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TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

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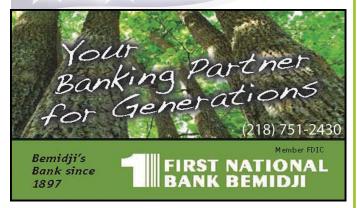
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> **Monthly Newsletter** October 2022

North Central MN Chapter #7 **PO Box 564**

Bemidji, MN 56619

NEXT MEETING: DAV Headquarters at 5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN Monday, October 17th at 6:30pm







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CHAPTER OFFICERS

COMMANDER: Gene Schwantes - (218) 556-4592

SENIOR VICE: Jeff Meyer JUNIOR VICE: Tom Annonson Darrel Baltzell ADJUTANT: SERVICE OFFICERS: Scotty Allison TREASURER: Jeri Harvey

CHAPLAIN: Mike Gutz - (218) 444-5015

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Wade Sutton **SERGEANT AT ARMS:** Bruce Tiegen OFFICER OF THE DAY: Glenn Aagard LEGISLATIVE OFFICER: Ioe Vene HISTORIAN: Vacant

EXEC. COMMITTEE: Bruce Tiegen, Mike Gutz, Andy Staudt,

Henry Hammerback, Jim Pinsonnault

CH. #7 UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

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

Dec 7th - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Dec 15th - Bill of Rights Day

Dec 18th - 26th Hanukah

Dec 21st - Winter Solstice

Dec 24th - Christmas Eve

Dec 25th - Christmas Dav

Dec 31st - New Years Eve













COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Everybody,

Well, we are now in the preparation season, when we prepare to start shivering, bundling up, hats, boots, heavy jackets, etc. Snowblowers, shovels at the ready, put the lawn mowers away, get the plow on or hire someone to do it. It's when the snowbirds head out and the rest of us hunker down, but we will get through another round with OLD MAN WINTER.

It has been another busy month with medical equipment, the clothing program, vets in need, and the general operation of running the DAV Chapter. Remember, this is your Chapter and if there is anything that the Chapter can do for you, please gives us a call.

At our last Chapter meeting we had a visitor, Rich Batcho, from Park Rapids Chapter 38. He came to invite members of our Chapter to participate in the outdoor program that they are running, they will have a fish house out on Leech Lake this winter along with many other events that they put on throughout the course of a year. For more info get ahold of me and I will put you in contact with Rich.

Ward Sutton has volunteered and has been appointed to the position of Judge Advocate. Congratulations to Ward and Thank You for stepping up.

We are planning on holding the Chapter Christmas Party on Dec. 19, depending on getting the reservation. More info to come in the coming months.

I hope everybody has a long, long fall and gets the chance to enjoy it. Winter will be here soon enough, so get all of those outdoor chores done.

Wishing good health to all.

Gene Schwantes

MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

• Oct. 13 – Navy Birthday

Oct. 26 – National Day of the Deployed









THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 19 SEPTEMBER 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	Excused	
Adjutant	Darrel Baltzell	Present	
Treasurer	Jeri Harvey	Present	
Chaplain	Mike Gutz	Present	
Judge Advocate	Ward Sutton	Excused	
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bruce Tiegen	Present	
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	Excused	
Historian	Vacant	N/A	

- B. MEMBERS PRESENT: 11 members and 2 guests
- C INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS OR VISITORS: A welcome was extended to Mr. Rich Batcho, member of DAV Chapter 38 in Park Rapids. Rich and a few fellow Veterans are renewing their Outdoor Program which was begun approximately 2 years ago. There is an upcoming event;
 - a boat ride on Lake Itasca.
 - In the plans are a goose hunt and a Lake Superior Fishing Trip.
 - Chapter 38 has available a fish house on Leech Lake for Veterans to use.
 - ➤ The Outdoor Program group is working on establishing publicity through newsletters, Facebook and a website. The group is open to ideas for future events. Give Rich a call at (218) 289-1773 with those ideas. To register for events call the Park Rapids VSO Officer at (218) 732-3561.
- D. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of 15 August 2022 were read. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Andy Staudt; seconded by Randy Hannevold. Motion carried.
- E. TREASURER'S REPORT: Jeri Harvey presented the treasurers report. A motion to accept the report was made by Randy H.; seconded by Andy S. Motion carried.

F. COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. <u>Donations</u>: Chapter 7 received donations.
- Carol Kilian and Marshall Johnston each sent in \$100 donations.
- > Joyce Plinke sent a \$10 donation
- ➤ Naomi Eversole sent two \$8 donations.
- 2. <u>Thank You Cards</u>: A thank you to Chapter 7 from the Fargo Memorial Honor Guard was received for the \$500 donation sent for the new VA Chapel Building Fund. Also, a very nice thank you was received from Al Manning for the electric chair Chapter 7 provided him from the medical equipment inventory.
- 3. <u>Clothing Program Update</u>: The latest communication from Josh Vrtacnik reports that things remain stable with the Clothing Program (Enterprise Program). There were 22 trailers in inventory (11 soft, 9 hard and 2 mixed).

4. Request from MPLS VAMC:

We are in receipt of a communication from the Minneapolis VA Health Care System. They are reaching out to organization partners with a request for gift cards of \$25 - \$50 for Veterans experiencing financial insecurity. The extraordinary demand for gift cards during this time of increased costs in gas, groceries and other basic needs has depleted their supply of gift cards. Chapter 7 leadership decided against supporting this request due to the fact that policy is to not disperse cash or gift cards to any person or organization.

5. Communication from the National Adjutant:

There is a change in the National Bylaws to allow Chapters to incorporate "virtual participation" by its members for regular monthly meetings of the Chapter. This would be an extremely costly endeavor and Chapter 7 leadership is not interested in making this change to their bylaws.

6. Chapter 7 Clothing Program Activity for Fiscal Year 2021-2022:

This report sent to us from Josh Vrtacnik informs Chapter 7 that we have provided 521,327 lbs of clothing and 18,373 lbs. of miscellaneous donations to the Enterprise Program during this time period. This equates to \$116,896.70.

7. Paul Bunyan Broadcasting in Support of Veterans:

Starting Saturday, November 5th through Friday, November 11th, PBB will air a variety of specially produced vignettes about Veterans on KB101, KZY 95.5 and Z99. Chapter 7 will take advantage of this publicity on all three stations. The main focus will be thanking the community for their support and Mike Gutz and Jeff Meyer are willing to prepare and record the vignettes for airing.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Membership: Two new members to report: Phillip Reinke and Ward Erickson.
- 2. Service Officer: Nothing to report.
- 3. Hospital/Sickness & Distress: Nothing to report.
- 4. Legislative: Nothing to report.
- 5. Medical Equipment: Commander Gene reported 16 issues and 10 donations.
- 6. Fund Raising/Other Event Information: Nothing to report.
- 7. Scholarship Committee: Nothing to report.
- H. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & ACTION ITEM(S): There were none.

I. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. <u>Audit Committee</u>: The committee met and approved the yearend report which was then sent on to the State and National organizations.
- 2. <u>Picnic Report</u>: Sandy prepared a report about this year's DAV picnic. Total cost was \$476.50 with 65 to 70 people attending. In spite of a few glitches with the quantity of food delivered, it was another good time of fun and fellowship.

J. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. <u>Veterans in Need</u>: Requests were received for two Veterans and approved by the Executive Committee members. \$479.28 was requested for propane fuel bill for the first Veteran and \$260.90 requested for a block heater bill for the second Veteran.
- 2. <u>Veteran in Need</u>: A request from a Veteran who is 100% disabled was received for a reclining lift chair in the amount of \$1350.40. The Executive Committee members approved the request, and it is now brought forward to general membership for review and approval. Following discussion of the particular needs of this Veteran, general membership agreed with the Exec. Cmt. A motion to allow up to \$1500 for this lift chair was made by Randy Hannevold; seconded by John Colford. Motion carried.
- 3. <u>Veteran in Need</u>: This Veteran is in need of a new well pump, material & labor. A motion to allow up to \$1200 for this bill was made by Andy S.; seconded by Randy H. Motion carried.
- 4. <u>Veteran in Need</u>: In June, a \$1500 bill for a Veteran for a furnace, heat exchanger, etc. was taken care of through the Our Veterans in Need program. We have received another request for this Veteran for further assistance with a Wagner Plumbing bill of \$1113.09 that seems to be furnace related as well as late fees on the bill. The Executive Committee declined to make a recommendation and brings it to the full chapter for their consideration. Following a full discussion on this request, general membership will allow another \$500 be applied to the bill.

The motion was made by John Colford; seconded by Andy Staudt. Motion carried.

