Bemidji Chapter 7

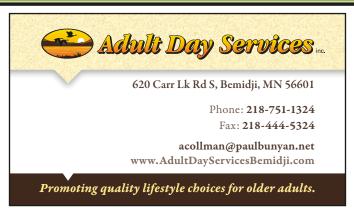
Disabled American Veterans

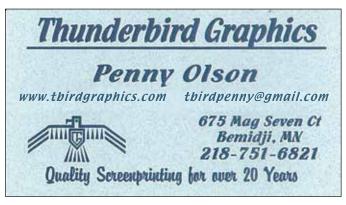
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Monthly Newsletter October 2015

North Central MN Chapter #7 **PO Box 564**

Bemidji, MN 56619

NEXT MEETING: National Guard Armory Bemidji, MN Monday, October 19th 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 Robert Saddoris - (218) 243-2663 ADJUTANT: SERVICE OFFICER: Robert Saddoris - (218) 243-2663 TREASURER: Jeri Harvey - (509) 389-8505 Mike Gutz - (218) 308-3927 CHAPLAIN: CHAPLAIN (ALT.): Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591 **JUDGE ADVOCATE:** Vacant **SERGEANT AT ARMS:** Bruce Tiegen - (218) 308-0962

Glenn Aagard - (218) 556-7999 OFFICER OF THE DAY:

HISTORIAN: David Myers

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

torgor@lightspeed.net

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



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DAV MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER 21TH. 2015

Meeting called to order: 1900 Hrs.

Opening Ceremonies Performed.

Roll call of officers taken: A quorum was present.

Number of Members Present: 13

Guests or Visitors: None

Reading of the minutes from August 17th meeting:

Motion to accept as read. Approved.

Treasurer's Report Given: Motion to accept as read.

Approved.

Chaplain's Report: Attended one funeral, many other visits made.

Reading of Correspondence.Thank You letters sent

List of Hunts was presented

Notification to contact congress about the Agent Orange Bill

Committee reports given:

Service officer:

Helped 2 veterans with Comp exams.

Membership:

7 new members

Entertainment:

Low turnout for picnic, planning December event

Forget-me-not:

Gun Show- \$716 raised, Walmart event raised \$582.20 Need volunteers for Herberger's Booklet Sale

Old Business:

- 1. Clothing Committee needs changes and will be presented.
- 2. By-Laws presented, corrections made.
- 3. Lightweight trailer needs repair when emptied.
- 4. Audit has been submitted to National.
- 5. Adult Day Services crafts- closed.

New Business:

- 1. Request made to purchase 1st aid kit, approved.
- 2. Voted on attendance for fall conference.
- 3. Transfer of new member- approved.

Executive Committee items:

1. Vet in need of tires-\$1000, approved.

Good of the Order: None.

Closing Ceremonies were performed.

Meeting adjourned at: 2040 hrs.



COMMANDERS CORNER

It has been a good and plentiful summer in terms of collections for our clothing drive. We even had times when we just barely kept up, but the crew rose to the occasion and did a great job. I am so thankful for the many volunteer hours the clothes sorting group gives to the cause. I am thankful for the "Forget-Me-Not" fund raising efforts. Tom Annonson and his volunteers are doing a great job, also. Thank you all for your generosity of time and hard work. I am proud to be part of Chapter 7 and proud to serve in the capacity of Commander.

I wish to thank everyone responsible for the success of the annual "Stand down" at the National Guard Armory. What a wonderful way to put forth helpful information to veterans while sharing in a few hours of comradery. I visited with many veterans who attended the event and that was a joy for me.

We are headed into autumn and winter in very good financial shape with funds available to aid and assist our Chapter 7 area veterans. Again, thank you all so very much. I am proud to serve along with all my DAV comrades.

Dave Sterr

If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please send your email address to the organization at mndavchapter7@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR A FISHING PARTNER?

Ed Holman is a retired, 73 year old, Disabled Veteran that is looking for other Disabled Veterans to go fishing with, on a one on one basis! Ed has access to Big Bass Lake just across the road from where he lives. He has a boat with a trailer and is willing to travel a reasonable distance to pick you up and fish other lakes as well! His one requirement is that you be ambulatory enough to get in and out of the boat on your own! For more information give him a call at: (218) 849-0877

ADJUTANT CORNER

I will start out to say how very proud of our Chapter Stand down committee and our Chapter I am we had a very good stand down. Our Chapter did 99% of the work for stand down The Aagard family, Connie and Glenn, cooked the meat on the 22nd as well as Glenn setting up most of tables and chairs, then the outstanding folks who do clothing every week, came from working with clothing to help set up the rest with Glenn. The day of the stand down, Connie was there at 7 AM to start cooking and preparing the food for the dinner meal. The Auxiliary, Connie, Susan Aagard, Lind Knap, Ginger Edwards, Jan Engelen, Gloria Schwantes. DAV members Gary Wistrom, John Colford, Daniel Engelen, and Commander Sterr all worked the food and drinks all day. Joe Vene sang the National Anthem, Bruce Holden gave the meal prayer, Stephen Siats and Tom Annonson worked the DAV booth and signed up one member as well as talking to folks about us. Our folks also helped hand out clothing and picked up chairs and tables as well as cleaning up drill floor. Without Chapter 7 and Unit 7 dedication to Veterans, not sure how the stand down would have happened. I know that many more of our members helped then mentioned above forgive me for not listing you all. We had about 160 Veterans and family show up for the Stand down. Mentioned also somewhere in this newsletter is Billy Benso (working with PTSD) who is also member of our Chapter.

