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Monthly Newsletter
December 2018

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

NEXT MEETING:
Christmas Party at Eagles Club
Monday, December 17th

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JUNIOR VICE:	Vacant
ADJUTANT:	David Myers
SERVICE OFFICER:	Walter James
TREASURER:	Jeri Harvey
CHAPLAIN:	Mike Gutz - (218) 444-5015
CHAPLAIN (ALT.):	Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	Bruce Holden - (218) 467-3591
SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Bruce Tiegen
OFFICER OF THE DAY:	Glenn Aagard
LEGISLATIVE CHAIR:	Joe Vene
HISTORIAN:	Steve Hauschildt
EXEC. COMMITTEE:	Bruce Tiegen, Steve Hauschildt, Tom Annonson - (218) 251-3025, torgor@lightspeed.net

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DAV AND DAV AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 17, 2018

**Bemidji Eagles Club...
use east entrance**

**Social Hour: 4:30
Dinner: 6:00**

Door prizes and gifts

Call Ginger at 368-8562 by December 10th for
reservations! If leaving a message, leave full
names of each attendee and the choice of meal.
Roast Beef, Chicken, or Vegetarian Lasagna.

Come for comradery and fun!



COMMANDERS CORNER

My husband David Sterr passed away Friday, November 16th. I want you all to know what you meant to him. He considered you his DAV family, as did I. He was with a fellow comrade doing some general DAV work when he was taken down with a stroke.

Back in 1971, the DAV was there for Dave when he suffered his service related injury. Upon his retirement in 2005 his aim was to give back to the DAV, and that began his service to Chapter 7. He was proud beyond words of how Chapter 7 pulled together to establish a solid, growing organization in your efforts to help fellow veterans. He was proud to serve as your Commander for the last five years.

I wish you the best in your leadership transitions and wish you the best for the future of your organization. I will be volunteering in some capacity and just need a little time to grieve the loss of my gentle, joyful comrade in marriage.

Bless you all,
Sandy Sterr

David Lee Sterr was born September 9, 1939 in Fond du Lac, WI to Leland and Lauretta (Braun) Sterr. He grew up on the family farm in Lomira, WI, graduating from Campbellsport High School in 1958. At the age of 19 he entered Army basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO and continued on to advanced training at Fort Gordon GA. Dave was stationed at the NATO base in Kolsas, Norway from 1959 to 1963 and was honorably discharged in 1965 as a Sergeant E-5. Dave married Sandra Hoffman on January 6, 1968 at St. Matthews Methodist Church in Fond du Lac, WI. He reenlisted in 1971 stationed at Fort Campbell, KY. Due to an injury, he was hospitalized and medically discharged from Walter Reed Army Hospital in 1972.



Following his military service, Dave attended the University of Florida at Gainesville, FL and graduated in 1975 with a degree in Forestry. He retired in 2005 following 30 years with the US Government Bureau of Indian Affairs in Bemidji MN, as the Agency Forester with forest management responsibilities for 7 reservations in MN: Leech Lake, Net Lake, White Earth, Mille Lacs, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, and Red Lake.

Dave lived a very active life. From his forestry days walking through the woods marking trees, golfing, biking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, even down to walking his granddog, Daisy. Dave had a special interest in American History and Civil War History, researching and reading more books than we can count. He also remained actively involved in his men's groups, the Romeos and Retired Foresters.

Dave always had a passion for helping others. His time spent in Walter Reed and the tireless physical therapy he received to recover from his injury sparked his drive for helping other disabled veterans, and he devoted his retirement years to supporting the Disabled American Veterans Organization. In March of 2014 he became Commander of Chapter 7 of the Disabled American Veterans. He was proud to serve with the members and volunteers of the organization and they became dear friends to him.

He is survived by his wife Sandra Sterr of Bemidji, daughters Gail Sterr and Kelly (Lyan) Karger of Bemidji, granddaughter Ridley Karger, grandson Bryce Karger, brother Eugene (Sharon) Sterr of West Bend, WI, sister Karen Sterr of Asheville, NC, sister Mary Lynn (Gary) Crist of Hendersonville, NC, and sister Joan (Steven) Haber of Arden, NC. He is also survived by many other loving relatives. He was preceded in death by his parents.

THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER # 7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON NOVEMBER 19 2018 AT 1900.

