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Monthly Newsletter May 2023

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

NEXT MEETING: DAV Headquarters at 5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN COMMANDER: SENIOR VICE:



Monday, May 15th 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: Wade Sutton
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

May 1st -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Committee meeting @ 1430 Hrs.

May 4th - National Day of Prayer

May 5th - Cinco de Mayo

May 6th - National Nurses Day

May 8th - VE Day, Victory in Europe

May 12th - Military Spouse Appreciatio

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Day

May 14th - Mother's Day

May 15th - Peace Officers Memorial Day

May 20th - Armed Forces Day

May 29th - Memorial Day

June 4th - Ride for the Troops

June 4th - Battle of Midway Began in

June 6th - D-Day (1944)

June 14th - Flag Day

June 18th - Father's Day

June 19 -- Juneteenth

June 22nd - GI Bill Signed (1944)

June 25th - Start of the Korean War

June 27th - PTSD Awareness Day

July 4th - Independence Day

July 26th - Americans with Disabilities

Act Signed (1990)

July 27th - Korean War Ends (1953)







COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings fellow Veterans,

I hope everyone is doing fine, I thought summer was finally getting here, the snow was all melted except for the piles laying here and there, but as I am writing this it is snowing quit heavily and everything is white outside, but as the story goes, this too shall pass. I just hope it doesn't take until June to pass; I would hate to be wearing a snowmobile suit to plant the garden.

Chapter 38 out of Park Rapids has again offered our Chapter the opportunity to go out on Lake Superior Charter Fishing, free of charge. There are three different dates in June or July that had spots open to sign up for, please contact me, or Rich Batcho at 218-289-1773 from Chapter 38, to check availability. Also, DAV State has again partnered with the Saint Paul Saints for a Veteran(s) who would like to be honored as Hero of the Game at a Saints Home Baseball Game. I believe this is no charge, in a VIP Box, treated like Royalty, if interested, please contact Andrea Kostiuk at SnowGlobe Public Relations at 651-331-8041. Any questions, give me a call.

Next month's meeting will include the Chapter's Annual Budget proposal, if you would like to have a voice in how the Chapter spends your Chapters money, this would be the meeting to attend. I am sure that there will also be other interesting items brought forward, you never know what might come up at a Chapter meeting. Example, last month Mike Medhaug, State DAV, 3rd Jr. Vice, was at our meeting, and you would already have known about the FREE Fishing Charter provided by Park Rapids, Chapter 38, and the FREE VIP Tickets to a Saint Paul Saints Baseball Game, so plan on attending the meeting on May 15 at 6:30 pm.

Well, I hope everyone has a chance to get the spring cleanup chores done, gardens planted, and all of you have a great summer.

See you at the May Meeting, 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/









THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 17 APRIL 2023 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	Excused
Chaplain	Mike Gutz	Excused
Judge Advocate	Ward Sutton	Present
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	Present
Historian	Vacant	N/A

- B. Members Present: 14
- C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: None
 - ➤ Mike Medhaug, 3rd Jr. Vice Commander, Dept of MN DAV.
- D. Minutes of Previous Meeting:
 - 1. Minutes were read and motion to accept made by Andy, 2d by Randy, the motion carried.
- E. Treasurer's Report:
 - 1. The treasurer's report was not read for this month due to technical difficulties with the treasurer's internet connection.
- F. Communications:
 - 1. Honor Flight sent us a thank you note for our \$1600 donation and the announcement of a second Honor Flight from Grand Forks in October.
 - 2. Received a thank you from the Wounded Spirits Ministry for Gene's participation on Saturday (4/15). Last year's money was used to sponsor five Veterans and help with two additional Veterans transportation costs.
 - 3. Savers reports one trailer and contract negotiations are ongoing, operations continue as before.
 - 4. Ride for the Troops sent us a thank you for our support for 2022 fundraiser.
 - 5. Northwest Minnesota Foundation sent us a thank you note for our donation to the Bemidji Veterans memorial project.
 - 6. DAV State sent us the information on this year's Veteran Omnibus bill status and reminder to register with Minnfluence for rapid contact with our respective legislators.

