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Monthly Newsletter
October 2023

North Central MN Chapter #7
PO Box 564
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NEXT MEETING:

**DAV Headquarters at
5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN
Monday, October 16 at 6:30pm**



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

CH. #7 UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

Oct 9th - Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day	Dec 7th - Hanukkah starts.
Oct 9th -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Meeting @ 1630 Hrs.	Dec 10th - 2nd Sunday of Advent
Oct 23rd -- DAV Chapter 7 General Membership meeting @ 1830 Hrs.	Dec 15th - Hanukkah ends
Oct 31st - Halloween	Dec 17th - 3rd Sunday of Advent
Nov 5th - Day Light Savings Time ends	Dec 18th - DAV Chapter 7's Christmas Party @ the Eagles Club.
Nov 6th -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Meeting @ 1630 Hrs.	Dec 21st - Winter Solstice (start of Winter)
Nov 7th - Election Day	Dec 24th - 4th Sunday of Advent 7 and Christmas Eve.
Nov 11th - Veterans Day	Dec 25th - Christmas Day
Nov 23rd -Thanksgiving Day	Dec 26th - Boxing Day in Canada and Kwanzaa starts.
Nov 24th - Black Friday	Dec 31st New Year's Eve
Nov 27th - Cyber Monday	
Dec 3rd - Advent begins.	
Dec 4th -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Meeting @ 1630 Hrs.	



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COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Veterans,

I hope everyone is doing well and is getting prepared for the winter ahead. According to the Farmer's Almanac it is supposed to be colder and snowier than normal, but the best way to know what our winter will be like is to wait until it gets here, the same as any other weather forecast.

My wish is that everyone can stay healthy and happy throughout the winter.

We had a very good Chapter meeting again, including a guest speaker, Theresa Gehrke-Herwynen with the We Honor Veterans Program and Sanford Hospice. During September we had several Veterans in Need and Affinity Credit Union personal have again volunteered to help any veterans with any projects that they might have, lawn mowing, getting ready for winter, or any project that the veteran can't handle on his/her own, etc.

Next year, 2024, will be the Chapters 100 Year Anniversary. If you have any ideas of what you would like to see done in honor of the Chapter's Centennial, please contact me or any other officer or come to the next meeting and present your idea/suggestions. I AM EXPECTING 2024 TO BE A GREAT YEAR FOR THE WHOLE CHAPTER, WHERE ALL MEMBERS CAN GET INVOLVED AND BENEFIT FROM WHAT DAV STANDS FOR, VETERANS SERVING VETERANS!!! So, think about what you would like to see done to accomplish this mission and let us know.

Well, get out there and enjoy the fall colors, the cool, non-bug infested weather, sitting around the fire pit, the fall hunting, fishing, card games, picture puzzles, or whatever you enjoy doing in the fall. So do it now or you will have to wait another whole year to have this same opportunity. Remember, there are only two more DAV Newsletters and then it is DAV Christmas Party time, how fast our years fly by considering that most of us are retired and we have all the time in the world to do whatever we want.

Hope to see you Oct 16th at our next meeting,
Gene Schwantes

AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

Just a quick reminder that we will be having our October meeting and will be hosting a "Dessert and Drawing Night" that evening. There will be desserts provided for the Chapter and Unit and a drawing for 5 gift cards.

I am looking forward to seeing you there!

Sara Gast



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THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 18 SEPTEMBER 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	Darrell Baltzell	Present
Junior Vice Commander	Tom Annonson	Excused
Adjutant	Jeff Meyer	Present
Treasurer	Jeri Harvey	Present
Chaplain	Mike Gutz	Excused
Judge Advocate	Ward Sutton	Present
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	Excused
Historian	Vacant	N/A

B. Members Present: 12

C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: Theresa Gerhke-Herwynen, Chaplain for Sanford Bemidji, presented a new community outreach program, "We Honor Veterans," which is a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, and which is designed to help Veterans and their families toward a more peaceful ending.

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Minutes were read, there were no corrections or deletions noted, and the minutes were accepted as read.

E. Treasurer's Report: Treasurers report was read by Jeri, there were no corrections, additions or deletions and the report was accepted as read.

F. Communications:

1. Flu shots are available at the Bemidji CBOC on 2/22 and 10/6 from 0900-1400hrs.
2. Chap 38 is hosting a boat ride on 9/30 at Lake Itasca. If interested, they are asking for you to check in at 1030 as the boat will depart at 1100. Previous participants report there is an excellent lunch served and it is an all-around good time on the lake.
3. Communications from Gina reminding Chapters that time to register for the fall conference is rapidly running out, go to the website, follow the links and get registered.
4. Josh reports Savers is sitting on 81 trailers (28 of them are cloth), but as this is mid-September, it should not be taken as an area of concern.
5. Trent Dilkes sent an update reporting that 21 of our 23 resolutions were accepted by National at their convention in Aug.
6. National reminds us of the rapidly approaching Veterans Day and the numerous programs and discounts available for Veterans. Visit www.dav.org for a complete list of Veterans Day activities and discounts available.

7. National announces a new partnership with StandUp Wireless which provides numerous discounts to Veterans and their families and includes free phones for those eligible.

8. State is reporting a new grant program designed to support programs, services, and projects more affordable and easier to access. Go to www.davmn.org for more information.

9. National introduces latest innovation – DAV Caregivers Support – which offers concierge support and resources for to the friends, family, and loved ones, who provide care to those served. Program launches on 10/2/23 and more info can be gained by visiting www.davcaregiver.org.

