

CONSTITUTION  
of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux  
Grande Voiture du California, Inc.

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 nurse’s training program; and (c) selected charitable endeavors.”

ARTICLE I  
NAME

Section 1. NAME: This organization shall be known as the GRANDE VOITURE du CALIFORNIA Inc, LA SOCIETE des QUARANTE HOMMES et HUIT CHEVAUX

ARTICLE II  
NATURE AND OBJECTS

Section 1. NATURE of ORGANIZATION: La Societe de Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux is a civilian organization without rank or distinction between its members, and is non-political.

Section 2. OBJECTS of ORGANIZATION: The objects of the Grande Voiture du California, La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux are:

- a. To honor, through membership, those honorably discharged and currently serving U.S. military personnel who have proved themselves worthy of such honor.
- b. Through mutual helpfulness to bind ourselves in close ties afforded by our common service in the armed forces of our country.

Section 3. INCORPORATION: The Grande Voiture du California was incorporated in the State of California on June 7, 1956 and was issued California Incorporation No. 321963. The official address of The Grande Voiture du California shall be that of the current Grand Correspondant.

Section 4. DESCRIPTION: This instrument is the Constitution of the Grande Voiture du California, and in all respects subject primarily to the provisions of the National Constitution of Voiture Nationale, La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, and any and all amendments thereof. Any provisions herewith in conflict with the aforementioned Constitution and any and all amendments thereto, are void and without effect. Two copies of this approved Grande Constitution shall be forwarded to the National Avocat for approval. This Constitution shall become effective when notification is received from the Correspondant National of it’s approval by the Avocat National.

### ARTICLE III ORGANIZATION and PURPOSE

Section 1. ORGANIZATION: The Grande Voiture du California shall include in its jurisdiction all duly chartered Voitures Locale of La Societe in the State of California. Each Voiture Locale is to be represented in this Grande Voiture only through its regularly elected and/or appointed delegates and/or representatives.

Section 2. GRAND HEADQUARTERS: The headquarters of the Grande Voiture du California shall be the address of the current Grand Correspondant.

Section 3. PURPOSE: La Societe is devoted to the following purposes:

- a. To create an organization of true, loyal, and proven Veterans through which they may bind themselves more closely in comradeship and fraternalism;
- b. To honor through membership, those Veterans in good standing who have proved themselves worthy of such an honor.

Section 4. This Constitution, and those of each Voiture Locale including any and all amendments thereto, is/are not binding and are without effect unless and until the same have been approved in writing by the Avocat National and Grand Avocat and notice of their approval has been provided by the Correspondant Nationale.

### 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 Voiture Locale may prescribe or establish any eligibility qualifications for membership in La Societe which are in conflict with this Constitution or 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, namely active membership, and the election of honorary members is not permitted.

Section 2. MEMBERSHIP in ONE VOITURE ONLY: No member may belong to more than one Voiture Locale, nor change their membership from one Voiture Locale to another except as is provided by this Constitution.

Section 3. LIMITATION OF MEMBERSHIP: Numerical limitation of membership by any Voiture Locale is forbidden.

Section 4. VOITURE JUDGE of QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution and the Constitution of Voiture Nationale, each Voiture Locale in the Grande Voiture du California shall be the sole judge of the qualifications of its own members and of their 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. Voting may be by a viva voice (voice), ballot or by the raising of hands. A Voiture Locale may, however, provide in its constitution that the necessary affirmative vote be a two-thirds majority of those members present and voting, rather than a simple majority.

Section 5. WAIVER of JURISDICTION. Upon the written request of any Voiture Locale to a Voiture Locale having jurisdiction of 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 months of the date of the granting of the waiver but not afterwards, unless further requests be made and granted, initiate the eligible person as, and they shall become, a member of the Voiture Locale into which they are 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 Voiture Nationale showing:

a. That they have been an honorably discharged U.S. military or U.S. active duty person preceding the date of the petition, and that their dues for the current year have been paid.

b. That they have rendered service in the U.S. military entitling them to the honor of membership in La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux.

c. That their character and reputation are good, and that they have 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 nomination is addressed.

d. That they have or have not been previously rejected for membership, and if they have, the date of rejection and the number and location of the Voiture Locale by which they were rejected.

e. That, if they were formerly a member of La Societe, the number and location of the Voiture Locale to which they belonged, and the reason for their withdrawal.

f. That, if they withdrew from membership under Section 10 of this Article, the certificate required by said section is attached to their nomination.