- Opening Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance

A. Roll Call of Officers to determine if quorum is present:

OFFICERS

Commander: Mike Zimmerman.....Present
Senior Vice Commander: Joe VenePresent
Junior Vice Commander: Vacant N/A
Adjutant: David Myers Excused
Treasurer: Jeri Harvey.....Present
Chaplain: Mike GutzPresent
Judge Advocate: Bruce Holden.....Present
Sergeant-at-Arms: Bruce TiegenPresent
Officer of the Day: Glen Aagard.....Excused
Historian: Steve HauschildtPresent

B. Members Present: 22

C. Introduction of guests or visitors, prospective new members, and transfers to Chapter #7.

Guests/Visitors: 2 Visitors; Lt Patti Schrader, Civil Air Patrol, and Mr. Wayne Patras, 3rd Jr Vice Commander, Department of Minnesota.

Prospective new members: Mr. Duane Miller

Transfers in: None

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of October 15, 2018 were read. *Motion to approve made by Steve Siats, 2nd by Randy Hanevold. Carried.*

E. Financial Report for Report for 1-31 October 2018: Report given by Jeri Harvey.

Motion to approve made by Jeri Harvey, 2nd by Ron Kaiser. Carried

F. Sickness or distress:

Passing of our Commander, David L. Sterr. Funeral will be held on Thursday, 29 November 2018.

G. New Member Obligation:

None

H. Communications:

Three items were received: 2 donations for \$20.00, and \$75.00, a thank you card, and an RSVP from the Department Commander for our upcoming Christmas party.

Committee Reports:

1. **Membership Report:** Two new members have submitted their applications to national: Brent Thomson, Duane Miller
2. **Service Officer Report:** 50 veterans assisted in various capacities
3. **Legislative Report:** No report.

4. Hospital Chaplain Report:

No visitations were made.

5. Entertainment:

Discussed the Christmas party. It will take place on 17 December and will take place in lieu of our regular December meeting.

6. Fundraising committee:

Fundraising event at Harmony Foods on "Black Friday" 23 Nov. On 1 Dec we will have a booth set up in the Paul Bunyan mall from 10- 4.

7. Newsletter Committee:

Pulling the ads for Bemidji Bus Lines and Ameripride. Will try and find replacements for them. Articles due by Sunday Nov 25th.

8. Medical Equipment:

Distributed: 1 cane, 2 wheelchairs, and 1 lift chair
Received: 1 hospital bed

J. Old Business:

None

K. New Business:

1. Wayne Patras gave a report about the clothing committee at the department level. The new contract has yet to be signed.
2. A nominating committee was appointed. The following members are assigned: Robert Saddoris, Steve Hauschildt, Ward Sutton
3. The executive committee recommends that we purchase 100 wreaths for the wreaths across America ceremony from the Northland Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol. The cost is \$1500.00. *Motion was made by Gene Schwantes, 2nd by Randy Hanevold. Carried.*
4. Mr. David G. Larson has a handicap equipped van available for donation.

L. Executive Committee Action Items:

See New Business

M. Good of the Order:

Military retirees MUST choose a new dental plan by 16 December, or lose out. The current exclusive Delta Dental contract is NOT being renewed. Additionally, a vision plan is available for the first time.

N. Motion to adjourn:

Made by Steve Siats. 2nd by Darrel Baldzell. Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2015 hours. The next meeting will be held at our Christmas Party at 1700 on Monday 17 December. 2018 at the Bemidji Eagles Club.

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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NEW COMMANDER

Hello everyone. As you may have read, we lost a very good man and a very good friend of mine, Commander David Sterr. As we move into the Holiday season let's keep Sandy and her family in our thoughts and prayers.

Don't forget about our upcoming Christmas Party, I hope to see a lot of you there

Amy and I wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mike Zimmerman



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee will be accepting nominations for the elected Chapter Officer positions from now until the election takes place at the February General membership meeting.

The nominating committee consists of; Steven Hauschildt 580-483-6037, Ward Sutton 320-266-8341, and Saddoris 218-209-1863, please contact one of them and let them know if you want to be considered for an elected Chapter officer position.

If more than one person applies for a position, the committee will conduct interviews just like the State and National nominating committees do and pass on their recommendations to the general membership at the meeting in January and prior to the elections in February.

