



Grand Voiture du Georgia

Award winning publication

Volume 2017-1, January, February, March 2017



Grand Chef de Gare 2016-17 Mike Wood

Fall My Fellow Voyageurs

We had to cancel the Shamrock Wreck due to the Hurricane and re-scheduled the Grande Fall Petite Cheminot very quickly with the help of host Voiture Locale 499 in Loganville. There were many issues discussed at the Cheminot that will be decided at the Mid-Winter Cheminot in February including the Grande Raffle drawing where three lucky people will win \$500, \$300 and \$200. We will also take bids for the Grande Promenade and discuss resolutions for next years candidates for Grande Officers among other things. So as you can see this is a very important Grande Cheminot with a full schedule and will need the support from all Voyageurs. It will be held on Saturday, February 18, 2017 at Voiture Locale 217, Fulton Co. at 1:00 pm.

The Grande du Georgia is doing an amazing job in membership this year. We are at 75.05% as of this writing, have 5 Voitures Locale at 100% or better, and have accomplished the first two membership goals and are on track to achieve the third goal of 100% as a Grande by 30 January 2017. Georgia is one of the leading Grandes in La Societe and it is because of the dedication and hard work by all those concerned in membership and the survival of La Societe.

We have 8 PGs that will be wrecked at the Joint Carolina's Promenade in Goose Creek, SC in January 2017. I ask that any of our Voyageurs that can attend to do so in support of our PGs. Besides the Goose Creek gang usually puts on a great Wreck and fun time is had by the Voyageurs and Dames. Other events upcoming are the Cajun Wreck in Louisiana, the Hillbilly Wreck in Tennessee and the Dixie Promenade in Kentucky. We would like to have Georgia represented at all these events if possible.

I want to send my personal thanks to L'Editeur Tom Reesman for the work he is doing with the Georgia on Track. Tom is soliciting donations to defer the cost of the bulletin as well as email addresses to send them electronically to reduce postage. I ask that all the Voitures Locale participate in this according to their financial status and that all Voyageurs and Dames do as well. When you make a donation you can either get an ad in the bulletin or your name listed, whichever you prefer. The important thing is to keep the Georgia on Track as a quality source of information for the Grande du Georgia, its Locales and all members. We will get much more participation and interest in our programs when the membership is well informed.

The GOT can only be as good as the information the L'Editeur receives to disburse. With this being said, I think it needs to be stated that **ALL** Program Directeurs and Officers have an obligation to submit an article regarding their program or office position for each issue which would be 4 times a year. This is to keep all members updated on the latest news. This is what will make the GOT and the Grande du Georgia strong and lead the way for other Grande to follow. The Voitures Locale should also submit any news or pictures that would be of interest to the membership as well. Let others know what you are accomplishing and be proud, this may also give the other Locales ideas for them to use. Together we can make the GOT the best Grande bulletin in La Societe. By doing things the right way we will have the other Grandes "Keeping Georgia on their minds."

A Tip of my Chapeau goes out to Voiture 499 for being a excellent host for the Grande Fall Cheminot and to Madame La Grande Presidente and all the Dames for adding some tasty additions to the luncheon afterwards. I expect that we will get the same hospitality from Voiture 217 when we have the Grande Mid-Winter Cheminot in February and hope to see you there. I hope everyone had a Joyous Christmas and now that we are in the New Year we will have new challenges and opportunities. I am honored and privileged to serve with the best Voyageurs in the South for the betterment of La Societe and all veterans. The most important member in the Grande du Georgia is that member that you see in your bathroom mirror everyday, make sure that they get every opportunity to enjoy all the benefits of being a member of "The Honor Society of American Veterans."

Mike Wood - Grande Chef de Gare du Georgia



Please remind everyone of the Grande Raffle and that the drawing for the winners will be at the Grande Mid-Winter Cheminot. There will only be 200 tickets sold and will need to sell them all to make this project a success for Georgia. They need to contact Grande Correspondant Nadine if they need tickets. This is the only Grande fund raising project that we have to support the programs, so it is a win-win situation for the Grande and the winners.





