chairs around the bonfire was as large as I've ever seen it.

George Heck took many of the rookie visitors on a tour of Camp and all of the renovations that have taken place. Camp Director Jim Klement opened



La Crosse Cabane 830 donates a large supply of snack food to the Camp.

the Camp Store where many of us purchased clothing or other memorabilia.

For those who were up on Thursday, it was over to the Saynor Pub for their fantastic pizza or other food served. Some went to Timbers for sandwiches or to play the pull tab machine. The Friday picnic was as good as ever along with a very competitive bean bag tournament. Alyssa Kippley and Eric Stubbe were crowned 2025 Bean Bag champions.

Saturday morning Timbers opened up early so everyone could enjoy 40 et 8 camaraderie with everyone. That afternoon at the Rainbow Flowage, Beth Laatsch ran bingo games while some fished off the pier and yet others just relaxed and watched Jim Vissers, Dale Mitchell and John

Helgeson cook the brats and burgers. A special thank you to all of the women who cleaned up the kitchen after the food was served. That evening there was another bonfire and much more camaraderie.

A special group picture was taken Saturday at the Flowage honoring Grand Chef de Gare 2022 Larry Winger who was called to Voiture Everlasting this last April. Larry was loved by one and all for his easygoing demeanor and willingness to help anyone in need.

Next year the dates for 40 et 8 Days at Camp are June 25, 26, 27. You can make reservations at the Rustic Manor by calling 715-479-9776 and mention the 40 et 8 and ask for either Jackie or Bob.



Grande Presidente Beth and Grand Chef Ken present Camp Director Jim Klement with the annual \$2,000 donation. This year the money was to purchase more merchandise for the Camp store.



ABOVE: Saturday afternoon at the Rainbow Flowage, a toast was given in honor of Grand Chef de Gare Passe Larry Winger who passed away this last April. BELOW LEFT: Monroe County Voyageurs and Dames at the Flowage. BELOW RIGHT: Forty et Eight Days at Camp American Legion 2025 Bean Bag Champions Alyssa Kipply and Mike Stubbe.

