

Harold Baggenstoss  
Post 1260

June, 2019  
Volume 86, Issue 6



## FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary;

Here it is June already and it seems like the snow just left us. Well anyway June 4th is our meeting coming up at 7:00 p.m. at the Eagles Club Rooms. I have had a couple of inquiries as to what we do in the community and what we are all about and that's a good thing so I invited them to a meeting. All you members can do the same thing and invite a veteran that is eligible to join our ranks.

These past two days have given me a spring fever and to remind me to get the boat out and do some fishing. I haven't had it in the water yet as this is a first time since, I can't remember. This retirement is not suppose to be this busy, or it just takes me longer to do anything any more. The more I do the be hinder I get.

**1. House Passes Blue Water Navy Act:** By a vote of 410-0, the House on Tuesday unanimously passed H.R. 299, the *Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019*. "The VFW salutes the united support of the House," said VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence. "Your vote will positively impact thousands of lives, and it once again proves that taking care of veterans and their families is a nonpartisan issue." Once signed into law, H.R. 299 will restore VA benefits to thousands of so-called Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans who had their disability eligibility taken away after regulatory changes. Veterans exposed to Agent Orange while serving along the Korean DMZ will have an earlier start date to encompass the time frame when various defoliants were tested — from April 1, 1968, to Sept. 1, 1967.



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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

June 12-16—State Convention  
June 14—Flag Day

Benefits will expand to include children born with spina bifida due to a parent's exposure in Thailand, as well as require VA to report on research being conducted on a broad range of conditions possibly related to service in Southwest Asia. The bill now moves to the Senate, which "failed to pass H.R. 299 in the previous Congress," said Lawrence. "We cannot allow this to happen again, which is why I am urging every veteran, family member and advocate to contact their U.S. senators to get this bill passed and signed into law now!" 1. House Passes Blue Water Navy Act: By a vote of 410-0, the House on Tuesday unanimously passed H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019. "The VFW salutes the united support of the House," said VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence. "Your vote will positively impact thousands of lives, and it once again proves that taking care of veterans and their families is a nonpartisan issue." Once signed into law, H.R. 299 will restore VA benefits to thousands of so-called Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans who had their disability eligibility taken away after regulatory changes. Veterans exposed to Agent Orange while serving along the Korean DMZ will have an earlier start date to encompass the time frame when various defoliants were tested — from April 1, 1968, to Sept. 1, 1967. Benefits will expand to include children born with spina bifida due to a parent's exposure in Thailand, as well as require VA to report on research being conducted on a broad range of conditions possibly related to service in Southwest Asia. The bill now moves to the Senate, which "failed to pass H.R. 299 in the previous Congress," said Lawrence. "We cannot allow this to happen again, which is why I am urging every veteran, family member and advocate to contact their U.S. senators to get this bill passed and signed into law now!" I took this from the VFW Action Corp Newsletter.

I'm not going into detail about our poppy drive as President Margaret covered it very good in her news letter. I do want to Thank President Margaret for the good job she did communicating and organizing the poppy drive and to all those that helped with distributing the cards and those that were in front of the businesses offering the poppies to the public. Thank you all.

I want to congratulate all the newly elected officers for the ensuing year. They all have been given the oath and installed to take their respective office on June 16th after the state commander is sworn in that day in St. Cloud.

Bruce Malterud, Commander  
218-766-3898  
bmjm@paulbunyan.net

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*Mark your calendars! Next meeting is Tuesday, June 4th!!*

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#### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

June 14, 1775 - The first U.S. Military service, the Continental Army consisting of six companies of riflemen, was established by the Second Continental Congress. The next day, George Washington was appointed by a unanimous vote to command the army.

June 14, 1777 - John Adams introduced a resolution before Congress mandating a United States flag, stating, "...that the flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation." This anniversary is celebrated each year in the U.S. as Flag Day.

#### ADJUTANT'S CORNER

**NOTICE:** VFW website: [www.vfwpost1260.org](http://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, June 4th**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

**Where: Eagles Club**

- June 5- World Environment Day.
- June 12-16, State Convention, St. Cloud.
- **June 14- Flag Day.**
- June 16- Father's Day.
- June 21- First Day of Summer.

**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

### THE HISTORY OF FLAG DAY

The Fourth of July was traditionally celebrated as America's birthday, but the idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885. BJ Cigrand, a schoolteacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, District 6, to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as 'Flag Birthday'. In numerous magazines and newspaper articles and public addresses over the following years, Cigrand continued to enthusiastically advocate the observance of June 14 as 'Flag Birthday', or 'Flag Day'.

On June 14, 1889, George Balch, a kindergarten teacher in New York City, planned appropriate ceremonies for the children of his school, and his idea of observing Flag Day was later adopted by the State Board of Education of New York. On June 14, 1891, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration, and on June 14 of the following year, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution, celebrated Flag Day.

Following the suggestion of Colonel J Granville Leach (at the time historian of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution), the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America on April 25, 1893 adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the Flag on June 14th. Leach went on to recommend that thereafter the day be known as 'Flag Day', and on that day, school children be assembled for appropriate exercises, with each child being given a small Flag.

