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Monthly Newsletter  
April 2023

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



**NEXT MEETING:**

**DAV Headquarters at  
5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN  
Monday, April 17 at 6:30pm**



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- |                     |  |
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| COMMANDER:          | Gene Schwantes - (218) 556-4592  |
| SENIOR VICE:        | Darrel Baltzell  |
| JUNIOR VICE:        | Tom Annonson   |
| ADJUTANT:           | Jeff Meyer   |
| SERVICE OFFICERS:   | Scotty Allison   |
| TREASURER:          | Jeri Harvey  |
| CHAPLAIN:           | Mike Gutz - (218) 444-5015   |
| JUDGE ADVOCATE:     | Ward Sutton  |
| SERGEANT AT ARMS:   | Bruce Tiegen   |
| OFFICER OF THE DAY: | Glenn Agard  |
| HISTORIAN:          | Vacant   |
| EXEC. COMMITTEE:    | Bruce Tiegen, Billy Woods, Andy Staudt,<br>Henry Hammerback, Jim Pinsonnault |

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

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Apr 1st - April Fool's Day</b>   | <b>May 8th - VE Day, Victory in Europe 1945</b>    |
| <b>Apr 2nd - Palm Sunday</b>  | <b>May 12th - Military Spouse Appreciation Day</b> |
| <b>Apr 3rd -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Committee meeting @ 1430 Hrs.</b>   | <b>May 14th - Mother's Day</b>                     |
| <b>Apr 5th - Passover begins at sundown and lasts for 8 days.</b>         | <b>May 15th - Peace Officers Memorial Day</b>      |
| <b>Apr 6th - Persian Gulf War ends (1991)</b>                             | <b>May 20th - Armed Forces Day</b>                 |
| <b>Apr 7th - Good Friday</b>  | <b>May 29th - Memorial Day</b>                     |
| <b>Apr 9th - Easter</b>   |  |
| <b>Apr 15th -- Income taxes due (most years they are due by the 15th)</b> |  |
| <b>Apr 17th -- DAV Chapter 7 General membership meeting @ 1830 Hrs.</b>   |  |
| <b>May 1st -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Committee meeting @ 1430 Hrs.</b>   |  |
| <b>May 4th - National Day of Prayer</b>                                   |  |
| <b>May 5th - Cinco de Mayo</b>  |  |
| <b>May 6th - National Nurses Day</b>                                      |  |



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# COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Everyone,

Well, I hope everyone is doing well and has survived the winter. It was a special one that provided plenty of opportunity to get some really, really fresh, crisp, clean air. Now we have to prepare for a long muggy, pollinated, dusty, dirty time of year for us to breathe, but with the temperatures that come with it, I personally am willing to suffer thru it. It will be tuff, but I will try to survive, thank goodness that we have winter to give our lungs a break.

If you missed the March meeting, you missed seeing your Chapter Officers being sworn in, not getting a chance to be on the budget committee or voting on any of the other business that your Chapter conducted at the meeting. I am sure that it was a good time had by all that attended, I am sorry that you were not able to attend. Coming up at the May meeting the budget will be discussed and voted on at the June meeting, also at the June meeting the summer picnic will start to be organized. You never know what business might come before the Chapter at any given meeting and with the longer daylight days coming up, it will be a great opportunity to attend the meetings, voice your opinion, and vote on the business at hand and still be home before dark. Remember, 2024 is the Chapter's 100-year anniversary and plans for it could be discussed at any of the upcoming meetings. Wouldn't it be something if 15% of our 663 members showed up at a meeting?

I want to give a special THANK YOU to the clothing program volunteers that showed up every working day all winter long, no matter what the temperatures were. It's that type of dedication that makes our Chapter the best it can be. (Or in my opinion, Best In State) Otherwise, the clothing program is doing well, donations slowed down, but with warmer weather coming, I am sure they will pick up. Medical equipment has filled our medical building, between donations and items that we issue out to veterans, we are handling approximately 40 items per month.

As always, if there is anything I can do for you, don't hesitate to give me a call, I will do the best that I can. (Baling hay and other manual labor are excluded)

Have a great spring,  
Gene Schwantes



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# THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 20 MARCH 2023 AT 1830.