If you have not written or called your elected official asking them to approve the extension of the Agent Orange bill please do so. There also is a bill for 100% veterans to be able to travel space A too, ask them to vote yes on this one as well.

There is a scam were you will receive a call to be a secret shopper for Tricare they will ask for money, do not bite. For our raise next year, it looks as though 1.3% is it. Tricare is changing some policies on long term meds going to mail order only check out your meds with Tricare to see where you stand if you are not using mail order already.

The Middle River Goose hunt which we support went well, and we were in a parade at Newfolden where we won \$100 for first place. We have an upcoming parade at Middle River on 9/26/15.

Seven loads of clothing since last news letter and gave \$300 plus to Veteran in need.

Fall Conference is October 9-10, remember Chapter will pay for your registration. DAV 14th District Conference in Fargo the following week end on Saturday 17th our District is ND, SD, Montana and MN. Your Chapter is third in state for membership this year and has met goal to date, only 7 Chapters out of 30 in the State have met goal. We are first in State for clothing sales thanks to the hard work of our clothing crew. Pastor Walter James went to Northome to do a funeral for a deceased 1st sergeant.

Again I am so very proud of this Chapter and all the activity the members do for Veterans. We had over 700 volunteer hours turned in this last month. As your State Jr Vice it's been very busy with Chapter visits State Fair and Meetings.

Outdoors program hunts go to davmn.org click on outdoors program lots of events upcoming both fishing and hunting. We have a member who would take you fishing at red lake cost would be for the red lake guide of \$ 50 other members for deer hunting. Call

God Bless each of you and your families.

Saddoris for information.





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COMBAT VETERANS PTSD SUPPORT GROUP

The Sanford Bemidji Medical Center is starting up a Support Group for combat veterans who are experiencing PTSD, Anxiety or Depression related to past combat experiences. There is no cost to attend and all veterans are welcome, regardless of when you served. Group members will discuss current personal issues and how past combat experiences are impacting their daily life. All discussions, situations and personal experiences will be held in strict confidence. The meetings will be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 5 to 7 PM, starting on the 6th of October. The meetings will be held in the Education Center of the Sanford Bemidji Medical Center located near the hospital's main eastside entrance. For more information call:

Billy Benso, RN, USMC Veteran (218) 333-5165

Mike Sletta (218) 333-2582

Between 7 AM and 5 PM, Mon-Fri



AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

I would like to take this time to entreat our Chapter 7 and Unit 7 members to encourage their family members that are over the age of 18, to join our ranks! There are several reasons for wanting them to join, the obvious ones, naturally, are to bolster our membership and possibly add to our volunteer list, but there is another reason that isn't quite as obvious, this one pertains to Veteran's benefits! Now, I know you are wondering, how does belonging to the DAV Auxiliary have any effect on Veteran's Benefits? It is very simple, by being a member you are counted in the overall membership numbers of the DAV Organization and when the DAV goes to Congress to stand up for keeping the existing benefits or petitioning for more benefits, they can say that they have the backing and influence over the voting members of their Organization, thus giving them more influence over the decision making process! Everyone knows how the "Numbers Game" is played in Washington, so this "recruiting call" isn't just limited to the DAV, it can be applied to every other military organization as well, to help their membership add to their numbers and thereby adding more influence in the decision making process. With over 20,000 veterans, and their families, living in the 12 Counties that Chapter 7 covers, our membership numbers should be in the thousands not the hundreds! So let's get to recruiting!

HERBERGER'S COMMUNITY DAY SALES EVENT

The upcoming Bemidji Herberger's Community Day Sale will be held on November 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th, in preparation for this, our Chapter has several days scheduled to do the in-store booklet sales for this fund raising event and we are in need of volunteers to help! This fund raising event is a great asset for our Chapter in that every \$5 booklet we sell, we get to keep all of the funds and there isn't any cost to our Chapter except for the time we put into it! Our target goal for this Fall and next Spring's Sales event is \$7000, which we can easily reach, or exceed, if we put in a little time and effort.

The dates are as follows:

Oct 2nd & 3rd -- 10AM - 4PM (These two are of primary concern as I will be out of State!)

Oct 16th & 17th -- 10Am - 4PM (I may be back to cover these two, but not sure at this time!)

