



Next Prom  
February 6th



Next Cheminot  
February 21st



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Clark County

40 et 8

Voiture 99

Volume 17, Issue 02

## 2017 Membership Cards Now Due

### From the Chef de Gare

Well happy new year I pray that all will be well and blessed this year.

I am I have a new grandson Tiran born 7:11 am on January 17, 2017 but looks like he is 3 months old, bright eyed and happy, so mine is starting out great. I will be gone the February 20th to the 29th to North Carolina to visit family. I know Bob Kadow will usher in our goofs with joy on the 21st. I hope many of you attended to support them.

Gene has been working on getting the screens and speakers up and by the time you read this they should be up and working. Everyone might go over and see how they look maybe John will demo them for us.

A new year means new ideas for how we move forward with fund raising. Keep the idea hats working. Sorry we had to cancel Cheminot but we could not tempt fate with the possibility of getting someone hurt trying to attend. Better safe than sorry. It has been a challenging couple of weeks. I had 12" of snow at my house and could not get my van out of the drive way. This is going to be short as I am packing right now, getting ready to leave. Be safe and good to others. God Bless you all Shalom.

Your Chef de Gare,  
George Golden

### Correspondants Notes

It's that time of year when the Grande du Washington prepares for their spring meeting. The Grande Petite will be held at our Boxcar room on March 24 and 25, 2017. The reservation form can be found at: <http://grandeduewashington.com/petite>

-prom/. Or you can stop in at the Chateau and pick up a copy on your next visitation. Your reservation and check for your selections may be turned in to John Clapp at the chateau or mailed to

Petite-Prom, 7607 NE 26th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98665-0637. This is an opportunity to learn about the 40 et 8 in the state of Washington, and to meet many new friends from around the state. The La Femmes will hold a 50/50 cash drawing and a silent auction. For details see "Attention La Femmes" in this issue.

The weather has sure played havoc with our scheduled events. I am sure we have all had our fill of snow and temperatures under 28 degrees. With the temperatures returning to normal, perhaps you can get your wife into the car and bring her down to the Chateau for our Saturday dinner. We miss you. Come on down and enjoy the friendship.

If you are planning on submitting for any positions for Grande du Washington, or as a Nationale Officer, you need to have a resolution ready to be voted on at a Voiture 99 Promenade. Then it is presented at the Grande du Washington Petite Prom. If approved, it is forwarded to Nationale for consideration. The Grande nominees will be voted on at the Grande Promenade in June. The Nationale nominees are selected by a Nationale committee.

289 Voyageurs have taken the renewal step for the 2017 year. We still have 71 Voyageurs that have not renewed their dues. A list of the names of those that have not renewed is available for viewing in the Chateau.

Phil Yasson  
Correspondant

### Inside this Issue

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### Americanism

**WELCOME TO 2017.** It's time to head down the homestretch to the finish line. Collecting Community Hours for July through December. Scheduling Community Events for Flags for First Graders. Inviting veterans to 40 et 8 functions (increase membership) and promoting Grande and Locale events. You have your work cut out.

**MARK YOUR CALENDER** - May 20th, 2017 Spokane Washington - the travelling Eyes of Freedom Memorial will be featured in Spokane. Contact Sarah Lee V96 Chef de Gare, Spokane for further information. They need to raise \$2500 towards the event. Have a great February.

### Gone but not forgotten

you will be missed by many.

Robert Ray Cruden  
Alonzo "Mac" Echols  
William Wascher



February  
2017

# 2017 Membership Cards Now Due

## La Femmes



### Chateau Schedule for February 2017

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 8:00 am.  
Chateau Manager - John Clapp (360)574-3872

The dames are gearing up to help with the Grande du Washington Petite Prom held at Voiture 99 on March 24 - 25. We will prepare and serve lunch on the 25th. We will have a silent auction with the winners announced at the banquet on Saturday. There will, also, be a 50/50 cash drawing that will benefit the holder of the winning ticket and the Grande Chef's program. Stand by for more information at the next Rendezvous.

Remember the La Femmes Thursday Morning Social in the Chateau starting around 7:30 or when the first dame arrives. We enjoy the conversation, coffee, and donuts until around 9:30. Join us and bring a friend; the more the merrier.

