

***CONSTITUTION OF
LA GRANDE VOITURE DU TEXAS***



***LA SOCIETE DES
QUARANTE HOMMES ET HUIT CHEVAUX***

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PREAMBLE

"For God and country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To create a charitable and non-profit veterans 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 have served or are now serving in the Armed Forces of the United States and their widows, widowers and orphans; to participate in all memorial services for and to 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 Service 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 – NAME

Section 1. NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION. The name of this organization shall be "La Grande Voiture du Texas, La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux." All usages of the word "him or he" in the Constitution of this organization shall be inferred to mean "him or her."

ARTICLE II – NATURE AND OBJECTS

Section 1. NATURE OF ORGANIZATION. La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux is a civilian organization without rank of distinction between its members and is nonpolitical.

Section 2. OBJECTS OF ORGANIZATION. The objects of La Grande Voiture du Texas are:

- (a) To honor, through membership, those honorably discharged and currently serving US military personnel who have proved themselves worthy of such honor.
- (b) Through mutual helpfulness to bind ourselves in close ties afforded by our common services in the Armed Forces of our country.

ARTICLE III – ORGANIZATION

Section 1. ORGANIZATION. La Grande Voiture du Texas, La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, shall be organized into:

- (a) A Grande Voiture. Four divisions with such boundaries, for convenience, as shall be determined from the geographical boundaries of the divisions of The American Legion, Department of Texas.
- (b) Voitures Locale.

Section 2. GRANDE VOITURE HEADQUARTERS. The official headquarters of this Grande Voiture shall be located in the same city where the Grande Chef de Gare maintains his permanent address or in the same city where the Grand Correspondant maintains his permanent address. At the first Grande Cheminot, the Grande Chef de Gare shall submit his recommendation and have the official headquarters designated and recorded in the minutes of the Cheminot.

Section 3. SEAL. The seal of La Grande Voiture du Texas, La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux shall be in such form as the Grande Cheminot may from time to time direct and will be kept by the Grand Correspondant.

Section 4. APPROVAL OF LOCALE CONSTITUTIONS. The constitutions of all Voitures Locale in the Grande Voiture and amendments and alterations thereof are not binding and are without effect unless and until same have been approved in writing by the Avocat Nationale, filed by him with the Correspondant Nationale, and notice of their approval given by the Correspondant Nationale. All constitutions and amendments and alterations thereof shall be certified by the Correspondant of the Voiture Locale, as provided by Article XI, Section 4, of this constitution.

ARTICLE IV – ELIGIBILITY

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 V – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. HONORARY MEMBERS FORBIDDEN. There is but one form of membership in La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, namely, active membership; the election of honorary members is forbidden.

Section 2. MEMBERSHIP IN ONE VOITURE ONLY. No member may belong to more than one Voiture Locale nor change his membership from one Voiture Locale to another except as provided in this constitution.

Section 3. LIMITATION OF MEMBERS FORBIDDEN. There shall be no form or class of membership except active membership, as hereinafter provided, and there shall be no numerical limitation of membership.

Section 4. VOITURE JUDGE OF QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS. Subject to the provisions of this constitution, each Voiture Locale shall be the judge of the qualifications of its own members and of nominees for membership. An active duty or honorably discharged U.S. military person nominated for membership in La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux who meets all of the qualifications as set forth in Section 6, NOMINATION FOR MEMBERSHIP, shall be elected at a regular or special promenade called for that purpose, upon an affirmative vote of at least a simple majority of those members present and voting.

Section 5. WAIVER OF JURISDICTION. Upon the written request of any Voiture Locale to a Voiture Locale having jurisdiction over a person eligible for membership, the latter may waive jurisdiction of the eligible person and, if it does, the former Voiture Locale may, within six (6) months of

the date of the granting of the waiver, but not afterwards unless further request be made and granted, initiate and he shall become a member of the Voiture Locale into which he is initiated.

Section 6. **NOMINATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.** Membership may be granted by invitation only to any eligible person upon the nomination by a Voyageur Militaire and executed on the form furnished by the Voiture Nationale showing:

- (a) That his character and reputation are good and that he has rendered the service aforesaid, which must be shown by an endorsement to that effect bearing the signature of two or more members of the Voiture Locale to which the petition is addressed.
- (b) That he has or has not been previously rejected for membership, and if he has, the date of rejection and the number and location of the Voiture Locale by which he was rejected.
- (c) That if he was formerly a member of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, the number and location of the Voiture Locale to which he belonged, and the reason for his withdrawal.
- (d) That, if he withdrew from membership under Section 11 of this Article, the certificate required by said section be attached to his petition.

Section 7. **REMOVAL OF RESIDENCE.** Any member who removes his residence to the territorial jurisdiction of a Voiture Locale other than that of which he is a member shall be entitled, upon request, to a certification from the Voiture Locale of which he is a member, which must be furnished him within 30 days from the date of his request, setting forth his membership therein and the duration thereof and, upon presentation thereof within two (2) years to the Voiture Locale in whose territorial jurisdiction he then resides and has continued the payment of his dues in La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, may be admitted into membership in such Voiture Locale under such terms as may be prescribed by such Voiture Locale.

Section 8. **TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP WITHIN JURISDICTION.** In any territorial jurisdiction in which there are, or may hereinafter be, two or more Voitures Locale, a member desiring to transfer his membership from one to another of said Voitures shall be entitled, upon request, to a certification of the Voiture Locale of which he is a member, which must be furnished him within thirty (30) days from the date of his request, setting forth his membership therein and the duration thereof and, upon presentation thereof within one (1) year to the Voiture Locale in said jurisdiction in which he desires membership and has continued the payment of his dues in La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, may be admitted into membership in the Voiture Locale in which he desires membership upon such terms as said Voiture Locale may prescribe.

