

FULFILLING OUR PROMISES

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

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Monthly Newsletter November 2019

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

NEXT MEETING:

DAV Headquarters at 5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN Monday, November 18th at 6pm







CHAPTER OFFICERS

COMMANDER: Mike Zimmerman - (218) 556-4633

SENIOR VICE: Joe Vene - (218) 556-5478

JUNIOR VICE: Gene Schwantes
ADJUTANT: David Myers
SERVICE OFFICERS: Scotty Allison
TREASURER: Scotty Allison

CHAPLAIN: Mike Gutz - (218) 444-5015 CHAPLAIN (ALT.): Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591 JUDGE ADVOCATE: Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Bruce Tiegen
OFFICER OF THE DAY: Glenn Aagard
LEGISLATIVE OFFICER: Joe Vene
HISTORIAN: Vacant

EXEC. COMMITTEE: Bruce Tiegen, Mike Gutz,

Tom Annonson

ATTENTION CHAPTER #7 MEMBERS!

The General membership meetings are now being "Called to Order" at 1800 Hrs. (6 P.M.) instead of 1900 Hrs. (7 P.M.).



Nov 3rd - Daylight Savings Time ends

Nov 10th - U. S. Marine's Birthday

Nov 11th - Veterans Day (Contact your

local Organizations for scheduled

programs and events)

Nov 28th - Thanksgiving

Dec 16th - Chapter Christmas Party

at the Eagles Club

Dec 24th - Christmas Eve

Dec 25th - Christmas Day

Dec 31st - New Year's Eve

Jan 1st - New Year's Day

Jan 20th - Martin Luther King Day



THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER # 7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON OCTOBER 21 2019 AT 1800.

The Disabled American Veteran North Central Minnesota Chapter # 7 regularly convened on October 21 2019 at 1800.

Opening Prayer

- Pledge of Allegiance
- A. Roll Call of Officers to determine if quorum is present:

Commander	Mike Zimmerman	Present
Senior Vice Commander	Joe Vene	Present
Junior Vice Commander	Gene Schwantes	Present
Adjutant	David Myers	Present
Treasurer	Scotty Allison	Present
Chaplain	Mike Gutz	Excused
Judge Advocate	Bruce Holden	Present
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	Absent
Historian	Vacant	Vacant

- B. Members present: 20
- C. Introduction of guests or visitors, prospective new members, and transfers to Chapter #7.
 - Guests/Visitors: Gerald and Elizabeth Knutson (Commander/ Adjutant)
 - 2. Prospective new members: Jeff Mayer (Signed up after the meeting)
 - 3. Transfers in: None
- D. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of September 16, 2019 were read by Adjutant. *Motion to approve made by Geri Harvey,* 2nd by Andy Staudt. Motion Carried.
- E. Financial Report for 1-30 Sep 2019: Report given by Scotty Allison (See enclosure). *Motion to approve made by Steve Siats, 2nd by Andy Staudt. Motion Carried.*
- F. New Member Obligation: None
- G. Communications: Various donations were received, as well as thank you notes. All are stored in October 2019 folder.
- H. Committee Reports:
 - Membership Report: Mr. George Benson and Jeffrey Meyer are in the process of joining. Jeff Meyer is fully paid; George Benson's status is unknown.
 - Service Officer Report: 1 claim processed and sent to Fargo NSO. Fargo acknowledges receipt, and has sent it on to the VA.
 - 3. Legislative Report: The Bemidji Veterans Home should be ready for occupancy in January 2022. It appears that there are already enough veterans interested to fill the facility as soon as it is ready. There were only 125 who attended the stand-down.
 - 4. Hospital Chaplain Report (Includes Sickness and Distress): 3 visits were made for hospitalized veterans. Our own Lester Johnson was hospitalized following an accident at his home. He suffered compression fractures in his back and has to wear a "clam-shell" brace.
 - Entertainment: The Christmas Party will be held at the Eales Club on the 16th of December. More info to follow. Ginger Edwards and Scotty are the POC's for the event.
 - Fundraising committee: Unfortunately, we missed out on the Gun show. Tom Annonson was out of town, and there were no other volunteers. Tom Annonson is trying to get a few more opportunities at the Bemidji Mall. More to follow as those dates solidify.
 - 7. Newsletter Committee: Articles are need by Friday 25 October.
 - 8. Medical Equipment:
 - i) Distributed: 15
 - ii) Received: 7 (Plus MANY sets of crutches and walkers).
- I. Old Business:
 - Fencing and gates on the property that were approved by the Executive Committee will be installed next week. This is not going to happen until Gopher One is able to come and trace out all underground wires. Partially completed, still tabled.