**La Grande Presidente
2016-17
Janet 'Moose' Walsh**

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Cabane 499 and Voiture 499 for hosting the Petite Cheminot in Loganville, on October 29, 2016. Even after short notice everything was well organized and perfectly executed. Thanks to Dames and Voyageurs!! Thanks to the Dames that attended and supported the Petite Cheminot. Participation and new ideas are the nourishment that will sustain the growth and well-being of our Organization.

We are now well into 2017 and the reports given by each Committee Chair and Cabane reflected that each Cabane is having a very successful year.

Grande de Georgia is doing a fabulous job in membership. We are at 74.05% at this time. We have three (3) Cabane as 100% (Cabanes 499 in Loganville, 1631 in Douglasville and 719 in Augusta). Thanks Dames!!!

The next event will be the Georgia Grande Mid-Winter Cheminot, which will be held on Saturday, February 18, 2016, at Voiture 217, 4900 Kent Street, College Park, Georgia 30337, starting at 1:00 PM. The registration fee is \$15.00 (\$5.00 to Grande Cabane, \$5.00 to Cabane 217 and \$5.00 for luncheon following the Cheminot).

As explained by the Grande Chef in this newsletter, there will not be a "Homecoming" Celebration this year. For those that wish overnight accommodations, please contact Tom Walsh @ 470-273-5156 and he can supply hotel information and pricing.

The Mid-Winter Cheminot will be our last opportunity to conduct Grande Cabane business until the Grande Cabane Promenade in June; therefore, I encourage each of you to attend and participate.

Thanks to all Dames and Voyageurs for continuing to do a great job!! GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS AND KEEP THEM SAFE.

Janet (Moose) Walsh, Grande La Presidente

From the Desk of Eddie Asberry

GRAND DIRECTEUR — AMERICANISM

Greeting Voitures.

I It's a brand new year and I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

Our National Sous Directeur Americanism for Area C is Dan Ever.

These should be some of your priorities this year:

Flag for First Graders!

Annual Consolidated report should be a living document so that data is constantly collected. You can report almost everything you do in the Legion, DAV or any other veteran group.

Attention Chef De Gare do you have a Americanism Directeur? Please submit their name, email address and cell number to me at your earliest convenience.

My contact information is easberry@comcast.net, cell770-330-8401

Merci

Eddie Asberry

From the Desk Of Grand Correspondant Nadine Asberry

Bonjour Voyageurs,

Before I begin, please join me in saying "Thank you Terri Taylor for serving 40&8 at Nationale for years. Grande du Georgia wish you the very BEST!"

17

Wow, where has the year gone? Just think, in a few short days, it will all be a fuzzy blur as the days whiz by and it will be 2017 before we know it.

If I may, I would like to share some of my events this year with you – though not in chronological order.

I attended my first Promenade Nationale. Got to put faces with names, learned much, much more about The 40&8. Covered hundreds of miles visiting with and/or advocating for Veterans across the country. Hence, I now receive and email to you, out of state newsletters which keep us up on news from other Voitures. Gotta say I've had a blast at every Voiture visited. However, discovered I don't like long distance driving as much at night.

Spent a Saturday afternoon working with other vets on another vets home. We washed walls, pulled up carpet, removed floor staples, removed excess debris. Didn't think it was down my alley but felt good about it when done.

My mom and a few friends had Thanksgiving with us this year. You spend 10 hours of preparing and cooking. All for 25 minutes of actually gathering together at the table to pray, eat, and talk over a good meal. So the 10 hours vs. 25 minutes equals gratefulness for bounty, freedom, family, and friends.

The next day we went to a Pow Wow. I will leave it at colorful, delicious, and fascinating!

Enough of my personal ventures. Back on script. Kudos Georgia for having six (6) Voitures with 100% membership. Outstanding! Voiture 1636 at 266% - really!

All renewals should be submitted by December 31st. Remember we all show the current membership card to the Garde de la Porte before entering Promenade.

