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**Monthly Newsletter  
June 2024**

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

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**DAV Headquarters at**  
**5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN**  
**Monday, June 17 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 - (218) 251-3025
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:	Joe Vene
HISTORIAN:	Vacant
EXEC. COMMITTEE:	Bruce Tiegen, Gary Guggenberger, Andy Staudt, Henry Hammerback, Jim Pinsonnault

## CH. #7 UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>June 2nd - Ride for the Troops</b><br>motorcycle fundraising event<br>in Bemidji               | <b>June 22nd - Pledge of<br/>Allegiance</b> recognized by<br>Congress in 1942 - GI bill<br>signed into Law in 1944. |
| <b>June 3rd -- DAV Chapter 7<br/>Executive Meeting @ 1630<br/>Hrs.</b>                            | <b>June 25th - The Korean War</b><br>began in 1950.   |
| <b>June 6th - D-Day: Allied<br/>Invasion of Europe began in<br/>1944.</b>                         | <b>June 27th - National Post<br/>Traumatic Stress Awareness<br/>Day</b>   |
| <b>June 14th - Flag Day -- US<br/>Army founded in 1775.</b>                                       | <b>June 30th - Post 9/11 GI Bill</b><br>signed into law in 2008.  |
| <b>June 16th - Father's Day</b>   |   |
| <b>June 17th -- DAV Chapter 7<br/>General Membership Meeting<br/>@ 1830 Hrs.</b>                  |   |
| <b>June 19th - Juneteenth,</b><br>commemorating the ending<br>of slavery in the United<br>States. |   |
| <b>June 20th - Summer begins.</b>   |   |



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# COMMANDER'S CORNER

---

Greetings Fellow Veterans,

I hope everyone is doing well. We had a great turn out for the Chapter meeting last night (May 20) and we got a lot accomplished. The Chapter members voted to help a couple of veterans in need, to sponsor a new start up therapy group, purchase a new trailer, and handled other matters that came up. The Auxiliary provided desserts for snacking on and a gift card that was given away, and Mike and LuAnn Wiebusch also donated a quilt that was given away. IF you would like to be part of these decisions and know more detail about what is going on in the Chapter, IT IS REAL SIMPLE, ATTEND THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING. All of the chairs were not being used, so there is still more room for members to attend and become an active participant in a great organization.

Also, a handmade wooden flag that was made and donated by George Vorderbruggen, Army Veteran, was presented at the meeting, and will be displayed at the Chapter Headquarters. Come and see it, it looks great, fantastic craftsmanship, Thank You George.

Last month I wrote about a group of volunteers working on a plan for the Chapters 100th Anniversary Celebration to be held on October 20th at the Eagles, the group decided that with the summer picnic a month and a half before October 20th and the Christmas Party a month and a half after, it was just too much. So, at this time it is canceled!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mark it on your calendar, THE SUMMER PICNIC WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 24, FROM NOON TO 3PM, AT THE CHAPTER HEADQUARTERS, there will be plenty of good food and refreshments, a chance to visit with other veterans, people that you maybe haven't seen since the last picnic, and rumor has it, that there will be a drawing for DOOR PRIZES. The drawing will be held at 2PM and you must be present to win. So, plan on coming early to have more time to visit, tour the facility, and catch up on what's happening in the Chapter, or it's a great opportunity to start your campaign to become a Chapter Officer. The signup sheet will be out starting in June, so get your head count in to make sure we have plenty of food for everyone.

With the purchase of a new trailer, we will be selling or trading in 2 each, 20' trailers. Within the last year we had all of our trailers inspected and repaired as needed and put electric jacks on all of them. These trailers are road worthier, the lights and brakes both work, no leaks, and in good overall condition for 10+ year old trailers. Just updating our trailers and getting to fit our needs better. If you are interested in purchasing a trailer, please contact me at 218-556-4592.

Well, enough is enough, have a great summer.

Gene

---

## AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

---

Thank you all that was able to attend the meeting tonight and provide treats to the DAV, they enjoyed them.

We have a new member, Chris Easley. He is currently the Sr Vice Commander for the National Auxiliary, welcome Chris.

We had three representatives attend the spring State Convention. All went well with the auction and with the election of officers. There were minimal officer changes this year.

Also, there are some events that are coming up I wanted to make you aware of in the event you wish to attend:

- Memorial Day services at Evergreen Cemetery at 10:00 am
- June 1st, 8:30 or 9:00 remove the flags, Evergreen Cemetery.
- June 2nd, Ride for the Troops
- June 14th, Flag Day at the Ralph Gracie Memorial Park.

