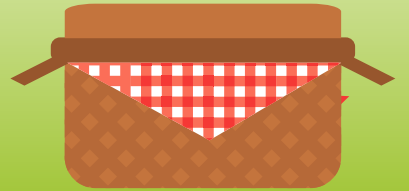




DAV Summer Picnic

Our DAV Summer picnic will be held on Saturday the 29th of August at the Bemidji City Park, 1115 23rd St NW, Bemidji, MN, in the warming building from 1- 4 PM. We are looking forward to having all of our DAV "Family" joining us for this event. If you have any questions please contact us with an Email through our website, www.davchapter7.org/dav/?page_id=996 or you can call Tom Annonson at (218) 251-3025.

Hope to see you all there!!



If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please send your email address to the organization at mndavchapter7@gmail.com

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August 2015

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NEXT MEETING:

**National Guard Armory Bemidji, MN
Monday, August 17th at 7pm**

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| CHAPLAIN (ALT.): | Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591 |
| JUDGE ADVOCATE: | Vacant |
| SERGEANT AT ARMS: | Bruce Tiegen - (218) 308-0962 |
| OFFICER OF THE DAY: | Glenn Aagard - (218) 556-7999 |
| HISTORIAN: | David Myers |
| EXEC. COMMITTEE CHAIR: | Tom Annonson - (218) 251-3025,
torgor@lightspeed.net |
| EXEC. COMMITTEE: | Bruce Tiegen |
| EXEC. COMMITTEE: | Bruce Holden |
| EXEC. COMMITTEE: | Glenn Aagard |
| EXEC. COMMITTEE: | Marten Schrage |

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AT THE BELTRAMI FAIR!**



DAV MEETING FOR JULY 20TH, 2015

Meeting called to order: 1900 Hrs.

Opening Ceremonies Performed.

Roll call of officers taken: A quorum was present.

Number of Members Present: 15

Guests or Visitors: Presentation from Duluth Vet Center by Shari Kosobuski

Reading of the minutes from June 25th, 2015 meeting:

Motion to accept as read. Approved.

Treasurer's Report Given:

Fiscal Year and updated report. Motion to accept as read. Approved.

Chaplain's Report:

Multiple visits by the Chaplain and past chaplain.

Reading of Correspondence.

Committee reports given:

Membership: 4 new members

Service officer: Working with 3 individuals.

Newsletter: Seeking current year sponsors.

Forget-me-not: Need volunteers

Entertainment: Picnic planned for Aug 29th.

Old Business:

1. Trailers are being picked up.
2. Trailer has been repaired.

New Business:

1. Pay for delivery of clothing to drop off points.

Approved.

2. Dave Myer volunteered and appointed as Judge Advocate. Approved.
3. Audit Committee created and meeting scheduled.
4. Young Investor Picnic needs volunteers.
5. Request for crafts for Adult Day Service Vets.

Executive Committee:

1. Discussion to help pay bill for Ramp for vet.

Good of the Order: None

Closing Ceremonies were performed.

Meeting adjourned at: 2015 hrs.

COMMANDERS CORNER

With the warm breezes of summer comes the busy season of clothes sorting. Donations are coming from the DAV bins located throughout the city and from garage sales, rummage sales and the like. The crew has its hands full on clothes sorting day. We are thankful for a community that generously supports the DAV with the donations that are turned into monetary profit for the needs of the veterans in the Chapter 7 area. If you are available on Tuesday morning, come out to the storage units southwest of the bowling alley and join us in the sorting of the donations; we begin at 8:30 am. If we run into inclement weather on Tuesday, we usually move the sorting to Wednesday if the weather has improved.

Our annual picnic this year, will again be held at the City Park building next to the curling club. It will be held on August 29 from 1300 to 1600. Please come, enjoy and visit with fellow veterans. I personally want to meet with many more veterans from our chapter.

If you are a veteran and in need of help, contact your Veteran Service Office first to see if they have a program that can provide the help you need. If they are unable to help, they will refer you to us.

