

### **FULFILLING OUR PROMISES**

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

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> **Monthly Newsletter** February 2024

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

Bemidji, MN 56619



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







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#### CHAPTER OFFICERS

COMMANDER: Gene Schwantes - (218) 556-4592

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

CHAPLAIN: Mike Gutz - (218) 444-5015

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

EXEC. COMMITTEE: Bruce Tiegen, Billy Woods, Andy Staudt,

Henry Hammerback, Jim Pinsonnault

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

Feb 2nd - Groundhog Day

Feb 3rd - Four Chaplains' Day

Feb 4th - USO's Birthday

Feb 5th -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Meeting @ 1630 Hrs.

Feb 12th - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

Feb 13th - Mardi Gras

Feb 14th - Ash Wednesday (Lent begins)

Feb 19th -- DAV Chapter 7 General Membership Meeting @ 1830 Hrs.

Feb 19th - Presidents Day

Feb 22nd - George Washington's **Birthday** 

Mar 4th -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Meeting @ 1630 Hrs.

Mar 7th- 10th - DAV Mid-Winter Conference in Washington DC

Mar 10th - Daylight Savings Time

Mar 17th - St. Patrick's Day

Mar 18th -- DAV Chapter 7 General Membership Meeting @ 1830 Hrs.

Mar 20th - Spring Equinox (Spring begins)

Mar 24th - Palm Sunday

Mar 29th - Good Friday

Mar 29th - Vietnam War Veterans Dav

Mar 31st - Easter Sunday

Apr 1st - April Fools' Day

Apr 8th - DAV Chapter 7 Executive Meeting @ 1630 Hrs.

Apr 15th - Tax Day

Apr 15th -- DAV Chapter 7 General Membership Meeting @ 1830 Hrs.

Apr 22nd - Passover Begins

Apr 26th - Arbor Day





#### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy Winter to One and All,

For those of you that missed it, DAV had another great Christmas Party, I believe everybody had a wonderful evening. The comradery, food, games, and door prizes were all great, and we had one of the largest attendances as far back as I can remember with a total of 93 people. Hopefully for our 2024 Christmas Party, our 100th anniversary year, we will have even more people in attendance.

For the past year DAV has served our veterans and their family members very well when it comes to our medical equipment. DAV issued out 151 pieces of medical equipment, and the community supported DAV equally as well with 108 donations and I know that I did not get all of the transactions recorded. So, this service is being used and if you need anything, come and see us, we are faster and way cheaper (no cost) than any other source.

It is that time of year again when you have the opportunity to nominate and elect the Officers for DAV. This is your chance to join in when it comes to running your Chapter. The elected officers are the Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, and the Jr. Vice Commander, the rest of the officers are appointed by the elected Commander. If you would like the opportunity to become an officer, please contact the nominating committee, Mike Gutz, Henry Hammerback, or Jim Pinsonnault. Nominations will be taken at the February Chapter Meeting and again at the March Chapter Meeting with the election following the nominations.

We have made our membership goal for the year and the Chapter approved the signing of the contract with the State for the clothing program. Upcoming business includes elections, setting the budget for the 2024/2025 fiscal year, yearend financials, and the summer picnic. If you have any suggestions for something to do for our 100th Anniversary, please let me know, let>s make it a special year, because I know none of us will be here to celebrate the next 100-year anniversary, this is a once in a lifetime event.

Throw a prayer out there for any of our fellow veterans that are ill, for the rest of us, try to stay healthy, enjoy winter (as much as possible), and get active in YOUR DAV CHAPTER. The clothing program can always use some extra help, especially in the winter, and that is where our chapter gets the bulk of the funds that we use to help our fellow veterans. The clothing has got to be picked up and loaded into the semi above zero or below zero and our regular volunteers include ages from their 30's into their 80's, so if able, step up and join in, all are welcome, plus we have donuts!!!

Wishing all of you the very best, Gene Schwantes

#### **AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER**

Greetings Everyone,

Just a quick reminder that our next meeting won't be until March 18th, and we will be electing officers, so please plan to attend and vote. If any of you are interested in holding an office, please let me know before the meeting.