- 5. <u>Judge Advocate Position Filled</u>: Glad to report that Ward Sutton has kindly agreed to take the Judge Advocate position.
- 6. <u>DAV Regional Meeting</u>: Ward Sutton is considering attending the DAV Annual District Meeting in Billings, Montana. If he chooses to attend, general membership will provide the allowed funds for this meeting. A motion to allow up to \$250 for Ward to attend the meeting wasmade by Randy Hannevold; seconded by Bruce Tiegen. Motion carried.
- 7. <u>CVSO Meeting Invite</u>: Commander Gene has been invited to attend the 9/21 CVSO meeting for an update on the new Veterans Home.

K. GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- 1. <u>Flu Shots</u>:The Bemidji VA Clinic will be giving flu shots 9/23, 9/28 & 10/5 from 9 am to 2 pm on these days. They will be administered through the drive through process
- 2. <u>State Convention Recognition</u>: Tom Annonson was recognized at the State Convention as the State's #1 recruiter of new members. Membership congratulates Tom for this outstanding achievement.
- 3. <u>Christmas Party</u>: It was decided to hold the annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 19th. The Auxiliary will be contacted to continue the planning.
- 4. <u>Veterans Dinner Scheduled</u>: The dinner will be held on November 9th at the Eagles Club.
- 5. <u>Wounded Spirits Conference</u>: Conference scheduled for 10/3. Registrations need to be to Jeff ASAP.
- L. Closing Ceremonies performed.
- M. Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by Mike Gutz; seconded by Andy S.. Motion carried.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 1935 hours.
 - ➤ The next official meeting will be held on 17 October 2022 at 1830 hours at the Chapter Headquarters.

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/

Additional Sponsors Cease Funeral **Grimes Realty Lifequest Chiropractic Nei Bottling Zetah Construction**















2022 - BEMIDJI VAN - 2022 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES



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Northwest Transportation MN DAV 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 FOR HIGHLIGHTED YELLOW AREAS:

<u>Call 1-855-277-9787</u> and follow voice prompts to leave a message. If you have problems leaving a message call Saddoris at 218-209-1863 (cell).

Volunteer Drivers Needed! Call Saddoris for info.









CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings all you fun loving people. We trust you and your family are doing well, if not, please reach out to somebody with your need for the purpose of letting others assist you. We are continuing our discussion about biblical citizenship. This month we begin discussing debt and liberty. This will consist of looking at our organization as a charity, considerations of our founding fathers, scriptural precepts, national defense, and integrity. This may take several articles with different nuances over the next few months.

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Chapter 7, is listed as a charity organization with the Attorney General's Office, State of Minnesota. Therefore, we can legitimately conduct business in Minnesota. Part of our responsibility is to file required documents with the State of Minnesota and U.S. Internal Revenue Service. As you may already know, representatives of Chapter 7, along with our Auxiliary Unit 7, were present at the DAV Department of Minnesota fall conference in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Our listing with the Attorney General's Office, reassures the general public we are a legally valid veteran charity. As a result, we can provide assistance on a case-by-case basis according to our by-laws and financial health (i.e. freedom from debt). If a chapter does not register with the Attorney General's Office, then they are not a legal and valid charity. Yes, there are chapters who are in the process of registering to legally help veterans. The conference provided information regarding fiscal responsibility, chapter status, DAV Department of Minnesota Foundation and other classes. Just as we need to be fiscally responsible to exist and help veterans, so our Founding Fathers knew the turmoil debt has on the security of a newborn republic. Yes, national debt is a national defense issue.

Our Founding Fathers understood the scriptural precepts and God's instructions regarding national sovereignty and freedom in regard to another new country - Israel - a theocracy, while coming out of Egypt. God initiates an agreement with Israel (covenant) to attract other nations to Israel, so the surrounding nations have a chance to know the true God. There were many practical instructions God gave Israel in order for them to accomplish their mission among themselves (personally) and nationally (Deuteronomy 15), including this one regarding fiscal foreign policy:

When the LORD your God has blessed you, as he promised you, you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you. (Deuteronomy 15:6, New Revised Standard Version - NRSV)

Notice, if Israel was the lender, then she would be able to rule other nations. Yet, if Israel borrowed from other nations, then the other nations would be able to rule, or influence Israel's foreign policy decisions. Thomas Jefferson wrote about the application of this very principle:

To preserve their (people) independence, we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt we must make our election (choice) between economy and liberty or profusion and servitude. (Thomas Jefferson, Writings of Thomas Jefferson ed Henry Augustine Washington: Taylor and Maury 1854) Vol. VII page 14)

Next month we will continue our discussion with thoughts from our other Founding Fathers. Again, we hope you are doing well and have a wonderful month!

Mike & Julie Gutz





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Disabled American Veterans

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