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Monthly Newsletter April 2016

North Central MN Chapter #7 PO Box 564 Bemidji, MN 56619

## NEXT MEETING: National Guard Armory Bemidji, MN Monday, April 18th at 7pm





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EXEC. COMMITTEE: EXEC. COMMITTEE:

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

Dave Sterr - (218) 556-4633 Mike Zimmerman - (218) 252-2061 Dave Strege Robert Saddoris - (218) 243-2663 Robert Saddoris - (218) 243-2663 Jeri Harvey Mike Gutz - (218) 308-3927 Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591 David Myers Bruce Tiegen Glenn Aagard David Myers Tom Annonson - (218) 251-3025, torgor@lightspeed.net Walter James Glenn Aagard

### **Sound Off** A free combat veterans support group in Bemidji

Sound Off, a free combat veterans support group, is held from 5 to 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday each month at the Sanford Bemidji Medical Center's Conference Room

A, located immediately to the right through the hospital's main east entrance.

The group is open to men and women from all branches of service, regardless of conflict or disaster. It is facilitated by Billy Benso, United States Marine Corps (USMC) combat veteran, and Mike Sletta, behavioral health triage therapist at Sanford Bemidji.

The group provides members with a safe and confidential place to openly discuss personal issues and how their combat experience impacts their daily life.

"Post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD, is a condition many veterans struggle with after traumatic experiences such as combat or disaster," said Sletta. "What we want our vets to know is that it's real, you are not alone, and help is out there with groups like ours."

The support group can help veterans learn that:

- Combat did change them
- No matter what they do, they can't change what they've experienced
- Drugs, alcohol, isolation and denial don't work as coping behaviors
- With support of other combat vets, they can learn to live with PTSD

Any veteran interested in attending can simply show up at the scheduled meeting time or call (218) 333-5165 to learn more.

## THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER # 7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON MARCH 21 2016 AT 1900

The meeting opened in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### A. Roll Call of Officers to determine if quorum is present

Commander: Dave Sterr	Present
Senior Vice Commander: Mike Zimmerman	Present
Junior Vice Commander: Don Struge	Present
Chaplain: Mike Gutz	Excused
Service Officer: Robert Saddoris	Present
Sergeant- at-Arms: Bruce Tiegen	Present
Historian/Judge Advocate: David Myers	Present
Adjutant: Robert Saddoris	Present
Treasurer: Jeri Harvey	Present
Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard	Present

B. Members Present: (19) Robert Saddoris, Bruce Tiegen, Bruce Holden, Marten Schrage, Mike Zimmerman, David Sterr, Tom Annison, Lyle Stroup, Don Struge, Jeri Harvey, Walter James, Jack Macnamera, Stephen Sikes, Joe ? (Unreadable signature), Randy Hanevold, David Myers, Jeff Geiger, Andy Staudt, Glenn Aagard

# C. Introduction of guests or visitors, prospective new members, and transfers to Chapter # 7.

Ms Annette Keanu, of the Grand Rapids Chapter, Mr. Lyle Stroup, new member

Ms. Keanu discussed the possibility of a vet center in Bemidji, as well as the services available at the Duluth center.

#### Prospective new members: None

Transfers in: None

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of February 15, 2016

Motion to approve: Andy Stout Seconded: Marten Schrage Approval: Yes

E. Financial Report for February 15 - March 20, 2016: Report read (See Enclosure)

Motion to approve: Andy Stout Seconded: Marten Schrage Approval: Yes

- F. Sickness or distress: Chaplain Mike Gutz is ill. (See attached hospital report)
- G. New Member Obligation: None
- H. Communications: See Attached report (Enclosure)
- I. Committee Reports:
  - 1. Membership Report: Senior Vice 7 new members (see report)
  - 2. Service Officer Report: Nothing at this time

3. Legislative Report: Legislative Officer

11 vets participated in veteran's day on the hill.

