



Grand Voiture du Georgia

Award winning publication

Volume 2018-1, January, February, March 2018



Grand Chef de Gare 2017-18 Tommy Fordham

Hello from Grand du Georgia. I hope everybody had a good Thanksgiving and Christmas. By now the end of 2017 has gone and as we look toward a new year I hope we all have good health and continue to work toward a banner year for La Societe. The next Grand function will be the Mid-Winter / Homecoming, February 9-11 here in Savannah and I hope to see everyone attend this event especially the Grand Officers. You can find the flyer with all the information on the Grand du Georgia web page, just click on current and upcoming events and download. Just to say a few words about membership, as you should know we are still a long way from 100% in all of Grand du Georgia. We have three Voitures who have achieved this, my congratulations to them. I do know personally how difficult it can be to get renewals in your own Voiture, but the best advice I can give is to not give up on any of them, keep trying. To all Voyageurs, thank you for everything that you do for La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux. God Bless



La Grande Presidente 2017-18 Charlotte Fordham



It is a true honor to have been elected Grande La Presidente for 2017-2018. With our new team in place, we can work together and grow. At all Rendezvous, we are constantly reminding everyone about membership. Numbers are important, but without active dames, you have nothing. Getting active in our locales will bring in new members. Have some "Dame time"! When we work, we work hard! Then you need to have some fun. A few years ago, our Cabane started having a luncheon for just the paid up members. We have it at Christmas time. Then we go shopping afterwards. It's all fun!

I hope to be able to visit all of the Cabanes and meet new dames during my term. I will help when called upon and if I can't I will get someone who can.

Thanks again,

Charlotte Fordham, La Presidente Grand du Georgia



Grand Chef de Train North Membership Tom Reesman



As of January 18, Grand du Georgia is at 79.69% of our membership for the 15 Voitures and ranked 14th nationally. I want to express my appreciation to those Locales that have achieved their 100% or more. It will take everyone's HELP to achieve our Goals. I know that we can achieve 100% in Grand du Georgia 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 are the FUN and HONOR society Of the American Veteran "

VOITURE 719, AUGUSTA



Attached is 2 photos of Mr. General Pope's memorial. 1 photo is Dave Blystone giving the vows to the new officers this summer. Voiture 719 now has a facebook page. Drop by our facebook page at URL <https://www.facebook.com/Richmond-County-Voiture-Locale-719-1444163562282999>

In God We Trust,
Rebecca N. Shores
Chef de Train
V-719 GA
Cellphone: 706-339-9351



VOITURE 909, ALBANY



Hello from sunny (sometimes) south Georgia. The Christmas parade season is over and we have barn'ed the Loci. We participated in 7 Parades, and gave over 200 1st grader's a ride on the "Polar Express" as they call our Loci. We had to cancel two schools as the Loci got sick and we could not fix it in time to meet the schedule, Seems like we have a fuel problem that the pump won't overcome. Anyway, we will attend to that when it warms up and also remove the 5000 lights that we installed. Hope to see everyone at the Mid-winter/Homecoming in Savannah in February. Photo is some of the kids we took for a ride on the "PolarExpress", notice they are wearing their P.J.s. Also the Loci decked out for night parade.

Nick Nicholson, Chef de Gare

FROM THE DESK OF EDDIE ASBERRY
GRAND DIRECTEUR OF AMERICANISM

eamberry@comcast.net

Let's all get to work and make this year the best ever.

These are the some of the things that we must keep working on.

Are you working on your Flags for First Grader program?

Keep track of what you do for your end of year report.

Have you found a candidate for the National Americanism Award?

And remember almost everything we do falls under AMERICANISM

A new change to Americanism Consolidated report, under Americanism Speeches and Flag Activities. You can take credit for flying your flag at your house.



SPRING CHEMINOT 2018

(FOLLOW UP THE ONLY WEEKEND AVAILABLE WOULD BE APRIL 7TH AS OTHER DATES CONFLICT WITH OTHER EVENTS IN MARCH AND THE SOUTHLAND DIXIE IS APRIL 19-21.)

Good Morning all, we are still waiting for one of our Voiture's to step forward and host the Spring Cheminot.

As mentioned before this would only be a single day event. Everyone who attended the Grand last June voted for this now its up to our Locales to support this function. I suggest that we schedule this Saturday April 7, 2018. Please contact me either by email or phone and I will be glad to discuss the details. You would be allowed to charge \$15-20 per person for registration and luncheon therefore your Voiture would not have to spend any money to host this Grand Cheminot. Thank you again for your support in this matter.



