Bemidji Chapter 7

Disabled American Veterans

North Central Minnesota Chapter #7 P.O. BOX 564 BEMIDJI, MN 56619-0564 NON-PROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 56601 PERMIT NO. 71

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TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

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Monthly Newsletter May 2015

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

NEXT MEETING: National Guard Armory Bemidji, MN Monday, June 15th at 7pm







CHAPTER OFFICERS

COMMANDER: Dave Sterr - (218) 556-4633

SENIOR VICE: Mike Zimmerman - (218) 252-2061

JUNIOR VICE: Marten Schrage - (218) 308-7972

JUNIOR VICE:Jay Ruediger - (218) 395-0318ADJUTANT:Robert Saddoris - (218) 243-2663SERVICE OFFICER:Robert Saddoris - (218) 243-2663TREASURER:Jeri Harvey - (509) 389-8505

CHAPLAIN: Mike Gutz - (218) 308-3927
CHAPLAIN (ALT.): Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Vacant

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Bruce Tiegen - (218) 308-0962 OFFICER OF THE DAY: Glenn Aagard - (218) 556-7999

HISTORIAN: David Myers

EXEC. COMMITTEE CHAIR: Tom Annonson - (218) 251-3025,

torgor@lightspeed.net

EXEC. COMMITTEE: Bruce Tiegen
EXEC. COMMITTEE: Bruce Holden
EXEC. COMMITTEE: Glenn Aagard
EXEC. COMMITTEE: Marten Schrage

FLAG DAY CEREMONY

June 14th is Flag Day! The Ralph Gracie American Legion post 14 and the Elks Club will be hosting a Flag Day celebration at the Ralph Gracie Veterans Memorial Park in Bemidji, at the corner of 14th Street NW and Birchmont Avenue. (Across from Deputy Hall of the BSU Campus)

The Ceremony will start at noon, weather permitting, if not it will be held at the Elks Club down town. A brief history of our Nation's Flag will be presented along with a demonstration of the proper retirement of our Nation's flags that have become unserviceable, (provided we are still at the park).

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

Hello All! As your newsletter / website staff, we have been working to get things lined up so that any of you that would rather receive your newsletter electronically, it will be available to do so, starting with the July issue. To be able to do this, we will need you to contact us by Email through our website at: davchapter7.org under the "About Us" tab so we can start building our contact list. In doing this, we are hoping that it will accomplish two things:

- 1. Reducing the cost of printing and mailing the newsletters as our chapter continues to grow!
- 2. Getting more people to visit our website, and therefore, become more familiar with all of the information that is available on our website, for you and your families, through the links that we have posted on there.

The plan is to send out a mass Email to everyone that signs up with a note stating:

"The newsletter has been posted and is ready for you to view at davchapter7.org/dav/?page_id=942".

On that page, the current Year will be in **Red** and the Months that are in **Purple** are "posted" newsletters, those in **Black** are "awaiting posting". The newsletter files will be in PDF format and you will be able to download them, print them out or just read them on the website, which ever you so desire.

Thank you for your patience while we work through this process.

Your Newsletter / Website staff

COMMANDERS CORNER

We are now doing our clothes sorting process outside in our storage units which are southwest of the bowling alley. The program has grown so much over the last two years that we now need a crew of 15 each week to sort all of the weekly collections. We can take great pride in the growth of this program which reaps a growth in the proceeds that go to help our fellow veterans. This past month we helped veterans with medical equipment, fuel bills, electric bills, new tires, and more. If you are available on Tuesday morning, come out and join us in the sorting of the clothing donations; we begin at 8:30 am. If we run into inclement weather on Tuesday, we usually move the sorting to Wednesday if the weather has improved.

As you know, we cover a very large area from south of Bemidji to the Canadian border and from Fosston to halfway to Grand Rapids. We collect clothing and other kinds of donations at different locations throughout the area. We are in need of drivers for these collections and for delivery of loads to Fargo and Duluth. If you can spare one day a month to assist us, that would help greatly. No special driver's license is needed.

I would like to hear from the veterans throughout our chapter area. If you have meetings or special events this summer, please call me. I will make every effort to come and introduce myself to you and explain how you can become more active in the organization. The men and women who are now involved in our chapter are always happy to see new faces. The more active our members are, the better we are at being able to helping and assisting our fellow veterans.