The next Rendezvous will be on Monday February 6. The next Cheminot will meet on Tuesday February 21. We meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Boxcar Room for both. Come for dinner at 5:30 p.m.

If you have questions about La Societe de Femme or are interested in joining the Dames of Cabane 99 contact La Presidente Barbara Yasson at 574-1152 or La Sous Presidente Patricia Running at 696-4003.

Barbara Yasson  
La Presidente

#### February 2<sup>nd</sup> (Thursday)

Members & Guest Coffee  
8:30 am to 10:00 am

#### February 3<sup>rd</sup> (Friday)

Members & Guest Breakfast

Menu: Breakfast off the Grill and eggs to order  
7:30 am to 9:00 am  
Cost \$8.00

#### February 4<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)

##### *STEAK NIGHT*

Chateau Hours: 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Lunch Menu: Soup & Grilled Cheese Sandwich  
Grill closes at 3:00 pm.

*Dinner: Steak Night - NEW YORK STRIP*  
Cost \$18.00

5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

We will buy 40 steaks first come first served

#### February 6<sup>th</sup> (Monday)

##### *V99 Prom /C99 Rendezvous*

Chateau opens at 4:00 pm

Dinner at 5:30 pm

Meetings 6:30 pm

Menu:

#### February 9<sup>th</sup> (Thursday)

Members & Guest Coffee  
8:30 am to 10:00 am

#### February 10<sup>th</sup> (Friday)

Members & Guest Breakfast

Menu: Breakfast off the Grill and eggs to order  
7:30 am to 9:00 am  
Cost \$8.00

#### February 11<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)

Chateau Hours: 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Lunch Special: Chefs Salad

Valentine's Day Dinner: Prime Rib  
Cost \$18.00

#### February 16<sup>th</sup> (Thursday)

Members & Guest Coffee  
8:30 am to 10:00 am

#### February 17<sup>th</sup> (Friday)

Members & Guest Breakfast

Menu: Breakfast off the Grill and eggs to order  
7:30 am to 9:00 am  
Cost \$8.00

#### February 18<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)

Chateau Hours: 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Lunch Special: Chicken Strip Basket

Dinner: Meat Loaf

Cost \$8.00

#### February 20<sup>th</sup> (Monday)

##### *S.A.L.T.*

11:00 am to 1:00 pm

#### February 21<sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)

##### *V99 Cheminot / C99 Cheminot*

Dinner at 5:30 pm

Meetings at 6:30 pm

Menu: Chicken Alfredo /Salad

#### February 23<sup>rd</sup> (Thursday)

Members & Guest Coffee  
8:30 am to 10:00 am

#### February 24<sup>th</sup> (Friday)

Members & Guest Breakfast

Menu: Breakfast off the Grill and eggs to order  
7:30 am to 9:00 am

Cost \$8.00

#### February 25<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)

Chateau Hours: 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm

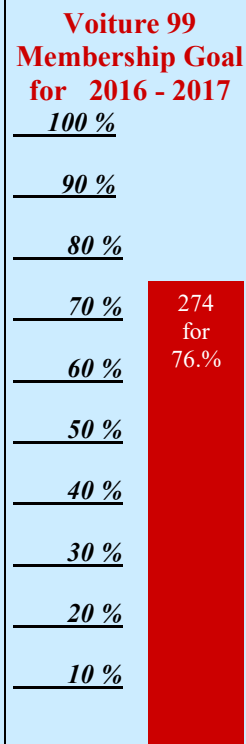
Lunch Special: Hamburger and Fries

Dinner: Goulash and Salad with Garlic Bread

Cost \$6.00

### 40 et 8 Nationale Contact information

The Nationale 40 et 8 is having problems with address and email changes. If you move, it is imperative that you notify the Correspondant so your changes can be entered on the Nationale membership listing.



# 2017 Membership Cards Now Due

## Director Reports

### Boxcar

Patrick Locke reported he has pins available tonight. His raffle at the Passé Chefs dinner netted \$154. He and his wife donated the prize items, a quilt and a basket of goodies.

