

**La Société  
des  
Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
La Grande Voiture du Georgia**



**CONSTITUTION  
And  
BY-LAWS**

**CONSTITUTION  
OF  
LA GRANDE VOITURE DU GEORGIA  
LA SOCIÉTÉ DES 40 HOMMES ET 8 CHEVAUX**

## **PREAMBLE**

### ***RESOLVED:***

**THAT WE, THE MEMBERS OF LA SOCIETE DES QUARANTE HOMMES ET HUIT CHEVAUX, DO ORDAIN AND ESTABLISH THE FOLLOWING CONSTITUTION AS THE LAW OF THE ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS THE GRANDE VOITURE DU GEORGIA, LA SOCIÉTÉ DES 40 HOMMES ET 8 CHEVAUX, THE OBJECTS OF WHICH ARE:**

**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES: TO CREATE A CHARITABLE AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION; TO UPHOLD AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; TO ASSIST AND PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND WELL BEING OF THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THEIR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS; TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL MEMORIAL SERVICES AND BE PRESENT AT THE FUNERALS OF DEPARTED COMRADES; TO TAKE PART IN AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROPER OBSERVANCE OF ALL DAYS HONORING VETERANS; TO PRESERVE THE MEMORIES OF OUR SERVICES IN THE ARMED FORCES OF OUR COUNTRY; TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE WITHIN OUR MEMBERSHIP IN PROJECTS RELATING TO (A) THE WELFARE OF THE CHILDREN OF AMERICA; (B) THE HEALTH OF OUR NATION BY FOSTERING A NURSES TRAINING PROGRAM; AND (C) SELECTED CHARITABLE ENDEAVORS.**

## **ARTICLE I**

### ***NATURE AND OBJECTS***

#### ***SECTION 1:***

***NATURE OF ORGANIZATION:* The Grande Voiture du Georgia, La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, is a civilian organization without rank or distinction between members, and is non-political. Each member of La Société shall be known as Voyageur Militaire. Each eligible non-member shall be known as Prisonniers de Guerre or P.G.'s.**

***OBJECTS OF ORGANIZATION:* (a) to honor, through membership, those honorably discharged and currently serving U.S. military**

personnel who have proven themselves worthy of such honor.

- (b) Through fraternalism to bind ourselves in close ties afforded by our common service in the armed forces of our country.

**SECTION 2:**

The slogan of the organization shall be “A SQUARE DEAL FOR EVERY CHILD.”

**ARTICLE II**

**ORGANIZATION**

**SECTION 1:**

The Grand Voiture, La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux, shall be organized into a Grand Voiture, Grand Voiture Districts, and Voitures Locale as hereafter provided.

**ARTICLE III**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1:**

**ELIGIBILITY**

No person other than honorably discharged U.S. military personnel and active duty U.S. military may become members of La Societé des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux. No Voiture Locale, may prescribe or establish any eligibility qualifications for membership in La Societe which are in conflict with the Constitution of Grand du Georgia or Voiture Nationale.

Membership shall be by invitation only, after having been duly elected for membership by the Voiture Locale of the county or district in which the prospective members resides. The prescribed nomination form shall, in all instances, be completed in detail and properly executed by the prospective member after acceptance for membership.

**SECTION 2:**

There shall be no form of membership except an active membership as hereafter provided and there shall be no numerical limitation of membership.

**SECTION 3:**

Every member of La Société shall belong to and hold allegiance to one Voiture Locale only; provided, however, that where no Voiture Locale exists in county or district in which member resides, such member shall become affiliated with a Voiture Locale having jurisdiction in the county of residence.

Voiture Locale shall have exclusive jurisdiction of eligible and prospective members whose legal residence is within the county or Voiture district.

A Voiture District may be formed by two or more counties with the approval of the Grande Voiture. Prospective members shall be accepted only by the Voiture Locale having jurisdiction in the county of the prospective members residence, except when application for dispensation or permission to affiliate elsewhere is made to the Voiture nearest the members place of residence and permission is granted, waving jurisdiction in favor of the Voiture of the members choice.

Failure of a Voiture Locale to secure special dispensation or permission to accept P.G.'s affiliation, shall forfeit all monies collected in fees and dues which will revert to the Voiture Locale having jurisdiction in the county of the members place of legal residence and said membership shall be transferred thereto.

A Voyageur Militaire in good standing moving from one county to another shall be entitled to a certificate from the members Voiture Locale stating his/her membership and the duration thereof and a transfer of membership if requested by the Voiture Locale situated in the county to which he/she is moving.