Section 7. No Prisonniers de Guerre shall be required to wait longer than ninety (90) ninety days for initiation following approval of his or her petition.

Section 8. REMOVAL of MEMBERSHIP. Any member who removes their residence to the territorial jurisdiction of a Voiture Locale other than that of which they are a member shall be entitled, upon request, to a certificate from the Voiture Locale of which they are a member, which must be furnished them within thirty (30) days from the date of their request therefore, setting forth their membership therein and the duration thereof; and upon presentation thereof within two years to the Voiture Locale in whose territorial jurisdiction they then reside, and have continued the payment of their dues in La Societe, may be admitted into membership in such Voiture Locale under such terms as may be prescribed by each Voiture Locale.

Section 9. TRANSFER of MEMBERSHIP WITHIN JURISDICTION In any territorial jurisdiction in which there are, or may hereafter be, two or more Voiture Locales, a member desiring to transfer their membership from one to another of said Voitures, shall be entitled, upon request, to a certificate from the Voiture Locale of which they are a member, which must be furnished them within thirty (30) days of their request therefore, setting forth their membership therein and the duration thereof, and, upon presentation thereof within one year to the Voiture Locale in said jurisdiction in which they desire membership, and have continued the payment of their dues in La Societe, may be

admitted into membership in the Voiture Locale in which they desire membership upon such terms as said Voiture Locale may prescribe

Section 10. SURRENDER of MEMBERSHIP. A member of La Societe in good standing shall be entitled, upon request and upon surrender of their membership card, to withdraw from membership, and shall be entitled to a certificate, to be issued by the Correspondant of the Voiture Locale of which they are a member, setting forth the duration of their membership and that they have honorably withdrawn therefrom, and from and after such surrender and the receipt of such certificate they shall no longer be a member of La Societe, and shall not be readmitted to membership except upon nomination in accordance with Section 6 of this Article.

Section 11. SUBSEQUENT NOMINATION OF REJECTEE. A Voiture Locale may not entertain the nomination for membership of any person rejected by it or any other Voiture Locale until the expiration of six (6) months from the date of rejection.

Section 12. PROCEDURE WHERE NOMINEE FORMERLY REJECTED or FORMER MEMBER Whenever it shall appear from the nomination of a person desiring membership, or from other information, that a nominee has been previously rejected for membership, has been expelled or has withdrawn from membership in some Voiture Locale other than the one nominated, their nomination shall not be acted upon until the receipt of a written statement from the Voiture Locale which rejected or expelled them or from which they withdrew, as to their reason for their rejection or expulsion, and such statement shall be read in open Promenade Locale before their nomination is acted upon; provided, if such statement has not been received within (60) sixty days from the date of request therefore, or if the Voiture Locale from which the statement is sought is no longer in existence, the nomination may be acted upon without such statement.

Section 13. DUES: Dues shall be payable to Voiture Nationale in advance of October 20 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 September 1 of any year on account of new members shall be considered as for the current year and those paid on or after September 1 of any year on account of new members shall be considered for the then ensuing year.

Section 14. PENALTIES FOR NON-PAYMENT of DUES. Any member who shall fail to pay their dues for the current year on or before December 31 shall not be permitted to attend any Promenades, Nationale, Grande or Locale, until such dues for the current year have been paid, and any member in arrears for one year in the payment of their dues shall stand suspended and the Correspondant Locale shall notify him/her by registered/certified mail at his/her last known address; and if they shall fail within one month from the date of the mailing of said notice to pay the arrears, and such reinstatement fees as may be required by the Grande Voiture or Voiture Locale, they shall stand expelled and may not be readmitted to membership except upon nomination in accordance with Section 6 of this Article.

Section 15. EXPULSION for TWO YEARS DELINQUENCY. Any member who fails for two years to pay their dues shall, as of December 31 of the second year and without requirement of the notice provided for in Section 14 of this article, stand expelled; and may not be readmitted to membership except upon nomination in accordance with Section 6 of this Article.

Section 16. MEMBERSHIP CARDS: Each member shall be entitled to a membership card, to be issued annually, and to be in such form as the Cheminots Nationaux shall from time to time prescribe,

provided, no membership card shall be issued to a new member unless and until they shall have taken the obligation or obligations required by the ritual of La Societe; and no membership card shall be issued to any member except upon full payment of their dues.

