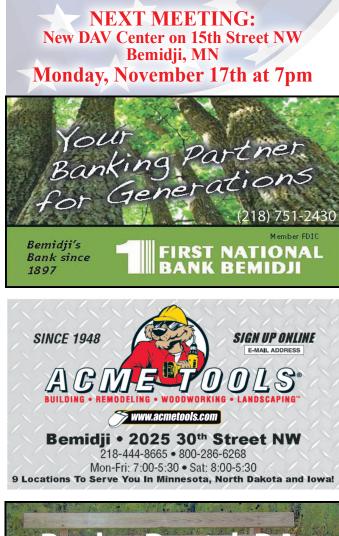


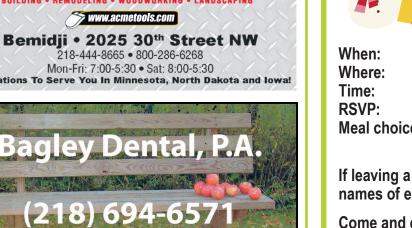
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Monthly Newsletter November 2017

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





13 Main Ave. N., P.O. Box 299 Bagley, MN 56621

CHAPTER OFFICERS

COMMANDER: SENIOR VICE: JUNIOR VICE: ADJUTANT: SERVICE OFFICER: TREASURER: CHAPLAIN: CHAPLAIN (ALT.): JUDGE ADVOCATE: SERGEANT AT ARMS: OFFICER OF THE DAY: LEGISLATIVE CHAIR: HISTORIAN: EXEC. COMMITTEE:

Dave Sterr - (218) 556-4633 Mike Zimmerman - (218) 252-2061 Joe Vene David Myers Walter James Jeri Harvey Tara Schwinghammer - (218)368-9988 Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591 Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591 Bruce Tiegen Glenn Aagard Ioe Vene Tom Annonson Walter James, Gene Schwantes, Tom Annonson - (218) 251-3025, torgor@lightspeed.net



DAV and Auxiliary Christmas Party and Recognition Dinner

When:December 18, 2017Where:Bemidji Eagles ClubTime:5:00 Social Hour; 6:00 DinnerRSVP:Call Ginger at 368-8562 by December 10Meal choice:Roast Beef, Fried Chicken Breast,
or Vegetarian Lasagna

If leaving a voice mail, please include full names of each guest and their meal choice

Come and enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship with friends. There will be a short program and door prizes.



COMMANDERS CORNER

It does not seem possible that November is upon us. We are battening down the hatches at the DAV buildings in preparation for the winter months. I think we all stand outside the two buildings and can hardly believe our good fortune. The work put into getting the buildings up and in good order is mind boggling. Chapter 7 has top notch Veterans and Volunteers who have given and continue to give of their talents, skills and volunteer hours for the betterment of our Veteran population. The Chapter 7 area is huge, and it is wonderful to have a permanent place to meet and work. We are able to keep a close eye on our vehicles and equipment which must be kept in good and safe condition for our drivers. We tend to 22 clothing drop-off bins in our Chapter area. Most of the bins are checked twice a week because our communities are very generous and supportive of our clothing program.

My "to do" list keeps growing because Chapter 7 DAV is growing. A top priority on the list is to encourage you to invite Veterans to participate so we build a strong chapter that can support our Veteran population. Keep in mind, also, that there is an opportunity to serve in a leadership position. The nominations process for officers will start soon. New officers are installed in March. Let me know if you have an interest in serving in this capacity—it has been an honor for me to be the Commander these past few years. I have come to realize the good I can do as part of this leadership team. The other benefits are new friendships, good comradery, and witnessing the kindness and hard work of the Volunteers, both Veterans and non-Veterans.

Finally, I am happy to report that things are rapping up with the estate of Willis (Willie) Anderson. Commander Saddoris informed me that Mr. Anderson was a member of Chapter 7 for a period of seven years. Mr. Anderson passed away earlier this year and had willed most of the proceeds of his estate to Chapter 7. The word from the estate executor is that we will receive somewhere between \$90,000 and \$100,000 by the end of this year.