Section 9. **SURRENDER OF MEMBERSHIP.** A member of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux in good standing shall be entitled, upon request and upon surrender of his membership card, to withdraw from membership and shall be entitled to a certification to be issued by the Correspondant of the Voiture Locale of which he is a member setting forth the duration of his membership and that he has honorably withdrawn, and from and after such surrender and the receipt of such certification he shall no longer be a member of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux and shall not be readmitted to membership except upon petition in accordance with Section 7 of this article.

Section 10. SUBSEQUENT PETITION OF REJECTEE. A Voiture Locale may not entertain the petition for membership of any person found ineligible for membership by an investigating committee or any person rejected by it or by any other Voiture Locale until the expiration of six (6) months from the date of rejection.

Section 11. PROCEDURE WHERE PETITIONER FORMERLY REJECTED OR FORMER MEMBERS. Whenever it shall appear from the petition of a person desiring membership, or from other information, that a petitioner has been previously rejected for membership, has been expelled or has withdrawn from membership in some Voiture Locale other than the one petitioned, his petition shall not be acted upon until the receipt of a written statement from the Voiture Locale which rejected or expelled him or from which he withdrew, as to his character and reputation and such statement shall be read in open Promenade Locale before his petition is acted upon, provided, if such statement be not received within sixty (60) days from the date of request therefor, or if the Voiture Locale from which the statement is sought is no longer in existence, the petition may be acted upon without such statement.

Section 12. DUES.

- (a) Dues shall be payable to Voiture Nationale in advance of December 31 of each year and payment thereof constitutes the payer a member in good standing until the end of the following calendar year. Dues paid prior to August 1 of any year on account of new members shall be considered as for the current year and those paid on or after August 1 of any year on account of new members shall be considered for the ensuing year.
- (b) Dues for Grand Officers, Grand Directeurs and Grand Cheminot members shall be payable for the term of years for which they are elected or appointed before the Fall Cheminot convenes.

Section 13. PENALTIES FOR NONPAYMENT OF DUES. Any member who fails to pay his dues for the current year on or before December 31 shall not be permitted to attend any Promenade until such dues have been paid; any member who shall be in arrears one (1) year in the payment of his dues shall stand suspended and notice to that effect shall be given to him by the Correspondant of his Voiture Locale, addressed to his last known place of residence, and if he shall fail within 1 month from the date of the mailing of said notice to pay the arrears, and such reinstatement fees as may be required by the Grand Voiture or Voiture Locale, he shall stand expelled and may not be readmitted except upon petition in accordance with Section 6 of this article.

Section 14. EXPULSION FOR TWO YEARS DELINQUENCY. Any member who fails for two (2) years to pay his dues shall, as of December 31 of the second year and without requirement of the notice provided for in Section 13 of this article, stand expelled and may not be readmitted to membership except upon nomination and petition in accordance with Section 6 of this article.

Section 15. MEMBERSHIP CARDS. Each member shall be entitled to a membership card, to be issued annually, and to be in such form as the Cheminot Nationale shall from time to time prescribe, provided no membership card shall be issued to a new member except upon full payment of his dues and the exhibition of satisfactory evidence that he has paid his dues of the then calendar year in The American Legion.

Section 16. INITIATES AT PROMENADE GRANDES. No person may be initiated into La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux at any Grande Promenade unless there be on file with the Grand Correspondant a certificate of the Voiture Locale of which he is to become a member, signed by the Chef de Gare and Correspondant thereof, setting forth that such person is eligible to membership in La Societe

des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux and has been duly elected to become a member by and of such Voiture Locale.

ARTICLE VI – GRANDE PROMENADES

Section 1. **GRANDE PROMENADE IS LEGISLATIVE BODY.** The legislative body of the Grande Voiture shall be the Grande Promenade which is to be held annually at such time and place as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the Grande Cheminot.

Section 2. **DELEGATE STRENGTH.** In the Grande Promenade each Voiture Locale shall be entitled to three (3) delegates and three (3) alternates for the first ten (10) members, and one (1) additional delegate and one (1) additional alternate for each fifteen (15) members or major fraction thereof and such membership shall be calculated as of the date which is thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the Grande Promenade.

Section 3. **DELEGATES FROM NEW VOITURES.** Upon the favorable vote of the Grande Promenade, Voitures Locale organized less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the Grande Promenade may be accorded full or partial delegate representation.

Section 4. **GRAND CHEF DE GARE PASSE DELEGATES.** Each Grand Chef de Gare Passe, who is a member in good standing of a Voiture Locale, shall be a delegate to the Grande Promenade with one (1) vote to be exercised only when personally present on the floor at the time a vote is taken.

Section 5. **REPRESENTATION DENIED INDEBTED VOITURES.** No delegates from any Voiture Locale shall be seated unless all current indebtedness and dues from said Voiture Locale to Voiture Nationale or the Grande Voiture shall have been received by the Correspondant Nationale, the Grand Commissaire Intendant or any Nationale or Grand Directeur as appropriate prior to the convening of the Grande Promenade.

Section 6. **VOTING STRENGTH OF VOITURES LOCALE.** Voitures Locale shall have the number of votes in the Grande Promenade equal to the number of delegates to which they are severally entitled, provided that at least one (1) of the certified delegates must be duly registered and such registered delegate or delegates may vote the entire certified delegate strength.

Section 7. **CREDENTIALS.** Forms of credentials for delegates will be supplied by the Grande Voiture to the Voiture Locale and will be filed and exhibited as required by the rules of the Grande Promenade.

Section 8. **QUORUM.** A quorum of the Grande Promenade shall consist of seven (7) Voitures Locale represented in whole or in part by duly certified delegates on the floor.

Section 9. **RULES OF THE PROMENADE.** Rules for the Grande Promenade will be formulated by the Rules Committee and presented to the delegates at the opening of the Grande Promenade. In all cases not covered by the Rules of the Grande Promenade, Roberts Revised Rules of Order shall govern.

