



Voiture 1379 Communiqué for May 2016

Welcome R.E. Holtz to the Forty and Eight and Voiture Locale 1379. R.E. Holtz was WRECKED at the last Promenade.

We still have two (2) P.G.'s to be WRECKED Vernon Mattocks and Daniel Mott. The close of the membership year is rapidly approaching and our membership still has not reached one hundred (100%) percent. So you sponsors out there please get your P.G.'s to the Promenade.

MEMBERSHIP: Our current paid up membership is fifty one (51) with our membership goal of fifty five (55) for the 2016 membership year. So if you know any deserving veterans please invite them to join the Forty and Eight.

MEMBER INFORMATION: It is also time to update your information – name, address, telephone/cell numbers, and email address. If your information is not up to date we cannot keep you informed. It also saves the Voiture money by not wasting postage.

REPORTS: It is that time of the year for preparing the annual reports. If you would please take a moment to make a list of your activities for the last year (HOURS, MILES, DOLLARS) and turn them so they may be added to the annual V#1379 reports.

Selective Service: The military draft may be headed for the scrap heap. The House Armed Services Committee will include instructions to examine the Selective Service program's viability and possible "alternatives" as part of its review of the annual defense authorization bill next week, staffers confirmed 22 APR. The move comes following months of hand-wringing over whether women will be forced to register for the draft as part of the military's plans to open combat jobs to all troops regardless of gender. A bipartisan group of House lawmakers — several of whom sit on the committee — has already offered legislation to abolish the Selective Service System, calling it an outdated vestige of military history.

Committee officials said the authorization bill language is not geared toward keeping or eliminating the Selective Service system, but reviewing the cost and operation of a program that hasn't been used to fill the ranks since 1973. The agency's activities cost taxpayers roughly \$23 million each year, and a 2012 Government Accountability Office report questioned whether the system could even provide a list of draftees to the Defense Department if called upon to do so. Meanwhile, military officials over the last two decades have repeatedly downplayed the idea of reviving the military draft, saying today's all-volunteer force is the most highly trained and disciplined in American history. While returning to the draft could connect more Americans to the armed forces, it would almost certainly also dilute that skill.

Several lawmakers have also voiced plans to introduce related amendments to the authorization bill to specifically exempt women from registering for the draft, arguing that Pentagon officials haven't fully thought out the ramifications of opening combat jobs to women. The authorization bill, which sets spending guidelines and policy priorities for next fiscal year, will be marked up by the armed services committee on Thursday. The Senate must take up the measure later this year before sending the proposal to the White House to be signed into law.

This month's Promenade will be on May 25th in Cameron, MO at Post 33 with dinner at 18:00 HRS and the Promenade will begin at 19:00 HRS.

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

Robert C. Emery, Correspondant Locale, Voiture 1379



Check us out on the web
www.voiture1379.com
and
www.grandedumissouri.com

