



February 14, 2024



February 19, 2024

February 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

Connie Serhienko

MEETINGS

1st Thursday, 7 p.m.

4023 State Street

Bismarck, ND

EMAIL

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MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 915

Bismarck, ND 58502-0915

Excellent Turnout for the Volunteer Recognition Banquet

The weather was cold but the atmosphere was warm as the chapter recognized the volunteers who gave their time and effort in 2023 to support our programs. Approximately 80 guests attended the event at the Bismarck AMVETS Club. The food was great and the program was very entertaining. The keynote speaker was Eldred Knutson, commander of the DAV Department of North Dakota. Volunteers transport veterans to the Fargo VA hospital, mow the grounds at Driscoll Sibley Park, and represent the chapter at various events throughout the year. In addition to these activities, the chapter will expand community service efforts this year to include serving meals for underprivileged persons in the area. Volunteers will be needed. It will be light duty and a small time commitment. We will send more information by email. Meanwhile, please contact us if you wish to get your name on the volunteer list.



VA Updates

- The lung cancer screening program is up and running, focusing on high-risk patients.
- The VA is working on ways to improve the community care referral process.
- Services in outpatient clinics will be expanded, adding more specialty care. Currently, there are no firm plans to add providers in Bismarck. However, multi-purpose areas may be established for future use.
- The Whole Health Program is becoming a popular feature of VA health care. Services include acupuncture, massage, chiropractic, and yoga, to name a few.
- Nationwide, the VA has received 1.4 million PACT Act claims since the law was passed in August 2022, with awards totaling \$3.8 billion. They are still receiving approximately 68,000 PACT Act claims per month. North Dakota veterans have filed more than 3,000 PACT Act claims and have received \$11 million. The average processing time has been about five months. PACT Act claims represent half of the VA work load.

Chaplain Chats

My heart is heavy today as I write this. Three U.S. Army soldiers killed in the Middle East and more than 30 injured in a drone attack. These defenders of democracy get a sound bite now, only after their deaths and injuries. Who will speak for them now? Who will take care of them and their families? We will. With God's help. The WE I am speaking of, besides family and friends, are members of the DAV. We provide a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families, in positive, life-changing ways. We assure veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits they deserve, provide care and support during tough times, connect veterans with meaningful employment, and advocate for the veteran community on Capitol Hill. God has placed the DAV in your path in order for you to join more than one million other members in what I call the 3M, "Military Ministry Mission." We are called to serve, and who better than veterans helping veterans. Your gifts are given to you; now share those gifts with your fellow veterans as a ministry.

Leslie Ross, Chaplain



Message from the Commander

After the holiday break and a roller coaster of temperatures in January, we are heading into February and getting back to DAV business. The upcoming meeting will feature a packed agenda but we will still try to conclude our business within an hour. We will discuss upcoming events, including the Freedom Riders Motorcycle Classic in Bismarck and the department convention in Minot. There will also be nominations for 2024-2025 chapter officers.

On the menu: Swiss steak with mashed potatoes & gravy, served at 6:30 p.m.

LaMar Kruckenberg, Commander



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

Keeping Our Promise to America's Veterans