



# FORTY et EIGHTER



Official Newsletter of Le Grand Voiture de Maryland, Inc.  
La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, Grande du Maryland  
D12796272; EIN 26-3721723



NNMC, Bethesda, Md.

## Rx for wounded warriors, families

**L**e Grande Voiture de Maryland attempted a holistic approach to treating our wounded warriors' and their families' injuries Nov. 29, 2009, prescribing barbeque and sides at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda.

Nearly 20 patients and their families took their plates and went through the buffet line to feast on barbecued pork, beans, potato salad, cole slaw and the like.

Food was also taken by volunteers and family members to patients who were restricted or unable to leave their beds or wards.

The ample amount of leftover food was packed and preserved to be used at the discretion of the families. Some made its way to wards in adjacent buildings, whose patients were not initially included in the invite list.

**Chef de Gare Bob Ouellette** was the prime mover in putting together the treat for patients and their families, whose only other choice for food on weekends is a dash to the local fast food emporiums.

Although Grande du Maryland was official host, a private donation initially funded part of the buffet order. A \$200.00 pledge was made by VL 1371.

More than one family member gushed appreciation to Chef Bob and **Senior Chef de Train Pat Hauke**. They shared food line duties and words of appreciation and encouragement for Marines and Naval personnel during the hour-and-a-half visit.

A Marine NCO was assigned to assist the Voyageurs in the first visit by la Societe to Bethesda or nearby Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D. C.

Chef Bob sought permission to return in the future and is awaiting a date and time.

## Leadership Changes:

Pat Hauke appointed Sr. Chef de Train

**C**hef de Train (West) **Patrick J. Hauke** was officially elevated to Grande du Maryland Senior Chef de Train Nov. 21, 2009, as a pair of leadership changes were announced by **Chef de Gare Robert J. Ouellette, Sr.**



Pat Hauke

Chef Bob accepted the resignation of Senior Chef de Train **John C. Cockrell** due to medical reasons. John will continue as Chef de Train (North). He would have become Grande du Maryland Chef de Gare for 2011.

**Deborah DeFrank**, who was elected Sous Chef de Train (North) at the August 2009 Grand Promenade, will continue in her position.

Chef Bob also moved to fill a long-time vacancy, appointing **Martin G. Price** of Berlin, Md., as Chef de Train (East). He also is Chef de Gare for Voiture Locale 122.

The appointments are effective immediately.

Senior Chef de Train Pat's appointment leaves a vacancy in the West which will remain unfilled until a replacement can be identified.

Another long-term vacancy continues to be Chef de Train (South). There is no information on when that



John Cockrell

position might be filled.

Senior Chef de Train Pat serves as Chef de Gare of Frederick/Carroll Voiture Locale 155, as well as commander of Carroll Post 31, Westminster. He is newly retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in which he served as Chief Warrant Officer (4).

## What's Inside?

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## Correspondant du Grande

By Earl E. (Gene) Benner  
Grande du Maryland Correspondant

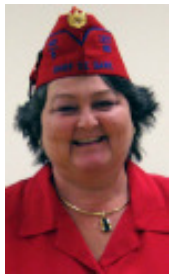
Let me wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year (2010).

Maintaining membership records for every Voyageur in Grande du Maryland is a daily task. Please remember when a Voyageur has a change of address, it is important that you notify me. Please include information, too, regarding new Voyageurs, deaths and illness. You may email me and I will notify the appropriate individuals with the information.



Gene Benner

Remember that as of Jan. 31, 2010, an unpaid Voyageur will not be considered a member in good standing. After March 31, 2010, they will no longer be considered a MEMBER and must return all 40/8 paraphernalia to the Voiture. Many Voyageurs think they purchased these items when they were asked to join. However, these items were obtained by the locale as part of the items presented to PGs after being wrecked. The PG fees include the initiation fee, plus your first year's dues.



Ruth Higgins

This year Grande Voiture de Maryland is pleased to have it's first female Voyageurs as Locale Chefs de Gare. These include: Brenda Dougan, Voiture Locale 651, Western District; and Ruth Higgins, Voiture Locale 1371, the Eastern District.

Hopefully one will seek to become the first female Grande Chef de Gare. We certainly wish them well in whatever they aspire.

This year's Grande Promenade will be held Saturday, July 31, 2010, at American Legion Post 202, Williamsport, Md. It will be a one-day Promenade. More information including the Registration Form, Official Call and driving directions will appear in a later addition of the Grande Newsletter.

