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**Monthly Newsletter  
May 2016**

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

**NEXT MEETING:**

**National Guard Armory Bemidji, MN  
Monday, May 16th at 7pm**

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JUNIOR VICE:	Dave Strege
ADJUTANT:	Robert Saddoris - (218) 243-2663
SERVICE OFFICER:	Robert Saddoris - (218) 243-2663
TREASURER:	Jeri Harvey
CHAPLAIN:	Mike Gutz - (218) 308-3927
CHAPLAIN (ALT.):	Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	David Myers
SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Bruce Tiegen
OFFICER OF THE DAY:	Glenn Aagard
HISTORIAN:	David Myers
EXEC. COMMITTEE CHAIR:	Tom Annonson - (218) 251-3025, torgor@lightspeed.net
EXEC. COMMITTEE:	Walter James
EXEC. COMMITTEE:	Glenn Aagard

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**Upcoming Military Associated Events**

**Memorial Day**  
On the 30th of May at 10AM, the Ralph Gracie Post #14 of the American Legion will be hosting a Memorial Day Event at the Greenwood Cemetery in Bemidji.

**Ride for the Troops**  
On June 5th the Ride for the Troops event will kick off in the Marketplace parking lot with registration starting at 9 AM and presentation of the Colors, singing of the National Anthem and a short presentation to start at 11:45 after which the ride will commence at noon and return back to Marketplace for the afternoon feed and raffle. Come out and enjoy the bikes, comradery and food!

**Flag Day**  
June 14th is Flag Day and the Elks club along with the Ralph Gracie American Legion Post will conduct a ceremony at the Ralph Gracie Memorial Park in Bemidji at 11 AM. The Elks members present a brief history of the evolution of our US flag, followed by the American Legion Honor Guard performing the Ceremonial retiring of our Nations Flag.

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# THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER # 7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON APRIL 18, 2016 AT 1900 HRS.

- Opening Prayer
- 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 ..... Present  
Service Officer/Adjutant: Robert Sadoris ..... Present  
Sergeant- at-Arms: Bruce Tiegen ..... Present  
Historian/Judge Advocate: David Myers..... Present  
Treasurer: Jeri Harvey ..... Present  
Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard ..... Absent

## B. Members Present: 22

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

- 1. Guests/Visitors:** Bidal Duran, Jeff Roberts J (*Member of this chapter*), and Andy Fellows are present to discuss suicide awareness.  
Steve Hauschildt (New Member of this chapter), and Nancy and Jeff Pemberton (St Paul Chapter).
- 2. Prospective new members:** One part paid member is now paid in full, all partial paid that are left
- 3. Transfers in:** None

## D. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of March 21, 2016 read.

*Motion to approve:* Andy Stout  
*Seconded:* David Sterr  
*Approved*

## E. Financial Report for March 21 - April 17, 2016:

Report Given (See enclosed)  
*Motion to approve:* Scotty Allison  
*Seconded:* Martin Shrage  
*Approved*

## F. Sickness or distress: None

## G. New Member Obligation: None

## H. Communications: See Attached report

## I. Committee Reports:

### 1. Membership Report:

9 new members, 5 have paid their dues completely, 4 are working on them. (see report in enclosures)

### 2. Service Officer Report:

Continues working with veterans, specifically, working with a veteran from Illinois.

### 3. Legislative Report:

Legislative Officer Scotty Allison made a report discussing various issues.

## 4. Hospital Chaplain Report:

No visits were made

## 5. Entertainment: Mr. Annonson continues to work on plans for summer picnic. Ride for the Troops is on the horizon (5 June).

## 6. Fundraising committee:

The Forget- Me- Not fundraiser at the Gun show of April 13 raised \$1352.00, bringing yearly total to \$8305.58

## 7. Newsletter Committee:

- a. Mr. Annonson requested articles by Thursday 21 April (or sooner).
- b. Would like to increase the online access to reduce cost in mailing. Spending in excess of \$600.00 Per month on mailings.

## J. Old Business:

1. Purchase of new building is ongoing. Need to meet with County Joint Planning board next week to approve the "split".
2. Budget Committee met and approved a tentative budget (presented for the first time in "new business").

## K. New Business

1. New Budget presented. (See attached report). Will be presented again at the next meeting for discussion and final approval.
2. Commander reports that he and Wendell Affield and Walter James have been working with Home Depot for a garage unit for a veteran's widow. Home Depot has approved, and Commander Sterr is now working on securing funding for electrical, slab, etc. Scotty Allison has submitted paperwork to receive help from the State of Minnesota. VFW has donated 250.00. We have set aside 1000.00 for this project. We will determine the actual amount once we have found out if the State will donate any funds.
3. Bidal Durant gave a presentation regarding suicide awareness. Discussed desire to jumpstart a Silkies March fundraiser. Discussed strong compass program (physical fitness) and how it relates to mental health care. Walter James proposed that we give support to the endeavors discussed.

