

Harold Baggenstoss
Post 1260

May, 2019
Volume 86, Issue 5



FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Comrades,

May 7th, 2019. Our next meeting at 7:00 p.m. Where? Bemidji Eagles Club rooms. All newly elected officers be sure to be there as you will be sworn in and have your picture taken.

April 27 & 28th we will be having our Loyalty Days in Thief River Falls along with election of district officers. In the month of May we will be offering poppies to the public, and the 25th we have a funeral West of Busy Corner on Hwy #1 three miles west and North on #37. Also we will be holding Memorial Day service at Fern Cemetery in Becida. Forgot to mention that on April 26th we were asked to come into the Laporte School and talk about flag education.

Military retirees who have a service-connected disability rating below 50 percent have their retirement pay reduced, dollar for dollar, by the amount of disability compensation they receive. This demeaning tax, created by Congress to save money, forces those who have dedicated their careers to military service to make due without benefits they need to provide for their families.



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

May 7th—Installation of new officers

May 27th—Memorial Day

Contact your members of Congress and urge them to cosponsor the Retired Pay Restoration Act. Our nation is still at war. We must ensure that benefits earned through honorable service to this country are improved, not eroded.

On the lighter side: Did you hear about the duck that walked into the drug store and picked up some chap stick and said, “ put it on my bill”.

Bruce Malterud, Commander

218-766-3898

bmjm@paulbunyan.net

Mark your calendars! Next meeting is Tuesday, May 7th!!

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

May 14, 1607 - The first permanent English settlement in America was established at Jamestown, Virginia, by a group of royally chartered Virginia Company settlers from Plymouth, England.

May 14, 1804 - Meriwether Lewis and William Clark departed St. Louis on their expedition to explore the Northwest. They arrived at the Pacific coast of Oregon in November of 1805 and returned to St. Louis in September of 1806, completing a journey of about 6,000 miles.

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

NOTICE: VFW website: www.vfwpost1260.org. All updated information is available concerning our local VFW Post #1260 as well as our state and national information.

VFW Post #1260 Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 7th

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Eagles Club



- May 7- Installation of new VFW officers for 2019-2020.
- May 8- National Teacher's Day.
- May 12- **Mother's Day.**
- May 15- Peace Officers Day.
- May 15-18- **Individual Poppy Sales.**
- May 18- Armed Forces Day.
- **May 27- Memorial Day.**

Bring another veteran to our meeting.

Harold Baggenstoss

VFW Post #1260

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VFW Post Adjutant

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VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Beltrami County



Memorial Day at Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery - Little Falls

The Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery – Little Falls will host a memorial ceremony beginning on Sunday, May 26th, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. There will be music from the Richfield Symphonic Band, followed by a formal ceremony. The guest speaker will be MG (Ret) David D. Hamlar Jr.

Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair and, due to the high number of attendees, carpool if possible.

Date: Sunday, May 26th, 2019

Time: 1:30 – Music from the Richfield Symphonic Band begins
2:00 – Formal Ceremony begins

Memorial Day services at Fern Cemetery in Bécida

Date: May 27th, 2019



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OUR SACRIFICE

<u>Conflict</u>	<u>Casualties</u>
American Revolution	50,000
Northwest Indian War	1,881
War of 1812	20,000
Mexican American War	17,435
Civil War—Union	646,392
Civil War—Confederate	~524,000
Dakota War of 1862	263
Spanish-American War	4,068
Philippine-American War	7,126
World War I	320,518
World War II	1,076,245
Korean War	128,650
Vietnam War	211,454
Afghanistan War	22,878
Iraq War	36,894

NOTE: There are other smaller conflicts not listed where service members sacrificed their lives

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

MEMORIAL (DAY) PRAYERS



Almighty God our Heavenly Father, in Your hands are the living and the dead; we give You thanks for all those, our comrades and sisters, who have laid down their lives in the service of our Country.

May they rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon them. May the good work of seeking justice for the oppressed and peace for all mankind be rewarded with success, that their sacrifices shall not have been in vain. And may we never fail to remember the awesome cost of the freedom which we enjoy.

Amen.

(Concluding prayer) Almighty God, our gratitude for Your generosity grows with each passing day. We acknowledge this day's special blessings. We have honored those who now enjoy Your eternal embrace. We ask Your blessings on all that are present here.. Especially do we seek Your consolation for those recently bereaved. May Your grace be with them and with us now and forever. And, if it by Your will, may we all be favored to gather again in these circumstances and in this company before another year has passed.

Amen

SPOT LIGHT ON....

THE HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day. It was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by "decorating" their graves. It was first observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers. During this first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.

This 1868 celebration inspired local observances in several towns throughout America. By the late 1800s, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Decoration Day and, after World War I, observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars.

In 1966, the Federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event since their first celebration on May 5, 1866, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags. (Other towns have claimed to be the birthplace of this celebration including Boalsburg, Pennsylvania.)

In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a National Holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May.

Training Program for Afghan Pilots in US Ends After Nearly Half Go AWOL

3 May 2019

Military.com | By Richard Sisk

The military has shut down a training program for Afghan pilots and maintainers in the U.S. because of high desertion rates among the trainees, according to the office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR).

