

## Bemidji Chapter 7

# Disabled American Veterans

North Central Minnesota Chapter #7

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### To all our volunteers and supporters - Come join us for the December Awards Banquet

*A small meal  
will be served.*

When: December 15th 2014 from 1900-2000hrs. (Normal Meeting times)

Where: Bemidji National Guard Armory, 1430 23rd ST. NW, Bemidji, MN 56601

*Please RSVP by  
November Meeting (Nov 17th)*

*Please submit awards to the Executive Committee by Nov 17th to ensure we recognize our volunteers and members for all the hard work they do throughout the year.*

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Monthly Newsletter  
October, 2014

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### NEXT MEETING:

National Guard Armory Bemidji, MN  
Monday, November 17th at 7pm

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### 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 - 218-395-0318
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:	Vacant
SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Bruce Tiegen - (218) 308-0962
OFFICER OF THE DAY:	Glenn Aagard - 218-556-7999
HISTORIAN:	Billy Wood - 218-368-2967
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

### DAV AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S REPORT

Hi everyone! The Fall Conference was great. Ginger Edwards and I attended. It would be great if more could attend the next Fall Conference, it is a good learning experience. We are planning a Christmas Tea for Auxiliary members. Come to the November 17th meeting and hear all about it. We will be helping the DAV Chapter with their Awards banquet on December 15th. We would appreciate everyone's help. Please RSVP for the banquet. Last year's banquet was enjoyed by all. There will be door prizes again this year.

Sincerely yours,  
Linda Engesether  
Commander

**If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please call:  
Tom - (218) 251-3025 or Marten - (218) 779-0505**



# COMMANDER

Greetings fellow Veterans. We are having a Banner Year! With the monetary donations and the clothing program, we are able to offer help to our Veterans in need in the area we serve. The clothing project works like this: We receive donations of clothes, shoes, books, etc. from our drop boxes and other sources. Then we sort those donations into proper bags or boxes. Next, we load them into a trailer and haul them to Savers in Duluth, Fargo, and sometimes St. Cloud. Savers is a second hand store and they pay us by the pound for the items we deliver to them. The sorting process is done by our volunteers who come in and help prepare the bags and boxes that go to Savers. My thanks to those who come week after week to help with this task. We do our sorting on Tuesday morning at the Armory, and we could always use extra help. Volunteering in this way is very rewarding to the volunteers, because it is veterans helping veterans.

The November Forget-Me-Not campaign is coming shortly. This is another opportunity to participate in raising funds for our veterans by offering to help sell the flowers at area businesses. Contact Tom Annonson if you would like to help.

The Stand Down on September 24th was a great success. Many veterans came to get the questions answered and to socialize with their fellow veterans. During the Stand Down, we were surprised and honored to be presented with a generous donation of \$50,000 from Rich Kohler. I am proud to be a part of this organization because of the support from all out membership, fellow veterans, and the communities we serve.

Dave Sterr, Commander  
Chapter 7 DAV

## ADJUTANT CORNER

Our Chapter is Second in state in New Memberships at 101.24% Park Rapids at 101.82% is first We need more member from each of us to pull ahead of them. We are one of 14 who have reached gold for the year. Our State is tops in its division for Memberships at 99.55% needing 82 new members to reach gold. Our Chapter is # 1 in State for clothing sales at 296,000pounds. Hutching is second with 244.000 pounds right on our heels. In the state there are 385 registered volunteers who have donated 43,468 hours this fiscal year equipment donations 2 million dollars last fiscal year. Our Chapter has donated 18,838 hours this fiscal year. We had 8 loads of clothing in September and 9 loads of clothing in October. At this time I can tell you if you are a hunter/ fisherman please call John Carlson @ 651-291-1212 who is in charge of the outdoors program. I know there are two ice events coming up one at Lake of the Woods and one at upper red lake. John may have more hunts and fishing trips set you are all eligible to attend, and enjoy the trips. If any of you volunteer by helping with clothing helping a veteran or spouse of a deceased veteran please send me your hours. I did not receive a list of new members this month so cannot bring you up to date on new members. We went to district conference in Fargo on the 18th for 14 District conference Montana, South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota make up the 14th the National Dav Commander was there as well as National Auxiliary Commander, I would encourage you to attend these conferences to meet new folks and get new ideas. We are registrated in the Bemidji night we light up on November 28th at 6PM this is always a fun event. I have had no Veteran as for help in filling out paper work for VA Compensation. Our Nation Service Officer have handled 5,800 claims this fiscal year bring in \$5.7 million dollars into Minnesota last year they brought in \$81.1 million. Our stand down went very smooth thanks to all of the Volunteers we had helping with food preparation and serving. Our Chapter has help several Disabled Veterans this month, if you know of Disabled Veteran or other Veteran in need please contact your commander, You are our eyes and ears we can only help if we know who needs it.