Acceptance of such transfer shall not be mandatory upon the Voiture Locale to which the transfer is requested.

**SECTION 4:**

Dues of La Société shall be payable to the Voiture Locale in advance on October 20 of each year.

Payment thereof shall entitle the Voyageur Militaire to a membership card certifying him/her to be a member in good standing until the end of the following fiscal which expires on October 20, provided however, that no Voyageur Militaire whose dues have not been paid on or before March 31 shall be permitted to enter either Nationale, Grand, or Locale Promenades.

Any member in arrears for two years shall stand suspended and the Correspondant Locale shall notify said member by registered mail at his/her last known address that he/she will be expelled from La Societe unless within one month, payment for the current years dues, and such

reinstatement fees as required by the Voiture Locale.

Until such payment is made within said month such member shall automatically become expelled. Such member may afterwards petition his/her Voiture Locale for reinstatement tendering therewith the dues and reimbursement fees herein above mentioned.

A secret ballot shall be taken upon said person upon the same basis that the Voiture Locale Constitution provides as to election of new members into such Voiture, but without prejudice, to a future petition after an interval of six months has thereafter elapsed.

**SECTION 5:**

No member shall be initiated into La Société at the holding of any Grand Promenade unless there previously and on his/her behalf have been filed with and approved by the Grand Correspondant, a certificate of election and request for initiation issued by the officers of the Voiture Locale admitting him/her to membership.

**SECTION 6:**

No membership card shall be issued and delivered to a new member of La Société by any officer thereof unless the obligation as prescribed in the Ritual of La Société has previously been administered to such new member by a properly qualified officer of La Société.

**SECTION 7:**

Suspended or expelled members of La Société may petition for affiliation in compliance with the procedures prescribed in the Constitution of Voiture Nationale.

**ARTICLE IV**

**ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

**SECTION 1:**

The Grand Voiture du Georgia shall hold a Grand Promenade annually at a time and place recommended by the Time and Pace Committee and approved by at least a two-thirds vote by the members of the Grande Cheminot duly assembled.

**SECTION 2:**

Officers of the Grande Voiture shall be as follows;

1. Grand Chef de Gare
2. Grand Chef de Train (one or more)

3. **Grand Conducteur**
4. **Grand Garde de la Porte**
5. **Grand Commis Voyageur**
6. **Grand Commissaire Intendant**
7. **Cheminot Nationale**
8. **Alternate Cheminot Nationale**
9. **Grand Correspondant**
10. **Grand Avocat**
11. **Grand Medicin**
12. **Grand Publicist**
13. **Grand Provost**
14. **Grand Drapeau**
15. **Grand Lampiste**
16. **Grand Directeur Voiture Activities**
17. **Grand Directeur Child Welfare**
18. **Grand Directeur Nursing Training**
19. **One Grand Cheminot from each Voiture Locale**

**The Grand Promenade may provide for the appointment of such Sous Grand Conducteurs, Sous Grand Drapeau, Sous Grand Lampiste, and for such other officers as the Grande Promenade may determine consistent with the Constitution.**

***SECTION 3:***

**The Grand Chef de Gare, Grand Chef de Train(s), Grand Conducteur, Grand Commissaire Intendant, Grand Garde de la Porte, Grand Commis Voyageur, Cheminot Nationale, Alternate Cheminot Nationale, and one Grand Cheminot from each Voiture Locale shall be *elected* by the Grand Promenade.**

**The Grand Correspondant, Grand Avocat, Grand Medicin, Grand**

**Aumonier, Grand Publicist, Grand Directeur Voiture Activities, Grand Directeur Child Welfare, Grand Directeur Nurses Training, Grand Provost, Grand Drapeau (2), AND Grand Lampiste shall be appointed by the Grand Chef de Gare and shall be subject to removal at any time at the discretion of the Grand Chef de Gare. All said Grand Officers shall hold office for a term of one year unless recalled as provided by the Constitution of Voiture Nationale, and thereafter until their duly elected successors to office shall have been installed.**

**SECTION 4:**

**Vacancies occurring in any of these offices between Grand Promenades shall be filled by the Grand Cheminots, unless otherwise provided herein.**

**SECTION 5:**

**Nomination for elected offices of the Grande Voiture shall be made by a Nominating Committee composed of one representative from each Voiture Locale attending the Grand Promenade. Additional nominations may be made from the floor by any accredited delegate.**

