



Georgia on Track

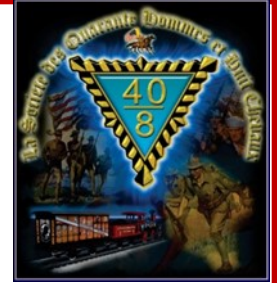
Grand Voiture du Georgia

Award winning publication

Volume 2019-1, January, February, March 2019



Grand Chef de Gare 2018-19 Tom Reesman



Greetings to all Grand du Georgia Voyageurs and Dames.

Attached is the latest membership stats for Grand du Georgia. Non paid Voyageurs are delinquent, and have no status at promenades. Sorry I have not been reaching out more, I have reasons but I will not make excuses, I will endeavor to be more communicative for the rest of the membership year.

The flyer for the Mid-Winter /Homecoming in Warner Robins on 1-2 March 2019 is on the website under upcoming events.

The Southland Dixie registration in Jacksonville, FL on 25-27 April 2019. Remember we have to host a hospitality room, so we need to solicit help from any voyageurs who are planning to attend, Please solicit support from your Voitures to attend and support.

The Hillbilly wreck and Chemin Chef de Fer Rick William's homecoming for 4-6 April 2019 in Cleveland, TN. It is on website,

We still need to nail down who when where for the Southland Dixie 2020. Ideally, we will have it planned and assigned well before attending Southland Dixie 2019. Please help this move forward.

Please think about and plan to host a Grand event in the near future. The Time and Place Committee would like to receive bids for events through the end of 2020, so that we can plan. Ideally a Voiture from each Grand region will host an event each year.

What I would ask you to do, and ask your Voyageurs to do, is WEAR YOUR CHAPEAU. Why? Because it will open up conversations and shows others in our community that the Voyageurs of the 40 and 8 serve their community. I am asking each of you to contact every unpaid Voyageur in your Locale this week and find out why they are not renewing. The Constitution of La Societe is very clear about membership. If you do not pay your dues by December 31 you are a delinquent member and not entitled to the privileges of membership.

We, as a Veterans Service Organization, must become proactive in retaining members and recruiting new members.

LET'S ROLL INTO 100 YEARS WITH 100 PERCENT MEMBERSHIP

Page 2
La Grande Presidente
2018-19
Debra Coody



Hello!

I hope everyone had memorable holidays! I know that I did!

I had the pleasure of attending the Christmas party for Cabane 217. The Dames made me feel like family and we enjoyed a wonderful meal! I was impressed with what looked like a mountain of toys that the Dames had been collecting all year for Toys For Tots. They certainly filled up the truck that came to collect them. I'm sure there were some very happy girls and boys when Christmas arrived for them!

I also attended the Christmas party for Cabane 280. Again, there was a very tasty meal and a lot of good conversation and laughter along with the exchanging of gifts.

I do hope that everyone is planning to attend the Mid-Winter Cheminot and Homecoming that will be held in Warner Robins March 1-2, 2019. Please make your reservations before February 1st to receive the special room rate. The deadline for pre-registration is February 8th. The Voiture has a wonderful steak dinner planned for Friday night and it would help them ensure there are enough steaks to go around, in addition to planning the meals for the banquet.

I want to remind everyone that I don't want a personal homecoming gift. Please consider making a donation to an organization that assists children. Just use the funds that you would have spent on my gift. There are Child Advocacy Centers throughout Georgia. If you are not familiar with one in your area, go to the Children's Advocacy Centers of Georgia at: www.cacga.org. Click on OUR GEORGIA CENTERS. There is a map of the CAC's. I would love to see cards with details of your donations and pictures if possible. This will also give you something to put in your trophy report forms. **Everyone will come out as a winner!**

Bonjour Voyageurs and Dames,

Grand Aumonier

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season.

Last year was one of accomplishment and great loss for Grande du Georgia. Though the void lingers, let us forever be grateful for memories. Memories of those comrades whose courage, sturdy leadership, friendship, character, and unmitigated willingness to serve guided us through.

Our purpose in life is to serve and we all have served throughout various stages. We served in the military as veterans to protect our country's freedom and democracy and still serve today in accordance with our Voyageur Preamble. We serve as citizens performing jury duty, stewards of our environment, neighborhood, and church. We serve by volunteering at food banks and shelters. And yes, we serve at home by loving, and encouraging each other to be effective law-abiding citizens.

So, if our purpose in life is to serve, do you know the product of purpose? It is **happiness**.

In closing, I wish everyone a healthy, "purpose filled" 2019.

Pour Dieu et le pays

Nadine Asberry



La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

Joe Story, Directeur Membership-Nationale

January 4, 2019

Good Day Voyageurs Militaire,

Welcome to 2019!!! As of the last membership report for 2018, La Societe started the year with 7,941 Voyageurs who, constitutionally, are not permitted to attend Promenades at any level.

As of today, January 4th, 2019, Voiture Nationale has processed 510 renewals and/or new members. This leaves Nationale 6,938 renewals and/or new members short of our 22,300 goal.

Now is the time for the leaders of all Grandes, and Locales, to step up, and contact as many of your Voyageurs, who have not paid their dues for 2019, as you can. As I review the membership of each Grande, I see numerous Voitures Locales that have not submitted any memberships this year. My question to the Grande Chefs and Voiture Locale Chefs is "What are you doing to rectify this issue of nonpayment?" Why is this non-payment issue happening?

I am also asking each Grande Chef to contact all Voiture Locale Chefs in their Grandes to encourage them to contact all Voyageurs that have not paid their 2019 dues. Encourage them to re-commit to La Societe.

To all of the leaders of La Societe, if you are not placing Recruiting of New Members and the Retention of Current Members as your number 1 and number 2 priorities, then I am asking you to place them in the number 1 and number 2 spots.