I would like to hear from the veterans throughout our chapter area. If you have meetings or special events this summer, please call me. I will make every effort to come and introduce myself to you and explain how you can become more active in the organization. The men and women who are now involved in our chapter are always happy to see new faces. The more active our members are, the better able we are at helping and assisting veterans.

Dave Sterr
Commander

Support for a Vet Center in Bemidji

Please take a minute and write a letter to Mr. Jeff Hall, with enough support from each of us and all of our friends, it will increase our chance of getting a Vet Center here in Bemidji.

**Mr. Jeff Hall, Duluth Vet Center
4402 Haines Road, Suite 3
Duluth, MN 55811**

Shari Kosobuski or one of the other staff members from the Duluth Vet Center comes to Bemidji every other week to provide counseling and support services to area veterans. While we appreciate this, we find that it is far short of the needs of our region's veterans. We have over 20,000 veterans in the nine counties around the Bemidji area, more than 3100 of which are from Beltrami County. Unfortunately our Veterans are not getting the consistent treatment and support which they must have to help them work through their issues and problems. This consistent assistance and treatment could save marriages, or prevent suicides and homelessness. These services are necessary if we are going to provide our Veterans with the care and support they need and deserve. Our VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) does an excellent job, but they have a very heavy workload already, and thus are unable to help every Veteran in need, with the type of additional services the Vet Center could provide.

For these reasons the local Veterans Organizations encourage every Citizen and Veteran to send a letter in support of a Vet Center in Bemidji, it would be a great asset to our Veterans, their families and to the region as a whole, with no cost to the Community.

ADJUTANT CORNER

The North Central Chapter #7 of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) has made the following donations: \$30,017 was given directly to needy Veterans (or their Spouses) in our region. \$2,533 was donated to the Bemidji VA Community Based outpatient Clinic to provide snacks for Patients at the clinic. We gave \$1,800 to Fergus falls and \$400 to Silver Bay Veterans Home's for recreation purposes. \$200 was donated to the cemeteries at Fort Snelling and Camp Ripley; \$800 was donated for Veterans hunting Camps which allowed many Veterans to hunt for the first time because of their disability. We gave \$400 to Veteran Administration Medical Centers at St Cloud and Fargo to be used for recreation purposes. Fargo Hospital was given \$600 to provide special Holiday meals. \$1,000 was donated to the DAV Foundation of Minnesota to help provide fishing and other outdoor programs. We donated \$750 to the annual "Ride for the Troops", which helps the families of deployed military personnel and veteran's families in financial need. We gave \$5,000 the Disable Veterans Goose hunt in Middle River. North Central Minnesota DAV Chapter # 7 gave a total of \$44,100.00 for Veterans, which was made possible by your generous support!

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Our DAV transport van drove 16,000 and transported 140 Veterans to the Fargo VA.

We gave away many scooters and electric Wheel Chairs as well as many other types of medical equipment to Disabled Veterans in need.

We transported 71 loads of clothing and other items that had been donated in our bins (or picked up from you) for a total of 497,411 pounds. We now have 19 collection bins placed at various locations throughout our region. Thanks to your generosity, Chapter #7 placed first in the state for pounds of clothing and other items donated! Our DAV volunteers logged 4,476 hours of service. And this doesn't count the hours our volunteers chose NOT to record.

The North Central Chapter of the DAV thanks you from the bottom of our hearts, and asks for your continued support, so that we may continue to serve those who have served.

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What are the chances this could happen? Before your 60th birthday there is a 50% chance (after 60 it rises to 70%), that at some point, someone else will need to make medical decisions for you. It is almost certain that someone you love will be asked to make medical decisions for you or you will be asked to make decisions for them.

There is no easy way to plan for future health care choices because they involve thinking and talking about complex and sensitive issues. However, the evidence is clear, having the conversations now will be a gift that will help you and your loved ones in difficult times to come.

Join us, at “Begin Your Conversation”, to learn about the types of decisions that may need to be made and how to clearly communicate your decisions to those who need to know. We have two options for you, both of which are free!

