Voiture 751
Winnebago County, Wisconsin

Chef de Gare
Marlin Brand

Correspondant
Bob Wipf

February 2013

I hope that everyone remembers that our next Promenade will be held at Fire Station 17 which is on Algoma in Oshkosh. It is located right next to the cemetery I am still looking for someone to step forward to take over our Nurses Program. Loretta Miller had to step down because of health reasons. Clary Reinhardt told me that the brat fry's are all set for this summer. Hope to see everyone at the next promenade on the 25th of February.

Marlin Brand

February Promenade

Our next Promenade is scheduled to take place at 7 PM Monday February 25, 2013 at Fire Station 17 which is on Algoma St. in Oshkosh. Should you need transportation, please let me know and I will do my best to see to your need. Many of you have not attended a Promenade in a very long time. Please do try to find the time to join us again soon. You will be surprised at the many new faces in the Voiture since you last were at a Promenade.

Dates to Remember

February 19	Marines landed on Iwo Jima (1945)
February 23	Five Marines & A Navy Corpsman raised the flag on Mount Suribach, Iwo Jima (1945)
February 25	**Promenade 7 PM Fire Station #17 Oshkosh, WI**
March 3	Star Spangled Banner Made USA National Anthem
March 14	Monthly meeting with CVSO at Coughlin Building in Oshkosh
March 10	Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 12	Girl Scouts Established (1912)
March 25	**Promenade 7 PM Tanner's Tap & Grill Omro, WI**

92nd Grand Mid-Winter Petite Promenade

2013 Promenade Schedule

January 28, 2013	AL Post 33 Neenah
February 25, 2013	Fire Station #17 Oshkosh
March 25, 2013	Tanners Tap & Grill Omro
April 22, 2013	AL Post 33 Neenah
*May 28, 2013	Fire Station #17 Oshkosh
June 24, 2013	Tanners Tap & Grill Omro
July 22, 2013	AL Post 33 Neenah
August 26, 2013	Fire Station #17 Oshkosh
**September 23, 2013	Tanners Tap & Grill Omro (N0urses Dinner)
October 28, 2013	AL Post 33 Neenah
November 25, 2013	Fire Station #17 Oshkosh
***December 23, 2013	Tanners Tap & Grill Omro

* Promenade moved to day after Memorial Day (subject to vote)
** Nurses Dinner Social @ 5:30 PM Dinner @ 6:30 PM
***No Promenade due to Christmas (subject to vote)

2013 Flags For 1st Graders Schedule

Oshkosh

February 22

Martin Luther	9:00 AM	10	1526 Algoma Blvd
Trinity Lutheran	10:30 AM	20	819 School Ave.
Washington	1:00 PM	42	929 Winnebago
St. Frances Cabrini		18	619 Merritt Ave

Menasha

March 6th

Hoover	9:00 AM	45	950 Hunt Ave.
Roosevelt/Alliance	10:30 AM	45	215 E Forest Ave.
Clayton	1:00 PM	45	2916 W Fairview
Wilson	2:30 PM	60	920 Higgins Ave.

March 7th

Coolidge	9:00 AM	57	321 Alcott Dr.
Spring Road	10:30 AM	66	1191 County Rd. II
Tullar	1:00 PM	63	925 Tullar Rd.
Lakeview	2:00 PM	63	1645 S Commercial

NEWSLETTER AD'S

Please continue to contact potential sponsors using the donation form that has been distributed. There will be more forms available at the November Promenade or feel free to make your own copies.

OSHKOSH
WISCONSIN

COOK-FULLER
'OST 70

THE AMERICAN LEGION
Deborah Hoskins
Commander

920-216-8500

Omro Pharmacy
Ken Bressers, R.Ph.
920-685-5041

Clopidogrel 75mg #90 $30.00
Atorvastatin 20, 40 or 80mg #90 $31.00
Call for price quotes on any of your medications!

American Legion
Hawley-Dieckhoff Post 33
P.O. Box 632
Neenah, WI 54957-0632

LENZ-GAZECKI AMERICAN
LEGION POST 152 MENASHA
PO BOX 441
MENASHA, WI 54952-0441

VFW Nicolet Post 2126
546 3rd Street
Menasha, WI. 54952

40/8 Recruiting

We need to strongly encourage recruiting new members. One hundred percent membership should not be our goal. Our goal should be growing the Voiture 751. We should all be aware that membership in the Forty and Eight is now open to all military veterans holding an honorable discharge regardless of membership in The American Legion. It still requires that our voyageurs reach out and offer invitations to potential voyageurs to join our ranks. It is not as though we are a household name.

40/8 Programs Overview

Carville Star

As one of their ongoing programs, the Voyageurs Militaire offer continuing support of the publication, "The Carville Star," which disseminates the information regarding the research into Hansen's Disease (Leprosy) taking place in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. There they have been successful in isolating, controlling and soon, through their research, the development of a vaccine to prevent Hansen's Disease. "The Star" is published at the former United States Public Health Service Hospital located in Carville, Louisiana. This patient-published publication carries the research works of not only this center, but those of the rest of the world, and is translated into and forwarded to 128 countries in addition to a circulation of more than 60,000 in the United States.

VA Claims Backlog Update: A government watchdog on Friday warned that the Department of Veterans Affairs risked falling short on its goal to process disability claims on time by 2015 and urged changes to ensure faster access to health care. The reports released on 18 JAN are the latest reminder of the strain on the VA after 11 years of non-stop war, even as VA Secretary Eric Shinseki moves to overhaul the agency, an effort bolstered by funding increases under the Obama administration. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) noted advances at the VA, including efforts to move away from a paper system to submit and process disability claims, which are sometimes handwritten and often arrive incomplete. The VA is also processing more claims than ever, it noted. But the VA hasn't been able to keep pace with the rising number of claims arriving from injured veterans and the GAO said its backlog reduction strategy "fell short of established criteria for sound planning." "Without a comprehensive plan ... the agency risks spending limited resources on initiatives that may not speed up disability claims and appeals processes," the report said. "This may, in turn, result in forcing veterans to continue to wait months and even years to receive compensation for injuries incurred during their service to the country."

The GAO's Daniel Bertoni told Reuters that it was far from certain that the VA would be able to achieve its goal of processing all claims within 125 days by 2015. The backlog of claims -- those in system for more than 125 days -- has more than tripled since September 2009. "Never say never - they've made some significant inroads," Bertoni said. "But there's a lot of uncertainty about whether these initiatives will be ultimately be successful." In a separate report, the GAO also renewed concerns about the VA's ability to ensure veterans get timely appointments for health care. It said outpatient wait times reported by the VA were "unreliable" and cited shortages of scheduling staffers among the bureaucratic problems contributing to longer waits. Jeff Miller, the Republican chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, and Representative Kevin McCarthy, the House Majority Whip, wrote a letter to Shinseki saying the GAO audit showed "a large disconnect between VA internal goals and the results." The VA, in written responses to the reports, said it broadly agreed with the GAO's conclusions. It noted steps it was taking to get veterans their disability benefits faster and said it would take steps to better measure the amount of time veterans wait for health care appointments. [Source: Reuters | Phil Stewart | 18 Jan 2013 ++]