Sous Directeur Membership Dave Hill has received 28 member interest forms from our Nationale Website. These veterans, by completing the online form, have expressed an interest in learning more about La Societe. He is referring these potential members to a Voiture Locale in their area. It is expected that the Voiture Locale contact these potential members. It has been reported to me that several Locale Chefs that have refused to contact these potential members. My question to those who have refused to contact potential members is WHY? Please let me know who a Voiture Locale would not want to contact these potential members.

Should you have any comments, positive or negative, feel free pick up your phone and call me at 715 966 0261. Or you can email at joestory@charter.net.

LET'S ROLL INTO 100 YEARS WITH 100 PERCENT MEMBERSHIP



Sanctify our comradeship in terms of devotion & mutual helpfulness, in the name of justice, freedom & democracy, all to Your Glory---Amen



La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

Joe Story, Directeur Membership-Nationale
1004 Charles Ave Tomahawk, WI 54487

December 27, 2018

Good Day Voyageurs Militaire,

This will be my last letter for 2018. As of our last membership report for 2018, La Societe will have 7,941 Voyageurs who, constitutionally, will not be permitted to attend Promenades at any level. I have enclosed a copy of Article V, section 13, for your perusal. Should you have any questions about this issue, feel free to contact me for discussion.

As it stands right now, La Societe will have 7,941 Voyageurs go into a delinquent member status. So my question to you, the leaders of La Societe is, are your dues paid?

The membership goal is	22,300
Total paid memberships for 2019	<u>-14,359</u>
Total short of goal	7,941
Total new Members for 2019	<u>-494</u>
Total needed for 100%	7,447

Some of you are wondering about my math skills...so let us review the numbers. We need 22,300 paid membership, either renewal or new to meet our goal of 22,300. We have received 14,359 renewals from current Voyageurs (including PLMs). When you subtract the 14,359 current paid Voyageurs from the goal of 22,300, you see that we need 7,941 current Voyageurs to pay their dues. Now, subtract the 494 new members from the 7,941 Voyageurs needed, you get the number of 7,447 renewals and/or new members to reach our goal of 22,300.

Now is the time for the leaders of all Grandes, and Locales, to step up,, and contact as many of your Voyageurs, who have not paid their dues for 2019, as you can. As I review the membership of each Grande, I see numerous Voitures Locales that have not submitted any memberships this year. My question to the Grande Chefs and Voiture Locale Chefs is "What are you doing to rectify this issue of nonpayment?" Why is this non-payment issue happening?

I am also asking each Grande Chef to contact all Voiture Locale Chefs in their Grandes to encourage them to contact all Voyageurs that have not paid their 2019 dues. Encourage them to re-commit to La Societe.

To all of the leaders of La Societe, if you are not placing Recruiting of New Members and the Retention of Current Members as your number 1 and number 2 priorities, then I am asking you to place them in the number 1 and number 2 spots.

Sous Directeur Membership Dave Hill has been contacting the veterans who have expressed an interest in learning more about La Societe. He is also referring these potential members to a Voiture Locale in their area. There have been several Locale Chefs that have refused to contact these potential members. My question to those who have refused to contact potential members is WHY? Please let me know; I would like to know.

Should you have any comments, positive or negative, feel free pick up your phone and call me at 715 966 0261. Or you can email at joestory@charter.net

LET'S ROLL INTO 100 YEARS WITH 100 PERCENT MEMBERSHIP

For God and Country and Comrades

Constitution of La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux

Article V

Membership and Dues

Section 13. PENALTIES FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES. Any member who shall fail to pay their dues for the current year on or before December 31 shall not be permitted to attend any Promenade until such dues have been have been paid; and any member who shall be in arrears one year in the payment f their dues shall stand suspended and notice to that effect shall be given to them by the Correspondant of their Voiture Locale by certified mail, addressed to their last place of residence; and if they shall fail to pay their dues within one month from the date of the mailing of and notice to pay the arrears, and such reinstatement fees as may be required by the Grande Voiture and Voiture Locale, they shall stand expelled and may not be readmitted to membership except upon nomination in accordance with Section 6 of this article.

MEMBERSHIP

How to deal with the older, non-participating, Voyageur

Every Voiture Locale has members who are older and no longer participating in Voiture Activities. At some point in time these older Voyageurs will stop paying their dues. Some will feel they have been abandoned by their Voiture Locale, some are in assisted living facilities and some are in a nursing home. The question is "How do we handle these situations?"

Recently, I made calls correspondents of Voiture Locales that have unpaid members for 2018. What I found interesting when I questioned these correspondents about these unpaid members the correspondents, for the most part, had no idea who some members are. Several correspondents said it was not their job to keep track of delinquent members. One Correspondant told me that the Voyageur that had not paid his dues for 2018 was in a nursing home. When I suggest that maybe the voyageurs of that Voiture Locale could take a collection to pay his dues, I was told quite emphatically that it was not their (the Voyageurs of that Locale) responsibility to pay anyone's dues. That, fortunately, is not the case in all Locales.

So how should we as Voyageurs handle this situation? We are ALL veterans and we ALL have been taught by the military to look after, and to take care of, our battle buddies. So here are my suggestions:

- Establish a visitation committee to visit the older Voyageurs
- Establish a program to raise funds to assisted Voyageurs in assisted living facilities and nursing homes to pay their dues.
- Offer home bound Voyageurs a ride to promenades and 40 and 8 activities.
- Seek their ideas on Voyageur activities.

I know that these ideas are contrary to what some Voiture Locales believe. It is my personal belief that we have a duty, and an obligation, to look after and help our older Voyageurs. The fourth point of the Warrior Ethos that I learned states "I will never leave a fallen comrade." I strongly believe that this point applies to this situation. The question now is "Are you leaving your older Voyageurs behind?"

