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Monthly Newsletter
May 2018

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

NEXT MEETING:

DAV Headquarters at
5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN
Monday, May 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: Mike Gutz - (218) 444-5015
- 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: Steve Hauschildt
- EXEC. COMMITTEE: Bruce Tiegen, Steve Hauschildt, Tom Annonson - (218) 251-3025, torgor@lightspeed.net

MINNESOTA VETERANS HOMES:

Here are some of the benefits of choosing a Minnesota Veterans Home for elder care as compared to a private sector nursing home or an assisted living facility. Probably the most important difference is the financial ability of a potential Veterans Home resident to transfer assets to their spouse up until the day of admission and thus be admitted to the Veterans Home with no assets of record.

Minnesota's Veterans Homes are blessed by great relationships with their local and statewide Veterans Service Organizations like the DAV, VFW and American Legion. These and other VSO's are very generous with donations of time and money to the facility. These groups also assist with bring in musical entertainment, bingo games and lots of other activities on a weekly basis to help enhance the quality of life of the residents. Many of the local veterans also donate their own time to volunteer at these facilities, which really means a great deal to the residents. These are just a few of the reasons the Minnesota Veterans Homes provide excellent quality care for their residents.

All five of the current Minnesota Veterans Homes have some sort of admissions waiting list. Contact with the admissions office of the Veterans Home of your choice well in advance of expected or desired residency is very, very important. Set up a tour with the facility of your choice so they can show you what a great place they are to live in with comfort, security and dignity. Spouses are allowed admission as well, but there are space limits on the number of spouse clients.

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COMMANDERS CORNER

I had an opportunity to attend a Veteran's appreciation luncheon at the Fergus Falls Veterans Home on April 12th. Following the luncheon, we were given a tour of the beautiful facility and I was greatly impressed. It is a 106-bed nursing home and is in a quiet location in Fergus Falls. It would be wonderful if Bemidji could be the site for a Veteran's Home, also. There are community members working on this mission whenever the opportunity arises. It wasn't too long ago that they were in St. Paul meeting with our politicians on the possibility of getting a home up here. What a great addition it would be for our community in support of our Veterans.

The DAV speaker at the luncheon was State Commander Robert Sadoris. His year as State Commander will soon be up and our chapter can be proud that one of our members served in the capacity of Commander at the state level. His year was busy with many events and a lot of travel. We also had several other members serving at the state level this past year. Walter James served as the State Chaplain, and when he became too ill to continue, Tara Schwinghammer kindly stepped in to serve the remainder of Walter's term. From the Auxiliary, Linda Engesether served as 2nd Junior Vice, and Ginger Edwards served as Chaplain. We are thankful and proud of all these good people.

Attending our monthly meetings, volunteering or serving as an officer in our organization can be very rewarding. Our Veteran population needs our Chapter for support and comradeship. Please be thinking about participating if you have not already done so. Come and join in our activities and be a part of our organization. You will be heartily welcomed.

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.



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THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER # 7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 16 APRIL 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	Present
Junior Vice Commander: Joe Vene	Present
Adjutant: David Myers	Present
Treasurer: Jeri Harvey.....	Present
Chaplain: Mike Gutz	Present
Judge Advocate: Bruce Holden.....	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms: Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard.....	Absent
Historian: Steve Hauschildt	Present

B. Members Present: 22

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

Guests/Visitors: None

Prospective new members: None present

Transfers in: None

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of March 19th, 2018 were read. *Motion to approve minutes was made by Andy Staudt, 2nd by Walter James. Motion carried.*

E. Financial Report for Report for 1 –31 March:

Chapter treasurer Jeri Harvey gave a report. *Motion to accept the report as read was made by Ward Sutton, 2nd by Randy Hanevold. Motion carried.*

F. Sickness or distress:

1 Hospital visit was made.

G. New Member Obligation:

None

H. Communications:

There were three items received:

1. A thank you note from the Fargo VA Chief of Voluntary services for our donation of Coffee supplies to the Bemidji CBOC.
2. A thank you note from the Fargo VA Chief of Voluntary services for our donation of refreshments to the Bemidji CBOC.
3. A thank you note from the Fargo VA Chief of Voluntary services for our donation of \$350.00 to the recreation/activity account of the Fargo VA.

