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Monthly Newsletter
March 2017

North Central MN Chapter #7
PO Box 564
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NEXT MEETING:
New DAV Center on 15th Street NW
Bemidji, MN
Tuesday, March 21st at 7pm

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- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| COMMANDER: | Dave Sterr - (218) 556-4633 |
| SENIOR VICE: | Mike Zimmerman - (218) 252-2061 |
| JUNIOR VICE: | Joe Vene |
| ADJUTANT: | David Myers |
| SERVICE OFFICER: | Walter James |
| TREASURER: | Jeri Harvey |
| CHAPLAIN: | Tara Schwinghammer |
| CHAPLAIN (ALT.): | Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591 |
| JUDGE ADVOCATE: | Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591 |
| SERGEANT AT ARMS: | Bruce Tiegen |
| OFFICER OF THE DAY: | Glenn Aagard |
| LEGISLATIVE CHAIR: | Joe Vene |
| HISTORIAN: | Tom Annonson |
| EXEC. COMMITTEE: | Walter James, Gene Schwantes,
Tom Annonson - (218) 251-3025,
torgor@lightspeed.net |

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Vets on the Hill

When: Monday, March 20th, 2017
Where: State Capitol Bldg., St Paul, Minn.

Schedule:

- 8:00-9:45 a.m. The 5th Floor of the Veterans Services Bldg. will be available prior to event; all Veterans and guests are welcome. This is an optional offering of space to hang out if your group arrives early.
- 10:00-11:00 Veterans Day on the Hill ceremony at Capitol Rotunda.
- 11:00-1:00 Meet with your individual representatives/senators in their offices, or set up a room and ask your elected officials to stop by.
- 1:00 Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting- State Office Bldg. (Optional)

We will be departing from the Bemidji Walmart parking lot at 0500 hrs. We will be making several stops to pick up Veterans along the way and are requesting that you arrive 15 minutes prior to the departure time at your pick-up point so that we don't leave anyone behind. The cost per individual for the bus ride will be free, as we are once again seeking sponsorship from the local Veterans organizations to cover the cost of the bus(s). Departure times are also posted online at davchapter7.org.

If you are planning to attend, send us an Email at mndavchapter7@gmail.com with the name(s) of people in your group and their Military Organization affiliation (DAV, VFW, Legion) or; call / text Tom Annonson @ (218) 251 3025 **no later than March 8th** to confirm your reservations so we will know how many people will be going from each pick-up point.

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COMMANDERS CORNER

The few days of warm weather in February sure felt good. I wonder if March will come in like a lion!! I have not put my winter coat and boots away, yet. Our general meeting took place on Monday, Feb. 20th. The new officers were sworn in and are ready to meet the challenges of the 2017/2018 season. The state convention is just around the corner and our four representatives are planning on attending.

Four of us attended a Savers meeting in Duluth on February 13th, all is well with our clothing donation process, and we were able to hear how other chapters are doing with their clothing programs. I know Tom Annonson has our other fund raisers on the radar screen, so I hope you will offer some volunteer time to those programs, also.

My thank you to everyone—members and volunteers--for your continued support. We are moving along quite nicely with very few stumbles. Speaking of stumbles, I fell on that “dad blasted” ice behind the DAV building a couple of weeks ago, I didn’t break any bones, but I hurt for a few days. Do be careful and try to avoid the icy areas. We will try to do a better job on controlling the ice and snow next winter.

Dave Sterr

The DAV’s main mission is to help veterans in need. If you or someone you know is in need, the Veteran’s Service Officer should be contacted by calling the Veteran’s Service Office (333-4178). The officer will determine if the veteran qualifies for assistance and can then determine what funds or services are available to the veteran or a veteran’s family member. Know also that we have a large supply of medical equipment items to offer our veterans (free of charge). Contact any of the DAV officers and they can help you connect with the person who can help you with securing an item you might need.

