

**2016 Department of Idaho Convention**  
**Chapter Report**

**Chapter Information:**

Chapter number:	Nine
Chapter Name:	Fort Sherman
Chapter Employer Identification Number (EIN) IRS	23 704 1057
Chapter Location:	Coeur d'Alene
Year of Charter:	1938
Date Last Incorporation Update:	September 2015
Chapter Commander's Name for period of report:	Robert Hunt relieved by Charlie Till on March 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2016
Chapter Adjutant's Name for period of report:	Bryan Bledsoe relieved by Robert Hunt on March 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2016
Number of members:	550 +/-
Average numbers of attendee's to meetings:	22 – 26

Number of Regular meetings per year: 9

Place of meeting: American Legion Post 143  
Post Falls, Idaho

Date and time of meeting: Last Tuesday of the Month at 6:00  
PM

**Legislative Activity:**

- a. Number of Letters and e mails to Congress: 732
- b. Numerous letters to state legislators for veterans home in Post Falls and attendance at town hall meetings.

**DAV Van:**

- a. Make – model - year of Van: 2010 Ford 10 Passenger
- b. Mileage on van: 115,128 (3-24-15)
- c. Average number of miles annually: 23,000 +/-
- d. Amount of money set aside for van replacement: \$32,401.45
- e. Where is van parked: Coeur d’Alene CBOC
- f. What VAMC is the owner: Spokane VAMC

Note: Van engine was replaced under warranty at 55,000 miles which means that all else being equal, this Chapter should not have to replace the van in the next two years or more.

Chapter paid for van in full and awaiting a new 2016 van this spring.

**Auxiliary unit 9:**

- a. Does Chapter have an auxiliary: Yes
- b. Does Unit meet same time and place as Chapter: Yes

- c. Number of Auxiliary members: 60 with 2 Juniors
- d. Average # of Unit members attending meetings: 12

**National Order of Trench Rats:**

- a. Does Chapter have a Dugout. Yes
- b. Does Dugout meet same time and place as Chapter No
- c. Number of Dugout members: 20
- d. Average # of Dugout members attending meetings: 100%

Dugout 637 was chartered by the Imperial Van of the National Order of Trench Rats. The Chapter donated \$850 in startup funds. The charter was awarded on 2 February 2016. Robert Hunt is the acting Golden Rodent with Charlie Till as the Silver Rodent, Arnie Howe as the Blue Rodent and Jim Karlstrand as the Red eyed Gnawer. Some members are from the Boise Area and all hands are working at starting a second dugout so Idaho can have a sector

Dugout 637 is in the middle of an authorized meat raffle expecting to raise \$5,000 with the goal of repaying the Chapter, providing scholarships for veterans at the local college, put money in the van fund and do direct veterans services.

**Officers:**

**List of Chapter officers:**

Commander	Charles Till
Sr. Vice Commander	Robert Imle
1 <sup>st</sup> Jr. Vice Commander	Fred Margiotta
2 <sup>ND</sup> Jr. Vice Commander	Jeff Broadhead
Treasurer	Kirk Kindley
Chaplain	Terry Blessing
JAG	Ralph Shrigley
OOD	Lew Allert
Sgt At Arms	Pat Mclean
Morale Officer/Sous Chef	Pat McLean
Sports Officer	Don Waddell
Field Marshall	Charlie Till

Gunnery Officer	Charlie Till
Energizer Bunny	Lew Allert
Fish and Game Officer	Bernie Fox
Facebook Social Media	Bryan Bledsoe
Adjutant	Robert Hunt

**Income Sources:**

a.	Forget Me Not Drive	\$7,712
b.	Raffles - Joint American Legion DAV Gun Raffle	\$7,803
c.	Per Capita from DAV National	\$1,683
d.	Donations – Misc – some are from the members themselves and others come in various amount from the public.	\$1,295
e.	Pepisco Frito Lay National Guard Project	\$1,187
f.	Christmas Project Donations	\$10,130
g.	Christmas Project Non Cash Donations (Estimated)	\$4,812
h.	Christmas Project Gift Cards Donations	\$650.00
i.	Hayden Eagles	\$750.00
j.	Catholic War Veterans	\$500.00
k.	Global Credit Union Wear Red	\$497.00
l.	Buck Knife Raffle	\$751
m.	Lakeland HS Girls Softball Team	\$750
n.	DAVA 9 Van Fund Donation	\$1,000

**Projects:**

Fort Sherman 9, Bonners Ferry 28, Priest River 25 and Sandpoint 15 are hosting the 2015 State DAV Convention and Mid-winter in CDA. PDC Arnold Howe is Convention Co-Chair along with Sandy Dautre DAVA PDC.

**Mobile Service Officer Van:**

Chapter puts up army style tent and sets up tables and chairs, heaters, doughnuts, coffee, water, etc. Chapter service officer sits in for learning purposes. Members do outreach with veterans waiting and run sign up sheets.

