

FULFILLING OUR PROMISES

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

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Monthly Newsletter February 2018

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

NEXT MEETING:

New DAV Center on 15th Street NW Bemidji, MN Monday, February 19th at 7pm







CHAPTER OFFICERS

COMMANDER: Dave Sterr - (218) 556-4633

SENIOR VICE: Mike Zimmerman - (218) 252-2061

JUNIOR VICE:Joe VeneADJUTANT:David MyersSERVICE OFFICER:Walter JamesTREASURER:Jeri Harvey

CHAPLAIN: Tara Schwinghammer - (218)368-9988

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

Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) Move

Many of you have been asking about when we will be moving to our new location. As it stands now, the clinic will be closed on Feb 21, 22, and 23rd with only urgent care availability. Please contact us prior to 2/20 with any needs so we can attend to them in a timely matter before the move. Our networks will be down so our access to fill medications and place consults will be very limited on these days if not at all, so please plan accordingly. On Feb 26th we will be seeing patients at our NEW CLINIC at 1217 Anne St. Your patience is appreciated as we transition into the new building.

Please watch the papers and mail for more information.

Thank you

Cheryl F - AMSA

FEBRUARY EVENTS

American Legion Post 14 fundraising Bonspiel will be held at the Neilson Arena on Feb 16th, 17th & 18th. For more info, contact Bob Aitken at (218) 766-0121.

The Clearwater County 2018 "Give A Veteran A Lift" fundraising music program will be held on Saturday, February 17th at the Bagley High School Auditorium from 7:00 to 9:00pm.

COMMANDERS CORNER

I am so glad to announce to you that we have achieved a major goal for our chapter. We have paid off the remaining building mortgage amount of approximately \$63,000. The DAV building is now ours free and clear!! There was enough money from the profits of our clothing program in 2017 to pay off the mortgage. I guess you could say that this good news is a very special Valentine to our organization.

The Minnesota Senate Capital Investment Committee met in Bemidji on Wednesday, January 17th. It was well attended by our area veterans. Those who spoke in support of establishing a veteran's home in Bemidji presented their support with facts, figures and heartfelt sincerity. The Pioneer had an excellent write up in the January 18th newspaper on what transpired at the meeting.

All the members and volunteers of Chapter 7 can be proud that we are a strong and active chapter. The strength of our chapter does not go unnoticed by the communities we serve. This is reflected in the donations we continue to receive.

Let's continue to work on membership and participation so that we have a pool of supporters to help keep us thriving. Don't let an opportunity pass by to invite veterans to our meetings and non-veteran volunteers to participate in our clothing program.

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 15 JANUARY 2018 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	Absent
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	Excused
Historian: Tom Annonson	Present

B. Members Present: 13

C. Introduction of guests or visitors, prospective new members, and transfers to Chapter # 7. Guests/Visitors: No guests or visitors were present. Prospective new members: One new application Transfers in: None

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Because we had no official meeting in December (the Christmas party took the place of the regular meeting), the minutes of November 20th, 2017 were read. *Motion to approve made by Randy Hanevold, 2nd by Andy Staudt. Carried.*

- E. Financial Report for 1 30 November: Chapter treasurer Jeri Harvey gave a report. Motion to accept the report as read was made by Randy Hanevold, 2nd by Gene Schwantes.
 - Financial Report for 1 31 December: Chapter treasurer Jeri Harvey gave a report. Motion to accept the report as read was made by Randy Hanevold, 2nd by Andy Staudt.
- **F. Sickness or distress:** Walter James continues to convalesce at home. He is improving, slowly, and still needs assistance to get to appointments. Please keep him in your prayers for continued health improvement.
- G. New Member Obligation: None
- **H. Communications:** There were seven items received:
 - 1) Thank you from Fargo VA for our donation of 2800.00 for the parking lot shuttle.
 - 2) Thank you from Local CBOC for donation.
 - 3) A donation from Colonel James Williamson, USA (Ret).
 - 4) A donation from Ms. Gertrude Gilbertson.
 - 5) A donation from Ms. Sharon Fruetel, in memory of her father Harold, a proud Navy Veteran.
 - 6) A donation from Mr. Warren Ritala
 - 7) A thank you from Civil Air Patrol Northland Squadron for our purchase of 100 wreaths for the "Wreaths across America event.