Memorial Day is soon approaching, so please keep in your prayers the families that have lost loved ones.

Have a safe holiday and hope to see you at our June 17th meeting.

Sara Gast

# THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7

## REGULARLY CONVENED ON 20 MAY 2024 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	Darrell Baltzell	Present
Junior Vice Commander	Tom Annonson	Present
Adjutant	Jeff Meyer	Present
Treasurer	Jeri Harvey	Present
Chaplain	Mike Gutz	Present
Judge Advocate	Ward Sutton	Present
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	Present
Historian	Vacant	N/A

B. Members Present: 18

C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: Chris Vassion.

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

1. A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Mike to accept the meeting minutes as read, and the motion was carried.

E. Treasurer's Report:

2. The Treasurer's reports for the months of Mar and Apr were read by the treasurer. The motion to accept was made by Andy and seconded by Randy for both months.

F. Communications:

1. A letter of thanks was received from the New Salem Service Group for hauling away leftover clothing from their rummage sale.
2. Three of the six scholarship recipients have responded back with a thank you for their selections as well as information needed to receive the scholarship monies.
3. Veterans Campground on Big Marine Lake sent a thank you for the previous donation and has also requested additional donations as they continue with updates and maintenance on the resort.
4. Paul Bunyan Communications has sent us a notice of their annual meeting. To be held Wednesday, May 22, at 3:30 PM at the Sanford Center in Bemidji.
5. Trent Dilkes from the state sent a legislative update loaded with legislative information and updates. The update will be posted on the bulletin board at Chap HQ to read or simply sign up for Trent's email updates.
6. Also from DAV state, DAV MN is Partnering with the Dept of Veterans Affairs to provide full reimbursement of bus or van costs for the upcoming Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration. The three-day event will be held at the Mall of America, June 13-15. Visit [MinnesotaVeteran.org/Vietnam50](http://MinnesotaVeteran.org/Vietnam50). for more information on this event.
7. The state has also sent up event itineraries and maps for the Vietnam War 50th anniversary. These will be available for copying at Chap HQ if you are unable to visit and download from the website.

G. Committee Reports:

1. Membership: NA
2. Service Officer: Tom reports several Veterans were assisted by him this month, getting them referred over to our CVSO Shane Gustafson to receive benefits

they have earned.

3. Hospital/Sickness and Distress: Bo has now found residence here in Bemidji and is doing well.

4. Legislative: NA

5. Entertainment: Bruce reported that their efforts to organize a special 100-year anniversary dinner (for chapter 7) would be better utilized by combining it with our annual Christmas party.

6. Publicity and Fundraising: CrossFit will hold their DAV fundraising event on Saturday, May 25th, at their Bemidji location. The Ride for the Troops fundraiser will be on 6/2/2024, and Tom is looking for a volunteer for that event.

7. Medical Equipment: 25 issues and 34 donations.

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

I. Old Business:

1. Chapter 7 annual picnic to be held on Aug. 24th from noon to 3 PM, lots of door prizes and give aways.

J. New Business:

1. Beltrami County VSO Shane Gustafson presented a proposal for a new Veterans' mental health support group. The group would be facilitated by two Veteran therapists from Stellher Human Services; the group will be meeting at the new Veterans home every two weeks. The cost would be \$1137.50 per month or \$13,650.00 per year. Andy made the motion to fund the group for one year; Henry seconded the motion, which carried with one opposed.
2. A veteran in need from VSO Logan in Bagley, Veteran needed help with paying for dental work. Andy made a motion to pay \$3000.00 towards the dental work, and the motion was 2d by Randy and carried unanimously.
3. Veteran in need from VSO Luke in Bemidji, needing help with fuel bills; Ron made the motion to provide 350 gallons of propane, 2d was made by Shane, and the motion carried.
4. Tom reminded us that the "Let's Go Fishing" program kicks off in June, be sure to contact Adult Day Services to get on the schedule.
5. Bruce has made a recommendation to replace two of our older 20-foot trailers with one new 18-foot trailer. The motion to do so was made by Tom, 2d by Mike, and the motion was carried.
6. The Annual Budget proposal was read, amendments added, and a motion to accept was made by Andy and seconded by Randy.

K. Good of the Order:

1. The new handmade wooden flag on display was made and donated to the Chapter by George Vorderbruggen, an Army Veteran.
2. The chapter is looking at the possibility of holding its 9/16/24 meeting at the new Veterans home in Bemidji; more information on that as it becomes available.