Excerpts from Joseph Story Nationale Directeur--Membership

Membership Eligibility

Let's take a moment to look at the eligibility requirements:

In accordance with the Constitution of La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux, Article IV, section 1, "WHO MAY BECOME MEMBERS. No persons, other than honorably discharged U.S. military personnel, and active duty U. S. military, may become members of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux. No Grande Voiture, or Voiture Locale, may prescribe, or establish, any eligibility qualifications for membership in La Societe which are in conflict with the Constitution of Voiture Nationale."

Article IV is quite explicit about who can be a member. There are no if, ands or buts about it. You cannot discriminate based upon gender or race. Also, did you notice there is no requirement to be a member of the American Legion? Also, there are no service periods that you must have served during to be eligible for membership.

Article V, section 1 forbids Honorary Membership in La Societe. You are either eligible or you're not. Period! Section 6 of Article V describes the requirements for nomination for membership. This section outlines, in detail, requirements for membership.

What I am asking of you is, that we as the leaders of La Societe, read the Constitution of La Societe 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux especially Articles 1 through 5 and then make absolutely sure that our members know, and understand, the eligibility requirements for membership.

MEMBERSHIP

How to involve new members in your Voiture

Now that you have invited, and initiated, the new member, the question becomes "How do we get the new Voyageur involved in Voiture Activities?" To answer that question let's take trip back in time...to 1976 when a young soldier was invited to be become a member of the 40 and 8 he went before a membership review board. Questions that he was asked had to do with my community service, what activities that I thought I would like to volunteer to help with and why I wanted to be a Forty and Eight. Of the five of us that were interviewed that day 3 of us were accepted into the 40 and 8.

Please understand that I am not suggesting we go back to membership review boards, but I am suggesting that the leadership of the Voiture Locale discuss the programs of the 40 and 8 with the new member. I am also suggesting that we mentor the new member. So, if the new member likes the idea of volunteering to help with Flags for First Graders then the chairperson of that committee should take the new member under their wing and explain to them what is expected of a volunteer. The worst thing that we can do is take that new member and put them in charge of a program that they unfamiliar with. This may work sometimes, but most of the time it will not and you will generally lose this member through non-payment of dues.

Page 7
VOITURE 719

Hello Fellow Voyageurs,

We at Richmond County Voiture Locale 719, Augusta, GA area have two nurses in training to assist. As a fundraiser we would like to invite you to our Mock Wreck. Location will be American Legion Post 178, Date is 16 February 2019. We plan to have a buffet meal at 6 pm with Mock Wreck starting at 7 pm. This event is open to the public, friends and possible future members. The stocks will be filled and lots of pie bidding. Come join us for an evening of fun.

Check out our Facebook page: Richmond County Voiture Locale 719
and Pictures and calendar Shutterfly: <https://locale719.shutterfly.com/>

Rebecca Shores
Chef de Gare
Richmond County Voiture Locale 719
706-339-9351

VOITURE 499 NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018

It's December, it feels like January and as the song goes "BABY ITS COLD OUTSIDE". Hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving; now its Christmas and I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Our annual party will be Tuesday, December 11th. There will not be a promenade/ rendezvous, just social and dinner. Hope to see many of you there.

On a sad note, long time Voyageur Charles Seabolt passed to Voiture everlasting. Let's remember his family in prayer.

Social will be at 6:30 PM followed by dinner at approximately 7:30 PM.

Jack Wade

Correspondant

VOITURE 909 Albany

Greetings from windy and wet South Georgia. We were extremely lucky in that while some of us had damage to our property, no one was injured here. We did have one member that had moved to Mexico Beach Fl. Lost all his belongings and damage to the house they had moved into only a few months prior to Hurricane Michael. Other than the weather, things are doing well here. We used our Loci to take over 300 Kindergartners and 1st graders on a ride in the "Polar Express" with Santa and Mrs. Clause. I think we had as much fun watching them as they had riding. The Loci is still having problems with fuel to the engine, but we have plans to pull the tank, clean it and replace the fuel lines this spring. Our membership is lagging a little, but we have wrecked in 4 new Voyagers to replace the 6 we lost in 2018. Have a couple prospects in the wings going through investigation. Other than that, things are looking up and we of V909 wish each of you a happy and prosperous new year.

Voiture 567

Voiture 567 honors the lives and passing of two of its prominent members.

Tommie Fordham was taken from this life October 25th in a motorcycle accident while riding the “Dragon’s Tail” with the Legion Riders. Tommie was a Chef de Gare Locale Passe, Grand Chef de Gare du Georgia Passe, and a Past Commander of American Legion Post 135. He was also serving as Drapeau National and Cheminot National at the time of his death.

Michael Jones was called home December 13th. Michael was serving as the Grand Sous Director for Nurses Training and was a long time Service Officer for the Voiture and American Legion Post 135. He was known throughout the community as the person to go to whenever a veteran needed assistance and never failed to respond to the phrase “Aidez moi!”

How would your Voiture like to earn money to support your projects during the year?

Voiture 567 has had a four year project of selling fire works during the 4th of July time period. During that period they have averaged between \$5500 and \$6000 for about two and half weeks effort, and with little or no capital outlay on their part.

These dollars go to their Nurse Scholarship Program and the building of our train.

The company furnishes a fully stocked store, fire inspections, licensing, a rent free and expense free operation. Your total obligation is to man the store, set up for operation and sell, sell , sell. A percentage of the profits goes to the selling organization.

The Fireworks Company will assist in setting up credit card charge accounts and train the personnel how to use it. Additionally the company provides a comprehensive training program that covers all aspects of training for the manager and the operating personnel. There are Computer driven classes to be used for review by the managers and operators, in case of questions that arise during the course of the sales. Further, the Company is only a phone call away during hours of operation.

Over the past four years I have developed a series of SOP’s to assist managers in setting up and operating your shop, including schedules and guidelines that I would be happy to provide to you if you decide to try this endeavor. Contact me, Jim Vejar, at thunderbolt6@comcast.net or (912) 961-1783 and I would be happy to answer your questions and provide you contact with Company .