ARTICLE VII – GRANDE VOITURE OFFICERS

Section 1. GRANDE VOITURE OFFICERS ELECTED. The following officers and such others as the Grande Promenade may determine will be elected at the Grande Promenade by a majority vote of the total authorized representation thereat:

- One Grand Chef de Gare
- One Grand Chef de Train
- One Grand Commissaire Intendant
- One Grand Conducteur
- One Grand Commis Voyageur
- One Grand Garde de la Port
- One Sous Grand Garde de la Porte
- One Grand Historien
- One Grand Avocat
- One Grand Aumonier
- One Grand Lampiste
- One Grand Drapeaux
- One Sous Grand Drapeaux
- One Grand Medicin

Election of these officers will be in reverse order as listed in this section.

Each division shall hold a preliminary election at the Grande Promenade, before the Grande Promenade initially convenes, for the purpose of narrowing down candidates for the office of Sous Grand Chef de Train to one final candidate for each division. This candidate will be appointed by the Grand Chef de Gare to serve as a Sous Chef de Train for that Division.

Section 2. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF GRANDE OFFICERS. The nomination and election of Grande officers shall take place as the last order of business of the Grande Promenade. All nominations will be made from the floor, and NO Voyageur will be nominated or elected, unless he is present at the Grande Promenade. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect; in case no candidate secures a majority of the votes cast for all, based upon the first ballot, then the two candidates who have received the highest number of votes shall again be balloted upon. The newly elected officers will be installed and assume their duties prior to adjournment.

Section 3. TERM OF OFFICE. Each of the Grande Voiture officers shall hold office for the term of 1 year or until his successor has been chosen and qualified. No officer, except as is specifically permitted by this Constitution, shall receive any compensation for his services.

Section 4. ELIGIBLE FOR RE-ELECTION. All Grande Officers, except the Grand Correspondant, Grand Commissaire Intendant, Grand Avocat and Grand Historien, shall be ineligible for election to office to succeed themselves; however, the Grand Chef de Gare shall only be allowed to succeed himself for one (1) year, such that his total consecutive tenure of office shall not exceed two (2) years.

Section 5. VACANCIES IN OFFICE. A vacancy occurring in an elective or appointive office between Grande Promenades, other than Grand Chef de Gare, shall be filled by the Grand Chef de Gare. He shall submit appointments for approval at the next Grand Cheminot. The officer so appointed and approved shall serve for the unexpired term of the officer he succeeds. A vacancy in the office shall also occur when any appointed or elected officer fails to pay his dues for the year for which he was elected or appointed before the Fall Cheminot convenes, and the same procedure for filling the vacancy as set out above shall be followed.

Section 6. VACANCY IN OFFICE OF GRAND CHEF DE GARE. In the event of the death, resignation or removal from office of the Grand Chef de Gare, the Grand Chef de Train shall immediately take office as the Grand Chef de Gare. The Grand Correspondant will notify all Grande officers and Chefs de Gare and Correspondant of Voitures Locale of the change.

Section 7. PASSING OF RECORDS FROM ONE ADMINISTRATION TO ANOTHER. The outgoing Grand Chef de Gare, Grand Correspondant and Grand Commissaire Intendant shall, within two (2) weeks after the close of the fiscal year and the election of their successors in office, turn over all books, property, funds, etc., to the newly elected offices, securing an itemized receipt for same.

Section 8. ELECTION OF CHEMINOT NATIONALE AND ALTERNATE CHEMINOT NATIONALE. The Grand Promenade shall elect, by a majority vote of the duly accredited delegates, a Cheminot Nationale and an Alternate Cheminot Nationale to represent the Grand Voiture on the Cheminot Nationale. The persons so elected shall take office immediately upon the adjournment of the Grande Promenade at which their predecessors served as Cheminot Nationale and as Alternate Cheminot Nationale and shall hold office for one (1) year and until their successors have been chosen and qualified. They will be installed with the newly elected Grand officers but subject to Nationale requirements.

Section 9. APPOINTIVE GRANDE VOITURE OFFICERS AND DIRECTEURS. The Grande Chef de Gare shall, with the advice and consent of the Grande Cheminot, appoint the following Grande Voiture Officers and Directeurs:

GRANDE OFFICERS:

- Sous Chef de Train (1 per each division)
- Grand Correspondant
- Grand Publiciste
- Grand Organizer
- Grand Cheminots (one per division)
- Sous Grand Commissaire Intendant
- Sous Grand Avocat

The appointed Grand Cheminots shall not be from the same Voiture Locale as the elective Grand Chefs de Train.

GRAND DIRECTEURS:

- Americanism Child Welfare
- Constitution
- Finance & Budget Membership
- Nurses Training POW/MIA
- Ritual
- Voiture Activities Youth Sports
- Others as deemed necessary or subsequently required

No Voyageur may serve on more than one Grande Voiture Committee except with the unanimous approval of the Grande Cheminot.

ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES AND POWERS OF GRANDE VOITURE OFFICERS

Section 1. **GRANDE CHEF DE GARE.** The Grand Chef de Gare is the Chief Executive Officer of La Grande Voiture du Texas. He shall preside at the Grande Promenade and at all meetings of the Grande Cheminot. He shall be, ex-officio, a member of all committees of the Grande Promenade and the Grande Voiture, except the Finance Committee. The new Grand Chef de Gare shall appoint the Grand Correspondant subject to confirmation by the Grande Cheminot. In like manner he shall appoint 1 member to the Grande Voiture Finance Committee and designate the chairman in accordance with Article X, Section 1. He shall appoint all committees and designate the chairman with confirmation by the Grand Cheminot. He shall perform all the duties and have all the powers customarily conferred upon the president of similar organizations.

Section 2. **GRAND CHEFS DE TRAIN.** The Grand Chef de Train shall perform the duties of the Grand Chef de Gare in his absence and shall, under the direction of the Grand Chef de Gare, establish and maintain liaison with the Sous Chefs de Train and Voiture Locales.