- G. Committee Reports:
 - 1. Membership: One new member reported for the chapter, Alan Metz.
 - Service Officer: NA
 - 3. Hospital/Sickness and Distress: Jennifer Nelson, Navy Veteran. Funeral services on 4/21/23 @ 1030 at Olsen/Schwartz
 - 4. Legislative: NA
 - 5. Medical Equipment: 11 issues and 6 donations
 - 6. Tom reported he raised no monies this month.
- H. Executive Committee Action Items: No actions were brought forward.
- - 1. Scholarship committee has 6 new applications and will move to the committee for approval.
 - 2. Veterans on the Hill reported a good turnout, 38 from our area and a packed rotunda in St. Paul. Rumors are it was the largest gathering ever, thank you Tom for organizing this.
 - 3. Two Veterans in need; none for last month.
- J. New Business:
 - 1. Mike Medhaug from state reminded us that National has a scholarship available that will be added to available scholarships next year.
 - 2. Motion to give free advertising to Power Clean was made by Andy, 2 by Randy, Motion carried.
 - 3. Chap 38 from Park Rapids is committing an Icehouse camper to the exclusive use of Veterans for the summer. Please contact Gene for more information as it becomes available.
 - 4. The flag detail for this year's Memorial Day will meet at Greenwood cemetery on 5/20 @ 0900 Hrs. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend, volunteers are
 - 5. The Memorial Day Ceremony will be held 5/29 @ 1000 hrs., Father Bill, a Navy Veteran will be the guest speaker this year.
- K. Good of the Order: None
- L. Closing Ceremonies performed.
- M. Motion to Adjourn:
 - 1. Motion by Darrel and 2nd by Andy. Motion carried.
 - 2. Meeting adjourned at 1924 Hrs.
 - 3. Next meeting 5/15/2023 @1830 Hrs.

MINNFLUENCE AND THE DAV CAN (COMMANDER'S ACTION NETWORK)

About MinnFluence:

MinnFluence is a free tool to ensure Veteran advocates can keep up with current legislative issues. As a subscriber you will receive Email updates on Legislation pertaining to issues that affect Veterans, their Families, or surviving Spouses. You will also be able to track how your elected official voted on these issues.

If you'd like to be a part of making sure positive legislation happens for our Veterans in Minnesota, you can sign up for MinnFluence at: https://davmn.org/about-us/minnfluence/

About DAV CAN:

The DAV CAN (Commander's Action Network) is the DAV's National Commander's platform for grassroots advocacy to inform its members and supporters about important pieces of legislation and to provide them the opportunity to take action in favor of federal laws and policies that benefit veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors. Anyone that joins DAV CAN will be informed about important laws affecting veterans and encouraged to take action to support better health care and benefits for veterans.

Signing up for DAV CAN is simple, just go to: https://dav.quorum.us/sign_in/

Once you have signed up with either or both programs you will begin to receive Email notifications of what the pertaining legislation is and how to take the appropriate action by following the simple steps to show your support for or objection against the stated issue in the Email. 3

AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy Spring! The robins have arrived back, and some early flowers are trying to poke through. We had a touch of warm weather, so I hope you were able to get out and enjoy it.

We didn't have a scheduled meeting in April, but the DAV Convention will be held on April 27-30th at the Holiday Inn in Duluth. We have a few members attending and will share what they have learned at our May meeting, thank you.

Hope to see you at our May meeting.

Sara Gast

MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

- The month of May observes the Military Caregivers and is National Military Appreciation Month.
- May 1 Silver Star Banner Day Per Congressional resolution, it is an "Official Day to honor wounded, ill, and injured Veterans".
- May 4th National Day of Prayer
- May 6th-12th National Nurses Week
- May 7 Military Spouse Appreciation Day This date recognizes the service and sacrifices of military spouses.