*Motion to approve:* Walter James  
*Seconded:* Bruce Tiegen  
*Discussion Ensued*  
*Approved*

4. Scotty Allison discussed PTSD awareness, and a veteran in need of financial assistance to help with rent. Motion was made to provide 500 dollars to purchase 150 t-Shirts for disabled veterans.

*Motion to approve:* Andy Stout  
*Seconded:* Ron Kaiser  
*Discussion Ensued*  
*Approved*

*Continued on next page*

5. Outdoor committee asks for 250 dollars for a dying member to attend a hog hunt. Funds to come from Forget-Me-Not funds. Motion made to provide these funds.

*Motion to approve:* Tom Annonson  
*Seconded:* Andy Stout  
*No Discussion*  
*Approved*

6. Motion to support David Valtinson's decision to stand for election for District 14, National Executive Committee Member.

*Motion to approve:* Walter James  
*Seconded:* Steve Siats  
*No Discussion*  
*Approved*

**L. Executive Committee Action Items**

Commander discussed several ongoing issues (see the committee notes).

**M. Good of the Order:** None

**N. Motion to adjourn**

*Motion made:* Andy Stout  
*Seconded:* Bill Woods  
*Approved*  
**Closing Ceremony**

The meeting was adjourned at 2035 hours. The next meeting will be held on 16 May, 2016 at 1900 in the National Guard Armory.

North Central Minnesota Chapter # 7 is doing great! Attendance at last Monday night's meeting was the largest I can remember. Volunteer attendance for our Tuesday clothing program gets bigger week by week and our membership keeps growing. These are all positive indications that our organization is a thriving and viable organization. They indicate that we are strong in our mission of helping veterans and strong in our overall mission to be there for our fellow veterans. I invite all of you to come and join us and help us in whatever capacity you can to make our chapter even better.

Regarding our clothing process, we will be working at the Armory in May, outdoors at our storage units in June, and then into our new building on 15th street from then on.

As I said in the April newsletter, 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.

Dave Sterr  
Commander



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## ADJUTANT CORNER

By the time you receive this newsletter I will either be Senior Vice Commander for Department of Minnesota DAV; Chairman of State Membership program, or no longer an Officer for MN Department of DAV either way thank each of you for your support over the last two years as I was 4th and 1st Junior Vice Commander for the Department.

VA Announces Community Care Call Center to Help Veterans with Choice Program Billing Issues Veterans can now work directly with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to resolve debt collection issues resulting from inappropriate or delayed Choice Program billing. A Community Care Call Center has been set up for Veterans experiencing adverse credit reporting or debt collection resulting from inappropriately billed Choice Program claims. Veterans experiencing these problems can call **1-877-881-7618** for assistance and press 1 at the prompt.

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today that it has amended its enrollment regulations to allow Veterans to complete applications for enrollment in VA health care by telephone without the need for a signed paper application. The change is effective immediately for Combat Veterans and will be effective July 5, 2016, for all Veterans. This phased implementation accelerates VA's effort to enroll all Combat Veterans with pending applications as part of its ongoing Veterans Enrollment Rework Project. The VA is working to complete the review and rework of all pending health enrollment records for living and deceased Veterans this summer. Veterans can view the amended regulation on the Federal Register website. "This improvement to our Veterans' experience is one we can implement now, and it's the right thing to do for Veterans," said VA Deputy Secretary Sloan D. Gibson, "Enrolling all 31,000 Combat Veterans with pending applications is the top priority in our effort to fix our enrollment system. Our analysis of our current application process convinced me we could enroll Veterans more quickly using this method, particularly Combat Veterans and those who are transitioning from active duty to Veteran status," Gibson said. By adding this telephone application option to VA's regulations, VA will now offer three ways to enroll. This change provides Veterans an even more convenient way to apply for enrollment, in addition to the paper VA Form 10-10 EZ and online enrollment application process. With publication in the Federal Register today, Combat Veterans may now apply by phone. All other Veterans may apply by phone starting on July 5, 2016. When Veterans choose to enroll, VA offers an enhancement to their enrollment experience through "Welcome to VA" (W2VA). Veterans enrolled since July 1, 2015 have received a personal introduction to VA health care services, programs and resources to help them become more familiar with VA's services. In addition, VA sends each new enrollee an introductory letter and personalized handbook in the mail. W2VA enhances communication by reaching out to newly enrolled Veterans through personal phone calls upon enrollment, providing assistance with health care inquiries and assisting with their initial appointment at their preferred VA healthcare facility. For more information, Veterans can contact the Health Eligibility Center Enrollment and Eligibility Division toll free at **1-855-488-8440**.