Section 3. **GRAND SOUS CHEFS DE TRAIN.** The Grand Sous Chef de Train is the primary point of contact between the Voiture Locales in his division and the Grand Chef de Train. He shall perform duties associated with membership within his division, assist the Voiture Locales within his division upon request, and assist in the resolution of problems within his division. He shall keep the Chef de Train informed of his actions and follow the direction of the Grand Chef de Train. He should visit the Voitures Locale in his Division and make a written report to the Grand Chef de Train at least 15 days prior to each Grande function.

Section 4. **GRAND CONDUCTEUR.** The Grand Conducteur is the Chief Ritualistic and Initiatory Officer and Master of Ceremonies of the Grande Voiture. He shall have charge of initiatory work at the Grand Promenade and shall have general supervisory control over the initiatory work of the Voitures Locale.

Section 5. **GRAND COMMISSAIRE INTENDANT.** The Grand Commissaire Intendant is the Chief Financial Officer of the Grande Voiture and shall have custody of all its funds, which funds shall be deposited in the name of, and to the credit of, the Grande Voiture du Texas in such depositories as shall be designed by the Grande Cheminot. He shall keep accurate books of accounts showing all receipts and disbursements and report thereon monthly to the Finance Committee, Grand Chef de Gare and the Grand Correspondant, annually to the Grande Promenade and on other occasions when requested by the Grand Chef de Gare. He shall pay all bills audited and approved by the Grand Correspondant and counter-signed by the Grand Chef de Gare, by checks signed by him and counter-signed by the Grand Chef de Gare or Grand Correspondant. The office of Grand Commissaire Intendant shall be duly bonded in such sum and with such surety as approved by the Grande Voiture Finance Committee and the cost of such bonds borne by the Grande Voiture.

Section 6. **GRAND AUMONIER.** The Grand Aumonier is the Chaplain of the Grande Voiture and shall act as such at the Grande Promenades and upon other occasions upon the request of the Grand Chef de Gare.

Section 7. **GRAND AVOCAT.** The Grand Avocat is the Chief Legal Officer of La Grande Voiture. He shall advise the Grand Chef de Gare, Grand Commissaire Intendant and the Grand Correspondant upon all legal matters affecting La Grande Voiture and their duties as Officers thereof. He shall be the parliamentarian of the Grande Promenades and of the Grande Cheminot. He shall examine the texts of all Constitutions and any amendment or alterations thereof of Voiture Locales when properly submitted to him. If and when he determines that the said Constitution or any amendment or alterations thereof are not in conflict with this Constitution, he shall forward the copy thereof, in duplicate, with his approval,

together with his comments and recommendations, whether it is in conformance with the provisions of the Constitution Nationale, to the Avocat Nationale for approval. He shall forward the texts of all approved Constitutions, Amendments and Alterations thereof to the Grand Correspondant for filing, and he shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Grand Chef de Gare.

Section 8. GRAND COMMIS VOYAGEUR. The Grand Commis Voyageur shall be the Custodian of the Grande Voiture Colors and shall see that they are properly placed during Grande Promenades and on such other occasions as may be directed by the Grand Chef de Gare, and, further, that they are properly stored and cared for at all other times. He shall also be the custodian of, and responsible for, such miscellaneous equipment and property of the Grande Voiture as may be placed in his custody by the Grand Chef de Gare.

Section 9. GRAND CORRESPONDANT. The Grand Correspondant is the Secretary of the Grande Voiture, Grand Promenade, Grand Cheminot and the Finance Committee. He shall keep a true and accurate record of all the proceedings of said bodies, shall conduct their correspondence, and keep a correct list of all Officers of the Grande Voiture and of the Voitures Locale. He shall file and preserve the texts of the Constitutions of Voitures Locale delivered to him by the Grand Avocat and shall give notice of their approval to the affected Voitures Locale. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the Grand Chef de Gare.

Section 10. GRAND DRAPEAUX. The Grand Drapeaux are the Color Bearers of the Grande Voiture. They shall advance and retire the Colors at Grande promenades and shall carry the Colors in all parades and at other functions when so directed by the Grand Chef de Gare.

Section 11. GRAND GARDES DE LA PORTE. The Grand Garde de la Porte and Grand Sous Grand Garde de la Porte are the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Grande Promenades and shall act as such at the Grand Promenades and, if so directed by the Grand Chef de Gare, at meetings of the Grand Cheminot.

Section 12. GRAND HISTORIEN. The Grand Historien shall collect for permanent preservation matters of interest to the members of the Grand Voiture and to posterity and shall annually submit to the Grande Promenade a history of the Grande Voiture during the preceding year.

Section 13. GRAND LAMPISTE. The Grand Lampiste shall perform the duties and functions of Outer Guard at all Grande Promenades under the direction of the Grand Garde de la Porte and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Grand Chef de Gare.

Section 14. GRAND PUBLICISTE. The Grand Publiciste shall be the Official Publicity Representative of the Grande Voiture and secure, by all available means of presentation, publicity that will advance the interest of La Societe, the Grande Voiture and Voitures Locale thereof.

Section 15. GRAND CHEMINOT. The Grand Cheminots shall assist the Grand Sous Chefs de Train of their respective Divisions and shall maintain liaison with and make written reports to the Grand Sous Chef de Train as to records, paraphernalia, equipment, and conduct of meetings, use of ritual and other comments.

Section 16. GRAND ORGANIZER. The Grand Organizer shall perform the function of organizing new and/or re-instated Voitures Locale with the assistance of 1 Sous Grand Organizer as appointed from each Division by the Division Chef de Train. He shall, at the Grand Chef's discretion, perform all other such membership duties he may deem necessary.

Section 17. The other officers shall perform such duties as assigned them by the Grand Chef de Gare.

