



## *Voiture 1379 Communiqué for September 2018*

**2019 Dues are being collected now! Dues are still only \$20.00**

I have not received any renewals since the initial renewal notices were sent out. We currently have seventeen (17) members paid up for the 2019 membership year. Here are the unpaid members for 2019 – Please take a moment and pay your dues today. Larry Allen, Robert Beatty, Paul Bennett, Greg Blas, Tim Coulter, Ray Crestwell, Jim Elliott, Billie Gammill, Larry Hammes, Bill Hendrix, Roger Kimbrell, John-Paul Kopp, John F. Kopp, Dale Moses, Dan Mott, Ted Nelson, Cole Nixon, Jerry Phelps, Carmen Quintero, Roy Rash, Darrell Richards, Mike Scruby, Antoinette Shirley, and Dirk Stapleton.

Membership of an organization is its life blood and like many the 40et8 is also struggling with membership. Many of our members are passing away and more are not renewing their membership. We are currently fighting an uphill battle with membership. So we need to work on getting new members recruited and get current members to renew their membership. If things continue Nationale will need to increase dues to make up for the short fall in revenue. So let's all be on the lookout for deserving veterans and invite them to join the 40et8.

### **No Pollywog is Exempt from Transition Ceremony**

A sailor's hazing-filled transition from a slimy pollywog to a trusty shellback during an equator line-crossing is a naval tradition unlike any other. Ritualistic pain, immensely questionable sanitation and excessive humiliation have seemingly forever been a requirement of entering King Neptune's royal court and becoming a son or daughter of the god of the sea. It's a right of passage that dates back over 400 years, when seasoned mariners sought to test new shipmates to ensure they were capable of withstanding long voyages at sea. Hundreds of years later, versions of the ceremony continue to be observed by navies throughout the world as a way to boost camaraderie and provide a welcome respite from the daily rigors of life at sea.

The hazing festival, intended to be inescapable, traditionally allows no one the chance to be spared the prerequisite misery prior to joining the ancient order of the deep. Not even President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was aboard the USS Indianapolis when it crossed the equator in 1936, was exempt from at least some form of embarrassment. "You will accept most heartily and with good grace the pains and penalties of the awful torture that will be inflicted upon you to determine your fitness to be one of our Trusty Shellbacks," the president's summons read. Roosevelt was made to plead his case before a seasoned sailor who dressed up as King Neptune, and had to go through some degree of embarrassment before he was granted the status of a Shellback. Like most sailors who went through this rite of passage, Roosevelt was given a certificate to show his status as a trusty Shellback. [

The Fall Grande Cheminot and Grand Chefs Homecoming will be held November 9<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> in Springfield MO at the Oasis Hotel and Convention Center. Please come out and see what is going on the Grande du Missouri.

This month's Promenade will be in Kansas City at Post 61 on September 26<sup>th</sup> with meal at the Post at 18:00 HRS and Promenade starting at 19:00 HRS.

Thank you for your service to Our Great Nation, your service the 40et8 through Voiture 1379 and Grande du Missouri. 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>