**SECTION 6:**

**There shall be a Grand Cheminot (Executive Committee) consisting of the following:**

<b>Grand Chef de Gare</b>	<b>Cheminot Nationale</b>
<b>Grand Chef (s) de Train</b>	<b>Grand Correspondant</b>
<b>Grand Conducteur</b>	<b>Grand Avocat</b>
<b>Grand Commissaire Intendant</b>	<b>One Grand Cheminot from Each Voiture Locale</b>

**Any *Chef de Chemin de Fer Passé* or *Grand Chef de Gare Passé*, who is a member in good standing of a Voiture Locale shall be a member of the Grand Cheminot with *voice* and *vote* and a delegate to the Grand Promenade with *voice* and *vote*, provided that in the event any such *passé* has been both *Chef de Chemin de Fer* and *Grand Chef de Gare* such officer shall be entitled to only one vote and such vote shall be in addition to the Voiture strength of the Voiture Locale as herein provided.**

**SECTION 7:**

**The duties of the Grand Cheminots shall be to meet at such time as necessity may require between meetings of the Grand Promenade, and consider matters of interest to La Société, and be responsible for the administrative affairs of the Grand Voiture. It shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be required for the interest of the Grand**

**Voiture subject to the Constitution and ratification at the next Grand Promenade.**

***SECTION 8:***

**The Grand Chef de Gare with the advice and consent of the Grand Cheminots, shall, at the meeting of the grand Cheminots, held immediately following each Grand Promenade, appoint a member to the Grand Time and Place Committee for a term of three (3) years.**

**This three member committee shall receive bids and select a time and place at which the next Grand Promenade will be held. The recommendation of the committee shall be subject to the approval or disapproval by the Mid-Winter Cheminots.**

**All appointments to the committee shall be for terms of three years, which will expire at the conclusion of the Grand Promenade held in the third year after his/her term begins. For the purpose of this section the intervention of the time from the conclusion of the Grand Promenade in any given year to the conclusion of the Grand Promenade held the following year shall be construed as one term.**

**Vacancies in the membership of this committee shall be filled by the Grand Chef de Gare with the advice and consent of the Grand Cheminots. Vacancies occurring for reasons other than the expiration of the term of a member shall be filled only for the un-expired portion of the vacant term.**

**Members on the committee shall be eligible to succeed themselves. Membership on the committee shall not prevent a member from holding an elective office.**

**Duties of the committee shall consist of receiving bids from the various Voiture Locales interested in hosting a Grand Promenade, outlining all activities, housing and banquet facilities, and registration fee to be charged;**

**meet with the host Voiture Locale Promenade Committee or Corporation for the purpose of advising and counseling, if necessary, visit and physically inspect the proposed facilities prior to submitting its recommendations to the Grand Cheminots, and such other duties as may be assigned by the Grand Chef de Gare, Grand Conducteur, Grand Cheminot or the Grand Promenade.**

***SECTION 9:***

**In the Grand Promenade, each Voiture Locale in good standing shall be entitled to three (3) delegates and alternates correspondingly, plus one delegate and alternate for each 15 members or major fraction thereof. Voitures having less than five (5) members at the time of the Grand Promenade shall not be entitled to any Voiture representation.**



The vote of every Voiture Locale represented by at least one ( 1 ) delegate or alternate shall be equal to the number of delegates to which the Voiture Locale is entitled. Any Grand Chef de Gare Passé or any incumbent elected officer named in Article IV, Section 2 of this Constitution shall be entitled to a seat and to a vote in any Grand Promenade when present in person and in good standing.

Any such officer shall be entitled to only one vote unless he/she is also an elected delegate or alternate.

*SECTION 10:*

The Legislative Body of the Grande Voiture assembled shall be known as the Grand Promenade. A quorum for the transaction of business at any Grand Promenade shall consist of a representative or representatives for a majority of the Voitures Locale in good standing.

*SECTION 11:*

At a regular or special Promenade, no form of entertainment or refreshments shall be indulged in before or during the Promenade which will tend to disrupt the orderly procedure, nor will any Voyageur Militaire be admitted while in a disorderly condition.

**ARTICLE V**

***DUTIES OF OFFICERS***

*SECTION 1:*

The Grand Chef de Gare shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Grand Voiture, and shall preside at the Grand Promenade and at the meeting of the Grand Cheminots. He/she shall appoint all standing committees of the Grand Voiture except as otherwise provided; and shall perform other such duties as usually falls within the province of the Chief Officer of a parliamentary or fraternal organization. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Grand Voiture.