Dave Sterr DAV Chapter 7 Commander

Folks, this is our Forget-Me-Not fund raising schedule for this summer. As you can see there are some of these events that occur on the same weekend, so if you are able to help out at any of these places or events in your local area, please contact me as soon as possible at either: torgor@lightspeed.net or (218) 251-3025. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated! Thanking you in advance for your help and support! Your fund raising Chairman, Tom Annonson

| June 7th | .9 AM – 4 PM | .Ride for the Troops - Marketplace parking lot | Bemidji, MN |
|---------------------|---------------|--|-----------------|
| June 19th & 20th | . 10 AM – 4PM | .Walmart (both entrances) | Bemidji, MN |
| July 10th & 11th | . 10AM – 4PM | .Marketplace Foods | Bemidji, MN |
| July 11th | . 8AM – 4PM | .Big Bog Festival | Kelliher, MN |
| July 17th – 19th | . 10AM – 4PM | .Woodcarvers Festival | Blackduck, MN |
| July 24th & 25th | . 10AM – 4PM | .Blueberry Festival | Lake George, MN |
| July 29th – Aug 2nd | . Noon - 10PM | .Beltrami County Fairgrounds | Bemidji, MN |
| July 29th - Aug 2nd | . Noon - 10PM | .Clearwater County Fairgrounds | Bagley, MN |
| Aug 14th & 15th | . 10AM – 4PM | .Luecken's Village Foods North | Bemidji, MN |
| Aug 14th & 15th | . 10AM – 4PM | .Luecken's Village Foods South | Bemidji, MN |
| Sept 4th & 5th | . 10AM – 4PM | .Walmart (both entrances) | Bemidji, MN |
| Sept 19th & 20th | . 10AM – 4PM | .Oktoberfest | Baudette, MN |
| Sept 26th & 27th | . 8AM – 5PM | .Gun Show - National Guard Armory | Bemidji, MN |
| | | | |

ADJUTANT CORNER

By the time you read this Memorial Day will be over I do hope you remembered it is the day to remember and pay tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. As I write this my heart goes out to all our young Men and Women, who's friends, family, Buddies have died in Iraq. As the country is being taken back by terrorist they fought and died against to save the Country from. These folks need our help at this critical time, please reach out to help them. Any of our members might need that voice to talk with, thus we all should be there for any Veteran or Spouse of a deceased Veteran needing our help 365 days a year. That is what DAV is about, any time, any place we need to be there for our fellow Veterans!

I missed our Convention as I was sent to the SD Convention at Sioux Falls to tell them about the MN DAV activities. I really enjoyed the Convention in SD, very interesting to see how a different State operates. Thus was only at our Convention the day before it started for an Executive meeting, a Rat meeting and also to go before the Nominating committee for 2015-2016 officers. I was elected to the 1st Junior Vice position, so I will be doing a lot of traveling to different Chapters and helping with the outdoor programs throughout our State. Greg Ramus was elected as our new State Commander, I truly am looking forward to working with and learning from him.

This past month we gave \$1500 to vets in need, we also gave our annual donations of \$400 to the VAMCs in Fargo, St Cloud

and the Silver Bay Veterans Home recreation program. Gave \$800 to the "Ride for the Troops", \$500 to the DAV Foundation and \$400 to the Veteran Hunting Camps. Also gave \$200 each to the Fort Snelling and Camp Ripley Cemeteries for help with upkeep. To date, our Van has driven 7350 miles, our drivers had 260 Volunteers hours and transported 50 passengers. Mike Zimmerman leads our Chapter for hours volunteered again this month; we had a total of 701 hours for the month, I know we had many more hours, however they were not reported.

There are many bills that affect us as Veterans that are being considered by our State and Federal lawmakers. We should be calling our elected officials and urging them to support these Legislative items. Go to **davmn.org** to find the information about some of these bills and how they will benefit Veterans.

Membership MN is top of our division as it has been for the last few years; our Chapter is third in State last time I looked. We were first in State for pounds of clothing again this year as we have been every year since we started selling to savers.

I am very proud of our Chapter and all the work it does for Veterans! This was not the case 6 years ago, our growth and our volunteers have really made a difference. Keep up the good work.

Respectfully submitted, Robert Saddoris



Additional Sponsors

Country Kitchen
Cease Funeral
Grimes Realty
Lifequest Chiropractic
Nei Bottling
Zetah Construction





HOUSING OPPORTUNITY IN THE CITY OF KELLIHER

The Community of Kelliher is in the early planning stages of a partnership between the City of Kelliher, Northern Beltrami Development Corporation, Beltrami County HRA and Headwaters Regional Development Commission to develop new housing in the City of Kelliher on lots the City has developed and are available for sale.

