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Monthly Newsletter  
March 2022

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



**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

- |                      |                                      |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| COMMANDER:           | Gene Schwantes - (218) 556-4592      |
| SENIOR VICE:         | Jeff Meyer                           |
| JUNIOR VICE:         | Tom Annonson                         |
| ADJUTANT:            | Darrel Baltzell                      |
| SERVICE OFFICERS:    | Scotty Allison                       |
| TREASURER:           | Scotty Allison - (218) 333-4178      |
| CHAPLAIN:            | Mike Gutz - (218) 444-5015           |
| JUDGE ADVOCATE:      | Jeri Harvey                          |
| SERGEANT AT ARMS:    | Bruce Tiegen                         |
| OFFICER OF THE DAY:  | Glenn Aagard                         |
| LEGISLATIVE OFFICER: | Joe Vene                             |
| HISTORIAN:           | Vacant                               |
| EXEC. COMMITTEE:     | Bruce Tiegen, Mike Gutz, Andy Staudt |

**NEXT MEETING:**  
DAV Headquarters at  
5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN  
Monday, March 21st at 6:30pm



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**CH. #7 UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & EVENTS**

- March 3 - Navy Reserve Birthday
- March 7th - Chapter Executive Committee meeting @ 1630 Hours
- March 13th - Day light Savings Time Begins
- March 13th - K-9 Veterans Day 
- March 17th - St Patrick's Day
- March 21st - Chapter General Membership meeting @ 1830 Hours
- March 25th - Medal of Honor Day
- March 29th - Vietnam Veterans Day
- April 4th - Chapter Executive Committee meeting @ 1630 Hours
- April 5th - Gold Star Spouses Day 
- April 14th - Air Force Reserve Birthday
- April 18th - Chapter General Membership meeting @ 1830 Hours
- April 23rd - Army Reserve Birthday
- May 1st - Silver Star Banner Day
- May 2nd - Chapter Executive Committee meeting @ 1630 Hours
- May 7th - Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- May 13th - Children of Fallen Patriots Day 
- May 15th - Armed Forces Day
- May 16th - Chapter General Membership meeting @ 1830 Hours
- May 31st - Memorial Day

# COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello fellow Veterans,

Overnight it keeps going down to 20+ below and nothing to brag about for the daytime highs, what better time to sit down and write the article for our DAV newsletter. I hope everything is going well for all.

Sorry to say, but for those of you who had the great desire to become an officer or to get on the executive committee, but just hadn't gotten around to putting your name in the hat, you snooze, you lose. The elections are over with for another year, all elected and appointed officers and elected executive committee members were elected/appointed at the February meeting and will be sworn in at the March meeting. So, start your planning for running in next year's elections.

**REMEMBER, WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF A TREASURER, SCOTTY WILL BE RETIRING FROM THE POSITION APPROXIMATELY IN JUNE. THIS JOB IS A VERY IMPORTANT ONE TO OUR ORGANIZATION, SO PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING.**

In the meantime, start your planning to go along on our DAV bus trip to Vets on The Hill to be held on April 20th at the State Capital. Please let Tom Annonson or me know if you wish to go along. Also, the State DAV Spring Convention is being held in St Cloud on April 28-30, if you wish to be a delegate and attend the convention, please let Darrel Baltzell or myself know. To qualify, a member must attend six meetings of the previous twelve months prior to the convention, to be reimbursed for expenses. It is a fun and informative time and allows you to meet other veterans from across the state.

Alot of business was handled at the February Meeting (see the minutes), so when you don't attend, you don't get to vote. I know that the wintertime is hard to attend the meetings due to short day light hours and the bitter cold, but the day light hours are getting longer, and the temperatures are supposed to be going up, so please plan on attending our next meeting and throughout the summer and fall.

The scholarship applications are out to all of the area school, so if you have a child or grandchild that will be going on to higher education after high school graduation, be sure to tell them to apply, each scholarship is for \$1000.00 and again, DAV gives out 3 for this year. Some of the requirements include being a veteran or a family member of a veteran, and remember if the student does not apply, they will not get the scholarship. Applications must be turned in by April 15.

Well, hopefully winter will end, and spring will arrive, I think most of us are tired of the PRETTY white stuff.