ARTICLE IX – GRANDE CHEMINOT

Section 1. GRANDE CHEMINOT MEMBERS. There shall be a Grande Cheminot of the following:

- Grand Chef de Gare
- Grand Chef de Train
- Grand Sous Chefs de Train – Four (4)
- Grand Correspondant
- Grand Commissaire Intendant
- Grand Conducteur
- Grand Commis Voyageur
- Grand Garde de la Porte and One (1) Grand Sous Garde de la Porte
- Grand Avocat
- Grand Historien
- Grand Organizer
- Grand Aumonier
- Grand Drapeaux and One (1) Sous Grand Drapeaux
- Grand Lampiste
- Grand Medicin
- Grand Publiciste
- Grand Cheminots (1 per division)
- Cheminot Nationale
- Chefs de Gare Locale (or authorized representative as specified below)
- Alternate Cheminot Nationale
- Directeurs – Ten (10) (as set out in Article VII, Section 9)

A Chef de Gare Locale shall not hold the office of a Grande Directeur at the same time. Any other Officer on the Grande Cheminot, also holding the position of a Grande Directeur, shall have only one vote.

Only the above Voyageurs shall be allowed a voice and vote. Others can be allowed voice upon notion properly passed by the members of the Grande Cheminot.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event a Chef de Gare Locale is unable to attend a Grande Cheminot, he may authorize, in writing, another Voyageur Militaire to attend in his place and with his vote.

Section 2. ADMINISTRATIVE POWER. Between Grande Promenades the administration, judicial and disciplinary powers shall be vested in the Grande Cheminots; however, matters of policy and changes to the Constitution are subject to ratification at the next Grande Promenade and the procedures set out in Article XIV – Amendments set out below.

Section 3. MEETINGS OF THE GRANDE CHEMINOT. Meetings of the Grande Cheminot may be called upon the order of the Grande Chef de Gare and shall be called if requested in writing by 5 members of the Grande Cheminot. Registration at the Grande Cheminot or Grande Promenade shall be set by the Grande Cheminot.

Section 4. QUORUM. Twelve (12) members of the Grande Cheminot shall constitute a quorum when present in person and on the floor.

ARTICLE X – FINANCE

Section 1. FINANCE COMMITTEE. The Finance Committee shall consist of seven (7) members – one (1) from each Division, the Grand Commissaire Intendant, the Grande Correspondant, and the Immediate Grand Chef de Gare Passe, provided, that they hold membership in La Societe and are otherwise qualified to serve. A new Division member will be appointed each year for a 4-year term to replace the member completing a 4-year term. The outgoing member shall be ineligible for reappointment to this committee until 1 year has passed. The Grand Chef de Gare will designate, each year, the chairman of this committee, excluding the Immediate Grand Chef de Gare Passe, with the approval of the Grand Cheminot. The Grande Voiture Finance Committee shall also serve as the Grande Voiture Board of Trustees and be custodians of all property of the Grande Voiture du Texas.

- (a) Filling Vacancy. The Grand Chef de Gare will appoint the new Division member for a 4-year period with the approval of the Grande Cheminot.
- (b) Filling Vacancy Created by Death or Resignation. The Grand Chef de Gare will appoint the new member, with the approval of the Grande Cheminot, to serve for the unexpired term of the member he succeeds.

Section 2. REVENUE. The revenue of the Grande Voiture shall be derived from the dues of such amount as may be provided for by action of the Grande Voiture in regular Promenade, which shall also specify the effective date of the change in the amount of dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Grande Cheminot or Grande Promenade.

Section 3. BUDGET

- (a) The Grand Chef de Gare, with the assistance of the Grand Commissaire Intendant and Grand Correspondant, shall prepare or cause to be prepared a proposed budget for the ensuing year, a copy of which shall be delivered to each member of the Grande Finance Committee at least two (2) weeks prior to the Grande Promenade for their consideration. The Grande Finance Committee shall meet immediately prior to the opening session of the Grand Promenade and shall prepare a final recommendation for a budget for the Grande Voiture du Texas; it shall not exceed the income for the preceding fiscal year and which recommendation for the budget shall be presented to the Grande Promenade for approval.
- (b) The Grande Promenade shall approve the budget but shall not appropriate more than the income for the preceding fiscal year. Said budget, when approved by the Grande Promenade, shall remain in full force and effect until adjusted at a future meeting of the Grande Cheminot or at the Grande Promenade, regardless of a change in the administration.

Section 4. RESERVE FUND. Ten (10) percent of the gross receipts received by the Grande Voiture shall be allocated to a reserve emergency fund on a monthly basis. At the close of the fiscal year any excess budgeted monies over \$1,000.00 shall be placed in the reserve emergency fund. If, at the close of the fiscal year, the reserve emergency fund exceeds \$500.00 the Grand Commissaire Intendant shall invest such excess funds with the approval first of the Grande Finance Committee, for the benefit of the general fund, in Certificates of Deposit, Treasury Notes or other such federally insured investments as will yield the greatest return to the Grande Voiture. At the maturity of such general fund investments the Grand Commissaire Intendant shall redeem such investments and re-invest same in a similar manner, and at each maturity, until further action is taken by the Grande Finance Committee with the approval of the Grande Cheminot. This reserve emergency fund can be used by the Grand Chef de Gare on an emergency

basis, such as for unanticipated costs for travel, telephone, postage, etc., not set out in the budget. In no event shall the utilization of the reserve emergency fund cause the budget heretofore approved by the Grande Promenade to exceed the previous year's income.

Section 6. SIGNATURES. All checks given by the Grande Voiture shall be prepared and signed by the Grand Commissaire Intendant then countersigned by the Grand Chef de Gare, the Grand Correspondant, or such other Officers designated by the Grand Cheminot.