The next Grande Cheminot will be held Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010, at Carroll Post 31, Westminster, Md. It is open to all members of Grande Voiture de Maryland. Luncheon will be served at Noon and the Cheminot will begin at 1 p.m.

## Membership

Dec. 17, 2009

Grande Voiture de Maryland

| Voiture | 2009 | 2010 | percentage | diff. |
|---------|------|------|------------|-------|
| VL 122  | 28   | 22   | 78.57%     | -6    |
| VL 155  | 88   | 61   | 69.32%     | -27   |
| VL 164  | 33   | 6    | 18.18%     | -27   |
| VL 265  | 119  | 110  | 92.44%     | -9    |
| VL 456  | 54   | 42   | 77.78%     | -12   |
| VL 651  | 29   | 18   | 62.07%     | -11   |
| VL 1230 | 18   | 18   | 100.00%    | 0     |
| VL 1297 | 38   | 32   | 84.21%     | -6    |
| VL 1371 | 67   | 52   | 77.61%     | -15   |



**ECHO TAPS TRIBUTE.** Norman Covert of VL 155, plays two stanzas of Taps as a prelude to the annual Veterans Day ceremony in Frederick, Nov. 11. Fifteen brass players -- Bugles, Trumpets, a Euphonum and Trombone -- performed in sequence down Market St., concluding in Memorial Park. It was the fourth annual performance, mirroring Echo Taps efforts in cemeteries and war memorial sites throughout the nation.

## Bonjour new Voyageurs

### Frederick/Carroll VL 155:

James B. Beckman, II, Carroll Post 31, Westminster  
Dennis Shifflett, Post 191, Mt. Airy  
Livingston Vann IV, Four Counties VFW, Mt. Airy

### Montgomery County VL 265:

Steven Brennan, Post 108  
Ron Dayton, Post 295  
John McDaniel, Post 295  
Colleen Mulrooney, Post 86  
Robert J. Ouellette, Jr., Post 295,  
Tom Ruffy, Post 295,  
Karen Scullen, Post 295,  
William Trotter, Post 171

### VL 1371

Nancy S. Polk, Post 135, Perryville

### VL1371 Transfers:

Charles Ireland, from VL113  
Varcer C. Lowry, from VL113  
Harvey R. Robertson, from VL113  
Wilbur W. Wittler, from VL113  
George Majer, Sr., from VL1199  
Steven Redyk (deceased), from VL1199  
Joseph P. Southoff, fro VL1199  
Barry Lee Scharbrough, from VN2000

## Voiture Everlasting

The following Voyageurs Militaire are recorded as having been called to Voiture Everlasting since the last newsletter:

Jack Bernd, VL 456, Leonardtown  
Francis C. Coursey, VL 244, Chestertown  
Jerry Farley, VL 1297, Whiteford  
Richard E. Golanski, VL1371, Post 139, Baltimore  
John W. Jenkins, Oct. 22, 2009, VL456  
Randall Kitts, VL 1297, Aberdeen  
Frank Klein, VL 1297, Easton  
Elvin E. Polesky, VL155, Post 168, Thurmont, Nov. 4, 2009  
Robert H. Price, VL 1371, Easton  
Steven Redyk, VL1371  
James E. Short, VL 265, Edgewood, Ky.  
Charles H. Smith, VL 265, Laurel  
Clinton Stoops, VL1371, Post 296, Queenstown  
Francis B. Young, VL155, Post 11, Frederick, Oct. 8, 2009  
James R. Webb, VL 265, Rockville  
Kenneth Willing Sr., VL 122, Salisbury



# VOITURE ACTIVITIES



**JOIE DE VIVRE IN OAKLAND.** Grand Chef de Gare Bob Ouellette (right) and Chef de Train (West) Pat Hauke (left) visited VL 164, the westernmost Voiture in Grande du Maryland. They were hosted by Chef de Gare Charles Damon and Correspondant Moses Miller in Oakland.



**CHIP OFF THE OLE' BRAKEMAN.** New Voyageur Bob Ouellette, Jr., demonstrates proper wear of le Chapeau at Carroll Post 31, Westminster, following his formal Wreck in November. Frederick/Carroll VL 155 Chef de Gare Patrick J. Hauke offered the gavel to Grand Chef de Gare Bob Ouellette, Sr., who became the installing officer for his eldest son. It was a moment of pride for Bob, Sr. Others Wrecked by VL 155 included: James Beckman, II, Dennis Shifflett, and Livingston Vann IV. Bob, Jr., was unable to be at the VL 265 Wreck, where he is now a member.

