



Voiture 1379 Communiqué for August 2024

2025 Dues are now being collected and are still twenty five (\$25) dollars.

Consider this your official DUES Renewal Notice.

The following Voiture Militaires have not renewed for 2025 membership year.

Robert Beatty, Gregory Blas, Tim Coulter, Ray Crerstell, Mike Edwards, Larry Hammes, Dale Hunt, Les Kelsay, John-Paul Kopp, Ron McBee, Dale Moses, Tina Petterson, and Steven Thurmond.

Please make your check or money order out to V#1379 and mail or give to it to Don Happy

906 KINGSTON CT

Liberty, MO 64068-3049

Membership is trickling in very slowly we currently have 24 of 32 paid up for 2025. If you have already paid your 2025 dues thank you. If you have not, please take a moment and send it in today, our goal is to be at 100% by Veterans Day if not over the top for the 2025 membership year.

MEMBERSHIP - As always be on the lookout for deserving veterans that would make good 40et8'ers and ask them to join Voiture 1379.

If you have a change in your mailing address, phone number, or email address please let me know.

BOXCAR history that you can find on the 40 et 8 website: In 1947, American newspaper columnist Drew Pearson was so moved by the conditions in war torn Europe that he called on Americans for donations of food, clothing, medical and other supplies to aid the plights of France and Italy. He proposed a plan for a train to cross America collecting car loads of donated supplies as it went .The Friendship Train as it was called, left Los Angeles on November 7, 1947 with eight empty boxcars. The response from across America was overwhelming and eleven days later on November 18, 1947 the Friendship Train arrived in New York with some 700 Box Cars loaded with donated goods worth \$40 million. The supplies were then shipped to the region. As the aid began to pour in, a French veteran of WW I and railroad worker named Andre Picard was so grateful for Americas outpouring of generosity that he formulated a response and joined with the French Veterans Association to reply with a 49 car Merci Train of WWI era boxcars, each filled with mementos from the French people and sent to America. The boxcars arrived in New York Harbor February 3, 1949 and as the Gratitude Train as came to be called in America, crossed the Nation one boxcar with its contents was donated to each of the 48 States with one shared by the District of Columbia and the territory of Hawaii. Today these BoxCars stand in their respective States as a testament to these two incredible displays of goodwill and have evolved through the efforts of La Societe de 40 and 8 and the National Boxcar Association to annually raise funding to support the many charitable programs of the 40/8 in support of our communities across this great Nation. The National Box Car Association was founded in 1965 as an affiliate of La Societe de Forty & Eight with the primary purpose of preserving the Box Car as the symbol of the Forty & Eight. Over time Locomotives were added to the symbolic rolling stock of the NBCA since they were connected and needed to haul the Box Cars

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

Check us out on the web <http://www.voiture1379.com>

also

Check out Grande du Missouri web site <http://www.grandedumissouri.com>