

- SPECIAL PREMIER ISSUE -

volume 1 - issue 1 • July 4, 2008

CADENCE

MACV DULUTH

builds new veterans
housing development

GOVERNOR PAWLENTY
*announces 35 initiatives
to support veterans
and the military*

Northwind Drum & Bugle

BUS TOURS

*"The Four Goals of
Estate Planning"*
Neill Atkins

THE
OFFICIAL

FREE GUIDE
FOR OUR TWIN PORTS VETS!

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To those who fought for our freedom,
we salute you.



We have proudly served the veterans of the Duluth community for many years. From the beginning, our goal has been to do as much as we can to help our local veterans through their deepest sorrows. Our affiliation with the Dignity Memorial® network allows us to build on that tradition by offering many exclusive benefits. As a result, we are finding that more and more people are turning to us to help them preplan their final arrangements.

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VFW 137

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Dwight Nelson

BORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY

A hearty *welcome aboard*
to all.

Thanks to the cooperation
of the participating veteran
organizations, *Cadence*
would not be possible.

Cadence is a compilation of the various
newsletters delivered to the memberships and
auxiliaries (American Legion, N.V.V.A., V.F.W.,
D.A.V., A.F.A.), veterans' assistance profes-
sionals (C.V.S.O., MACV-Duluth, Vets Center,
S.B.V.H.), plus organizations of interest
(Veterans' Memorial Hall), and columns by area
veterans Neill Atkins and Chris Dahlberg. More
are in the wings for future issues and more will
be added as word spreads about this magazine.
Cadence will be mailed monthly to the member-
ships of these organizations and delivered to the
area Guard and Reserve units, the Coast
Guard, and other sites that are appropriate for a
pro-veteran, pro-military personnel magazine.

This magazine is here to promote and support
the veterans, guard and reservists, and active
duty personnel and their families. We will
accomplish this by disbursing information, by
supporting positive legislation, drawing attention
to bad proposals, and by being a referral service
to the best assistance programs available,
among other means. Our mantra is: **"Be proud,
be loud."**

Other than legislation that affects veterans
and military personnel, we will not support or
print any column, article, or letter that is political
in any way. It doesn't matter if it is conservative
or liberal, it will not appear in these pages.
Neither will we publish anything that is detrimen-

MACV of Duluth

Silver Bay Vet Home

Air Force Association
Chapter 226

Duluth Senior Expo
Announces Headline
Sponsor

Neill Atkins

Disabled Veterans
of America

tal or discredits any individual, public or private. **We
will not print it.**

This magazine is, and probably always will be, a
work in progress. We have pending projects such
as: an employment section for veterans, an histori-
cal section a look back in time, a letters to the
Editor, and humor. Remember that many of our
contributors are not professional writers and are
composing their articles in their spare time. So
please be a little forgiving of spelling or grammati-
cal errors. But we will be constantly improving on
Cadence, as long as we have your support.

I have been asked many times about a subscrip-
tion for *Cadence*, and a subscription rate. There is
no subscription or subscription rate. This magazine
is mailed free to the membership of the affiliated
veteran organizations. So, in order to receive
Cadence in your mailbox you must be a member of
one of these associations, or their ancillary units.
So don't hesitate to pass *Cadence* around and uti-
lize it to increase the membership in your veteran
organization. Do your part to help strengthen the
veteran community. If you are a member of a vet-
eran group that would be interested in becoming a
part of this project, have them call on *Cadence*, at
the contacts listed in this magazine.

I do want to thank the businesses and communi-
ty leaders who are supporting and advertising in
Cadence. Without their patriotism and respect for
veterans this magazine would not see the light of
day. As veterans we will now know which compa-
nies support us. By all means support these adver-
tisers because they are supporting us. If you are
reading this and wish to advertise in *Cadence*, feel
free to contact me at my listings here in the maga-
zine.

I have to thank those people who have helped me
put this magazine together, my staff here at
Cadence. First and foremost, Print Magazine
Designer Carol Lilyquist. Lily by the Lake. She
brought life and sunshine to my vision. Advertising
and sales - Diana Caliguire and Kristine Wise-
Papas of D & K Advertising, who are doing the time
consuming work contacting area businesses. Data
and Office - Beth Koltes and Jill Jarvenin, who are
doing the boring grunt work. Thank you from the
bottom of my heart.

Finally, please accept my humble thank you to
the veteran and the veteran family, for all that you
have done in support of this country and this com-
munity.

If you have any comments about this publication
(plus of minus) send them in to me at *Cadence*.

Welcome Home

CADENCE

Dwight "Deacon" Nelson

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Governor Pawlenty announces 35 initiatives to support veterans and the military

~ \$51 million package includes military income and pension tax exemption ~

Saint Paul – Building on his foundation of support for military families and veterans, Governor Pawlenty today announced 35 initiatives to provide additional services and assistance for those who have courageously served in the nation's armed forces and for Minnesotans now on active duty. The \$51 million package will be presented to the legislature when it convenes in February, 2008.

"We need to say 'thank you' to our veterans not just with our words, but by our actions," Governor Pawlenty said. "We must continue to show our gratitude for the more than 400,000 veterans who make Minnesota their home. I again look forward to bipartisan legislative support for these initiatives."

The Governor's package includes 15 new initiatives and 20 proposals to continue or expand existing programs and services for veterans and military personnel. A combination of on-going and one-time funds is proposed to finance the initiatives.

The Governor's 2008 Military and Veterans Support Package includes proposals to expand and enhance veterans services, address tax issues, provide additional educational benefits, and advance initiatives focused on businesses that employ

veterans 100% Exemption from State Income Tax for Military Pay and Pensions

To reward their service, help recruit future soldiers, and to encourage veterans to make Minnesota their home, Governor Pawlenty proposes to fully exempt military income and pensions from state income tax.

Minnesota soldiers and veterans would be allowed to subtract 100 percent of their pay for military service, military pensions and retirement payments when computing state income tax. These payments are currently considered taxable income. Current members of the military, military retiree's and survivors of military retiree's will be allowed to claim the exemption. It also covers the pay of all active duty service members who claim Minnesota as their state of residence.

Minnesota's tax law previously provided for military pension exclusion for veterans of up to \$11,000. This exclusion was repealed in 1987. Forty-two other states currently have some degree of tax exemption for military pensions. The exemption will be phased-in over a four year period and is expected to save veterans and military members \$6.3 million in taxes in the first year (FY 2009) and approximately \$25 million annually (FY 2012) when fully phased-in.

- ACCOMPLISHED -

Military & Veteran Services

- LinkVET linkage line funding - The LinkVet linkage line is a toll-free number which veterans can use to connect with veteran services officers that can help veterans and their families with an array of services such as benefits. This funding will continue the operation of the vital toll-free hotline service, including program software, crisis connection contract, staffing, and training. (\$220K)

- Funding for state veterans case workers – The case managers will provide comprehensive individual assistance to veterans and will coordinate services for veterans, military members and their families. (\$250K)

- "Support Our Troops" license plate – This successful license plate sales program supports services for veterans and military families. Unfortunately, spending resulting from sales is currently capped at \$338,000 annually. The Governor proposes to eliminate the cap so that all funds generated by the license plates can be spent on veterans programs.

- State "Navigators" – This team of people will coordinate state agency programs and activities to support and assist soldiers and their families during the reintegration process and beyond. (\$180K – for Military Affairs Only)

- State Soldier Assistance Program supplemental funding - Additional cash assistance will be provided to this essential program, which provides assistance to soldiers in need by making emergency payments for housing, utilities, and other personal needs. (\$3.0M)

- Veteran Claims Office - Funding would be increased for outreach and training to improve services and benefits to veterans. This includes adding a female Veterans Service Officer/Coordinator. (\$250K)

- County Veterans Services Office training coordinator – New positions will be created to focus on CVSO training, coordination, and grant oversight. These roles will help create performance standards and accountability for our statewide system. (\$250K)

- The Veterans Assistance Offices on Campus Program - This program will be expanded to ensure veterans, military members, and their families have access to higher education financial aid and benefits. It would increase the number of Campus Representatives for broader assistance statewide. It will also keep the My MilitaryEducation.org website and the accompanying toll-free call center operational. (\$715K)

- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)/Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) outreach and education - Existing federal screening programs will be promoted for veterans and a follow-up study about future mental health needs of returning veterans with PTSD and TBI will be conducted. (\$250K one time)

- Veteran Affairs marketing - The Governor proposes to

enhance the existing statewide marketing plan in order to further raise awareness regarding benefits and services available for veterans and their families. (\$100K)

- CVSO grant increase – The Governor proposes to build upon his successful initiative to provide additional funds to county veterans service offices. These competitive grants from the state can be used by counties for a variety of purposes, such as reducing homelessness, reintegration of combat veterans and emergency assistance. (\$500K)

- Funding for the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) - This nonprofit organization that has been helping veterans and their families affected by homelessness in Minnesota for over 14 years will receive additional funding. (\$250K)

- The "Proud to be a Veteran" license plate program - The funds collected for this plate will be expanded to include motorcycles and the law will be amended to allow for funds to be used for future veteran memorial programming.

