

GRANDES CHEMINOTS MEETING February 21, 2010
American Legion Post 519 Palm Springs CA

The Grandes Cheminots Meeting was called to order at 9:00AM at the Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara CA by Grand Chef de Gare William J Reed. Colors were advanced by the Grand Color Guard from San Mateo Voiture 393. POW Empty Chair was draped by Grand Chef de Train Ronald A Galvan. Grand Aumonier South Daniel Crow draped the Altar Cloth and offered the opening prayer. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Grand Conducteur Peter L Duncan

Roll Call of officers by Grand Correspondant Joseph R Donovan

Grand Chef de Gare William J Reed	Grand Cheminot District 1 Gary M Wright
Grand Chef de Train Ronald A Galvan	Grand Cheminot District 2 Larry Leonardo
Grand Conducteur Peter L Duncan	Grand Cheminot District 3 Ralph F Bivings
Grand Commissaire Intendant Daniel Dumas	Grand Cheminot District 4 Sous Jim Carpenter
Grand Chef de Gare Passe Carl E Asher Jr	Grand Cheminot District 5 ABSENT Carl Asher SI
Grand Avocat Robert S Mattson	Grand Cheminot District 6 Dennis J Alexander
Grand Aumonier South Daniel Crow	Grand Aumonier North Joshua L Laws Sr EXCUSED
Grand Garde de la Porte Ralph H Duncan	
Grand Aide de Camp 1 William "Bill" Murphy	Grand Aide de Camp 2 Larry Turley
Grand Aide de Camp 3 Richard Kerns	Grand Aide de Camp 4 John B Bartos
Grand Aide de Camp 5 Woodrow L Bacca	Grand Aide de Camp 6

A Quorum was declared present

Grand Directeur VP South Walter J "Sonny" Quinn introduced Chef de Chemin de Fer Jerry Brady, Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Bernard Foley, Cheminot National Court Bradbury, our National appointments: Sous Avocat Wayne Schwartz, Sous Directeur Carville Star Gordon Foley, Sous Directeur Special Awards Carl Asher, Sous Directeur Youth Sports Bob Mattson, and the Past Grand Chef's present Joe Paynter, Sonny Quinn, Bernie Foley, Bob Mattson, Carl Asher, Court Bradbury and Honorary Barney LaRue.

The Minutes of the Grandes Cheminots Meeting held October 11, 2009 were accepted as corrected.

Grand Chef William Reed announced the following appointments: Grand Aumonier North Wayne Schwartz V-31 and the Resolutions Committee Bob Mattson Chairman, Wayne Schwartz and Bernie Foley. Motion to accept the appointments by Carl Asher, 2nd Jim Carpenter, CARRIED

Correspondant Joe Donovan read the Correspondence:

1. Letter of resignation from Grand Aumonier North Joshua L Laws Sr due to health reasons
2. Great Western States Promenade will be April 23 & 24, 2010 Klamath Falls OR
3. Minutes from last Great Western held in Kanai AK
4. Central States Promenade April 29 – May 2, 2010 Irving TX
5. Letter from Voiture National appointing Gordon Foley Sour Directeur Carville Star
6. Letter from Voiture National appointing Paul Terry Sous Directeur Public Relations
7. Candidates running for Chef de Chemin de Fer: Joe Ser III from Grande du VA and Hank Kwiatkowski from Grand du LA

GRAND OFFICERS REPORTS

GRAND CHEF de GARE William Reed has travelled 2850 miles, expended 360 hours on behalf of the Grand, and spent over \$3000 since the last Grand Cheminot. 10 Visitations to Legion and Voitures Locale.

GRAND CHEF de TRAIN Ronald A Galvan travelled 4000 miles, 192 hours, 3 visitations, and participated in 42 funerals for veterans

GRAND CONDUCTEUR Peter Duncan travelled 1725 miles, spent 250 hours, and made 3 visitations. Grande raffle tickets for GPS systems are available for \$1ea or \$6 for 5. He has plenty, please support!

GRAND CHEMINOT DISTRICT 1 Gary Wright: 4 of 6 Voitures reporting; 4 Audits; 111 members; 3721 hours, 7476 miles, donations \$39,485 for per cap of \$355.72. 4 Audits are in. He has been unable to make any progress with recruiting or reinstating any members from former Voiture 799.

