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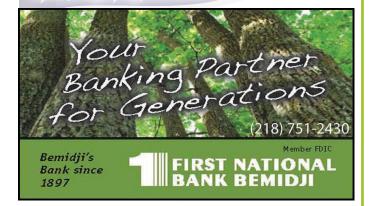
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Monthly Newsletter September 2022

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

NEXT MEETING: DAV Headquarters at 5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN Monday, September 19th at 6:30pm







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CHAPTER OFFICERS

COMMANDER: Gene Schwantes - (218) 556-4592

SENIOR VICE: Jeff Meyer

JUNIOR VICE: Tom Annonson

ADJUTANT: Darrel Baltzell

SERVICE OFFICERS: Scotty Allison

TREASURER: Jeri Harvey

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,

Henry Hammerback, Jim Pinsonnault

CH. #7 UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

Sept 5th - Labor Day

Sept 11th - Patriot Day

Sept 17th - Constitution / Citizenship Day

Sept 25th - Gold Star Mother's Day

Sept 25th-27th - Rosh Hashanah

Oct 3rd - Chapter Executive Committee meeting @ 1630 Hours

Oct 4th-5th - Yom Kippur

Oct 10th - 16th - Sukkot

Oct 10th - Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day

Oct 17th - Chapter General Membership meeting @ 1830 Hours

Oct 31st - Halloween

Oct 31st - Reformation Day

Nov 5th - Daylight Savings time ends

Nov 7th - Election Day

Nov 10th - Marine Corps Birthday

Nov 11th - Veterans Day

Nov 23rd - Thanksgiving Day







COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings Veterans,

We are nearing the end of summer for the year of 2022; I hope everyone was able to get out and enjoy it. The annual DAV Chapter summer picnic was held on August 20th, and I believe everyone had a good time. A BIG THANK YOU goes out to the picnic committee for doing a great job!

The clothing program is going full bore, we are shipping a semi load every 3 - 4 weeks with no sign of it slowing down. So, another BIG THANK YOU has to go out to the clothing program crews and Clothing Program Chairman Bruce Tiegen!

Medical equipment is also moving very well, both in donations and in issues. Last month alone, we issued 15 items and so far, this summer we have installed 3 ramps with another one still to go. Remember if a veteran or family member needs any type of medical equipment, please get ahold of DAV to see if we can fill your needs.

Well, fall is on the way and jackets will soon be the normal attire for outdoors and we all know what's next, so get out and enjoy yourself before lockdown sets in.

Hope to see everyone at next month's meeting, we have plenty of chairs available.

Gene Schwantes

MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

• Nov. 10 – Marine Corps Birthday
• Nov. 11 – Veterans Day – This is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice treaty, which ended World War I and is also a day to thank military Veterans for their service.

MILITARY MONTHS OBSERVED:

• November – Military Family Month and Warrior Care Month









THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 15 August 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	Jeri Harvey	Present
Chaplain	Mike Gutz	Present
Judge Advocate	Vacant	Present
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	Excused
Historian	Vacant	N/A

- B. MEMBERS PRESENT: 15 + 1 Guest
- C. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS OR VISITORS:A welcome was extended to Gary Guggenberger. Gary is a member of DAV Chapter 7 and is here this evening to give information on the plans for a new Bemidji Veterans Memorial stone monument to be placed at the Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Bemidji in the Rail Corridor Development area. Facts and figures were given and the membership will take more time to discuss the proposed monument before a donation can be considered.
- D. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of 18 July 2022 were read. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Andy Staudt; seconded by Randy Hannevold. Motion carried.
- E. TREASURER'S REPORT: Commander Schwantes presented the treasurer's report for Jeri Harvey, Treasurer who had to leave the meeting for a family emergency. A motion to accept the report was made by Randy H.; seconded by Ron Kaiser. Motion carried.

