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Disabled American Veterans

North Central Minnesota Chapter #7

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Monthly Newsletter

January 2015

North Central MN Chapter #7

PO Box 564

Bemidji, MN 56619

NEXT MEETING:

**National Guard Armory Bemidji, MN
Monday, February 16th at 7pm**



CHAPTER OFFICERS

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| COMMANDER: | Dave Sterr - (218)556-4633 |
| SENIOR VICE: | Mike Zimmerman - (218)-252-2061 |
| JUNIOR VICE: | Marten Schrage - (218)308-7972 |
| JUNIOR VICE: | Jay Ruediger - (218)395-0318 |
| ADJUTANT: | Robert Saddoris - (218)243-2663 |
| SERVICE OFFICER: | Robert Saddoris - (218)243-2663 |
| TREASURER: | Jeri Harvey- (509)389-8505 |
| CHAPLAIN: | Mike Gutz - (218)308-3927 |
| 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: | Vacant |
| 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 |

COMMANDERS CORNER

As we begin the New Year I want to express my gratitude for the banner year we had in 2014. We exceeded our goals in the number of new members, far exceeded our donations and our clothing program is doing great. As a result, we were able to help many more veterans in need.

The first line of business for the New Year is to elect new officers. Most of the officers from last year have agreed to stay on. I will list the two positions with vacancies and include the duties required of those positions. If anyone is interested please contact me.

Adjutant:

Keeps the chapter's records and manages the chapter's official correspondence.

Keeps detailed records of the chapter meetings and business affairs.

At each business meeting, the adjutant reads the minutes of the preceding meeting.

Filing chapter officer reports following the annual election and installation of officers.

Responsible for the membership records and keeping them up to date.

Historian:

Documents events with photos and written articles from newspapers and other news media sources.

I am looking forward to working with all of you.

Dave Sterr

Commander DAV Chapter 7

CDR Chuck Deeds
(past Chapter & State Commander)
90th Birthday Celebration

Wednesday March 11 2pm-4pm

Windsong Theater,
Woodsedge Campus,
1010 Anne St NW, Bemidji

**Invited to attend for refreshments,
cake, and to socialize.**

Send Cards to:

CDR Chuck Deeds
APT 324
Sanford Health Windsong
1010 Anne St NW, Bemidji, MN 56601



NEWSLETTER STAFF

Hello all,

Well we are into February already and things are starting to pick up for the year. The chapter officers were elected at the last meeting and will be sworn in at this month's meeting. We have added clothing bins in Kelliher and Williams that will expand our pick up area for clothing donations. Herberger's is having their community day sale event at the end of the month and we will be selling booklets at the store again. Planning and coordination will start this month for the upcoming Forget-Me-Not season that will kick off at the Ride for the Troops event on June 7th. If you have the gift of being able to meet people and would be willing to assist with the fund raising events, please contact Tom Annonson at (218) 251-3025, your help would be greatly appreciated!

At our meeting in January we had our new member obligation ceremony and most of the members in attendance were officially sworn in and welcomed to the chapter. I know we have quite a few new members that have yet to take the new member obligation and encourage you to attend a meeting at your earliest convenience to do so. As long as we are on the subject of new members, we should all be talking with the veterans in our areas and encouraging them to join us. Our membership is hovering around the 500 member mark and in Beltrami County alone we have roughly 2500 veterans, most of which are eligible to join us! Seeing as our chapter covers all or part of twelve Counties our membership should be much larger (4- 5 times or even more) than what we are currently sitting at! One of the best reasons for getting them to join is that they are not only helping themselves by being a member but by helping to swell our ranks they give us more clout in Washington to lobby for our veteran's benefits. Any inputs and feedback about how we can improve on the newsletter will be graciously accepted.

Your newsletter staff

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DAV MEETING FOR JANUARY 19TH, 2015

Meeting called to order: 1906 Hrs.

Opening Ceremonies Performed.

Roll call of officers taken: A quorum was present.

Number of Members Present: 18

Guests or Visitors: David Meyer & Randy Hanevold

Reading of the minutes from Nov 17, 2014 & Dec 15, 2014 meetings: Motion to accept as read. Approved.

Treasurer's Report Given: Motion to accept as read. Approved.

Chaplain's Report: Funeral for Mr. Kohler was held.

New Member Obligation: 9 members received obligation.

Reading of Correspondence.

Committee reports given:

Service officer: Helped 4 Veterans.

Membership: 4 new members this month.

Newsletter: no new report.

Forget-me-not: Herberger's Spring sale end of Feb.
Next year's FGMN will be planned.