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 won't have to struggle to remember. Almost anything you do for Veterans can be Voiture activities. We reported more this year than last, but we can do better.

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.

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:

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

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.

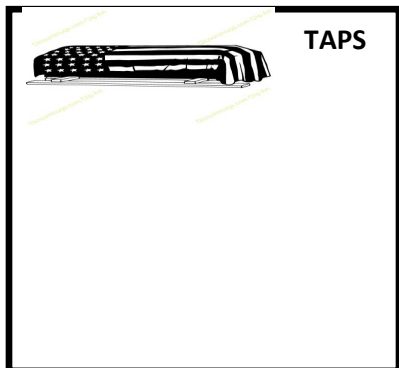
If you would like to assist with the printing and distribution of the Georgia On Track send a check made out to "Grand du Georgia" with a note for GOT, and send to:

Thomas Reesman
4117 Cherokee Trl
Gainesville, GA 30504

Notice all of the white space here!!

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NURSES TRAINING



Greetings all Voyageurs Militaire Grand du Georgia from your Grand Directeur of Nurses Training, John Parker, Voiture 567.

First of all, I'd like to thank all of the Voitures for the great support of one of our most important programs, The 40 & 8 Nurses Training program. Grand du Georgia has always been a strong advocate and supporter of insuring that our nation has the number of trained and qualified nurses required to administer to the medical needs of our military, our veterans, our elderly and our entire community. All this being said, as you Grand Directeur, I truly believe that we can do even better than we have in the past. So I'm asking for your support.

In making my report to Grand Chef de Gare Passe Mike Wood during the Grand Promenade 2017 in Columbus, GA, I could not help but notice that even though we had good Voiture participation in the program, there were still a number of Voitures in Grand du Georgia that did not have an active Nurses Training program. The goal this year, is to ensure that each Voiture in Grand du Georgia is involved in the 40 & 8 Nurses Training Program. The goal, also, is to have each Voiture provide at least (1) scholarship towards the education and training of at least (1) nurse. This is not a difficult endeavor and the reward is so satisfying knowing that we've done our part to make sure there is no shortage of nurses in our country. I'm sure that each Voiture that does not have a program can easily implement one.

I've discussed this with Grand Chef Tommy Fordham, Grand Chef de Trains, Tom Reeseman, John Aprill and Jim ?Vejar. We have their support. I'm also asking for the support of each Chef de Gare. A Sous Directeur of Nurses Training will be appointed in each district to help coordinate and assist each Voiture and to ensure that each Voiture submits their reports in a timely manner so that we will be in compliance during the Grand Promenade 2018. Let's make this the most successful Nurses Training Scholarship Program ever in Grande du Georgia.

I'm available to assist at any time: John Parker V-567 438 River Bend Rd. Richmond Hill, GA 31324 (912) 322-2397 srealmen@aol.com



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

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	VOITURE 1631 DOUGLASVILLE	JIM VAUGHAN
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LA FEMMES

Dames attending the Shamrock Wreck /Petite Cheminot, Savannah, Georgia, toured the Butter Ducks Winery just outside Savannah on October, 14, 2017. Dames pictured left to right: Charlotte Fordham, Ruth Ciokajlo, Patricia LaFleur, Joyce Willis, Irene Lester, Cheryl Boswell and Moose Walsh.



VOYAGEURS AND DAMES:

Happy New Year to all Voyageurs and Dames. As I write this letter the thermometer on my back porch reads 15 degrees. That's too cold for my southern blood.

Regarding membership, our fiscal year is now five months old as it runs from August 1st through July 31st. We only have seven months to work on this and our programs. We have 48 voyageurs paid and we need 29 to be 100%. With four voyageurs having passed, we need to recruit new veterans to join our great organization. If your card says 2017 you are in arrears. Our dues are \$25.00 and you can mail them to Jack Wade, 492 Hightower Ridge Road, Covington, Georgia 30014.

Reporting on recent activity on our programs, Voyageur Williams advised nine schools have been visited for the Flags for First Graders Program with 852 flags being distributed; Voyageur Lester reported 20 coats at a cost of \$300 were purchased and given to local needy children. Voyageur Hinkle advised we now have four nurses in our scholarship program.

Let's remember our sick and distressed voyageurs and dames.