Section 7. AUDIT. The Grande Voiture Finance Committee shall supervise the annual audit and have the same prepared by an Audit Committee, said committee to have three (3) members who shall be nominated by the Grand Chef de Gare and approved by the Grande Finance Committee. The Audit Committee is to be selected at the Spring Grand Cheminot and shall arrange to conduct the annual audit immediately following the Grande Promenade. This report must be ready for presentation within thirty (30) days after the close of the fiscal year. The original copy shall be given to the Grand Chef de Gare who will present it at the Fall Grand Cheminot meeting and have same filed permanently with the records of the Grand Correspondant, with any recommendations he may desire to offer the Grande Voiture Finance Committee.

Section 8. TRAVEL FUNDS.

- (a) Whenever funds are available and provided for in the budget Grande Voiture Officers may have actual travel expenses paid in attending to official Grande Voiture business. Regular expense account sheets accompanied by proper receipts (for amounts over \$5.00) shall be transmitted to the Grand Commissaire Intendant subject to the provisions in Article VIII, Section 4 for reimbursement purposes monthly. All travel allowances shall be budgeted and allocated. The Grand Chef de Gare shall, when his judgment deems it necessary, authorize travel allowance, in writing, to the Grand Voiture Officer involved, with copy of letter to the Grand Commissaire Intendant, before reimbursement can be made and charged to the travel account. When possible all authorizations shall be made before travel is commenced.
- (b) Only the Grande Promenade shall have the authority to authorize the expenditure of an amount to be fixed in such vote to defray the expenses of a designed official to the Promenade Nationale. No monies shall be advanced unless approved by the Finance Committee. Upon presentation of proper expense accounts as set forth within this Constitution, reimbursement may be made not exceeding the fixed amount voted at the Grande Promenade.

Section 9. FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year for the Grande Voiture du Texas is hereby established as July 1 of the current year through June 30 of the succeeding year.

Section 10. UNIFORM ACCOUNTING SYSTEM. The Grande Voiture shall keep its accounts in accordance with a uniform accounting system to be promulgated by Voiture Nationale and no financial officers of a Grande Voiture will be permitted to transact business with Voiture Nationale until the provisions of Sections 11 and 12 of this Article have been complied with.

Section 11. OFFICERS BONDED. Each Officer of a Grande Voiture having custody or possession of funds of the Grande Voiture shall give bond in such sum and with such surety as the Grande Cheminot from time to time shall direct, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office and delivery to his successor of all funds that are or should be in his hands.

Section 12. INSPECTION OF GRANDE VOITURE RECORDS. The books, records and accounts of each Grande Voiture shall be made available for inspection at any time upon request of the Chef de Chemin de Fer or the Commissaire Intendant Nationale.

ARTICLE XI – VOITURES LOCALE

Section 1. ORGANIZATION OF VOITURES LOCALE. Five (5) or more individuals who are eligible for membership in La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux may make application to Voiture Nationale through the Grand Correspondant for a charter as a Voiture Locale for said county. The Chef de Chemin de Fer and the Correspondant Nationale shall, upon receipt of such application properly executed, issue such charter, provided that if the county be within the jurisdiction of an organized and chartered Grande Voiture such charter shall not be issued without the consent and approval for such Grande Voiture and provided further that if there be an existing Voiture Locale or Voitures Locale, or, failing such consent, with the approval of the Grande Voiture and provided further a Grande Voiture may, pending the granting of a charter to a Voiture Locale, issue a dispensation for its existence until its charge be granted.

Section 2. VOITURE WITH LESS THAN TEN (10) MEMBERS. If the membership of any Voiture Locale shall become less than ten (10) members the Correspondant Nationale shall so inform the Cheminot Nationale and the Cheminot Nationale may, in their discretion, suspend or revoke the charter of such Voiture Locale, but no Voiture Locale in this Grande Voiture with less than 10 members shall be entitled to representation at any Grande Promenade.

Section 3. VOITURE LOCALE MEETINGS. Meetings of a Voiture Locale shall be held at such time and place within its area or jurisdiction as the Voiture Locale shall from time to time determine. All such meetings, including those at which the initiatory work of La Societe is exemplified, the provisions of the Ritual and promulgated by Voiture Nationale must be followed.

Section 4. VOITURE LOCALE CONSTITUTION. Each Voiture Locale shall make and adopt a Constitution not in conflict with this Constitution or with the Constitution Nationale and shall forward a copy thereof, in triplicate, certified by its Correspondant, to the Grand Avocat. If and when the Grand Avocat determines that the said Constitution, or any amendment or alteration thereof, is not in conflict with this Constitution, he shall forward the copy thereof, in duplicate, with his approval, together with his comments and recommendations noting whether it is in conformance with the provisions of the Constitution Nationale, to the Avocat Nationale for approval. The said Constitution, or any amendment or alteration thereof, shall become effective if and when the Voiture Locale and the Grand Avocat are notified by the Correspondant Nationale of the approved thereof.

Section 5. VOITURE LOCALE OFFICERS. The following Officers, and such others as the Voiture Locale may determine, shall be the Officers of each Voiture Locale:

- Chef de Gare
- One or more Chefs de Train
- Commissaire Intendant
- Correspondant
- Conducteur
- One or more Gardes de la Porte
- One or more Lampistes
- Commis Voyageur

In each Voiture Locale there shall be a Cheminot Locaux consisting of the Chef de Gare, the Chef or Chefs de Train, the Commissaire Intendant, the Correspondant, and not less than three (3) members at

large.

Section 6. VOITURE LOCALE FUNDS. All funds of each Voiture Locale shall be deposited in the name of the Voiture Locale in such depository as is designated by the Promenade Locale or the Cheminot Locaux.

Section 7. INSPECTION OF VOITURE LOCALE RECORDS. The books, records, and accounts of each Voiture Locale shall be made available for inspection at any time upon request of the Chef de Chemin de Fer or the Grand Chef de Gare or any other Officer as required by Nationale.