100 Years of Service



1920—2020 La Société

It is with deep
2018. Walt
He had been
hand. He w

Greetings Central Region Child Welfare program.

Central Region France, GA, Germany, IL, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OK, SD, TX, AL, AR, FL, MI, Latin America, LA

I must apologize for possibly misleading you last month about the reimbursement funds obtained from the Ardery Child Welfare Fund. I was also at the time assisting veterans with the Legions National Emergency Fund (NEF) after we had a devastating hurricane pass through south Georgia. Joe was quick to correct me in the advice I provided. I then realized that I had a senior moment when I wrote that letter, sorry if I confused anyone.

The fund will reimburse Locale's and Grand's for expenditures up to \$300 per child under 17 years of age to replace necessary clothing and personal hygiene items when a family has lost their possessions due to fire, flood or other disaster. This is after any other agency such as Red Cross has not responded in a timely manner. Locales should assist those affected in getting help from local agencies as soon as they are aware of the situation. Should those agencies not respond and the situation for the effected family is critical, then they should step in and help and then apply to National for reimbursement.

If you need the Child Welfare report forms the can be found at the Petite Communiqué on the Forty and Eight home page. Keep in mind that .25 of each dues paid by a voyager is for the C W Program. Be sure to include this number in your report. Let's start 2019 with a bang by the Grand's ordering the CW pins and distributing them at your Mid-Winter. Also Joe Donovan is ordering the polo shirts for the Grand Directors and locale directors that want them. They are not free so be prepared to pay a small price for them. It should be considered an honor to be named a Director of your Grande or Locale.

Send your Pin Orders and GRANDE VOITURE REPORTS to National Directeur Child Welfare Joe Donovan at the address listed below.

Joe Donovan, National Directeur Child Welfare
4660 N River Rd Spc 12
Oceanside CA 92057-5879

Yours en Service
Charles "Nick" Nicholson
S D Child Welfare Program



100 Years of Service

FROM THE DESK OF
GRAND DIRECTEUR OF AMERICANISM

October 12, 2018



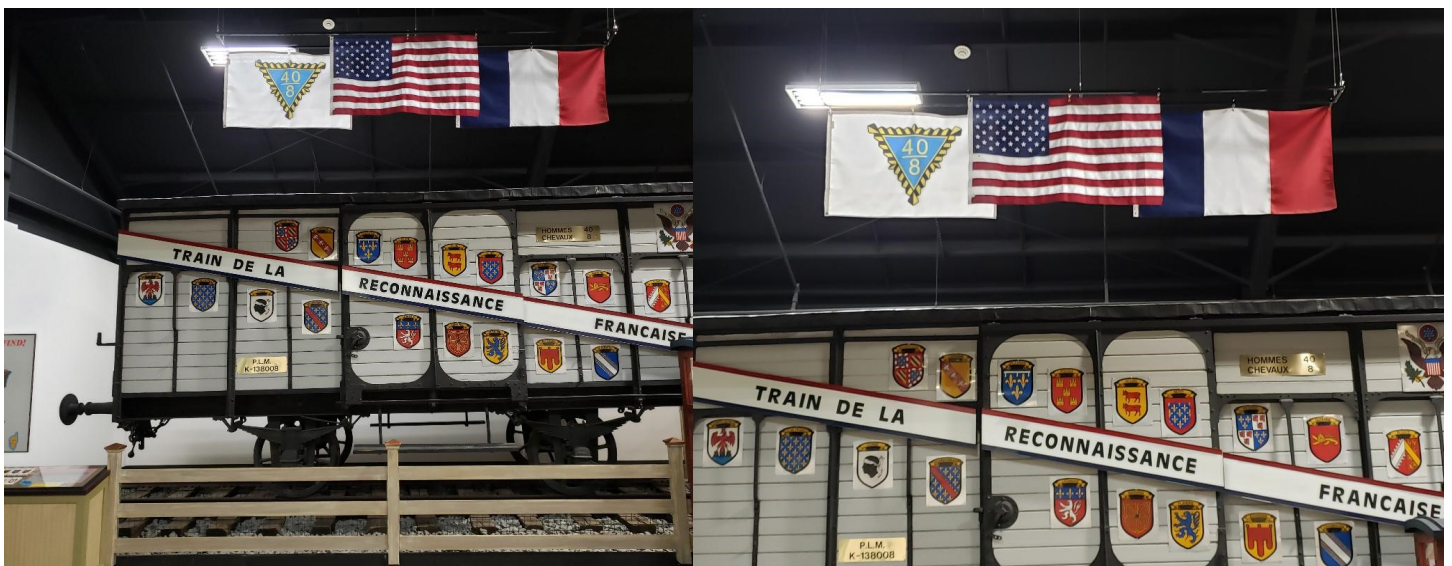
Happy New Year, I hope everyone had a wonder holiday season. Perhaps you visited family, took a road trip or just stayed at home and relaxed. Welcome back! Now it is time:

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

Don't forget to document all your activities. Keep a folder or notebook, so at the end of the year it is easy for you to do your Americanism Consolidated report.

Also, remember the Flag for First Graders! This is one of our hallmark programs.

