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Monthly Newsletter
March 2023

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



CHAPTER OFFICERS

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

NEXT MEETING:
DAV Headquarters at
5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN
Monday, March 20th at 6:30pm



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CH. #7 UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| Mar 6th -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Committee meeting @ 1430 Hrs. | May 4th - National Day of Prayer |
| Mar 12th - Daylight savings Time Begins | May 5th - Cinco de Mayo |
| Mar 17th - St. Patrick's Day | May 6th - National Nurses Day |
| Mar 20th -- DAV Chapter 7 General membership meeting @ 1830 Hrs. | May 8th - VE Day, Victory in Europe 1945 |
| Mar 29th - Vietnam War Veterans Day | May 12th - Military Spouse Appreciation Day |
| Apr 1st - April Fool's Day | May 14th - Mother's Day |
| Apr 2nd - Palm Sunday | May 15th - Peace Officers Memorial Day |
| Apr 3rd -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Committee meeting @ 1430 Hrs. | May 20th - Armed Forces Day |
| Apr 5th - Passover begins at sundown and lasts for 8 days. | May 29th - Memorial Day |
| Apr 6th - Persian Gulf War ends (1991) | |
| Apr 7th - Good Friday | |
| Apr 9th - Easter | |
| Apr 15th -- Income taxes due (most years they are due by the 15th) | |
| Apr 17th -- DAV Chapter 7 General membership meeting @ 1830 Hrs. | |
| May 1st -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Committee meeting @ 1430 Hrs. | |



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings Fellow Veterans,

WELL, I AM SORRY TO INFORM YOU FOLKS OF SOME VERY BAD NEWS, BUT I MUST. THERE ARE 647 MEMBERS OF OUR OWN CHAPTER THAT MISSED OUT ON BEING ABLE TO VOTE IN OUR ANNUAL ELECTIONS THAT WERE HELD AT OUR FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING, ON TOP OF THAT, NONE OF THOSE MEMBERS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE NOMINATED TO BECOME AN OFFICER AND ALL OF THIS JUST BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T ATTEND THE CHAPTER MEETING. GREAT THINGS HAPPEN AT OUR MEETINGS, PLAN ON ATTENDING THE NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 20TH AND BE PART OF THE ACTION.

The DAV Spring Convention will be held in Duluth on April 27-29, so far, four Chapter 7 members are planning on attending.

Vets on the Hill is being held on March 30, the bus leaves the Walmart parking lot at 6 am, please contact Tom Annonson to reserve a seat and join in going to the Capital to have your voice heard for Veterans rights. You do not need to be a Veteran to go on the bus, **so all of you Veterans make it a date with your significant other and have them join you on a trip to the State Capitol, snacks and coffee/water are provided on the bus and meals at noon and on the way back are also provided.** What a great date, at no cost to you, this is not a bribe, it is a benefit of being an active DAV Chapter Member and having your voice heard for Veterans Rights.

Well, the elections are over and by a vast majority (of those in attendance) you have elected me to be the Commander of Chapter 7 for another year, and for that, I do sincerely THANK YOU. It is a pleasure to work with all the folks that are there for me when I need their support to do the best job that I can as your Commander. But I still wonder, is it the job I do or my great words of wit that I write in the Commander's Corner?

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me, I will do the best I can to help you, there are no dumb questions.

Our medical building is overflowing, if you or a family member or a veteran you know has a need, let me know, you do not need to be a DAV member to receive medical equipment and it comes at no charge, even during these times of high inflation.

Stay safe and healthy,
Gene

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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THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 20 FEBRUARY 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	Jeff Meyer	Present
Junior Vice Commander	Tom Annonson	Present
Adjutant	Darrel Baltzell	Excused
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	Excused
Historian	Vacant	N/A

B. Members Present: 13

C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: None

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

- Minutes were read and motion to accept made by Randy, 2nd by Billy, the motion carried.

E. Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurers report was read by Commander Gene, Motion to accept by Andy, 2nd by Randy, the motion carried.

