

Harold Baggenstoss  
Post 1260

December, 2019  
Volume 86, Issue 12



## FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Comrades,

I welcome you all to the upcoming meeting on Dec. 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Bemidji Eagles Club rooms. We will be discussing the Pearl Harbor dinner and the silent auction and the meal. **SO AT THIS TIME MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR DEC. 8TH ( SUNDAY ) AT 4:00 P.M. SOCIAL WITH MEAL SERVED AT 5:00 P.M. This is for all veterans.**

I have been busy this past month doing VFW Post Inspections along with my deputy inspectors to keep our posts in compliance with our Nat'l By-Laws and keep them from getting into trouble with the IRS. and make sure that they file their 990 forms to keep them at a non profit status. Along with that we had a couple of funerals and on Veterans Day the Color Guard participated in a program at Northern School which we are asked to do each year. It's great to see these students take part in school programs as such and show their appreciation towards the veterans and being patriotic as such.

In Dec. we will have our district meeting in Fergus Falls which falls on Pearl Harbor Day this year, Sat. the 7th and of course our Pearl Harbor Dinner on Sunday the 8th as I mentioned earlier in this letter. Dec. 14th we will be involved with the Civil Air Patrol with Wreathes Across America at Greenwood Cemetery.

Veterans across the nation are satisfied with the care they receive at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), according to the Our Care 2019 Report Evaluating Veterans Health Care survey released by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW). The survey, which asked Veterans about their experience with VA health care since the MISSION Act was implemented, found that more than 80% were satisfied with their VA health care.

WWW.VFWPOST1260.ORG



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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

December 8th— VFW Pearl Harbor Dinner at the Eagles

### Next Two Months Meetings

January 7th

February 4th

Nearly 75% of Veteran respondents reported improvements at their local VA, and more than 90% would recommend VA care to fellow Veterans. The survey also revealed while most Veterans still prefer to receive care from the VA, Veterans using community care have fewer billing issues and a positive opinion of the MISSION Act urgent care benefits. "The VFW survey highlights the great work that we are seeing at VA across the nation," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "The 2019 Our Care survey results highlight VA's continued commitment to improving Veteran care and how Veterans access the benefits they have earned, including improvements to facility availability, the streamlining of community care programs under MISSION Act and overall technological modernization." VA is seeing more patients more quickly than ever before and studies show VA now compares favorably to the private sector for access and quality of care – and in many cases exceeds it. More than 6,900 Veterans, participated in this year's survey and more than 33,000 Veterans from every state and territory, including Washington, D.C., have participated since VFW began conducting the 'Our Care' surveys in 2015. Since then, VFW has conducted eight surveys and published six reports on VA health care. I found this to be interesting so I copied it out of the VA News letter that I receive e-mail.

On the lighter side; For you golfers. A man was about to tee off on the golf course when he felt a tap on his shoulder. Behind him a man handed him a card that read, "I am mute. I am not able to speak. May I play through, please?"

The first man angrily gave the card back, and communicated, "No, you may not play through. This handicap does not give you such a right." He turned, whacked the ball onto the green and left to finish the hole. Just as he was about to tap the ball into the cup he was hit in the head with a golf ball, laying him out cold.

When he came to a few minutes later, he looked around and saw the mute sternly looking at him, holding up 4 fingers.

Did you know? Copper wire was invented when two corporate executives found the same penny.  
Commander, Bruce

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*Mark your calendars! Next meeting is Tuesday, December 3rd!!*

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#### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

December 15, 1791 - The Bill of Rights (first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution) became effective following ratification by Virginia.

December 15, 1890 - Sioux leader Sitting Bull (native name Tatanka-yatanka) was killed in a skirmish with U.S. soldiers along the Grand River in South Dakota as his warriors tried to prevent his arrest.

December 15, 1943 - The Battle of San Pietro took place during World War II as a German panzer battalion devastated American forces trying to take the 700-year-old Italian village. Hollywood director John Huston, serving as an army lieutenant, filmed the battle and left behind a graphic account.

#### 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, December 3rd**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

**Where: Eagles Club**

Dec. 7- Pearl Harbor Day.  
Dec. 8- Pearl Harbor Dinner.  
Dec. 22- First Day of Winter.  
Dec. 24- Christmas Eve.  
Dec. 25- Christmas Day.  
Dec. 31- New Year's 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*

# *Pearl Harbor*

## *Remembrance Day*

**Saturday, December 7, 2019**

Program: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Reception: 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

### **Veterans Service Building**

Veterans Hall Conference Room

East Wing, 1st Floor

20 W. 12th St.

St. Paul, MN



**For more information, visit [minnesotaveteran.org/pearlharbor](http://minnesotaveteran.org/pearlharbor)**



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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

### PEARL HARBOR PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we are gathered here to commemorate those who gave their lives at Peal Harbor on December 7th, 1941. Let us always honor the memory of the brave men who sacrificed so that we may experience freedom in a Country that is free. Let us be reminded of life, liberty, justice, freedom and democracy that we may be ever grateful to You and those veterans who gave so much for their Country. We ask Your blessing upon us this day and grant unto us Your continued fellowship that makes abiding peace.

