

FALL CHEMINOT, OCTOBER 14-16, 2011

Fall 2011 Cheminot held in Kerr County, Kerrville, TX and was hosted by VL 1055.

All committee meetings were held at the Y O Resort Hotel.

Cheminot called to order by Grand Chef de Gare Dan Thompson at 1:10 p.m. following the general assembly.

All members were called to order for the formal opening by Chef Thompson.

Divine Blessings were by Aumonier Cheryl L. Williams.

Roll call of officers: 16 present 2 excused 2 absent

Roll call of Locales: 10 present 8 excused

Grand Chef de Gare Passe: 10 present 2 excused 5 absent

Reading of Cheminot Call and Rules by Grand Correspondant Milton R. Chatham

It was motioned by VM Brady to suspend reading of the minutes, 2nd by VM Wheeler, Carried.

Call for Reports:

Chef de Train Division #1, Ronald Mix, was absent but sent in report-Division #1 stands at 11%. VM Lanny Givens also made remarks.

Chef de Train Division #2, George Murphy, gave a verbal report.

Chef de Train Division #3, Lowell Mix: 1 locale that is 78%; another locale reports 100% but membership/goal is only 8; 1 locale shows 1 member renewed; renewals for 3rd Division stands at 12.35%; planning to conduct wreck at VL 542 in November; advised all locales that I am available to conduct wrecks for them upon request. I thank my friends and fellow voyageurs in Grande du Texas for your prayers and support during my recent surgery for pancreatic cancer removal. God did perform and I have been declared cancer-free without the use of radiation or chemo therapy.

Chef de Train Division #4, Johnnie Washburn, was absent but verbal report given by VM Gerry Brady. A special prayer was requested for Johnnie Washburn's lady friend who had been hospitalized for burns.

Directeur Americanism, Milton Chatham, reported that 2012 Americanism Pins had been ordered and will be available at the Merci Boxcar in February. They must be purchased at the time requested as none will be available for consignment.

Directeur Child Welfare, Glenda Simon, was absent.

Directeur Boxcar, Ronnie Wheeler: I have boxcar pins to give out. I need for the Locales to let me know how many they need. We did great last year and are already doing better this year so get on board and let's get this train moving.

Directeur Ritual, Gilbert Bell, no report.

Directeur Youth Sports, George Murphy, did not have a report.

Directeur VAVS, Darrell Gibbs, hours-1069; miles-22500; money spent-\$5350.00. These are the miles, hours, money spent on the program. El Paso VA Hosp., San Antonio VA, Dallas VA does not have a 40/8 representative in these hospitals. I

Directeur POW/MIA, Donna Hall, was absent. VM Ronnie Wheeler reported that scholarships have decreased due to lack of support.

Directeur Ways and Means, John Rodgers, raffle tickets are available for \$4.00 each and 6 for \$200.00 and he can be contacted for tickets on consignment.

Directeur Voiture Activities, Lowell Mix: i am working with the Grande du Texas Webmaster to place a section on the web where locales can enter and make appropriate reports updating their Voiture activities report every month, contact him if you have questions on what is to be included in the Voiture activities report. This is a very import record for Nationale that shows a lot of reflection on what we are doing, or not doing, in Texas

Grand Provost, Donald Taylor, no report.

Nursing Training Committee, Paul Chevalier was absent, but report given by Doug Pendleton: 4 applications received-VL 1031 (1); VL 312 (1); VL 542 (2). \$300.00 grant approved each student. It was approved to have the Nurses Training Committee

Chairman update the Grand By-laws and/or standing rules to reflect the requirements for applying for scholarship from the Grande.

Directeur Constitution and By-Laws, John Powell, no report

Finance Committee, Tom Larsen, no changes in budget.

Grand Advocate, John Powell, no report.

Grand Aumonier, Cheryl Williams, requested that she be notified of any VMs that are ill or die.

Time and Place Committee, Ronnie Wheeler: as of now Merci Boxcar will be in Austin and the Grande will be in Beaumont. We do not have a place for the Fall Cheminot, so if any Locale would like to host it or any Grande function please let me know.

Historien, Albert B. Marks, had no report.

Committee on Committees, Jerry Brady, had no report.

Grand Correspondant, Milton R. Chatham, requested that all reports in the future be written.

Grand Chef de Gare, Dan Thompson, visited VLs 1031 (390 miles); 1134 (455 miles); 542 (148 miles) 266 (296 miles) 231 (704 miles); 1077 (44 miles) Killeen to Amarillo 639 (1212 miles) for a total of 3369 miles traveled promoting membership, installing officers, presenting awards and just visiting with the locales; gave new password; membership for Grand is 34.1%, should be 50% no later than December 31, 2011; 6 locales and 2 cabans have lost exempt status; locale with 100% NLT December 31 will be awarded a special made jacket which will go to the Correspondant; need resolutions of intent for grand officers need to be in to Committee on Committees no later than Merci Boxcar.

Cheminot Nationale, Dan Wheeler: resolution to change make-up of Nationale Committee on Committees was voted down but will be resubmitted with changes.

Trophies and Awards, Darrell Gibbs, no report

Old business: none

New business: none

Good of the Grand Voiture:

VM Lanny Givens- 7 night cruise from Galveston, Grand will receive \$5.00 per day per person, passport needed and need payment no later than December 31, 2011. This information is available on the internet and cruise is open to anyone.

VM Wheeler-thanked for support for past two years and requested the same support for present Grand Chef de Gare.

VM John Long spoke on The American Legion's Legacy Scholarship Fund Run.

VM David Knutson-loading reports on website; notify him if you want to put something on the website; records in Boxcar are deteriorating and requested information on what to do with them; presented copy of Life Magazine to VM Wheeler.

There being no further business, the Cheminot was closed at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Milton R, Chatham
Grand Correspondant