J. New Business:

- Discussed various recruiting programs and efforts being made by the department, and especially the new "75/75" match for membership. Andy Staudt made the motion to adopt \$75.00 donation (vice \$50.00) for chapter membership, Darryl Baltzell seconded. Motion Carried. There is a flyer explaining these programs attached to this report.
- Discussed the design for the new bins put out by the department. Discussed some options to have them fabricated by a separate source to save money. We will be shipping the dimensions out to several smaller companies to see what they can construct them for.
- Discussed the new DAV MN apparel store on the DAV MN website.
- 4. Discussed "Wreaths for the fallen" and Wreaths across America" programs. In the past we have been supportive of programs like these (especially the wreaths across America program). No one from the floor was willing to make a motion to support these programs this year. The opinions expressed were that we as an organization are to support live veterans, not dead ones. There are other agencies that support programs such as these. So it is a dead issue this year.

K. Executive Committee Action Items

 Discussed the need for a water softener for the building. Tabled until Commander Zimmerman checks with Kinetico. Still no information. Tabled. Adjutant suggested that it may be time to move on and

get this done. Commander Zimmerman reported that we have two bids. One from Culligan for \$2500.00, and one from Grass Lake for \$1240.00. Motion was made by Bruce Tiegen to make this recommendation to the membership at the Regular meeting on the 25th of October. Gene Schwantes made the second. Motion carried.

Randy Hanevold made the motion to spend up to \$1500.00 on a softener to be procured from Grass Lake Plumbing. Jeri Harvey 2nd. Motion carried.

- 2. Tom Annonson has purchased and given to us a 2nd flagpole. Need to purchase a "topper" light and get the pole installed. Commander Zimmerman wants to wait to install in the spring. Take to membership as an "info" item.
- Discussed the need for a van to transport local veterans to Non-VA appointments. After much discussion, it was decided to bring before the general membership for discussion. After much discussion, it was decided to table this issue until more information could be gathered.
- (INFO ITEM) An elderly widow of a veteran was in need of 4 cords of hardwood to heat her home for the winter. \$750.00 will provide the wood (cut and delivered). Scotty Allison made the motion, 2nd by Bruce Tiegen. Motion Carried.
- (INFO ITEM) Veteran's spouse in need of dental work. Scotty Allison recommended that we pay \$1000.00. Bruce Holden seconded. Carried.

L. Good of the Order:

- A round of applause was made to Joe Vene for singing the national anthem at the Minneapolis Make America Great Rally with President Donald Trump.
- 2. Several Hockey Tickets for the BSU Ladies Hockey games were donated to the chapter. (They went fast!)
- 3. Steve Siats donated several American Flags to the Chapter.
- M. Motion to adjourn: Made by Andy Staudt, 2nd by Darryl Baltzell. Motion Carried.
 - 1. The meeting was adjourned at 1910 hours.
 - 2. The next meeting will be held on 18 November 2019 at 1800 at the Chapter Headquarters.

COMMANDERS CORNER

Greetings Everyone,

Hope that everyone is enjoying the fall colors.

I know that all you hunters are getting ready and I hope you have a safe and prosperous hunting season.

Our clothing and medical equipment programs have both been busy. If you know anyone that has medical equipment to donate let us know.

I have still been helping Chapter 41 with questions, paperwork, and introducing them to businesses that we use to get them help with different items.

Bruce Holden, David Myer, and I attended the Fall Conference and Service Officer Training.

At the fall conference we were informed that as of 1 January 2020 all lifetime memberships will increase to \$300.00 regardless of age until you are over 80, then membership is free. At our October General meeting we voted to implement the \$75 / \$75 payment sharing plan suggested by the Department of Minnesota DAV to help offset \$150 towards the current cost of a new membership. The current lifetime age bracketed membership fees are:

Ages Normally Now

18 -- 40 -- \$250 - \$150 = \$100

41 -- 60 -- \$230 - \$150 = \$80

61 -- 70 -- \$180 - \$150 = \$30

71 - 80 - \$140 - \$140 = Free

So, if you know any eligible Veterans now is the time to encourage them to join.

Our Chapter Christmas Party will take place on the 16th of December in lieu of our regular general meeting and will be held at the Bemidji Eagles Club. The agenda for the evening will be:

4:30 Social Hour

5:30 Program and Presentations

6:00 Dinner

Meal Choices: Roast Beef, Chicken, or Vegetarian Lasagna

Please RSVP by December 6th with Ginger Edwards. Her phone number is 218-368-8562. Please leave your full name, phone number, number of people in your party and meal preferences. There will also be a signup sheet at the Chapter Headquarters.

Sincerely,

Mike Zimmerman









CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

This is the last of a four-part series we started five months ago in June 2019. As you may recall, the main topic has been the return of Christ, although there are many considerations and views regarding this future event. One characteristic is the personal nature of Jesus' return to each of us especially as it relates to our current situation - waiting. At the moment it seems it will never end, and it seems nothing will change since everything stays the same (kind of sounds like midnight military guard duty - ugh), this was the essence of what Peter wrote (II Peter 3). Scripture advises caution about this way of thinking (II Peter 3:5). There is a reason why God allows so much time to take place before Christ comes and as Peter mentions, it is because God is waiting patiently for people to turn towards Christ (II Peter 3:9). Peter warns the people of the latter days this view would become a part of the way people think (and it is!), yet make no mistake about it, Christ will certainly return.