**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:**

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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

### *Additional Sponsors*

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## VETERANS OFFICE LOOKING FOR FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE

Recently, it was announced that the Beltrami County Veterans Service Office will be collecting stories from county veterans and their families to support an on-going project at the Minnesota State Capitol Mall. The project which is called "the Minnesota Military Family Tribute (MFT)" was conceived to thank those that have made, and continue to make, sacrifices here at home.

What we are looking for is correspondence from military families to assist in the creation of Story Stones which will be placed at the memorial site. There will be eighty-seven (87) Story Stones arranged as part of this project, representing each of our State's eighty-seven counties. Excerpts from correspondence collected will be etched onto these stones, providing a window into the lives of our military families and their sacrifices.

We are now collecting submissions for inclusion. These may be from any timeframe from the Civil War through today, and need not be during a time of conflict. It can be a letter, telegram, e-mail, or even video, which will be transcribed to written word for placement on the stone. While only a small portion of any contributed submission will be etched into the stone, the stories will depict the life of our military families. No names will be included and we are hoping to collect as many submissions as we can.

To provide a story, please provide a copy of your submission to the Beltrami County Veterans Service Office no later than November 27, 2014. The actual dedication of the Tribute will take place on June 13, 2015 on the grounds of the Minnesota State Capitol.

Don't forget if you have any questions regarding veterans' benefits please call the County Veterans Service Office at 218-333-4177/4178.

Scotty Allison, Beltrami County Veterans Service Officer.



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Last month we were looking at three questions in light of the wars found in the Old Testament. We understood war originally began in heaven (Isa 14:12-15, Ezek 28:13-17), which results in the reality of war here on earth. This is not an academic debate, certainly not in light of the many different experiences we share as veterans. This is real, yet it poses some questions we and our family members have regarding war and their outlook on God, especially in light of our current national posture. The three questions are: 1) why does the God of the Old Testament seem so different from the God of the New Testament? 2) How do we reconcile these two seemingly contradictory statements, of God not showing mercy (Deut 7:1-2), while Jesus taught to show mercy (Matt 5:43-45)? 3) What is God doing on the earth? We looked at question one last month, but more needs to be written and we will get to question two. Next month we will look at question three.

First, God was establishing Israel as a nation to ultimately be a blessing to other nations (Gen 12:1-4). It is important to understand up to this point in time, the nations of the earth had been hostile towards God (Gen 6-11) and God kept on having to do something new and different in order to reach out to humanity with His presence (Gen 2-3, 6:1-8, 11:1-9). God first worked with an individual (Adam) and later with families (Noah's), there were challenges with both - (Gen 9:20-29). So by this time God began to work with Abraham and Sarah to establish and develop a nation for Him, later called Israel (Gen 12:1-4; 15:7-21; 17:5-6). The purpose of establishing Israel was to be a blessing (Gen 12:1-4), warning, (Joshua 2:9), punishment (Gen 15:16, Deut 7:1-2), and blessing again to other nations. However at that particular time, due to the hostility of the surrounding nations towards God and their iniquity (Ex 1:8 thru Deut 7:1-2 thru II Samuel 2), God needed to direct Israel to go to war establishing them in the land.

A person could say, "See, God is mean, He is committing genocide against all those people!" A response to that statement would be, "Not exactly!" Remember, God actually warned those people of Israel's arrival and mission (Joshua 2:9-11). These wars are a picture in history of God separating a people onto Him, from a people who are hostile towards God. As a result of Israel's establishment as a nation in the land, Israel would continue to be a warning, punishment and blessing to other nations. This would be an invitation for others to come out from among those nations and get to know Him. Rahab (Joshua 2:11-13) and Ruth (Ruth 1:15-18) are perfect examples of this; they both came from Israel's enemy nations! God even uses Jonah (a blessing from Israel) to reach out to Nineveh, an enemy nation of Israel, who repents at his warning before Israel's exile. At this same time God continues to teach Israel to be a holy, or separate nation unto Him (Deut 14:2, Lev 11:45). So, how does this relate to Jesus and question two?

Israel exists when Jesus was here on earth. Jesus was bringing back to Israel the true meaning and understanding of God, since Israel develops an incorrect view of God (Malachi 2). Just as God directs wars in the Old Testament as a means to separate Israel from their enemies who are hostile towards God on a national level, while at the same time teaching Israel to be holy; so Jesus spoke about separation and being holy in the New Testament, but on an individual basis (Matt 13:24-43, Matt 5-7, Luke 20:9-19, Matt 24:36-44). Many times people focus on Jesus' teaching of holiness and goodness, but disregard the issue about separation from God. This holiness (toward God) and separation (from God) is something only God can judge because we really don't know the hearts of people, this is not something for us to gossip or judge. We answer only to Christ for our relationship with Him - nobody else (Rev 1-3). Next month we will look at question three!

Please feel free to call me for a need, comment, or question.  
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