GRAND CHEMINOT DISTRICT 2 Larry Leonardo: 4 of 5 Voitures reporting; 4 Audits; 203 Members, 15,820 hours, 71,443 miles, \$122,723 donations for per cap of \$604.55. 20 Nurses are in training, and 600 hours were spent on VAVS

GRAND CHEMINOT DISTRICT 3 Ralph Bivings: 5 of 6 Voitures reporting. 5 Audits, 164 members, 14,640 hours, 60,000 miles, \$56,920 donations, per cap \$347.07.

SOUS GRAND CHEMINOT DISTRICT 4 James Carpenter` 1 of 8 Voitures reporting; 1 Audit. 199 members.

GRAND CHEMINOT DISTRICT 5 PGC Carl Asher Standing Inn, 4 of 8 Voitures reporting; Audits UNK?, 367 members, 5762 hours, 6085 miles, \$102,298 donations, per cap \$421.00

GRAND CHEMINOT DISTRICT 6 Dennis Alexander 5 of 5 Voitures reporting; 3 Audits. 164 members, 4203 hours, 13,547 miles, \$27,788 donations, \$69.44 per cap.

GRAND PUBLICISTE Paul Terry reported the editor of the Legionnaire David Eby has been instrumental in working to promote the 40 and 8 within California. Pressing personal obligations prevented him from attending today. A framed Certificate of Appreciation signed by Grand Chef Bill was presented to Paul for subsequent presentation to Sous Publiciste David Eby. Paul emphasized the Legionnaie is trying to get e-mail addresses in order to save postage dollars. NOTE from Grand Correspondant: Voiture Nationale is trying also to get e-mails. Please forward Locale information to Joe ASAP!

GRAND DIRECTEURS REPORTS:

AMERICANISM Sous Ken Newman: 2010 Pins are available now. Locales are requested to pick them up and sell them! Reports are due to Grand Directeur Robert Brown July 1.

CARVILLE STAR Gordie Foley: Buy subscriptions to Star \$2ea (for your MD or Clinic) and participate in the Buy a Country Program.

CHILD WELFARE Gene Fanucchi: Pins are available One application was received from V-1406 for \$400.00 for shoes & socks for Boys & Girls Club. Approved in Committee. Motion to approve, 2nd Dennis Alexander, CARRIED

LOCO & BOX CAR Sous Victor Kestner: 23 of 38 Locales have taken CA pins that help our own insurance, 13 Locales have taken NBCA Crew Cards for National. 1 Voiture has not paid their Insurance Bills of \$600. The policy expired Nov 1. New Rules for Operation of CA Loco's were discussed with a

motion to approve by Ron Galvan, 2nd Carl Asher, CARRIED. The New Rules will be sent to applicable Locales.

MEMBERSHIP GRAND CHEF de TRAIN Ron Galvan passed out 100% pins to this year's accomplished Locales. Certificates were presented to Voitures 109, 393, 395, 566, 621, 653, 736, 858, 1119, 1179, 1341, 1450, , and 1504 for 100% or over for 2010. PLEASE, don't hold membership, get them transmitted.

POW/MIA Stanley Fimowicz No new pins are available as yet.

PUBLIC RELATIONS Richard Edgecomb: Attending Legion State Oratorical Contest in Modesto..

RITUAL Jerry Wilcox: Reports are due July 1. A reporting form will be sent to each Locale.

SPECIAL AWARDS Carl Asher: A mailing detailing the program has been sent to each Locale. Nominations and Reports are due May 1 to Sous Directeurs District 1 & 2 – Dennis Foggi, District 4 & 6 Tony Mejias, District 4 & 5 Phil Petek.

VAVS Barney LaRue: A new Deputy has been assigned to Yountville Veterans Home. He is awaiting approval from National. We still need more help at other VA and Veterans Homes in CA. Remember, more CA Veterans Homes are coming on line and need 40 & 8 representation.

VOITURE ACTIVITIES: James Hadley: National Policy states “Any activity where you are involved in a social setting within other veterans is now an activity you can report.” Reports are due July 1.

YOUTH SPORTS Don MacDonell: Mouse pads are reduced to \$6.00, 4 Locals owe \$.