L. Closing Ceremonies performed.

M. Motion to Adjourn:

- Motion by Mike, 2d by Andy. Motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 2036 hrs.
- Next meeting 6/17/2024



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# 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://www.gsmn.org/>

## MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:


- June 6 – Anniversary of the World War II – Allied invasion in Normandy, France, now known as D-Day.
- June 14 – Flag Day – A Day to celebrate the adoption of the U.S. flag.
- June 14 – Army Birthday
- June 23 – Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday
- June 27 – National PTSD Awareness Day – A Day to bring awareness about issues related to PTSD.

## 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://davn.org/events-activities/events-for-veterans/>

## Additional Sponsors

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# \$100 FOR 100 YEARS

IN RECOGNITION OF MINNESOTA DAV CHAPTER #7'S 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY, THE CHAPTER HAS DECIDED TO GIVE EACH REGISTERED DAV CHAPTER #7 MEMBER \$100.00 TOWARDS THEIR ELECTRIC BILL. WITH HIGH INFLATION, COST OF GROCIERS SKY ROCKETING, MEDICATIONS, INCREASING INTEREST RATES, ETC. WE REALIZE THAT ALL VETERANS ARE HAVING A HARD TIME MAKING ENDS MEET. IT IS DAV'S MISSION TO HELP VETERANS IN NEED AND DURING THESE TIMES, WHAT BETTER WAY TO HELP VETERANS THEN TO HELP OUR OWN MEMBERS!! JUST CONTINUE PAYING YOUR ELECTRIC BILL LIKE YOU NORMALLY DO AND APPROXIMATELY IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER YOU SHOULD SEE A \$100.00 CREDIT APPLIED TO YOUR TOTAL BILL.

IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ONE PAYMENT, THE VETERAN MUST MEET AND PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- MUST BE A MINNESOTA DAV CHAPTER #7 MEMBER (OR WIDOW/ WIDOWER) AND ON THE DAV NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ROSTER FOR DAV CHAPTER #7.
- MEMBERSHIP MUST BE EFFECTIVE BY JANUARY 31, 2024.
- MEMBER MUST PROVIDE A COPY OF THEIR ELECTRIC BILL WITH THEIR NAME, ACCOUNT NUMBER, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER, AND ELECTRIC PROVIDER NAME, PAY TO ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER ON IT FROM ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MONTHS: MAY 2024, JUNE 2024, OR JULY 2024. THIS INFORMATION MUST BE TURNED IN BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 DEADLINE, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!!
- DOES "NOT" EFFECT LIFETIME LIMIT FUNDS.
- DAV CHAPTER #7 WILL PAY \$100.00 TOWARDS MEMBERS ELECTRIC BILL ACCOUNT, APPROXIMATELY IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2024.
- NO CASH WILL BE GIVEN TO ANY MEMBER, ALL MONEY WILL BE PAID DIRECTLY TO ELECTRIC PROVIDER!!!!
- DUE TO LOGISTICS, ONLY MEMBER ACCOUNTS WITH MINNESOTA ADDRESSES WILL RECEIVE THE PAYMENT.
- MUST BE A MEMBER IN "GOOD STANDING."

ANY QUESTIONS???? CALL 218-556-4592

COMMANDER GENE SCHWANTES

# RESTAURANTS & BUSINESSES IN BEMIDJI THAT GIVE A MILITARY / VETERANS DISCOUNT EVERY DAY

*Remember to ask for your discount when paying your bill.*

## Restaurants:

Country Kitchen  
Culver's  
Green Mill  
Papa Murphy's  
Raphael's  
Minnesota Nice  
Simonson's  
Perkins  
Pizza Ranch  
Slim's  
Taco Bell  
Dave's Pizza

Keith's Pizza  
Hardee's  
Buffalo Wild Wings  
Bar 209  
Red Stu  
Giovanni's  
Dunkin Donuts  
Ruzy's  
Mi Rancho  
NorthStar Speakeasy  
Lazy Jack's  
Tapatios

## Businesses:

Skip's Auto Repair  
Home Depot  
Ace on the Lake  
St. Michael's  
Dunham Sports  
Bemidji Woolen Mills

This list is, to the best of my recollection, all the places where I have gotten a Veteran's Discount every time I have visited their establishment. There may be more in the area that I have missed. If you know of others, please let me know so that I can add them to the list next month.