Upcoming events:

Promenade: January 8, 2018, social hour 6:30 PM, meal 7:03 PM,

Promenade/rendezvous 8:00 PM

(we will be having fried catfish so please try to attend)

Mid-Winter Cheminot and Homecoming, Savannah, Georgia

February 9th through 11th

I wish health and happiness to all of you in 2018. LaPresidente Irene also wishes you a happy and prosperous new year.

Jack Wade, Correspondant, Voiture 499

RANDOM PICTURES





News from the 54th Rendezvous Nationale, Bossier City, Louisiana Rendezvous Nationale was held during September 12-16, 2017 in Bossier City, Louisiana. The Grande Cabane de Georgia was well represented by: Martha Abbensett, Brenda Alward, Dottie Bolig, Cheryl Boswell, Charlotte Fordham, Irene Puckett, Audrey O'Keefe and Barbara Wade. The Voyagers and Dames of Grande Cabane gathered at the Children's Party to watch Dame Audrey O'Keefe present a check for \$1770 to the Nationale Box Car Association / Hobos. This year, third-graders from a local school were guests at the party. They were very engaged in the program, and asked many questions about our organizations and veterans in general. Congratulations to Cabane Locale 217 for receiving 1st Place in the Helen Payne Americanism award. Also the Grande Cabane de Georgia took 2nd place in the Esther O'Kane Carville Star award. Overall, La Societe de Femme reported a grand total of \$1,826,044 for the programs. Resolutions to amend the national Bylaws were brought before the floor and were passed. So a Dame may now serve a second term as La Sous Presidente Nationale or there is no longer a minimum membership requirement to retain the charter of a Cabane Locale or two sections in the Bylaws were amended to read that La Correspondante Nationale will have a two-year contract rather than a one-year contract. Our La Presidente Nationale for 2018 is Joyce Robberstad from Cabane 153-Oregon. Her motto for the year is GEMS, Growing Each Member's Strength. "It takes everyone to make this organization great and to help it grow. We need to identify each member's strengths and what they can bring to this organization and let them shine like the GEMS they are." She has chosen Child Welfare as her program. Her goal is to raise \$5000 for this worthy program. The following are the national appointments from Georgia: ☐ La Sous Garde de La Porte – Deanna Nicholson, C909 ☐ La Sous Drapeau – Brenda Alward, C909 ☐ Executive Committee – Janet Walsh, C217 ☐ Carville Star – Cheryl Boswell, C280 As we all know, membership is our life-blood. If we do not nurture, retain, and recruit members, this wonderful organization will cease to exist. It is my hope that we all take direction from Presidente National Joyce to encourage one another; and by doing so, we can prosper. Yours in service,

Cheryl Boswell Grande Correspondante



Laissez le bon temps rouler! PNP-2004 Audrey O'Keefe and PNP-2008 Irene Puckett-Lester add some fun to the Rendezvous ses-

GRANDE VOITURE MEMBERSHIP

As of January 18,, 2018

Grande du Georgia ranks 14th of 54 Grandes

<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Short/Over</u>	<u>%</u>
412	517	-105	79.69%

Voiture	2018	2017 YET	% of Quota	Short/Over
4	25	23	108.70%	2
217	48	59	81.36%	-11
280	28	31	90.32%	-3
499	47	77	61.04%	-30
567	54	55	98.18%	-1
719	21	37	56.76%	-16
909	46	46	100%	0
1145	15	28	58.57%	-13
1226	4	5	80.00%	-1
1229	50	74	67.57%	-24
1317	20	18	111.11%	2
1597	10	20	50.00%	-10
1631	12	13	92.31%	-1
1635	23	23	100.00%	0
1636	0	8	0.00%	-8

GRANDE CABANE MEMBERSHIP

Grande de Georgia ranks 14th of 36 Grandes

<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Short</u>
118	148	65.92%	-61

Cabane	2018	2017 Reported	2018 Goal	% of Goal
4		8		
217		22		
280		16		
499		16		
567		12		
719		14		
909		12		
1229		21		
1317		11		
1631		5		

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UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2018

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

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Mid winter Cheminot	10 Mid winter Cheminot
11 Mid winter Cheminot	12	13	14 Valentines day Cajun Wreck & Homecoming	15 Cajun Wreck & Homecoming	16 Cajun Wreck & Homecoming	17 Cajun Wreck & Homecoming
18 Cajun Wreck & Homecoming	19 President's Day	20	21	22 Cajun Wreck & Homecoming	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Daylight Savings Start	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31