We have so much to be thankful for. The blessings have been many and what makes me feel so good is that we are in a financially healthy position to help our Veterans in need and to support the many other programs of the Disabled American Veterans. Enjoy your Thanksgiving.

Commander 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.



THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER # 7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 16 OCTOBER 2017 AT 1900.

- Opening Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance

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

<u>OFFICERS</u>

Commander: Dave Sterr	Present
Senior Vice Commander: Mike Zimmerman	Present
Junior Vice Commander: Joe Vene	Present
Adjutant: David Myers	Present
Treasurer: Jeri Harvey	Present
Chaplain: Tara Schwinghammer	Present
Judge Advocate: Bruce Holden	Present
Sergeant- at-Arms: Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard	Absent
Historian: Tom Annonson	Absent

B. Members Present: 24

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

2 members from Middle River. Jason Cerevantes and Mark Sertle, present to tell us about their outdoor program. **Guests/Visitors:** No guests or visitors were present.

Prospective new members: No new applications

Transfers in: None

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of September 19th, 2017 were read. Motion to approve. Carried.

- E. Financial Report for September 18 15 October: Chapter treasurer Jeri Harvey gave a report. Motion to accept the report as read was made, approved.
- F. Sickness or distress: None reported
- G. New Member Obligation: None
- H. Communications: There were four items read:
 - 1. Recruiting award with Battle Streamer for 2016/2017.
 - 2. Thank you from Local CBOC for donation.
 - 3. Thank you from Steven Whitehead for \$400.00 donation to the foundation.
 - 4. Thank you from Steven Whitehead for \$400.00 donation and \$500.00 donation to the MN Foundation.
- I. Committee Reports:
 - 1. Membership Report: Nothing to report.
 - 2. Service Officer Report: Discussed new training rules for CSO's. Introduced two new Chapter service officers:

David Myers and Tara Schwinghammer. County Veterans Service Officer Scotty Allison discussed the importance of following the CSO rules, and why his office shouldn't be bypassed in the process of helping veterans with their VA paperwork.

- 3. Legislative Report: Discussed the need to attend local events (such as the recent visit of our legislators) to ensure that our voices are heard and our needs addressed.
- 4. Hospital Chaplain Report: Nothing to report
- 5. Entertainment: Jeri Harvey reported that the party would take place on Monday, 18 December, at the Eagles club. More information will follow.
- 6. Fundraising committee: No report, Chairman absent
- 7. Newsletter Committee: No report, Chairman absent

J. Old Business

Will be discussed in Executive Committee Action Items.

- K. New Business
 - 1. Scotty Allison brought a case of a disabled veteran in need of a new well pump, and fixed well.
 - 2. Commander Sterr brought a case of a disabled veteran in need of a furnace.
 - 3. Randy Hanevold had questions regarding the building fund. The Department informed us that we could not have a building fund. Jeri suggested that we move any monies in the account to our general account, and close out the building fund account. Motion was made and Carried.

L. Executive Committee Action Items:

- 1. We received an update on the Anderson estate.
- 2. Discussed the request from Park Rapids Chapter that Chapter 7 donate \$2500.00 towards a new van to be used to ferry patients from the parking lot to the hospital at the Fargo VA. Motion made and Carried.
- 3. The Pole Barn project was discussed. Commander Sterr reports that the project is almost 100% completed, and is finished until the spring.

M. Good of the Order: Nothing at this time.

A Minute of silence was observed for our fallen comrades

N. Motion to adjourn:

Made by Walter James, 2nd by Bruce Tiegen. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2015 hours. The next meeting will be held on 20 November 2017 at 1900 at the Chapter HQ.