Section 8. UNIFORM ACCOUNTING SYSTEM. Each Voiture Locale shall keep its accounts in accordance with a uniform accounting system promulgated by Voiture Nationale; no Financial Officers of any Voiture Locale will be permitted to transact business with Voiture Nationale or with its Grande Voiture until Section 7 and 9 of this article have been complied with.

Section 9. OFFICERS BONDED. Each Officer of a Voiture Locale having custody or possession of funds of a Voiture Locale shall give bond in such sum and with sure surety as the Cheminot Locaux shall direct, such bond conditioned for such Officer's faithful discharge of the duties of his office and the delivery to his successor of all funds that are or should be in his possession.

ARTICLE XII – DISCIPLINE AND PUNISHMENT

Section 1. TRIAL OF GRANDE VOITURE OFFICERS.

- (a) Any officer of this Grande Voiture charged with failure to perform the duties of his office, disloyalty, dishonesty, conduct unbecoming a member of La Societe, or with other conduct inimical to the best interests of La Societe shall be promptly tried by the Grande Cheminot. The charges must be reduced to writing in duplicate, signed by the accuser, sworn by him to be true and filed with the Grand Correspondant; one (1) of the duplicate originals shall be sent by the Grand Correspondant to the accused, at his last known address, by registered mail, at least ten (10) days before the fixed date for the trial. The accuser, or his representative, shall prosecute the charges before the Grand Cheminot and the accused may defend in person or by representative. A record of the proceedings before the Grand Cheminot shall be kept. If a majority of the Grand Cheminot so vote, the charges shall be considered as sustained; and the Grand Cheminot shall suspend or remove the Officer, expel him from membership, or impose such lessor disciplinary punishment as they believe the facts warrant.
- (b) APPEAL. Either the accused or the accuser or both may appeal to the Executive Committee of the Cheminot Nationaux by filing notice of appeal with the Grand Correspondant within ten (10) days after the decision. The person appealing shall within the twenty (20) days after the decision, or as soon thereafter as is possible if the record cannot be completed, file the record of the proceedings before the Grande Cheminot with the Correspondant Nationale. The Chef de Chemin de Fer shall thereupon promptly call a meeting of the Chef de Chemin de Fer and the Sous Chefs de Chemin de Fer to consider the appeal. The appeal shall be heard upon the record only; without further evidence or hearing; and the decisions of three-fifths (3/5) of the committee shall be final. The committee may impose the same, greater, or lesser punishment or acquit the accused.

- (c) COST ON APPEAL. The cost of the record on appeal shall be paid before same is filed, by the Appellant. In the event the Executive Committee of the Cheminot Nationaux shall reverse the decision of the Grande Cheminot, the Appellant, if he be the accused, shall be reimbursed for such cost by the Grande Voiture.

Section 2. TRIAL OF VOITURE LOCALE OFFICERS.

- (a) Any officer of a Voiture Locale, elective or appointive, charged with failure to perform the duties of his office, disloyalty, dishonesty, conduct unbecoming a member of La Societe, or with other conduct inimical to the best interests of La Societe, shall be promptly tried by the Cheminots Locale of his Voiture Locale. The charges must be reduced to writing in duplicate, signed by the accuser, and sworn by him to be true, and filed with the Correspondant Locale; and one of the duplicate originals shall be sent by the Correspondant Locale to the accused, at his last known address, by registered mail at least five (5) days before the date fixed for the trial. The accuser, or his representative, shall prosecute the charges before the Cheminot Locaux, and the accused may defend in person or by representative. A record of the proceedings before the Cheminots Locaux shall be kept. If a majority of the Cheminots Locaux so vote the charges shall be considered as sustained; and the Cheminots Locaux shall suspend or expel the accused, or impose such lesser disciplinary punishment as they believe the facts warrant.
- (b) Either the accused or the accuser or both may appeal to the Grande Cheminot by filing notice of appeal with the Correspondant Locale within ten (10) days of the decision. The person appealing shall within twenty (20) days after the decision, or as soon thereafter as is possible if the record cannot sooner be completed, file the record of the proceedings before the Cheminots Locaux with the Grand Correspondant. The Grand Chef de Gare shall thereupon promptly call a meeting of the Grande Cheminot to consider the appeal. The appeal will be heard upon the record only, without further evidence of hearing; and the decision of a majority of the Grande Cheminot, in the presence of a quorum, shall be final. The Grande Cheminot may impose the same, or greater or lesser punishment, or acquit the accused.
- (c) COST ON APPEAL. The cost of the record on appeal shall be paid before the same is filed, by the appellant. In the event the Grand Cheminot shall reverse the decision of the Cheminots Locaux, the appellant, if he be the accused, shall be reimbursed for such cost by the Voiture Locale.

Section 3. TRIAL OF VOYAGEURS MILITARIES.

- (a) Any Voyageur Militaire charged with disloyalty, dishonesty, neglect of duty, obtaining membership under false pretenses, conduct unbecoming a member of La Societe, or with other conduct inimical to the best interests of La Societe, shall be promptly tried by the Cheminots Locale of his Voiture Locale. The charges must be reduced to writing in duplicate, signed by the accuser, sworn by him to be true, and filed with the Correspondant Locale; and one of the duplicate originals shall be sent by the Correspondant Locale to the accused, at his last known address, by registered mail at least five (5) days before the date fixed for the trial. The accuser, or his representative, shall prosecute the charges before the Cheminots Locaux and the accused may defend in person or by representative. A record of the proceedings before the Cheminots Locaux shall be kept. If a majority of the Cheminots Locaux so

vote the charges shall be considered as sustained; and the Cheminots Locaux shall suspend or expel the accused, or impose such lesser disciplinary punishment as they believe the facts warrant.

