



Next Prom
May 6, 2019 @6:30pm



Next Cheminot
May 21, 2019 @ 6:30pm



Voiture 99 Vancouver, WA

BOXCAR BULLETIN

Volume 19 Issue 05

www.voiture-99.com

May 2019

Chef de Gare's Corner Morris Giesler

We have the Grand Voiture du Washington Grand Promenade on June 14 and June 15 2019 at Voiture 135 in Shelton Washington. Voiture 135 will have a block of rooms at Little Creek Casino Resort. The address is 91 West State Route, 108 Shelton 98584.

Phone (800-667-7711) Call for Reservations for housing, Must be the Voyageur Militaire, attending the Washington Grand Promenade. They also have an R. V. Park.

Article VI, Section 1. The Legislative body of the Grande promenade to be held annually.

The Grand Promenade is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing term, amending the Constitution of Grand Voiture. And transaction of such other business as may come before it.

Voting at the Grand Promenade will be by Roll Call. Only

delegates are entitled to vote. Each Voiture Locale should designate a Chairperson of its delegation and report their name and address to the Grand Voiture Headquarters.

The vote of each Voiture will be the Delegation Chairerson. In the Grand Promenade each Voiture Locale shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate at large and one additional delegate and one additional alternate for each twenty-five (25) members or a major fraction thereof. Such representation shall be based on the number of paid up membership in good standing that has been reported to the Grand Correspondant fifteen (15) days preceding the annual Grand Promenade.

Resolutions: Proposed resolutions shall be typewritten in triplicate, and submitted to Grand Correspondant as early as possible, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of the Grand Promenade.

Nominations for Officers and Grand Directeurs for programs (Nurse's Training, Voiture Activities, Child Welfare, Boxcar Association, Youth Sports, Veterans Administration Voluntary Service (V.A.V.S.) POW/MIA, Americanism, Carville Star, Ritual, Special Awards, Committees Time and Place, Constitution and Bylaws, Audit, Ways and Means, Finance Committee.

Morris E. Giesler, Chef de Gare



Grande du South Carolina invites you to attend the 100th Promenade & 56th Rendezvous Nationale Myrtle Beach, South Carolina September 10-14, 2019

Register here:
<http://www.voiture-99.com/100th-promenade-56th-rendezvous-nationale/>

HELP FILL THE BARREL IN THE FOYER
BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO 40&8 AND LET'S FILL UP THE BLUE BARREL FOR SHARE HOUSE'S BACKBACK PROGRAM
THANKS!!

Chateau Schedule for May 2019

Members and guests allowed on Friday for breakfast.

Saturday the Chateau is open to voyageurs and guests.

Thursday morning coffee & doughnuts at the Chateau at 8:30am.- 10:00am

Chateau (360)574-3872

Voiture 99 Meeting Reminders:
Prom 5/6/19
Cheminot 5/21/19

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Coffee & Donuts 7:00 -9:30am North County Cruisers 6pm Chateau	Member & Guest Breakfast 7am CMAC 830am Van. Wildlife Baquet 5pm	Chateau Open 12-7pm
5 Cinco De Mayo BIG MONEY BINGO 3:00pm	6 PROM	7 BNI Networking 6:30am Boxcar	8 HDSCBA Mtg 11:30am Boxcar	9 Coffee & Donuts 7:00 -9:30am MOAA 9am BINGO Hall	10 Member & Guest Breakfast 7:30am - 9:00am	11 Chateau Open 12-7pm Ham Radio Mtg. 10:30am
12	13	14 BNI Networking 6-9am Boxcar	15 KWVA meeting. Boxcar 10am	16 Coffee & Donuts 7:00 -9:30am	17 Breakfast 7:30am-9am CMAC Grand Marshall Reception	18 Chateau Open 12-7pm Mom's Group 11am Boxcar
19	20 S.A.L.T. Meeting 11am, Boxcar Ombudsman Volunteer Mtg. Bingo Hall 9am	21 BNI Networking 6-9am Boxcar CHEMINOT	22	23 Coffee & Donuts 7:00 -9:30am Reside Residential Talent Show 1pm Boxcar	24 Member & Guest Breakfast 7:30am-9am	25 Chateau Open 12-7pm
26	27 Memorial Day CLOSED	28	29	VAVS Bingo @ Van VA CLC 6:30-7:30 PM 30	31	