## VOITURE LOCALE 265

Montgomery County

**By Karl Koles, Correspondant**

Salute Comrade Voyagers,

Locale 265 is pleased to announce the addition of eight Voyageurs Militaire to our ranks. Seven were formally wrecked prior to Locale 265's Holiday party, which was again thwarted due to inclement weather.

The seven PGs wrecked on Dec 5th were: Steven Brennan, Post 108; Colleen Mulrooney, Post 86; Ron Dayton, John McDaniel, Tom Rufty, Karen Scullen, Post 295; Will Trotter, Post 171.

We owe special thanks and merci to VL 155 for Wrecking our eighth new Voyager, Robert Ouellette Jr. V. Bob Jr. resides in South Carolina and was unavailable for the Dec 5th Wreck. Bob Jr. is a member of Post 295 and the eldest son of our Grand Chef Bob Ouellette, Sr.

Locale 265's next Promenade will be held at Greenbelt American Legion Post 136, 6900 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, Md., Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2010, at 7:30 pm. All Voyagers are invited. We are scheduled to Wreck another candidate who could not attend the December 5 festivities.

## VOITURE LOCALE 1297

Harford County

**By John P. Baron, Correspondant**

Greetings Fellow Voyageurs !

Our Locale held its annual Christmas brunch at the Venetian Palace Restaurant in Edgewood, Md., December 6th. The annual Perry Point VA Hospital presentation has been postponed to sometime after Jan 1, 2010, due to technical difficulties.

As of this writing, VL 1297 has five unpaid 2010 dues. You know who you are!

Hope you all have a prosperous and healthy New Year.

## PAST CHEFS' CLUB

**By John P. Baron,  
Secretary**



Greetings, Past Grand Chefs and fellow Voyageurs.

This is just to ask all Past Grand Chefs who are healthy and can still drive -- or have transportation, you should know that the Grand Voiture needs all the help it can get from you.

I would ask that you please come to the remaining Cheminots and the Grand Voiture Prom in Williamsport, Md., in 2010. Your presence is not only wanted, but appreciated. I look forward to seeing you.

**Check out Grande du Maryland**

[www.grande\\_du\\_maryland.tripod.com](http://www.grande_du_maryland.tripod.com)

**Information, commentary and discussion:**

<http://40et8maryland.blogspot.com/>

**See you on Facebook (TM)? Search "groups" for "Grand du Maryland."**

FORTY et EIGHTER is official newsletter of Le Grande Voiture de Maryland., La Societe de 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux, Inc.. Entered at Bulk Mail Acceptance, Post Office, Frederick, MD. Comments or corrections should be directed to Editor, FORTY et EIGHTER, 627 Grant Place, Frederick, MD 21702, or by email at [nmcovert77@aol.com](mailto:nmcovert77@aol.com).



La Grande Presidente Betty Turney  
La Grande Correspondante Linda Green  
La Grande Commissaire Intendante Nancy Baron  
La Grande Aumonier Laurette O'Connor

## Grande Cabane de Maryland

By Linda L.Green

La Grande Correspondante

Grande Cabane de Maryland was granted a one-year extension to continue our programs. However, if we are unable to gather enthusiastic and active Dames to organize another Cabane Locale, we will lose our Charter "Without Malice" at Rendezvous Nationale 2010. Maryland will still have two active Locales, Cabanes 265 and 1297. Keep up the good work!



Linda Green

Our 4th Cheminot will be held Saturday, April 24, 2010, at Francis Scott Key Post 11, Frederick, MD - lunch served at 12 Noon, Cheminot beginning at 1 p.m.;

-- The Grande Rendezvous will be held in Williamsport, MD, July 3-August 2, 2009. As in the past, this is scheduled the weekend in conjunction with the Grande Voiture de Maryland Promenade. The WUZ Club (Past Grande La Presidentes) will convene similar to the Past Grande Chefs (but not in a joint endeavor). The Official Call will be available at the 4th Cheminot. If you are not in attendance in April, a copy will be mailed to you. We hope many Dames will be able to attend because these events mark the Grande Cabane's last official Cheminot and Rendezvous.

For the good of La Societe de Femme, on behalf of the Grande Cabane de Maryland, I remain forever loyal and dedicated to our organization and serving the veterans of the USA - God Bless America.

### CABANE LOCALE 265

By Linda L. Green

Locale Correspondante

Thank you, Dames, for renewing your dues in La Societe de Femme. We have transmitted 11 Dames to Cabane Nationale, including one new Dame -- along with four ready to go -- for a total of 15. We have signed up one new La Femme - **Theresa Turney**, daughter of La Presidente **Betty Turney**. If you are among the remaining four, please send your check in the amount of \$20.00, payable to Cabane Locale 265, addressed to: 9320 Dogwood Park Street; Capitol Heights, MD 20743.