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

A. ROLL CALL of OFFICERS to determine if a quorum is present.

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

B. Members Present: 10

C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: None

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

1. Minutes were read and motion to accept made by Randy, 2d by Andy, the motion carried.

E. Treasurer's Report:

1. Treasurers report was read by Commander Gene, Motion to accept by Andy, 2d by Randy, the motion carried.

F. Communications:

1. DAV of MN Foundation is offering a 1-day Mississippi River canoe trip. Information is posted in the office bulletin or contact the commander or adjutant for more information.
2. Received a thank you from the Bemidji Food Shelf for our donation of 2000.00 dollars.
3. Savers report two trailers and contract negotiations are ongoing, should know something by convention.
4. Ride for the Troops sent us a thank you for our support for 2022 fundraiser.
5. Bemidji Veterans Memorial Committee sent us a thank you for our donation to the new memorial project.
6. DAV National sent us the information on this year's national convention to be held in Atlantic City. This year's convention will begin Aug. 3-8. Information is available at the office or through the commander or adjutant.

G. Committee Reports:

1. Membership: Three new members reported for the chapter, Steven and Blake Sandeen, and Chris Haley.
2. Service Officer: NA
3. Hospital/Sickness and Distress: Jim Gildersleeve passed away on 2/14. Funeral services on 3/4 @ 1030 at St. Mark Lutheran Church
4. Legislative: NA
5. Medical Equipment: 28 issues and 16 donations
6. Tom reported he raised 800 dollars at the Bemidji gun show.

H. Executive Committee Action Items: No actions were brought forward.

I. Old Business:

1. Scholarship committee has the new applications and will begin sending to the schools and school districts. One scholarship application has already been received for this year's scholarships, looking for more!
2. Veterans on the Hill, bus leaves at 0630 on the 30th, contact Tom ASAP for more information and to sign up for the trip.
3. Two Veterans in need were helped this past month.

J. New Business:

1. Budget committee was established with Andy, Jim, and Tom volunteering.
2. Treasurer needs a new computer, motion was made for \$2500 towards a new computer by Gary Guggenberger and 2d by Tim Kassa, motion carried.
3. Donation to the Honor Flight from Fargo to Washington D.C. for the sum of \$1600. Motion to accept by Randy and 2d by Ron, motion carried.
4. Exception to check writing policy to keep four signatories on file for one year. Motion to accept by Randy, and 2d by Andy, motion carried.
5. Bagley American Legion is hosting a Veterans dinner on 2/29/23 at 1730 hours. Contact Bagley American Legion for more details.

K. Good of the Order: None

L. Closing Ceremonies performed.

M. Motion to Adjourn:

1. Motion by Mike and 2nd by Andy. Motion carried.
2. Meeting adjourned at 1945.
3. Next meeting 4/17/2023

## 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/>



# AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings to All:

Spring has finally arrived and the snow is starting to melt slowly. At our March meeting we had elections of officers for 2023 and the DAV Auxiliary Unit 7 officers are:

Sara Gast, Commander  
 Linda Engesether, Sr Vice Commander  
 Marie Lamon, Jr Vice Commander

Lyndsey Moe, Treasurer and Adjutant  
 Julie Gutz, Chaplin

The Convention this year will be held in Duluth at the Holiday Inn Convention Center on April 27-29. If you have any toiletries to donate to the VAVS, please contact Sara Gast at 218-308-3090 or Linda Engesether at 218-308-1041 prior April 25th. DAV Auxiliary Unit 7 will be donating two baskets for the auction and Linda Engesether is donating a patriotic lighted metal flag.

Our next meeting will be held on May 15th, hope to see you then.

Sara Gast

## MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

- April 5 – Gold Star Spouses Day – A Day dedicated to those whose spouses gave their lives while serving in the U.S. military or because of service-connected injuries or illness.
- April 14 – Air Force Reserve Birthday
- April 23 – Army Reserve Birthday