There are so many views regarding this event in our culture, for some people, Jesus is not even on their radar scope. Another group of people consider Jesus' return will be in two separate events conducted in two distinctly different manners (1 - silently and undetected - rapture to participate in a wedding dinner, 2 - known to the whole world to stop a final war and set up his kingdom). There are people who view the event completely different whereas the current situation on earth will be getting better until one day we are all ushered into God's kingdom. Yet we still need to take care of the most immediate issue, that is waiting, which brings us to the point of this article. We will be talking about point number four. Integrity and Authentic Relationships with Christ - What do the scriptures reflect about a person's true relationship with Christ? This really does involve integrity. There are so many military veterans with integrity who serve with honor, yet there are those who are copycats - stolen valor, and who are not veterans at all. Just as there are stolen valor issues, there are false relationships with Christ too (Matthew 7:15-29).

A relationship needs to be genuine. This is not to say that these relationships don't have their ups and downs - most relationships do. Yet there are relationships that are built on ulterior motives. Maintaining integrity is vital, just look at all those who engage in stolen valor, there are many more examples, but essentially the point is to be true in our relationships. These relationships include family, veterans and Christ. Yes, there are times under stress, when our commitment, hope and faith may be challenged, but that is why being around other people can help sustain us. Everybody knows when they are in a genuine relationship with someone because they have a commitment of integrity with them, whereas a relationship without integrity is just a partnership to get the benefits of hanging around somebody. Let's take a look at Stolen Valor, why would anybody want to lie about their status? There are many reasons, unearned recognition, unearned respect, and obtaining unearned benefits. These are qualities the person of stolen valor doesn't have and will unethically do anything to get this kind of recognition.

A relationship really does require endurance, that is the whole point of The Book of Hebrews, as well as many other places throughout scriptures. Jesus spoke often about having integrity and commitment because He knew staying in a relationship with Him while surrounded by a very antagonistic society would be challenging. This is particularly true as we wait for Jesus' return. Hebrews 11 - 12:1-2, portrays this vividly.

If you are in need or would like to talk, give us a call at (218) 308-3927.

Mike and Julie Gutz.











2019 - BEMIDJI VAN - 2019 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES



January	February	March	April
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Free Rides To All Veterans and Caregiver (if needed)!

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 <u>park south of propane tank</u> Ada Country Store

To Schedule Rides:

Call 1-855-277-9787

and follow voice prompts to leave a message.

If you have problems leaving a message call scheduler

Saddoris at 218-243-2663 or 218-209-1863 (cell).

Volunteer Drivers Needed! Call Saddoris for info.







DAV OF MINNESOTA 4TH QUARTER MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

From 1 October 2019 through 31 December 2019 the DAV Department of Minnesota will match up to \$75 with equal Chapter matching funds for a total of up to \$150 in combined funds towards a new Life Membership.

The Department will also make available \$10,000 for the Chapters to use towards promotional advertising with a limit of \$500 maximum per Chapter. Chapters are encouraged to utilize the National and State commanders at the Chapter level for events and programs to help promote recruitment.

During the program the top recruiter from each Chapter that recruits a minimum of 5 new members will receive a winter jacket and a cap from the Department.

2019 VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAMS

Bemidji: The Ralph Gracie Post #14 of the American Legion will be hosting a Veteran's Day dinner on 11 November 2019 at the Eagles Aerie #351, Hwy 197 S. Bemidji. The program starts at 5:00 PM with dinner served at 5:30 PM. If a Veteran needs transportation to and from the event, please contact Kathy at 218-308-3421. Handicap Transportation is available.

Bagley: The Bagley High School will be holding its annual Veterans Day Program on Monday, November 11th at 9:30 A.M. in the high school gymnasium. All Veterans and their families are invited to attend the program and to be respectfully recognized for their military service. The program will include music, an introduction of local Veterans, and a complimentary meal provided for all visiting Veterans and their accompanying friends and family. Guest Speaker Major Dave Hughes, 21-year Active Duty retired U.S. Air Force pilot and Iraqi War combat veteran.

Veterans are asked to arrive by 9:15 to have their name and branch of military service recorded for inclusion in the program.

Additional Sponsors Cease Funeral

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NORTHWESTERN MN DAV CHAPTER #41 UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

November 19th - Masonic Lodge - Roseau, MN

December 17 - American Legion building - Middle River, MN

Join us on the third Tuesday of every month for supper at 1800 Hrs. and the meeting at 1900 Hrs. DAV members and their families, volunteer drivers, and visitors are welcome.

UPCOMING DAV MN OUTDOOR EVENTS

The Minnesota DAV Department's Outdoor program has scheduled their upcoming events and posted them on their website. Check them out at: https://davmn.org/events-activities/events-for-veterans/











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Bemidji Chapter 7

Disabled American Veterans

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