Our mid-winter Cheminot is slated for 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, 18 February 2017, at V-217. Located at 4900 Kent Street, College Park, GA 30337. Registration - \$15.00 (lunch included). Beer available for sale. Since our Grande Chef de Gare and Grande La Presidente are also passé, "homecoming" has been canceled on their parts. They deem it inappropriate to repeat since they had a homecoming in the past. If you need hotel accommodations, please contact Tom Walsh at 470-273-5156. It is very important that you attend this Cheminot since it is the last time our Grande meets until Grande Promenade in June. Why not make it a New Year resolution? Needless to say, we will have a lot of business to cover.

Don't forget our Grande Raffle. Voyageurs, this is our only fund raiser for this year. The drawing will take place at the Grande Mid-Winter Cheminot. Remember, **WE MUST SELL ALL 200 TICKETS** for the Grande to come out as WINNERS! Some of you already have, and I want others to know as well, you may contact me at: Naberry9@comcast.net or 404-376-9749 for tickets. I promise to get them to you ASAP.

Voyageurs, let us not forget to support our 40&8 Georgia on Track with contributions or at least a written article. Also let's show our support for Carville Star and Nurses Training just to name a couple of our outstanding programs.

You will note that in the beginning of this correspondence, I mentioned it will be 2017 before we know it. Well, I haven't forgotten about Christmas. You see, we can all keep the spirit of Christmas alive every single day in our hearts. Merry Christmas everyone!

Serving La Societe

Nadine Asberry



TAPS

Bernard Wood V-1317

Don Smith V-1229



People think
I'm going crazy.
Well, the joke's
on them.
I went crazy
a long time
ago, loved it,
and decided
to stay there.



3 Levels of Program Responsibility in La Societe

Mike Wood, Grand Chef de Gare

There seems to be confusion on who is responsible for what programs of La Societe and I would like to pass on what was taught to me by those that preceded me, on how to work the programs successfully.

Obviously there are three levels of responsibility in our programs and this is all programs including membership. Those three levels are Nationale, Grande and Locale with all being of equal importance. However if any level fails to meet their responsibility, then the chain of success is broken and your chances for a good year are severely hampered.

The Nationale level is comprised of the Nationale Directeurs, Sous Directeurs, Sous Chefs de Chemin de Fer and the Chef de Chemin de Fer. Voiture Nationale provides these officers with information and stats on their programs and in turn it is their duty to pass them on to their program committee members and to the assigned Grandes in each Region. This is the beginning of the process. These officers are also responsible for dispersing any information that they think may be of value to the Grandes and to motivate their Grande Officers every so often to keep the Grandes interested in their programs. This is also a level that would offer advice to and answer questions for any Grande Officer that would need it. The main three contact officers in the Grande for all Nationale program officers are the Grande Directeur of their respective program, the Grande Correspondant and the Grande Chef de Gare. You may find that a Nationale Directeur may ask for other contacts but these would be the minimum at least once a month. Basically the Nationale level of program responsibility are the Grandes.

The next level of responsibility is the Grande level, their duty is to pass on the info and stats they receive from the Nationale Officers to their respective Locales. Never believe there is too much communication because that is untrue and between the Grande Directeur, Correspondant and Chef, the communication chain should reach every Locale in the Grandes. At the very least the Grande Correspondant should disperse the information because by their title, Correspondant, that's the very nature of their job, to correspond. Each Grande should have a program Directeur for each program and if this is not possible then assign someone to oversee each program at the Grande level. The Grande should always be available to answer questions and solve problems for their Locales. It goes without saying that Grande Officers should keep the Locale Officers motivated, advise and furnish them with any material that would benefit their program. They should also pay special attention to problem Locales to get their programs moving to be successful. So as you can see, the Grande level is responsible for their Locales

That brings us to the Locales or as I call them, the foundation of La Societe. This is where it all starts and where success or failure for any program is created. It is the duty of each Locale Officer to make sure that the correspondence from their Grande is dispersed to the Locale Officers and Voyageurs. Never believe that any program is not important and does not need to be supported. After all, each Voyageur took an oath to "support the programs of La Societe." Never think that the Locale level is not important because that is the backbone of the organization. If they fail then the Nationale Programs fail as well. So the responsibility of the Locale level is to communicate to the individual members, this is how all Voyageurs are kept up to date and informed of the Program progress, any new additions or changes to the program and how to get donations, pins or involved. So the Blue Chapeaus are the key to any year's success or failure. So a big responsibility rests on the Locale as the contact point for the membership.