- (b) **APPEAL.** Either the accused or the accuser or both may appeal to the Grande Cheminot by filing notice of appeal with the Correspondant Locale within ten (10) days of the decision. The person appealing shall within twenty (20) days after the decision, or as soon thereafter as is possible if the record cannot sooner be completed, file the record of the proceedings before the Cheminots Locaux with the Grand Correspondant. The Grand Chef de Gare shall thereupon promptly call a meeting of the Grande Cheminot to consider the appeal. The appeal will be heard upon the record only, without further evidence or hearing; and the decision of a majority of the Grande Cheminot, in the presence of a quorum, shall be final. The Grande Cheminot may impose the same, or greater or lesser punishment, or acquit the accused.
- (c) **COST ON APPEAL.** The cost of the record on appeal shall be paid before the same is filed, by the appellant. In the event the Grand Cheminot shall reverse the decision of the Cheminot Locaux, the appellant, if he be the accused, shall be reimbursed for such cost by the Voiture Locale.

Section 4. REVOCATION OF CHARTERS. The charters of Voitures Locale may be suspended or revoked for conduct inimical to the best interests of La Societe, in the discretion of the Chef de Chemin de Fer, and with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Cheminots Nationaux.

Section 5. FAILURE TO PAY INDEBTEDNESS. The charter of a Voiture Locale may be suspended or revoked by the Chef de Chemin de Fer for failure to pay any indebtedness due Voiture Nationale or the Grande Voiture, provided such indebtedness be more than sixty (60) days past due and notice is sent by registered mail by the Correspondant Nationale or the Grand Correspondant to the Chef de Fare and the Correspondant Locale stating the amount due and demanding payment thereof, within fifteen (15) days from the date of the mailing thereof.

ARTICLE XIII – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1. NURSES TRAINING. A permanent Nurses Training Program is hereby provided for. There shall be a five (5) -member Nurses Training Committee to be composed of four (4) members, one from each Division, to be appointed by the Grand Chef de Gare with the consent of the Grand Cheminot, to serve four (4) years, and the Directeur of Nurses Training, who shall serve until replaced by the Grand Chef de Gare, and who shall be the Chairman of the Nurses Training Committee. The four (4) Division members shall be Sous Directeurs under the Directeur of Nurses Training. The Nurses Training Program shall be administered by the Nurses Training Committee, which is authorized to promulgate rules and procedures for the Nurses Training Program and such rules and procedures shall be subject to approval by the Grand Cheminot or Grand Promenade. Nurses Training Trust Funds are hereby authorized to be set up in the form of two (2) bank accounts, the first being the principal corpus account and the second being an income account, unless other provisions are approved by the Grand Cheminot or Grand Promenade. The income account or other approved source may be used to fund Nurses Training Scholarships and to pay other nominal expenses such as certificates, stationery and postage, and bank charges, etc.

Section 2. IMPROPER CONDUCT. No improper entertainment shall be permitted at any Promenade, Grande or Locale, nor shall any intoxicating liquors be served or consumed during such Promenade; nor shall conduct tending to disrupt the Promenade be tolerated; nor shall any Voyageur Militaire be admitted to such Promenade or be permitted to remain therein if he persists in improper or

disorderly conduct.

Section 3. DIVISION PROMENADES. Two or more Voitures in a Division may hold a Promenade within their own Division and with their own selected presiding Officers. No resolutions will be considered or legislative action taken on any matter submitted at these Division Promenades. These joint Promenades will be for the purpose of creating better fellowship within the Voitures in that Division.

Section 4. SERVICE AS OFFICER OR COMMITTEE MEMBER. No person, not a member in good standing, shall be elected or appointed to hold any office or serve on any committee or Voiture Nationale, Grande Voiture or a Voiture Locale.

ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. METHOD OF AMENDMENT. This Constitution may be amended by presenting the amendment in writing at the Grande Promenade's first business session; laying on table until the final session; and, having a roll call vote for the records. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, based on the certified delegate strength of the Voiture Locales in attendance, shall be necessary to carry the proposed amendment.

Section 2. CONFLICT WITH NATIONALE CONSTITUTION. Any of the provisions of this Constitution in conflict with the Constitution of Voiture Nationale or in conflict with any amendment thereof are void and without effect, provided that in any instance where such conflict is found to exist, the provisions of the Constitution of Voiture Nationale shall govern until the next Grande Promenade when proper amendment of this Constitution must be made.

ARTICLE XV – REPEAL

Section 1. REPEAL AND SAVING CLAUSE. This Constitution shall become effective upon the approval and notification provided for in the Nationale Constitution and shall supersede and take the place of all earlier Constitutions and amendments thereof. The same are hereby revoked and annulled to the extent of any conflict. Should any of the provisions herein be held null and void or in conflict with the Nationale Constitution, the rest of the provisions herein shall remain in full force and effect. Action will be taken, as required, to correct errors in content and brought before the next Grande Cheminot or Grande Promenade for approval.

This space is intentionally left blank to allow space for any future changes which may be required or approved by the Grand Promenade.

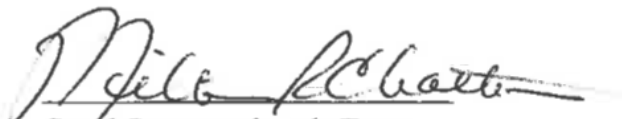
This revised Constitution was revised at regular Promenade of Grand du Texas and adopted at a regular Fall Cheminot of Grand du Texas on this 17th day of October 2015.

This Constitution with changes made as requested by Avocat Nationale has been adopted at a regular Spring Cheminot of Grand du Texas on this 20th day of February 2016.



Grand Chef de Gare du Texas

Attest:



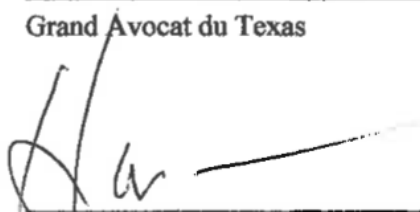
Grand Correspondant du Texas

Approved:



Grand Avocat du Texas

Date: 20 Feb. 2016



Avocat Nationale

Date: 3/22/16