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### Carville Star

Ed Hewitt reported pin sales are doing well. He reported that he received a \$100 dollar donation from the La Femmes and a \$100 anonymous donation.

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### Child Welfare

Ed Dunkle had nothing new to report.

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### Loci

Jim Resleff had nothing new to report. The next trip is in March.

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### Leroy Burns Scholarship

Jerry Parker reported he has one application.

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### POW/MIA

Steve Slegers said he still has some merchandise for sale.

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### Nurses Training

Frank Cooley had nothing new to report.

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### Ritual

We held our latest wreck a on 21 January 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

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### VAWS

Landahl reported a record 24 patients at the last bingo. He paid out \$285.00 and had six volunteers.

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## Save the Dates

La Femmes used Book Sale coming up on May 5 & 6.

Please start saving all those books you have finished reading so we can sell them. Now is the time to start cleaning off your book shelves to make room for more. Contact Judy Bailey or Mary Snyder for answers to any questions about the used Book Sale.



**Program Directors are encouraged to submit a written report to be published in the Boxcar Newsletter on your programs activities.**

**We also have a new website that needs Program Directors to submit reports on activities in your program. This would tell the world what good we do for our community.**

Send your reports to me at [bhauser1952@msn.com](mailto:bhauser1952@msn.com)

## Bingo Special Event :

This year marks the BIG 20 YEAR anniversary of the Bingo Parlor!!!!

So we want to say THANK YOU and have a big special night to celebrate. Mark your calendars for February 11th, during our 6:30 pm session ONLY. (yes, we are open for the 11:00 am & 2:00 pm sessions)

First packet is \$25  
each additional is \$10.

Paying \$1000 for regular bingo's

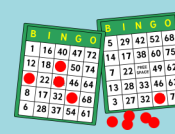
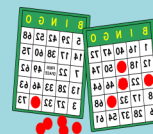
plus 4 - \$1199 Blackouts.

Game 23 is paying \$2020

Pick 8 & Bonanza guaranteed \$500

Free dinner with buy-in & we will definitely have cake!

Come join us! Let's celebrate!!!



## Valentines Day

February 14th

Don't forget to do something for the special person in your life.

Happy Valentine's Day

# 2017 Membership Cards Now Due



Registration Form for GRAND PETITE PROM  
du Washington  
March 24<sup>th</sup> thru March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Voiture #99  
7607 NE 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, WA 98665

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Voiture: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee:                      Voyagers      \$35.00                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

No registration for Le Femmes                      Please pre-pay meals

Check-in                      Friday                      1500-1700 hrs

                                         Saturday                      0800-1000 hrs

Meals: Friday Dinner

                                         Steak or Salmon                      \$18.00                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Lunch provide by Cabane 99

                                         Soup & Sandwiches                      \$6.00                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Banquet: (included with registration) or \$15.00                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

                                         Brisket or Stuffed Chicken Breast

NO Sunday Breakfast

**TOTAL** (Make check payable to Voiture 99                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration to  
Voiture 99  
7607 NE 26<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver, WA 98665

Please make your own hotel reservations and be sure to mention that you are attending  
the 40 et 8 Grand Prom.

Quality Inn & Suites

360-696-0516

7001 NE HWY 99

Vancouver, WA 98665

Room Rates:      Single \$74.00

                                         Double \$82.00

# 2017 Membership Cards Now Due

Another fascinating piece of history!!! submitted by a member of V-99.



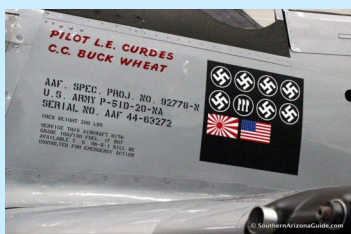
P-51 Mustang "Bad Angel" in Hanger #4 at Pima Air and Space Museum.

Before the Mustangs came into service, the skies over the Pacific Ocean were dominated by Japanese Zeros.

Proudly displayed on the fuselage of 'Bad Angel' are the markings of the pilot's kills: seven Nazis; one Italian; one Japanese AND ONE AMERICAN.

Huh? "Bad Angel" shot down an American airplane?