Remember these three levels and keep your responsibility at whatever level you are involved in. Don't worry about the other levels because if everyone does what is required of them, they will take care of themselves. It is a simple three level system of success, but if one level fails to do their job, it breaks down the levels just like a three level building. "Some will do their job and some will not, but in the end we will all be judged by the same thing, success or failure." Let's all commit ourselves to live up to our oaths and support our programs on one of the three levels we serve.

Thank you

Mike Wood

MidWinter Cheminot, Grand du Georgia

The Georgia Grande Mid-Winter Cheminot will be held on Saturday, Feb 18, 2017 at Voiture Locale 217, 4900 Kent St. College Park, GA 30337 at 1:00 pm. The registration fee is \$15.00 and that will include a luncheon after the Cheminot, beer will be available for sale. The Homecoming has been canceled due to the fact that the Grande Chef and Grande La Presidente have held these offices in the past and have had homecomings and felt that it would be appropriate not to repeat it and cause undue cost and work for the members. For those that would want overnight accommodations, please contact Tom Walsh at 470-273-5156 and he will give you the hotel information and pricing. Please make every effort to attend this Cheminot because it is the last time the Grande will meet until the Grande Promenade in June and we have much business to discuss. This is your Grande and you help decide it's matters, I hope to see you there. - Mike Wood, Grande Chef de Gare du Georgia.

THE FOLLOWING DONORS
ARE SUPPORTERS OF
GRAND DU GEORGIA PROGRAMS
& "Georgia on Track"

MIKE WOOD Chef de Chemin de Fer 2015 SANDY WOOD La Presidente Natinale 2012	LEON AND GAIL MARABLE Voiture and Cabane 1317	ROGER DECKER NATIONAL SOUS DIRECTEUR BOX CAR
TOM AND MOOSE WALSH	VOITURE 1597 MABLETON	LAWSON SEWELL VOITURE 499 LOGANVILLE
NICK AND DEANNA NICHOLSON Voiture and Cabane 909	VOITURE 1229 NORTHEAST GEORGIA	CABANE 1229 NORTHEAST GEORGIA

Voiture 567
Chatham County



Greetings from V-567

American Legion Post 135 donated to Voiture 567, \$1000.00 to go to nurses training in 2017.

Our many thanks to them for this generous donation.

Tommy Fordham

VOITURE 719
AUGUSTA

Lead me, follow
me, or get the
hell out of my
way.:-

*George S. Patton Jr.,
Patton Principles*



From the Desk of Mike Bolig

GRAND DIRECTEUR — BOX CAR

Greeting fellow Voyageurs. I would like to start by wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year from Dottie and I.

Currently Grand du Georgia leads the pack for Area 'C' in pin and coin sales. However, we have not sold any Associate cards!! This concerns me. Any non-Voyageur may purchase an Associate card to support Box Car. If you do not have Associate cards, Crew cards, pins or coins please let me know and I can assist you in getting them. Nationale is not imposing quotas or goals this year for contributions to Box Car but, in recent years the quota has been \$1.00 per member and the goal has been \$2.00 per member. I would like it if we could reach the typical goal and we CAN DO it with you efforts. We should all strive to support the Box Car Association as this program supports all other programs in monetary contributions.

If your Locale needs help with promoting Box Car in any way please let me know and I will do everything within my power to help.

See you at Mid-Winter!

