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Monthly Newsletter
November 2018

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

NEXT MEETING:
DAV Headquarters at
5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN
Monday, November 19th at 7pm

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CHAPTER OFFICERS

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

DAV AND DAV AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 17, 2018

Bemidji Eagles Club... use east entrance

Social Hour:
4:30 Dinner: 6:00

Door prizes and gifts

Call Ginger at 368-8562 by December 10th for reservations! If leaving a message, leave full names of each attendee and the choice of meal. Roast Beef, Chicken, or Vegetarian Lasagna.

Come for comradery and fun!

COMMANDERS CORNER

November is a time of reflection for me. Working with the members and volunteers of DAV Chapter 7 is rewarding beyond words. Our chapter is a fellowship of kind and generous people working for the good of our veterans and our communities. I am, again, this Thanksgiving so very thankful for the DAV Chapter 7 family.

I am proud to report that we recently received two awards. The Middle River Veterans Outdoors group presented a recognition and appreciation award to Chapter 7 thanking us for outstanding support of their building project in 2017 and 2018. The building enhances their ability to serve veterans through activities of a social nature. Also, the Northland Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol presented DAV Chapter 7 members with an award for their constant sacrifice and service.

As we enter the holiday seasons, we have so much to be thankful for. Every veteran and volunteer associated with Chapter 7 has made us the organization we are today. Take time to care for yourself and your families during the holidays, however you celebrate, ENJOY!!

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.

UPCOMING DAV MN OUTDOOR EVENTS

The Minnesota DAV Department's Outdoor program has scheduled their upcoming events and posted them on their website. Check them out at:
https://davmn.org/events-activities/events-for-veterans/

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THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER # 7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON OCTOBER 15TH, 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 ..... Absent
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 ..... Present
Historian: Steve Hauschildt ..... Present

B. Members Present: 21

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 Previous Meeting:
The minutes of September 17th, 2018 were read. *Motion to approve made by Andy Staudt, 2nd by Randy Hanevold. Carried.*

E. Financial Report for Report for E. 1-30 September 2018: E.
Report given by Jeri Harvey, *Motion to approve made by Andy Staudt, 2nd by Randy Hanevold. Carried.*

F. Sickness or distress: none has been reported.

G. New Member Obligation: None

H. Communications: Four items were received:

1. A request for donations from the Voluntary services director of the St Cloud Health Care Services.
2. A request for passing the word/donations from the National Adjutant for disaster relief.
3. 2 thank you letters from Stephen Whitehead (in his capacity as executive director) for donations to the DAV of Minnesota foundation.
4. An informational letter from the National Service Director regarding our Mobile Service Office program.
5. A thank you letter from Karinne R. Davidson for our donation of refreshments to the local CBOC.

I. Committee Reports:

1. **Membership Report:** No new member applications have been received.
2. **Service Officer Report:** 26 veterans assisted in various capacities
3. **Legislative Report:** Fall conference information was discussed.
4. **Hospital Chaplain Report:** No hospital visits were made.
5. **Entertainment:** The next activity will be the Christmas party. The Christmas party planning committee will be meeting on Friday the 19th. Suggestions are being solicited. It will take place on 17 December and will take place in lieu of our regular December meeting.
6. **Fundraising committee:** Harmony Foods Fundraiser on black Friday (26 November).
7. **Newsletter Committee:** Working on getting the website updated. Looking at a $625.00 shortfall due to advertisers.
8. **Medical Equipment:**

   8.i. Distributed: 1 power wheelchair, 1 rolling walker

   8.ii. Received: Nothing came in.

J. Old Business

1. MACV Stand-down volunteers were recognized

K. New Business:

1. The shed proposal is on hold indefinitely.
2. The adjutant brought up the letter from the National Adjutant regarding Disaster Relief. Steve Siats proposed donating $5,000.00. *Randy Hanevold Seconded the motion. Carried.* Adjutant Myers is tasked to make the donation.
3. Mike Zimmermann discussed problems with the clothing program that he picked up at the fall conference.

