

Georgia on Track



Award winning publication

Grand Voiture du Georgia

Volume 2016-1, January, February, March 2016

Grand Chef de Gare



HAPPY NEW YEAR to all Voyageurs and Dames. I trust that everyone survived the holidays unscathed. Our membership numbers

are still faltering. The next membership goal is 75% on January 31st. We have a lot of work to do to reach that as we are only now at 55%. I posed a question to our Grand Chef de Trains recently and would like to pose the same question to everyone who reads this newsletter. Why does it feel like we have to BEG our members to renew every year? Are they not proud to be 40&8'ers? Our numbers continue to diminish every year. I know there a lot of folks out there pushing for membership and it's almost like their works are in vain. What are we missing? What should we be doing that we're not? I wish I had those answers so that La Societe would be overflowing with members!!

Grande La Presidente and I were invited by VL/CL 280 to their annual Halloween Party. We had an awesome time. Would like to Thank Chef John, La Presidente the Voyageurs and Dames for the excellent hospitality. We had to cut the visit short due to a death in my family in Pennsylvania. VL 1635 invited us to their white collar wreck. They brought 2 new Voyageurs into our ranks. Great Job Chef David and crew! Our next event was the National Veterans Day celebration in Birmingham, AL. What an awesome event it was! At the banquet we got to meet and talk with a survivor of the USS Indianapolis sinking, Edgar Harrell. What a story he had to share about the mission itself (they delivered the components of the bombs used at Nagasaki and Hiroshima), and the events leading up to and after the sinking. We also heard the story of National Veteran of the year from Ohio, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient.

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From the Desk Of Grand Correspondant Nadine Asberry

Greetings All, This is your Grand Correspondant, Nadine Asberry. As we quickly approach this holiday season, I am entering with gratitude and hope.

I am grateful for family, friends, and membership in one of our Country's finest veteran organizations.

Though we are fewer in number, I am hopeful that more Voyagers and Dames will attend Promenades, and support and visit other Voitures as we continue to serve with honor and valor.

I look forward to seeing you at our Midwinter Cheminot in Calhoun, Georgia Feb. 21-23, or Cajun Wreck in Lafayette, Louisiana Feb. 25-28.

Wishing everyone a joyous, peaceful, and bountiful New Year!
Nadine

La Grande Presidente

Hello Dames, Hope all had a blessed wonderful Christmas and will have the very best of New Years. I want to thank Cabane #280 for the



invitation to their Halloween party. Had a great time visiting with Locale Presidente Lori Odom, Grande Correspondant Cheryl Boswell, Grande Garde de la Porte Martha Abbensett, Dames and Voyageurs. Was presented with a beautiful fall foliage bowl filled with candies, a "duck chef" and a blinking "duck" ring. Thank you Dames so much for a great visit.

Now I want to tell you about my visit to the Birmingham Veterans Day parade. One of the most memorable times of my life. First, a banquet with so many dignitaries that it was very hard to keep up. But the best of all was the two awesome veterans that shared their stories with us. I think at times that I was holding my breathe just listening to the stories. And one was a Medal of Honor recipient! Just to be in their presence was an honor and very humbling. The next morning we attended the Chapel service which was very moving and the Color Guard was great. No flag stands so they had to hold the flags through the service and I never saw any one of them move. Very military professionals. But the real humbling came at the parade. So many people but so many veterans that the thought constantly ran through my mind, "those men and women should have been riding in my place and I should have been waving and cheering for them". Nothing can compare to the feelings I had that day for all of our veterans.

If you ever have the opportunity to attend that parade please do so, it will stay with you forever.

(continued on page 2)



Grand Chef de Gare (continued)

The parade, held on Veterans Day, was the most humbling experience of my life. To see all of those folks coming out to honor and thank the veterans for their service. Their were tears shed in our vehicle!!

I am looking forward to getting back in to the "visiting mode" now that the holidays have passed. If I have not been to see you yet, you shall be graced by my presence soon.

LOL.

We have a membership goal at the end of January and I expect that each of you will put forth your best effort to achieve the 75% goal.

Remember the Mid-Winter Cheminot and Homecoming coming in February. Register early. Hope to see a great turnout!

Keep Steamin!!!!

A la prochaine (Until next time),

Michael Bolig

Grand Chef de Gare

LEGACY

Let's Everyone Get Another, Can YOU

(573) 842-8312 - Cell

(864) 647-7122 - Home

mebolig@att.net

BIENVENUE

We have a new Voiture in Grand du Georgia. Voiture Locale 1636 was chartered by Nationale in October.