La Presidente  
Betty Turney

Once I receive your check, I will process it, usually within three days, and transmit to Cabane Nationale. Once Cabane Nationale processes it, they will send your 2010 membership card, which I will fill out and mail to you soon thereafter. Dues must be paid by Jan. 31, 2010 or YOU ARE DELINQUENT. With only four Dames remaining, we hope we can achieve 100 percent again this year!

Due to weather conditions, I was unable to make the Voiture/Cabane 265 Christmas Party in Rockville,



## WUZ CLUB NEWS

By Nancy Baron

Locale Correspondante

To all Past Grande Presidentes, we hope you have a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year!

We recently heard that **Dame Lee Cherepes** is not well and has COPD. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. If there are any other WUZ Club members who need our thoughts and prayers, please let me know.



Nancy Baron

If you have not paid your 2010 dues, please pay them now. This will be the last year for us to collect dues. We are going to maintain the WUZ Club, have our annual breakfast or luncheon meeting to discuss business and have some fun.

We look forward to seeing you all soon. Also, please consider attending the next Grande Cabane Cheminot in April 2010.

### CABANE LOCALE 1297

By Nancy Baron

Locale Correspondante

We hope you have a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year!

Due to technical difficulties, we had to postpone our annual visit to Perry Point VA Hospital until after the new year.

Your dues are due for the 2010 year. Please take a moment and pay them. We look forward to seeing you all soon. Also, please consider attending the next Grande Cabane Cheminot in April 2010.

December 5th. I heard it was a delightful affair. Congratulations to VL 265 for successful Wrecking seven "new" Voyaguers. We look forward to meeting them and their wives, if any, soon.

The Cabane was saddened to hear of the passing of Voyager **Jim Short**, who passed away early this month. Jim and **Anne**, who passed away last year, were members of Voiture 265 and Cabane 265. They were active members of American Legion Post 196 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 196. They moved to Kentucky a few years ago. Our sympathies and prayers remain with their family and friends during this difficult time. Our prayers remain faithful for all Dames and their families who may be enduring an illness or some type of hardship, and wish you a speedy recovery.

We look forward to arranging a Rendezvous within the next month or so. We are seeking suggestions as to location, time and place, possibly on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. (it does not have to be at an American Legion Post). Please get in touch with me or **La Presidente Betty** if you have any thoughts on it. Our numbers can be found on the Grande Roster, or in the telephone book.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and a safe one. See you in 2010! God Bless America, our Troops and Veterans, and our La Societe de Femme!

*Hobos & Rolling Stock:*

# A winning combo

**A** potentially great selling tool for Grande du Maryland lies in its ability to return to the notion of keeping it simple, and making it fun. Capture the kids and you've got a start on mom and dad.

Cheminot National James J. Jones (VL 1371) tries to send that message through "Hobo Lightning."

Some Grande du Maryland Voyageurs are confused when J. J. mentions that "Hobo Lightning was there," meaning the 90th Promenade National in Rochester, N.Y., in September.



**HOBOS Ca. 1960** after Children's Christmas Party hosted by VL 155, Frederick. Bill Kennedy, Sr. (standing at right), a 57-year Voyageur, says, "The old guys really knew how to make children happy."

## 'Americanism' a big umbrella

By Gail Murdock

**N**ow that the holiday season is about over it is time to turn our attention to the many programs that come under the Americanism umbrella.

Each Voiture Locale needs to have a variety of fund raisers in order to support the programs. Different kinds of fundraisers work in different areas of the state, so I won't make any recommendations.

I hope each Locale will get involved. Volunteer in local schools and talk about your military experience and also act as aides to the students.



Gail Murdock

**Each Locale** should also take action to help the families of those serving overseas. You can help with tasks such as home maintenance, transportation, donated grocery items or assistance shopping and in many other ways. The possibilities are endless.

Take time to call your legislators in Washington and urge them to pass the flag protection bill. You can also help legal immigrants prepare for citizenship and assimilation into American Society.

**Flags for First Graders** is an excellent program. Voiture Locale 456 takes part in this program in conjunction with Southern Maryland American Legion Post 221. This Voyageurs gave out 165 flags, stands, rulers, coloring books and stickers.

If your Locale does anything that relates to Americanism programs please let me know so I can track our activities.