2017/18 Chapter Officers



Pictured L-R Bruce Holden, Tom Annonson, Jeri Harvey, David Myers, Mike Zimmerman, David Sterr, Walter James, Bruce Tiegen

Elected officers:

Commander: Dave Sterr
Senior Vice Commander: Mike Zimmermann
1st Junior Vice Commander: Joe Vene
Treasurer: Jeri Harvey

Appointed Officers:

Adjutant: David Myers
Chaplain: Tara Schwinghammer
Judge Advocate: Bruce Holden
Historian: Tom Annonson
Sergeant at arms: Bruce Tiegen
Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard
Service Officer: Walter James
Legislative Chair: Joe Vene

Executive committee:

Walter James
Tom Annonson
Gene Schwantes



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AUXILIARY COMMANDERS CORNER



I hope you have all had a safe winter so far! Just a quick reminder that we will be starting up with our regular meetings again this month. Due to the Chapter moving their regular meeting this month to Tuesday the 21st at 7 PM, we will be meeting then as well. *Linda Engsether*

THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER # 7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON FEBRUARY 20 2017 AT 1900.

- Opening Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance

A. Roll Call of Officers to determine if quorum is present

OFFICERS

Commander: Dave Sterr Present
Senior Vice Commander: Mike Zimmerman Present
Junior Vice Commander: Don Strege Excused
Chaplain: Mike Gutz Present
Service Officer/Co-Adjutant: Robert Saddoris Present
Sergeant-at-Arms: Bruce Tiegen Present
Hist./Judge Advocate/Co-Adjutant: David Myers Present
Treasurer: Jeri Harvey Present
Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard Excused

B. Members Present: 18

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

Guests/Visitors: None Prospective new members: None
Transfers in: None

D. Minutes of January 16 2017 read.

Motion to approve: Steve Siats
Seconded: Walter James Carried.

E. Financial Report for 16 January 2017 – 19 February 2017, motion to approve:

Motion to approve: Walter James
Seconded: Bruce Holden Carried.

F. Sickness or distress: No one is currently hospitalized.

G. New Member Obligation: None

H. Communications: Thank you letters for supporting CBOC and VA Hospitals

I. Committee Reports:

1. **Membership Report:** 2 new paid members, 3 making payments.
2. **Service Officer Report:** No report given.
3. **Legislative Report:** No report given.
4. **Hospital Chaplain Report:** 10 hospital and follow up visits made.
5. **Entertainment:** The next event is the summer picnic, more discussion as it gets closer.
6. **Fundraising committee:** Herberger's fundraiser has exceeded budget goal.
7. **Newsletter Committee:** Need to find new advertisers. Need articles for the newsletter asap.

J. Old Business

1. Nominations for Officers for 2017-2018:

Commander: Walter James nominated Dave Sterr. Randy Hanevold seconded the nominations. The question was asked three times. There being no further nominations, Dave Sterr has been nominated.

Senior Vice Commander: Walter James nominated Mike Zimmerman. Randy Hanevold seconded the nominations. The question was asked three times. There being no further nominations, Mike Zimmerman has been nominated.

Junior Vice Commander: Walter James nominated Joe Vene. Randy Hanevold seconded the nominations. The question was asked three times. There being no further nominations, Joe Vene has been nominated.

Treasurer: Walter James nominated Jeri Harvey. Randy Hanevold seconded the nominations. The question was asked three times. There being no further nominations, Jeri Harvey has been nominated.

The process will be repeated at next month's regular meeting, followed by election.

2. All decisions regarding mileage paid for deliveries have been rescinded, due to IRS restrictions. These will be discussed by the executive board, and a recommendation brought forward, before the next fiscal year.

K. New Business

The regular meeting's proceedings were suspended for nominations and election of officers for the 2017-2018 year.

MN Senior Vice Commander Robert Saddoris, as per the rules of order, called three times for additional nominations from the floor for the following elected chapter positions:

- Commander; there being none, Dave Sterr was duly elected.
- Senior Vice Commander; there being none, Mike Zimmermann was duly elected.
- Junior Vice Commander; there being none, Joe Vene was duly elected.
- Treasurer; there being none, Jeri Harvey was duly elected.

Commander Dave Sterr made the following appointments:

- Adjutant: David Myers
- Chaplain: Tara Schwinghammer
- Judge Advocate: Bruce Holden
- Historian: Tom Annonson
- Sergeant at arms: Bruce Tiegen
- Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard
- Service Officer: Walter James
- Legislative Chair: Joe Vene

The following are appointed to the Executive committee:

- Bruce Tiegen • Walter James • Tom Annonson • Gene Schwantes

The meeting was recommenced.

