



## GRAND CHEF DE GARE

**STEVE DIRCKS**

**2201 6th St N**

**St. Cloud, MN 56303**

**320-237-3666**

[salcomm1@aol.com](mailto:salcomm1@aol.com)

2014  
NOVEMBER

## GRAND CORRESPONDANT

**DWIGHT DUPEY**

**24640 Fallbrook Ave**

**Forest Lake, MN 55025**

**612-213-7406**

[dwrightdupeysr@yahoo.com](mailto:dwrightdupeysr@yahoo.com)

Fellow Voyageurs,

Its with a sad and heavy heart that I start out this newsletter. Voyager Bruce Panning passed away on Oct 19th . The funeral was held in Belle Plain on Oct 23. 19 Voyageurs attended Bruce's services. Also, Voyager Mel Stoppelman, my good friend and Grand Correspondant passed away on Oct. 25th . We will all miss him and we now have our work cut out for us.

I have appointed Voyager Duff Duffina to be the Grand Drapeau and I have appointed Voyager Dwight Dupey to be the Grand Correspondant. Along with Voyager Dwight, Voyager Jerry Block will be putting together our Grand Newsletter.

As for my travels since the last newsletter, I have attended the summer picnic of Voiture Local 44 were Grand Chef Passe Jerry Block and myself did the installation of the new officers for Voiture 44. Thanks to Voyager's Angela and Terry Steele for being co-grill masters. Also, the Grand Ca- bane's Cheminot meeting in Kimball.

For Veterans Day I will be attending the Veterans Day Parade and Social at the VAMC in St Cloud along with Veterans Day services also at the VAMC in St Cloud Thanks goes out to Grand Chef de Train for stepping up for me and attending the Veterans Day Services at the Fort Snelling VAMC.

As of Oct 16th our membership into National has the Grand in 33rd place, with 496 turned in for a percentage of 38.51%. Congrats go out to Voiture 772 Crookston, Voiture 838 Ramsey County and Voiture 1413 Willmar for reaching 100% membership.

Don't forget about the Wreck that Voiture 44 and Voiture 791 are having on Nov 22 in Forest Lake. More info on the wreck is located else where in the newsletter. I will not be able to attend this wreck for I will be in Florida. So lets have a great showing of POOR GOOFS.

God Bless

Steve Dircks

## Dwight Dupey, Grand Correspondant

It is sad news that we have lost two Great Voyageurs. First we lost Grand Drapeau Bruce Panning and second we lost Grand Correspondant Mel Stoppelman. Duff Duffina has been appointed Grand Drapeau to replace Panning and Dwight Dupey has been appointed to replace Mel Stoppelman as Grand Correspondant by the Grand Chef de Gare Steve Dircks. Jerry Block is the Sous Grand Correspondant.

All matters concerning the 40&8 should now be sent to **Dwight Dupey Grand Correspondant at 24640 Fallbrook Ave. N. Forest Lake, MN 55025**, 612-213-7406, [dwightdupeysr@yahoo.com](mailto:dwrightdupeysr@yahoo.com).

Well we have had a rough start to the 2015 year but we can recover. We have three Voitures reach 100% membership already. They are Voiture 772, Voiture 838 & Voiture 1413. Congratulations to the members and the Chef de Gare of these Locale's. We all need to work on membership, Membership is the lifeblood of all our work. We have so many worthy programs and they all rely on our membership. Ask your members to renew their dues. Ask Veterans to join the

40&8. Explain our programs and what we do. There are brochures that explain the 40&8 that you can get from Nationale If you have questions please contact me and I will help you. Voiture 44 is having a wreck November 22nd contact Correspondant Jennifer Rich at 612-354-7393 if you have goofs to wreck with V44.

I am working on putting together a Grand Directory and I am missing a few items and I will contact the Voitures that I need Information from. Some of the information was given to Voyageur Mel, and he has checked it in but it is missing with the transition from Voyageur Mel's to my house. Last year we tried to do the Grand directory by email and then we had to redo in print. I think we need to continue to do this in print form. I am asking the Voitures that advertised in the Grand Directory in the past to support this as it is a great tool to have. I will be sending out Information on this to each of the locales.

There is a few items we discussed at the Grand Promenade and they are Every Voiture needs to have the officers that handle money need to be Bonded also every Voiture needs to update their Bylaws. Contact myself and or Grand Avocate Roger Ball with questions.

Please bear with us as we go thru the process of reorganizing the Grand Correspondant office and I hope to see every- one at the Voiture 44 wreck.

Holiday season is upon us and please be safe and Have a happy Thanksgiving.