- Secure land for a new state veteran's cemetery in Northern Minnesota Duluth-area - The federal government will pay for the planning/design and construction costs. The state will be responsible for securing the land and the cemetery's ongoing maintenance and upkeep.

Employer Focused Initiatives

- State enhancement of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program – The Governor proposes a state match that creates an employer recognition program for spouses of military members similar to the current recognition for employers of members of the military. (FY08- \$75K, \$35K ongoing)

- Unemployment Insurance costs incurred by employers - Funds from the Unemployment Insurance pool would be redistributed from within the pool to businesses that employ deployed soldiers, in order to pay unemployment insurance costs for the soldiers' long-term replacements.

- State contracting for businesses owned by members of the military - Businesses owned by veterans would be included as a preferred group by the state in awarding state contracts. (FY 08-09 \$356K \$179K ongoing)

- Service Member Civil Relief Act rules – A federal program that governs the legal protections of military members concerning termination of residential leases, automobile leases, evictions from leased housing, installment contracts, interest rates, court proceedings, enforcement of obligations, liabilities, and taxes will be applied to veteran and/or spouse-owned small businesses.

- Protection of Reservist owned businesses during mobilization – This protection includes a delay on any lawsuits directed at businesses owned by active duty members of the military until 6 months after the end of mobilization.

- The Veteran's Business Assistance Program – Minnesota's

small businesses would be allowed to qualify for assistance if they have sustained economic injury because an owner or essential employee has been called to active duty as a military reservist. (\$1 million)

- Spouse protection under Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) – This provision would allow similar protections under USERRA for spouses of service members, including discrimination, benefits and time off.

- Hiring/training incentive for businesses that employ veterans – An initiative for employers that allows for a reimbursement of up to 50% of the first \$10,000 in salary or training expenses will provide veterans with on-the-job training. Minnesota reserve and guard members would be eligible, as would other recent members of the military to encourage relocation to Minnesota. (\$1 million)

Additional Proposals

- Tuition Reimbursement Program would be expanded to allow spouses to use up to 12 semester hours of unused service member benefits for each year of service.

- Medic Qualifications Bonus of \$1000 for National Guard medics who meet recertification requirements. This provides for a larger pool of qualified EMTs throughout Minnesota. (\$135K annual)

- Expand current law property tax exclusion for homesteads of disabled veterans.

- Out-of-state service by National Guard members would be treated in the same manner as other Military Reservists regarding an exemption from state income taxation. (\$120K)

- Deferment of any special assessment for deployed service members until six months after they return from deployment.

- Military Voting Package to provide the essential components to facilitate absentee military voting in elections.

- Power of Attorney law amended to promote more restrictive powers and requiring accounting of records.

- Veteran Sentencing Education through an outreach and information model focusing on use of treatment and probation where appropriate. The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs will host forums on alternative sentencing for county attorneys, judges and legislators. (\$200K)

- Establish a Camp Ripley Land Fund to manage timber and provide for increased use of the land by military forces while more historically recreating the ecosystems.

- Amend the Brevet promotion statute to waive the 10 year service requirement for those killed in action, or those who died during the course of serving on State Active Duty.

- Increase charitable gambling contributions to Veteran Service Organizations through a simplification of charitable gambling rules and reducing redundant auditing requirements.

NORTHLAND VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION

Meetings 4th Monday of the month at 6pm • 101 West 2nd Street



Kathy Camps
President

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POW/MIA VIGIL CHANGES...

It was twenty years ago since the completion of the Memorial on the Lakewalk and NVVA sponsored the first POW/MIA vigil. During those twenty years we have had important speakers including our own David Wheat, and two repatriation flag ceremonies for local families. We have spoken to thousands of people and have had great media coverage. Nationally, the POW/MIA flag came from obscurity to being flown on federal buildings, carried by almost every color guard, and hundreds of Americans have come home to bring the closure that we desired for the families. We believe that we have gotten out the message and it is imperative that this continues.

Twenty-one years later we are at a crossroads. We are twenty-one years older than when we started. There has been discussion for the last few years as to how long we continue to do this. Actually, this issue will never go away as long as we are still drawing breath, but it has gotten down to only a few of the faithful that are there for the full twenty-four hours of the vigil.

We are grateful for the many that faithfully come for the ceremonies, but only a very small handful stay for their allocated time. In reality, if it were not for the Air Force ROTC, and the Jr. NROTC we would have been able to do what we have done for as long as we have done it.

It was decided at the last NVVA meeting that we would end our involvement in a twenty-four hour vigil. We would continue to have a ceremony on the third Friday of September, but this ends an era for us.

If any related military, or paramilitary group wants to take over we certainly would work with them. If you have any questions, or are interested in continuing the POW/MIA vigil as a twenty-four event please call.

Durbin M. Keeney

NVVA Color Guard Chairman - (218) 722-8763



TWENTY Memorable Years At Bluesfest

It is hard to believe that it has been twenty years since that first cold, wet Bayfront Blues festival. Some of us remember that weekend. It was a time when the Northland Vietnam Veterans Association (NVVA) was looking for a vehicle to raise money for the Northland Vietnam Memorial that is now on the Lakewalk.

No one ever expected that, twenty years later, Blues Festival would be so big and have such an impact on the community and NVVA. We are grateful to Chris Mackey, and all those who have been part of Blues Festival, for making us a part of such a premier event. Hundreds of hours are spent each year to make this event happen. It takes a full year's planning so that when you come through the gates, we can open the taps and pour the wonderful elixirs of life (that is to say the cold beer and wine). There has been rain and wind, City of Duluth issues, and every year the cost of operations and planning goes up. Most of all, we want to thank you for your support. If it weren't for the loyal fans of the Blues Festival, all the great music, food and fun would not happen.

We start working shortly after each Blues Festival to review what we can do to make your next experience a good one. We have a very loyal committee with many of us having done this for all twenty years. Many of our volunteers have also been with us from the early years. We have seen changes in the park, both good and bad, challenging weather conditions that have been a, large and small attendance, and changes in product. At times it has been a challenge to provide a good product to you. You are why we are all here. Thank you for a great twenty years!

Who is NVVA? We are a local veterans group of Vietnam-era veterans and our associate members. Our associate members are made up mostly of family members and friends; in other words, anyone who believes in what we stand for can become an associate member.

Organizationally, it would be correct to say that we are a "Last Man's Club," a tradition that goes back to the Revolutionary War.

We formed for the same reason;

to bring like-minded veterans of our war together.

When we returned home we were in many ways alone and having each other for support was very impotent. Thus our motto;

"Dignity Through Unity."

Out of these humble beginnings, there have been significant contributions to the veterans' community, and the community as a whole. We were instrumental in the Vet Center, Twin Ports Out Patient Clinic and Silver Bay Veterans Home becoming realities. We have supported community activities like youth hockey, after-prom parties, and much more. We started the first Stand Down event that has helped over 2,500 veterans and their families over fifteen years. The Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) Duluth office started with NVVA's ongoing support. MACV-Duluth has just celebrated its tenth anniversary serving veterans in forty-two counties in northern Minnesota. NVVA is the first local organization to commit funds to begin MACV-Duluth's permanent new housing program for veterans that includes permanent and transitional housing, and offices for outreach to our community.

NVVA can only do this because of your continued support and for that we want to, again, say thank you.



Continued on page 6

Here we are, once again observing Memorial Day at the Northland Vietnam Veterans Memorial here on the Lakewalk, as we have done since 1992. And this year, just a few stones away, we are honoring the Marines of Company "B", at the same time. Trees and green grass may separate us, a generation may separate us, even our tastes in music may separate us; but we are here today united in our sense of duty, our sense of honor, our sense of reverence for what these memorials stand for. These are not war memorials, as the paper likes to say, but veterans' memorials dedicated to Vietnam Veterans and Korean Veterans. A Purple Heart means the same thing whether it was earned at Mindanao, Verdun, Pusan, Hue, Panama, Beirut, or Basra. There is no difference. We all have our fallen. We all have our memories. We join together on observances like Memorial Day and Veterans Day, we observe various rituals at American Legion and V.F.W. meetings, we stand as the flag passes, and we proudly recite the pledge of allegiance. We have these customs in our societies because: "Tradition is what joins the past to the future."