*SECTION 2:*

The Grand Chef de Train( s ) shall act as the representative for the Grand Chef de Gare in all matters, and shall at the request of the Grand Chef de Gare preside over the Grand Promenade or meetings of the Grand Cheminots, , and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. The Grand Chef de Gare shall appoint a Grand Chef de Train to act as Grand Chef de Gare in his/her absence or in the event of inability to perform his/her duties. In the event of a vacancy in

the office of Grand Chef de Gare, the Grand Correspondant shall call a special session of the Grand Cheminots within twenty ( 20 ) days after the vacancy. The Grand Cheminots shall elect the officer to fill the un-expired term of the Grand Chef de Gare.

**SECTION 3:**

The Commissaire Intendant shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Grand Voiture and shall be charged with the custody of all its funds, except those specifically exempted from this custody by any notion (motion) approved at any Grand Promenade, and shall keep accurate records and accounts of all receipts and shall report thereon at each Grand Promenade. He/she shall pay all bills, audited, vouched, and approved by the Grand Chef de Gare with checks signed by himself as Commissaire Intendant. All funds of the Grand Voiture shall be deposited and carried in the name of the Grand Voiture du Georgia in such depositories as shall be approved by the Grand Promenade or Grand Cheminots. The Grand's accounts shall be audited by an internal Audit Committee consisting of three Voyageur Militaire appointed by the Incoming and Outgoing Grand Chefs de Gare at the end of each fraternal year. When there is a change in the office of Commissaire-Intendant, there shall be an audit by a qualified Public Accountant.

**SECTION 4:**

The Grand Correspondant shall be the secretary of the Grande Voiture, the Grand Promenade, and the Grand Cheminots, and shall keep a true and accurate record of all the proceedings; shall conduct their correspondence and shall keep a correct list of all Voiture Locales and their officers. The Grand Correspondant shall collect for permanent preservation matters of interest to La Société and be custodian of the Grand Voiture inactive records for safekeeping, and shall collect all funds and monies due to the Grande Voiture du Georgia and remit them to the Grand Commissaire Intendant. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Grand Chef de Gare.

**SECTION 5:**

The Grand Conducteur shall have charge of the initiation work of the Grand Promenade, and shall also assist all Voitures Locale to the end that all initiations shall be properly and uniformly conducted.

**SECTION 6:**

The Grand Garde de la Porte shall perform the duties of Sergeant-at-Arms at all Grand Promenades and Grand Cheminots.

**SECTION 7:**

The Grand Commis Voyageur shall receive and have the custody of all property of the Grand Voiture du Georgia, and shall keep a record of

same and store said properties in a safe place when not in use.

**SECTION 8:**

The Grand Aumonier shall maintain and have charge of the spiritual welfare of the Voyageurs Militaire of the Grand Voiture du Georgia, and shall lead all religious and memorial services.

**SECTION 9:**

The Grand Avocat shall have charge of and direct the legal interest of the Grand Voiture du Georgia and shall serve as a legal advisor to the Grand Chef de Gare in matters pertaining to the conduct of the Grand Voiture du Georgia. He/she shall interpret the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Voiture and determine upon the constitutionality of all Voiture Locales Constitutions, copies of which shall be furnished to the Avocat for permanent filing. Appeal from any decision of the Grand Avocat and sustained by the Avocat Nationale, shall be put into effect immediately upon receipt of such ruling.

**SECTION 10:**

The Cheminot Nationale, and in his/her absence or inability, the Alternate Cheminot Nationale, shall represent the Grand Voiture at all meetings of the Cheminot Nationaux.

**SECTION 11:**

Between Grand Promenades, the administrative power not otherwise provided herein, shall be vested in the Grand Cheminots.

**SECTION 12:**

Duties of other officers not herein enumerated shall be prescribed by the Grand Cheminots.

**ARTICLE VI**

***VOITURES LOCALE***

**SECTION 1:**

Five (5) or more honorably discharged or active U.S. military persons who are eligible for membership in La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, may providing there is no Voiture Locale in the county where they reside, may make application to Voiture Nationale for a charter as a Voiture Locale in said county. Membership must be increased to at least ten (10) members by the end of the first year and remain thereat or higher in subsequent years.