Tom Annonson, Newsletter Editor

Text: (218) 251-3025 • Email: [torgor@lightspeed.net](mailto:torgor@lightspeed.net)

## ATTENTION

**In June the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs will be holding a 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration event!**

Thursday the 13th thru Saturday the 15th from 10AM till 6PM at the Mall of America there will be:

- Historical displays from the Minnesota Military and Veterans Museum.
- The American Veterans Traveling Tribute Wall.
- Various Veterans benefits and Community Services information booths.

On Friday June 14th at 11AM in the Mall of America Huntington Bank Rotunda they will be holding a Commemorative program and brunch honoring Vietnam Veterans and their Families.

## ATTENTION VETERANS!

Did you know that Veterans can enroll in VA Health Care without applying for disability benefits first?

Veterans who meet service and discharge requirements through the Pact Act can now enroll.

Were you deployed in support of any of the following and don't have a service-connected disability?

- Operation Enduring Freedom
- Operation Freedom's Sentinel
- Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Operation New Dawn
- Operation Inherent Resolve, and Resolute Support

Were you assigned to:

- Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, or the United Arab Emirates on or after 8/2/1990.
- Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Uzbekistan on or after 9/11/2001

Did you serve in:

- Vietnam between 1/9/1962 – 5/7/1975
- Laos between 12/1/1965 and 9/30/1969
- Certain Provinces in Cambodia between 4/16/1969 and 4/30/1969
- Guam or American Samoa between 1/9/1962 and 7/31/1980
- Johnston Atoll, or a ship that called there between 1/1/1972 and 9/30/1977

Did You Participate in a Toxic Exposure Risk Activity (TERA):

- While on Active Duty
- Active Duty for Training
- Inactive Duty Training

**If you would like more information about the upcoming events and activities related to the Fargo VA Health Care System, subscribe to their monthly newsletter at: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVHA/subscriber/new>**

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# 2024 - BEMIDJI VAN - 2024

## DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES

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### JANUARY

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### OCTOBER

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### NOVEMBER

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### DECEMBER

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Welcome to our Disabled American Veterans Chapter and Unit 7 Newsletter. As a method of communication, we are always encouraged to keep in touch with you about the many activities and events taking place in our organization. As a means of support with our relationships to our County Veterans Service Officers(CVSO's), other veteran service organizations (VFW, American Legion, etc), other community organizations (Food Shelf, Northwood's Care Givers, etc), VA Clinic and Home, along with our many sponsors, we genuinely want to encourage everyone to have a blessed day. We all notice that each and every one of the above-mentioned organizations has a unique role to play. This critical role is not only vital to the organization itself and its members, but crucial to the community as a whole.

Okay, so the question becomes, where in the world is this article going? We are so glad to have you read this question. The answer is ... (drum roll please) ... this article is going out to be edited, printed, and mailed to all of you fine outstanding and service orientated people. Oops, do you mean that the answer just now given is not what you meant? The jig is up, this much is true, this article is about roles.

Men and women have separate roles, not only do they have different roles in the family, community, and society as a whole, but biblically too. There have been countless books, college courses and even specific organizations describing the many issues surrounding separate and different roles, this includes The Department of Defense. Yet, our discussion for today will be about one narrow and specific role written by Paul (1 Timothy 2:12, 1 Corinthians 14:32-35).

The inappropriate and cruel use of these two verses in church history of the United States has led to tremendous disregard, suffering, hatred, torment, and exile of women (Ann Hutchinson [nee: Marbury] July 1591 - August 1643, Massachusetts Bay Colony) for centuries. These two verses should never be used to justify unkind words or ill treatment towards anyone, our unit members, or our sisters in arms. Those who commit such acts of cruelty are not representing the Holy Spirit's guidance, nor the kindness and tolerance of GOD our Father.

Now that we understand how not to apply these two scriptures, the question becomes, what would be a good application for these two scriptures? The answer is ... (drum roll please) ... in our mind, heart and actions towards others let us understand the meaning of the biblical roles of men and women, which can be traced back to Genesis 3 (the first 5 bullets below), with the sixth bullet being a biblical truth:

- Women were created in the image of GOD.
- Women are to help men because men really do need the help (smile guys).
- GOD specifically told a man not to sin.
- A man was responsible for protecting woman and telling her not to sin.
- The man willfully sinned (disobey GOD), the woman was tricked that is, she was deceived by Satan, usually by making that person do something that they did not intend to do.
- We are all representatives / ambassadors for Christ wanting to encourage (draw) everyone to follow Christ, since GOD comforts and heals.

It is for the above reasons; we believe Paul writes that a man is responsible for the role of preaching or leadership in the church. Therefore, due to the spiritual nature of this role man has this responsibly that Paul writes about.

Mike and Julie Gutz



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