F. Communications:

1. Mick Aguirre sent letter from state with update on state officers.
2. DAV Natl sent information on the Pact act, can be read in its entirety on the website, also FYI on fraud alert, and reminder that all services can be obtained for free thru your VSO or DAV service officers.
3. DAV Natl letter reminding us of the March Madness membership drive.
4. Marion Evans donated 20 dollars, as did Thomas and Joyce Plinke
5. Kinggo Lutheran Church from the Fosston Ministerial Association donated 650.00 dollars.
6. Clothing Program Correspondence: Savers has ten trailers and will accept anything we can send them.
7. Letter from attorney general approving our charter for the year.
8. Letter, per DAV Natl, any funds received via, trust, wills etc. must be reported to Natl. for their review.

G. Committee Reports:

1. Membership: No new members
2. Service Officer: NA
3. Hospital/Sickness and Distress: Jim Gildesleeve passed away on 2/14. Funeral services on March 4th @ 1030 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church
4. Legislative: NA
5. Medical Equipment: 21 issues and 20 donations

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

I. Old Business:

1. Scholarship committee has the new applications and will begin sending to the schools and school districts.
2. Veterans on the Hill, bus leaves at 0630 on the 30th, contact Tom ASAP for more information and to sign up for the trip.
3. Nominations were called for CMDR Sr. Vice, and Jr. Vice, nominations were closed, and officers are Commander-Gene Schwantes, Sr. Vice Darrel Baltzell, Jr. Vice Tom Annonson.
4. Five new members at large were nominated and elected: Billy Wood, Andy Staudt, Henry Hammerback, Bruce Teigen, and Jim Pinsonnault.
5. Appointed officers are Jeff Meyer, Treasurer, Jeri Harvey, Judge Advocate, Ward Sutton, Sergeant-at-Arms is Bruce Tiegen, Officer-of-the-Day is Glen Aagard, Chaplain, Mike Gutz

J. New Business:

1. Spring Convention will be held in Duluth 4/27-29. Delegates are Darrel Baltzell, Tom Annonson, Bruce Tiegen, and Gene Schwantes. Motion to accept these delegates was made by Steve Siets and 2nd by Ron Kaiser, motion carried.
2. Tom Annonson has requested a letter from the chapter to run for higher office.
3. Update on the new VA home in Bemidji was given by Gene and Andy, we look forward to the open house later this spring/summer.
4. Ron Kaiser made a motion to help a Veteran in Need for a thousand dollars pending approval upon vetting of Veteran. 2d by Bruce Tiegen. Motion carried.

K. Good of the Order: None

L. Closing Ceremonies performed.

M. Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Mike and 2nd by Andy. Motion carried.

- Meeting adjourned at 1945 Hours.
- Next meeting 3/20/2023

VETERANS DAY ON THE HILL 2023

It's that time of year for the Veterans on the Hill Day (VotH). This year it will take place on the 30th of March 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 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, or Motley.

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., and departing 10 minutes later.
- Bricks Travel Center parking lot, Motley, MN, arriving approx. 0750 Hrs. Departing 15 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

AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings DAV Auxiliary Members,

I hope you all are doing well and staying safe and warm.

Just a reminder that Veterans Day on the Hill is on the 30th of March. If you are planning to go, contact Tom Annonson (218-251-3025) by the 10th of March or sooner (the bus is filling up fast) to get on the list.

Our next meeting will be March 20th at 6:30 pm. Please plan to attend as this will be the meeting to elect officers and plan on who will be attending the Convention.

Sara Gast

MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

- March 3 – Navy Reserve Birthday
- March 13 - K-9 Veterans Day – The date is the official birthday of the United States K9 Corps and a day to honor their service.
- March 25 - Medal of Honor Day – A holiday to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients for the United States.
- March 29 – Vietnam Veterans Day – A national holiday to recognize and honor Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War.