It is the intention of the Community that they will be able to identify potential homebuyers in a process that will place the heaviest priority on disabled veterans, then veterans, the last going to low and moderate income households. In order to insure that there is not a surplus of homes, it is very important that each home is sold prior to starting another home to insure that there are sufficient resources to begin construction on the next home. For that reason, if a household in the primary target of veterans is not identified in a timely fashion it may be necessary to sell the home to another target group.

The hope is that we would be able to identify and secure a buyer early in the process so that the home can be specifically designed to meet the needs of each buyer. In addition, the household must be able to obtain mortgage financing. The Community will have relationships in place with various financial institutions that can serve the target market as well as organizations that can provide affordability gap financing if the household requires it. The Community is also interested in insuring that the household is successful so they will have relationships with the appropriate agencies that can provide homebuyer education and coaching opportunities for the homebuyers.

The intention of the program is to have the Kelliher High School work with the Community to start an effective building trades program that will provide a valuable educational experience for the students. The expectation is that the program will provide a real world example of potential opportunities in the trades. Using this model should help keep the cost of the homes lower for the buyer.

Financially the program must cash flow in order for it to continue on an ongoing basis, therefore the Community is expecting volunteerism to be a large part of the construction phase to bring the final cost of the home to a price as affordable as possible.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, volunteering or to become a potential homebuyer please contact either:

Mary Thompson at HRDC, mthompson@hrdc.org Shelli Krueth at the City of Kelliher, citykelr@paulbunyan.net.

DAV Chapter 7 Summer Picnic!

Well Folks,

Summer is almost upon us and it is shaping up to be a busy one! As you can see we have plenty of work to do with the fund raising and clothing programs, but we also need to take some time out to have a little fun and enjoy each other's company. We are planning our summer picnic and would like to get some feedback from you as to when and where it would be the most convenient for maximum attendance by all of our DAV members and their families. We are tentatively thinking that a weekend in August, either the 8-9, 22-23, 29-30, and are trying to decide if a Saturday or a Sunday afternoon would be a good fit for everyone. Seeing as how we

cover a large area for our chapter, we are also looking for a more centrally located place to hold this event, so as to have more of you be able to attend. It would be better to have all of us travel a little bit to attend, than to have some of us have to travel a long way! So, PLEASE, be reasonable in your suggestions and direct them to:

mndavchapter7@gmail.com

torgor@lightpeed.net Or give me a call at (218) 251-3025

Thank you,

Tom Annonson

Entertainment Committee Chairman



DAV North Central Chapter 7 of the Minnesota Disabled American Veterans (DAV) thanks the following businesses and organizations supporting the military and veterans of North Central Minnesota by hosting our DAV Clothing **Donation Bins:**

Jack Stop Inc 2202 Division St W. Bemidji, MN 56601 Phone: (218) 444-7500

Tom Stop Inc 8000 Irvine Ave NW, Bemidji, MN 56601

Jacobson Body Shop Inc 151 Highway 2 W, Solway, MN 56678 Phone: (218) 444-8000 Phone: (218) 467-3234

Blackduck Family Foods 288 Frontage Rd Blackduck, MN 56630 Phone:(218) 835-4244 Hours: 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

Hans Lian American Legion Post 444

245 2nd St N, Middle River, MN 56737 Phone: (218) 222-3538

Harmony Natural Foods Co-op 302 Irvine Ave NW, Bemidji, MN 56601 Phone: (218) 751-2009 Hours: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

Community Based Outpatient Clinic 705 5th St NW Suite B Bemidji, MN 56601 Phone: 218-755-6360 Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm **Surplus Outlet** 710 Washington Ave S, Bemidji, MN 56601 Phone: (218) 444-0224

Marketplace Foods 2000 Paul Bunyan Drive NW, Bemidji, MN 56601 Phone: (218) 444-1400 Hours: 6:00 am - 10:00 pm



