## 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 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.











## www.davchapter7.org

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Monthly Newsletter November 2014

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

## NEXT MEETING: National Guard Armory Bemidji, MN Monday, December 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 - 218-395-0318

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:

EXEC. COMMITTEE:

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EXEC. COMMITTEE:

EXEC. COMMITTEE:

Bruce Tiegen

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Bruce Tiegen

Bruce Tiegen

Bruce Tiegen

Bruce Holden

Glenn Aagard

EXEC. COMMITTEE:

Marten Schrage

## **COMMANDERS CORNER**

Hello Fellow comrades. Another month has passed and the beautiful weather begins. I hope you and your family have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving. Our clothes sorting volunteers have had another busy month and I am glad that we have them. If you are interested in joining in on some weekly fun and being with fellow vets, we sort every Tuesday morning at 9:00 am at the Armory in Bemidji.

Our annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet will be 15 December 2014 at the Bemidji Armory. I was hoping to have a time of the event but it wasn't decided. We need your RSVP by 5 December. Please call 218-252-2061 and leave your name, number of guests, and if you need any special diet. The meal will be provided and there will be door prizes for those who attend.

Mike Zimmerman Sr Vice Commander

## **VETERANS CHOICE CARD**

If you were enrolled in the Veterans Administration (VA) Health Care System as of August 1, 2014, you should be receiving a card in the mail from the VA. This card is called the "Veterans Choice Card". This card is in response to recent veteran's concerns regarding excessive wait times for VA appointments and long distances traveled to VA facilities.

This is how it works. If you cannot obtain an appointment at a VA facility within 30 days or if you live more than 40 miles from a VA facility, you may be given the opportunity to use the card and receive medical care from non-VA providers. However, for any care that you might receive while using this card; it must be preauthorized and coordinated by the VA. Also, if you have other medical insurance the VA will bill them for any care received as this is the law. So remember if you get this card in the mail you must always get pre-authorization by the VA before using the card. Authorization can be obtained by calling 1-866-606-8198. Our local Disabled American Veterans Chapter provides weekly transportation service from Bemidji to the Fargo VA Medical Center. They go there either Wednesday or Thursday depending on the week (works on an alternating basis). You can call 855-277-9787 to set up a ride. Additionally, the chapter is always looking for volunteer drivers. If you have any interest please call 218-243-2663.

Don't forget that the VA, in concert with Delta Dental/MetLife, offers affordable dental insurance to eligible veterans. Any veteran who is currently enrolled in the VA Health Care System will be able to obtain dental coverage under this program regardless of service-connected disability ratings or enrollment priority group. Also eligible are spouses and dependent children who are covered under VA's CHAMPVA program. As this is insurance, there will be costs associated with the program for both premiums and co-pays.

The 2014 COLA rate for Social Security benefits has been officially set at 1.7% and is effective January 2015. We are still awaiting word on what the COLA will be for veterans' benefits.

For veterans and service members looking for help during the holiday season, the Military Family Assistance Center (located inside the Bemidji National Guard Armory) will have stocking stuffers and other toys available to veterans and service members starting December 1 during normal business hours. Donations of holiday gifts/gift cards for children or adults are always welcome and can be accepted for distribution at any time. Arrangements can be made outside of business hours by calling 651-282-4031. Please bring Military ID card or proof of service with you.

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.

## **ADJUTANT CORNER**

Still time to sign up for Ice Fishing lake of Woods applications in by Dec 31 2014 for application on any hunt or fishing trip go to www.davmn.org or call John Carlson 651-291-1212. If you live over 40 miles from a VA care facility you should have received a choice card if not call 866-606-8198 call same number if you are not getting care within 30 days of your problem. VA Fargo is in the process of making 100 spots in back so all Veteran parking will be in front, they are adding on 30 more exam rooms, They are in process of providing more non tradition medication example aroma therapy (nontraditional western med). They have hired 1 part time Dermatologist, 3 vascular surgeon's part time who will also work at Stanford hospital, 1 new gas passer, 2 hospitalist ( they take care of patients in the hospital when patients Doctors are off duty), 1 chief of primary care. They will be adding on to ambulance entrance, adding a cover over entrance to hospital, oncology are is ½ done, makeover of ICU rooms in process, They have blood drive Dec 7th 2014 one donor will receive a trip to super bowl all expense paid. www.fargova.gov for details. Also December 7th US Army band will be playing at the hospital. A new regulation makes it easier to help homeless Veterans now for details go to web site or call hospital and ask for volunteer service. They had inspection last week it went very well, so you will be seeing lots of changes to our hospital this and next year. They are starting to have town hall meetings, they are a level 3 Facility so no Ebola patients, their patient load increased by 1 % last year. They are looking for more midlevel providers PA, NP as well as Doctors all for family providers.

It is time once again to elect new officers, the nominating committee is Walter James 612-618-3377 and Bruce Tiegen 218-308-0962 if you are interested in becoming an officer **Elected officers** are Commander, Junior vice commanders, a Senior Vice Commander and Treasurer, **Appointed offices** are Adjutant, Chaplain, 3 Executive Committeeman, Officer of the day, Sergeant at arms, Historian, Judge Advocate and Service officer. Any interest in any appointed or elected positions call nominating committee members above.