Memorial Day is for these men. Like Scott Baldwin, he graduated a year ahead of me and played great basketball for Central; or Billy Hauptert, he lived a few doors down from me on "goat hill" and the toughest kid in the neighborhood and a leader even as a teen; or Ronnie Zemple from Grand Rapids, whose chopper went down so fast into the Tonkin that no one survived, and my Destroyer circled for hours and hours, waiting. We weren't able to bring him home. Or, over at the Company "B" Memorial, a grey brick is engraved for my "uncle" Don Johnson, a teacher and woodworker.

It had taken all of us about eight years to bring this memorial to the construction faze. And I believe, we became a bit of a cult and obsessed with this project, meeting with the family members and friends, and researching the histories of these men on our Wall. It was about a year prior to the dedication of the Northland Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the construction was about to get underway, that I was unfortunate enough to have a heart attack and had to undergo bypass surgery. As I was awakening out of the anesthesia from the surgery, I could swear I saw several military personnel standing at the foot of my bed; in fatigues, dungarees, and jungle cammos. There were two medics, with their bags along side me on the bed, inspecting my surgery. They stood, turned, saluted, and one of them said, "He'll be all right; they did a good job, sir." An officer came up to my side, still in his pilots uniform, and put his hand on my shoulder and said, "Just relax son, don't try to be a hero." I dozed off and then re-awoke, this time my girl friend was sitting by the side of my bed, and because I had

tubes in places I never thought you could put tubes, I was not able to speak. A nurse came over and checked everything out and started removing tubes. The one down my throat was a PVC pipe and two miles long. When it was out I struggled to talk but I just croaked. The nurse put her hand on my shoulder and said, "Just relax son, don't try to be a hero."

Then, on dedication day in 1992; after all the hoopla, the speeches, the back slapping; the Northland Vietnam Veterans Association held a party and dance at the D.E.C.C. that night. During the evening Durbin brought over a "blue star mother" who wanted to thank me. As we stood there on the floor, we hugged, and I whispered, "I'm sorry mom." She replied to me in a sweet calming voice, "It's alright son, you're home now." At that moment in time, a mother was able to hold her son, and a son was able to hold his mother.

Right then I had an epiphany, a realization; that hit me like a bolt of lightning. What we did here was not make heroes of our boys, but to make a home for them. So today, as I do every time I come down here to these memorials I say "Welcome Home" to these men.

I will conclude with a quote from the book "Strange Ground, Americans in Vietnam, 1945 - 1975, an Oral History", by Harry Maurer.

(This takes place roughly five months after the French defeat at Dien Bien Phu.)

"On the night of October 8th, 1954: Major General Rene Cogny, who was in charge of the French Foreign Legion garrison in Hanoi; held a ceremony at the main French Military cemetery in Hanoi. The French had been there for 100 years, so there were tombstones of soldiers who had died fifty, sixty, seventy years before. Because of the heat and humidity, a very thick green moss covered all these headstones. In the setting sun you saw the moisture glinting on this moss. And there were three flag poles flying over the cemetery (for the very last time). The tallest flagpole had the French national flag on it. The shorter ones had the Vietnamese flag and the military flag.

Cogny was in charge of



Dwight Nelson

the ceremony. There was a small military band and a battalion of Legionnaires all dressed in their white kepis, those little round hats, with beautifully shined boots and red sashes. They had drawn up to attention with their rifles. Cogny gave a short but moving speech. Where, he said, "No member of the military is ever forgotten by his brothers. They will always be remembered. They gave their lives for what they believed in. And they did not die in vain."

We are now planning for only fundraiser the Bayfront Blues Festival. It goes from August 7th to August 10th. Designs for the shirt are being worked out and the volunteer lists are being put together. I will start taking volunteers on June 24th. If you are interested, give me a call at 218-727-5740.

Kathy Camps - President, N.V.V.A.

NVA ANNUAL PICNIC

The picnic is August 17th at Sampo Beach - Little Grand Lake in Saginaw. Invitations will be going out in July.

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DAVID **WISTED**-ZENITH **CITY** POST 28

Please let me know about any members who are having medical problems or anything that is newsworthy and I will mention it in the newsletter. You can contact me, Tyler Witzke, at 525-3591.

ELECTED OFFICERS 2007 - 2008

Commander
Tyler Witzke
525-3591

Vice-Commander
Joseph Behl
722-7692

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John H. Witzke
525-3591

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628-2000

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Dwight "Deac" Nelson
624-4362

Sergeant At Arms
Warren L. High
722-9409

Finance Officer
Dwight "Deac" Nelson
624-4362

Executive Committee:
(Three Positions)
Robert J. Woods Jr.
(1 years)
626-1922



**Patriot Riders &
Legion Post 28 Riders**



**Boy & Flag at
Park Hill Cemetary**



Riderless Horse



VFW 6320 Float



Civil Air Patrol

May 26, 2008
**MEMORIAL DAY
P A R A D E**
honoring all veterans
- West Duluth -



Duluth Air Guard



Combined Honor Guard



NVVA Color Guard



Navy Jr ROTC



**NVVA
POW MIA Cage**



US Coast Guard



Northwind Drum & Bugle Corps



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARSPOST 6320

Post Meetings (2nd Monday of the month) are held at the Post Home • 5103 Ramsey Street



To my fellow V.F.W. and Auxiliary members:

I must tell you that the vote that the Post held on May 6, concerning the merger of our Post with Post 137, has been ruled null and void by the Department of the V.F.W. due to a technicality unforeseen by the officers of both Posts. The merger is on hold indefinitely.

Due to lack of funding, the Post has been forced to close the Club (the bar). To continue to incur the expenses to maintain the Club would have jeopardized the existence of both the Post and the Auxiliary. We are still maintaining the building for the Post, meetings and other events that are deemed proper. I expect to see many of you at the next Post meeting in July. Your input is desperately needed to provide the insight that will tell us in which direction we will go. We are still a V.F.W., we are still V.F.W. members, we are still brothers who stood shoulder to shoulder under much more trying times. If we could survive those days, under fire, we can survive these days of disappointments by working together, one hand helping another.

The Post Hall can still be rented out for:

- Parties
- Anniversaries
- Reunions and more!

To reserve the Hall or for more information call the Quartermaster,

Ralph Talerico, at 724-3854

A Post clean-up (FIELD DAY) is scheduled for Saturday, 12 July, at 0900 (9 AM). Volunteer to come down and help sweep away the old and usher in the new beginning. Call 624-4362 to RSVP, so that we can make plans for lunch. We will clean up the Post building and sorting through the accumulated properties of the Post. We will clean up the Post building and sort through the accumulated properties of the Post. We will be tossing the un-useable, and sort out things that can be sold off to raise funds.

With deep regret, it is my duty to inform everyone that, at the June 9th meeting, the Auxiliary voted to disband. This decision was made due to the lack of people to hold elected office. It is sad that the lack of participation by the membership has led to this turn of events. This is a trend that the Post has to take a very seriously examining.

Ladies, I give you my personal thanks for all you have done. You will be greatly missed over the coming months. Hopefully, others will come to appreciate your works as much as I do.

Thank you, Dwight Nelson - Commander, Post 6320

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JULY -

Saturday, 12th • 9:00 **Field Day at the Post**
(cleanup and sort out effects and assets)

Monday, 14th • 7:30 **Post Meeting**

- AUGUST -

Monday, 11th • 7:30 **Post Meeting**
(time may change at the July meeting)

Post 6320 Officers 2008 - 2009

Post Commander	Dwight R. "Deacon" Nelson
Senior Vice.....	Denise A. Osterholm
Junior Vice.....	Radford J. Tucker
Quartermaster	Ralph G. Talerico "Uncle Rico"
Adjutant	David K. Toelcke

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Northwind Drum & Bugle 2008 BUS TOURS

Call Karin for more information 218-348-5843

SUNDAY JUNE 22, 2008

HOLE IN THE WALL CASINO



COST:

\$10.00 per person

LEAVING:

American Legion 9:30AM

PACKAGE:

Receive \$5.00

RETURNING:

4:30 PM



SUNDAY JULY 20, 2008
**GRAND CASINO
HINCKLEY**

COST: \$25.00 per person • **PACKAGE:** Receive \$25.00 in Grand Casino play

LEAVING: American Legion 9:30 AM • **RETURNING:** 4:30 PM



via fabulous Wendover



THURSDAY, AUGUST 28
through
SUNDAY AUGUST 31



WENDOVER, NEVADA

COST: \$199.00 per person on double occupancy

• Plus \$10.00 Fuel Surcharge

• \$30 more per person on single occupancy

This price includes your flight and room for three nights



Fly out of Duluth International Airport on Thurs., August 28, 2008.
(Time to be determined at a later date) & return to Duluth on Sun. 31



Navy Journer ROTC



**Ralph and Cindy Talerico
VFW 6320 members
on their Memorial Day Float**

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CHRIS DAHLBERG



Greetings All !