Desertions among members of the Afghan military training in the U.S., who often claim that they or their families have been threatened by the Taliban, have been a persistent problem for the U.S. military and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

In its quarterly report in October 2017, SIGAR said: "Given the deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan and the fact that Afghan trainees who violate the terms of their visas suffer virtually no consequences for going AWOL (except for the possible return to Afghanistan), the AWOL rate is likely to either remain steady or increase."

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT REP-



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THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

May 14, 1942 - During World War II, an Act of Congress allowed women to enlist for noncombat duties in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC), the Women Appointed for Voluntary Emergency Service (WAVES), Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), and Semper Paratus Always Ready Service (SPARS), the Women's Reserve of the Marine Corp.

May 16, 1862 - During the American Civil War, Union General Benjamin Butler, military governor of New Orleans, issued his "Woman Order" declaring that any Southern woman showing disrespect for Union soldiers or the U.S. would be regarded as a woman of the town, or prostitute. This and other controversial acts by Butler set the stage for his dismissal as military governor in December 1862.

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POST AUXILIARY

Greetings Everyone,

Don't give up hope – May is here, so spring can't be far behind!!

Our May Auxiliary meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at the Bemidji Eagles Club. Hope you can all attend that meeting since this is when we will have the Installation for our officers for the coming year.

This month is also when we do our individual Poppy Drive for four days in May. Those days are: Thursday thru Sunday, May 16th thru 19th. We will have people working at several locations throughout town to distribute poppies. We still have openings on our schedule, and we could sure use your help. Please give me a call if you may be able to pick up a shift or two to help us out. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year.

In April we distributed the Poppy Cards to businesses around town and the surrounding area. That went very well this year. We raised a total of \$7,605 on poppy cards, and are hoping to do great on the individual poppies as well.

May also finds us making plans for Memorial Day services in several locations so we can honor our fallen soldiers. Please make plans to help us out with the services and programs. Contact Commander, Bruce Malterud, or myself to see where we are having services and how you can be a part of them.

At the moment we have 17 towels sewn for Towel Buddies. (Thanks Lana!) We will need to sew more towels so we can do a batch of approximately 40. At our May meeting we will see how schedules look for setting a date to get together and make more towel buddies to give out to local veterans.

Hope your month of May is a wonderful one. Though things are getting busier by the day, please take the time to thank a veteran for all they (and their families) have done for us.

Best Regards,
Margaret Booge
President, VFW Auxiliary 1260
218-556-9482

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ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH



Mike Gutz, Post 1260 member, competed in the VFW State open class pistol shoot in Brainerd on February 23. Mike earned the 2nd place trophy.



OUR DAILY COMMITMENT

Hours served: 169

Members volunteered: 27

Total dollar: \$626

Current Members: 247

2019 TAPS

John Liapis

POINTS OF CONTACT

Commander	Bruce Malterud	218-766-3898	bmjm@paulbunyan.net
Adjutant	Clare Kapphahn	218-243-3060	ckapphan@paulbunyan.net
Quartermaster	Kelly Booge	218-308-1171	kelbooge@paulbunyan.net
Sr. Vice Commander	John Naastad	651-283-8657	johnnaastad@hotmail.com
Jr. Vice Commander	Jim Johnson		
Surgeon			
Chaplain	Jerry Wraa	218-776-3949	jlwraa@gvtel.com
Asst Chaplain	Vacant		
Veterans Service Officer	Scotty Allison	218-333-4178	campbell.allison@co.beltrami.mn.us
Post Auxiliary President	Margarete Booge	218-751-3258	kelbooge@paulbunyan.net
Post Auxiliary Treasurer	Janie Malterud	218-854-7499	bmjm@paulbunyan.net
DAV Chapter #7	Thomas Annonson	218-251-3025	torgor@lightspeed.net

Support Numbers

Education: <http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org>

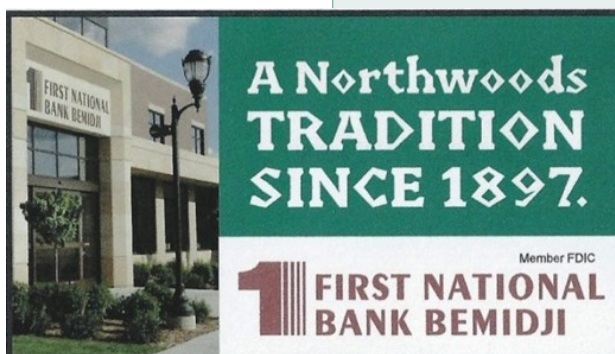
Health Care: 1-877-222-8387

Suicide Prev. Hotline: 1-800-273-8255


Fargo VA: 1-800-410-9723

Help Line: 1-855-VET-TALK

VA Community Outpatient Clinic-Bemidji: 218-755-6360



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POST 1260

The purpose is fraternal, patriotic, historical, and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain rue allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies, whomever.

- *Youth activities, Voice of Democracy & Youth Essay*
- *Patriotic Activities*
- *Aid to Schools & Churches*
- *Membership*
- *Help to obtain benefits*
- *Legislative Service*
- *Buddy Poppy Promotion*