In Comradeship David C. Myers Adjutant

Approved Dave Sterr, Commander North Central Minnesota Chapter # 7



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STATE COMMANDER

My how this month has flown by, it's great to have a little snow for deer hunting, and I do believe winter has arrived. My month started Oct. 2nd by delivering food for Bemidji CBOC (Community Based Outpatient Clinic); 3th to Detroit Lakes Chapter meeting good to see old friends again and work with the Chapter; 4th to Camp Ripley for deer hunt, again got to network and visit with old friends; 5th -7th Fall Conference and Chapter Service Officer training, if you did not attend you missed a good Conference. Past Department Commander Aguirre set up meeting with past Department Commanders as well as Past Auxiliary Commanders that were present, a good meeting. 11th -12th Anoka Commander Task Force (CTF) meeting, if you have not gone to this site please do so. This is the Task Force that works on legislation for all Veterans http:// www.mnctf.org/ and helps decide date for Veterans on the Hill. Please start planning to attend this yearly event, it helps get the word to our legislators on bills, we have for Veterans and/or their Spouses. Keep up on the CTF monthly. 14th to the pheasant hunt Avon, 30 hunters and 250 plus pheasants taken, European type hunt, it was a treat. Next year if you have not seen such a hunt do apply at the DAV web site. At hunt one new member signed up and met many DAV members that I had not met in the past. 15-16 did computer work for DAV, this is a task that is never completed! 18th to Park Rapids for a Volunteer Drivers party, great to see the drivers and their wives Trent (our full time transportation and Legislation man)was there to give talk. We have 263 Volunteer Drivers state wide with a total of 23 DAV vans State wide and another 200 drivers that give their hours to the DAV. Vans driven by our volunteers are trained by VA (do not need to be member of DAV or be Veteran to drive). 19th to St Cloud to meet Hospital Director for VA hospital sharing thoughts and ideas Trent and DAV State Adjutant Butch their also. 20th-21st Detroit Lakes 14th District meeting (14th district for DAV is ND, SD, MT and MN) great to network with our district members. Mr. Day, 2nd National Jr Vice was main speaker, also present Montana, Mr. Parsetich 4th Nation Jr Vice, Stephen Whitehead 1st National Jr Vice and Mike Dobmeier Nation Judge Advocate, Chair of the District was National Executive Committeeman from MN Dave Valtinson, to have so many National officers present was a real treat. 22-24 VAVS meeting, Savers and executive meeting all in the Cities; 25th meeting with drivers of DAV/VA van from Bemidji to set up schedule for next four months and work on some issue's drivers faced. Drove 2,872 miles 16 days on the road can only guess at hours 140 or so would be some were in the ball park. This has been a very enjoyable month. By the time you receive this it will be Thanksgiving, do enjoy with your families, I am very thankful to represent each of you as I go to different meetings and events around state, again thank you for this honor. May God bless each of you and your families, I am so proud of you and what you do for Veterans or their families.

Saddoris Commander State of Minnesota DAV.

One huge thing you could do for our fellow Veterans is inform everyone about our van and let them know it will be going 4 days a week starting in January and will do so now if we have a Veteran who needs a ride, if not going to Fargo, it will go to St Cloud. Have them *call 855-277-9787* we will do our best to help every Veteran get to their appointment. We have a great group of volunteer drivers you can all be proud of.



BEMIDJI DAV VAN 2017 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES

		March 2017	April 2017
VETERANS - PLE		Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 ② 3 4	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1
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September 2017	October 2017	November 2017	December 2017
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Veterans free transportation to Fargo VA

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 <u>park south of propane tank</u> • Ada Country Store

To Schedule Rides:

Call 1-855-277-9787 and follow voice prompts to leave a message. If you have problems leaving a message call scheduler Saddoris at 218-243-2663 or 218-209-1863 (cell).

Volunteer Drivers Needed! Call Saddoris for info.





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Hello friends. I pray that you are able to enjoy the last few beautiful days in God's creation. There's nothing like that gentle breeze or the sun on your face to take away our troubles. Do Christians really have troubles? I don't know about you but I thought that if I gave my life to Jesus, then my troubles would be over. Didn't Jesus say, "Come all who are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28)." So does finding rest mean that you don't have any troubles? Lots of people turn to God in a moment of desperation. Our Lord delights in us when we turn to Him no matter what state of mind. He is faithful to meet us right in the middle of the mess of sin that we have made for ourselves. Sometimes we think ourselves the innocent victim of someone else's sin. That might be the case but really no one is completely innocent before God. Romans 3:23 says that "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God."