Michael Bolig— Grand Directeur/Nationale Sous Directeur Box Car

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From the desk of Tom Reesman

GRAND CHEF de TRAIN NORTH– Membership

As of December 15th, Grand du Georgia North is at 86.52% of our membership for the six Voitures in the North. I want to express my appreciation to those Locales that have achieved their 100% or more. The Voitures that have made 100% or more are: V-4 Cartersville, V-1317 Gainesville, Voiture 1635 Marietta, V 1636 Athens. The North has 4 out of 6 Voitures with the 30 November goal of 75%, and another Voiture at less than 1% away from the 75%. We have two Voiture at over the 105%. Again, all congratulations on your success. Now you have to help Grand du Georgia reach their goals for gains in membership. V1229 has the train rolling and I am sure will reach the 100% goal soon.

It will take everyone's HELP to achieve our Goals. I know that we can achieve 105% in Grand du Georgia North and want to remind everyone that MEMBERSHIP is EVERYONE's Responsibility. Please look for Quality and Qualified PG's for your Voiture. By bringing in Quality People into your Voiture, it will make your Voiture Stronger, and with New People, brings New Ideas to assist you with your chosen Programs of La Societe.

We have a couple of Voyageurs that are under strength of a minimum of 10 Voyageurs, If the Voiture doesn't bring their Strength up to the Minimum, these Voitures will be endangered at the Grand next year, to recommend the charter be removed. We don't want to have anyone's Charter removed, however, we are bound by the Nationale Constitution to do so. Please seek assistance for your Voiture if you want help. I am here to assist you.

"We are the FUN and HONOR society Of the American Veteran "



Picture of Cabane 217 Dames .
Betty Hanna, Child Welfare Chairman coordinates the annual "Toys for Tots" drive at 217.



Notice all of the white space here!!

If you would like to assist with the printing and distribution of the Georgia On Track send a check made out to "Grand du Georgia" with a note for GOT, and send to:

Michael Bolig, L' Editeur
115 Feno Drive
Westminster, SC 29693
ATTN: Georgia On Track

OR

Tom Reesman
4117 Cherokee Trail
Gainesville, GA 30504

From the desk of Tom Reesman Grand Directeur Voiture Activities



Bonjour,

Please remember to record all your Voiture Activities. If you record at every promenade, you will won't have to struggle to remember.

Almost anything you do for Veterans can be Voiture activities. I hope every Voiture represented at the Petite started their Voiture Activities report for this year. I will be available to answer any questions you have on Voiture Activities, completing the form as well as provide any suggestions or ideas for events/ activities.

A few things upcoming this quarter where you can plan and participate in Voiture Activities are Inauguration Day, Martin Luther King Day, and Valentine's Day.

The program year is July 1 - June 30. Don't forget to plan to attend Nationale in the upcoming years. Bossier City LA is the host city for 2017, Louisville KY 2018 hosts in 2018, and Myrtle Beach, SC hosts in 2019. These Nationales are all close for Georgia voyageurs to attend.

L'Editeur

If you are receiving a hard copy of GOT and would prefer electronic copy, let us know.

For Locale Correspondants, when your Voiture wrecks in new members please ensure that Tom & I receive their information so that they can begin receiving the Georgia on Track. Let us know if they want to receive it in hard copy (provide current mailing address) or electronically (provide valid email address). The GOT goes out, via email, to Nationale officers and all Grand Chef de Gares and Grand Correspondants that I have email addresses for. In turn I receive the newsletters of Grand du FL and Grand du VA. I pass them on, electronically, to all GA Locale Chefs and Correspondants. Ask to see them!!

You may submit your articles via email

and donations via snail mail to me and Tom at:

Michael Bolig
115 Feno Drive
Westminster, SC 29693
mebolig@att.net;

Tom Reesman
4117 Cherokee Trail
Gainesville, GA 30504
reesmanta@yahoo.com



Voiture 909 Albany



Greetings from V909

The Christmas season is past and we have completed our annual parade schedule. We had to miss one as the Crisp county parade was rescheduled from the 2nd to the 17th due to football playoffs and we had something else going on that time. All in all we did about 10-12 harvest festival and Christmas parades this year so the "Rambling Rose" got a lot of TV exposure. We also took 5 first grade classes on the "Polar Express" (as the children call the Loci) along with Santa and Mrs. Clause for rides from a local Primary School. The Photo shows the kids in their PJ's as they insist on riding like the kids did in the movie. Other than the Parades and kids rides we have not done much except visit both Dublin and Milledgeville VA hospitals and played BINGO with the patients and provided lap blankets, wheel chair bags and other items. We really enjoy those visits as we are caring for those veterans that are there. Looking forward to seeing you at Mid Winter.