Section 17. INITIATES at GRANDE PROMENADES. No person may be initiated into La Societe at any Grande Promenade.

## ARTICLE VI ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE

Section 1. ADMINISTRATION: The administration of all rules of the Grande Voiture du California, La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux shall be under the direction of the Officers of the Grande Voiture.

a. The Fiscal Year of the Grande Voiture shall be defined as the period of August 1 through July 31 to coincide with the National Membership year and to account for Grande Promenade income and expenses in the proper fiscal year.

Section 2. LEGISLATION: The legislative body of the Grande Voiture du California shall be the duly elected delegates of the Voitures Locale in general meeting assembled to be known as the Grande Promenade.

Section 3. THE GRANDE PROMENADE:

a. Only qualified Voyageurs Militaire shall be permitted to attend the Grande Promenade.

b. It shall be held annually at a time and as scheduled by the previous Grande Promenade.

c. DELEGATE STRENGTH: In the Grande Promenade, each Voiture Locale shall be entitled to five (5) Delegates and five (5) Alternate Delegates. In addition thereto, each Voiture Locale shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate Delegate for each twenty-five (25) members or major fraction thereof.

d. DELEGATE FEES: No Voiture Locale shall be allowed representation at Grande Promenade until all monies owed by it to the Grande Voiture and Voiture Nationale shall have been paid and received by the Grand Commissaire Intendant. Delegate fees shall be paid whether or not any Delegates actually attend Grande Promenade. The Grand Cheminots shall fix the date when all current indebtedness must have been received by the Grand Commissaire Intendant, but such date shall be not less than twenty (20) days prior to the opening session of such Grande Promenade. Provided, further, that Voitures Locale organized during this twenty (20) day period may apply to the Grand Credentials Committee for a voice and vote. The Committee shall decide each case on its own merits.

e. GRAND CHEF'S PASSE: All Grand Chefs de Gare Passe, while in good standing in their respective Voitures Locale shall be members for life of the Grand Cheminots, with a power to vote for one (1) year subsequent to the termination of their office. Grand Chefs de Gare Passe shall be delegates for life to all Grande Promenades with one vote, to be exercised only when present in person, and when the Grand Credentials Committee reports such officers who may be present.

f. GRAND OFFICERS @ PROMENADES: The following Grande Voiture Officers shall be Delegates to the Grande Promenade with one (1) vote each, to be exercised only when present in person:

Grand Chef de Gare	Grand Chef de Train
Grand Conducteur	Grand Correspondant
Grand Commissaire Intendant	Grand Avocat
Grand Garde de la Porte	Grand Commis Voyageur
Grand Aumonier	Grand Lampiste
Grand Historien	Grand Medicin

Grand Drapeau

Grand Publiciste

Grand Cheminots-at-Large, and in their absence the Sous Grand Cheminots

Cheminot Nationale, and Alternate Cheminot Nationale.

g. QUORUM: A majority of the Locales in the Grande Voiture du California represented in whole or in part by authorized Delegates shall constitute a quorum. Unless there shall at all times be present a quorum, no business, old or new, shall be transacted, nor shall said body be authorized to endorse any candidate for any national office, nor for any national appointment, even though notice thereof has been given.

#### Section 4. GRANDES CHEMINOTS

a. Only qualified Voyageurs Militaire shall be permitted to attend the Grandes Cheminots Meetings.

b. Grand Cheminots will meet immediately preceding and at the conclusion of the Annual Grande Promenade. In addition, the Grand Cheminots will meet in the Months of October and February at a place to be set by the current Grand Chef de Gare. Emergency Cheminot Meetings may be called upon written request of four (4) Grand Cheminots at Large.

#### c. GRAND OFFICERS:

1. The following Grand Officers shall be members of and entitled to vote at the Grandes Cheminots meetings:

Grand Chef de Gare

Grand Chef de Train

Grand Conducteur

Grand Correspondant

Grand Commissaire Intendant

Grand Garde de la Porte

Grand Cheminots-at-Large, and in their absence the Sous Grand Cheminots

Jr Past Grand Chef de Gare

2. The Grand Avocat, Grand Aumonier's and Grand Aide's de Camp shall be members of the Grandes Cheminots but without the right to vote.

d. QUORUM: A quorum of the Grandes Cheminots shall consist of a majority of the members of the Grandes Cheminots.