CADENCE asked if I would write a regular column providing general legal advice. I gladly accepted their request. I want to say I feel honored to be part of CADENCE'S beginnings. Congratulations to the start of a publication that will be bringing to our Northland the much needed service of bringing together our military family.

I decided that my first article would address the employment rights due our service members now returning home to our Northland. Those who were willing to sacrifice their life to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today should not have to face the loss of their job upon their return home.

EMPLOYERS' LEGAL OBLIGATION TO EMPLOYEES SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Hiring an employee that also serves in the military can be a great advantage to a company. By hiring an employee in the military, employers get valuable skill sets that are not found among the general nonmilitary population. Additionally, individuals who serve in military leadership positions often bring to an employer hundreds of hours of leadership training. When employing these valuable individuals, employers have certain legal obligations to these employees, which are largely governed under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

Here are just a few of the legal obligations employers have to their employees serving in the military:

MILITARY LEAVE

Military personnel are eligible for military leave whether the services are voluntary or involuntary. The employee is responsible for giving his/her employer either advance or verbal notice of their duty [Sec. 4312(a)(1)]. This is generally done by the individual presenting the employer with orders. Under USERRA, benefits are covered for employees who are deployed up to five years [Sec. 4312(c)]. This period can be extended even further for national emergencies.

REPORTING BACK TO WORK

There are time limits following a soldier's military duty in which they must report back to work. Generally, for service of 1 to 30 days, the person reports back to his employer on the first regularly scheduled work period that begins the next calendar day following military service completion, which should include an allowance for safe travel home. For periods of 31 to 180 days, it is generally no later than 14 days after completion. For service 180 or more days, they must report no further out than 90 days after completion of military service. Persons who do not report within the appropriate time period automatically forfeit their reemployment rights.

JOB POSITION UPON RETURN FROM MILITARY LEAVE

USERRA requires that employers promptly reemploy employees that were on military leave in an "appropriate position." There are some various nuances to this requirement based on several factors, and it always is beneficial to consult an individual knowledgeable in this field of law should you have questions. There are two very limited exceptions to this reemployment requirement. One exception is change of circumstances [Sec. 4312(d)(1)(A)] whereby an employer's circumstances change to such an extent that reemployment would be impossible or unreasonable. A common example is a reduction in workforce where the military

individual would have been included even if they had not been deployed or gone on leave. Undue hardship [Sec. 4312(d)(1)(B)] is another exception whereby reemploying individuals would create such difficulty or expense as to cause undue hardship.

Dahlberg Law Office is able to assist businesses with issues and challenges that arise in regards to their employees serving in the military. Attorney Christopher A. Dahlberg serves in the United States Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) Branch. He understands the military language both from the legal side and their love of the use of a multitude of acronyms. Dahlberg, himself, served on a nine month tour in Baghdad, Iraq, as a Civil Affairs officer in the U.S. Army Reserves, returning home to his practice in July 2005.

DAHLBERG
Law Office, P.A.

Christopher A. Dahlberg

- ATTORNEY AT LAW -

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Fax: 218-722-3785

dahlberglaw.com

915 U.S. Bank Place
130 W. Superior St.
Duluth, MN 55802



Civil Air Patrol

ST. LOUIS COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES OFFICE

My name is Rich Dumanacas and I am the St. Louis County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO). Welcome you to the first issue of Dwight Nelson's great idea! What a fantastic way to communicate with all the veterans in the Northland!

I firmly believe that all veterans should be taken care of with the best trained resources.

Every time I read about a veteran and how their application was mishandled I wonder what steps they took to get there and what steps were overlooked. This may be due to the lack of education that was offered to them to learn about the "system."

So I'd like to start my first column (hopefully the first of many) with a resource that is available to help you, by explaining what a CVSO is.

A CVSO is an employee of the county and not the "One Big VA." We must be:

- Minnesota residence • U.S. citizens • served on active duty for 181 consecutive days or by reason of disability incurred while serving on active duty, or who has met the minimum active duty requirement as defined by Code of Federal Regulations, title 38

- has active military service certified under section 401, Public Law 95-202.

The active military service must be certified by the United States Secretary of Defense as active military service and a discharge under honorable conditions must be issued by the Secretary. We also have to maintain certification by attending recurring training offered by the VA, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and the Minnesota Association of CVSOs.

Each county in Minnesota employs at least one CVSO. Due to veteran population or geographical size, some counties employ more than one CVSO. In addition, some counties have veterans' service officers to enhance the work of the CVSO in helping veterans. Because of the geographical size, we have 1 CVSO and 5 VSOs to help the 19,000 plus-veterans.

St. Louis County has offices in Duluth (725-5285), Ely (365-8203), Hibbing (262-6090) and Virginia (749-7110); all have operating hours of 8:00 am until 4:30 pm Monday through Friday; the Carlton County Veterans Service Office number is 384-9599; Lake County - 834-8326.

What do we do? We help you the veteran, eligible spouses or widows of the veteran, eligible children of the veteran, and eligible parents of the veteran in the application of benefits through the VA for compensation, pension, medical treatment, education, burial, head stones or markers, and many other benefits from the VA. We also help with application for benefits through the MN Department of Veterans

Affairs (MDVA). The MDVA has many different programs for financial assistance, veterans preference, women's veterans programs, veteran's nursing homes, veteran's cemeteries, education, Bronze Star markers and more. MDVA also administers LinkVet, a toll free number for veterans to learn more about their benefits. The LinkVet number is 1-888-546-5838. They also have a once-in-lifetime grant program also known as special needs grants that may be able to help in emergency financial situations. Your CVSO can assist you in applying for all these programs. Since the income guidelines change from year to year, please contact your nearest veterans' service office for more information.

CVSOs collaborate with many other agencies such as the Duluth Vets Center, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, Silver Bay Nursing Home, Twin Ports and Hibbing VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics, 148th Guard Family Network, Minnesota Military Family Assistance Center, and others.

I hope this gives you a little more information on CVSOs.

Please remember that we are here to help you with your benefits that you earned for serving in the U.S. military!



VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL



Veterans' Memorial Hall, a program of the St. Louis County Historical Society, is ready for a busy summer and fall. Currently we are working on raising money for our next exhibit, Generations of Service. This exhibit will tell the story of veterans of northeast Minnesota, from the Civil War to the present crisis in Iraq and Afghanistan. It will focus on the local units, such as the B Company Marines, who served during the Korean War, the 14th Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, which served during the Spanish American War, and the 477th Medical Company (AMB) which served during Desert Storm/Desert Shield. Also to be included in the exhibit are stories about the

many local men and women who volunteered for active duty or were drafted into duty. Inside the exhibit we also will focus on some of the honored veterans of our community, such as Medal of Honor recipients Mike Colalillo and Oscar Nelson. Some of the artifacts to be on display are a cannonball and bugle from the Civil War, a Nazi officer's dagger, a WWI German machine gun, and a Viet Cong flag.

However, the St. Louis County Historical Society is more than exhibits; we also accept artifacts that are related to veterans of northeast Minnesota. For example, if you have been holding onto an artifact and you are worried about its safety, bring it to us,

where it will be handled and stored properly by a museum professional. The greatest part about donating an item to our museum is that we will work hard to protect the piece and also act as a central location for family members to come and look at it.

Do you have a great story from your veteran experience and want to tell it?

At the St. Louis County Historical Society we will arrange a time to sit down and record your veteran story with you. In fact, we even will come to your house to do the interview. After we are done we will send you a CD of your interview. We will also send you a written transcript to be placed on our website. To date, we have placed over 5,500 stories on line, and we hope you will view them at www.vets-hall.org.

Daniel Hartman - Program Director
St. Louis Co. Historical Society
506 West Michigan Street
Duluth, MN 55802-1505
(218) 733-7500

Fax: (218) 733-7585 • dhartman@vets-hall.org



WEST DULUTH POST, UNIT, and SQUADRON #71



Sentinel

vol. 27 • no. 7

GREETINGS FROM YOUR POST 71 COMMANDER

This July is a milestone. I didn't know if it was going to get here or not. Many of you know while I was commander, my wife was very ill. I thank those that were able to do things in my behalf when they needed to be done.