Chateau Lounge is open Saturday, 12-7pm---Grill is open 12-3pm for lunch

2019 will feature our voyageur stories. This is the 2nd phase of the Historian Project for Voiture99. Remember: Everyone Has A Story. If you have not given Dixie your story, please do so before June 15. You can put your story in the folder on the back wall of the Chateau. Thank you.

EVERYONE HAS A STORY

Steven Slegers

- Wrecked at Voiture 99 in Vancouver, Washington in October 2012.
- Directeur POW/MIA for V-99 since March 2013.
- Assigned as V-9 representative to the Clark County Advisory Board in May 2013.
- Grand Directeur POW/MIA since June 2013.
- Assigned as Grand Cheminot since June 2018
- Sous National Directeur POW/MIA Merchandise from Jan 2018 through Sept. 2018.
- Sous National Directeur POW/MIA North West since 2018.
- Selected twice as National POWMIA Voyageur Militaire (2017 and 2018).

FROM: Dixie Lee Hotaling

Earl Edwards spoke to me the other day, concerning the subject of Flags for First Graders. It is a privilege to introduce you to Grant Edwards – 2019 representative. Earl mentioned the fact that the

Columbian is interested in featuring an article about Grant. I am truly sorry that this writing has taken so long. You may have called my cell phone. It is not in good working order, and I have been too ill to go out in public since last October.



Here goes: The Forty and Eight Americanism Program seeks youngsters to represent the Flags for First Grader piece. As a National Sous Directeur – I sent out requests for Voitures to submit names of eligible youngsters. Every child was carefully considered.

A group of our 40 and 8 members chose Grant Edwards to be honored for 2019. We were very impressed with his heartfelt patriotism. Enclosed is a black and white photograph of Grant at the Wall in Washington D.C., where his father, John Edwards (active military) was chosen to place the wreath on the grave of the Unknown Soldier.

We recognize the importance of keeping Patriotism alive in the USA. This family is three generational. Grant is the first grader who represents our future, John, his father, is the present generation of soldier, who has many deployments in his resume, and grandfather, Earl Edwards is a Korean War Veterans and supporter of the Washington DC honor flights.

La Femmes

The LeFemme's are now gearing up for the next fund raising project. On June 21st and 22nd we will be holding our Annual Rummage Sale to benefit the Nurses Training Program. With the generous donations of all the 40 et 8 membership we will have a great success. Now is the time for all of us to clean our closets and storage areas for those unwanted or gently used items that we no longer need. Contact Mary Snyder (360)210-5493 or Judy Bailey (360) 798-5166, if you have items you would like to donate.

On July 13 th we will be hosting the 3 rd Annual Health Fair Fundraiser, Stephanie Collazo is Chairman of the committee and is putting together a planning committee. If you are aware of any business that would be interested in participating please let Stephanie know. If you are interested in joining the committee she would welcome your input.

Every month Bea Ritter and Bonnie Mills are continuing to deliver non-perishable food items to the Share House. It is always greatly appreciated, as there is a great need in our area.

Reminder: We are still collecting non-perishable food items in the Blue Barrel inside the entrance of the Chateau.

Mary Snyder, La Sous
Correspondante

VAVS

Bingo on the 28 March: We had 21 Patients, 11 Volunteers & \$100.00 given in prizes.



SPRINGTIME IS HERE!

It's time to start cleaning the GARAGE and CLOSETS
DONATE your gently used items to the

LeFemme's Annual Rummage Sale

June 21st & 22nd

Benefiting 40 et 8 Nurses Training Program

Contact Mary Snyder (360-210-5493) or Judy Bailey (360) 798-5166

Letters in answer to Frank Falbee's request for comments and solutions.