. Section 5. RULES of ORDER: Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall, except as they may be in conflict with the Constitution of Voiture Nationale, this Constitution or Special Rules of Procedure adopted by this Grande Voiture, govern the proceedings of all meetings of this Grande Voiture.

## ARTICLE VII GRAND OFFICERS

Section 1. ELECTIVE OFFICERS: The following Grande Voiture Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the total authorized representation at the annual Grande Promenade:

Grand Chef de Gare (President)

Grand Chef de Train (Vice President)

Grand Conducteur (Master of Ceremonies)

Grand Garde de la Porte (Sergeant at Arms)

Cheminot Nationale (National Executive Committeeman)

Alternate Cheminot Nationale (Alternate National Executive Committeeman)

**Four (4)** Grand Cheminots-at-Large, no two (2) of which shall be chosen from the same Voiture or geographical District (Executive Committee)

**Four (4)** Sous Grand Cheminots-at-Large, no two (2) of which shall be chosen from the same Voiture or geographical District (Alternate Executive Committee)

Section 2. APPOINTIVE OFFICERS: The following Grand Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Chef de Gare, subject to the approval of a majority of the members of the Grande Cheminot:

Grand Correspondant (Secretary)  
Grand Commissaire Intendant (Treasurer)  
Grand Avocat (Judge Advocate)  
Grand Aumonier's North & South (Chaplain's)  
Grand Historien (Historian)  
Grand Commis Voyageur (Color Bearer)  
Grand Lampiste (Outer Guard)  
Grand Medicin (Doctor)  
Grand Drapeau (Property Custodian)  
Grand Publiciste (Public Relations)  
Grand Organizer (New Voiture Activity Chair)  
Grand Aides de Camp (Chef's Aide)

Section 3. DISCRETIONARY APPOINTMENTS: The Grand Chef de Gare may appoint such additional Grand Voiture Officers or Sous Grand Officers as he or she desires, subject to the approval of the Grand Cheminots.

Section 4. COMMITTEES: Committees shall be appointed by the Grand Chef de Gare as occasion demands.

a. The Standing Committees of the Grand Voiture shall be:

Americanism	Budget & Finance
Carville Star	Child Welfare
Constitution & By-Laws	Distinguished Guests
Insurance	Box Car
Membership	Nurses Training
POW/MIA	Ritual
VAVS	Voiture Activities
	Youth Sports

b. Each Standing Committee Chair shall meet with their committee, and report activity at each Grandes Cheminots Meeting. Those with monetary issues shall report their cumulative activity at each Grandes Cheminots Meeting, and submit a final annual report to the Grande Promenade.

## ARTICLE VIII NATIONAL DELEGATES

Section 1. Delegates and Alternate Delegates at Large to Promenade Nationale shall be elected by the Grande Promenade in accordance with Article VI Section 3 of the National Constitution.

## ARTICLE IX TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1. TERM: Elective Officers of the Grande Voiture du California shall hold office for one (1) term only, excepting the Grand Cheminots-at Large who may be re-elected for additional terms. A term shall cover the period of one (1) year or until their successors are chosen and qualified. All Grand Officers shall serve without compensation, except as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. VACANCIES: Vacancies occurring in any of these offices between Grande Promenades shall be filled by the Grandes Cheminots, unless otherwise herein provided.

Section 3. REQUIREMENTS: No Voyageur may be elected to hold any office in the Grande Voiture unless they have been a member in good standing of a Voiture Locale for a period of at least two (2) years.

Section 4. OFFICERS DUES: All Grande Voiture Officers, both elective and appointive, shall, within thirty (30) days of assuming office pay all dues required.

## ARTICLE X DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. THE GRAND CHEF DE GARE: The Grand Chef de Gare shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Grande Voiture. He/she shall preside at all Grande Promenades and meetings of the Grande Cheminots. He/she shall appoint all appointive officers and members of standing committees of the Grande Voiture except as otherwise provided. He/she shall watch the finances of the Grande Voiture. He/she shall represent the Grande Voiture at all public and private occasions and festivities in which the Grande Voiture may participate. He/she shall perform such other duties as may properly come within his or her province as Chief Executive. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Grande Voiture. In his or her absence, the Grand Chef de Train shall assume the duties of the Grand Chef de Gare, and if both are absent, the Grand Conducteur and Grand Commissaire Intendant shall assume the offices in the order named.