**Amen.**



## SPOT LIGHT ON....

### PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE



#### DID YOU KNOW?

- U.S. military casualties totaled more than 3,400, including more than 2,300 killed.
- The Japanese lost from 29 to 60 planes, five midget submarines, perhaps one or two fleet submarines, and fewer than 100 men.
- According to a Gallup Poll taken after the attack on Pearl Harbor, 97% of Americans approved of declaring war.
- An enormous amount of fuel has spilled from the wreckage of the USS Arizona and gathered in a plume underneath Pearl Harbor.
- Prior to the attack, the United States had been expecting Japan to attack somewhere in the Philippines.

Veterans who survived the attack on Pearl Harbor can ask to be put to rest there.

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Pearl-Harbor-attack>

## VETERANS EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVE



Jobs currently available:  
Stop in or visit our website to learn more about the positions available and to apply.  
[jobs.mdu.com](http://jobs.mdu.com)

Training Available.

Knife River Materials  
Northern Minnesota Division  
4101 Bemidji Ave N  
Bemidji, MN 56601

### HOT OFF THE PRESS

Bills Would Award Congressional Gold Medal to Army Rangers of WWII

17 Nov 2019

Military.com | By Richard Sisk

Bills have been introduced in the House and Senate to award the Army Rangers of World War II the medal, the highest civilian award bestowed by the United States, along with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Retired Maj. Gen. John Raaen, 97, said in an interview Friday that the award, if approved, would come as a "final act of recognition" for the service of Rangers in all theaters of World War II, including the legendary "Boys of Pointe du Hoc."

According to Raaen and former Army Capt. Ron Hudnell, whose father, James B. Hudnell, was a Ranger private first class at D-Day, there are about 41 Ranger survivors of World War II remaining from more than 7,000 who served.

The Congressional Gold Medal has been awarded more than 160 times in the past to individuals or groups "who have performed an achievement that has an impact on American history and culture that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the recipient's field long after the achievement."

Last year, Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, an Army veteran, introduced a bill to award the medal to the Rangers, but time ran out before it could come to a vote.





### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

December 15, 1961 - Nazi SS-Colonel Adolf Eichmann was sentenced to death in Jerusalem for his role in the Holocaust. Eichmann had organized the deportation of Jews from all over occupied Europe to Nazi death camps.

December 15, 1964 - Canada adopted a new national flag featuring a red maple leaf on a white background.

December 15, 1989 - The dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet ended in Chile. Pinochet had come to power in 1973 after a military overthrow of the democratically elected government.

## POST AUXILIARY

Greetings Everyone,  
A reminder of upcoming events in December, and a reminder that we need your help to make these events a success. Our regular monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, December 3rd. Our Christmas party begins at 6:00 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. (Please bring an approximately \$10 value gift to exchange.) On Sunday, December 8th, the Post and Auxiliary will host our annual

Pearl Harbor Dinner. This evening of patriotism, dinner, fund raising, and companionship will be held at the Bemidji Eagles Club. Social Hour begins at 4:00 p.m., the dinner is at 5:00 p.m., followed by a short program. Again this year we will have the silent auction and 50/50 raffle at the event. Be thinking of crafts, baked goods, or items you could put on the silent auction to help with our fund raiser. The money we raise goes directly to local veterans and their families. We encourage you all to come to the dinner and join us. We ask a free will donation for the meal. In late November some members of the Auxiliary got together to make some holiday decorations for our nursing home veterans. These don't take much time, and they go a long way to letting our nursing home veterans know we keep their wellbeing in mind always. If you didn't get a chance to help, but would like to – just make a few decorations and drop them off to the Activities Director at any of the nursing homes. Ask them to make sure they are given to veterans.

As we head into December, and then into the New Year, we are still working on "Fishing for Members". Remember we are always trying to get more members in the VFW Auxiliary so we have a good strong group to help our local veterans and their families.

Looking forward to seeing you at all the activities in December. Wishing you all the blessings of the season. Take time to take care. Spend time with family, and don't forget our veterans in your celebrations and your prayers.

Margaret Booge  
President, VFW Auxiliary 1260

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# Hill's

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## ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH



Post 1260 participated in Northern School's Veterans Day Ceremony.

L to R—Russ Fricke, Roger Reese, Gary Guggenburger, Jim Johnson & Bruce Malterud

## 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



### OUR DAILY COMMITMENT

Hours served: 169

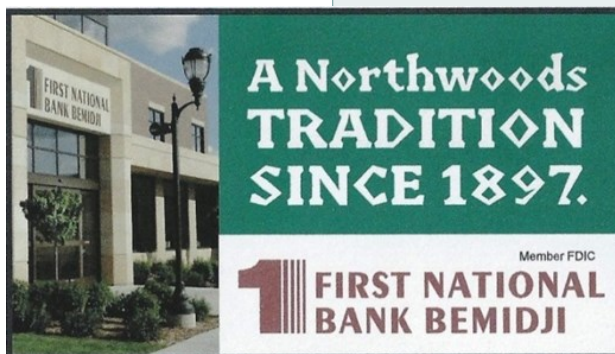
Members volunteered: 27

Total dollar: \$626


Current Members: 247

### 2019 TAPS

William Britton  
Harold Dosedall  
James Ghostley  
Wilber Kraft  
John Liapis  
John O'Boyle  
Merril Thiel  
Dean Kondos  
Charles Noreen  
Edward Hellmann



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- *Patriotic Activities*
- *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.