Voiture 1636 will hold their Promenades at AMVETS Post 10 in Athens.

They have not yet their organizational Promenade but I anticipate good things out of this Voiture.

Welcome to all!!



L'Editeur

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

For Locale Correspondants, when your Voiture wrecks in new members please ensure that I receive their information so that they can begin receiving the Georgia on Track. Let me 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!!

Each issue of Georgia On Track cost about 70 cents per copy to print and mail. If you would like to make a donation to help with these costs please send a check to me, made out to Grand du Georgia. I will document the donation and ensure your receive the appropriate recognition.

You may submit your articles via email and donations to me at:
email: mebolig@att.net

snail mail: **15 Feno Drive,
Westminster, SC 29693.**

Michael Bolig
Grand La Editeur

La Grande Presidente (continued)

I also had the chance to spend some time with our new Nationale Presidente, Lorinda Keys, got some pictures with her and enjoyed spending time with her.

So we are now over halfway into our year and Georgia is still over 90 members short in renewals. Dames, we really need to make contact with all our members and see if there are reasons as to why they are not renewing. Reasons that we can help with. Make those phone calls, make visits if you live close by. Lets all work to see if we can solve the problem of non-renewals.

As of December 24th Cabane 719 is the only 100% we have. We do have 6 Cabanes over 50% and one that has 0 reported. We have some Dames working for their membership, some mediocre and one that, well, what can I say. Except congratulations to Cabane 719, Augusta. Bravo! And to all others, thank you for your work to date. We are short by 90 members but I have faith that this year we will put Georgia back in the 100% range.

Again, if there is anything that I can help with, please do not hesitate to call and if anyone wants me to visit, then call and we will set up a date. I would love to visit everyone this year, have been to six Cabanes so far, and made three visits to Voitures to promote new Cabanes. All visits were wonderful.

God Bless America, our Troops and Families and the Forty & Eight Families,

Dottie Bolig
Grande la Presidente de Georgia

Mid-Winter Cheminot and Homecoming

Voiture & Cabane 1229 will be hosting the Mid-winter Cheminot and Homecoming.

It will be held **February 19-21, 2016** at the **Super 8 Hotel in Calhoun, GA**. Negotiated room rates are \$69 per night plus tax. Call **(423) 667-7272** ask for **Sam** and mention the **40 & 8** for reservations.

Promenade/Rendezvous and Banquet will be held at American Legion Post 47 115 W. Line St. Calhoun, GA

Registration is \$50 in advance, \$55 at the door. Mail registration, made out to VL 1229 to:

Dean Jarman
789 Indian Mounds Road, #34
Cartersville, GA 30120

Grand Chef de Train East

Greetings from south Georgia.
I hope everyone is doing well.

I want to extend my congratulations to all Voyageur's who have worked hard in membership renewals the last few months. I know from my on experience its a hard job to accomplish 100% in your own Voiture. We as Voyageurs need to start thinking about where the 40&8 is going if we don't start bringing in younger members into our organization. You know as well as I do most of our Voyageurs are middle age and older and if we don't change this picture there may not be many left in the near future.

To all, I hope the new year coming will bring good health and happiness to each one of you and that our 40&8 will grow like never before. I know that I will do my part to try and make this happen. Will you? Thank you for allowing me to be part of this great organization.

May God Bless
Tommy Fordham

L'Webmaster

Our webmaster has returned!!

After taking time off to attend to family matters in Ohio, our webmaster has returned. The website will be updated shortly so keep checking it.

Welcome back Tom!!!



Americanism

From the Desk of:
Grand Directeur of Americanism
Eddie Asberry
easberry@comcast.net

SEASONS GREETINGS,

Hope everyone is having a wonderful holiday. But let us not forget the reason for the season. That is the birth of the Christ child "Jesus". As stated in our preamble "For God and Country". So lets everyone remember it was on Christmas that Christ was born.

Also with the new year quickly approaching, let us set our goals to do more for our veterans and support our children and youth program. Try to do more flags presentations for First Graders and other Americanism Programs. Don't forget to document your accomplishments on your Americanism report. Lets show the Nation what the Grande Voiture du Georgia are doing. Make your plans for Mid Winter. **MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



La Sous Presidente Nationale Area 1

YOU CAN BE THE CHANGE

For a big return make one of this New Year's resolutions to make and keep your support of La Societe in any way possible. We can do so much for veterans, children & youth, patriotism and community. The more Dames who pay their 2016 dues, the more it reinforces my determination to encourage you to increase our numbers by inviting a friend, a neighbor or co-worker to join your Cabane. Just ask, you may very well be pleasantly surprised that you have a new Dame to share in the projects and the fun. Consider John Quincy Adams' wisdom, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." Someone asked you to join, let this be the year that you pay it forward. Be a good example, be a leader. Today is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever. In its place is something that you have left behind. Let it be something good. If you do not ask, the answer will always be "no". Don't let a good chance pass you by, ask today.