Section 2. THE GRAND CHEF de TRAIN: The Grand Chef de Train shall be the Vice President of the Grande Voiture, and shall be charged with the duty of actively assisting the Grand Chef de Gare in conducting the affairs of the Grande Voiture. He/she shall actively represent the Grand Chef de Gare in promoting the good and advancement of the organization. He/she shall further perform the duties of the Grand Chef de Gare in his or her absence, or in the event of his or her inability to perform such duties. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of the Grand Chef de Gare, the Grand Chef de Train shall succeed to that office. He/she shall be in charge of the membership program of the Grande Voiture.

Section 3. THE GRAND COMMISSAIRE INTENDANT: The Grand Commissaire Intendant shall be the Chief Finance Officer of the Grande Voiture and shall be charged with the expending of all funds. He/she shall prepare and furnish a copy of next year's budget. He/she shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements and the uniform accounting system, and shall submit twice yearly to the officers of the Grandes Cheminots, and for the information of the Voiture Locales, a financial statement showing detailed receipts and disbursements under such subheads as shall be designated, and/or recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee and approved by the Grandes Cheminots. He/she shall pay all bills, when approved by the Grand Chef de Gare and Grand Correspondant, by voucher checks signed by the Grand Commissaire Intendant and the Grand Correspondant or Grand Chef de Gare, said voucher checks to contain itemized statements of and/or services rendered. The depository of the Grande Voiture funds shall be in a bank designated by the Grand Commissaire Intendant with the approval of the Grandes Cheminots.

Section 4. THE GRAND CORRESPONDANT: The Grand Correspondant shall act as the Secretary of the Grande Voiture. The Correspondant shall keep all records, books, membership rolls, etc., with the exception of those of the Grand Commissaire Intendant. The Correspondant shall keep a



true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Grande Voiture and of the Grande Cheminots, and a true record of all correspondence relative to the Grande Voiture. He or she shall keep the files of the organization.

The Correspondant shall account to Voiture Nationale within ten (10) days for all monies received by him or her for Voiture Nationale. The Correspondant shall deliver to the Grand Commissaire Intendant within ten (10) days of its receipt all monies received by him or her for the Grande Voiture, and perform such other duties as the Grand Chef de Gare or Grand Cheminots may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 5. THE GRAND CONDUCTEUR: The Grand Conducteur shall have charge of all initiatory work at all wrecks of Voiture Locales under the domain of the Grande Voiture. The Conducteur shall be in charge of the Grand Calendar, and shall be in charge of the Grande Ways and Means Committee. The Conducteur shall also perform such other duties as the Grand Chef de Gare may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 6. THE GRAND GARDE de la PORTE: The Grand Garde de la Porte shall perform the functions of the Sergeant-at-Arms at all Grande Promenades and Grandes Cheminots meetings, and shall also perform such other duties as the Grand Chef de Gare may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 7. THE GRAND LAMPISTE: The Grand Lampiste shall perform the function of the Outer Guard at all Grande Promenades and Grande Cheminots meetings, and shall also perform such other duties as the Grand Chef de Gare may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 8. THE GRAND AUMONIER: The Grand Aumonier shall perform the duties of Chaplain at all Grande Promenades and Grande Cheminots meetings, and shall also perform such spiritual duties as the Grand Chef de Gare may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 9. THE GRAND AVOCAT: The Grand Avocat shall perform the duties of the Judge Advocate. The Avocat shall interpret the Constitution and By-Laws of both the Grande Voiture and Voiture Locales, and he shall submit from time to time, recommendations and constructive criticism pertaining to pending legislation and/or changes in the Constitution and By-Laws. The Avocat shall be charged with coordinating the Constitutions and By-Laws of Nationale, Grande, and Voitures Locale, and shall also perform such other duties as the Grand Chef de Gare may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 10. THE GRAND MEDICIN: The Grand Medicin shall be the Medical Officer representing the Grande Voiture. The Medicin shall be charged with the duties of examining all applicants for initiatory work at the Initiation or “wreck”. The Medicin shall pass on the physical fitness of these applicants and shall report his findings to the Grand Conducteur and other Grand Officers in charge of initiatory work, and he shall not permit any Prisonnier de Guerre who is not in a fit physical and/or mental condition to undergo initiatory work to the detriment of their physical welfare. The Medicin shall also perform such other duties as the Grand Chef de Gare may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 11. THE GRAND HISTORIEN: The Grand Historien shall collect for permanent preservation matters of interest to La Societe and shall submit to the Grande Voiture a history of the Grande Voiture during their term of office.