Thank you, Sara Gast

#### MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

- Feb 6th Army Day
- Feb 9th National Former POW Recognition Day
- Feb 11th Official Persian Gulf War Cease fire (1991)





## THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 15 JANUARY 2024 AT 1830.

OPENING CEREMONY: \* OPENING PRAYER \* PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE A. ROLL CALL of OFFICERS to determine if a quorum is present.

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

- B. Members Present: 12
- C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: None
- Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion to accept minutes as read by Mike, 2d by Tom, the motion carried.
- E. Treasurer's Report:
  - The Nov treasurer's report was read by Commander Gene, motion to accept was made by Tom, 2d by Mike, the motion carried.
  - The Dec. treasurer's report was read by Commander Gene, the motion to accept was made by Andy, 2d by Tom, and the motion carried.
- F. Communications:
  - Registration cards from waste management (2X) were received, one for each truck.
  - Ft. Snelling sent a thank you for our annual donation to the Ft. Snelling Cemetery.
  - 3. VA thanked us for our 600-dollar donation to their recreation/activities fund.
  - MACV made a request for donations to help with Veteran homelessness; this is a budget item and gets sent out automatically.
  - 5. VFW sent us a thank you for our donation to the honor guard.
  - 6. Northwoods caregivers thanked us for donating to their transportation program.
  - Rep Michelle Fischbach sent us an update on her continuing efforts to help Veterans across MN.
  - 8. DAV MN thanked us for our participation in laying out wreaths for our fallen Veterans.
  - DAV MN State Commander Fields sent us warm holiday wishes (no formal general meeting in Dec.).

- Josh from Savers sent us an update on clothing trailers in stock (116), along with the new year's participation agreement.
- 11. Veterans Campground on Big Marine Lake sent us a thank you for our donation this year.
- G. Committee Reports:
  - 1. Membership: 10 new members were recognized tonight, welcome all!
  - 2. Service Officer: NA
  - 3. Hospital/Sickness and Distress:
  - 4. Legislative: NA
  - Entertainment: A report from the Christmas Party Committee announced that we had slightly exceeded this year's budget.
  - 6. Publicity and Fundraising: DAV Chap 7 was featured in an article in the Bemidji Pioneer, and we received recognition from DAV state for our fundraising efforts. Well done, Tom!
  - 7. Medical Equipment: 29 issues and 16 donations for 2 months, and 151 donations for the year and approximately 108 issues for the year.
- H. Executive Committee Action Items: No actions were brought forward.
- I. Old Business: No old business to bring forward this month.
- J. New Business:
  - The Nominating committee for this year's election of officers has been established and consists of Jim P, Mike G, Henry H.
  - The Savers clothing program participation application has been signed and delivered allowing us to participate in the clothing program for another year, motion to accept was made by Steve, 2d by Andy, motion carried.
  - This year's scholarship committee has been reestablished and again consists of Andy, Jeff, and Mike.
  - 4. A new contract for snowplowing has been approved, motion to accept was made by Andy, and 2d by Mike, the motion carried.
- K. Good of the Order:
  - FYI, Stellher Human Services have announced an abbreviated intake and
    placement for Veterans wanting help with mental health issues. You will be
    placed with a Veteran therapist, and you have a choice of male or female. Share
    with all of our Veteran brothers and sisters who might be struggling in the
    mental health arena.
- L. Closing Ceremonies performed.
- M. Motion to Adjourn:
  - > Motion by Andy, and second by Tom. Motion carried.
  - > The meeting adjourned at 1936 Hrs.
  - ➤ Next meeting 2/19/24 @1830 Hrs.

#### **VETERANS ON THE HILL DAY 2024**

It's that time of year for Veterans on the Hill Day (VotH). This year it will take place on the 17th of April at the Capitol in St Paul, MN. I hope that more of you are planning to join us for the free bus trip down to this event. This is a great opportunity to talk with our representatives about issues and upcoming legislature affecting us as Veterans and our families.

We have a Bemidji Bus Lines charter bus with seating available for 50 people and seating will fill up quickly, so sign up early to get your seat(s) reserved!