I want you to know that the Nationale resources are outstanding. Please use them to your advantage, they are there for you. If you have not spent at least an hour or two on the website – www.fortyandeight.org – you are missing out on a good thing. Print out "What Can A Cabane Do for You?". Email questions to Femmes@fortyandeight.org and/or call (317)639-1879, or mail questions to La Societe de Femme, 250 East 38th Street, Indianapolis IN 46205. The Membership application is on the website, as well as, a welcome to new member info sheet and organization's information, plus membership status for Grandes and individual Cabanes. Get the picture? If you don't use this bountiful information, you have missed out on a lot of educational data. You can be the change that increases our membership and that assures our future. Try it, you will like it. Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with us.

For the good of La Societe,
Brenda Pizzo,
Area #1 La Sous Presidente Nationale



Grand Chef Michael Bolig and La Grand Presidente Dottie Bolig attend the Veterans Day memorial service in Birmingham.



It's tough waiting on the parade to start! Sweet dreams Hiram.



The Georgia delegation at the National Veterans Day awards banquet in Birmingham, AL.

L to R:

- Beulah Thigpen,
- Larry Butts,
- Grand Chef Michael Bolig,
- La Grande Presidente Dottie Bolig,
- Cheminot Nationale Robert 'Abbey' Abbensett,
- Martha Abbensett,
- Cheryl Boswell,
- Lloyd Boswell.



2016 Georgia
Mid-Winter Promenade/Rendezvous
and
HOMECOMING



February 19 – 21, 2016

Hosted by: **NW Georgia Voiture & Cabane 1229**

REGISTRATION: \$50 in advance, \$55 at the door

HOTEL - **Super 8 Calhoun, 115 Hampton Drive SE, Calhoun, GA** (Exit 315 off I-75)
\$69/night plus tax, reservation must be made before 2/5/16

Call – (423) 667-7272 ask for Sam and mention the 40 & 8

NO PETS, this hotel does not have an elevator (reserve early for first floor room)

Hospitality: Friday @ Super 8 from Noon until 10 PM

Saturday: 10 AM Promenade/Rendezvous at:

American Legion Post 47 115 W. Line Street Calhoun, GA

6PM Banquet and program at Legion Post

Refer all questions to: Marvin Hampton (770) 684-3006

VOITURE NO: _____ CABANE NO: _____

VOYAGER: _____ Office: _____

DAME: _____ Office: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: (_____) _____ - _____

CELL PHONE: (_____) _____ - _____

Make checks payable to **Voiture 1229 and mail to:**
Dean Jarman
789 Indian Mounds Road, #34
Cartersville, GA 30120



GRANDE VOITURE MEMBERSHIP

As of December 23, 2015

Grande du Georgia ranks 45th of 54 Grandes

<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>Short/Over</u>	<u>%</u>
500	284	-216	56.80%

Voiture	2015	2016	% of Goal	Short/Over
4	17	12	70.59%	-5
217	58	2	3.45%	-56
280	29	12	41.38%	-17
499	76	58	76.32%	-18
567	45	45	100.00%	0
711	0	0	0.00%	0
719	42	21	50.00%	-21
867	5	3	60.00%	-2
909	49	24	48.98%	-25
1145	24	16	66.67	-8
1226	10	10	100.00%	0
1229	89	27	30.34%	-62
1317	17	7	41.48%	-10
1597	12	18	150.00%	6
1631	11	8	72.73%	-3
1635	16	19	118.75%	3

GRANDE CABANE MEMBERSHIP

Grande de Georgia ranks 15th of 36 Grandes

<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Short</u>
192	139	60.70%	-90

Cabane	2015	2016 Reported	2016 Goal	% of Goal
4	8	0	11	0.00%
217	37	29	40	72.50%
280	24	14	33	42.42%
499	18	12	23	52.17%
567	13	13	16	81.25%
719	13	14	14	100.00%
909	15	8	16	50.00%
1226	15	9	20	45.00%
1229	28	20	28	71.43%
1317	17	16	18	88.89%
1631	4	4	10	40.00%

GRAND VOITURE DU GEORGIA

115 Feno Drive

Westminster, SC 29693



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