No need for confusion if you understand that J. J. is carrying on a tradition that began in the early years of La Societe. He adopts the trappings and persona of a Hobo Clown bearing the name, "Hobo Lightning."

**Voyageur Hobos** are a vanishing breed in Grande du Maryland, along with the signature locomotives and box cars, symbols of La Societe.

Hobo Lightning is a member of the National Association of Boxcar Hobos (NABH), which was organized at the National Boxcar Association's annual Children's Party in Orlando, Fla., in 1994.

The primary purpose of Box Car Hobos and Clowns is to reach out to kids of all ages and change grins or grimaces to smiles and quiet to roars of laughter. They meet at Promenade Nationale and conduct the Children's Party.

**The association grew** from La Societe's reputation as the "fun guys." Voyageurs began piling on floppy shoes and baggy costumes, then adding grease paint and funny noses. It worked when taking part in parades and other activities that involved children.

Hobos and clowns were a fixture on any good Voiture's locomotive or Box Car, performing slapstick antics, interacting with the kids along the route, passing out candy and flag literature, spreading the gospel of La Societe and patriotism.

It takes time and talent to be a Box Car Hobo, or just a regular clown representing La Societe. Hobo Lightning says he can help you get started with your alter ego and learn the thrill of "acting your age." First join the NABH, dues are \$5.00 annually, then play with the greasepaint and baggy clothes.



Hobo Lightning

## Mid-Atlantic Parlez



Leadership from Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania Grandes Voiture met in Wilmington, Del., in November. Special guest was Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Pat Beamer (center). Pictured from left are: Grand Chef de Gare du Pennsylvania Bill Lantz, Sous Directeur Public Relations George Burkett, Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Beamer, Grand Chef de Gare du Delaware & Mid-Atlantic Madame President Don White, and Grand Chef de Gare du Maryland Bob Ouellette.

## Orders From the Chef de Gare

**By Bob Ouellette  
Grand Chef de Gare**



**Chef de Gare  
Bob Ouellette**

Salute Voyagers, Legionnaires, Veterans

During the holidays let us not forget the men and women in our Armed Forces serving around the world. Especially, let us not forget those who are recovering from wounds suffered and borne in battle, plus illness contracted serving at inhospitable locations.

Also, remember the families left behind. Help them cope with the absence of their loved ones who are in harms way. Find a way to help make their holidays special as well. Finally, I hope that your Holiday celebration will include fun and joy.

Locally there are men and women recovering from their wounds at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda.

I was honored to lead an effort over the Thanksgiving holiday to serve lunch for the wounded and their families. Many thanked us for providing lunch, because there is no food available for visiting family member other than McDonalds for the entire weekend. Naval and Marine Corps patients at Bethesda historically receive less

attention than Walter Reed patients, so be aware of that need as you plan supportive programs.



I am pleased that La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux was able to Wreck (initiate) many new Voyagers into our organization. La Société is a by invitation only. It is an honor organization of male and female U. S. veterans and is more commonly known as the Forty & Eight. For too long La Societe has overlooked outstanding Legionnaires and honorably discharged veterans, who should have been invited to become a Voyager. The Locales have been tasked with extending invitations to worthy individuals.

By now everyone's membership card should say '2010.' If it doesn't your membership is in jeopardy. Send your dues immediately to your Locale Correspondant. In turn all Correspondants should ensure the dues are submitted to Nationale with urgency.

Remember, The Forty & Eight is committed to charitable and patriotic aims. Without YOU, we would fail in our mission to uphold and defend the United States Constitution; promote the well being of veterans, their widows and orphans; and to actively participate in selected charitable endeavors, including programs that promote child welfare and nurse's training.



### 2010 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

#### THIRD CHEMINOT:

Jan. 10, 2010, VL155, Carroll Post 31,  
Westminster, MD.

#### FOURTH CHEMINOT:

April 24, 2010, Francis Scott Key Post 11,  
Frederick, MD

#### 89th GRANDE PROMENADE:

Potomac Post 202,  
Williamsport, MD.

*(Note: All Cheminots begin at 1 p.m.  
Each is preceded by a complimentary  
luncheon by the host Voiture.)*

**JOYEUX NOEL ET BONNE ANNEE**



**NATIONAL BOX CAR HONOR.** Steve Tatro (center), Grande du Maryland Box Car Directeur accepts a 2008 National Award for membership. The award was accepted at Promenade Nationale by 2008 Grand Chef de Gare James J. Jones (left) and presented to Directeur Steve at the second Cheminot in November. Congratulating him is Chef de Gare Bob Ouellette.