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Monthly Newsletter  
July 2024

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



**NEXT MEETING:**

**DAV Headquarters at  
5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN  
Monday, July 15 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**

July 1st -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Meeting @ 1630 Hrs.	Aug 5th -- DAV Chapter 7 Executive Meeting @ 1630 Hrs.
July 2nd - U.S. Army Air Corp Established in 1926	Aug 7th - Purple Heart Medal Established in 1782. Viet Nam War began in 1964
July 3rd - Bemidji Water Carnival begins	Aug 7th - 11th - Beltrami County Fair
July 4th - Independence Day	Aug 14th - Japan surrendered ending WW II in 1945. National Navajo Code Talkers Day.
July 7th - Bemidji Water Carnival Grand Parade starts @ 1PM and final day of the Carnival	Aug 16th - National Airborne Day
July 15th -- DAV Chapter 7 General Membership Meeting @ 1830 Hrs.	Aug 19th -- DAV Chapter 7 General Membership Meeting @ 1830 Hrs.
July 27th - Korean War ended in 1953. National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day	Aug 19th - National Aviation Day
July 27th - Blackduck Woodcarvers festival in Blackduck, MN from 9AM-4PM	Aug 24th-DAV Chapter 7 Picnic at the Headquarters building from noon- 3pm
July 28th - World War I began in 1914	Aug 26th - Women's Equality Day
Aug 1st - Air Force Day	
Aug 4th - U.S Coast Guard Established in 1790	



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## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hope everybody is doing well.

### **TWO THINGS OF HIGH IMPORTANCE:**

1. GET YOUR COPY OF YOUR ELECTRIC BILL, INCLUDING YOUR PHONE NUMBER, SENT IN TO CLAIM YOUR \$100.00 CREDIT ON YOUR ELECTRIC BILL, TIME IS RUNNING OUT!!!!
2. GET SIGNED UP FOR THE DAV PICNIC TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 24 FROM NOON TO 3 PM, GREAT CHANCE TO VISIT WITH FELLOW VETERANS, EAT SOME GREAT FREE FOOD WITH NO DISHES TO DO AFTERWARDS, AND SOME FANTASIC DOOR PRIZES, DRAWING TO BE HELD AT 2PM AND MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!!!!

Do these items now so you don't miss out!!!!!! If you have any questions, please give me a call @ 218-556-4592.

The Bemidji VA home is having an open house on July 1st @ 1 pm. If you would like to see a great facility or learn more about it, mark the date on your calendar and plan on attending.

At the Chapter Meeting:

1. The budget for 2024/2025 was approved.
2. DAV State is planning the Fall Conference/CSO Training on Sept. 19 - 21 held in Austin, Mn., if you are interested in attending, please let any Chapter Officer know.
3. The Chapter also sold 2 each, 20' trailers, and the new trailer that was approve at the last Chapter meeting should arrive next week.
4. Along with other business that came before us. (We were just short of 600 members in attendance)

I hope you all have a great summer, filled with good times with family and friends.

Gene Schwantes



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# THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7

## REGULARLY CONVENED ON 17 JUNE 2024 AT 1830.

OPENING CEREMONY: \* OPENING PRAYER  
ALLEGIANCE

\* PLEDGE OF

receive benefits they have earned.

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	Excused
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	Present
Historian	Vacant	N/A

B. Members Present: 18

C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: Michael Holman

D. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Minutes were read and motion to accept made by Andy, 2d by Mike, the motion carried.

E. Treasurer's Report: Jeri made a correction to the March report, checking balance of \$55,761.01 dollars. May report was read and motion to accept was made by Tom, 2d by Gary and the motion carried.

F. Communications:

1. Bemidji Veterans Home sent us a thank you letter for our donation of \$5000.00 dollars which has been designated towards the home's recreation program. The Bemidji Veterans Home is also holding an open house at the new facility on July 1st at 1 PM.
2. Curtis Anderson and James Lowmaster each sent us a thank you letter for the help they received through Chapter 7 as well as their electric bill for the 100 dollars for 100 years anniversary program.
3. Trent Dilkes email update is reporting that latest legislation, resolution 015, which is travel pay reimbursement for eligible Veterans has passed, and we will be looking forward to seeing that implemented. The tax relief resolution we were all looking forward to however did not pass.
4. Ride for the Troops sent us a thank you for our \$1000.00 dollar donation to their organization.
5. We have the new Snelling Spirit in the office, always loaded with good information from Ft. Snelling.

G. Committee Reports:

1. Membership:

- a. We welcome in new members David Chamness, Jerry Lenz, Chris Vassion and Boyd Farrell

2. Service Officer:

- a. Tom reports two separate Veterans were assisted by him this month getting them established with the VA to

3. Hospital/Sickness and Distress: NA

4. Legislative:

- a. Covered in communications, contact Trent Dilkes or sign up for MNfluence today from up to the minute information on legislative happenings.

5. Entertainment: NA

6. Publicity and Fundraising:

- a. Aug. 7-11 is the Beltrami County Fair, please contact Tom if you would like to help man the DAV booth this year.

7. Medical Equipment:

- a. 5 issues and 9 donations.

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

I. Old Business:

1. 2024/2025 budget has been approved, motion was made by Darrel to accept, 2d by Mike, talk to Jeri if you would like the intimate details.
2. 100 dollars for 100 years phone calls will start (probably) in July.
3. Picnic sign up (Picnic on 8/24 this year) is available.

J. New Business:

1. Motion to make \$4000.00 dollar donation to the new floor at the Blackduck senior center was made by Michael, 2d by Jeff, motion carried and is approved, the senior center serves many local Veterans and this will be a substantial improvement to their facility.
2. Fall Conference will be held 9/19-9/21 in Austin MN this year, contact the Commander or Adjutant if you have an interest in attending.
3. Our two older trailers are sold, we will take possession of the new trailer shortly after the wrapping is complete. Gary made the motion to wrap the trailer and the 2d was made by Glenn and the motion carried.