If you are unsure of what the officer positions are, you can go to our web page to review the positions. Any member in good standing has the right to apply for any of the elected positions and the more that apply the better.



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Last month we were discussing Justice, Mercy and Grace. Understanding the meaning behind each of these words can have a profound impact on our lives and hearts. This is especially true when we as veterans are surrounded by so many instances of people being disingenuous. Last month's article reflected upon on justice and the way some very disingenuous Pharisees/Scribes were setting up a woman for a fall, all for the purpose of entrapping Jesus (John 7:53-8:11).

Christ's response consists of wisdom, discernment, mercy and grace. This has nothing to do with enabling, dismissing, or in any other way disregarding the justice the woman deserved. Jesus managed all points of the issue, to include the ulterior motives and disingenuous attitudes of the accusers as well.

Many people think sex was at the heart of this issue, just look at the title of this section in the King James Version, "Jesus Forgives an Adulterous" or the New Revised Standard, "The Woman Caught in Adultery". The titles of this section in the different translations does not help. Sex had absolutely nothing to do with this incident, it could very well have been any other violation in Moses' Law. This is because the whole purpose of the incident was to accuse Jesus, set Him up for a fall and entrap Him (John 8:9). In short, the Pharisees/Scribes wanted to get Christ, their very own Messiah, The Son of God, into trouble with the authorities (Roman and Jewish) in order to get rid of Him and it did not matter how this was done. Just as the Pharisees/Scribes used Moses' Law in an unethical manner to force Justice, Jesus used Moses' Law in an ethical manner to show Mercy while addressing the Justice issue at the same time.

The law used was Deuteronomy 22:22 and Leviticus 20:10. Notice the manner in which the Pharisees/Scribes specifically overlooked one minor issue - the man was required to be stoned to death too. Oops, and of course there was one other minor issue the Pharisees/Scribes did not have the authority under Roman Law to sentence a person to death (John 18:31). Jesus through His wisdom had to address these two law issues as well as separate the Pharisees/Scribes from the woman. Yet, at the same time, Jesus shows mercy to the woman, and applies that same level of mercy to her accusers (Pharisees/Scribes) with just one statement, 'He that is without sin among you, let him first cast the first stone.' (John 8:7). As a side note, keep in mind, this is not just throwing a rock or two, in order to punish, but rather for every person to throw a rock for the purpose of killing her. As a result of saying this statement, Jesus gave them time to think about what he said. Look at the wonderful effect this had on each of the Pharisees/Scribes (John 8:8-9). Jesus allows the conviction the Pharisees/Scribes feel as a means for them to examine themselves for wrong motives and to let the woman go. This is mercy, which is define as not getting what a person deserves. This is the mercy Jesus shows the woman in their conversation (John 8:10-11a). Jesus says: 'Woman, where are your accusers, hasn't any of them condemned you?', Her reply is: 'No man Lord.' What a wonderful sense of relief for her. Jesus continues the conversation by giving her grace, which is an encouragement not to sin again. Notice that Jesus encouragement is not beating the issue over her head but encouraging the fact she can live free. Grace is always taking the next step by encouraging someone and something we will pick up in next month's article.

If you are in need, or would simply like to talk, please do not hesitate to call me. Have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful new year.

Mike.



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UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

Dec 7th-	Pearl Harbor Remembrance	Jan 21st-	Martin Luther King Day
Dec 17th-	Chapter Christmas Party	Feb 14th-	Valentine's Day
Dec 24th-	Christmas Eve	Feb 18th-	President's Day
Dec 25th-	Christmas Day	Feb 23rd- 27th-	DAV Mid-Winter Conference
Dec 31st-	New Year's Eve	Mar 10th-	Daylight Savings Time Begins
Jan 1st-	New Year's Day	Mar 17th-	St. Patrick's Day

On October 9, 2018, President Trump signed Public Law 115-258, which provides a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase of 2.8 percent, effective December 1, 2018, for Veteran's Disability Compensation and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for survivors and certain other benefits. VA compensation and DIC benefits are retrospectively paid on the first of each month, for the previous month. This means that the 2.8 COLA increase effective December 1, 2018, will not be included until the January 1, 2019 payment. This increase matches the COLA provided to Social Security recipients.

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