



Voiture 1379 Communiqué for March 2017

Membership: Voiture 1379 paid up membership is currently at forty four (44) with our membership goal of fifty five (55). If you have not yet paid your 2017 dues please do so now. According to the Nationale Constitution your membership is delinquent as of January 1st, 2017.

If you would like to be considered for a Grande or Locale position elected or appointed please let me know which position you would like and I will send your name into the Grande for consideration.

March 15th - 97th Birthday of “La Société de Quarante Homes et Huit Chevaux” commonly known as the Forty and Eight, or La Société. In March of 1920, Joseph W. Breen, a member of the newly formed American Legion and an officer of Breen McCracken Legion Post 297, met in Philadelphia with fifteen other prominent Legionnaires where they originated the idea of The Forty & Eight. They envisioned a new and different level of elite membership and camaraderie for leaders of the American Legion. The box car of the French Railways, so familiar to American ground troops of the First World War, was chosen as the symbolic heart of the new organization. The French/Railroad theme was applied to official functions. During the last 97 year La Société has endeavored to seek out and satisfy the needs of our nations Veterans, Local Communities and the nation’s children.

The National Box Car Association – Was founded in 1965 as an affiliate to the 40et8. The NBCA is an independent association within the 40/8 which raises funds by selling Crew and Associate Membership Cards, pins, patches and coins. The Crew cards are available to 40/8 er’s only. The Associate cards, pins, patches and coins are available to anyone. This year the NBCA introduced a LaFemme coin. The initial purpose of the NBCA is to preserve the Box Car as a symbol of the 40/8 and in addition, to contribute to hospitals, children’s homes, orphanages, and other programs in our organization. Each year a party for special children is planned at the Promenade Nationale host city. These special children and their escorts are treated to lunch, train rides when possible, and entertainment provided by HOB0 clowns. The entire cost of the party is paid by the NBCA from funds collected during their annual membership drive. Another project at Promenade Nationale is a monetary donation made to a local VA hospital or clinic. The contribution usually goes to the Patient Services area. The NBCA also contributes large amounts to the various programs of Voiture Nationale.

This month’s Promenade will be on March 22nd at Post 61 North Kansas City, MO with dinner at 18:00 HRS. The Promenade will begin at 19:00 HRS.

Reminder to all: Please update your contact information so you will not get lost in the shuffle.

Thank you for your service to Our Great Nation, your service to the 40et8 through Voiture 1379. If we all work together we can and do make a difference.

Robert C. Emery, Correspondant Locale, Voiture 1379