FINALLY REMEMBER ALMOST EVERYTHING WE DO FALLS UNDER AMERICANISM



AMERICANISM - CHILD WELFARE - VAVS - BOX CAR ASSN. - NURSES SCHOLARSHIPS - POW/MIA - CARVILLE - POW/MIA - YOUTH SPORTS



Voiture National

Sous Directeur Nurses Training

Kevin Owens



Dear Grand Nurses Training Directeur,

A New Year is begun, and the New Year's Resolutions have been made in true form. As we move forward in the remaining year, I would like to have more dialogue between the Grande Directeurs and myself. I often wonder if you read the bulletins, pass them on to your Voiture or just disregard them once received. I asked everyone to respond to my last bulletin and had only a few that made the effort. I am a resource for information, a coach, a cheerleader and someone who has taken the challenge to promote a program that means more to our Comrades in their time of need than most others. I would like to be part of your program and share the great ideas of what you do, I can't do that if you sit back and don't communicate. Membership is always important, but we need to show why it is important to belong not just because we think so. We made a commitment together when we took the job so let us succeed together. We all should have received our Nurses Training pins and sold all of them by this time and maybe get a few more to hand out to some who does something special for the Forty & Eight. What a way to spark a conversation. Remember the more pins that are sold the better our program becomes. We should be working on scholarships for nursing students as this should be a year-round program and not when we are asked to do so. It takes someone that is encouraged by the program and has some connection with a Nurse. There is a great need for nurses and an even greater need for us to give more scholarships. That's what our program does, it creates enthusiasm among our members, and member's in our community. I know each one of you is working hard and we need to spread the good work we do if we want to continue for another 100 years. Our locale(s) need to increase their involvement in the Boland Trust enrollment by increasing their applicants' submission for both the Undergraduate and Advanced Degree programs by communicating and assimilating the guidelines and requirements to our membership and candidates, it is a top priority this year. I remitted a copy of a Pre-Resolution memo to each of you to get the pins need for your Grande.

Please contact Ernest Lane, he would very happy to provide all the pins you would need to reach your goals.

Ernest Lane
4286 S. Reindeer Ct.
Gilbert, Arizona 85297
elanejr3688@gmail.com

VAVS

Roger Decker, Sous Directeur

DECEMBER

Area 1 Directeur. Correspondant, and Chief de Gare

I want to wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let's not forget our many veterans who may be limited in their ability to enjoy the Holiday activities due to health and or mobility problems. I encourage all to reach out to those individuals to include them in the many programs that will take place during this time. Now is a good time to reach out to the government hospitals in your region to assist them in carry out their programs for their patients. The hospitals will be short of staff and can use a hand with the nonmedical services they need to provide.

The Lets Keep the Wheel Chairs Rolling Contest is beginning to start slowly. I encouraged you to seek out possible candidates for the contest and assist in the submission of an application. We have funds to give to this program. I hope that all Grands receive my letters. I do send it to all the addresses I have for Directeurs, Correspondants and Grand Chiefs. If you do not receive this letter, send your address so I can add it to the email lists I use.

We have encouraged all who are involved with VAVS to report on their activities back to the Sous's Directeur so we are aware of what is happening at the voiture level. I am aware that we may not think of our efforts as meaningful, so I am sharing what a Grand and 2 Voitures have done during the December to give you some ideas what you may want to submit.

2 days volunteer at VA Med Center 12 hrs 72 miles Donations 65.00

1 day at VA Med Center 2.5 hrs 36 miles G d Georgia contribution \$100.00 for Metal Hearth program.

Met with a vet to discuss his concerns regarding making application for sv con disability, not a service officer function.

1 day participate in Delta Military lounge Atl Airport 600-1000a 4 hrs greet 72 active and retired military, 74 miles.

Transport Visually limited vet officer to VSO to make his report and to assist in planning, 3 hrs 44 miles.

3 days volunteer at delta lounge 600-930am, 10.5 hrs 155 vets 222 miles.

2 days volunteer Delta military lounge 1750 vets and recruits from 2 training bases from 300-1000a, 14hrs 158 miles.

1 day planned and initiates program for Wreaths across America Dec 15 5 voyagers placed 5 Honor wreath for the 5 military branches, placed 800 wreath on graves in civil war section of cemetery with help of other patrons, 1100-1230 1.5 hrs 92 miles

Second voiture reports on 4 honor guards for 4 funerals of vet 12hrs, 390 miles.

Still have 7 more day at the Delta lounge plus other VAVS related activities.

Although my description of the VAVS efforts may be rough, I am try to suggest some effort at the local level can be thought of as VAVS efforts.

Lets give a try.

Yours in service

Roger Decker

Special Awards and Recognition

This is a good time to be alert for possible candidates for the Special Awards recognition as many organizations will be identifying outstanding individuals within their ranks. It is never too early to be gathering qualified nominees for our own award programs. By our recognition of these individuals and cities who have made exceptional contributions to society we are gaining valuable public awareness of La Societe and the great work we do, it's a win – win for everyone!

The news media is a great source for articles about potential candidates for our Special Awards. Cut out clippings and include pictures, if available, in your nomination packages, this makes it easier to support your candidate.

Let us all commit ourselves to make it another great year for the Forty & Eight!

You will find guidelines and forms in the [La Petite Communique](#) on the Nationale Website!

For your benefit:

PLEASE NOTE: It is very important to promote membership in The Generals Club! These funds are used to help provide transportation and accommodation expenses for the Law Enforcement Officer and the Hero of the year so they can attend Promenade Nationale to

VAVS

Currently La Societe is in short supply of Volunteers at our VA facilities. I urge everyone to reach out to your local Locales and Cabanes and have them contact their local VA Facilities to see where they can help. Representatives and Deputy Reps are always welcome. We have entirely too many facilities where the La Societe is not represented. Hopefully we will be able to turn this downward trend around!!

“Keep the Wheel Chairs Rolling Contest” – For those that don't know, this is an annual contest where we (La Societe) have an opportunity to make a difference at a VA Facility. The attached flier explains how it works. Now is the time to get your entries in. The entry cut-off is 31 March.

Lastly, I am seeking your assistance to ensure the I as well as Nationale has the most up-to-date information. With that said I would like for you to send me the following information;

- a.) Name, address, phone number and e-mail address of your VAVS/SVH Directeur.
- b.) Listing of your current VAVS Facility Reps/Depts.

I want to thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. Also, thank you for all you do for La Societe and your continued service to our Nation's Veterans.