- May 8th VE Day (Victory in Europe)
- May 13 Children of Fallen Patriots Day A Day to honor the children left behind by the brave men and women who gave their lives while defending our freedom.
- May 20th Armed Forces Day Observed on the third Saturday every May, this is a day dedicated to paying tribute to men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.
- May 29th Memorial Day A solemn occasion to honor the men and women who died while serving in the military.

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2023 - BEMIDJI VAN - 2023 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES



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FREE RIDES To All Veterans and Caregiver (if needed)!

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 Cenex Station west end of town Fosston at LaPiere's on the east end of town • Mahnomen northside of town • Ada Country Store

TO SCHEDULE RIDES FOR HIGHLIGHTED GREEN AREAS:

Call 1-855-277-9787 and follow voice prompts to leave a message.

If you have problems leaving a message call **Saddoris at 218-209-1863 (text/call)**.

Volunteer Drivers Needed! Call Saddoris for info.









CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Comrades, greetings to all you fun loving people. Let all these be our good mottos:

- United States Space Force Semper Supra (Always Above),
- United States Coast Guard Semper Paratus (Always Ready),
- United States Marine Corp Semper Fidelis (Always Faithful),
- United States Army This We'll Defend,
- United States Navy Semper Fortis (Always Courageous) or non sibi sed patriae (Not for self but for country),
- United States Air Force Aim High, Fly, Fight, Win.

As our Commander is always good to remind us, so we are always good to remember our DAV motto; "If I cannot speak good of my comrade, I will not speak ill of him or her."

Last month we understood Job was tremendously moved out of his own human suffering (although his condition had not actually changed yet) by his vision of God. As a result, Job realized he was set free from the need to be vindicated by God who never gave an explanation to Job for his suffering. Yet God allowed Job to move through this experience in order to trust God as a friend. God brought Job out of his own bitterness. Job at this point, did not know God put Himself on trial when Satan was challenged in the beginning (Job 40:1-8). All of this has tremendous ramifications for all believers today as shown in the New Testament.

God through His wisdom, omnipotence (all powerful) and omniscience (all knowing) is the only one who can work out everything (even evil things) together for our ultimate good (Romans 8:28). Although this may take a long time, James, the brother of Jesus, referred to Job as someone who understood the purpose of hanging in there or staying on course - perseverance, i.e., to show God is compassionate (James 5:11). This is not easy and many times we can lose hope. This is why Job's brothers, sisters, and former friends all came to comfort, support, and love Job. This means so much to all of us who are hurting or have experienced any kind of trauma. As an example, in the very last section of the very last chapter, we read about a new hope;

• (NLT-New Living Translation)

¹⁰ When Job prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes. In fact, the Lord gave him twice as much as before! ¹¹ Then all his brothers, sisters, and former friends came and feasted with him in his home. And they consoled him and comforted him because of all the trials the Lord had brought against him. And each of them brought him a gift of money[a] and a gold ring. ¹² So the Lord blessed Job in the second half of his life even more than in the beginning. For now, he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 teams of oxen, and 1,000 female donkeys. ¹³ He also gave Job seven more sons and three more daughters. ¹⁴ He named his first daughter Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. ¹⁵ In all the land no women were as lovely as the daughters of Job. And their father put them into his will along with their brothers.

So, the next time somebody decides to treat you like Eliphaz, Bildad or Zophar, please get help, there is hope. Talk with a person you trust. You may talk with us, or with a counselor like our Adjutant - Jeff Meyers. Please talk with a person who you trust to know Jesus Christ without a lot of religious rules and hype.

Keeping this in mind, we leave you with these scriptures (John 3:17 and 9:1-12). Our prayers are for anyone and everyone who is hurting and looking for hope.

Blessings, Mike & Julie Gutz





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