ATTENTION: Frank Falbee

You asked for feedback from the membership, concerning declining involvement, and ways to reverse the trend. So here goes. The last time I voiced my opinion, it cost me the National Voyageur of the Year Award as well as the Grand du Washington. This letter is written with reservation and hope that you will be discreet and not punish me for sharing.

What I write is personal and painful; however, it may give you some insight on the low morale we face. It's time to ask the question WHY? WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Let me share some of my personal 40 & 8 story. Bill Bailey invited me to join the organization seven years ago. I was elated. This was the only veteran organization available to me at the time. Years of discrimination taught me to stay invisible and don't rock the boat, and for goodness sake, don't tell anyone you are a female veteran. You would think that by now I would have learned.

The challenges began the day Sam Groom appointed me Americanism Chairman. There were those who definitely did not want me in that position. Sam believed in me. After much, thinking outside of the box, the program flourished and gave us National recognition.

The members have been most supportive of my endeavors. So what happened to bring in the discouragement?

The first revelation was the secrecy and non-disclosure policies that surfaced. When a \$25,000 Americanism bond matured, I was told to forget it, not to concern myself about it because my program was not going to see one penny of it.

Time passed. Karla Bean was ostracized in front of the entire membership and no one did anything to stop it. She was humiliated and forced out because someone didn't like her. She asked too many questions and wanted answers. I wonder how it made her feel when one of the members took it upon himself to destroy her.

The next low blow came when George Golden was told that a recall plan was going around concerning the Chef de Gare position. He hadn't even taken office. He completed his term with little to no support from his leadership team.

That is when I noticed numbers dropping off. You ask why people walk in the front door and immediately exit, not to return. One example comes to mind. Patrick Locke. He was enthusiastic and busy developing a presentation to share the Box Car Program with the community. He had worked hard, only to be told that his efforts were in vain because he didn't have permission. After that, everything he did went by the wayside. People didn't want new ideas. He doesn't come anymore. WHY SHOULD HE? And he is a three-time Purple Heart recipient. No one really cares, do they? Where was his support and encouragement?

The last and final incident concerns present Chef de Gare, Morris Geisler. Since I am not privy to the full accusations against him, I can only speak to my observations. You held a tribunal. His support people were dismissed; the on-sight eye witness reports were negated. You decided to punish. You even allowed a member to humiliate him and chastise his character. You did nothing to support him. When he took action to clear his name, you turned on him. He is serving out his term with no encouragement or support from

his leadership. He, too, asked questions - that no one wanted to answer. I can only imagine his stress level each time he faces his accusers, knowing how they feel about him. I wonder how it makes him feel. Does anyone really care? AND the membership continues to decline.

You ask for SOLUTIONS. These will probably go on deaf ears. It is time to change. Since I do not want to be part of the problem, I am willing to be involved in the solution.

1. Attitude Adjustment – right thinking, using common sense, being positive, being unselfish and not self-centered and vengeful, get rid of the “it’s my way or highway’ mentality, recognize creativity, be supportive and lose hate and the get even attitude.
2. Support, uplift, encourage. When a new member attends, involve him/her in a program. Listen to their interests. Connect that person with someone who will mentor them. Listen to them.
3. Take special interest in the absentees. Contact members in distress. Send cards, make calls. Let them know we care. Stop – tearing down and start building each other up.
4. The leadership should be open, forthright, supportive and good listeners. Involve the membership in decisions and value our opinions. You say we have a vote, well validate it.
5. Encourage the voyageurs to shine. Give everyone a reason to want to attend and serve.

This rhetoric is almost complete. It is time to reveal emotions. We are human and life can be painful. In closing, I will share what happened with the Voyageur of the Year situation. I am honored that Voiture 99 has given me such an award. So what happened? When the delegates returned from National Prom last year, one approached me and said, “Well Dixie, payback is a bitch isn’t it?” It took a minute to process the remark. This person negated my chances of National Voyageur of the Year, because of a letter I had written, in another organization that expressed my opinions. That remark took me back – way back – to the time when a 14 year old girl was driven to the inner City of Boston, thrown out on the street, left to hear her mother’s parting words, “Good riddance to bad rubbish”, and to call the street home. Flashbacks of all life’s failures came into view. It wasn’t about the award (a fine more deserving person received it); however, the hate and vengeful words just about caused me to walk.