F. COMMUNICATIONS:

- Pre-Buy Propane Contract: The cost to Chapter 7 for the contract was \$599.65 following the discounts applied for prebuying.
- Senate Passes Honoring our Pact Act Update:
 Correspondence from Trent Dilks, Legislative Director from
 the Minnesota DAV informs the membership that the Pact Act
 Legislation is on its way to the President's desk for signature.
 This legislation expands the care and benefits to injured
 Veterans. Mr. Dilks will be sending more information at a
 later time.
- Donation: A generous donation of \$250 was received from the Stowe family.
- Thank You Letter: A thank you letter from the "Veterans Campground on Big Marine Lake" for Chapter 7's donation of \$1000 was received.
- Clothing Program: The latest correspondence from Josh Vrtacnik indicates there are now 22 trailers in inventory (12 soft, 7 hard and 3 mixed). Everything is trending as expected for now and all is well.
- 6. Greater Bemidji Veterans Coalition (GBVC): This new coalition held its inaugural meeting this month. The vision of the GBVC is to honor the nation's commitment to veterans, their families and significant others by leading collaboration among all potential partners in the Greater Bemidji region. Participating at this time are Sanford Medical Center, Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VA), State of MN Employment Program, MN Dept. of Veterans Affairs (MDVA), American Legion, DAV, Beltrami County VSO, MACV, Hubbard County Sheriff's Dept., Tribal VSO and Leech Lake IHS.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Membership: New members: Jordan and Jaclyn Wizner (USAF), Wesley Eskeli (USAF), Robert Solien (Army), Shelli Karger (Navy), Billy Brummett (USA/USAF), Erin Meyer (Army) and James Schumacher (Navy).
- Service Officer: Nothing to report.
- 3. Hospital/Sickness & Distress: Chaplain Mike reported that he attended the memorial servicefor John Aguillo. One of our members just had eye surgery and all is well with that.
- 4. <u>Legislative</u>: Nothing to report.
- Medical Equipment: Commander Gene reported 15 issues and 2 donations.

- 6. Fund Raising/Other Event Information:
- (a) Contributions taken in at the Beltrami County Fair this year were \$1993.31.
- (b) Intake of money from newsletter sponsors thus far is \$2950 with the goal set at \$7800. (c) All is going well for the annual DAV picnic. We are expecting approximately 60-65 picnic goers.
- 7. Scholarship Committee: Nothing to report.

H. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & ACTION ITEM(S):

- Budget Matter Concerning Clothing Program: Jeri Harvey reported that there still exists an unnecessary line item in the budget for a \$15,000 truck maintenance fund. Vehicle maintenance is now covered under another budget item. A motion to suspend this old maintenance fund line item was made by Tom Annonson; seconded by Jeff Meyer. Motion carried. This matter will be brought forward at the next general meeting for final approval.
- 2. Veteran in Need: Jack Young was in attendance to bring forward a matter concerning a Veteran in need. This gentleman is an Army Veteran but apparently not in the VA system. He lives on his Social Security benefits. The roof on his home needs to be replaced; it is in very bad condition. The cost of materials will be between \$2500 and \$3000. He has lined up the labor needed to perform the work but can't afford the materials. The Executive Committee members are supportive of recommending to general membership that this gentleman be helped through our Veterans In Need fund. Jack will follow through with verifying that the gentlemen is a Veteran and Jeri Harvey will follow through with checking the records for previous assistance to this gentleman. Jim Pinsonneault will check with the Habitat for Humanity group to see how they might help in the effort. A motion to help this Veteran by supplying up to \$3000 for roof materials was made by Jeri H.; seconded by Andy S. Motion carried. This matter will be brought forward at the next general meeting for discussion and final approval.

I. OLD BUSINESS

- Fall Conference: Jeri Harvey, Gene Schwantes and Tom Annonson would like to attend the Fall Conference (9-15 to 9-17). A motion to allow up to 4 members to attend the September 2022 Fall Conference was made by Andy Staudt; seconded by Ron Kaiser. Motion carried.
- Audit Committee: The Audit Committee has not yet met, and the Commander is requesting that they do so soon.

J. NEW BUSINESS

- Budget Matter Concerning Clothing Program: See Executive Committee Report (#1). A motion to rescind this old maintenance fund line item was made by Randy Hannevold; seconded byJack Young. Motion carried.
- Veteran in Need: See Executive Committee Report (#2). This
 item will be tabled for now as more information is needed before
 general membership can take up the issue.
- 3. Veteran in Need: The Bagley VSO made contact with our chapter for monetary assistance for a Veteran in his area. This gentleman is in need of dentures with the cost being \$7300. The Bagley VSO has been able to raise \$6300 for this Veteran and is asking if Chapter 7 could help with the final \$1000 needed. The dental work is being done in Bemidji at Aspen Dental. A motion to allow \$1000 from our Veteran in Need funds for this Veteran was made by Tom Annonson; seconded by Jeff Meyer. Motion carried.

K. GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Adjutant Unavailable to Record Minutes of September Meetings:
 Darrel Baltzell would like Sandy Sterr to take the minutes at both the Executive Board Meeting and the General Membership Meeting for September as he will be gone for both. Members had no problem with the substitution.
- L. Closing Ceremonies performed.
- M. Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by Mike Gutz; seconded by Andy Staudt. Motion carried.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 1935 hours.
 - The next official meeting will be held on 19 September 2022 at 1830 hours at the Chapter Headquarters.

AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy Summer!

We held our August meeting on the 15th at the DAV building.

If you know anyone who wants to be and is eligible to be a DAV auxiliary member, we have a campaign for the first 10 people where they will only need to pay \$50. Please see or contact Linda Engesether at 218-308-1041 for details.

We worked on filling kids' clothes backpacks for the Fargo clinic. These backpacks have a small toy and color crayons, color book or notebook so they can have an activity while waiting for their appointment. We hope to have more backpacks made by our next meeting to be able to fill more.

It was nice seeing so many of you at the DAV annual picnic. Thank you to the picnic committee, they did a great job, and the food was delicious.

Hope to see you at our next meeting on October 17th.

Sara Gast

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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2022 - BEMIDJI VAN - 2022 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As we continue our writings about biblical citizenship, we would like to first take this opportunity to thank everyone in our Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary who helped serve and make our annual summer picnic such a wonderful time. We would like to thank everyone for getting together while enjoying each other's company and the wonderful food. It was genuinely a great time. If for any reason, any of you reading this article, could not attend our Disabled American Veterans Annual Picnic, then we certainly missed you and hope to see you at our picnic next year.

We have mentioned our Founding Fathers many times. It's good to remember not only their tremendous sacrifices and contribution to establish our representative republic, but the providence they lived under God's direction. One such outstanding example is our first president, General of the Armies of the United States George Washington.*

It is always good to have a scriptural reference for our discussion. One scriptural reference is Psalm 91 and refers to the providential protection for combatants in battle such as King David with an equal application to George Washington. God's providence has approximately four different views that attempt to describe or explain the manner in which this works out. The four different views can best be succinctly stated as:

- 1) God Causes All Things
- 2) God Directs All Things
- 3) God Controls by Liberating
- 4) God Limits His Control

There are many examples of God's providence in George Washington's life. Regardless of the manner we use to describe or explain God working out His providence nevertheless, God is protecting George Washington as this example will show.

In 1777, at the battle of Brandywine, British Major Patrick Ferguson, an extremely gifted, accurate and well-known rifleman, commanded The British Sharpshooters under General William Howe. Major Ferguson and his men were given the mission to identify American Military Officers to shoot them down. Yet Major Ferguson with his best sharpshooters and armed with the most accurate rifle at the time, could not shoot a particular American Officer, even at pointblank range. This officer was later identified after the battle as General George Washington. It was interesting Major Ferguson's report reflected he could have shot General Washington with "... a half dozen balls before he was out of my reach..." Yet it would have disgusted him to shoot, because General Washington was turning around engaged in administrative duties with his back in Major Ferguson's sights. The early historian Lyman Draper wrote, "...This singular impulse of Ferguson illustrates the overruling hand of providence in directing the operation of a man's mind when he himself is least aware of it."

[HJ. Res. 519] 94th Congress, PUBLIC LAW 94-479—OCT. 11, 1976,

- *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That
 - (a) for purposes of subsection (b) of this section only, the grade of General of the Armies of the United States is established, such grade to have rank and precedence over all other grades of the Army, past or present.
 - (b) The President is authorized and requested to appoint George Washington posthumously to the grade of General of the Armies of the United States, such appointment to take effect on July 4, 1976.

Approved October 11, 1976.

Our prayer for you is this. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:7, NLT).

Mike & Julie Gutz





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