

PRESS RELEASE

The Society of 40 men or 8 horses
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Don Ernst

10th Annual Tybee Island Polar Plunge

On January 1st, 2010, thousands will take the plunge into the Atlantic Ocean on Tybee Island. 2010 looks to be a banner year with Tybee Fest and the Tybee Island Tourism Committee onboard promoting specials on the island for the New Years Holiday.

At noon, 12 pm, next to the Walter Parker Tybee Pier and Pavilion, new year wishers will be cleansing themselves of a recession year 2009, and bringing the new prosperous year with a splash. Freezin for a reason. The Society of 40 men or 8 horses, a national veterans group, has been the lead sponsor of the event for the past 4 years. This event raises funds for the local units nurses scholarship given out to nurse candidates from Armstrong Atlantic University.

This year will be our first year with registration into the Tybee Polar Club, Don Ernst says, the organizer for the past 10 years. There will be a graduated scale where everyone this year will be a shrimp graduating each year until you become Moby Dick at the tenth year. The registration fee will help the organization offer major scholarships to support the local medical community. Early registration will be \$25 until December 15th, with registration after \$30. Registrants will be entered into the Tybee Polar Club and will receive a t-shirt which local vendors will offer discounts for folks wearing them.

Groups are now encouraged to register to compete for the best Gang of Goofs. 2010 will introduce the coveted Le Goofs trophy. Groups will register their gang prior to 11:00 am January 1st and will parade their gang across the pier in the first annual parade of goofs. The winner of the Gang of Goofs competition will receive the coveted trophy. Trophy will be defended each year and will have their groups name inscribed on the trophy for eternity.

All entry forms can be obtained from www.tybeetime.com and click on the Polar Plunge link on the front page.

2010 SPONSORS: WRHQ FM 105.3, WJCL/FOX 28 The Coastal Source, Connect Savannah, Southern Eagle Distributing, and The Tybee Times.

For more information about the Tybee Island Polar Plunge contact Don Ernst at 912-667-8702.

For information about participating in the Gang of Goofs competition contact Rick Janssen at 912-441-2657

Credit cards are accepted on the internet via PayPal.

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The Forty & Eight ~ Media Kit

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WELCOME MEDIA. Our nearly 50,000 members are wartime veterans who honorably served to help preserve the freedoms that make the United States great. We honor that which we in uniform have defended; Freedom of the Press -- the Fourth Estate -- the Voice of Democracy.

OUR 1920 FOUNDERS WERE VETERANS OF W.W.I. FRANCE. Our organization's formal title is *La Societe des Quarente Hommes et Huit Chevaux*; or the Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses. -- During the First World War, French boxcars carried American Doughboys to the front. These wartime boxcars, which held 40 men or 8 horses, were emblazoned with a "40/8"; a symbol readily understood by American veterans of that era. Today our organization's titles are in French and we meet in symbolic W.W.I. train depots, in grateful homage to the sacrifices of our Doughboy founders and indeed to honor all Americans who yet serve. -- We are most commonly known as "La Societe" or simply "The Forty & Eight".

LEGACY OF CHARITY. The Forty & Eight's *Child Welfare* program was founded in 1923. In the 1930's, we lead a national effort to inoculate every American child against diphtheria. Other long-standing charitable programs of the Forty & Eight include the *Artery Child Welfare Trust*, **our unique *Nurses Training Program* that has graduated over 30,000 nurses**, the *Boland Scholarship Trust*, *Carville Medical Research*, *Veterans Voluntary Service*, *Youth Sports*, *Americanism*, *Flags*, and *POW/MIA scholarships*. Many Forty & Eight units (Voitures) have *Parade Trains* and *Hobo Clowns* that delight children and promote patriotism.

The Forty & Eight has recently championed *The Military Chaplain's Fund* that provides clothes and necessities for Armed Forces members injured in Afghanistan and Iraq.

AFFILIATES include the *National Box Car Association* that raises funds for 40 & 8 programs, the woman's auxiliary *Societe de La Femme*, and the *Press Association of La Societe*.

FOR MORE INFORMATION please contact M. Anich at publiciste408@cox.net. Or Forty & Eight National Headquarters at 777 N. Meridian St.; Indianapolis, IN 46204; 317 634-1804. For more information about the local chapter, Voiture 567, contact Don Ernst at 912-667-8702 or donernst@bellsouth.net