#### 4. Hospital Chaplain Report:

4 hospital visits, 1 Funeral John Mattison 53 year member

5. Entertainment: Mr. Annonson continues to work on plans for summer picnic

#### 6. Fundraising committee:

Herberger's coupon raised 5830.16, which greatly exceeded the 3,000.00 budget!

#### 7. Newsletter Committee:

- a. Mr. Annonson requested articles by Thursday (or sooner).
- b. Would like to increase the online access to reduce cost in mailing.
- c. Has 57 newsletters sent by email now.

#### I. Old Business:

- 1. The purchase of the new building is moving forward, Scheduled to close on 1 July. Loan from First National Bank of Bemidji for \$105,000.00 at 15 years at 5.25% interest.
- 2. Adjutant Saddoris trying to get 4 more drivers for Van to transport in to CBOC. No progress.

#### J. New Business

1. Sponsor golf classic. The cost is 250.00.

Motion to Approve: Marten Schrage Seconded: Andy Staudt Discussion: None Motion Carried

- Need to appoint a budget committee 3 person. Commander Sterr appointed the following: Andy Staudt, Martin Shrage, and Tom Annonson
- Select and vote on delegates for State Convention
   5-7 May 2016 at St. Cloud.: The following members are interested. Tom Annonson, Commander Sterr,
   Sr. Vice Commander Zimmerman.

Motion to approve: Walter James Seconded: Marten Schrage Motion carried

 Transportation account in the budget report specifies the money for trucks. Request to amend to add trailers (for purchase only).

*Motion to approve:* Randy Hanevold *Seconded:* Bruce Tiegen Some discussion ensued Motion carried

#### K. Executive Committee Action Items

Commander mentioned guidelines for helping veterans in need. Commander is often forced to make a decision, and he thinks more solid guidelines are in order. Utilizing county veterans service officer to help make the decision, as well as to possibly split the cost.

#### L. Good of the Order:

Nothing

A minute of silence was observed

#### M. Motion to adjourn

Motion made: Marten Schrage Seconded: Walter James Discussion: None Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 2035 hours. The next meeting will be held on 18 April 2016 at 1900 at the National Guard Armory.

In Comradeship

Approved

David C. Myers For the Adjutant Dave Sterr, Commander North Central Minnesota Chapter # 7



The warm weather is just around the corner! Some of the days in March that teased us with spring warmth were a real energy boost for me. With April comes the realization that we are three months out from taking ownership of our new building. I'm ready to move forward with the rest of my fellow veterans in every aspect of our activities, and I am very excited for us for our new building and property on west 15th street. I am hearing your enthusiasm for our new "digs" as well, and that makes me very glad.

We found the DAV bins full of donations this winter each time we pulled up to empty them. The Tuesday morning group keeps very busy organizing and re-bagging the items. It's a dedicated group of volunteers and they work together until the job is done.

I hope the Lenten season and Easter holiday filled you and your families with contemplations of the good things in life that we are blessed with. As we enter the spring and summer months working on our new endeavors, I'll be there with you!!!

Dave Sterr Commander



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### **ADJUTANT CORNER**

Minnesota is first in nation with new members @ 101.19 % Chapter # 7 first in Minnesota at 105 plus %. We need more new members to stay in the lead please work on this. Prayers needed for Tom Annonson his mother is not doing well, Chuck Deeds past State Commander lost his wife of 68 years. We still have 4 free lots available in Bemidji on Gemmel Ave, police say it is a safe area, great view, taxes \$224 year at this time call Saddoris for more information. We have a man who will do a free Bear hunt with Disabled Veteran, I have lost Mans name and phone # have given out this information in past if you have it would you give me a call. State DAV Ninety Sixth Annual Conventions in Saint Cloud May 5th thru May 7th 2016.