L. Executive Committee Action Items: None

M. Good of the Order:

1. We have received a plaque in recognition of our support of their Veteran's outdoor Program.
2. We have received a plaque recognizing our service from the Northland Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol.

N. Motion to adjourn: *Made by Randy Hanevold, 2nd by Andy Staudt Motion Carried.*

The meeting was adjourned at 2011 hours. The next meeting will be held at 1900 on Monday 19 November 2018 at DAV Chapter Headquarters.

AUXILIARY CORNER

Greetings Auxiliary Members:

The DAV Conference was held in St Cloud on September 27 and 28th. We handed in our toiletries we had been gathering and it was much appreciated. The different committees each gave a presentation on what they mean or what you can do in your communities. Examples: MIA table, Jr Activities (road clean up and helping with the DAV clothing bin collection), Mae Holmes (this is all of our forms we complete) and VAVS (Christmas Party and what they do).

The VAVS Christmas party is December 12th, starting at 3:00. Volunteer go around and visit, hand out lap robes and toiletries and other gifts. They then assist them in going to the concert around 7:00pm.

Last month at our meeting we stuff 42 children activity bags and then delivered them to the VA Clinic in Bemidji. These bags are given to the children that come in with a parent or grandparent to help keep them entertained while they wait.

Linda Engesether is still gathering the count for the number of Christmas bags we will be delivering or mailing to the various nursing homes in our area. We voted to use the funds the staff at the First National Bank of Bemidji raised in a "pay it forward" fundraiser last year to help cover the cost for these gifts.

Our next meeting will be on November 20th, at the DAV building, and we will be providing a small meal of sloppy joes, chips, beans and bars to honor our veterans for Veteran's Day. Hope to see you there.

Sara Gast

Take A Knee

Take a little trip to Valley Forge in January. Hold a musket ball in your fingers and imagine it piercing your flesh and breaking a bone or two. There won't be a doctor or trainer to assist you until after the battle, so just wait your turn. Take your cleats and socks off to get a real experience.

Then, take a knee on the beach in Normandy where man after American man stormed the beach, even as the one in front of him was shot to pieces, the very sea stained with American blood. The only blockers most had were the dead bodies in front of them, riddled with bullets from enemy fire.

Take a knee in the sweat soaked jungles of Vietnam. From Khe Sanh to Saigon, anywhere will do. Americans died in all those jungles. There was no playbook that told them what was next, but they knew what flag they represented. When they came home, they were protested as well, and spit on for reasons only cowards know.

Take another knee in the blood drenched sands of Fallujah in 110 degree heat. Wear your Kevlar helmet and battle dress. Your number won't be printed on it unless your number is up! You'll need to stay hydrated but there won't be anyone to squirt Gatorade into your mouth. You're on your own.

There are a lot of places to take a knee where Americans have given their lives all over the world. When you use the banner under which they fought as a source for your displeasure, you dishonor the memories of those who bled for the very freedoms you have. That's what the red stripes mean. It represents the blood of those who spilled a sea of it defending your liberty.

While you're on your knee, pray for those that came before you, not on a manicured lawn striped and printed with numbers to announce every inch of ground taken, but on nameless hills and bloodied beaches and sweltering forests and bitter cold mountains, every inch marked by an American life lost serving that flag you protest.

No cheerleaders, no announcers, no coaches, no fans, just American men and women, delivering the real fight against those who chose to harm us, blazing a path so you would have the right to "take a knee." You haven't any inkling of what it took to get you where you are, but your "protest" is duly noted. Not only is it disgraceful to a nation of real heroes, it serves the purpose of pointing to your ingratitude for those who chose to defend you under that banner that will still wave long after your jersey is retired.