Minnesota is leading the Nation with new memberships @101.47% we have 19,221 members, we are over our goal by 267 members. The closest to us is Rhode Island @101.01%, they have 4,381 members, over their goal by 44 members. Chapter #7 is first in state @ 106.91%, 37 members over goal, closest to us is Park Rapids, who has been first in State for last 3 years, @105.78%, they have 311 members we have 564 members, thus we must have far more new members than Park Rapids to keep ahead of them. Recruiters for Chapter # 7, Tom Annonson - 10 new members, Glenn Aagard - 1 new member, Wayne Kilen - 2 new members, Saddoris - 9 new members and 1 DAVA member, David Sterr - 1 new member and 1 DAVA member. Thus 12 of our new members have come from DAV National Service Officers or other Chapter recruiters. Please if each of you would sign up new member we would for sure win the State and have our Chapter on a plaque at headquarters, this will be our first year for this. Remember, you receive \$2 worth of items from the supply catalog for each new member.

Our new Bylaws are back and approved with the corrections suggested by State and National.

God Bless each of you and your Families, it is an honor to serve you.

Robert Saddoris



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# 2016 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES

January							February							March							April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

There are passages of scripture that at first seem harsh and out of character with God. It is kind of like hearing a sound bite from the news without being informed of its context or issues surrounding the statement. This seems to always occur in an election cycle and can happen our own lives, when people apply their own preconceived ideas before knowing the facts or the character of the person making the statement. Deuteronomy 7:1-2 and 20:16-18 are like this. Yet, scriptures always shows mercy comes before judgment, God always warns through love, and encourages repentance before the implementation of the destruction to take place later. An example of this includes the Canaanites and Amorites too. Although many people only read the instructions to Israel without recognizing the events and context occurring in the background. We first need to find out where the Canaanites came from and the events surrounding them. We first find out about them through Canaan, a relative of Noah, so the story really begins with Noah, the condition of humanity during his time, the flood and the events after the flood. Canaan was born after the flood and was a relative of Noah (Gen 10). Canaan was cursed by Noah because of what he had done to Noah. We are not specifically told what Canaan did to Noah, but definitely not good. Canaan later settles in Canaan land (modern day Israel) where they become known as the Canaanites. The Amorites, Jebusites, and others were the descendants of Canaan (Gen 10:15-18), some of who God would mention to Abram (who was later renamed Abraham) in a prophecy. They continue to sin and it gets worst in the future (Lev18).

When God Speaks to Abram, God mentions His foreign policy (Gen 12:1-4), if people would bless Abram than they in turn would be blessed, or if they curse Abram then they in turn would be cursed. So, something either happened, is presently going on, or will shortly occur, which actually has future consequences (See Jesus in John 8:31-59).

This is interesting because God mentions events (Gen 15:13-16) to Abram that will literally take hundreds of years to complete (vs. 13), which we know today involves the relocation of Israel into Egypt, oppression, The Exodus and a later return to back to Canaan because 'the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full' (Gen 15:16 KJV). Notice these versus (vs. 13-16) give a glimpse into God's purpose and covers a time frame from Genesis all the way through Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, and Joshua.

This brings up several questions:

- 1). Could God have been dealing with the Amorites with time and mercy regarding their repentance just like He would later deal with the people of Nineveh in the Book of Jonah?
- 2). We know the people of Nineveh repented (Matt 12:41, note the future ramifications of this), so does this mean the Amorites and Canaanites did not repent?
- 3). Therefore, was God using Israel to carry out His judgment against them? If this is the case, where in the Bible does it refer to God warning them (Canaanites, Amorites, etc) of their imminent destruction and is there any mercy in connection with this?
- 4). Where does it mention God informing Israel to carry out such a judgment? Mercy, warnings, destruction and instructions can all be found the events occurring in Jericho, which was located in Canaan (Josh 2:8-13). Rahab was a descendant of Canaan, had faith (Hebrews 11:31), and was shown mercy (ref: Gen 12:1-4). Therefore, at the time this occurs in Jericho, wasn't God showing mercy prior to Israel showing them no mercy (Moses: Deut 7:1-2; 20:16-18)? God warns Israel not to adopt the same practices of the Canaanites, or else He would have to judge them too (Lev 18:28)!

If you have need, are in the hospital or would simply like to talk, we would be glad to listen, please call us at 444-5015.

Mike and Julie Gutz

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