Old Business:

1. Flatbed for Truck #2 Received & installed. Closed
2. Disabled Vet with Well. Another \$1000 to help pay bill. Approved.
3. Trade in of Trailer. Received. Closed.
4. Candidates for Next year. Announced in Dec. Elected and Approved.
Commander – David Sterr; Sr. Vice Commander – Mike Zimmerman; First Junior Vice Commander – Marten Schrage; and Treasurer – Jeri Harvey

New Business:

1. CDR Chuck Deeds (past Chapter & State CDR) 90th Birthday on March 11th 1300, all are invited to celebrate and send cards. Will be scheduled. Cake and Refreshments will be served. See next month's newsletter for more information.
2. Suggestion made to sponsor a dinner for area nursing homes.

Exec. Cmte Actions:

1. Motion to assist Lifetime members with closing out balance of less than \$130. Approved
2. Supporting VFW/Legion with Honor/Color Guard with \$1000 donation. Approved.
3. Aux to obtain flags for \$640. Approved.
4. DAV to pay lease for use of Armory to bring organization in line with Armory books. \$20/ month for Meetings, \$50/ month for clothing sort. Approved.

Good of the Order: \$20,000 donation was made anonymously.

Closing Ceremonies were performed.

Meeting adjourned at: 2023 hrs.

AUXILIARY LETTER

Just a quick reminder that there won't be an Auxiliary meeting for the month of February. We will resume our normal meetings on the third Monday in March at the Armory. In the mean time I will be working with the Forget-Me-Not chairman and several of you individually to start coordinating our upcoming fund raising events.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the March meeting.

Linda Engseth
Commander
DAV Auxiliary Unit #7

2015 DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES

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Northwest Transportation MN DAV Chapter 7 Bemidji-Fargo Trips Pick-up Points:

Bemidji National Guard Armory; **Solway** in front of Bar;
Shevlin in front of bar; **Bagley** Tesoro Station west end of town; **Fosston** at LaPiere's on the east end of town;
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Tom - (218) 251-3025 or Marten - (218) 779-0505**

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Last month we were looking at the strategies of Satan within the realm and reality of spiritual warfare. The purpose of Satan's strategy is to steal, kill and destroy our lives and relationship with Christ (Job 1; 2:1-7, John 10:10). At the same time God gives us the grace to persevere, while working things out for our good (Romans 8:28) even though it does not seem that way. These hard things really can distract us from our relationship with Christ, causing doubt and uncertainty. This month we will look at the day-to-day ramifications of living out our lives here on earth in obedience to Christ.

Repentance is an important key, yet forgiveness of others-self and humility towards God are too, again this is not something easy to do, especially with the pain, anxiety, PTSD, unjust bureaucracy-laws, civilians-employers (some veterans too) who are clueless, broken relationships, or other disabling conditions many of us deal with daily. We always want to correct the injustice in our lives because of our own sense of justice and it does go against our natural grain to allow God to take action on our behalf (I Corinthians 2:14). When we allow God the space and time to correct injustices this does not mean we gave up or it will never be done. Just because we are letting them off our hook (forgiveness), does not mean they are off God's hook. God is more interested in our character, salvation and our relationship with Him (not religion-Isaiah 1), then anything else. He wants us to be free. Forgiveness, although hard, allows us to live in god's freedom and outside of people's oppression. In some cases it means to change our understanding and attitude, petition the courts-other avenues of recourse (Luke 18:1-8), pray and be kind (Matthew 5:44), debate the issue (Proverbs 25:9), seek guidance and or treatment from others (Galatians 6:2, Luke 5:31), do the right thing regardless of the consequences, or not do anything at all but wait on God to work out the issues (Proverbs 20:22). In any of these situations we want to know the correct meaning of the scriptures, the heart of God and follow the Holy Spirit's leading with patience (James 5:7-18). If nothing else, revenge and retaliation are definitely not up to us, rather it is God who is the person to set things right (Romans 12:19, Luke 18:1-8). What else does this look like?

As a believer in Christ, God and people hold us to a higher standard. Yet, some believers and others who claim to be believers have been a poor example for Christ. This in turn gives other people living for God a bad name. This does not involve situations when we do the right thing and people take us the wrong way, misrepresent and lie about us. Rather it means not to have improper or criminal sexual conduct, steal, murder, gossip, speak ill of others, commit extortion and fraud etc. We are living under a microscope. When things like this become known, people with a skeptical view that do not know Christ will think there is no distinction between believers and non-believers. We do not want to give Christ a bad name. It is not in word and deed, but in attitude too. This really does reflect the condition of the heart towards God. This is why Paul cautions believers to live in the freedom Christ provides (Romans 6, I Corinthians 5 [cross reference II Corinthians 2 & 7] Galatians 5). Our prayer for you is found in Romans 16:20 (cross reference: Genesis 3:14-15), which is God's plan for His people on Earth.

Please do not hesitate to call us. If you are in the hospital we would like to come and visit. If you, another veteran, or family member are in need let us know. If you want to talk or have comments we look forward to meeting you.

DAV Chaplain Mike Gutz
DAV Auxiliary Chaplain Julie Gutz
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