## Please Text or Email me your information prior to the 10th of March so that I can add your names to my list. Your information must contain the following:

- Name(s) of everyone planning to join us.
- Cell phone number of each participating individual, we don't want anyone getting left behind.
- Which pick up point you want to meet the bus at, Bemidji, Akeley, Motley, or St. Cloud.

We are having the bus stop at the following locations to pick up participants, so plan to be at your pick-up point 20 - 30 minutes prior to the arrival times as these times may vary depending on road conditions and traffic:

- Bemidji Walmart parking lot, promptly departing at 0600 Hrs.
- Former Akeley VFW parking lot, arriving approx. 0640 Hrs., departing 10 minutes later.
- Bricks Travel Center parking lot, Motley, MN, arriving approx. 0750 Hrs. Departing 15 minutes after arrival.
- Copper Lantern Restuarant in St Cloud, arriving approx. 0905 Hrs. Departing 10 minutes after arrival.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call / text me at (218) 251-3025 or Email at torgor@lightspeed.net.

Thank you for supporting our Veterans!

Sincerely,

Tom Annonson, Trip coordinator

### 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://wwgsmn.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/

#### Additional Sponsors

Cease Funeral
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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 • Mainstreet Leonard & Clearbrook

#### TO SCHEDULE RIDES FOR HIGHLIGHTED RED 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**

Last month we were in-part looking at a mystery (the period of time we are living in now). Jesus Christ described this mysterious last two thousand years in this way, "... and Jerusalem will be trodden down by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled (completed)" (Luke 21:24; cross reference to Isaiah 63:18 and Daniel 8:13) - Amplified Bible. Jesus stated the event that would usher in this portion of history from God, saving humanity (salvation history), is the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, which occurred in 70 AD, thirteen years after Paul wrote his letter to the Romans. This would be a time, and still is, when God's presence moves from the Temple in Jerusalem into the hearts of all who have given their lives to Christ. Paul further mentions that the length of this time frame of Jewish history would be however long it takes to bring, or usher in, the salvation of Gentiles. This includes all of us outside of Israel, through Christ's work on the cross (Romans 11:25).

It's interesting to note this period of Jewish history we are currently living in, or experiencing now, is a mystery written by Paul (Romans 11). While Paul was writing about this mystery of salvation history (Romans 11:25), he also included the graciousness of God and a very severe warning of immense importance to all of us Gentiles, to include Palestinian Christians, Messianic Jewish Christians and all believers. We are to be very careful about our own attitude towards the Jewish People (Romans 11:20-29), as well as the temptation we may have to brag about being saved. A person may ask, to whom would Christian's brag? The answer is - to the Jewish people. The Jewish people have been so hurt by Christians and those purporting themselves as Christians throughout history in a way that it's just terrible. We have a tremendous respect and admiration for the Jewish people and always will, while taking to heart Paul's warning to us all. As mentioned in last month's article, there is absolutely no room for an attitude of anti-Semitism in the heart of a Christian as we continue to see all over the place through the media. As Christians we are in-fact, according to God's view, Jewish people (Romans 2:29) and through the mystery of His providence, grafted into Israel (Romans 11).

We see here that the Jewish people were chosen by God and entrusted with the most sacred of duties, to preserve His land and oracles. Despite all of their hardships, they remain steadfast. I hope this encourages all people from all walks of life to follow the example of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Elijah and to know Jesus Christ.

We started this article by looking at one of God's mysteries. There are other mysteries we would like to discuss in upcoming articles. This is not to say we are going to be able to solve these mysteries. In many instances we can discuss mysteries, but nevertheless, after our discussion, the mystery is still a mystery. Some mysteries exist in history, such as the entire time throughout the Old Testament (thousands of years) - salvation through Christ's work on the cross. Another example can be put forth in the form of a question for today, why does God allow so much evil to exist in the world? This is called the mystery of iniquity. God also has a timeline with mysteries still in the future. For now, let us keep praying, "...under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:6 & 7, King James Version).

Mike and Julie Gutz









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#### **Bemidji Chapter 7**

#### **Disabled American Veterans**

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