WAYS & MEANS Peter Duncan: 2 GPS Navigation Systems are to be raffled. One winner and the seller both will receive the system. Tickets \$1ea or 6 for \$5. More are available. Sous Cheminots are still tasked to raise \$100 per Locale.

FINANCE COMMITTEE Bob Mattson The General Fund is being depleted and will only last a few more years. We must increase membership.

GRAND COMMISSAIRE INTENDANT Dan Dumas read the fund balances as of January 30. Motion to approve, 2nd Dennis Alexander, CARRIED

INSURANCE COMMITTEE Joe Donovan: Each Locale is responsible for purchasing their own Fidelity Bond Insurance. The \$5,000.00 Policy is only \$100.00 per year. Rather than raising per-capita (which will harm membership) the Past Grand Chef's recommended continuing the \$2.00 per member assessment on each Locale to cover the Grand Liability and Fidelity Bond Premiums.

TIME & PLACE Joe Paynter: Sonny Quinn reported the 2010 Promenade at Double Tree in Monrovia. Rooms \$110. plus tax, includes breakfast and parking, banquet \$35. Reservation cut-off for both is June 15 to Sonny. A 2011 Proposal from the Holiday Inn Ontario June 20-22 Rates \$92 plus tax, free parking, banquet \$35.00, menu later. Motion to approve Ontario, 2nd Dennis Alexander, CARRIED. NOTE the DATES, we are back with the Department Legion Convention!

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS - AVOCAT Robert Mattson: The Grande Constitution & By-Laws are available on our Web Site. One copy is available for each Locale from the Grand Correspondant; Booklets

for Grande and National Constitutions are available from Joe for \$3.00ea. The Constitution of V-1406 has been submitted to the National Avocat for approval. Once approved, a template for ALL Locales will be posted on the Web Site, and ALL Voitures will need to update their Constitutions.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE Bob Mattson presented the Bread & Butter Resolutions to Chef Steve Villegas and Voyageur Will Carney of Voiture 365 with our thanks and appreciation. Another Certificate was presented to them for the Biltmore Hotel. A Resolution was presented and returned to the maker for not being in the proper format.

TROPHY's Wayne Schwartz has not submitted a claim for Windex yet. He and Ralph Bivings reported work is progressing on a cover for our Merci Box Car. Request anyone holding Grande Trophy's to bring them to Fresno (at the Department Convention) and he will see they are properly displayed in the Case.

CHEF de CHEMIN de FER Jerry Brady thanked everyone for their hospitality this weekend. He emphasized that we cannot survive if we don't ASK prospective members to JOIN us. He thoroughly appreciated the Jeff Gordon gifts, although he did recognize that we in California are mostly Jimmie Johnson fans.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Citation of appreciation was presented by Past Grand Chef Carl E Asher Jr to Past grand Chef/Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Bernie Foley for his efforts in fund-raising for a cover for the Merci Box Car.

From Peter Duncan: Participate in the Grand Ways & Means raffle. SELL Tickets, BUY Tickets!!

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD of the GRAND VOITURE

1. Active Wreck by Grand Wrecking Crew South at Perris Post 149 Sat May 15, 2010 11:00am. Goofs at 10:00am
2. Active Wreck by Grand Wrecking Crew North at San Leandro Veterans Memorial Bldg Sat Mar 27, 2010 Goofs at 10:00am.

CORRESPONDANT Joe Donovan ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1 Grand Directeurs are requested to report their PROGRAMS, not their individual hours and travel.
- 2 Grand Cheminots are responsible for ensuring their respective Locales submit their reports ie Consolidated Reports, Audits, etc, and reporting the summation and written summation to the Grand Correspondant. You have been elected for this important job by your peers! If you don't get them, CALL the Correspondant, Chef or anybody else, but get them!
- 3 Envelopes & stationary are available for Grand Officers following the meeting.

Memorial Service by Grand Aumoniers Daniel Crow and Wayne Schwartz. 22 Voyageurs were reported as being Transferred to Voiture Everlasting since the October Cheminot, 35 YTD

There being no further business, the Grandes Cheminots Meeting was adjourned at 11:10.

Joseph R Donovan
Grand Correspondant