I. Committee Reports:

- 1. Membership Report: One new member, Mr. Steven S. Jewett.
- **2. Service Officer Report:** 5 veterans were assisted in various capacities, ranging from snow plowing to rides to the Christmas party.
- 3. Legislative Report: Discussed the need to attend local events (such as the upcoming state bonding committee meeting taking place this Wednesday). Our Legislative Committee Chairman stresses the upcoming meeting of 17 January at 0800. The meeting will be held at the Northwest Foundation Building. Discussed the upcoming "Veterans on the hill" event, which takes place on 12 March 2018.
- 4. Hospital Chaplain Report: Nothing further to report.

- 5. Entertainment: Discussed the Christmas party. Our Fundraising Chairman praised the Auxiliary for their hard work in making the event a success. 94 people were served, and a good time was had by all.
- **6. Fundraising committee:** Recent Herbergers fundraiser (13 January) generated \$501.51. Next fundraiser will be Saturday, also at 27 January at Herbergers.
- Newsletter Committee: Need articles to be submitted in a timely manner.

J. Old Business

Discussed final disposition of the Willie Anderson Estate. We have received a check for \$85,000.00. This amount is the total that is left over after all expenses were paid for. The attorney was notified that we accept this amount, and the check was deposited into the general account.

K. New Business

- 1. Veterans on the hill update: So far, we have had 35 people sign up for transportation. Each bus will hold 47 people, and it is anticipated that we will need 2 buses. Each bus will cost \$1400.00. Motion was made by Andy Staudt to pay up to a maximum of \$2800.00 for 2 buses. The motion was seconded by Randy Hanevold. Motion carried.
- 2. The National Guard Armory has been in contact with Commander Sterr regarding their folding chairs and the racks that hold them. They have been stored at our chapter HQ since we moved, and the Unit needs them to be returned. Bruce Tiegen made that motion that Commander Sterr research the cost of up to 80 chairs and racks, and spend a maximum of \$1500.00 to purchase said chairs. Gene Schwantes seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 3. Commander Sterr gave a report on our profits from the clothing program to date. So fay this fiscal year, we have received \$71,733.00. Commander Sterr than asked our treasurer to report on the payoff for the Chapter HQ building. The payoff is approximately \$64,000.00. Commander Sterr would like to entertain a motion to pay off the mortgage out of the clothing program profits. A motion was made by Mike Gutz, and seconded by Bruce Tiegen. The issue was discussed, and the question was called. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.
- 4. Commander Sterr brought forward a veteran in need of assistance with a dental bill of \$766.00. Motion to pay this bill was made by Andy Staudt, seconded by Randy Hanevold. Motion carried.
- **5.** The following is the report from the nominating committee:

 Dave Sterr was nominated for Commander. A call for other nominations was made three times. There were no other nominations.
 - **a.** Mike Zimmerman was nominated for SR Vice Commander. A call for other nominations was made three times. There were no other nominations.
 - **b.** Joe Vene was nominated for Jr Vice Commander. A call for other nominations was made three times. There were no other nominations.
 - c. Jeri Harvey was nominated for Treasurer. She declined to accept the nomination. At this point, David Myers was nominated. A call for other nominations was made three times. There were no other nominations This process will be repeated at our next regular meeting prior to the election.
- L. Executive Committee Action Items: No business was brought forward

M. Good of the Order:

Commander Sterr discussed making flag display cases. If anyone needs one, or knows of anyone who needs one, contact him directly...

A Minute of silence was observed for our fallen comrades

N. Motion to adjourn:

Made by Randy Hanevold, 2nd by Andy Staudt. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2012hours. The next meeting will be held on 19 February 2018 at 1900 at the Chapter HQ.

VETS ON THE HILL

Veterans on the Hill Day trip update

As was mentioned in last month's newsletter, the Veterans on the Hill day will be March 12th this year. We are still working out the schedule for the bus stops to pick up veterans and spouses on the way down to the Capitol from our area up here. We will leave Bemidji at 5 A.M. with stops at Akeley@5:45, Leader@6:40 and Motley@7:05. The times for each stop are approximate arrival times, depending on road conditions, with a 5-10-minute loading time so please plan to be there 15-20 minutes prior to the arrival time at your pick up point.

We are encouraging all veterans and their spouses to attend if possible. There is no requirement that they belong to any Military Organization, so spread the word to any Veteran friends that you know and invite them to go along. Remember, there isn't any charge for the trip and there will be beverages, snacks, and a meal provided.