As always should you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ron Rolfes

Nationale Directeur

VAVS/SVH

La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

Deb Reynolds

Sous Directeur of Youth Sports Nationale

Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am Deb Reynolds and have the honor and solemn responsibility of serving as Nationale Sous Directeur Youth Sports for Area B. Some of you have already met me, but for those of you who haven't, I have served La Societe in numerous positions at the Locale and Grand levels (mostly as Correspondant or Nurses' Training). I am currently Grand Chef de Gare and Grand Nurses' Training Directeur du South Carolina; Locale Medicin of Voiture 1067, Goose Creek, SC, home of the infamous GATOR WRECK.

Well, here it is almost Christmas and most winter sports at the high school level are in between football and basketball with hockey coming up fast and furious. For those of you in areas that the cold weather sports are serious business, I do not envy you the cold. Brrrr, I hate cold!

All of you are probably quite busy trying to keep up with schedules and trying to fit all of it into your very busy lives. With all of the hustle and bustle now surrounding you, please remember Youth Sports is a large program within La Societe. The approved fields of support are vast, and we encourage you to support teams in any of them that are in your area. All guidelines are available to you on the La Societe Website under, you guessed it, programs! I knew y'all are smart cookies! Cookies! Is baking a sport? I'll have to check into that.....Oh Bob - - - - -

Don't forget to get your numbers together and fill out the report forms as soon as the 2019 forms are available.

For now, that's a wrap - - - - - wait a minute – wrap..... that's cooking.....another potential sport?Boooobbbb- - - - -

I am looking forward to working with each and every Grand. If you have any question or concerns please let me know.

Yours in Service to God, Country and La Société,



To All Voyageurs Grand du Georgia;

I just received a list of program pins disbursement from Nationale and have noticed that the Grand du Georgia and her Locales have taken very few, if any of our programs and this was quite disturbing. We have 15 Locales in Georgia and together they make up the Grand du Georgia, we are not 15 individual Locales that only care for what each of them accomplishes. Our strength is in our Grand and I have seen very little communication this year between the Locales or between the Locales and the Grand.

We all took an oath to support the many worthy programs and veterans rights when we joined and I believe we need to take that oath into consideration. I see weekly communications from **all Nationale** Program Directeurs appealing for support and Georgia is not responding very strong. So I am appealing to **all Voyageurs and Locales** to buy pins, or make donations, keep reports and send them to Nationale at years end so the Grand and your Locale can show that we do care about Children, Nurses, Americanism, Box Car, Carville Star, POW/MIA, Ritual, VAVS, Voiture Activities and Public Relations, Special Awards and all the other programs we committed to support. At \$3.00 a pin it won't break the bank of any Voyageur or Locale to support every program.

I ask that we show that pride that keeps "Georgia on my mind" of the other Grands in La Societe and give what we can to support our programs. I know that some of you will disregard this appeal and hopefully some will see that it is the right thing to do. Success is a team game and is Georgia going to sit on the bench and just watch the others play it out or are we going to get in the game and support our La Societe Team to victory. The choice is yours, collectively and individually. As for me "put me in coach, I'm ready to play." Take care and God Bless.

En Service
Mike Wood
Alternate Cheminot Nationale du Georgia



BOXCAR

Greetings fellow Box Car Directeurs

The new 2019 National Box Car Association items are available. Many of you have gotten your consignments, but I see no action has been taken as to payments on those consignments. Don't wait until you get all your cards and pins sold – send the money in as you get it. Every Grand Box Car Directeur and Grand Chef de Gare should have in their possession the coin, card, and pin. Team, we have got to sell our program – there are so many that count on our annual donations to run their programs. Don't let them down. These donations are based on what we sell in cards and pins.

Don't forget, Directeur Jim has the Box Car Design contest going on. This is open to all voyageurs, but the deadline is fast approaching (end of February). Send your design (it can be a rough draft if you're not an artist) to Jim Maxwell at 6409 Bayberry Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. That's what I did last year and won – of course I indicated what the concept was.



The Perfect 40 & 8 Public Relations story for 2019

It will be 70 years in February of 2019

In 1947, a Friendship Train carried \$40 million in relief supplies to France and Italy. The 700-car train was the brainchild of Drew Pearson, an American newspaper columnist. As the little train moved across the country, its popularity and notoriety skyrocketed. By the time it reached New York, it was actually three trains coming in from all different directions. Once in New York, the food was unloaded and sent by ship -- with ample notice where it was coming from -- to France and Italy.

A French veteran and railroad worker named Andre Picard stated a movement to send surplus WWI era boxcars to the US filled with tokens of appreciation from the people of France to the people of America. In all, 49 boxcars would be sent -- each packed with mementos from French citizens of every age and class.

Each state would receive a boxcar. One would be split between Washington, DC and the territory of Hawaii. The boxcars were of an especially appropriate type -- known as the 40 et 8 -- 'suitable' for 40 men or 8 horses. These small boxcars had transported thousands of American GIs during the wars; each cramped, bumpy ride leaving a lasting impression on the passengers. Each boxcar was decorated with a painted 'Gratitude Train' ribbon and with 40 coat-of-arms representing the provinces of France.

The French boxcars arrived in New York Harbor aboard the ship Magellan in **February 1949**. The ship was met by waves of aircraft and a flotilla of boats. With 'Merci, America' painted across its hull, it was docked and unloaded. New York's boxcar was paraded through Manhattan. The other boxcars were loaded onto flatcars (their wide wheel axles not compatible with our track width) and sent off to the far reaches of the nation.

Each state had a reception waiting for their boxcar. Several states sent their boxcars on tours of the state so everyone could see the car and its contents. They came to rest permanently in municipal parks, railroad museums, fairgrounds, and Veterans Posts. Most survive to this day.

My suggestion is this:

Go to <http://www.mercitrain.org/> and find if your state still has its train and where it is located.

