



*Voiture 1379 Communiqué for January 2013*  
**Happy New Year to One and All.**

Membership is now up to forty four (44) paid up for 2013 out of forty five (45) with our goal for 2013 being forty six (46). Chef de Gare Ed Schmidt has paid for the last two (2) Voiture Militaries dues for 2013 - J. Whitfield Moody Darrell Richards  
With this being said we will still be short of our goal for 2013 which is forty six (46) for 100%. With the passing of one of our Voiture Militaries our numbers have dropped by at least one (1).

Like it's been said many times before, membership is an organizations life blood without new members our group will surely die. So start beating the bushes and work on getting new members. If the initiation fee is a problem we now have a chapeau fund to help defer the initiation fee sticker shock.

I know we have a Nomination for Membership outstanding for Alexander Vivas plus I have seen one other Nomination waiting for a Promenade for first reading.

This months Promenade will be on January 23<sup>rd</sup> Cameron, MO with dinner and Promenade at Post 33. Dinner – provided by Post 33 Auxiliary Unit will begin at 18:00 HRS with the Promenade beginning at 19:00 HRS.

The 113th Congress that takes office in January will have the fewest military veterans since World War II, although the number of members who served in the Afghanistan or Iraq wars is growing. Nineteen percent of the next Congress will be veterans, with 85 in the House and 18 in the Senate, 34 according to a tally compiled by the American Legion. In the current Congress, there are 91 veterans in the House and 25 in the Senate. The decline isn't completely surprising. The 95th Congress of 1977 and 1978 -- just after the draft ended in 1973 -- had 412 veterans. The percentage of members who served in the military has steadily fallen since. "There are two things that are leading to fewer veterans in Congress," said Jon Soltz, co-founder of VoteVets.org. "First, the last conscription force to fight a war is at retirement age, and they are leaving Congress. Second, the new generation of veterans makes up a smaller percentage of the overall population now, and many of them are just getting into politics for the first time. Many of them aren't yet ready to run for Congress, because they have no political base in their communities."

If there are any other functions you would like to "get the word out" please let me know and I will put them on the Grande du Missouri, Voiture1379 and 3<sup>rd</sup> District web sites as well as the communiqué.

Thank you for your service to Our Great Nation, your service to the American Legion, and 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>  
<http://www.grandedumissouri.com>