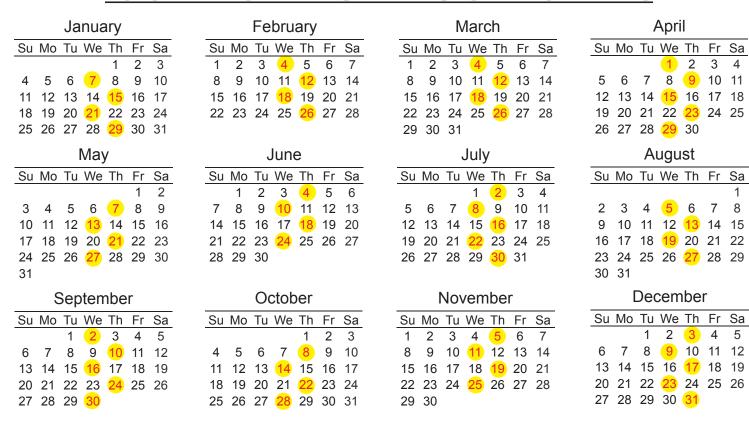
Lueken's Village Foods North 1171 Paul Bunyan Drive NW, Bemidji, MN 56601 Phone: (218) 444-3663 Hours: 6:00 am - 10:00 pm

Lueken's Village Foods South 609 Washington Ave S. Bemidji, MN 56601 Phone: (218) 444-8419 Hours: 6:00 am - 10:00 pm

And a big thank you to all the people who have donated clothing and especially those who have help with sorting and hauling the clothing. Your donations and volunteerism help support local veterans in need.

Commander Dave Sterr. North Central Chapter 7 -Minnesota Disabled American Veterans - 218-556-4633

2015 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES



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

To many people, especially Christians, Pastors, Priests, etc. the question, "Who Is God" may seem like a strange question to ask and even a bit silly, but it just might be the most important question you ever asked yourself no matter who you might be. Have you ever been engaged in a conversation with a person talking about certain people and someone says, hey, I know that person and your response is oh, really, when did you meet Him/Her? And the other person responds, oh well I have met them once, or talked with them a bit or a friend told me about them, etc. You see we may know of a person or have had a casual conversation with them or just heard about them through other sources, but do you really know that person? You see there is a difference in knowing. If you were to ask people, do you know the Governor? Their response would most likely be, of course I do. Yes we all know of Him, but not really know him in a personal sense, like his family or closest advisors do. To really know someone is to have a very close relationship with them on a regular basis. A husband and wife should have a very close relationship with each other, and so they do know each other in a very intimate sense. When a couple has been married for many years they have become one in thought and knowledge of each other in almost every way, even anticipating what the other will do or say in any given situation, so they really do know each other because of that close daily intimate interaction with one another.

So the question is asked again, who is God? Do you really know Him or just know of Him? If your answer is yes I know Him, then that implies that you have a very close daily intimate relationship with Him. This means much more than a quick prayer when you are in trouble, or need something, or each morning and evening a quick prayer before going on to your daily or nightly routine, or a one hour church session once a week. You need to study your bible, digging deeply if you desire to reach and understand God's heart [Jeremiah 29:13]. Yes, searching diligently with all our heart, spending daily quality time with God, studying the scriptures, connecting with others who know Christ personally with a close intimate relationship will result in you knowing God. If we plan on spending eternity with God we better establish that relationship with Him now, or we may hear these words as found in [Matthew 7:23] "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity". Here Jesus is talking to church people who thought they knew Him and told Him all of the good things they accomplished in His name [verses 21, 22]. If you really want to know God then you need to be fully acquainted with Jesus. [John 14:9] "Jesus said unto him [Philip] he that has seen me, has seen the Father; and why [do you] say, show us the Father?" So many times in the three and a half years Jesus spent with His disciples even they failed to fully know Him, so how much less do we? If there ever was a time to really know God it is now. Time has never been so short we really do not know when we will pass away. So we do not just want to study intellectually, but fully with your hearts to acquire that intimate relationship with our creator and redeemer, Christ Jesus our Lord, who wants you.

Please do not hesitate to call us. If you are in the hospital we would like to come and visit. If you, another veteran, or family member are in need. let us know. If you want to talk with us, then we look forward to meeting you. Our prayer for you is Colossians 3:1-11.

Chaplains Mike and Julie Gutz DAV & DAV Auxiliary 444-5015 (Home).





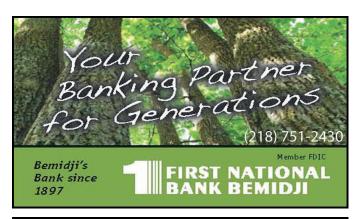




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SANF PRD

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