I gave my life to Jesus when I was 13 years old. That doesn't mean that I did everything right. Even 35 years later, I am still being sanctified through Christ Jesus my Lord. I once heard it said that a Christian is never more deceived than when he/she is on the day that they think that they have conquered sin in their life. "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked (Jeremiah 17:9)." Satan roams the earthy seeking whom he might destroy. If he can't destroy you personally, he will go through your friends and even your family. Every Old Testament family was dysfunctional if you haven't noticed. The New Testament isn't much better. Jesus own mother and brothers thought that Jesus was insane because he claimed to be God. They came to "take charge" of him.

Here I am airing the Bibles dirty laundry. I know some of you have never heard this before but please bear with me. A few of you might think that you have a perfect family. I met a lady once who thought her parents were absolutely perfect as was her childhood. Then she woefully added that her and her husband could never measure up to her parents. At some point in life, we all need to realize that nobody is perfect. I myself put several pastors on a pedestal. It is very unfair to expect a person to be perfect. Worshiping other human beings will always lead to disappointment. Perhaps you have a friend or family that has let you down. Perhaps you have forgiven them seven times seventy as Jesus teaches. Does God want us to continue to trust someone who has hurt us?

First off, God understands and validates your feelings. Humans may want you to stuff your pain but God never does that. King David was a man after God's own heart and yet he suffered greatly. He said in Psalm 40:12, "For troubles without number surround me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see. There are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails within me." David doesn't hold back from God. He shares his feelings completely. This is a fallen world. Sin abounds even if we are saved and assured that we are going to heaven.

If it weren't for sin, we would want to stay here on earth forever. David longs for that relationship with Christ also known as our High Priest." Jesus was fully tempted and yet was without sin. He knows our weakness and is able to understand how we feel. Strong emotions like this can be thought of as a wave. The wave comes in as we take a good breath. We hold it and then let it back out again. Feel the cleansing as the good air comes in and the bad air goes out. There, now don't you feel better. What you didn't do it? Well stop and read that again. You might think that you can't handle those nasty emotions but "you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you."

Now that you took some time to breathe through those emotions, I want you to try to enter your logical mind. It is very difficult to find your logical mind when you have these overwhelming feelings. Give yourself time. Put this down and go for a walk or call a friend that makes you laugh. The more that you practice bringing God into your emotional life, the more stability you will find. If you can't find that logical mind, that is okay. There is no hurry. In fact, I will give you a whole month to just share with Jesus and/or a trusted person the exact nature of your soul. I pray that you have someone that you trust to point you to the love of Christ. There are lots of DAV members that have encouraged me so much. If you have come to that place where you want to accept Jesus for the first time or the hundredth time, please do it right now. If you are afraid to do this alone, the please call myself (218-368-9988) or another Chaplain if you prefer. You are not alone. We are there for you. May God bless and keep you until next month.

In Christ's Service, Chaplain Tara Schwinghammer



AUXILIARY COMMANDER CORNER

DAV Auxiliary - 10/16/17 meeting

In November after our meeting we will host a meal for the Chapter in recognition of Veterans Day. Please bring a dish to share. We will have sloppy joes. Lyndsey is bringing buns and a dessert; Marjorie is bringing a bean dish. We have sloppy joe meat left from the Standdown.

The Women Veterans Spa Day is on November 10. We will provide massages, pedicures and a light lunch for our guests.

Christmas gifts for veterans in facilities will be done again this December.

We will also move forward with the activity bags for children visiting the Fargo VA hospital with their parents.

A Norwex fund raiser was approved with the unit receiving 25% of the product sales; see Ginger Edwards.

The joint DAV and Auxiliary Christmas Party and Recognition dinner will be held on December 18, at the Eagles Club.

ATTENTION VETERANS

The Ralph Gracie Post 14 of the American Legion will be hosting a Veterans Day dinner and program at the Eagles club on November 11th. Social hour will be from 4:30-5:30 P.M. followed by the opening ceremony. Dinner will start at 6 P.M., with the closing ceremony beginning at 7P.M.





Bemidji Chapter 7

BEMIDJI, MN 56619-0564

Disabled American Veterans North Central Minnesota Chapter #7 P.O. BOX 564



If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please send your email address to the organization at mndavchapter7@gmail.com or call or text Tom Annonson @ 218-251-3025