If you really feel the need to take a knee, come with me to church on Sunday and we'll both kneel before Almighty God. We'll thank Him for preserving this country for as long as He has, We'll beg forgiveness for our ingratitude for all He has provided us. We'll appeal to Him for understanding and wisdom. We'll pray for liberty and justice for all, because He is the one who provides those things. But there will be no protest. There will only be gratitude for His provision and a plea for His continued grace and mercy on the land of the free and the home of the brave. It goes like this, GOD BLESS AMERICA

Ted Nugent

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Justice, Mercy and Grace. These three words have generated countless articles (including this one), books and research papers. Yet these three words are literally a part of every person's life and has affected us all at one time or another in countless ways. The way all three of these interact has consequences for each of us here on earth as well as for eternity. The way we respond to justice, mercy and grace speaks volumes of the kind of person we really are. The actual interaction of all three of these can be seen in an event that occurred in the lives of several people as written in John 7:53-8:11. It seems good to spend the next three months on this passage. There is a lot of information about this scripture. This includes the manner it was passed down. Who wrote it? The meaning of the message for the people back at that time (about 30 AD), What was really happening at the time? What does it mean for us today? What does it not mean? First of all, let's define the three terms.

Justice comes in two parts. The first part is the law. There needs to be a law either for or against something (act, behavior) that involves consequences. Depending on which side the person is on depends on the impact this justice is going to have. Obviously if a person breaks the law, it is not going to go very well for them for a couple of reasons. First, their integrity has been breached. This is a burden the person must carry, and it is a very heavy burden indeed. Whether the person recognizes this breach of integrity right away or not, it still puts a cloud over them, such as the case for setting a person up for failure (Luke 17:1-2). The second part of this is the cost to the victim, even with so called victimless crimes, there is a victim who is a person or animal and they do suffer. Sometimes the suffering occurs right away, like Abel, Genesis 4, or Jesus, Matthew 27, while other times suffering occurs later in life in terms of regrets such as instances of vice. Then of course there is the cost to society, one only has to see the devastating effect of unethical behavior by corporations or the manner in which organizations suffer because of a few. In short, justice is the punishment a person receives as a result of breaking the law, this is a two-part process, God and society. Yet, in spite of this, there is hope that comes from God for both the person(s), those who violate the law as well as the victim(s). Mercy and grace will be covered next month.

In short, for the people who violate the law, their conscious does bother them through conviction. It is good God offers forgiveness and kindness for those who repent. At the same time God also helps and restores the victims. Yet in our passage, we have a group of people setting up two people for a fall, the first person being set up is a woman, we don't even know her name. The second person whom this group is setting up for a fall is Jesus himself. The way this group is setting up both the woman and Jesus for a fall is quite sad. It seems the law, or justice is all on their side, not only that, they planned the set up from the very beginning. This is known to us by the unethical manner they used the law (Leviticus 20:10, Deuteronomy 22:22), the word "caught" (NIV) and the word "trap" (NIV). As a result, Jesus and the woman are caught between a rock and a hard plate. This situation not only involves God's law through Moses, but the Roman legal system as well, this is not good. Thank goodness for Jesus' discernment, wisdom and forgiveness, the same discernment, wisdom and forgiveness He applies towards each of us as we continue this article next month. If you are in need or would simply like to talk, call me.

Mike Gutz

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Veterans Day

Veterans Day gives us time to recognizing all those among us who have been a part of the great brotherhood and sisterhood we call the U.S. military. To take the time to honor our veterans, whether they were active-duty service members, guardsmen or reservists, for their service and sacrifice that has helped to keep our country safe and free.

No matter which branch they served in, whatever their career field or how many years they served, raising their hand and committing themselves to service in the military was a brave and selfless act. One that resulted in few guarantees of where they would be assigned, whether and where they might be deployed to and, in some cases, if they would return home safely, or at all.

Military men and women know the risks, but they voluntarily accept them so that others won't have to. That commitment to service over self begins when recruits first raise their right hand to take the oath and is an ethos the men and women who have served or are serving carry with them for a lifetime, on or off the battlefield. It does not end after they hang up their uniforms one final time. Every enlistment or commission comes to an end, but veterans' service has no expiration date. This illustrates what those who have served already know: Service doesn't halt when the men and women who serve have returned from war, are at their home duty station, are on leave or have separated from active duty. We should be grateful not only for their time in the military but for all they do to continue to give back to their country and its citizens long after their discharge is signed. Vocalizing our gratitude to veterans is a good start but illustrating our thanks with actions is more impactful.

Thanks to those who have served and those who continue to serve today, America can sleep peacefully at night.

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