I. Committee Reports:

1. **Membership Report:** 2 new membership applications were forwarded to National HQ: Mr. Jeremiah L. Freye; Mr. Helmer O. Homme
2. **Service Officer Report:** We assisted 12 veterans in various capacities.
3. **Legislative Report:** Joe Vene thanked the members again for their attendance at the Veterans on the Hill event and discussed the importance of making our voices heard at upcoming events.
4. **Hospital Chaplain Report:** Report had already been given under the heading of "sickness or distress".
5. **Entertainment:** Ward Sutton is the new chairman of this committee.
6. **Fundraising committee:** Ride for the troops is approaching. It will take place on 3 June.
7. **Newsletter Committee:** Need articles to be submitted no later than Friday, 20 April. The Newsletter fund will be short \$1000.00 for the May and June issues. *Andy Staudt made the motion to spend \$1000.00 to cover the shortfall, Walter James 2nd. Carried.*
8. **Medical Equipment Report:** 4 issues of equipment this month.

J. Old Business

1. Veterans on the hill update: 38 veterans were transported on a 55-passenger bus were transported to the State Capital. We will know more regarding funding as donations continue to come in and hope to close out this item at the April meeting.

K. New Business

1. The committee to draft suggested criteria for attendance of out-of-state conferences or conventions met on April 5th at 1500. The committee members present were Andy Staudt, Bruce Holden, and Jeri Harvey. Commander Sterr was also in attendance. The DAV National Convention, DAV National Mid-Winter Conference, and

the DAV Regional Conference were taken into consideration when drafting these criteria. The following guidelines for participation in these events are as follows:

A. The Chapter would reimburse a portion of the cost for two members to each event. The order of precedence for consideration would be Chapter Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander and then all other Chapter members. These members must be in good standing with the Chapter in order to be considered. If more than two members request to attend, the decision will be made by the Executive Committee. The amount of reimbursement will be \$250 for each member. If the State provides matching reimbursement, this will also be given to the member. This request for payment will be made in writing after completion of travel and copy of receipts totaling at least \$250 or \$500 if matching funds were provided by State.

B. Member must have attended six of the last twelve meetings.

C. Request for attendance to these events must be submitted in writing at least 60 days in advance of the event. The request must include how attending this event will benefit the Chapter.

D. All Chapter members must be given the opportunity to attend. A notice of upcoming event will be placed in the Chapter 7 Newsletter three months in advance in order to provide this opportunity.

E. A member may only attend one out-of-state conference or convention during the fiscal year.

F. At conclusion of the event, the members attending will be required to provide a report to General Membership outlining what information they received.

G. Funds must be budgeted each year for this attendance in the amount of at least \$1,500 to cover expenses for two attendees at each event. This amount is in addition to the budget for in-state conference and convention.

After much discussion, it was determined that this would need to be read again, at the next regular meeting, in order to incorporate the findings into the bylaws. However, it was moved that we immediately accept these as guidelines to guide our policy until they can be read again and voted into the bylaws. *Motion was made by Randy Hanevold, 2nd by Walter James. Carried.*

2. The following members were appointed to the budget committee: Andy Staudt, Bruce Holden, Randy Hanevold, Jeri Harvey (Treasurer), and Dave Sterr (Commander).