Plan a statewide visit to the train in February to honor the WWI & WWII veterans that prompted the events leading up to the Friendship and Merci trains. Invite all voyagers from across the state. Take pictures and send them to voiturenational@msn.com our Forty & Eighter official publication. Send pictures and a story to your local newspaper or even better contact them to show up at your celebration. Sous Directeur Public Relations

Area 2

Paul Yager

pcyager@gmail.com

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year





Voiture 217 Christmas

Pictures from Locale 217's Toys for Tots drive presented during our Christmas Party and the train gave kids a ride over the Holidays at the Georgia Bap-



Voiture 909 Locomotive

Voiture 909 Locomotive in Albany Christmas Parade on Saturday 15 December 2018





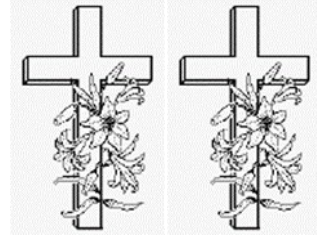
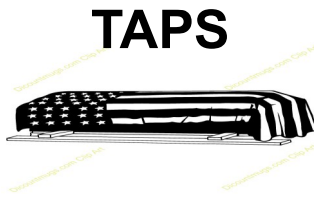
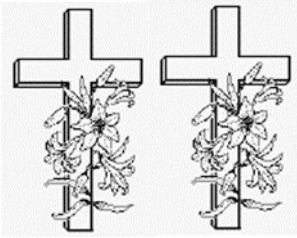
I feel the need to tell you what French people want to express to your great country by this symbolic train. To you Americans who have done so much, given to our children, the aged and the people of France, it is affectionate thanks, the sincere gratitude of my country. Each one of these cars... will tell those of you who know us that we do not forget.

-Written in 1949 by Louis Brenel, a paralyzed French World War II veteran



Here are some pictures of Georgia's Merci Boxcar. It is located in the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History in Kennesaw. Larry Butts, Robert LaBorde, and myself visited on afternoon. I encourage each of you to make





The following is a list of all Grand du Georgia Voyageurs who went to Voiture Everlasting in 2019 and reported to TAPS.

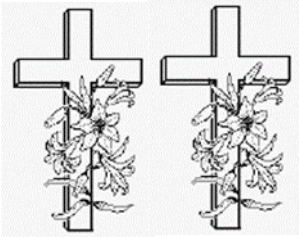
GA	BROWN, LOWERY C	AUGUSTA	719
GA	FORDHAM, TOMMY D	PORT WENTWORTH	567
GA	HARRISON, LEO	LEESBURG	909
GA	HOWELL, MAX	DOERUN	909
GA	JARMAN, DEAN M	CARTERSVILLE	1229
GA	JONES, JAMES L	PALMETTO	247
GA	JONES, MICHAEL	SAVANAH	567
GA	KNAPP, GUIDO	HINESVILLE	217
GA	KRAUSE, ARLYN A	ALBANY	909
GA	MIXON, MARVIN W	ALBANY	909
GA	SEABOLT, CHARLES	COVINGTON	499
GA	WALSH, THOMAS D	ATLANTA	217
GA	WILSON, WITCHER L	ALBANY	909

The following is a list of all Grand du Georgia Voyageurs who went to Voiture Everlasting in 2019 and not yet reported to TAPS.

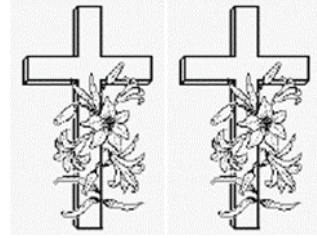
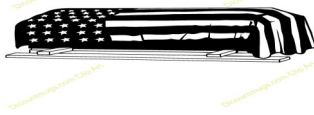


Walt Lamond, V217





TAPS

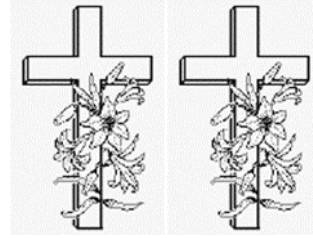
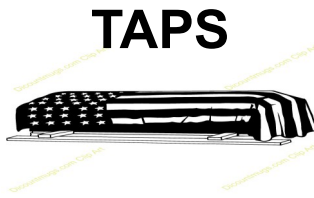
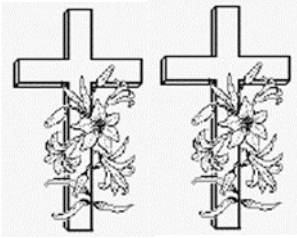


The following are some pictures taken at Georgia National Cemetary at Walt Lamond's Service.



Walt Lamond, V217

Pour Dieu et la Patrie



The following is a list of all Grand du Georgia Voyageurs who went to Voiture Everlasting in 2018.

GA	ABBOTT, CHARLES	FLOWERY BRANCH	499
GA	ADAMS, STEVE	BUFORD	499
GA	AKINS, J T	MABLETON	217
GA	ASBY, RONALD W	KENNESAW	1635
GA	BEASLEY, RICK R	DULUTH	217
GA	BILLMAN, WAYNE	DALTON	82
GA	BLUE SR, MCCLENDON	WARNER ROBINS	1145
GA	BURCHETT, JACK B	ROME	1229
GA	CHRISTIAN, GORDON J	COLUMBUS	280
GA	CONAWAY, J W	ROME	1229
GA	CONFER, A LYNN	WAYCROSS	382
GA	COYLE, JAMES FRANK	GAINESVILLE	1317
GA	CROCKETT, WAYNE	ATLANTA	217
GA	CROFT, G C	ALBANY	909
GA	DUNCAN, THOMAS E	JESUP	304
GA	GAMEL, JACK E	DOUGLASVILLE	1631
GA	JACKSON, SHARON L	BYRON	1145
GA	JOHNSON, HARRY E	ALBANY	909
GA	MCGRAW, JOHN J	FAIRMOUNT	1229
GA	MUTI, JOSEPH	WOODSTOCK	803
GA	POPE JR, GENERAL W	AUGUSTA	719
GA	POWERS, WILLIAM T	EVANS	2000
GA	RAY, GEORGE ALLEN	MOULTRIE	909
GA	WALKER, PHILLIP N	SNELLVILLE	499
GA	WATKINS, CARL J	LILBURN	217
GA	WINCHESTER, WALTER L	WARNER ROBINS	1145
GA	WOODRUFF, ROBERT F	COVINGTON	499