Stay healthy and live life to the fullest, Gene Schwantes

## 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 VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7

## REGULARLY CONVENED ON 21 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 1830.

### OPENING CEREMONY: \* OPENING PRAYER \* PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Commander	Gene Schwantes	Present
Senior Vice Commander	Jeff Meyer	Present
Junior Vice Commander	Tom Annonson	Present
Adjutant	Darrel Baltzell	Present
Treasurer	Scotty Allison	Present
Chaplain	Mike Gutz	Present
Judge Advocate	Jeri Harvey	<i>Excused</i>
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	<i>Excused</i>
Historian	Vacant	N/A

#### B. Members Present: 16

C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: A welcome was extended to Doug Carragher, President of Wounded Spirits Ministries. This organization takes a biblical approach to dealing with the many aspects of PTSD and the issues of trauma or grief. They are offering a Christian Retreat at Concordia Language Russian Village October 3-7, 2022. His visit this evening also concerned raising funds from Veterans' organizations which are used to lower the costs to Veterans who wish to attend retreats. Wounded Spirits has outreach in 39 states. A motion was made by Jeff Meyer to donate \$3,000 dollars to the Wounded Spirits Ministries. Seconded by Tom Annonson. Motion carried.

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of 17 January 2022 were read. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Andy Staudt; seconded by Randy Hannevold. Motion carried.

E. Treasurer's Report: Scotty Allison presented the January 2022 financial report. Motion to accept the reports was made by Billy Woods.; seconded by Andy S. annevold Motion carried.

#### F. Communications:

1. Clothing Program Correspondence: The latest update from the State indicates the backlog of trailers on the Savers lot have been reduced. The chapter will now be able to get semi-trailers more often.

#### G. Committee Reports:

- Membership: Two new members were approved.
- Service Officer: Nothing to report.
- Hospital/Sickness & Distress: Nothing to report.
- Legislative: Nothing to report.
- Medical Equipment: There were 6 donations and 21 issues.

#### H. Executive Committee Action Items: None

#### I. Old Business

- ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The following persons have been nominated to serve the chapter for 2022.
- For Commander: Gene Schwantes. Following 3 calls for further nominations, none were brought forward.
- For Sr. Vice Commander: Jeff Meyer. Following 3 calls for further nominations, none were brought forward.
- For Jr. Vice Commander: Tom Annonson. Following 3 calls for further nominations, none were brought forward. After the call, membership unanimously approved those nominated to hold office for 2022.

5. The following persons have been appointed (and approved) to serve for the ensuing year:

Adjutant: Darrel Baltzell    Treasurer: Scotty Allison

Chaplain: Mike Gutz

Judge Advocate: Jeri Harvey    Sergeant-At-Arms: Bruce Tiegen

Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard

6. Nominations for Executive Board Members at Large:

Andy Staudt // Henry Hammerback // Bruce Tiegen //

Mike Gutz // Jim Pinsonneault

The above persons have been appointed (and approved) to serve for the ensuing year.

#### J. New Business

- Scholarship Committee: The scholarship letters and applications have been sent to the eligible schools in our chapter area. The committee will now wait for applicants for the scholarship monies.
- New Trailer Purchase: The chapter is in need of another trailer. Jeff Meyer visited trailer dealerships for price quotes and those quotes were heard by the membership. The final decision on which trailer fits our needs will be left to the bin pickup crew. A motion was made by Billy W. to allow up to \$12,000 for the purchase of a new 7 X 16 trailer; seconded by Randy H. Motion carried.
- Printer/Copier Leasing: The chapter is in need of an upgrade of the office printer. Jeff Meyer presented the costs for the purchase of an adequate printer/copier, as well as the costs for leasing the same. Following discussion by the membership, it was felt that leasing a printer/copier at the cost of \$108.12 per month was the most cost-effective way to go. A motion was made to go forward with leasing a copier/printer by Bruce Tiegen; seconded by Billy W. Motion carried.
- Support of Member Seeking State Office Position: Tom Annonson would like to seek higher office status at the State level. He asked the membership for their backing and support. A motion was made by Andy S. to send a letter of support to the State for Tom's efforts at seeking higher office. Seconded by Randy H. Motion carried.
- Veterans in Need: There were two requests brought forward.
  - A Veteran dealing with several personal matters finds himself in need of costly car repairs at this difficult time in his life. Offering him up to \$3,000 will help him greatly.
  - A Veteran is in need of drain repairs at his home. The bill for the drain repairs is \$915. A motion to assist these Veterans through our Veterans in Need Fund at the amounts stated above was made by Tom A.; seconded by Billy W. Motion carried.
- Spring Convention in April: Delegates wanting to attend the Spring Convention in St. Cloud in the spring are Tom Annonson, Gene Schwantes and Darrel Baltzell. Anyone else interested should let Gene know.
- Veterans Day On The Hill: This event is scheduled for April 20. Tom will have the details by the

March general meeting and anyone interested should contact Tom.

K. Good of the Order: Nothing to report.

L. Closing Ceremonies performed.

M. Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by Tom A.; seconded by Billy W. Motion carried.

➤ The meeting was adjourned at 1952 hours.

➤ The next official meeting will be held on 21 March 2022 at 1830 at the Chapter Headquarters.

## MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS FOR MARCH:

March 3 – Navy Reserve Birthday

March 13 – K-9 Veterans Day is the official birthday of the U.S. K9 Corps and to honor their service.

March 25 – Medal of Honor Day is to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients for the United States.

March 29 – Vietnam Veterans Day is to recognize and honor Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War.

# AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello all,

I just want to remind everyone that we will be resuming our monthly meetings on March 21st , at 6:30 pm out at the DAV headquarters building, so please plan on attending. Seeing as this is one of our most important meetings of the year, we will need to have as many of you that can attend, please do so. It is imperative that we have a quorum present so that we can conduct our official business. One of the main points of this meeting will be our election officers for this year. If you are interested in or would be willing to fill one of the officer positions, please let me know in advance.

Thank you,

Linda Engesether  
Adjutant

**DAV Chapter 7 Commander Gene Schwantes (L) and Fundraising Chairman Tom Annonson (R) present a \$3000 check to Northwoods Caregivers Executive Director Cindi Lee Jernigan. The donated funds will be used to help them fulfill their commitment to assist Veterans in need in the local communities and surrounding rural areas. Their efforts fall in line with the DAV's mission of empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity.**



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### JANUARY

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Last month we began our article with an introduction in biblical citizenship. We examined some of the biblical applications and attempted to answer the question "What is biblical citizenship?" We are all citizens of our own country, yet at the same time we either follow Christ or Satan, as Jesus made this very clear when He was speaking with the people, at the temple, who were citizens of Judea and, or Rome (John 8:31-48).

Paul wrote to the Philippians regarding citizenship (Philippians 3). Paul made several statements about citizenship both in their Roman province and in heaven; nevertheless, he emphasized the importance of their citizenship in heaven over their citizenship in Rome. Paul wrote for our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20). We need to appreciate everything this would have meant to the Philippians, who greatly valued their Roman citizenship. Just as the Philippians could consider themselves citizens of Rome who were under Roman laws and customs; so, Christians should consider themselves citizens of heaven through their relationship with Christ.

It is under this same umbrella of understanding we will look at our biblical citizenship. Just as our nation's forefathers understood the priority of their 'citizenship in heaven' while creating, under God's providence, The United States of America (Acts 17:26). Applications of this understanding can be found before, during, and after the Revolutionary War, April 1775 - September 1783.

The forefathers and most Americans understood Christians were not to overthrow a government and live in anarchy, but they were not to submit to just any human law or policy automatically and blindly. As a result, our forefathers and most Americans truly understood a government was ordained by God for the good protection of a nation's citizens (Romans 13). Yet at the same time they understood God did not approve of just any government, especially when it became oppressive and tyrannical. There were many biblical instances when God raised up a specific leader to lead his people out of oppressive and tyrannical governments. Leaders such as Moses, Gideon, Deborah, and Samson in the Old Testament were praised for their actions based on their faith in God, as shown in Hebrews 11, the New Testament. This is the essence behind the flag and motto of Virginia, "Sic Semper Tyrannis" in English it means "Thus Always to Tyrants". The Virginia flag depicts the defeat of tyranny by Brutus in an attempt to prevent the transition of the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire prior to the birth of Jesus.

The other spiritual application by the forefathers and most Americans was their understanding, at the time of the American Revolution; God would not bless an offensive war. Any war with the objective to coerce people to confiscate their land, property or diminish their God given rights would not be honored; however, God would bless self-defense measures taken against such an offensive war (II Samuel 10:12, Nehemiah 4, Zachariah 9:8). The American Revolutionary War was not an offensive war, but a war based on self-defense to protect Americans from British military attacks and occupation. The Americans did not fire the first shot in the Boston Massacre (1770), Boston bombing and Charlestown fire (1774), or the British attacks on Lexington, Williamsburg, and Concord (1775). It is interesting to note the famous command given by Captain Parker to the Lexington Minutemen "...do not fire until fired upon..." because he wanted to defend Lexington against the attack and not start a war. This understanding of self-defense (not being the aggressor) has been a hallmark of law-abiding citizens and the essence of our state law (ex: Minnesota Statute 624:714).

Have a blessed day,

Mike & Julie Gutz

### VETERANS ON THE HILL DAY

Just a quick piece of info that they are planning to have a Veterans on the Hill Day this year and it will be held on April 20th. We will be scheduling a bus for the event so watch next month's newsletter for further info on the times and places for pick-ups and departures. Bus seating will be limited, so if you are interested in participating contact **Tom Annonson @ (218) 251-3025 (text or voice) or [torgor@lightspeed.net](mailto:torgor@lightspeed.net)**



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**Bemidji Chapter 7**

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