The annual Veterans on the Hill event is set for Monday, 20 March. This is the same date as our regularly scheduled meeting. Motion made to change March's meeting to Tuesday the 21st, by Walter James, 2nd by Steve Haushildt. Motion carried.

The spring convention will be held in Duluth in April 2017, from 27-29. The following members are nominated to attend: Mike Zimmermann, Dave Sterr, Walter James, and Tom Annonson. Motion to approve by Steve Siats, 2nd, by Bruce Tiegen. Carried.

The \$750.00 set aside for the Ride from the troops will be withheld pending release of a financial report. Motion made by Walter James, 2nd by Bruce Tiegen. The motion carried, with a vote of 9-8. The issue will be revisited after a report is released and reviewed.

Discussed the possibility of setting up a clothing donation trailer at the Beltrami County and Clearwater County Fairs. Issue tabled for the time being.

Mike Gutz would like to offer NRA firearm Safety, Concealed Carry, First Aid, and Scuba Diving courses in our facility. Tabled and handed over to executive committee for further discussion.

L. Executive Committee Action Items

1. Mike Zimmermann has arranged for the purchase of a 2017 Dodge pickup.
2. Our older white truck has a dent in the bumper of unknown origin. This needs to be investigated and repaired. It is important to ensure that trip tickets are filled out each time a truck is used.

M. Good of the Order:

1. Family Assistance Centers have been shut down all over the US due to lack of contract. It is important that our members contact our legislators for resolution of this issue.
2. The Beltrami County Veterans Home proposal has cleared the first hurdle.

A Minute of silence was observed for our fallen comrades

N. Motion to adjourn:

Made by Walter James Seconded: Steve Haushil Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2041 hours. The next meeting will be held at 1900 on **TUESDAY 21 March 2017** at DAV Chapter Headquarters.

ADJUTANT CORNER

In 2020, DAV will celebrate 100 years of dedicated service to our nation's veterans, their families and survivors. As part of this special occasion, it is our sincere hope that a commemorative stamp will be issued to recognize this significant milestone. Therefore, we are calling upon all DAV and DAVA members and supporters to contact the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee and request that a stamp be issued to commemorate this important time in DAV's history. Unfortunately, there is no availability to send emails, limiting our ability to fully leverage our Commander's Action Network system. All requests for consideration for a commemorative stamp must be in the form of a letter and mailed through the United States Postal Service. Therefore, we have prepared the following samples for a letter, which also requires the writer to include information on what the DAV has done for them or their family, i.e., assistance with claims or appeals, transportation, disaster relief, hospital visits, provided an outlet for you to help others, etc. The committee will meet in April 2017 and it is extremely important that we inundate their office with letters of support for a DAV commemorative stamp. The Committee receives thousands of requests each year, so we need our letters to make a memorable impact. Accordingly, we will have space available at our Mid-Winter conference for DAV members to write their letter to the committee. We also call upon each of you to help us generate letters from our members and supporters across the country. Between now and April, we hope you will find time at your department and chapter meetings to have those members in attendance write a letter and that you will make available paper, envelopes and stamps for them to accomplish this task. It is important that each letter be sent in a separate envelope and that everyone includes a description of why they became a member or what the DAV has personally meant to them. **Please elaborate fully on how the DAV helped you personally or why you support the DAV.**

Send your letters to:

Janet Klug, Chair
Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300
Washington, DC 20260-3501

Dear Chairwoman Klug:

In 2020, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will celebrate its 100th anniversary, I urge you and the entire committee to consider commemorating this milestone with a stamp honoring all that it does for veterans and their families and survivors, honoring the men and women who served our nation and the men and women who are members of this great organization.

Examples

I have been a member of the DAV since XXXX. The services provided by the DAV to me have facilitated my ability to live a more productive life. The DAV helped me with **(my claim, my appeal, with transportation to and from medical visits, with disaster relief assistance during) (which event), and/or other assistance or benefits received because of the DAV's mission).** Without this help from the DAV, my life would not have been as rewarding as it is.

