



August 2024

# DAV DISPATCH

## News from Adam Klein Chapter #3, Bismarck, North Dakota

### OFFICERS

#### **Commander:**

Lamar Kruckenberg

#### **Sr. Vice Commander:**

Tom Newton

#### **Jr. Vice Commander:**

David Schall

#### **Chaplain:**

Leslie Ross

#### **Treasurer/Adjutant:**

Mark Landis

#### **Auxiliary Commander:**

Linda Otto

#### **Auxiliary Adjutant**

Bonnie Leingang

### MEETINGS

1st Thursday, 7 p.m.

4023 State Street

Bismarck, ND

### EMAIL

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### MAILING ADDRESS

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## Large Turnout for Annual Chapter Picnic in Bismarck

More than 80 members and guests attended the chapter picnic in July. It was the largest turnout in recent memory. Near perfect weather helped to make the event very enjoyable, along with great food from Ole & Otto's Catering. It was an opportunity to recognize all of the volunteers who support DAV programs throughout the year while enjoying social time with old and new friends. Representatives from the Freedom Riders Motorcycle Club were in attendance and presented a donation to the chapter. Their financial support helps to fund our programs for veterans, including veterans aid and academic scholarships.



### \*\*\*VA Updates\*\*\*

- There is a new Veterans Service Center (VSC) manager at the Fargo VA Regional Office. Shane Bryan comes to us from the Ft. Harrison, MT regional office, where he served as assistant VSC manager.
- Dr. Breton Weintraub, who has served for several years as Fargo VA Medical Center director, has accepted a similar position in New Mexico. Mr. Jason Petti is the interim director until the VA finds a permanent director.
- The VA plans to expand the Bismarck outpatient clinic to become a multi-specialty facility. Details are subject to change, although we know the VA is looking for a much larger space than the current clinic location.
- The Fisher House in Fargo is expected to be open by 2028. They are seeking a location for construction. A Fisher House is a comfort home where families can stay while a loved one is hospitalized in a VA facility.
- The VA has processed approximately 1.5 million toxic exposure claims since the PACT Act was passed in 2022. For North Dakota veterans, more than 3,500 of those claims have been completed with a grant rate of 78% and compensation awards totaling \$18.2 million.

## Chaplain Chats

In times of chaos, may we find inner strength and resilience. Grant us the clarity to navigate through turmoil, the patience to endure challenges, and the wisdom to make sound decisions. May we remain connected to our purpose and find solace in the support of our fellow DAV members and those around us. Let us persevere with hope and courage, knowing that this storm too shall pass. May our dedication to these principles guide us and uphold the freedoms and values we hold dear.

Forever Faithful,

*Leslie Ross, Chaplain*



## \*\*\*REMINDER - Stand Down August 22nd at AMVETS Club\*\*\*

## Message from the Commander



It seems that the summer is flying by. Soon it will be time for football and fall weather. It has been three months since our last meeting, so we have much to discuss at our August meeting. We have had a busy summer with several events with our local partners. Please make every attempt to attend our August meeting.

**On the menu:** Wagyu beef brisket with potato salad. This is the best brisket on the market, served at 6:30 p.m.

*LaMar Kruckenberg, Commander*

Visit us at <https://www.aklein3dav.org>

*Keeping Our Promise to America's Veterans*