Chapter will pay your registration must call Treasure; we have 5 members going this is outstanding the more the better have. Our new bylaws were sent back with changes required by State and National Judge Advocate should get them back any day. Veterans on hill we did not get turn out we should have

Had, Tom Annonson worked very hard on this many hours to make it work lets plan on large turnout next year. The group I was with stopped at each Representative of the Veteran Affairs Division, a different group went to Senate Veteran Affairs members. We only saw three members but left cards at all the others asking for their support of Commanders Task Force

legislative items. One of which was to stop State Tax on retired military pay, these were listed for you in past. We then on return sent email follow up for all Veterans affairs elected officials. If you get email from me you are receiving bills for you to ask vour elected officials to vote on; please follow through every email helps. Some of spring outdoor events are now posted on the davmn.org web site the rest of events will be posted after the State Executive committee votes on the projected events and cost for same at Convention. These events were reviewed, voted on and approved by State outdoor committee. Please become involved in these programs they are all outstanding therapeutic and networking for all Veterans that attend. Minnesota is first in Nation in miles traveled transporting Veterans to health care at 1,756,746 miles. Note our Northwest transportation network that have our Vans out of Fargo are not counted for Minnesota miles but as ND miles. DAV National Critical Policy Goals for 2016 are 1. Reforming the Veterans health care system 2. Comprehensive caregiver support for Veterans of all eras 3. Legislation to enact a fully developed appeals pilot program. 4. Enhanced serves and policies for woman Veterans. 5. Adequate funding for Veterans benefits and programs look these up on dav.org web site. God Bless each of you

It is an honor to serve you. Saddoris

If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please send your email address to the organization at mndavchapter7@gmail.com or call or text Tom Annonson @ 218-251-3025



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# **2016 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES**

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### Northwest Transportation MN DAV Chapter 7 Bemidji-Fargo Trips Pick-up Points:

Bemidji National Guard Armory; Solway in front of Bar;
Shevlin in front of bar; Bagley Tesoro Station west end of town;
Fosston at LaPiere's on the east end of town;
Mahnomen Cenex park south of propane tank;

Ada Country Store

**To schedule rides:** 

Call 1-855-277-9787 (NOTE # HAS CHANGED)

and follow voice prompts to leave a message.

If you have problems leaving a message call Adjutant Saddoris at 218-243-2663.

## Volunteer Drivers Needed! Call Saddoris for info.





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### **CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

Are we Missing Something?

Have you ever had to explain something to a person you hoped were paying attention to what you were telling them, then when you were finished they missed the whole point? Yet it was so obvious it was a simple explanation, you wonder how they could not understand? Sometime a thing can be so plain and simple yet so many fail to comprehend, even those who supposedly should be the ones who have the knowledge to comprehend the subject presented. Thus it seems to be with the Bible where God has laid out the plan of salvation in a plain and simple way. Also why is it that prophecy has so many twisted explanations by men who should be scholars of the Word of God? Certainly they can't all be right, but one says this and another that. Who is right? No wonder there is so much confusion of the Word of God in the World today. This certainly causes people to become discouraged and give up, exactly the way Satan orchestrated it to be. No wonder so many young people are leaving the church today or not even getting involved, because of confusion being presented as truth without a solid foundation of the Word of God. The Bible tells us this "Study to show yourself approved of God, a workman who need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth". [2nd Timothy 2:15]. You see if people would study they would find that the Bible is its own interpreter. But no, they go here and there for answers and then it becomes man's ideas and speculation instead of Gods truth. And then when the truth is presented to them they express doubt. Here is a wise saying. "Those who allow prejudice to bar the mind against the reception of truth cannot receive divine enlightenment. Yet, when a view of Scripture is presented many do not ask, is it true, in harmony with Gods word? but, by whom is it advocated? and unless it comes through the very channel that pleases them, they do not accept it. so thoroughly satisfied are they with their own ideas that they will not examine the Scripture evidence with a desire to learn, but refuse to be interested because of their prejudices". [Taken from Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, pp. 105,106]. We expect all truth to come through men of great stature in learning, yet God will and does choose the lowly, the meek and the humble to bring forth His truth. Case in point. When the wise men of the East came to Jerusalem they expected all the city be rejoicing of the coming Messiah, yet the King the scholars and the priests had no clue to what had just happened, why? because they failed to study and put aside their preconceived ideas of when, where and how Jesus would come., These are the very ones who should have known better and prepared the people for this great event. But it was revealed to a bunch of shepherds on a hillside outside of Bethlehem. Here again is Wisdom. "The Bible must not be interpreted to suit the ideas of men however long they may have held these ideas to be true. We are not to accept the opinions of commentators as the voice of God; they were erring mortals like ourselves. God has given reasoning powers to us as well as to them. We should make the Bible its own expositor. [Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, pp. 105,106]. Soon now Christ will come in the clouds of glory and as it is written "Every eye shall see Him". So then i ask, are you ready, do you know how He is coming, will there be a false coming first, what must i do to prepare for this Earth shattering event? So has this been preached to you, is it first and foremost in the preaching you are receiving? or are you being lulled into thinking that all is well and His coming is a long way off? "That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that hear not the Law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophecy deceits". [Isaiah 30:9,10]. "Come now let us reason together, saith the lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the Land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it". [Isaiah 1:18-20]. So then are we missing something? will His second coming be misinterpreted just as His first? My friends Jesus is calling to every heart right now, that he loves us and wants to save us. Study his Word and surrender all to Him, listen to the truth because what you have been taught and believe may be deceiving you, after all that's Satan's plan.