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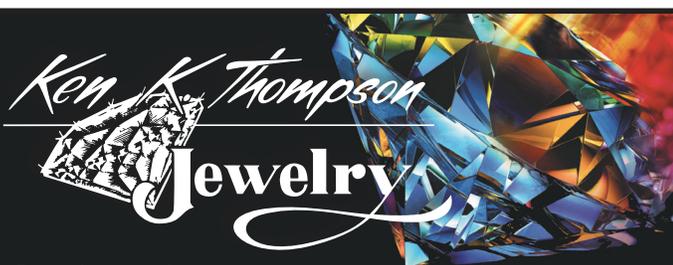
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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Comrades as we continue our exploration into The Book of Job, we will be investigating something with no answer. Yes, that is true. There is a question many people have while reading The Book of Job that we literally have no answer. Any attempt by anyone to provide an answer is absolutely futile. It is a mystery without any clues, but as we see in The Book of Job, there is much to discuss especially the elements surrounding this mystery. Nevertheless, at the end of the book, we find a very important fact shared last month:

There is so much to learn but be careful to learn the right lessons. This is particularly true with God's statement to Eliphaz; "I am angry with you and your two friends, for you have not spoken accurately about me as my servant Job has..." (Job 42:7, New Living Translation).

You may now be asking yourself, "what are the question, mystery and right lesson?" As mentioned in the article last month, the correct lesson to learn is to think and speak accurately about God. As a result, we want to learn from Job the accurate things about God. This brings us to the question and mystery. The question and mystery are, "if God is all powerful and all loving, then why do bad things happen to good people?"

This is the complicated dilemma. If God really is all powerful (sovereign), then He is not all loving, or if God really is all loving, then He is not all powerful (sovereign). This complicated dilemma is enough to drive anyone absolutely bonkers. Now if we attempt to resolve this dilemma, or the questions it produces from the answers of most people in their cultural or common views of any society, we will be sounding just like Eliphaz and his two friends, Zophar, and Bildad. The good news is the fact that to understand Job is to accurately speak about God.

Consequently, there is hope in The Book of Job. This hope is real and is very specific, although The Book of Job does not clarify the meaning of suffering, nor does it answer the question, "why do bad things happen to good people?" Nevertheless, The Book of Job specifically demonstrates a reality of life - suffering is not necessarily God's retribution against sin. Indeed, The Book of Job is not meant to answer any of the questions in this article. God did not answer any of these questions for Job and will not answer these questions for us. Yet consider these wonderful words in The Book of Job, should you ever fall into the never ending and circular dilemma previously mentioned.

We say this again because there is hope:

Scripture One: Job 1:8 God declares Job blameless with complete integrity.

Scripture Two: Job 19:25-27 Job reveals hope that God will provide a Redeemer.

Scripture Three: Job 42 God is all powerful, all loving and restores Job.

On a side note, Pastor John F. MacArthur Jr. (June 19, 1939), Grace Community Church, Sun Valley, California, was friends with legendary CNN talk host Larry King (November 19, 1933 - January 23, 2021). John MacArthur stated there was one thing Larry King absolutely could not resolve, overcome, or simply accept, and that was the complicated dilemma of an all-powerful God being an all-loving God too. As a result, he could never reconcile a relationship with God; his thought processes of God were inaccurate while being consistent with Eliphaz, Zophar and Bildad. It is our genuine desire you all hope in God and look for our Redeemer - Jesus Christ.

Mike & Julie Gutz

FROM THE ADJUTANT

Special note for all our DAV members and military Veterans reading this newsletter. The upcoming school year (2023/2024) scholarship application is now available. This application (and the instructions) will be sent out to area high schools and school districts. The application and instructions will also be available on the DAV website for downloading. This program assists students with the ability and desire to receive an education beyond High School. The program for the calendar year 2023-2024 will provide six (6) \$1,000.00 scholarships to the winners of an open competition for high school seniors or currently enrolled students attending a university, college, or trade school or for those planning to attend a university, college, or trade school commencing after July 2023. If you have any questions, please email the scholarship committee at davch7@paulbunyan.net.

Jeff Meyer
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Scholarship Committee



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