



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

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Scholarship Program Announced for Next School Year

The Gene L. Kouba Memorial Scholarship will once again be offered by the chapter for the 2025-2026 school year. The scholarship is for veterans and eligible family members (spouse, children). The program began in 2011 and has helped many students attain their education goals. The maximum scholarship award is \$1,000 for the full school year. DAV membership is not required, although members and their families receive preference. Complete eligibility information is listed on the application, which is available on our website www.aklein3dav.org/documents.



Volunteer Recognition Banquet Scheduled in January

DAV volunteers have done a wonderful job during the past year. Members of our chapter and auxiliary made a difference by donating their time to help veterans and others in the community. Volunteer drivers transported veterans to the Fargo VA Hospital for medical appointments. Workers performed mowing and maintenance duties at Driscoll Sibley Park. We served meals to the public at First Lutheran Church in Mandan and Heavens Helpers Soup Café in Bismarck. Members represented the DAV during the Freedom Riders Motorcycle Classic and other events. The annual volunteer recognition banquet is scheduled on January 16th at the Bismarck AMVETS Club. Everyone who recruited at least one new member during the past year will have their name entered into a drawing for a DAV polo shirt. More details will be sent by email.

VA Will Change How Veterans Access Personal Data

The VA will soon change the way that veterans may access their information and manage their benefits with an Internet connection. Effective February 1, 2025 veterans will need to have a [Login.gov](https://login.gov) or [ID.me](https://id.me) account. The current method of signing in to My HealtheVet will no longer work after January 31. My HealtheVet is not going away. With an account, veterans can apply for benefits, check claim status, update contact information, refill prescriptions, communicate with their VA health care team, schedule appointments, review lab and test results, and more.

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Chaplain Chats



Happy New Year! As we welcome the New Year, let us embrace the spirit of renewal and compassion by supporting the DAV mission to help veterans and their families lead high-quality lives with dignity and respect. The Bible calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves (Mark 12:31) and there is no better way to live out this commandment than by helping those who have served our country. By assisting the DAV, we not only honor our veterans' sacrifices but also strengthen our communities, embodying the biblical principle of bearing one another's burdens (Gallatians 6:2). Let this New Year be a time of gratitude and service, reflecting Christ's love through our actions towards those who have given so much for our freedom.

Leslie Ross, Chaplain

Year End Stats

Membership: 657

(Net Gain 42)

Volunteer Hours: 1,027.50

Scholarships: 14

Veterans Aid Grants: 16

**No Business Meeting
In January**

Message from the Commander

The end of 2024 is here and the beginning of 2025 is upon us. Our chapter has had a wonderful and successful past year. We have much to be thankful for. The new year brings another legislative session. Our department is planning an aggressive session, with the goal of passing as much legislation as possible to provide benefits to veterans. This action can only be achieved with support from our chapter and department. We may call upon our members to contact their legislative representatives. Have a great new year!

LaMar Kruckenberg, Commander



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

Keeping Our Promise to America's Veterans

How to Access Your VA Account

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Login.gov is a government provider for VA and other federal agencies. If veterans are managing Social Security benefits online, they may already have a Login.gov account and that will work with the VA. There is no need to create another account.

ID.me is a non-government provider that contracts with government and non-government organizations.

Both platforms meet modern security standards and provide protection of personal data.

To create an account, go to www.va.gov/sign-in and select the account of your choice. You will need a driver license or other government-issued ID, SSN, phone number, email address, and unique password.

If you need assistance, please call the Fargo VA Connected Care Department at (701) 239-3700, extension 4420. In-person assistance is available at the Fargo VA Virtual Health Resource Center from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday. The Connected Care team also plans to provide outreach assistance at the Bismarck CBOC on January 16th, 2025 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please bring your identification (driver license or passport), phone or other device with access to email and text messaging, and Social Security card if available.



Do you use a My HealtheVet user ID and password to manage your VA care online?

You'll need to switch to a Login.gov or ID.me account by **January 31, 2025**. They're moving to a more modern online sign-in experience which will continue to protect your identity.

Need some help? A member of the Fargo VA Connected Health team will be visiting the Bismarck VA Clinic to offer in-person log in assistance, account access and education

January 16
9 am – 3 pm

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Fargo VA Health Care System