I visited Dick Carter in Parmly Nursing Home yesterday and checked on him. He is in Parmly because he had 6 teeth pulled and then ended up in Fairview Hospital because he was having trouble with his leg. He had a MRI which then they found he needed a Stint put in a artery to help blood flow. He was told he would be in there for about a month. He figures he has 3 weeks left. He is in Good spirits and is up and walking. He has therapy 2 times a day. He plans a full recovery. He is looking forward to going to the mid-winter.

Please keep him in your prayers and a get well or thinking of you card would be nice. Richard Carter

Room 171

Parmly LifePointes

28210 Old Towne Road

Chisago City, MN 55013

Hello Voyageurs

### FISHING TRIP PLANNED

The 96 Promenade National will be held in Green Bay, Wisconsin on Sept 15 - 19, 2015. Some Voyageurs and myself were talking at Promenade National about a fishing trip when we are there. Maybe Sept 14 or the 15, 2015. I am getting a count of who wants to go . We will fish for salmon or trout or walleye on a charter. We have 21 that want to go so far from around the U S A. So please call home (507)545-2885 or cell (507)250-5329 or E MAIL [richardh33@embarqmail.com](mailto:richardh33@embarqmail.com) or write to this address : **Richard Skillestad 219 SW 6th St, Box 161 Eyota, MN 55934**. Each would pay your own way. If you want to go please get a hold of me with name, phone number, E MAIL and mailing address so I can get a hold of you on time, where, and what day when we will go fishing. I will be getting a hold of the people up there soon for the charter.

Yours truly Voyageur Richard "Dick" Skillestad

I am the POW MIA [Directeur](#) and I have the 2015 pins at \$3.00 each and a POW MIA coin at \$10.00 each . So please contact me on this also.



Voiture Locales- Events/Functions to be published in the Grand Voiture Newsletter must be submitted to the Editor as soon as you know the Dates. They will run in this Column as long as possible before the event/function. Get them in and spread the word so many others will know about the event

- Wreck—November 22 Voiture Locale 44 Forest Lake, Goofs report at 9 AM. Wreck starts at 10 AM
- V414 Hutchinson Nurses Training Dinner Sunday December 7

LET US KNOW OF YOUR EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS AND GET THEM LISTED HERE



## MINNEAPOLIS VETERANS HOSPITAL VISITATION

The below listed order of visitation will be a Permanent article in the monthly newsletter. Chef's de Gare and Correspondants Locale are asked to review it each month and get your Voyageurs Militaire committed to attending the monthly assigned visitation. A minimum of six Voyageurs are requested. La Femmes are welcome and encouraged to attend the Visitation.

26 Nov Voiture 39 St. Paul

2015

- 28 Jan. Voiture 390 Anoka County
- 25 Feb. Voiture 1281 Minnetonka
- 25 March Voiture 44 Forest Lake
- 29 April Voiture 1457 Apple Valley
- 27 May Voiture 791 Bayport/Stillwater
- 24 June Voiture 33 St Paul Park
- 29 July Voiture 39 St Paul
- 26 Aug. Voiture 390 Anoka County

Voyageurs out for the Visitation are to meet Richard Hammond, VAVS Representatives at the Center in the main Atrium at 6:50 P. M. The Visitation can be completed in less than one hour.

Minneapolis VA visitation on Hammonds report for 9/24/14 -Present were Richard Hammond, Tony Grygelko V-44 and Dave Adam from V-45. V-791 was a no show for September. This Month Hammond canceled so the month of October no visitation



There were over 30 Voyageurs and Dames at Mel's funeral.

We will all miss you Mel

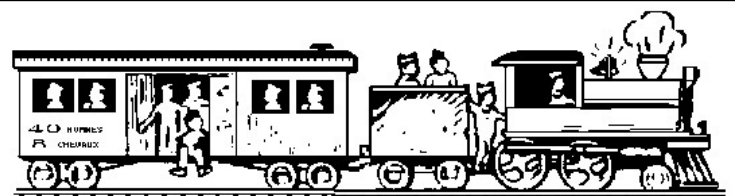
Please send all deceased members to Voiture Nationale and also to the Grand Correspondant. This is the only way that we have of keeping a up to date list of those that have passed

## TAPS VOITURE EVERLASTING OCTOBER, 2014



- Bob Loxtercamp V415
- Mel Stoppelman V415
- Steven Maddock V1281
- Bruce Panning V1457
- Hubert Mastenburg V1468
- Bobert Purmort V44
- Lloyd Ruesch V54
- Lee Schmura V44
- Tom Skalberg V1281
- George Wetzel V1329
- Past Grand Chef**  
Rodney Heckman V281

Space permitting TAPS will be published in the newsletter as taken from the Web Page of Voiture Nationale on a monthly basis. Names of deceased Voyageurs submitted to Voiture Nationale will be published. Correspondant Locales should use the form from the Voiture Nationale Web site to send them to Voiture Nationale



## VOYAGEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Donald J. Theis Voyageur of the Year Award applications for 2015 are again available to any Voiture Locale wishing them contact the Grand Correspondant and they will be sent out. This is the time to start to look for that Distinguished person in your Locale, the dead line for applications is drawing near. Completed Applications must be received prior to June 30th.