Section 12. THE GRAND COMMIS VOYAGEUR: The Grand Commis Voyageur shall be responsible for advancing the Colors at Grande Promenade and Grandes Cheminot Meetings, and shall also perform such other duties as the Grand Chef de Gare may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 13. THE GRAND DRAPEAU: The Grand Drapeau shall be responsible for the safe keeping of all equipment of the Grande Voiture not otherwise delegated to other officers or committees, and shall also perform such other duties as the Grand Chef de Gare may from time to time assign to him or her.

Section 14. THE CHEMINOT NATIONALE: The Cheminot Nationale shall act as the representative of the Grande Voiture du California at all meetings of Voiture Nationale, with the exception of Promenade Nationale. The Cheminot shall report their activities to the Grandes Cheminots in writing, following each meeting of the Cheminots Nationaux. The Cheminot shall carry out the instructions as contained in the National Constitution and as given by the Grande Voiture and the Grandes Cheminots of the Grande Voiture du California.

Section 15. THE GRANDES CHEMINOTS: The Grandes Cheminots shall be the governing body of the Grande Voiture between Grande Promenades, and in it is vested all administrative and judicial powers not in conflict with National or this Constitution. It shall have the power to discipline all Voiture Locales and Voyageurs within its jurisdiction in any manner not prohibited by this or the National Constitution. It may adopt and enforce such rules and regulations as may be required for the proper guidance of the membership in this jurisdiction. Its action shall be final except that any Voiture Locale or Voyageur Militaire who shall feel aggrieved thereby may present their or its grievance to the next Grande Promenade, which shall have the power by two-thirds (2/3) vote to overrule the Grandes Cheminots.

Section 16. OTHER GRAND OFFICERS AND DIRECTEURS: The duties of other Grand Voiture Officers and Directeurs shall be as assigned by the Grand Chef de Gare.

## ARTICLE XI DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Section 1. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICTS: For the purpose of advancing this organization, and for proper administrative purposes in carrying on the work of the Grande Voiture du California, the Grande shall be divided into such geographic Districts as shall be designated from time to time by the Grande Promenade.

Section 2. GRAND CHEMINOTS-AT -LARGE: Each of the said Districts shall be under the direction, supervision and control of the Grand Cheminot-at-Large member duly elected as has been heretofore set forth, in the territory designated by the Grande Promenade.

The Grand Cheminots-at-Large members shall be responsible for the welfare and advancement of the various Voiture Locales in their Districts, and shall act as organizers, advisors and representatives of the Grande Voiture in their respective Districts. They must familiarize themselves with the Voiture Locales under their jurisdiction, and shall be responsible for such Voitures; they shall furnish such information in reference thereto as the Grande Voiture may desire or require, and shall be the legislative and executive representative of their District in the Grande Voiture du California.

Section 3. SOUS GRAND CHEMINOTS-AT-LARGE: The Sous Grand Cheminots-at-Large shall be charged with the duty of actively assisting the Grand Cheminots-at-Large in the particular

District. The Sous Cheminot as a member of the Grand Ways and Means Committee, shall be the Way's and Means Chairman within the District. The Sous Cheminot shall further perform the duties of the Grand Cheminot-at-Large in the absence of, or in the event of their inability to perform such duties, and shall be considered as a Grand Cheminot-at-Large for all purposes, including representation of the District at meetings of the Grandes Cheminots.

In the event of the death or resignation or removal of the District Grand Cheminot-at-Large, the Sous Grand Cheminot-at-Large shall serve until the election of a successor to the vacated office.

## ARTICLE XII VOITURE LOCALES

Section 1. VOITURE LOCALES: As prescribed in the National Constitution of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, each Voiture Locale shall be known as a county unit, and shall generally draw upon qualified veterans as defined in ARTICLE V Section 6 of this Constitution in that county for its membership.

Section 2. ORGAINZATION of VOITURE LOCALES: 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, make application to Voiture Nationale 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 Temporary 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 of such Grande Voiture; and provided further, that if there be an existing Voiture Locale or Voiture Locales, they also must give their consent and approval. Failing such consent, a Grande Voiture may, pending the granting of a Permanent Charter to a Voiture Locale issue a dispensation for its existence until its Permanent Charter is granted.

Section 3. CHARTERS: Permanent Charters will be requested from Voiture Nationale after approval of the Grande Voiture, which shall be given only upon proof the newly organized Voiture Locale is successfully carrying out the purposes for which it was organized, and such proof indicates its future success.