A Real Big Thank You!

I thank the newly elected officers coming on board for their service. They need and deserve all the help I was accorded. If asked please consider helping. The goal is for the post to be what you want it to be.

We are still looking for volunteers to paint the back hallway as well as the stairs leading from the dining area. We also are looking for help with cleaning our basement maintenance room.

We may need to rent a dumpster before we start. Our objective is to reduce clutter and potential fire hazard.

Our picnic will be at the Post this year on Sunday, August 3, 2008

We will still have the great food we have had in the past. We will have games for the children. I think they will have as much fun as in the park.

Next month our meeting will be on
July 24 due to the Department Convention.

Mark your calendar....

Spirit Valley Days starts the last week in July. If anyone has walking canes they are not using, please donated them to the Post Medical equipment loan program. We could use several since we have none.

God Bless our American Legion
family & veterans now serving our
beloved country and their families.

Kenneth Oliver, Jr. - Commander

Post News

We welcome the opportunity to participate in the first issue veteran's news magazine, "Cadence". This magazine is the result of the vision and inspiration of Viet Nam Veteran and American Legion Post #28 Commander, Dwight Nelson. His admirable goal is to provide information about veteran's activities in the Twin Ports area in a condensed and more complete format. The news magazine will include all the information previously found in our Sentinel. It will be mailed to all on the Sentinel mailing list including those that were previously removed that received the Sentinel via their e-mail address. Duplicate mailings will be eliminated. We join the many other veteran organizations in the local area supporting this effort to communicate in a better way the veteran's activities in the Twin Ports area. Your feedback about this effort is encouraged and welcomed. Provide your comments to us at the Post. Advertisers will assist in funding the newsletter. It should reduce our Sentinel costs by about 50 per cent.

At the May 15th Post meeting we conducted a memorial service to our departing comrades and friends in our American Legion Post #71 families. We said an appropriate farewell to 43 Post members, 10 Auxiliary members and one Sons of American Legion member.

During July the newly elected officers and appointed committee volunteers will assume the leadership of our Post. We want to assure them of our continued support. Our newly elected Commander, Brian McFarland, will provide the vision and leadership for at least the next year. See the list of officers and committees elsewhere in this issue.

Due to the non availability of many of our volunteers, we have reduced many of our usual activities during the summer months. We will not have Monday and Saturday meals nor dances at the Post. We do want to encourage members to continue to support the Post.

We expect to see a great turnout for the annual Picnic at the Post, noon, Sunday August 3rd. You will want to be consider being present for the annual Auxiliary sponsored style show and luncheon Friday, noon, August 1st.

Our long time Gambling Manager, Thomas Korenchen is stepping down and being replaced by Assistant Gambling Manager, Kenneth J. Oliver Jr. who recently successfully met the requirements for the position by the MN Gambling Control Board. We extend our sincere thanks to Thomas Korenchen for serving us in this important capacity for 17 years. We can laud his integrity of purpose in doing a great job. Although the Gambling Control Board conducts inspections, audits and reviews our Post #71 Gambling operations, we have not had any major and few minor discrepancies during this long time successful operations. With our gambling proceeds, we have been able to provide funding support to many veterans, schools and other community welfare organizations.

However in recent years, our gambling proceeds have dwindled to about half of previous income. We have had to adjust our Post financial operations in major ways.

The Post now covers most all of the utilities, payroll and building expenses. That means our volunteers and their fund raising activities need to continue if the Post is to survive in the future. Your continued support is vital.

Keith Bischoff - Editor

Chaplain's Report

During October we sent sympathy card to the family of Donald T. Bahl. Members, please notify the Post when our comrades are ill or have special needs.

Brenda Haase - Post Chaplain

Drum & Bugle Corps

We wish to encourage new members to join our group. The D&B Corps practices are held Wednesdays evenings starting at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in joining the unit can call Brenda at 628-7292 or leave your name and phone number at the Post. You need not be a member of any veteran's organization to participate. All are welcome to join us. You will be contacted.

Brenda Haase

DBC - Sec/Treasurer

Department & District Events

NM Department Convention
July 18-19 • Bloomington, MN

- WANTED VOLUNTEERS -
Sunday
BINGO ATTENDANTS

please see...

Michelle Olson or Susan Johnson

JUNE 2008 MEMBERSHIPS

Post 1038 Auxiliary 451

We have processed 1038 Post #71 membership dues renewals for 2008. We are now 94% of our goal of 1100 members. We are only 62 members short of the goal of 1100 members. Our dues are increased to \$35.00 next year to cover the increases in National and MN Department dues. The 88 Post members have not paid their 2008 dues. They are delinquent and have lost their benefits and will not receive the Sentinel. Many of these members are long time members. Thirty of these members have seventeen or more years of continuous membership. We hope they will be well enough to renew and participate in the many activities. Please cover your dues ASAP.

We hope that you are encouraging newer veterans serving now to come and enjoy the comradery and membership privileges of our Post. Every member is important to our American Legion Post #71.

We had No new or transferred members joining Post #71 in June 2008:

We remind each Post #71 member they are entitled to no cost \$1,000 accident insurance policy. However, they must complete and mail in an application to be eligible.

We had no new American Legion Auxiliary Unit #71 member joining during June 2008: We have We are now 38 members short of our goal of 489 members. No new Sons of the American Legion (SAL) members joining in June. Membership in the SAL is open to sons of veterans. This is an opportunity to participate in the benefits of American Legion membership and support the activities of this fine veteran's support organization.

Please welcome all these new members to the American Legion family Please continue to support our American Legion Post #71. When was the last time you visited your Post? Do it now and share in the benefits.

Have you asked a veteran if they belong to a veteran's organization? Why not try the American Legion? Always carry a membership application. They are available at the Post bar.

"Remember it isn't the price you pay to be a member, it's the price you paid to become eligible."

Mary Krieger - Membership Secretary

UNIT #71 AUXILIARY GREETINGS,

Due to publication deadlines set by our new publication, CADENCE, I'm writing my July/August newsletter column on May 30! You can probably sense my frustration. I don't list fortune-telling among my hobbies or talents, so I'm unable to comment about any June Auxiliary news or Post events. I do hope you observed Flag Day on June 14. Some of you may have flag poles or tabletop decorations depicting our flag. Others of us proudly wear our flag pins on that day. 89th Annual Department Convention.This year it will be held in Bloomington, MN July 17-19. Jan Pulvamacher-Ryan, our National Auxiliary President from my native Wisconsin will be a special guest. I really look forward to meeting her. In this election year, the Auxiliary also has a heated contest on its hands. There are three candidates vying for the position of Department of Minnesota Auxiliary Second Vice-President. This person will be State

President in 2010-2011. One of these three candidates, Vicki-Lynne Bibeau hails from Deer River in our 8th District. I'll tell you more about Department Convention in the September newsletter.

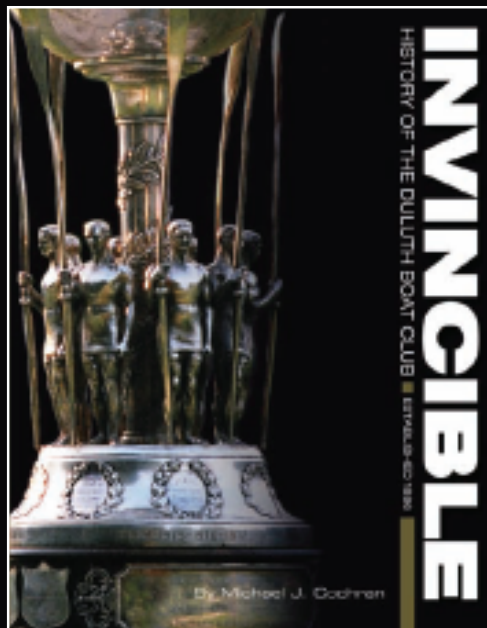
The end of July and early August brings Spirit Valley Days to West Duluth. Our annual Auxiliary Salad Luncheon/Style Show will be held on Friday, August 1 at noon. The ticket price is \$7.00. There will be no male models this year. Instead, we will feature some former and current Girl Staters modeling fashions from area businesses. There will be entertainment and a generous number of great door prizes. We hope to have a stand-up lady comic who has received rave reviews from her area appearances. Please gather a few friends together and join us for this fun event. Tickets go on sale at the Post at noon on Monday, July 14. I hope you are enjoying the "lazy, hazy" days of summer. Please remember to patronize our Post during the summer months.