## WRECK

Voiture Locale 44 has scheduled a Wreck for November 22, the Goof's are to report at 9:00 A. M. with the Wreck to start at 10:00 A. M., If you have any Voyageurs or Poor Goof's to be Wrecked let the Correspondant know how many and their names at [terryange-la2@yahoo.com](mailto:terryange-la2@yahoo.com) by Nov. 13th. (651)402-3077



## ENDORSEMENTS 2015-2016

The time has come to start to Submit those Endorsements for the 2015-2016 for those Grand Voiture Offices.

They must be Submitted in writing and signed by the Chef de Gare and Correspondant Locale. Each office Endorsed must be on a separate letter. ENDORSEMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2015. We still need Endorsements for the Cheminot's from Each District. Go to your Locale and seek out those to fill these Offices, as they are the Leaders with in the Forty and Eight. Note: Make sure that endorsements are correct and for the current year to which endorsement is made.

Those not meeting the mandate will be returned.

Lets start to get them in. Mail endorsements to: Dwight Dupey, Grand Correspondant, 24640 Fallbrook Ave. Forest Lake, MN 55025

## NOTICE

**Voiture Nationale has moved to their new location, all Membership should be Mailed to the New Address at:**

**VOITURE NATIONALE  
250 E. 38TH ST.  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN. 46205**

**Also check Nationale's website at  
[Fortyandeight.org](http://Fortyandeight.org)**

Veterans Day is less than three weeks away. Make sure you have ample "What is a Forty and Eighter" pamphlets and Membership cards. Many veterans and some of our older Voyageurs can use a caring friend during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Whatever your Locale Voiture and/or you do will make a difference for someone. Remember when you take pins on consignment that program is counting on the sale of those pins. Nothing hurts our programs more than the return of unsold pins at year end.

Together, as Comrades, we must work together to "Make A Difference".

Please, lets work towards a brighter tomorrow by taking the time to promote our programs while making sure we Recruit, Renew, and Reinstate Members into La Societe.

En Service

Mark Moots

Nationale Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer, Area 2

3112 Sunrise Dr

Guntersville, AL 35976

H # 256-582-5782



**GRAND DU MINNESOTA MEMBERSHIP**

Thursday, October 23, 2014

Voiture	2014 YTD Total	2015 YTD Total	2014 Year End Total	%of Quota	short/over
33	18	19	20	95.00%	-1
39	31	18	44	40.91%	-26
44	28	20	49	40.82%	-29
45	30	30	47	63.83%	-17
54	3	5	10	50.00%	-5
62	26	5	26	19.23%	-21
281	43	31	71	43.66%	-40
327	32	32	101	31.68%	-69
390	10	0	37	0.00%	-37
414	5	6	130	4.62%	-124
415	40	18	75	24.00%	-57
580	0	0	24	0.00%	-24
582	1	1	29	3.45%	-28
634	43	10	43	23.26%	-33
712	8	0	22	0.00%	-22
714	14	2	14	14.29%	-12
734	1	1	31	3.23%	-30
737	16	18	26	69.23%	-8
754	12	13	25	52.00%	-12
772	17	17	17	100.00%	0
778	16	3	18	16.67%	-15
791	57	56	59	94.92%	-3
806	26	28	40	70.00%	-12
838	1	20	18	111.11%	2
1210	1	1	10	10.00%	-9
1281	38	33	89	37.08%	-56
1324	15	12	29	41.38%	-17
1329	31	34	51	66.67%	-17
1413	0	20	20	100.00%	0
1436	17	28	37	75.68%	-9
1457	10	19	56	33.93%	-37
1468	13	6	20	30.00%	-14
<b>Totals</b>		<b>603</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>1288 39.29%</b>	<b>-782</b>

**GRANDE  
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTEUR  
MIKE SCHAFFER**

Grand du Minnesota is off to a good start with renewals and membership in general as Voitures have sent in 506 memberships as of 10-15-2014. The goal for this year is 1288 so we are at 39.29%, which is good for 37th place in the nation. We can and must do better in the next few months, I know you can and will come through and make our Grand Chef Steve smile.