There are a couple of things we ask;

- 1) That you contact us and let us know the names and contact numbers for everyone that will be joining us on the bus as we need to know the total number of people we will need to have seating for on the bus(s). P.O.C. is Tom Annonson (218) 251-3025 or Email mndavchapter?@gmail.com
- 2) Everyone must be ambulatory enough to get on and off the bus, (we don't have wheelchair accessible bus(s) available) but if required, we can stow wheelchairs in the luggage compartment.

The goal for this year is to have over 1000 attendees from all over the State at the event. The more attendees, the greater the impact we will have on Veteran related Legislative issues.

Additional Sponsors

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Grimes Realty
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- Bemidji DAV/VA Van -2018 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES



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Free Rides To All Veterans!				

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 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

As we march together into February, we celebrate love. I get one TV station at my home. I must say that I am disgusted at what is displayed on TV to our young people. I am not here to judge anyone because I have sinned sexually myself and have found forgiveness not only for myself but also for others who sinned against me. A TV show called the bachelorette, displays a physically beautiful woman making out with a man on national TV. The next day they are meeting with family about marrying a different man. The jilted man gets 29 women who want him in their bed. I am embarrassed that I even watched that much of it. But the next generation is going to think this is normal and it's not.

Sexual sin is one of the biggest offenses against God. Please don't assume I am condemning those who have sex out of marriage. I understand why this happens. For years I refused to make promises to my family because I didn't think I could keep them. Marriage is a big investment requiring trust and for veterans it is especially hard.

It has been a year since I was appointed Chaplain. I was willing to give up the Chaplaincy for the good of the order, but two very special people convinced me to stay right where I am. What a blessing because I see much work to be done. I hope to persuade you to join me in a crusade for better treatment for all veterans. As a Christian organization, we must speak for those veterans who cannot speak for themselves. With God's help we can accomplish great things. Brotherly love in the Gospel can cover a multitude of sins. Please believe me that I am no one to judge those with multiple marriages either. I am speaking about God's perfect love verses lust.

Marriage is a covenant between three (or five depending on how you think of it) beings. Husband, wife, and the triune God are all meant to be part of the marriage whole. Betrayal in marriage in my opinion is a big contributor to 22 veterans per day committing suicide. Time after time veterans get married, go off to war, and are betrayed by their spouses. Then the government requires that they pay their betrayer half their pay for the rest of their lives. They find themselves feeling betrayed by the very government they swore to protect. Now their service feels worthless. The VA can help by providing services and counseling, but they fear they will be further punished or lose custody of their children.

Abandoned by their spouses who promised to love them in sickness and in health, feared by their community, judged by their family, re-triggered by the VA, it's no wonder they lose hope. I propose that we fight this bill that gives spouses pay they didn't earn. Help Veterans find the Vet Center (or VA) to get counseling, enforce laws that protect PTSD veterans with service dogs or other disabilities. Forgive me if I triggered bad memories. If you are feeling triggered, please seek help. You will feel better if you become part of stopping injustice. Channeling your anger to the right places make a difference and is very healing but please get help for yourself first. Call me or another Chaplain to get the help that you earned as a veteran. If you are doing okay, then help a veteran who is not doing so well. You might discover wounds you didn't know that you had. I pray that you find the perfect love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Tara Schwinghammer (218) 368-9988





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ELECTION OF CHAPTER OFFICERS

The election of chapter officers and appointments to chapter positions will be held at the meeting on February 19th. Additional nominations will be called for prior to the election so if you are interested in any Officer or Appointed position please contact one of the nominating committee members; Tara Schwinghammer (218) 368-9988, Mike Gutz (218) 308-3927, or Steve Hauschill.

The current Officer nominees are:

Commander: David Sterr

Sr Vice Commander: Mike Zimmerman

Jr Vice Commander: Joe Vene

Treasurer: Dave Myers (Dave will also remain as Adjutant if there isn't anyone else for Treasurer)

Appointee Positions Available:

Adjutant: Chaplain:

Sergeant-at-Arms: Officer-of-the-Day: Judge Advocate: Legislative Officer:

Historian:

Service Officer:

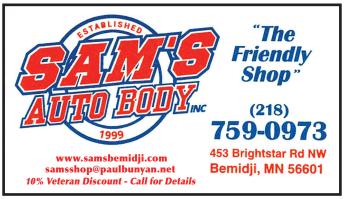
3 At-Large members for the Executive Committee



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Bemidji Chapter 7

Disabled American Veterans

North Central Minnesota Chapter #7 P.O. BOX 564 BEMIDJI, MN 56619-0564

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