Mary Hendrickson - Unit President



AMERICAN LEGION POST 71 • CALENDAR OF EVENTS - JULY 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		BINGO 6:30pm 1	Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm US Army Air Corps established (1926) 2		CLOSED Independence Day 4	
Bar Open 1:00 - 7:00pm BAR BINGO 2:00pm 6		Finance Committee 4:15 pm BINGO 6:30pm 8	Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm 9	House Committee 6:30pm Executive Board 7:30pm 10	BINGO 6:30pm Short Order Food 5:00pm - 7:00pm 11	
Bar Open 1:00 - 7:00pm BAR BINGO 2:00pm 13			Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm 16		BINGO 6:30pm Short Order Food 5:00pm - 7:00pm 18	
Bar Open 1:00 - 7:00pm BAR BINGO 2:00pm 20		BINGO 6:30pm 22	Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm 23	Post Meeting 7:30pm 24	BINGO 6:30pm Short Order Food 5:00pm - 7:00pm 25	
Bar Open 1:00 - 7:00pm BAR BINGO 2:00pm Korean War Ended 195327	WW1 began 1914 28	BINGO 6:30pm 29	Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm 30	Spirit Valley Pancake Breakfast Outside Food 5:00pm - 7:00pm 31	BINGO 6:30pm Short Order Food 5:00pm - 7:00pm	<i>See our August 2008 calendar on page 14!</i>



During the early 20th century, the Duluth Boat Club was the greatest water sport organization in the world and dominated the sport of rowing. Invincible is a stunning limited-edition volume that chronicles the history of the Duluth Boat Club from it's beginning in 1886 with 128-pages of fascinating text and 180 beautiful, historic photographs.

INVINCIBLE

HISTORY OF THE DULUTH BOAT CLUB

by author Michael J. Cochran

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AMERICAN LEGION POST 71

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - August 2008

Fri.1 ..Air Force Day
Fri.1 ..Salad Luncheon, noon Style Show, door prizes
Sat.2 ..Albert Woolson - Last Survivor of the Civil War - Died 1956
Sun.3 ..Bar Closed • Post Aux/Sal Family Picnic noon - 3pm Post Home
Mon.....4 ..US Coast Guard Established 1790
Tue.....5 ..BINGO 6:30pm
Wed.6 ..Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm
Thu.7 ..Purple Heart Medal Established 1782
Fri.8 ..BINGO 6:30pm • Short Order Food 5pm to 7pm
Sun.10 ..Bar Open 1pm to 7pm • Bar Bingo 2:00pm
Tue.....12 ..Finance Committee 4:14pm • Bingo 6:30pm
Wed13 ..Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm
Thu14 ..House Committee 6:30pm • Exec. Board 7:30pm
Thu14 ..Japan Surrendered, Ending WW II 1945
Thu14 ..National Navajo Code Talkers Day
Fri15 ..BINGO 6:30 pm • Short Order Food 5pm to 7pm
Sat16 ..National Airborne Day
Sun17 ..Bar Open 1pm to 7pm • Bar Bingo 2pm
Tue.....19 ..BINGO 6:30pm
Tue.....19 ..National Aviation Day
Wed20 ..Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm
Thu21 ..Post Meeting 7:30pm
Fri22 ..BINGO 6:30pm • Short Order Food 5pm to 7pm
Sun24 ..Bar Open 1pm to 7pm • Bar Bingo 2pm
Tue.....26 ..BINGO 6:30pm
Wed27 ..Drum & Bugle Corps 7:00pm
Fri29 ..BINGO 6:30pm • Short Order Food 5pm to 7pm
Sun31 ..Bar Open 1pm to 7pm • Bar Bingo

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Let us never forget



MACVDULUTH

Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, Duluth

Northern Communities Land Trust (NCLT), in partnership with Minnesota Assistance Council Veterans (MACV), unveiled their plans for the Duluth Veterans Housing development. This project will provide 13 affordable, supportive housing units.

NCLT will be acquiring and rehabilitating two buildings in West Duluth's Ramsey neighborhood. The Spirit Valley Citizens Neighborhood Development Association and the At Home in Duluth Collaborative have worked in recent years to revitalize the neighborhood by conducting major renovations to over 300 blighted properties since 1990. This includes new home construction and creating a neo-traditional new development. The MACV development will create eight units of permanent affordable housing with supportive services and five units of transitional housing with direct services in addition to MACV office space. MACV will be the eventual owner, manager and supportive service provider.

The development is a direct response to the demonstrated needs of veterans. On a single night in October 2006, Wilder Research found 624 military veterans in Minnesota experiencing homelessness, 17 of who served in Iraq and/or Afghanistan. Durbin M. Keeney, Regional Director of MACV-Duluth discussed the new trend in homeless veterans in conjunction with the Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq.

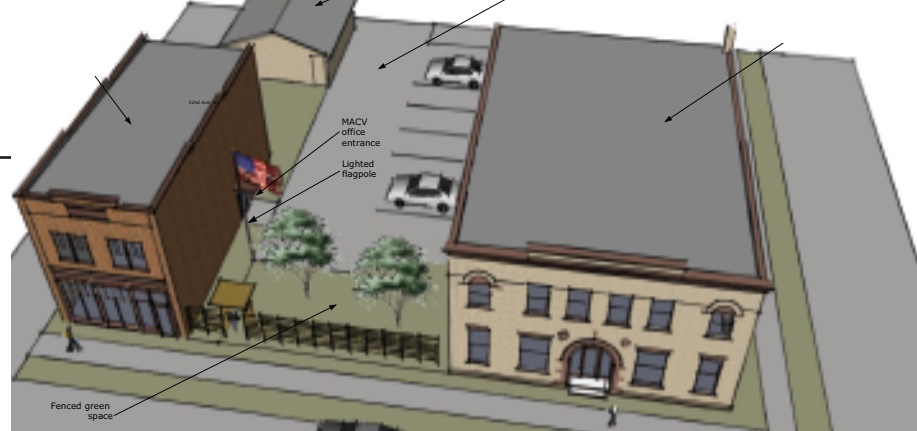
Keeney said, "We as soldiers are trained not to leave a wounded soldier on the battlefield. Likewise, MACV will do all we can to not leave a wounded soldier on the battlefield of life. This project will take us one step closer to achieving that goal."

The City of Duluth encouraged NCLT to participate as the developer for the MACV site and plans to close on acquisition of the property later in May. "We see this as a new opportunity to serve the community by providing much needed housing services for veterans and to help continue revitalization of the Ramsey neighborhood," said Jeff Corey, NCLT Executive Director. "In 2001, NCLT constructed the first new owner-occupied homes in the neighborhood in over 50 years. It is exciting to see all of the positive changes that have occurred in the neighborhood since then and to again be participating in housing development in Ramsey."

NCLT and MACV have begun development and have secured funding from the City of Duluth HOME Program, Duluth LISC, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and St. Louis County. The partners are hopeful that contributions will come from local community organizations and individuals, interested parties to contact the MACV-Duluth office at 722-8763 or NCLT at 727-5372. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2009, pending completion of fundraising.

Northern Communities Land Trust is a local non-profit that is dedicated to creating permanently affordable housing in Duluth. In nearly 20 years of service to the community, NCLT has assisted 180 households in becoming homeowners.

MACV-Duluth is a regional office of a statewide nonprofit, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans that has been assisting homeless veterans and those in danger of homelessness for over 16 years. MACV provides assistance to veterans in crisis throughout Minnesota with a focus on housing, employment and civil legal issues. In



2007 MACV received over 10,000 contacts from veterans across the state.

How does this help to meet the goals of the St. Louis County's ten-year plan to end homelessness? This project will meet two thirds of the plan's desired outcomes for veterans. Once completed, MACV attends to explore other housing options in northern areas of the St. Louis County.

SILVERBAYVETERANSHOME

Spring and summer is a busy time at the Veterans Home in Silver Bay. In late April we hosted our annual volunteer recognition banquet. Volunteers are a staple at the MN Veterans Home – Silver Bay. Without their help and commitment, we would be hard pressed to offer the great services and activities for our residents.

Currently we have over 50 active volunteers. Our many volunteers help with bingo games, birthday parties, lunch outings, fishing trips, cooking, medical appointments, and haircuts to name a few. Each month we

average about 800 volunteer hours which equates to a savings of about \$14,000 each month. Wow!

In May we had many activities ranging from a spring party to a smelt fry to our annual Prom Dance. Of course the month is highlighted with our Memorial Day program in which we work closely with VFW Post 6204 here in Silver Bay. This year's program featured former Silver Bay resident and retired Colonel Keck Melby. What a great program!