1. Call and schedule an appointment with a trained facilitator who will walk you through your options and help you complete an Advance Directive that reflects your goals and values and communicates them clearly.
2. Attend one of the classes that are held 3 times per month. During these classes we'll ask you to reflect on your goals, values and beliefs and help determine how they shape future healthcare decisions. We will also help you create a clear Advanced Directive.

Contact us for more information about our **FREE one-on-one sessions or classes, at any of the following:**

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LOOKING FOR A FISHING PARTNER?

Ed Holman is a retired, 73 year old, Disabled Veteran that is looking for other Disabled Veterans to go fishing with, on a one on one basis! Ed has access to Big Bass Lake just across the road from where he lives. He has a boat with a trailer and is willing to travel a reasonable distance to pick you up and fish other lakes as well! His one requirement is that you be ambulatory enough to get in and out of the boat on your own! For more information give him a call at: (218) 849-0877

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2015 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES

January

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Reputation, this is a very important issue. A person's ability to socially function in this world is often based on well how that person is perceived by others. There are a tremendous amount of factors put into effect to create a reputation. At any given time in our lives we all strive for a reputation or in other words to be view by others (friends, family and society) in a particular manner. This is critical if we are to succeed in our careers and for advancement. As Disabled American Veterans we all have a reputation just base on this status alone. This status includes legal, social, employment and financial ramifications base on the characterization of service, sustain injuries, sickness and current functionality. All of this being said, what does The Bible say about a person's reputation?

The Bible reflects a good reputation is something very worthwhile (Proverbs 22:1) and is a trusted characteristic (Acts 16:2) to rely upon. Generally these are two universal factors across the board. Yet, there are some specific dangers associated with a good reputation too. There seems to be two important factors when it comes to the determination of whether or not a good reputation is worthwhile and those two factors are the kinds of people from where your reputation originates (Luke 6:26) and a lack of integrity (Exodus 20:16). Let us take a look at these two issues because the ramifications can be staggering and is often the basis for many injustices of life (Ecclesiastes 5:8).

Lets say a particular organization lies about you, they have a particular agenda to push and will stop at nothing even if it means to scapegoat you in the process. Does this sort of thing happen? Yes, absolutely. The courts are filled with lawsuits regarding people, corporations and government agencies - (federal state, municipal) - who lie (verbally or in writing) about others for a variety of reasons. Hundreds of people have been released from prison because they never did what they were accused of doing! This is the reason why Congress has pass so many laws regarding slander, libel while at the same time protecting whistle-blow. This really is the kind of world we live in folks. It is interesting the people, corporations and government agencies (include friends, banks, law enforcement, churches) continue to function through trust and are still trusted by some, yet have at the same time continue to lie and exclude others. Divide and conquer, these kinds of dynamics is exactly what is meant by the scriptures who describe "... the devil, as a roaring lion, walking about seeking whom he may devour." (1 Peter 5:8).

This happen to the Prophets, Jesus, Antipas and those Christians who gave their lives for their faith (Zechariah 7, Mathew 23:37, Mark 14:55-60, Revelation 2:13, Hebrews 11:36-40). As a consequence of a loss of reputation through the lies of others pushing their agendas, the prophets, Jesus, Antipas and many other Christians have been killed. These were the dynamics back then, it is still the same dynamics today.

This situation can be very sad, but it is a time not to loose heart, as Paul wrote to put on the armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day and having done all to stand, stand" (Ephesians 6:13). This means to stand in your convictions with Christ. How many of you believe God truly wants you to continue to stand? This verse "having done all to stand, stand" is not a religious phrase, it is an active military Roman term use by Paul against Satan and his dynamics, which means if you are surrounded by this kind of a situation, than be sure to hold onto the conviction and courage to see the situation through. We truly hope this helps as we all well wait for the return of Christ.

If you have need, are in the hospital or would simply like to talk, we would be glad to listen.

Please call us,

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