Was it a terrible mistake? Couldn't be. If it had been an unfortunate misjudgment, certainly the pilot would not have displayed the American flag. What is the story here? One of the Museum's many fine docents tells it like this.



Kill marks on "Bad Angel"

In 1942, the United States needed pilots for its war planes lots of war planes; lots of pilots. Lt. Louis Curdes was one. When he was 22 years old, he graduated flight training school and was shipped off to the Mediterranean to fight Nazis in the air over Southern Europe.

He arrived at his 82nd Fighter Group, 95th Fighter Squadron in April 1943 and was assigned a P-38 Lightning. Ten days later he shot down three German Messerschmitt Bf-109 fighters. A few weeks later, he downed two more German Bf -109's. In less than a month of combat, Louis was an Ace.

During the next three months, Louis shot down an Italian Mc.202 fighter and two more Messer-

schmitts before his luck ran out. A German fighter shot down his plane on August 27, 1943 over Salerno, Italy. Captured by the Italians, he was sent to a POW camp near Rome. No doubt this is where he thought he would spend the remaining years of the war. It wasn't to be. A few days later, the Italians surrendered. Louis and a few other pilots escaped before the Nazis could take control of the camp.

One might think that such harrowing experiences would have taken the fight out of Louis, yet he volunteered for another combat tour. This time, Uncle Sam sent him to the Philippines where he flew P-51 Mustangs.

Soon after arriving in the Pacific Theater, Louis downed a Mitsubishi reconnaissance plane near Formosa. Now he was one of only three Americans to have kills against all three Axis Powers: Germany, Italy, and Japan.



Pilot Louis Curdes in his P-51 Mustang "Bad Angel"

Up until this point, young Lt. Curdes combat career had been stellar. His story was about to take a twist so bizarre that it seems like the fictional creation of a Hollywood screenwriter.

While attacking the Japanese-held island of Bataan, one of Louis wingmen was shot down. The pilot ditched in the ocean. Circling overhead, Louis could see that his wingman had survived, so he stayed in the area to guide a rescue plane and protect the downed pilot.

It wasn't long before he noticed another, larger airplane, wheels down, preparing to land at the Japanese-held airfield on Bataan. He moved in to investigate. Much to his surprise the approaching plane was a Douglas C-47 transport with American markings.

He tried to make radio contact, but without success. He maneuvered his Mustang in front of the big transport several times trying to wave it off. The C-47 kept head to its landing target. Apparently the C-47 crew didn't realize they were about to land on a Japanese held island, and soon would be captured.



*He tried to make radio contact, but without success. He maneuvered his Mustang in front of the big transport several times trying to wave it off. The C-47 kept head to its landing target. Apparently the C-47 crew didn't realize they were about to land on a Japanese held island, and soon would be captured.*

Lt. Curdes read the daily newspaper accounts of the war, including the viciousness of the Japanese soldiers toward their captives. He knew that whoever was in that American C-47 would be, upon landing, either dead or wish they were. But what could he do?

Audaciously, he lined up his P-51 directly behind the transport, carefully sighted one of his .50 caliber machine guns and knocked out one of its two engines. Still the C-47 continued on toward the Bataan airfield. Curdes shifted his aim slightly and knocked out the remaining engine, leaving the baffled pilot no choice but to ditch in the ocean.

The big plane came down in one piece about 50 yards from his bobbing wingman. At this point, nightfall and low fuel forced Louis to return to base. The next morning, Louis flew cover for a rescuing PBY that picked up the downed Mustang pilot and 12 passengers and crew, including two female nurses, from the C-47. All survived, and later, Lt. Curdes would end up marrying one of these nurses.

For shooting down an unarmed American transport plane, Lt. Louis Curdes was awarded the

Distinguished Flying Cross. Thereafter, on the fuselage of his P-51 "Bad Angel", he proudly displayed the symbols of his kills: seven German, one Italian, one Japanese and one American flag.

I checked this story out at "[TruthorFiction.com](http://TruthorFiction.com)".

Most details about Lt. Col. Louis Curdes and his "Bad Angel" P-51 Mustang check out, but they are calling this one "truth and fiction" because of claims about why he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

So go to the website to see what the truth is and what is fiction.