There is a wreck scheduled for 11-22-2014 by V-44 of Forest Lake, so now is a good time to be looking for those veterans of your post and neighboring towns that have earned the right to be asked to join our ranks. Remember, they are the future of your Voiture. Most Voitures have lost one or more voyageurs this past year, so let's not delay. We have a wreck just waiting for them. **ASK THEM, ASK THEM.** Must give a fantastic well-done to 3 Voitures, V-838 Ramsey County for being tops in Grand du Minnesota at 111% of goal, to V-772 Crookston and V-1413 Willmar, both achieving 100% so early in the membership year, with 2 more over 90%. Let's join them real soon as those snow-birds will be flying to warmer places in the next month or you will be waiting till spring to renew them. We all are membership Directeurs when it comes to our Voiture. As for me I've got at least one in mind that asked what the 40&8 is and what we do

From the Presidente

Greetings Dames,

Thank you for electing me to the office of Grande La Presidente. I will try to do an honorable job. Any assistance will be appreciated to help this year flow well. The fall Cheminot was held at Kimball Post # 261. Thank you to Grande Correspondante, Lorinda Kies for having 'things' in order for Cheminot. Grande has all chairmanships filled thanks to Dames who have volunteered to go the extra miles !!! Thank you to Lorinda, Arlette Hartung and Marie Taylor for your reports on Nationale Rendezvous. Special thanks to Renee for helping with lunch preparation. Thanks to Laurie, Renee and Suzie for cleaning after lunch. Special thank you to Grande Chef De Gare, Steve for bringing greetings to our CHEMINOT.

My project this year is to make curtains for Legionville; both the cabins and barracks are in need of new window covers. Our Officers have approved the project. I have asked for no gifts this year. If you or your Cabane would like to donate to my project you may send donations to Grande Commissaire Intendante, Barbara Stussy or myself. DONATIONS: \$20.00 from Jean Hector. Thank you, Jean.

My first invitation as Grande La Presidente was to attend a Town Hall meeting September 8, 2014 at the St. Cloud VA Health Care System. Veterans served by the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC's) in Alexandria, Brainerd, and Montevideo were invited to participate from the CBOC location via video teleconference.

The meeting gave Veterans an opportunity to have their concerns addressed by St.Cloud VA officials. There were a number of questions and answers for our veterans. Department of Mn. American Legion Auxiliary President Kris Ronning was also in attendance. She also addressed the meeting and talked about her projects for MN Veterans this year.

(one of our own !!) I had been invited to the ST.CLOUD VA for the Annual Pheasant Dinner, but was unable to attend. An invitation was also received to attend the VETERANS DAY SERVICE at the ST.CLOUD VA. I do plan to attend, as well as the Annual parade Sunday, November 9th, 2014. If any Cabanes would wish for a visit, let me know, I will try to attend.

Just a reminder, we are still planning to make the COOKBOOK !! We need recipes. This is a reminder for your Grande La Presidente, TOO!! Also, we have NUTS, just ask Laura Blue. Both of these projects are to help with expenses for Lorinda as we are cheering for her to be our Nationale La Presidents in 2015-2016. Congratulations to Lorinda. She is our Nationale Aumonier for 2014-2015.

God Bless America and each of you.

LuAnn Marschel, La Presidente Grande de Minnesota



Election over. Lorinda Kies installed as Nationale La Femmes Chaplain. Escorted by Chuck Hartung. One more step to National Presidente

## PROMENADE NATIONAL VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Well, this was a trip to remember. I, Grand Aid de Camp Lloyd and Past Grand Chef Tom Taylor made a 3800 mile road trip over a two week period. I would have to call this the “WHAT?” trip because of 3 voyageurs wearing hearing aids. Don't know if everyone heard everything or not. But we made it. Attend- ing were myself, Dick & LaVonne Skillestad, Chuck & Arlette Hartung, Jim Hamilton, Tom & Marie Taylor, Lloyd Schmidt and Lorinda Kies. We all attended various meetings and all the Promenade. The weather was windy, but bearable. There is a new password and you will have to call one of your officers to find out what it is as it can't be put in print. We had a Minnesota party and invited North & South Dakota to join us. Great bunch of voyageurs. The convention was over on Saturday and Tom, Lloyd and I sort of flipped a coin whether to go north or south. We decided to head north and made stops at Washington DC, Niagara Falls, Indianapolis, and House on the Rock in Wisconsin on the way home. It was a great trip.

During the Promenade on Friday, I had the honor of the podium for about 20 minutes. If you remem- ber Grand du Minnesota presented a beautiful eagle statue to Chef de Chemin de Fer Pat Beamer at the Mid- Winter. Well, I shipped it to him in Florida and he received it in many pieces. Voyageur Dupey got another one and I hand delivered it to him during the Promenade. He was very appreciative and showed everyone. ( he did get this one home in one piece ) Next came the fun part as I got to present the traveling Big Gavel to the next recipient. I chose Grand Chef du Florida Terry Lee. There was a huge sigh of relief from all the other Grand Chefs present. It was a great experience to stand in front of the 400 plus delegation.

Jerry Block, Cheminote Nationale