From the desk of Tom Reesman

Grand Directeur
Voiture Activities



Bonjour,

The forms needed to report Voiture Activities at locale and grand level can be found at "Resources", then "Forms and Petite Communiques" on the National website (fortyandeight.org). Under "Programs", Directeur Joe Dolwig has a letter explaining "Voiture Activities". Our purpose is to measure the amount of participation in various activities, many of which are listed in Directeur Dolwig's letter. While it may appear to duplicate information from other reports, it is important that you report locale/grand Voiture Activities also. Any activity that includes two or more voyageurs/dames in its planning or execution counts. If you have questions about what can be claimed, contact me and if I don't have an ready answer, I will find the answer. You can track things that can be reported on the Voiture Activities form by keeping a logbook, your minutes and your finance records. That is true for getting the data you need for any of the Petite Communique reports.

With Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and various other activities having occurred during the fall, you should have several reportable activities. The Christmas season is fast approaching and may present more

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!!

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:

Tom Reesman
4117 Cherokee Trail
Gainesville, GA 30504

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

<p>MIKE WOOD Chef de Chemin de Fer 2015 SANDY WOOD La Presidente Natinale 2012</p>	<p>LEON AND GAIL MARABLE Voiture and Cabane 1317</p>	<p>ROGER DECKER NATIONAL SOUS DIRECTEUR</p>
<p>TOM AND MOOSE WALSH</p>	<p>VOITURE 217 ATLANTA</p>	<p>ABBEY& MARTHA ABBENSETT Voiture and Cabane 217</p>
<p>NICK AND DEANNA NICHOLSON Voiture and Cabane 909</p>	<p>VOITURE 1229 NORTHWEST GEORGIA</p>	<p>VOITURE 1145 WARNER ROBBINS</p>
	<p>VOITURE 1631 DOUGLASVILLE</p>	<p>JIM VAUGHAN</p>
	<p>DEAN JARMIN VOITURE 1229</p>	<p>VOITURE 1597 MABLETON</p>



GRANDE VOITURE MEMBERSHIP

As of January 10, 2019

Grande du Georgia ranks 14th of 54 Grandes



VOITURE #	LOCATION	MEETING DAY/ TIME	Grande Region	Grand Chef de Train	2017-2018 Total	2018-2019 YTD	Short/Over	Total %
4	Cartersville	1st Tues - 6:30 PM	North	Thorne	28	25	-3	89.29%
217	Fulton	1st Sun - 1:00 PM	West	Aprill	52	44	-8	84.62%
280	Columbus	3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM	West	Aprill	29	21	-8	72.41%
499	Loganville	2 nd Tues - 8:00 PM	East	Vejar	61	45	-16	73.77%
567	Savannah	4th Thurs - 7:00 PM	East	Vejar	58	54	-4	93.10%
719	Augusta	1st Sun - 1:00 PM	East	Vejar	41	31	-10	75.61%
909	Albany	3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM	West	Aprill	46	24	-22	52.17%
1145	Warner Rob-ins	1st Mon - 7:30 PM	East	Vejar	28	17	-11	60.71%
1226	Lexington	1st Tues - 7:00 PM	North	Thorne	4	4	0	100.00%
1229	N W Georgia	3rd Sun - 1:00 PM	North	Thorne	74	33	-41	44.59%
1317	Gainesville	3rd Mon - 6:30 PM	North	Thorne	20	19	-1	95.00%
1597	Mableton	Last Wed - 7:00 PM	West	Aprill	18	10	-8	55.56%
1631	Douglasville	4th Sun - 12:00 PM	West	Aprill	12	12	0	100.00%
1635	Marietta	Last Wed - 7:00 PM	North	Thorne	25	26	1	104.00%
1636					0	0	0	
Grande Total					496	365	-131	73.59%
Short or Over							-131	

GRANDE CABANE MEMBERSHIP

Membership as of 10 January 2019

GRANDE DE GEORGIA

Cabane	2018	2019	Goal	Percentage of Goal
4	8	0	10	0.00%
217	25	23	26	88.46%
280	16	11	17	64.71%
499	13	7	14	50.00%
567	13	10	13	76.92%
719	16	17	16	106.25%
909	10	10	11	90.91%
1229	18	10	19	52.63%
1317	11	10	11	90.91%
1631	6	6	10	60.00%
Totals:	136	104	147	70.75%

RANDOM PICTURES





January 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



		1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5
6 V719	7 V1145	8 V499	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 V280 V909	18 Joint Carolinas	19 Joint Carolinas
20 Joint Carolinas V1229	21 MLK Day V1317	22	23	24 V567	25	26
27 V1631	28	29	30 V1635 V1597	31		



February 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



					1	2 Groundhog Day
3 V217 V719	4	5 V4 V1226	6	7 V1145	8	9
10	11	12 V499	13	14 Valentines Day	15	16
17 V1229	18 Presidents Day V1317	19	20 Cajun Wreck	21 Cajun Wreck V280 V909	22 Cajun Wreck	23 Cajun Wreck
24 V567 V1631	25	26	27 V1635 V1597	28		

March 2019



La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux

VSun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



					1 Grand du GA MidWinter Homecoming	2 Grand du GA MidWinter Homecoming
3 V217 V719	4	5 V4 V1226	6	7 V1145	8	9
10	11	12 V499	13	14	15	16
17 V1229	18 V1317	19	20	21 V280 V909	22	23
24 V1631 V567	25	26	27 V1635 V1597	28	29	30
31			HOW MANY NEW MEMBERS HAVE YOU RECRUITED TO LA SOCIETE?			