K. Good of the Order:

1. Bemidji Veterans Home is hosting an open house on July 1st at 1300 hrs.,
2. Tom is looking for a trailer for the upcoming Independence Day parade on 7/7/24 this year.

L. Closing Ceremonies performed.

M. Motion to Adjourn:

- Motion by Mike, 2d by Andy. Motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 1925 hrs.
- Next meeting 7/15/2024

# \$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 GROCERS 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



## MILITARY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCE DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

• July 4 – Independence Day

• July 27 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

# ★ HAPPY ★ 4TH OF JULY

## DAV'S RECRUITER RALLY

Join DAV's Recruiter Rally for a chance to win a trip for two to Las Vegas! Attend the 2025 DAV and Auxiliary National Convention with a hotel room and \$2,500 in spending money. Simply recruit one new paid member before June 30, 2025, and you're in the contest. One entry per person.

We'll choose the winner during a live drawing at DAV National Headquarters after July 1, 2025.

Access tips, tricks, and relevant information at [dav.org/rally](http://dav.org/rally) to enhance your recruitment efforts. Don't miss this exciting opportunity - start recruiting today and secure your chance to win a trip to Las Vegas!



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Simonson's

Perkins

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Slim's

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Red Stu

Giovanni's

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Mi Rancho

NorthStar Speakeasy

Lazy Jack's

Tapatios

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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

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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Welcome to our Disabled American Veterans Chapter and Unit 7 Newsletter. We are always encouraged to keep in touch about activities taking place in our organization. We are looking forward to our picnic, so we all hope to see y'all there (smile)!

As we begin a new month with our newsletter, we were considering the meaning of worship and the question, what does worship look like? Normally we have the perception of worship only being done in church through singing and listening to the sermon, although singing and listening to the sermon are forms of worship, there is much more than this. As a result, we are back to our original question and a practical application for us all, "What does worship look like, and can we do so in a practical manner on any given day? Well, let's take a look at this.

Take for example the scripture - Colossians 3:17: "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (English Standard Version - ESV). Yet there is another letter written by Paul the Apostle, referring to the very same activity - I Corinthians 10:31: "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (New International Version - NIV). Paul further helps to explain the meaning of these words as he describes our bodies as a living sacrifice, in other words - worship: Romans 12:1 "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship" (Orthodox Jewish Bible - OJB). Jesus stated worship can only be done in the spirit - John 4:23-24: "But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. <sup>24</sup> For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth" (New Living Translation).

The way we worship God, according to the above scriptures, depends on our spiritual temperament, which predisposes us to the way we naturally worship God. We would suggest that for some people (of a particular temperament) seem to clash with others of a different temperament because of their personality and lack of understanding these differences. This situation is very unfortunate.

There are several temperaments and while none of us will completely fit into any one particular temperament, we all have a combination of a few overriding or main temperaments God has given us. We are all unique in skills, aptitudes, personalities and this includes our spiritual temperament as well. The temperaments are Naturalist, Sensate, Traditionalist, Activist, Ascetic, Caregiver, Enthusiast, Contemplative, and Intellectual. We can begin to understand our spiritual temperament by asking a few questions in each of the listed temperaments and noticing our reactions through the answers given, for example, while reading one question, a person may intuitively answer with, "Absolutely - Yeah, that is me." Therefore, that particular answer is rated as a 5. Another person may intuitively answer with "No way, that is definitely not me." Therefore, that particular answer is rated a 1. The higher the score, the more prone an individual is to that particular spiritual temperament and therefore displays certain worship characteristics, which is a reflection of who they are - it's very personal. We will be examining each of these spiritual temperaments over the next few months, while keeping this article in mind.

Blessings,  
Mike and Julie Gutz





# MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Greetings all,

Yesterday something cool happened in Washington, D.C. (well, cool if you are a legislative guy) that I wanted to share with you.

The DAV National legislative team was testifying at a subcommittee hearing, which is a common occurrence since we have one of, if not, the best legislative teams in D.C. The topic was Beneficiary Travel Pay. Those of you who attended my seminar on resolutions at the Fall Conference two years ago will probably recall that the example we created during the process concerned beneficiary travel and the disastrous system the VA uses. During that seminar, we came up with our complaints (whereas clauses) and our solution (therefore clause).

I took the work we did together and drafted a resolution, which you all considered at the Department Convention that year. The resolution passed and was forwarded to the National Convention in Atlantic City. In Atlantic City, the National Convention Committee met, considered our resolution, and recommended adopting it. The Delegates adopted our resolution, and it became National Resolution #015: Establish Automatic Payment of Travel Pay for Eligible Disabled Veterans Without Additional Barriers

So yesterday in D.C. Minnesota's own Jon Retzer testified on the problems with Beneficiary Travel, the barriers of an online system, and the need to change it. The authority he had to do that comes from our members, and specifically he was able to testify on this issue because of Resolution # 015, thought up by our members, and forwarded to the National Convention by the Dept. of Minnesota.

As lawmakers work to improve the VA's travel pay system, and as the DAV's team advocates for the solutions in Resolution 015, you can take pride in knowing it originate right here in MN, during one of those Fall Conference seminars.

Please keep that in mind as you work to identify problems and solutions for Veterans, their families, and survivors. I have even created a handy little tool to help you build your resolutions that you can find here.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Trent C Dilks  
Legislative Director  
Disabled American Veterans, Dept. of Minnesota  
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### JANUARY

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### DECEMBER

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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://wwgsmn.org/>



## 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/>

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