### **Parades:**

Chapter participated in parades in Athol, Bayview, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden, Post Falls, Spirit Lake, St. Maries, and the Hayden Veterans Day Parade.

### **Newby-Ginnings:**

Wheel chairs and OVAP material continue to be stored and issued from the facility in Hayden. Within the month, they will move to Post Falls to a 5,700 square foot facility.

### **Frito Lay – Pepisco National Guard Project:**

Chapter and Auxiliary members manned tables at multiple stores for six days distributing lists of items suitable for the National Guard and then accepting the items. Cash was tendered in some cases. Two semi-truckloads of items were collected for the National Guard. This project was not done by Pepsico last year, but as soon as state convention has ended, Chapter 9 and Unit 9 will repeat the project this year.

### **Stand Down:**

Chapter members provided labor and some members were major planners throughout the year. Set up tent at entrance and members worked throughout the standdown. One member was one of the main organizers.

### **State Commander's BBQ:**

State Commanders did not visit last summer so no bbq was held.

### **Shooting:**

The Chapter has a Field Marshal and is responsible for a shooting events. The Chapter has shot at the Sandpoint City Range, Center Target Sports, Osburn NRA Range and the Panhandle Regulators Single Action Shooting Society facility. Usually fried chicken and potato salad are available and the day is a enjoyable social event.

Last fall, we hosted US Senator Mike Crapo for an afternoon of Cowboy Shooting.

**Christmas:**

The Chapter provided Christmas presents, gift cards, stockings, candy, nuts, food baskets to 75 children of 28 families of veterans, National Guardsmen, Reservists and active duty in North Idaho. The Chapter provided or channeled approximately \$20,000 in gifts, food, cards, etc. The Chapter had support from the Blue Star Mothers, Catholic War Veterans, Knights of Columbus, two car clubs, the local newspaper, and 85 cash donors.

**Memorial Day and Veterans Day:**

Chapter members and Auxiliary members attend ceremonies in multiple area schools.

The adjutant speaks to six middle school classes in Post Falls. Members attend events at the local cemeteries.

**Community and misc:**

Chapter members have participated in a large chili cook off in Coeur d'Alene for the Children's Village. The Chapter has a large Army tent and it is used for the stand down, the mobile service van to provide shelter and a place to serve coffee and rolls to veterans.

**Golden Corral:**

Although we were allowed to take donations and do outreach for nearly two weeks prior to veterans day, this Chapter did not make a formal effort to avail itself of that time. Several members did set up tables and the doors were manned for several hours on average each day. An all out effort was made on Veterans Day with the Coeur d'Alene van parked directly in front of the store door.

**Special disbursement of Chapter Funds:**

\$180	DAV Caps for members attending three consecutive meetings.
\$80	Partial life membership payment for four members
\$1,000	Transfer to van fund
\$11,054	Christmas Project
\$3,100	Christmas Project Gift Cards
\$418	State Commander's/Five northern chapters BBQ
\$200	VVA Agent Orange Study
\$84	Chapter Chaplain Cards
\$300	Assist Veteran

\$462	Mid Winter Conference Costs
\$220	Assist veteran cremation
\$1,000	Assist veteran
\$550	Assist Veteran
\$500	Support for material for Quilts of Valor
\$195	Assist Veteran
\$550	Assist Veteran
\$1,191	Split to Auxiliary for Golden Corral Fund Raising
\$300	Assist Veteran
\$312	Plaques
\$900	Assist Veteran with Medical bills
\$1,000	Standdown
\$450	State Convention Registration Fees
\$336	State Convention Fees
\$1,000	Newby Ginings
\$353	Stove for veteran
\$350	Four Chaplains Plaque for CDA VA CBOC

The list above is not an exhaustive or complete list. It is merely to highlight the main activities of the Chapter. This report is meant to give the reader a snapshot of DAV 9 activities.

### **FORT SHERMAN 9 CHAPTER GOALS FOR 2015-2016**

- 1: Develop short training sessions for each meeting on Robert's Rules of Order  
(Each meeting had time devoted to Robert's Rules of Order – great progress)**
- 2: Develop a spending plan  
(Nothing was started)**
- 3: Sponsor a NOTR Dugout  
(Dugout 637 was chartered and is about to hold first meetings)**
- 4: Start up DAV District One  
(Started up and caps issued)**

- 5: Develop a new member training course  
(Nothing was done)**

**FORT SHERMAN 9 CHAPTER GOALS FOR 2016-2017**

- 1: Outreach – make every effort to reach veterans and help them access their benefits from both the VAMC and the benefits administration.**
- 2: Assist veterans in signing up for medical care at the Spokane VAMC.**
- 3: Sell the old Chapter Van and ensure that the Van Fund receives the funds.**
- 4: Establish and expand scholarship funds for veterans at North Idaho College with its 1,200 veteran students.**
- 5: Emphasize the use of Chapter Website DAV9.com and ensure that it is promptly updated with timely and pertinent information.**
- 6: Work up a written Chapter budget**

*Charlie Till, Field Marshal*

Chapter Commander