Nov 6th & 7th -- 10AM - 4PM (I should be able to cover these two, but would appreciate any help!)

If you are available to help on any of these dates, please contact Tom Annonson at (218) 251-3025 for instructions on setting up!

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2015 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES

2013 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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4 5 6 7 8 9 10	8 9 10 11 <mark>12</mark> 13 14	8 9 10 11 <mark>12</mark> 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
11 12 13 14 <mark>15</mark> 16 17	15 16 17 <mark>18</mark> 19 20 21	15 16 17 <mark>18</mark> 19 20 21	12 13 14 <mark>15</mark> 16 17 18
18 19 20 <mark>21</mark> 22 23 24	22 23 24 25 <mark>26</mark> 27 28	22 23 24 25 <mark>26</mark> 27 28	19 20 21 22 <mark>23</mark> 24 25
25 26 27 28 <mark>29</mark> 30 31		29 30 31	26 27 28 <mark>29</mark> 30
May	June	July	August
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1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4	1
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 <mark>10</mark> 11 12 13	5 6 7 <mark>8</mark> 9 10 11	2 3 4 <mark>5</mark> 6 7 8
10 11 12 <mark>13</mark> 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 <mark>18</mark> 19 20	12 13 14 15 <mark>16</mark> 17 18	9 10 11 12 <mark>13</mark> 14 15
17 18 19 20 <mark>21</mark> 22 23	21 22 23 <mark>24</mark> 25 26 27	19 20 21 <mark>22</mark> 23 24 25	16 17 18 <mark>19</mark> 20 21 22
24 25 26 <mark>27</mark> 28 29 30	28 29 30	26 27 28 29 <mark>30</mark> 31	23 24 25 26 <mark>27</mark> 28 29
31			30 31
September	October	November	December
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1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	8 9 10 <mark>11</mark> 12 13 14	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
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25 26 27 28 29 30 31

27 28 29 30

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

29 30

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

During the last couple of months we have been considering some of the issues relating to reputation and the life of the prophets. The prophets' life was very difficult because often times the words they had from God to share with Israel's general public to include government officials was not welcomed. God would often warn about future changes to take place, an example of this occurred during the time prior to the exile. Yet, at the same time there were instances when things were pretty hard, and God would share a word of encouragement and hope reflecting how things would again change in the future after His people repented (or changed the way they were living). God's words were often considered by many people to be countercultural for the moment, an example of this are the things Jesus said in the Gospels (Matt 24, Mark 13, Luke 21) and The Book of Revelation. This month we will be taking a look at The Book of Revelation.

When a person looks in, or hears about The Book of Revelation, this seems to conjure up a great deal of speculation, fear, anxiety, complexity, sensationalism and "end of the world scenarios". People see Revelation as being interpreted in a number of different ways, yet it is important to understand what the meaning would have been for John's audience. The entire Book of Revelation was meant to be read and heard by the congregations or churches in Asia Minor (Rev 1-3). At that time, The Bible for John's audience would have been the Old Testament, since the New Testament was still in the process of being written and had not been completed. There is not much difference between The Book of Revelation and many other books in the Old Testament (Genesis, Zechariah, Daniel, Kings, and Isaiah). God's message really has not changed over the years, His message involves calling sin for what it really is, turning or returning back to Him, living our lives according to His purpose, and establishing a relationship with Christ. These are all the same messages throughout the scriptures (John 8:56 - 58). Jesus spoke about separation, judgment, and hell in the Gospels just as He spoke about staying connected with Him, restoration, and heaven too. Yes, we have a choice to make, this is the same choice everyone in the world has to make from Genesis to Revelation and today. This choice is making a conscious decision to give our life to Christ and experience the freedom only He can provide, while still living here on Earth. Christ is our perfect example of how to live for God, sacrificially, which is our service to God (Romans 12:1-3), for example when we make plans, we want to include God's plan for our lives (James 4:13-17); not suggesting things will be smooth, but it will be good.

So many times a person reading the Old Testament will come across scriptures where a king demands a kind of cultic worship we in this day and age do not really understand very well. Yet, there are cultures today where something like this does happen, such as in North Korea with the cultic personification of Kim Jung Un, or the total and uncompromising allegiance of past totalitarian regimes such as Rome. Jesus lived in a very oppressive society and although Rome was known for keeping the peace, it did so under an umbrella of ruthlessness. Notice Jesus' mission was to introduce the kingdom of God and not start a political, military or religious revolution. Jesus total focus was to do God's will, be an example for us to follow, while not compromising our convictions in Christ or the plan He has for our lives (Hebrews 11, 12, & 13). Our prayer is for you to know Christ and renew your mind so you can know His plan for your life.

If you have a need, are in the hospital or would simply like to talk, we would be glad to listen. Please call us at (218) 444-5015.

Mike and Julie Gutz

DAV and Auxiliary Chaplains





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