L. Executive Committee Action Items:

1. Fergus Falls Veterans Home is in need of a new van to carry the residents to and from recreational activities. The old van is completely worn out. The new van is estimated to cost \$71,000.00. \$25,000.00 has already been raised. We have been asked to consider a donation. *Tom Annonson moves that we recommend to the general membership a donation of \$5,000.00. Mike Zimmerman seconded the motion. Carried.*

A. *Walter James made the motion to contribute \$5000.00 towards the purchase of a new van for the Fergus Falls Veteran's home van purchase. Andy Staudt 2nd. Carried.*

2. Geri Harvey would like to see us move a portion of the \$85,000.00 inheritance (currently in the general fund) to the forget-me-not fund, where it will be used exclusively on disabled veterans. *Tom Annonson made the motion that we recommend to the general membership moving \$40,000.00 to the forget me not account. Mike Zimmerman seconded. Carried.*

A. *Motion to move \$40,000.00 from the general fund to the Forget-me-not account was made by Randy Hanevold. 2nd by Walter James. Carried.*

L. Good of the Order: Nothing was brought forward at this time.

Minute of silence was observed for our fallen comrades

N. Motion to adjourn: Made by Walter James, 2nd by Steve Hauschildt. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2000 hours. The next meeting will be held on 21 May 2018 at 1900 at the Chapter HQ.

STATE COMMANDER CORNER

March was a busy month and couldn't achieve all our goals thanks to Mother Nature. A big thank you to each of you for your time away from your families to volunteer to help Veterans, in so many ways, from just sitting and listening to all the other services you so freely give. Also look forward to the fishing other events going on around the State from within our State outdoor program to the local Chapter outdoor events.

Thank you for the large turnout at the Vets on the Hill Rally the biggest thus far, I am very proud of the work each of you do.

My monthly activities for the month of March

- 1st-returned from Washington DC
- 2nd-Food to Bemidji Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)
- 5th-Chapter executive meeting
- 6th-Conference call of Commander Task Force
- 7th-Duluth meeting with Savers
- 11th-12th at St Paul for the Veterans on the Hill Rally.
- 13th-Took Veteran to Fargo as the DAV Van was in the shop

- 14th-15th Computer work DAV
- 16th-Bemidji Grand Opening of new CBOC
- 19th-Chapter meeting
- 21st-St Paul for Emergency Executive meeting
- 22nd-Computer work
- 23th-Escort Veteran to Fargo for surgery via Bemidji DAV/VA van
- 28th-Food to Bemidji CBOC
- Drove 1,713 miles and put in 157 hours.

Once again thank you for the honor of being Commander this year it has been such a rewarding year to have met so many of you and to represent you at many different events. God Bless each of you and your families.

Robert Saddoris

PROPOSAL TO AMEND CHAPTER BY-LAWS TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES FOR OUT-OF-STATE NATIONAL DAV FUNCTIONS:


The committee to draft suggested criteria for attendance of out-of-state conferences or conventions met on April 5th at 1500. The committee members present were Andy Staudt, Bruce Holden, and Jeri Harvey. Commander Sterr was also in attendance.

The DAV National Convention, DAV National Mid-Winter Conference, and the DAV Regional Conference were taken into consideration when drafting these criteria. The following guidelines for participation in these events are as follows:

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8. Funds must be budgeted each year for this attendance in the amount of at least \$1,500 to cover expenses for two attendees at each event. This amount is in addition to the budget for in-state conference and convention.

Minutes of committee meeting submitted by Jeri Harvey



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FREE TOURS FOR VETERANS AT HISTORIC FORT SNELLING - MAY 19, 2018

Special opportunity for Veterans' groups! Bring your group to Historic Fort Snelling for a free 45-minute, step-on bus tour highlighting many of the important military events that took place here.

The tour will be followed by refreshments and conversation about the upcoming revitalization of this important historic site in 2020.

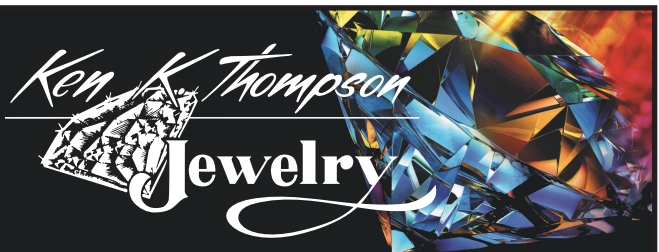
Tours will begin at 10 AM and will run throughout the day.

