



Voiture 1379 Communiqué for September 2023

2024 Dues are being collected now! Dues are only \$25.00

Please Keep Larry Allen's family in your thoughts and prayers as they go through their loss.

I have not received any renewals since the initial renewal notices were sent out. We currently have twenty one (21) members paid up for the 2024 membership year. Here are the unpaid members for 2024 – Please take a moment and pay your dues today. Gregory Blas, Tim Coulter,, Ray Crestwell, Billie Gammill, Lary Hammes, Dale Hunt, Les Kelsay, John-Paul Kopp, Ron McBee, Carmen Quintero, Judi Samborski, Jake Samborski. Mike Scruby..

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.

Have you ever been in a cemetery and saw coins laying on a headstone?

A coin left on a headstone lets the deceased soldier's family know that somebody stopped by to pay their respect.

A penny means you visited.

A nickel means you and the deceased veteran trained at boot camp together.

A dime means you and the deceased veteran served together in some capacity.

A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when that veteran died.

The tradition of leaving coins on the headstones of military men and women can be traced to as far back as the Roman Empire. Soldiers would insert a coin into the mouth of a fallen soldier to ensure they could cross the "River Styx" into the afterlife. In the US, this practice became common during the Vietnam war, due to the political divide in the country over the war, leaving a coin was seen as a more practical way to communicate that you had visited the grave than contacting the soldier's family, which could devolve into an uncomfortable argument over politics relating to the war.

What happens to the coins? It is collected from the gravesites monthly and the money is used for cemetery maintenance, the cost of burial for soldiers, or the care for indigent soldiers.

This month's Promenade will be in Kansas City at Post 61 on September 27TH with meal starting 18:00 and Promenade starting directly after meal at the Post.

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>