

Business, Reports and Correspondence.

Grand du Georgia Grand Promenade, Columbus, GA 21 June 2025

Grand Correspondant; membership, announcements & correspondence;

Grand membership reported at 273 paid Voyageurs and at 87.22% in 38th place nationally needing 40 more paid members to achieve 100%.

Received letter from Voiture Locale 1631 to surrender their Charter.

Received resolution from Vgr. John Aprill to be a candidate for the high and honored office of Grand Chef de Gare du Georgia 2025 – 2026.

It was announced that the Grand du Georgia has committed to host the Southland's Dixie Promenade in 2027.

Roll Call of Voiture Locales present;

There were 7 Voiture Locales present, V-217, V280, V-567, V-719, V-909, V-1145, and V-1317, constituting a quorum.

Roll Call of Grand Officers present;

All Grand Officers were present with one excused.

Introduce any Nationale Officers or guests present;

There were no guest. Nationale Officers present were Cheminot Nationale and Sous Nationale POW/MIA Directeur Lew Payne, and Sous Nationale Membership Directeur Tom Reesman.

Reading of minutes – last Grand Promenade or Cheminot;

A notion was offered to dispense of reading the Mid-Winter minutes as they were previously distributed by email to all Voiture Locales. Seconded and voted in the affirmative to do so.

Nominations for membership;

None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE DIRECTEURS & OFFICERS

Grand Commissaire Intendant; Finance Report.

Checking account has a balance of \$15,486.44, Morgan Stanley investment account has a balance of \$26,866.55. All bank statements were furnished and were in proper order, they are included with these minutes. Commissaire Intendant Nicholson announced he would be retiring after this year (2026) and would be moving the Morgan Stanley account to Regions Bank. Finance report is subject to audit upon request. Report approved and accepted by the membership.

Report of Voyageurs in Sickness or Distress:

Vgr. Jerry Garrett of V-909 is suffering from Parkinson's Disease and is serious condition. It was requested that the Grand Aumonier sent a card on behalf of the Grand.

Box Car Committee;

Written report submitted by V-567 & V-1317. No other reports were submitted.

Nurses Training Committee;

Written report submitted by V-567 & V-1317. No other reports. Vgr John Aprill suggested that the Grand draft a resolution to Voiture Nationale requesting an increase in The Boland Trust allowances. This would have to be completed, approve by the Grand at Grand Promenade 2026 and sent to Voiture Nationale for consideration commencing in the 2026 membership year. Notion made, properly seconded and voted in the affirmative to do so.

Child Welfare Committee;

Written report submitted by V-567 & V-1317. No other reports

Youth Sports Committee;

No reports

Carville Star Committee;

No reports

POW/MIA Committee;

Written report submitted by V-567 & V-1317. No other reports

VAVS Committee;

No Reports

Americanism Committee;

V-909 will submit a report on funerals officiated as Honor Guard and other military honors ASAP. Written reports submitted by V-567 & V1317. No other reports.

Special Awards Committees;

Grand du Georgia Voyageur of the Year nomination was Mike Wood of V-280, no other nominations were offered. Nomination was seconded and approved by unanimous vote to approve.

Grand Chefs de Train; (membership)

100% membership was achieved by 6 Voiture Locales for the 2025 membership year, V-280, V-567, V-1226, V-1229, V-1317 and V-1631. Congratulations and membership award pins were presented to the Locale Chef de Gare and Correspondant.

Any other reports;

A Grand donation of \$1000 to the Grand Cabane made by V-1631 as a memorial recognition to Vgr. Michael Paul to assist in any means with the expense incurred by his passing. It is to be presented to Dame Barbara Paul (widow) at the Grande Rendezvous.