By June we were all set to use our pontoon boat on Lax Lake, "cruise" town in our Club Car, BBQ on our deck and enjoy summer to the fullest. We play cards, have bonfires, and go on shopping trips but our main event is the Annual Lake Superior Charter Fishing trip. This year marks our 16th anniversary of this program. We partner with the Hastings and

Minneapolis Veterans Homes and we enjoy a day of fishing on the big lake. We are very fortunate to have 13 charter boats taking out 40+ residents. After fishing, we enjoy a shore lunch at the Knife River Marina.

The leadership at the Veterans Home is changing. Our Administrator Mike Bond has left us after about

five years. He will continue working for Veterans as he has transferred to the L u v e r n e Veterans Home. Our new Administrator is Carol Gilbertson. She comes to us from the Minneapolis Veterans Home and we welcome

her arrival later this summer. Also, in the near future, we will begin working with an architect as we look towards a major renovation of our facility. Our goal is to create five "households" within the facility. We will continue to create as much of a "home" atmosphere as possible.

Many thanks to those of you who donate in-kind, money, or your time. All of this helps us make the Minnesota Veterans Home a great place to live.



Respectfully Submitted,
Ward C. Wallin
Volunteer Program Administrator

AIRFORCEASSOCIATIONCHAPTER226

The Bong Flyer



Message from the President Dear Members;

We are happy to be included in the initial edition of Cadence. This will not only provide our chapter members with monthly updates on veterans programs and initiatives that impacting residents of Minnesota and the north-land, but also will provide the other local veterans groups with updates on what is going on in the Air Force Association.

We encourage you to provide your donation and sponsorship for our annual call for the Visions of Exploration program. Leo Wittenberg and Tom Wilk run an outstanding program that reaches 18 of the area schools and 45 classrooms. Leo and Tom also select the annual Teacher and Student of the Year winners for the chapter.

We are coordinating some ideas for our fall and winter programs. We will get the word out when we lock down our venue. But mark Wednesday, September 10th for the Fall dinner/program. We hope to be able to continue in Dwight Nelson's Cadence. Please let me know if you have items to include, or other feedback on using this as our avenue for our news updates.

Enjoy the summer. Carol Wolosz

Chapter Executive Council Members

President - Carol Wolosz
Vice-President - Keith Johnson
Treasurer - Jim Armstrong
Secretary - Keith M. Bischoff

Duluth Composite Squadron

The members of the nominating committee for the fall officer elections are Chairman Ray Klosowski, and Past-Presidents Ken Stromquist and Ed Culbert. Please contact one of the committee if you are interested in serving as an officer, or helping with one of the sub-committees. Also, there is an opening for the MN state president position.

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendars

Duluth Air Show

Saturday and Sunday, July 19 and 20.

Wednesday, September 10, 2008 will be the next quarterly dinner and program. Location and guest speaker will be announced in the near future.



We are excited to bring you this update of the Bong Chapter Vision of Exploration Program. The Chapter provides the AFA/USA Today Visions of Exploration program to 18 area schools (45 classrooms). This program provided 18 weeks of the USA Today newspaper, one day per week, to a class of 30 students. Along with the newspaper is an Experience Today worksheet geared to specific aerospace articles. A teacher's guide is provided which includes additional resources, including access to USA Today's education websight. This program makes learning science fun, and is designed to encourage students to develop an interest in aviation. This program is sponsored by individual AFA members at a cost of \$94/classroom.

In addition, each classroom receives a presentation on the History of Flight by Tom Wilk and Leo Wittenberg. This presentation ensures that famous people in aviation, including local fliers Richard Bong and Al Amatuzio, often missing in today's science and history books, are thoroughly covered for the students. This will insure that the heroes of aviation will not be forgotten. Our Chapter also sponsors an award program which

Duluth Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol Update

By Keith M. Bischoff, Lt. Col. CAP Admin Officer

Auxiliary of the United States Air Force • 1925 Waverly Avenue • Duluth, MN 55803

Lt Col Keith M. Bischoff, LT Bruce Ansel and SM John Feth hosted eight CAP Cadet participating in the 49th annual May 26th Duluth Memorial Day Parade. Although it rained, the parade was a great success with a good Duluth citizen turn-out honoring our fallen veterans.

Major Edwin Culbert with several accompanying Senior and Cadet CAP members received complimentary tickets to the MN Twins baseball game on Thursday June 5th.

The Duluth Composite Squadron CAP recently received an updated Cessna 182T aircraft from MN Wing CAP. Unit pilots are earnestly training to upgrade in the newer aircraft with more power and upgraded avionics. To date four pilots have successfully completed training and are now qualified in the newer aircraft. Accomplishing this aircraft training is a step toward eventually qualifying in the all "glass" equipped Cessna 182 aircraft being purchased by the United States Air Force for the Civil Air Patrol nationwide. This upgrade will provide all aircraft with the latest visual displays for aircraft operation and communications. Also included is an upgraded GPS unit and auto pilot improving pilot capability and safety.

honors cadets from the AFROTC and CAP, as well as Chapter Teacher of the Year and Student of the Year. Through the activities that our members sponsor, many of the young people participating in our programs have gone on to careers in the Air Force or aviation-related fields. Your financial sponsorship of these programs really does make a difference!

Carol Wolosz - President

Leo Wittenberg - Vice President, Aerospace Education

MEMBERSHIP REPORT As of April, we have 224 members in the Bong Chapter. Please look to recruit a friend and encourage them to join. Beyond the Air Force magazine and the other tangible benefits of individual membership, you are helping to provide the strength to educate the public and to advocate a strong Air Force and military, providing support for the military members and their families.

Please contact Midge Foster if you need membership applications

Major Charles Schumacher, Major Edwin Culbert and Capt Mark Johnston recently attended the MN Wing hosted Mission Pilot and Observer training conducted at Anoka County Airport, MN Saturday and Sunday May 31 and June 1st.

Lt Col Keith M Bischoff and Major Gary Lemasters attended the CAP National Check Pilot Standardization Course held Saturday May 31 at Flying Cloud Airport, MN. Both pilots are required to be re-qualified in MN Wing aircraft to insure a quality and safe Wing pilot standardization re-qualification program.

The Canadian Snowbirds recently provided a great show for the citizens of Duluth on Wednesday afternoon, May 14 hosted by the Duluth Air and Aviation Expo. Prior to the air show, BG Raymond Klosowski and Lt Col Bernard Tanski, using a WI Wing CAP aircraft, were instrumental in insuring the air show over the Duluth lakefront safety "airbox" was adequately marked and monitored with watercraft units including the Duluth Vista King and Queen, US Coast Guard and St Louis county Rescue Squad. St Luke's hospital provided the emergency stand by helicopter rescue service.

2009 Aerospace Education Partnership Campaign

Yes, I want to become a Partner/Investor in the Bong Chapter AFA Aerospace Education and Cadet Recognition Program. Please note my name and contribution level as indicated below:

____ Shares at \$20 per Share

☐ Please list me as a (Half) of (Full)

Classroom sponsor. Class sponsorship is \$94

☐ I would like to help "hands on" in these programs

Name _____

Address _____

Please make your check payable to
Richard I. Bong Chapter AFA and send to: Jim Armstrong
724 Maple Grove Road • Duluth, MN 55811-4525

Welcome to our Community Partners



For information
on becoming a
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please contact

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- Allison & Associates
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- Northstar Aviation
- Pickwick Restaurant
- Primrose Retirement Apartment Community
- Richard I. Bong World War II Heritage Center



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Duluth Senior Expo Announces Headline Sponsor

DULUTH, Minnesota — Officials from the Duluth Senior Expo announced that HUMANA will be the headline sponsor for the sixth Annual Senior Expo on Thursday October 16th. Thousands of seniors, caregivers and their families attend the day-long event at the DECC in Duluth each year. A busy day of fun, information and entertainment is featured that includes seminars, keynote speakers, entertainment and information on goods and services for seniors.

In addition to providing invaluable marketing assistance, Humana will offer expo attendees FREE parking at the Expo!

"We're pleased to have Humana on board," said co-producer Tracy Lundeen. "They will make great partners and we're excited to have them, their services and resources available to our attendees. This just makes the Duluth Senior Expo even better in 2008."

The Duluth Senior Expo features over 100 exhibitors showing products and services of interest to seniors. the event also features a birthday celebration and recognition ceremony for area centenarians presented by the City of Duluth. Free health screening services are available including hearing tests, blood pressure tests, glucose, and more.