The Awards Banquet will be December 15th @ 1800 hours we need you to call one of committee members to tell them if you are coming Annonson Tom 218-251-3025, or saddoris at 218-243-2663, Linda Knapp is also a member of committee I did not ask her if I could list her number. There will be door prizes as well as good food and company so as they say come on down.

Our Auxiliary unit is having a Christmas tea December 7th at 2 pm @215 26th St NW Bemidji. Call 444-7348 or 444-8133 by December 2nd bring your favorite tea treats will be provided.

## Additional Sponsors

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

## 2015 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES

January	February	March	April
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31			30 31
September	October	November	December
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27 28 29 <mark>30</mark>	25 26 27 <mark>28</mark> 29 30 31	29 30	27 28 29 30 <mark>31</mark>

### 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.

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## DAV MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 17TH, 2014 (Abbreviated)

Meeting called to order at: 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 the October 20th, 2014 meeting:

• Amended to include Glen A.; Motion to accept. Approved.

#### Treasurer's Report Given:

· Motion to accept as read. Approved

#### Chaplin's Report:

· Seven Veterans on the list, some on-going.

#### Reading of the Correspondence.

• Thank you letters for DAV support to and from Veterans.

#### Committee reports given:

- Service Officer: no new report.
- Membership: no new report.
- Newsletter: no new report.
- Forget- Me- Not: Herberger's will be 14th and 15th. \$1418 raised so far.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Flatbed on order for truck #2.

#### **New Business:**

- 1. Request made to help a Vet with Well installation.
- 2. Info item request to support Vet and family.
- 3. Motion to help Vet with vehicle repairs. Approved.
- 4. Motion to trade in black trailer for larger, instead of repairing. Approved.

Good of the order: Poster donated from Navy Cadets of USS MN, to be framed.

Closing Ceremonies were performed.

Meeting adjourned at: 1947 hrs.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Last month we were looking at three questions, 1) why does the God of the Old Testament, Yahweh-Father, seem so different from the God of the New Testament Jesus-Son? 2) How do we reconcile the two seemingly contradictory statements of God not showing mercy (Deut 7:1-2), while Jesus teaching to show mercy (Matt 5:43-45)? 3) What is God doing on the earth? We concluded with question one, more needs to be said about question two and we will address question three this month.

Last month we were considering how 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 of separation from God. This holiness and separation 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).

It is important to understand God's desire is to save all men (I Timothy 2:3-5), although hell was not designated for mankind (Matt 25:41), the Bible does reflect hell being the ultimate destination for those who oppose Christ (Matt 25:31-46), that is, living for themselves. This separation involves a person's own decision too. There are several views regarding this issue (predestination vs. free will), yet it is truly only a matter God can balance out. Yes we can attempt to understand these dynamics through study and prayer. Yet God is the only person who truly knows the motives of a person's heart. A person who believes (faith, knows, trusts, relies) Christ has an inner witness in their heart (a gut feeling) towards God (I John 5:10-13), both God and the person interacts together in a one to one relationship through Christ.

We need to go back to the beginning (Gen 1-2) in order to understand what God is doing on the earth. So often the fall of mankind is so much a part of our thinking it is difficult to separate God's original creation from man's subsequent sin. Mankind's sin results in a detour of God's plan, a very costly detour, it creates the conditions we now live (sickness, death, wars and rumors of war, which all veterans and their families are familiar) and it took the death of Jesus, the Son of God, to help put God's intentions back on course. Make no mistake; God will bring about the culmination of His original intent. So lets for a moment set aside the fall of mankind and try to understand the big picture of God's original intent, which is to live with a people He creates for Himself (Gen 3:8a - the "a" means the first part of vs. 8). This understanding of God's desire to walk, live and be with His people is a constant concept throughout the Old and New Testament (Lev 26:12, Deut 23:15, II Sam 7:6-7, John 1:14, Rev 21:22-23). This is why Israel made Tabernacles and built Temples so God could live with them (Ex 25:8-22, I Kings 5:1-5), even now He lives inside us (I Cor 6:19, Rev 3:20), yet the future is even more exciting because we will see God and He will be our temple (Rev 21:22-23). There are many indicators the Garden of Eden was to be a living sanctuary (the place where God lives with his people). The similarities between the Garden of Eden and the subsequent sanctuaries in the tabernacles and temples for example are striking, each of their entrances is in the east and guarded by Cherubim - angles (Gen 3:24, Ex 25:18-22 and 26:31, I Kings 6:23-29). As you can see God's desire is to live with us for eternity. Notice the Tree of Life in both Garden of Eden and New Jerusalem, God's desire will come full circle in the end.

Please do not hesitate to call us. If you are in the hospital we would like to come and visit, feel free to contact us. If you are in need please let us know. If you have comments, or want to talk we would look forward to meeting you. Chaplains Mike and Julie Gutz (DAV & DAV Auxiliary) 444-5015 (Home). Julie (218) 368-9747 (Cell).





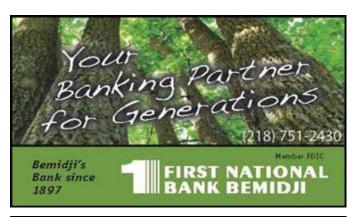




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