Elections or Nominations;

Grand Officers Election 2025 – 2026

Grand Chef de Gare;	John Aprill V-280
Grand Chef de Train (East);	Bob Pollard V-719
Grand Chef de Train (West);	Bob Wilkes V-280
Grand Conducteur;	Hiram Hayes V-217
Grand Garde de la Porte;	Glenn Sparks V-280
Grand Commiss Voyageur;	Jim Hall V-280

Appointments

Grand Correspondant;	Walter Nesbitt V-280
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Grand Aumonier;
Grand Avocat;
Cheminot Nationale

Keith Richardson V-280
Mike Wood V-280
Jay Beasley V-567

All positions were unopposed and were elected or appointed by acclamation and affirmative vote of the membership without challenge.

All officers were properly installed and given the oath(s) of office by Grand Avocat Mike Wood.

Delegates Elected for the 106th Promenade Nationale 2025

Grand Delegate;	Lloyd Boswell V-280
Grand Delegate;	Glenn Sparks V-280
Grand Alternate Delegate;	John Aprill V-280
Voiture Locale 719 Delegate;	Bob Pollard V-719
Voiture Locale 1317 Delegate;	Tom Reesman V-1317
Voiture Locale 909 Delegate;	Henry Allward V-909
Voiture Locale 1145 Delegate;	Jimmy Coody V-1145
Chef de Chemin de Fer 2015 Delegate;	Mike Wood V-280

Grand du Georgia Delegate list sent to Voiture Nationale on 23 June 2025 by Grand Correspondant Passe Mike Wood.

Unfinished Business

1. List of the 2025 – 2026 Grand du Georgia was sent to Terri Taylor at Voiture Nationale on 23 June 2025 by the Grand Correspondant Passe Mike Wood.
2. Discussion to eliminate the Fall Grand Cheminot and continue with the Grand Mid-Winter Cheminot and Grand Chefs Homecoming in Jan or Feb of each year and maintain the Grand Promenade in June of each year. Both events would be a two (2) day event (weekend) and include hospitality room and banquet. The Mid-Winter location would be at the discretion of the current Grand Chef due to his/her Homecoming. Exact dates and time will still be determined by the Grand Time and Place Committee. A notion was offered from the floor to adopt this change, duly seconded with no dissenting discussion and an affirmative vote was taken. This format takes effect immediately.

New Business;

A notion was offered to reimburse the Dames for material, food and time to prepare to supply the Hospitality Room. Second to approve was offered. All discussion was in the agreement that this should have been done before now. Membership vote on the notion was unanimously approved. The Grand Commissaire Intendant will collect the receipts from the Dames and issue a reimbursement check to the Grand Cabane for disbursement to the Dames.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE GRAND

Recognize Voyageurs who wish to speak;

Grand Correspondant Mike Wood brought up the fact that with the passing of Vgr. Michael Paul, the Past Grand Chefs Club did not have a President since Michael had served in that position for the last several years. We need to fill that position to administrate the club, collect dues and issue updated membership cards. He then asked if there were any nominations from the floor for a candidate to serve a President of the Past Grand Chefs Club. Past Grand Chef Tom Reesman nominated Past Grand Chef Lloyd Boswell, the nomination was duly seconded. Discussion was made that Vgr. Boswell would be a good candidate since he had assisted Michael for many years. There was no dissenting discussion from the floor and the Past Grand Chefs were on the floor for the vote. The Grand Correspondant asked three (3) times if there were any other nominations and there were none. So by acclamation, Vgr. Boswell being the only candidate nominated the membership voted unanimously to elect him as President of the Past Grand Chefs Club.

Fine period;

Grand Chef Beasley levied a \$5.00 fine for all Voyageurs that were over 56 years old. The Grand Garde de la Porte was ordered to collect those said fines. Just as a sidebar, oddly enough the Grand Chef is 55 years old, (who would have thunk it).

Location and Date for next Grand Promenade/Cheminot;

TBA as soon as possible.

Recognize and Thank the Host Voiture Locale;

Many thanks to the Voyageurs and Dames of Voiture and Cabane 280, Columbus, GA for an outstanding job hosting the Grand Promenade.

Time of Adjournment; 12:05 PM

Date 21 June 2025

Location; Columbus, GA

Total Attendance; 31

Guest; None