Each person attending will receive a complimentary Northland Senior Resource Guide. This 40-plus page, full-color magazine is filled with resource information for seniors around the region and will be an invaluable resource for seniors that can be utilized year round.

For more information visit: duluthseniorexpo.com or call
218-727-1177 or 800-299-7173



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"The Four Goals of Estate Planning"

From: Neill A. Atkins • Contact: atkinsn@financialnetwork.com • 218.740.2284

The whole idea of estate planning can sound mysterious...complicated. It needn't be. The concept itself is fairly simple. The greatest challenge you face is deciding what you want to accomplish with your estate after your death.

The starting point is to understand the four possible goals of estate planning:

1. CONTROL OVER WHO RECEIVES WHAT Within broad limits of the law, you can allocate the distribution of your assets pretty much as you wish. Remember, if you do not decide, the probate court in the state where you reside will make that decision for you...and your heirs will have no say in how your assets are distributed. Worse, conflicts could tie up your estate in probate, possibly for years. The two best tools to help you maintain control are an up-to-date will and trusts. Talk to a qualified estate attorney.

2. CONSERVATION OF ASSETS making sure as little as possible of your net worth is eaten up by estate settlement costs. If you are not careful, your heirs could lose a significant portion of your assets, depending on the size of your estate and how asset ownership is arranged. Fortunately, shrinkage can be reduced through trusts, lifetime gifts and other options.

3. LIQUIDITY Some estate shrinkage is inevitable. As a result, your heirs will need cash to settle final expenses. If the money is not readily available, they may be forced to dismantle your estate and sell off assets -- perhaps at bargain basement prices -- or dip into their own pockets. If income-generating assets must be sold, this could jeopardize a survivor's future financial security. The most common way to replace lost assets is through life insurance. It provides instant cash, income-tax-free, when it is needed most. Many people also consider disability insurance, since it is not uncommon for death to follow a disability, which can consume assets, as well.

4. SURVIVOR INCOME... to provide for a spouse and/or dependent children. If your estate is significant and your children are grown, you may already have adequate assets set aside. Otherwise, once again, life insurance may be your best-choice option.

RECOMMENDATION: No matter what your current age or estate size, you owe it to your family and yourself to address your estate planning needs.

WHERE TO START: As your Financial Network Investment Adviser Representative, I can help you identify your needs. We can review your life insurance to make sure you have an adequate amount to replace income and assets that could be lost due to estate shrinkage and to protect your family. Additionally, we can meet with your attorney to discuss your will and other asset ownership options to make sure your wishes are carried out.

Most of all, do not ignore this issue. Many people believe that estate planning is about death. In reality, it is about providing for the loved ones who are left behind.

Therefore, I strongly encourage you to contact me at your earliest convenience to arrange an appointment.

4477 LaVaque Road • Hermantown, MN 55811

218.740.2284

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DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Gilbert Nordman Chapter 6 ★ PO Box 16142 ★ Duluth, MN 55811

Building Better Lives for America's Disabled Veterans

Getting to Know the DAV

With more than 1.4 million members, Disabled American Veterans is an organization of disabled veterans who are focused on building better lives for disabled veterans and their families.

The organization accomplishes this goal by providing free assistance to veterans in obtaining benefits and services earned through their military service. It is fully funded through its membership dues and public contributions. It is not a government agency and receives no government funds.

DAV is the foremost representative of the interests of disabled veterans and their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before federal, state, and local governments. Our National Legislative Program ensures disabled veterans are not forgotten by lawmakers.

Through a wide network of state level Departments and local Chapters, DAV extends its mission of hope to communities where disabled veterans and their families live. Its leadership is organized to provide a structure through which these veterans can show their compassion for their fellow veterans.

The National Voluntary Service Program operates an extensive network of programs through which veterans and concerned citizens provide services for their disabled veterans. This includes the Transportation Network, which provides veterans with rides to and from VA medical facilities for treatment, and the Voluntary Service Program, which facilitates volunteers at VA hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes through the VA Voluntary Service Program.

If you are thinking about joining the DAV or have questions, then please contact us directly here in Duluth. You can contact Jerry Uecker or Joe Behl. They can help you fill out your application, explain the benefits of the DAV and get things going right for you. You can also e-mail us at: davduluthmn@gmail.com.

DAV News & Events

Please continue to contact Dave Schroder in the Superior Clinic to schedule your eye or ear appointments. This is a tremendous service offered by the VA. The opportunity to have these exams done locally saves you an entire day trip to the cities. For membership information contact Jerry Uecker at 218-729-9775 or Joe Behl. If you need a ride or can provide a ride to our meetings please contact Joe Behl at: 218-722-7692.

Special thank you to Sam's Club for donating refreshments for our local chapter's meeting. Earlier this year Sam's Club also donated \$500, so when you shop there please tell the management and staff thank you very much for their care and support.

Our annual "Forget Me Not" fundraiser is coming. Mark your calendars for July 30th and August 2nd, and start thinking of how you'd like to help.

Spirit Valley Days is just around the corner, bringing with it the annual parade! Please join your local chapter on July 31st at 6pm.

Clothing Drive

This year's clothing drive begins June 9th and every following second and fourth Monday of each month at the American Legion, Post 71 in West Duluth, from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. By dropping off your old clothing (bagged or boxed, please) not only do you rid yourself of clutter, but the DAV is able to sell those clothes by the pound and raise money to help out local disabled vets! This is a wonderful opportunity for our chapter to gain assets so we can reach out and help our fellow veterans. Volunteers are need-

ed to help collect and pack items. It's a great way to meet other vets while helping your chapter at the same time! Please contact Holly Erickson at 715-392-0947. She can certainly use your help organizing this sizable undertaking and we thank her for her commitment.

DAVA NEWS

The Auxiliary is now meeting from 6:30 - 7:30 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, at the Depot. We meet the same time as the men for transportation reasons. We presently have 33 members and are always looking for more members, either new or transfer members from other units. Join us for a meeting and check us out!

Our new Charter was granted in May of 2007. We have an enthusiastic and active group that meets each month. At the May 2008 convention in Rochester, MN we received a certificate of excellence for our 'Community Service' activities. Please call Marilyn (626-3366) or Mary (525-3669) for membership information. If you would need transportation, please let us know.

Remember, Honor & Support

Please continue to honor and keep current, future and past members who have passed on to eternal rest in your thoughts and do all which is possible and within your means to help support fellow veterans and their families.

Welcome New MEMBERS

Aldinger, Walter E.	Jones, Daniel E.
Baron, Matt	Jonell, Thomas R.
Bjerkness, Lee F.	Kvale, Basil R.
Carter, Richard A.	Koenig, Charles E.
Cedergren, John H.	Laverdure, Steven
Chuk, John	Lyons, Monty William
Drake, William C.	Naslund, Robert H.
Ek, John W.	Pelto, Stephen W.
Haworth, Calvin A.	Peterson, Raymond H.
Hey, Gordon A.	Peterson, Richard K.
Hietalati, Ralph	Rawitzer, Thomas A.
Hogenson, Everet A.	Reamer, William T.
Houle, William A.	Schroeder, Richard
Hussey, William R.	Teschendor, Leroy G.
Jackson, Kindra A.	Westendahl, Lyle A.
Jamros, Joseph J.	Wysoske, Brian F.
Johnson, Robert M.	

Senior Chapter Officers 07/08

Commander:.....Bruce Solem
218-525-1709 or BSERL@msn.com

Sr. Vice Cdr & Sr. Chapter OfficerJerry Uecker
218-729-9775 or jerryuecker@cpintemet.com

Adjutant:.....Barney Revier
218-728-4937 or brev558@gmail.com

Auxiliary Contacts:

Unit Commander.....Marilyn Fleming
218-626-3366 or mflfem@gmail.com

Adjutant:.....Mary Smestad
218-525-3669 or positivesolution@qwest.net

Chapter Email:davduluthmn@gmail.com

Please Come to our Meetings: We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, except January, in the RUTH MANEY ROOM, at the Duluth Depot (506 West Michigan Street), at 6:30 p.m. Contact any officer with items you would like to see addressed at the meeting.



DAV Forget-Me-Not Day
They didn't forget their duty...
Please don't forget them.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
Forget-Me-Not Day Contributions
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July 30th-August 2nd.
Gilbert Nordmann, Chapter 6
PO Box 16142 Duluth, MN 55811
davduluthmn@gmail.com

PLEASE COME TO OUR MEETINGS: We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month except January in the Ruth Maney Room, Duluth Depot at 6:30 PM. The depot is at 506 W Michigan Street. Contact any officer with items you would like to see addressed at the meeting.

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