Two weeks later on May 8th, the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution unanimously endorsed the action of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames. As a result of the resolution, Dr. Edward Brooks, then Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia, directed that Flag Day exercises be held on June 14, 1893 in Independence Square. School children were assembled, each carrying a small Flag, and patriotic songs were sung and addresses delivered.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings. With BJ Cigrand and Leroy Van Horn as the moving spirits, the Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized for the purpose of promoting the holding of Flag Day exercises. On June 14th, 1894, under the auspices of this association, the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating.

Adults, too, participated in patriotic programs. Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, delivered a 1914 Flag Day address in which he repeated words he said the flag had spoken to him that morning: "I am what you make me; nothing more. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself."

Inspired by these three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day - the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 - was officially *established* by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30th, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3rd, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating **June 14th** of each year as **National Flag Day**.

Source: [www.usflag.org](http://www.usflag.org)



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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....

### Flag Etiquette

The flag is a symbol of respect, honor, and patriotism. It may be displayed on any day of the year according to the following guidelines:

The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement.

The custom is to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on flagstaffs in the open, but it may be displayed at night—if illuminated—to produce a patriotic effect.

The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on:

New Year's Day, January 1  
Inauguration Day, January 20  
Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, third Monday in January  
Lincoln's Birthday, February 12  
Washington's Birthday, third Monday in February  
Easter Sunday (variable)  
Mother's Day, second Sunday in May  
Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May  
Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), the last Monday in May  
Flag Day, June 14  
Father's Day, third Sunday in June  
Independence Day, July 4  
Labor Day, first Monday in September  
Constitution Day, September 17  
Columbus Day, second Monday in October  
Navy Day, October 27  
Veterans Day, November 11  
Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thursday in November  
Christmas Day, December 25

Return of Rolling Thunder?  
Trump Weighs in on Memorial  
Day Ride

27 May 2019

Military.com | By Richard Sisk

The riders of veterans group Rolling Thunder began leaving Washington, D.C., Monday amid mixed messages. Though the organization had said that 2019 would be its last Memorial Day ride in the nation's capital, messaging from the White House said they'd be back in 2020 for a 33rd annual motorcycle tribute to those who fell in combat, and POWs and the missing-in-action from America's wars.

"If [President Donald Trump] has anything to do with it, this will not be the last ride of Rolling Thunder," Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie said to cheers at a Rolling Thunder rally at the Lincoln Memorial Sunday following the annual ride to the site from the Pentagon.

## VETERANS EMPLOYMENT REP-



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learn more about the positions  
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[jobs.mdu.com](http://jobs.mdu.com)

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### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

June 14, 1922 - Warren G. Harding became the first U.S. President to broadcast a message over the radio. The event was the dedication of the Francis Scott Key Memorial in Baltimore.

June 18, 1812 - After much debate, the U.S. Senate voted 19 to 13 in favor of a declaration of war against Great Britain, prompted by Britain's violation of America's rights on the high seas and British incitement of Indian warfare on the Western frontier. The next day, President James Madison officially proclaimed the U.S. to be in a state of war. The War of 1812 lasted over two years and ended with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent in Belgium on December 24, 1814.

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## POST AUXILIARY

Hello Everyone. As of this writing in late May, I could still say we are anxiously awaiting the final arrival of spring!! Hope for all our sakes things warm up nicely and stay that way for a few months now.

We have just finished with our annual Poppy drive. The Poppy Card distribution to area businesses went well, and the distribution of individual poppies at several locations went pretty well also. The weather was not as co-

operative this year. However, most of the locations were generous enough to let us set up inside the stores rather than being outside in the cold. There was good support from the community again this year. After our final tally, we find we have had another "banner year". We raised \$8,120.00 on the Poppy Cards, and \$10,400.09 on the Individual Poppies. We have to take the expense of purchasing the Poppy Cards and a few other miscellaneous items out of the total. The remainder is used directly on local veterans and their families. Thanks so much to everyone that stepped up and helped make this year another success. It is a big undertaking, but we make it happen because we all work together.

Early in this month of June, we will get together to assemble July 4th decorations to be given to our local veterans living in nursing homes. We make table and/or door decorations to help brighten their room. We want all veterans and their families to know how much we appreciate their service, and to know they are not forgotten.

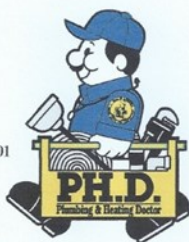
Hope you will clear your schedule, and come to our next meeting and be a part of the group. Meetings are always the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Bemidji Eagles Club. Our June meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4th. We would love to see you there!

Best Regards to you and your family,

Margaret Booge  
President, VFW Auxiliary 1260

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## ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH



Post 1260 Commander Bruce Malterud and Past Commander Duane Bundy selling Buddy Poppies.



### 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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- *Aid to Schools & Churches*
- *Membership*
- *Help to obtain benefits*
- *Legislative Service*
- *Buddy Poppy Promotion*

HAROLD BAGGENSTOSS  
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.