G. Committee Reports:

1. Membership: One new member this month, Luke Wilkowski, welcome to DAV Chap 7 Luke!

2. Service Officer: NA

3. Hospital/Sickness and Distress: Bill Pagel Passed away on Friday afternoon 9/15/23, funeral services will be held at Eckles township hall. Visitation begins at 12 noon, with the funeral service beginning at 1400 hrs. Bill will be interred at the Veterans Cemetery at Camp Ripley on 9/26.

4. Legislative: All ready noted in communication.

5. Medical Equipment: 10 issues and 9 donations reported for the month.

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

I. Old Business: Lawn mower was sold for \$325 dollars.

J. New Business: Sara Haack from Affinity Plus is looking for projects for her volunteer group. They will rake your lawn, mow the yard, or wash windows, for Veterans. Call 218 308-4884 to talk directly to Sara.

2 Veterans-in-need sent to the Commander by Shane Gustafson, CVSO. One for 250 dollars and one for 382 dollars, commander approved both.

Veterans day dinner will be 11/12 at the Eagles club from 1400-1700 hrs.

K. Good of the Order: None

L. Closing Ceremonies performed.

M. Motion to Adjourn:

➤ Meeting adjourned at 1934 hrs.

➤ Next meeting 3/20/2023

MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

• Oct. 13 – Navy Birthday

• Oct. 26 – National Day of the Deployed

VETERAN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS

The following is a list of Organizations that cater to taking Veterans on outdoor events, usually at no cost to Veterans and some offer events that are also available to your family members as well. If you are interested in participating in any of these events and don't have access to a computer have a family member help you get in contact with them. Their contact info is listed on their home pages.

American Heroes Outdoor TV

<https://www.americanheroesoutdoors.com/applications/>

Band of Brothers Outdoors

<https://www.bandofbrothersoutdoors.com/>

Brady Oberg Legacy Foundation

<https://bradyoberglegacyfoundation.org/>

Fishing With Vets

<https://fishingwithvets.org/>

Mandatory Fun Outdoors

<https://mandatoryfunoutdoors.org/>

Middle River Veterans Outdoors

<https://mrveteransoutdoors.com/>

Minnesota Veterans Outdoors

<https://www.mnvetsoutdoors.org/>

Warriors and Walleyes

<https://warriorsandwalleyes.org/>

Wounded Warrior Guide Service

<https://www.gsmn.org/>

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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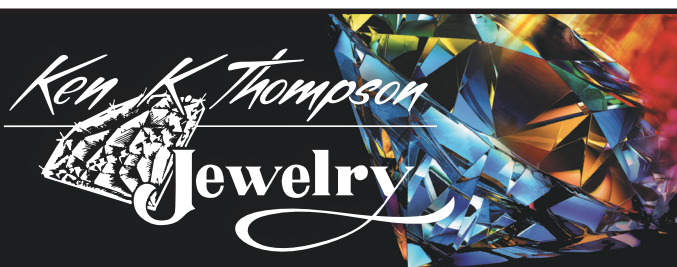
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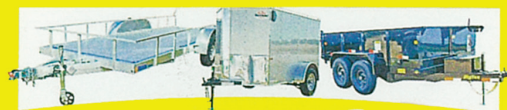
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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

We will be continuing our discussion, next month, of Jesus Christ's future return to earth with its' meaning and application for today. We will be looking at Matthew 24, I Thessalonians 4:13-18, and Revelation 19. Just as the pre-flood population of the world knew there was going to be a future judgment (flood); we too, know of a future judgment (fire). Just as we wrote about hope for the pre-flood population, we want to write about our hope for this and future generations.

We are packing our suitcases for a weeklong vacation, while at the same time taking a moment to write our article. We are looking forward to our trip to the DAV conference at Breezy Point Resort, where we will attend training classes; Chapter Service Officers - CSO. The definition and responsibilities of this position and the relationship we have with our County Veteran Service Officers (CVSO) - Shane and Luke, comes directly from our DAV National Guide as credited below. Just as there is some flexibility in the manner assistance is provided on a local basis with any organization, the information below does not include specific local protocols and mutual understandings between our local CSOs and CVSOs.

Certified Department and Chapter Service Officers (DSO and CSOs) provide one of the most important links in the organization. They are responsible for providing information about benefits and gathering information to assist in obtaining benefits and services available to veterans, their dependents and survivors. The responsibility of DSOs and CSOs is to advise, instruct and counsel claimants and to aid in the preparation of claims for various benefits to which claimants may be entitled. When an inquiry is taken or after an appropriate form is properly completed, such information must immediately be forwarded to the national service office of jurisdiction.

County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs) assist veterans, their dependents and survivors by counseling, advising and providing information about benefits and services available by county, state and federal laws. Although there are many CVSOs across the nation, some are accredited with DAV to work in partnership in the preparation and presentation of claims. These CVSOs undergo annual training to maintain DAV accreditation and are well versed in the law pertaining to veterans' benefits. CVSOs present all claims and appeals directly to the VA to maintain the earliest effective date possible for clientele. This includes and is not limited to ensuring intents to file (ITFs) for all clients who have interest in seeking any benefit are presented to the VA, ensuring claims are formalized within one year of an ITF, and presenting any appeals within one year of the client's notification from VA.

Source: DAV Service Officer Guide, Revised February 2022, Page 3

The reason we are including this information here in our article is to provide a means of communication to all our members who may not have access to the DAV Service Officer Guide. We want to give clarification regarding our role for assistance and help for all our members and families. We want to include an additional note to anyone who would like to assist in the clothing program, or any of the other activities we do in our chapter and auxiliary for the benefit of others. We would really enjoy working, getting to know, and having a great time with you.



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