Section 4. VOITURES WITH LESS THAN 10 MEMBERS. If the membership of any Voiture Locale shall become less than ten (10), the Correspondant National shall so inform the Cheminot Nationaux, and the Cheminot Nationaux may, in their discretion, suspend or revoke the charter of such Voiture Locale.

## ARTICLE XIII SOLICITATION OF FUNDS FOR CHARITIBLE PURPOSES

Section 1. FUND RAISING: Every Voiture Locale, which engages in the solicitation of funds for charitable purposes, other than from Voyageurs Militaire shall observe the following conditions:

a. The Voiture Locale shall register with and report to the office of the Attorney General of the State of California, in accordance with the Uniform Act for Supervision of Trustees for Charitable Purposes (California Government Code Section 12580 et seq)

b. The Voiture Locale shall maintain a separate and distinct bank account for such funds, the title of which accounts must indicate that these funds are held in trust for charitable purposes only.

c. These funds must be made productive by prudent investment in accordance with the requirements of the Civil Code of the State of California.

d. These funds must be under the direct control of the Voiture Locale at all times and specifically from the first solicitation from the Public, whether or not a promoter is employed.

e. If the Voiture Locale seeks to employ any person to promote the raising of funds for charitable purposes, that Voiture Locale shall submit a formal proposal and contract for approval of the Grande Cheminots prior to entering into such contract. If any Voiture Locale purports to enter into such contract without the prior approval of the Grande Cheminots, such contract is declared to be and is hereby null and void.

#### ARTICLE XIV FEES AND DUES

Section 1. Voiture Locales after organization and installation shall fix their own locales dues, at a minimum of not less than One Dollar (\$1.00), plus such additional amount as will enable the payment of both Nationale and Grande Per Capita Tax, and such additional amount as will enable that particular Voiture Locale to carry on the activities in which they wish to engage. Such activity varies in different counties.

Section 2. All applications for a Permanent or Temporary Charter must be accompanied by the applicable fees.

Section 3. All Chapeaux, Marching medals, lapel buttons, and attachments shall be purchased from Voiture Nationale only.

Section 4. There shall be set aside and placed in the Grande Voiture Reserve Fund ten cents (.10) per member from the Grande Per Capita Tax.

#### ARTICLE XV DISCIPLINE, PUNISHMENT and MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1. All provisions in the National Constitution Articles XIII and XIV as they relate to Grande and Locale Officers and Voyageurs Militaire are included herein without repetition and unnecessary duplication.

#### ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS AND/OR CHANGES

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any Grande Promenade by a two thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting, provided that the proposed amendment shall be presented in writing at the first (1<sup>st</sup>) business meeting of the Grande Promenade, except that all amendments presented by the Grand Committee on Constitution and By-Laws shall be considered whenever presented.

Section 2. Any amendment to the Constitution of Voiture Nationale which shall affect or conflict with any provisions herein contained shall be considered an amendment to this Constitution.

Section 3. By the adoption of this Constitution, all previous Constitutions are revoked and/or annulled. Any provisions herein which are in conflict with the National Constitution of this organization are hereby annulled, and such provisions as are not in conflict, shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE XVII  
REPEAL

Section 1. REPEAL and SAVING CLAUSE. This constitution supersedes and takes the place of all earlier constitutions and amendments thereof; and the same are hereby revoked and annulled; provided, nothing in this constitution contained shall be construed, without the taking of proceedings authorized hereunder, to deprive any Voyageur Militaire of their membership or to annul any charter hitherto granted of any Grande Voiture or Voiture Locale constitution heretofore submitted to and approved by the Avocat National.

Approved by the 101<sup>st</sup> Grande Promenade in Fresno CA July 10, 2021

Attest:

Approved:

*Joseph R Donovan*

Joseph R Donovan  
Grand Correspondant

*Robert S Mattson*

Robert S Mattson  
Grand Avocat



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250 E 38th ST, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46205



November 1, 2021

Joseph Donovan  
Grand Correspondant  
jdonovan4660@hotmail.com

Salut Grand Correspondant,

I am pleased to inform you that the Constitution for Grand Voiture du CA was approved by the Avocat National on October 25, 2021.

Attached/enclosed you will find your original submission, as well as the approval letter from the Avocat National.

Best Regards,

Terry Sims  
Correspondant National

TS/hw

Enclosure