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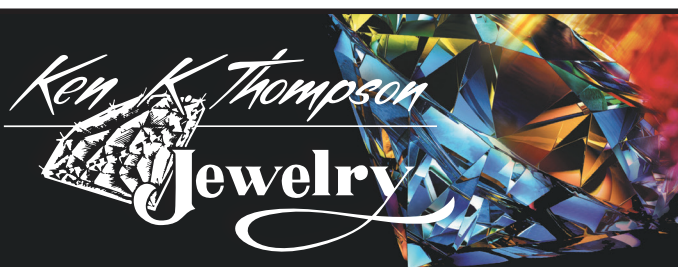
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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Good morning, afternoon, or evening comrades, whether its afternoon, evening or morning, actually depends on when, or if, you decide to read this article, or when you sign onto our website. Today we are again looking at The Book of Job. We discovered in the past two months, Job accurately spoke about God, while his three friends, Zophar, Bildad and Eliphaz did not; in light of God's statement to Eliphaz, "I am angry with you and your two friends, for you have not spoken accurately about me as my servant Job has..." (Job 42:7, New Living Translation). Keeping this in mind, there is a fourth friend named Elihu, who speaks last, but offers incredible insight. Notice God is not angry with Elihu who responds to Job by lifting up the Lord, condemns Job's three friends, and rightly confronts Job (Job 32-37). It's interesting to note God does the same thing; He condemns Job's three friends and confronts Job with divine sarcasm (Job 38-42). Oops, so now what is going on? Let's take a look.

Elihu confronts Job for his incorrect attitude towards God. Job believes God is his enemy and refuses to talk with him. Job resents God even states there is nothing gained by making God a source of his delight (Job 34:5-9). Job's concept of God has become very small. It is understandable Job would have this attitude, after all, God being sovereign and all loving, who wouldn't have this attitude, or feeling God is attacking him? Yet Elihu takes a different approach through wisdom and understanding that actually prompts a conversation between God and Job (Job 38-41). Keep in mind Elihu has been listening intently to all the in-depth conversations between Job and his three friends. Elihu knew Job's friends were not addressing Job's concerns and in fact, they were making life even more unbearable for him. As a result, the question becomes, what was Elihu's approach?

Elihu's approach has to do with God's character and wonderful sovereignty that transcends and is beyond human experience. Elihu tells Job his suffering should be a lesson to learn about God's tremendous greatness outside of any human experiences here on earth. Immediately after Elihu is finish speaking with Job (Job 37), God interjects and greatly expands upon Elihu's statement with a list of the awesomeness of God's creation and the actions taken by God (Job 38-39).

Job now realizes he has been talking about God without a full understanding of all the things God is responsible for in His creation. Job now understands he is not God's enemy, God actually does talk with him, all the while his view of God was quite limited and small. As a result, Job puts his hand over his mouth, just like when we speak out of place to our own embarrassment (Job 40:1-5). God's mysterious and complex ways expressed to Job leave him with a changed perception of himself, even while he still suffers. Job sees how insignificant he really is, especially considering the audacity to think he could demand a trial (Job 9-10) and in so doing, approach God as if he were a prince (Job 31:37). Yet Job's integrity remains intact.

Job was so moved out of his own human suffering (although his condition had not actually changed yet) by his vision of God that he was actually set free from the need to be vindicated before God. God never gave an explanation to Job for his suffering but allowed Job to go beyond his and trust God as a friend. God brought Job out of his own bitterness, although Job at this point, still did not realize how God put Himself on trial when He challenged Satan and allowed Job to be afflicted (Job 40:3-5). We will continue our discussion about Job and seek applicable lessons for today.

Blessings,  
Mike & Julie Gutz

## FROM THE ADJUTANT

Special note for all our DAV members and military Veterans reading this newsletter. The upcoming school year (2023/2024) scholarship application is now available. This application (and the instructions) has been sent out to area high schools and school districts. The application and instructions are also available on the DAV website for downloading. This program assists students with the ability and desire to receive an education beyond High School. The program for the calendar year 2023-2024 will provide six (6) \$1,000.00 scholarships to the winners of an open competition for high school seniors or currently enrolled students attending a university, college, or trade school or for those planning to attend a university, college, or trade school commencing after July 2023. If you have any questions, please email the scholarship committee at [davch7@paulbunyan.net](mailto:davch7@paulbunyan.net).

Jeff Meyer  
DAV Ch 7  
Adjutant  
Scholarship Committee

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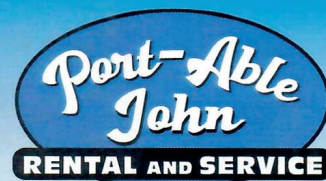
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