Georgia On Track Boosters

1. Tom Reesman V 1317

2. V1317 Gainesville

We accept articles and photos. Sponsors and Boosters help defray the cost of publishing for Grand du Georgia. Please think about donating. A sponsor is a person or entity that donates \$25 per issue or \$100 per Year for all for issues. The sponsor receives a block with the information they want in the newsletter, please look at past edition of the GOT. The booster is a new entity in our newsletter and gets listed along with other boosters in a list. The minimum for listing as a booster is \$5. Additional recognition for each increment of \$5 per issue. Think about sending \$20 for the entire year.

If you would like to assist with the printing and distribution of the Georgia On Track send a check made out to "Grand du Georgia" with a note for GOT, and send to:

Thomas Reesman
4117 Cherokee Trl
Gainesville, GA 30504

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Forty and Eight Membership Renewal Notice for 2017



Voiture Locale _____ Amount due _____ Notice No _____ Date _____

Make check payable to the Voiture Locale listed above. If you have already paid your dues please disregard.

Voyageur: _____ Return to: _____

Thank You for your continued support.



Forty and Eight Membership Renewal Notice for 2017



Voiture Locale _____ Amount due _____ Notice No _____ Date _____

Make check payable to the Voiture Locale listed above. If you have already paid your dues please disregard.

Voyageur: _____ Return to: _____

Thank You for your continued support.



Forty and Eight Membership Renewal Notice for 2017



Voiture Locale _____ Amount due _____ Notice No _____ Date _____

Make check payable to the Voiture Locale listed above. If you have already paid your dues please disregard.

Voyageur: _____ Return to: _____

Thank You for your continued support.

GRANDE VOITURE MEMBERSHIP

As of December 22, 2016

Grande du Georgia ranks 10th of 54 Grandes

<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>Short/Over</u>	<u>%</u>
400	509	-109	78.59%

Voiture	2017	2016 YET	% of Quota	Short/Over
4	18	18	100.00%	-0
217	32	59	54.24%	-27
280	29	29	100.00%	-0
499	61	77	79.22%	-16
567	49	50	98.00%	-1
719	24	44	54.55%	-20
867	0	4	0.00%	-4
909	37	46	80.44%	-9
1145	21	24	87.50%	-3
1226	5	10	50.00%	-5
1229	56	75	74.67%	-19
1317	17	14	121.43%	+3
1597	14	22	63.64%	-6
1631	8	13	61.54%	-5
1635	21	21	100.00%	-0
1636	8	3	266.67%	+5

GRANDE CABANE MEMBERSHIP

Grande de Georgia ranks 13th of 36 Grandes

<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Short</u>
164	137	74.05%	-48

Cabane	2016	2017 Reported	2017 Goal	% of Goal
4	8	8	10	80.00%
217	34	22	35	62.86%
280	15	16	26	61.54%
499	16	16	16	100.00%
567	15	12	16	75.00%
719	14	14	14	100.00%
909	14	12	14	85.71%
1229	28	21	28	75.00%
1317	16	11	18	68.75%
1631	4	5	10	50.00%

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Joint Carolinas Goose Creek, SC	14 Gator Wreck Goose Creek, SC
15	16 MLK Day	17	18	19	20 Inauguration Day	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentines Day	15	16	17 GA Midwinter College Park, GA	18 GA Midwinter College Park GA
19	20 Presidents Day	21	22	23 Cajun Wreck Lafayette, LA	24 Cajun Wreck Lafayette, LA	25 Cajun Wreck Lafayette, LA
26	27	28				

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Moots Homecom- ing , Huntsville AL	18 Moots Home- coming , Hunts-
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	