You asked for feedback and you have it. The question remains, what will you do with it? I will be watching for positive change.

Dixie Lee Hotaling

From: Jerry Jacobus

To: Frank Falbee, Correspondant, Voiture 99

You asked for membership feedback concerning the problems of the 40 & 8; declining membership, lack of participation and low morale.

This is my opinion of what needs to change for the good of the Voiture.

Lack of respect – No one seems to respect the leadership positions. A prime example is the way the Chef de Gare was recently treated at the Prom. There was no honor given to his position or person. It is a sad day when someone can use spiteful, hurtful, retaliatory words to attack the leader, and receive no recriminations. This needs to change.

Finance Committee Reporting – Most organizations distribute quarterly finance statements, reflecting the funding income and expenses incurred. The Voiture 99 general membership has no idea of the actual costs involved or the financial status of each program. This needs to change.

Communication – It seems as though the Executive Committee ignores the opinions and suggestions of the general membership. An example is the decisions made concerning the formulation of a three-person committee to be the liaison between the club manager and the Cheminot. The idea had been voted on to be tabled at the Cheminot level (not to be reflected in any minutes). The general membership expressed the opinions that no more committee layers need to be appointed. The club manager should be in direct contact with the Cheminot and handing in a monthly report. This fell on deaf ears. This mindset needs to change.

Declining Membership Involvement – It has become apparent, over time, that unless you “fit the mold” or conform to the “Image”, a person is not welcome. New voyageurs bring with them enthusiasm, new ideas and fresh energy. They are soon shot down because the leadership does not want to give up control or is not willing to listen. Even long time members have felt left out because of the refusal of the Cheminot to validate their input. Frank Cooley comes to mind. He developed a perpetual program that would sustain the Nurse’s Program. It was shot down. The disrespectful, slanderous labels and names thrown out at him, by other long time members drove him out. He never came back. Why should he? This type of treatment needs to change.

SOLUTIONS

RESPECT – Treat others with respect in all situations.

INTEGRITY – Doing the right thing even when it goes against the grain.

SELF-CONTROL – Show self-control in order to maintain a safe and healthy atmosphere.

COURAGE – Demonstrate courage even in the face of self-doubt and fear.

HUMILITY – Balance your self-confidence with healthy doses of humility.

EXCELLENCE – Exercise excellence as a habit and a consistent part of your life.

COMPASSION – Show great compassion for those less fortunate than yourself.

ENTHUSIASM – Generate enthusiasm in yourself and others towards a positive purpose.

TEAMWORK – Contribute to teamwork and reap the benefits as well.

HONOR – A person of honor consistently makes the right choices.

ACCOUNTABILITY – The Finance Committee needs to issue a quarterly profit and loss statement. Also, it needs to give a clear message and understanding of committee expenditures. One solution is to have a statement copy in a plastic sleeve, available on each table for review. These would be collected and updated for each Cheminot meeting. This should be totally separate from Bingo Hall business and managed by chateau personal.

SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT - Welcome and encourage both new and mature voyageurs. Include them in all activities of Voiture 99. This can be done with cards, phone calls and emails.



40 et 8



Cruise Inn



**Cars
Trucks
Scooters
Motorcycles**



**Every Tuesday Evening from June 4, 2019 through September 3, 2019
4:00pm to 9:00pm at the 40 et 8 parking lot
(next to the BINGO hall on 78th st.)**



Music

**\$5 entry per car
Free Parking
Benefits Veterans Programs**

**Contact & Vendor info:
Cliff 360-901-8671
Earl 360-513-8251
Ron 360-608-4443
Dale: 360-907-6144**

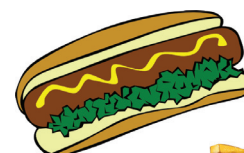
Ice Cold Drinks



First 100 vehicles



Beer Garden



FOOD