To reserve a time slot for your group, or to learn about opportunities to support the Historic Fort Snelling Revitalization Project, please contact **Caitlin McGowan** at caitlin.mcgowan@mnhs.org



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Last month we were looking at different worldviews and perspectives. We saw the way a clash of different worldviews and perspectives often times affects us as veterans and our veteran organizations. As a result, we want to ensure we enter into relationships that are both healing and gives us a sense of unity. Last week my school assignment required me to study Nehemiah Chapter 4 involving leadership through a biblical view, specifically the assignment stated; "analyze the specific leadership actions Nehemiah took to protect his enlisted workers who bought into the vision" Therefore, recalling leadership responsibilities all leaders have to their people is good. This includes the leadership of the Disabled American Veterans in the organization itself, as well as the leadership role we, as a service organization, have to all veterans. As we saw earlier last month, some of our veterans, in the past, did not receive the needed support they were expecting from a variety of entities to include, family, friends, government and service organizations. As a result, looking at the role leadership plays to help us is always something that is good.

God gives Nehemiah a vision to rebuild the walls. Sanballat and his people are threatening Nehemiah and the Jews. Nehemiah plans to protect his people. The first step is prayer, asking God for His personal help, Nehemiah's prayer is honest and straight to the point. He is letting God now exactly how he feels. Nehemiah intertwines his prayer with the practical steps he takes to build the wall and protect his people. Nehemiah takes the situation step by step as he makes his plans, never getting ahead of himself, he makes sure that the steps he takes, and the order he takes them, always has his people in mind.

The second step is to observe the response of Sanballat, Nehemiah 4:8. Nehemiah posts his guards at strategic points along the walls continuously. He checks his guards and sees their exhaustion. This empowers the local inhabitants, and makes things worst for Nehemiah and his people, Nehemiah 4:10-12. Nehemiah knows he must do something more to help his people.

The next phase involves supporting the guards with more personnel (their families) and defensive equipment. This includes changing the protective posture from a single line along the wall to a defense-in-depth strategy with families forming concentric circles throughout the area known as "low and high areas" Nehemiah 4:13. Nobody works on the walls at this time. Nehemiah must encourage and reassure his people first, while waiting for a response from Sanballat who now realizes his plans will not work, "and God had brought their counsel to naught" Nehemiah 4:15. Nehemiah is ready for the next strategic step.

Nehemiah implements a rotation and job schedule. Everybody has a shift to work, while being ready for defense, Nehemiah 4:16-18. He establishes a communication system with instructions on how to use it in the event problems occur and therefore provides a means of which others can come to help.

There were several identifiable steps and phases taken by Nehemiah to protect his people. God ensures Nehemiah's strategy works. God does His part, while Nehemiah does his. Just as God continues to do His part in helping and restoring our lives from the places where we came from and the experiences we had. The Disabled American Veterans leadership does their part in helping our comrades and organization, and like other service organizations, looks to help all veterans. If you have a suggestion for our leadership, please come to our meetings on the third Monday of each month, or give us a call, whichever is convenient for you, we would be glad to listen. We had a large number of comrades in attendance at the last meeting and we would be glad to see you.

If you would like to talk or just visit, give me a call at (218) 308-3927.

Mike Gutz.

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AUXILIARY CORNER

Greetings Auxiliary Members, I was glad to see a lot of you at our April meeting. The DAV Convention is being held in Rochester this year, May 3-5th. We are gathering toiletries, silent and live auction items. If you were unable to bring these items to the meeting and have something to donate, please contact Linda Engesether at 218-308-1041. She can either meet you or come and pick up your donations. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Sarah Haack was installed as Jr. Vice Commander at the meeting. Congratulations Sarah! All other officers were installed in March by Lee Ann Karg the State of MN DAV Auxiliary Adjutant.

Our officers and are as follows:

Sara Gast – Commander

Lyndsey Moe – Treasurer

Our next meeting is on May 21st, at the DAV building, hope to see you there.

Ginger Edwards – Sr. Vice Commander

Linda Engesether – Adjutant

Sara Gast

Sarah Haack – Jr. Vice Commander

Jennifer Hauschildt – Chaplin.

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