Jay J. Ruediger Life Worth living Ministries j\_ruediger@man.com

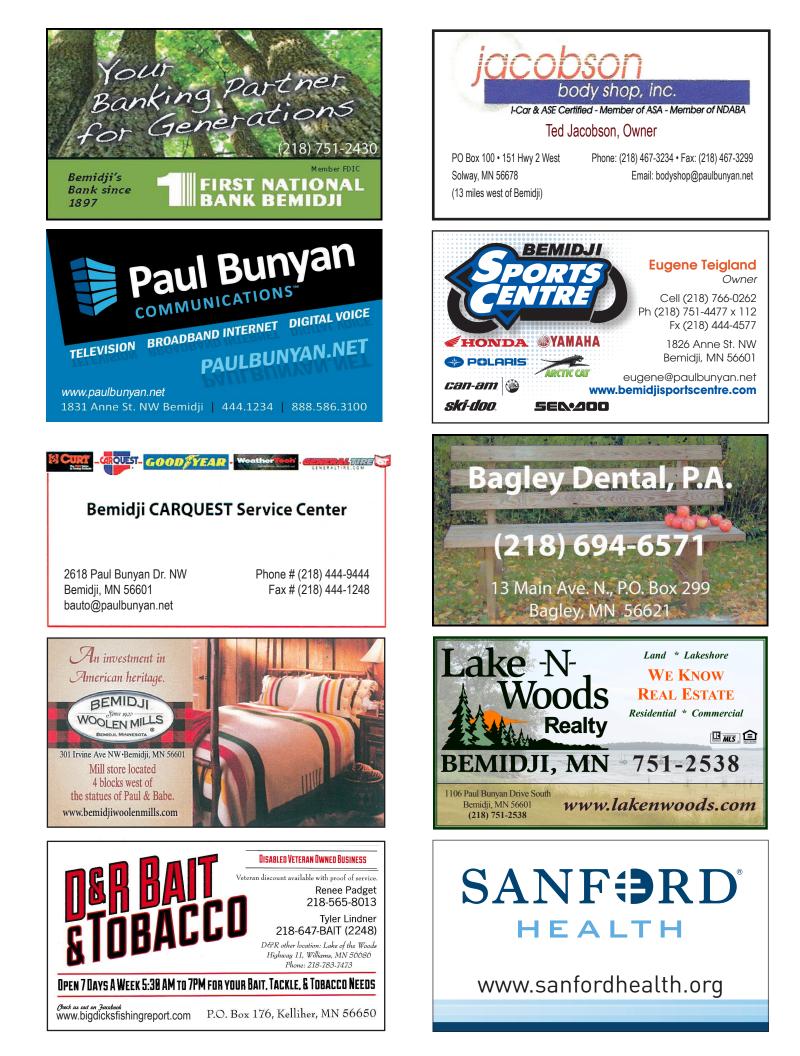






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### Bemidji Chapter 7

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