**The Grand Voiture shall have power to issue a dispensation for the organization of a Voiture Locale until such time as the charter shall have been issued.**

**Provided further, that two (2) or more counties may be consolidated into one Voiture District with the approval of the Grand Cheminots. An application for a charter will be processed as provided by Constitution Nationale.**

***SECTION 2:***

**Voitures Locale Charters may be revoked or suspended as provided by Constitution Nationale upon recommendation of the Grand Chef de Gare.**

***SECTION 3:***

**The officers of the Voiture Locale shall be as follows:**

<b>Chef de Gare</b>	<b>Correspondant</b>	<b>Medicin</b>
<b>Chef de Train</b>	<b>Garde de la Porte</b>	<b>Avocat</b>
<b>Conducteur</b>	<b>Lampiste</b>	<b>Three Cheminots</b>
<b>Commissaire</b>	<b>Commis Voyageur</b>	
<b>Intendant</b>		

**And such other officers, not inconsistent herewith, as any Voiture Locale may determine, which other officers however, shall have duties and standing only within the jurisdiction of the Voiture Locale by whom appointed or elected.**

***SECTION 4:***

**There shall be a Cheminot Locale consisting of:**

<b>Chef de Gare</b>	<b>Correspondant</b>
<b>Chef de Train</b>	<b>Avocat</b>
<b>Commissaire Intendant</b>	<b>Not less than 3 Members at Large</b>

***SECTION 5:***

**Each Voiture Locale of La Société shall be the judge of its own membership, subject only to the restrictions of the Constitution and by-laws of the Grand Voiture and Voiture Nationale.**

***SECTION 6:***

**Members of La Société, when charged with conduct unbecoming a member of La Société, securing membership through misrepresentation, or with actions amicable to the best interest of La Société, shall be disciplined as prescribed, and in accordance with,**

provisions of the National Constitution of La Société.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### ***FINANCE***

#### ***SECTION 1:***

The revenue of the Grand Voiture du Georgia shall be derived as follows:

( 1 ) from a Grand Voiture per capita tax in the sum not to exceed four and one half dollars. ( 2 ) from a five dollar charter fee for new Voitures Locale (in addition to the National Charter fee); and ( 3 ) from such other dues, assessments, and other levies as the Grande Promenade may determine. The per capita tax shall be due and payable yearly in advance at the same time set for payment of dues to Voiture Nationale. The Charter fee must be made at the same time as required for payment of charter fee to Voiture Nationale.

#### ***SECTION 2:***

Voitures Locale under the jurisdiction of the Grand Voiture du Georgia shall secure revenue from annual dues, to be determined by the Voiture Locale, per member per annum for renewals of membership and from initiation fees, the amount to be fixed by each Voiture Locale, which shall include the current years dues in advance, and of the sum so collected the Voiture Locale shall remit the dues and tax for each member to Voiture National in the amount set forth in the Constitution of Voiture Nationale and the Grand Voiture du Georgia.

#### ***SECTION 3:***

The amount of annual dues and initiation fees shall be fixed by each Voiture Locale. Other revenues may be secured by Voitures Locale in a manner determined by each Voiture Locale.

#### ***SECTION 4:***

Commissaires Intendant, both of the Grand Voiture and of the Voitures Locale, shall be bonded with a solvent company, as surety, in an amount equivalent to double the average sums handled by either of them within a single fiscal year.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### ***AMENDMENTS***

#### ***SECTION 1:***

**This Constitution may be amended by any Grand Promenade by two-thirds vote of the total authorized representation thereat, provided, that the proposed amendment shall be presented in writing at the first business session of the Grand Promenade, except that all amendments presented by the Committee on Constitution shall be considered.**

***SECTION 2:***

**It shall be mandatory for Voitures Locale to concur and amend their Constitution and By-Laws to conform herewith by the adoption of all changes and amendments to this Constitution and By-Laws following a Grand Promenade.**

**ARTICLE IX**

***CONFORMANCE***

***SECTION 1:***

**The Grand Voiture du Georgia shall be bound by all the provisions of the Constitution of Voiture Nationale and this Constitution shall be construed in harmony with the National Constitution.**

**ARTICLE X**

***RULES***

***SECTION 1:***

**The rules of procedure at the Grand Promenade shall be those set forth in Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, when not in conflict with this Constitution.**

**ARTICLE XI**

***REPEALING CLAUSE***

***SECTION 1:***

**By adoption of this Constitution all previous Constitutions are revoked and annulled.**

**Revised and ratified to include any and all actions of the Grand Promenade held at Voiture Locale 280, Columbus, Georgia on 13 June, 2009, as well as any and all actions of the Grand Petite Cheminot held at Voiture Locale 499 on 2 August, 2009.**