-OR-

I am a family member of a disabled veteran. The services provided by the DAV to my **spouse/sibling/aunt/uncle, etc.** have facilitated **his/her** ability to live a more productive life. **The DAV helped him/her with filing a claim for benefits, transportation to and from medical visits, by visiting and providing comfort items when he/she was in the hospital, with disaster relief assistance during) (which event), and/or other assistance or benefits received as a result of the DAV's mission)** Without this help from the DAV, his/her life would not have been as rewarding as it is.

-OR-

I am a concerned citizen and a supporter of the DAV and injured or ill veterans. I have seen the direct services that the DAV provides to our nation's disabled veterans across the country. Whether it is assisting a veteran with filing a disability claim, providing veterans with transportation to and from medical visits, or providing disaster relief assistance to veterans following a hurricane, tornado or flood the DAV is always there to help.

Thank you for your consideration.

MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS:

Grant programs targeting 'disillusioned' veterans in the criminal justice system
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/sessiondaily/SDView.aspx?StoryID=12480>

Free State park entry sought for disabled veterans, active military, and dependents
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/sessiondaily/SDView.aspx?StoryID=12482>

Minnesota Index: Active military and veterans
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/sessiondaily/SDView.aspx?StoryID=12478>

*Folks it is an honor to serve,
May God bless every one of
you and you're Families'!
Saddoris*



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January 2017

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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April 2017

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October 2017

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December 2017

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Last month we were looking at our current situation in the United States through the lens of scripture. Specifically, we looked at the meaning and application of taking God's name in vain (Exodus 20:7) while harming others - something God clearly does not want a person to do. This would be the person who either through their talk or walk (behavior), professes to know God, yet at the same time harms others. Jesus spoke of these kinds of situations that would occur in the future (John 16:2). It did not take long after Jesus' resurrection for this to happen, one example is Paul with Stephen (Acts 7:58-8:4, 9:1-2). This was a traumatic event in Paul's life and he wrote about in his letter to Timothy (I Tim 1:12-15). Paul later mentions this same event and his earlier conversation with Jesus about it, to a large public audience before being taken into protective custody (Acts 21:27-22:16-29). What is the point of all this? Simple, Paul was held accountable for Stephen's martyrdom through a confrontation with Jesus who stopped him (Acts 9:4-6).

We often read where God can make all things work out for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purposes (Romans 8:28-39). When Paul wrote his letter to the Romans under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, could Stephens' martyrdom and Paul's journey to Damascus been the catalyst for his conversion and the basis for the statement he made in Romans 8:28? It is a consideration and a sobering reality, in light of God's willingness to hang onto us.

Yet considering all of this, Paul also reminds us to be cautious with whom we associate (Romans 16:17-18, Titus 1:9-11, I Timothy 3-15). Another possible application of taking God's name in vain (Ex 20:7) may be times when a person has been overheard discussing their plans to succeed in something (personal, professional, recreational, business, etc), while saying, "We work for God!" Essentially using God's name as an authority to offer legitimacy in pushing to do whatever it is the person wants. In this case using God's name in a personal oath to push another person, while controlling them into doing something (Exodus 20:7). Wisdom and discernment in situations like this is vital, using God's name in this manner is definitely not good and responding correctly is critical. God leads with freedom from the front, and does not push to control from the back - God is gentle. Protecting ourselves in these situations is to proceed with all due caution, knowing our boundaries (Romans 16:17). Although at times a relationship will not permit avoidance such as in employment situations.

All of you are in our prayers and if you have a need, are in the hospital or would simply like to talk, we would be glad to listen, call us at 444-5015.

Mike and Julie Gutz

Herberger's Community Day Sale Fundraising Event

Sunday February 26th wrapped up our DAV chapter 7 Herberger's Community Day sales fundraising events for the 2017 fiscal year. With both the November and February sale days completed, I am happy to report that, thanks to the great community support from around our area during both events, we have once again exceeded our budgeted goal for the year. I will give a full report on the total once we receive the final bonus check from Herberger's later this month.

Tom Annonson
Fundraising Chairman



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