

Harold Baggenstoss  
Post 1260

November, 2019  
Volume 86, Issue 11



## FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Comrades,

Our meeting is always the first Tue. of each month at 7:00 p.m. Bemidji Eagles Club rooms. Please stop in and join us and see what we have been doing in the community and enjoy some comradeship with other veterans.

This past month along with the auxiliary we provided a meal for our veterans at Adult Day Care Center and had live music for them also and for everyone else to enjoy. On Sat. the 12th of Oct. I was a guest at Dining Out with the Civil Air Patrol. That group always does a fine job in our community.

Every piece of personally identifiable information, whether it's a Social Security number, date of birth, home address, etc., is more than just a number. It represents a person's identity, livelihood, and personal or financial well-being. VA's More Than a Number identity protection program provides information to educate Veterans and their beneficiaries on how to protect themselves from identity theft. On this website, [va.com](http://va.com), you will find a wide range of information on identity theft, how to spot it, ways to prevent it, and what to do if you suspect you are a victim. You can also browse through links to other useful identity theft resources from across the Web. The va has set up a toll free number that you can call, 1-855-578-5492, if you suspect identity theft.

[WWW.VFWPOST1260.ORG](http://WWW.VFWPOST1260.ORG)



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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

November 11—Veterans Day  
December 8th— VFW Pearl Harbor Dinner at the Eagles

## Next Two Months Meetings

December 3rd  
January 7th

This news letter will be on the short side because I want to put a lot of names out there asking for your help. Does anyone recognize any of these names and their whereabouts whether deceased or not?

Amond Brattland, Wallace E Cluff, Henry W Falk, Howard D Gillman, Ronald K Hamilton, Harold L Hanson, Oren R Hazelton, Edwald B Hellmann, Orville K Hilliard, Russell N Jacobson, Frank R Jones, Harold K Kolstad, James D McClellan, Melvin L Miller, Charles Noren, Cliff O Nystrom, Charles S Osborn, Duane P Peterson, Kenneth C Rice, Marvin L Siegersma, Roman Sigana, Paul L Smith and Joseph W Welch. Thanks and please notify me.

On the Lighter side,

Another blonde joke! A blonde asked someone what time it was, and they told her it was 4:45. The blonde, with a puzzled look on her face replied, "You know, it's the weirdest thing. I have been asking that question all day, and each time I get a different answer."

Bruce Malterud, Commander

218-766-3898

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*Mark your calendars! Next meeting is Tuesday, November 5th!!*

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#### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

November 15, 1889 - Brazil became a republic.

November 15, 1943 - During the Holocaust, Heinrich Himmler ordered Gypsies and part-Gypsies to be sent to concentration camps. The number of Gypsies killed by Nazis is estimated up to 500,000.

November 15, 1969 - The largest antiwar rally in U.S. History occurred as 250,000 persons gathered in Washington, D.C., to protest the Vietnam War.

November 15, 1980 - Pope John Paul II visited West Germany, the first papal visit to Germany in 200 years.

#### 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, November 5th**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

**Where: Eagles Club**

Nov. 3- Daylight Saving Time Ends.

Nov. 5- Election Day.

Nov. 11- **Veteran's Day.**

Nov. 28- Thanksgiving Day.

**Bring another veteran to our meeting.**

Harold Baggenstoss

VFW Post #1260

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Bemidji, MN 56619

VFW Post Adjutant

[ckapphan@paulbunyan.net](mailto:ckapphan@paulbunyan.net)

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## VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

*Beltrami County*

### Veterans Home in Bemidji awaiting Federal funding decision

Oct 11, 2019

**St. Paul, Minn.** – The architectural designs are nearing completion, and the Federal funding application has been submitted. Additional details have been provided to decision makers.

Officials from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs visited Bemidji on Thursday to provide an update to the Veterans Home planning task force on the status of the [proposed Minnesota Veterans Home in Bemidji](#).

In 2018, the Minnesota Legislature allocated \$10.2 million toward the cost of the project which will be funded by a combination of federal-granted (65 percent), state-bonded and pending community-provided monies (35 percent). In March of this year, MDVA submitted an application for Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; that funding will not be confirmed until early 2020.

While Federal funds are not guaranteed, there is continued optimism among the planning team. “The process is on track,” said MDVA Commissioner Larry Herke. “We look forward to approval of our Federal funding request and breaking ground on this new Veterans Home next year.” If funding is approved in early 2020, the project’s tentative timeline includes construction beginning in mid-2020 and the new home opening in early 2022.

The Bemidji Home’s design reflects a North woods cabin feel for the public spaces that include a Town Center featuring a small coffee shop/cafe, theater/meeting room, family dining room, meditation room/chapel, and club room. The 72 residential units all have private baths and will be split into two sections and four “neighborhoods,” avoiding long institutional-feeling hallways.

While the funding process is moving along, there have been some adjustments in the final design. Increasing construction and labor costs necessitated selecting more economical materials for roofing and counter-tops and the elimination of some features including a picnic shelter and a maintenance building.

Jim Lucachick, Bemidji Veterans Home Task Force Chair, said the adjustments were consistent with their vision for the project. “We have always said it is OK to be conservative in the design,” he said, describing the changes to the plans as “wise decisions and prudent.” The task force’s priority is to ensure that Veterans are well cared for.

County Veterans Service Officer Scotty Allison noted that he is already getting questions from Veterans wondering when they can apply for residence. Commissioner Herke said that MDVA is not yet accepting applications for residents but will announce that when ready.

Staffing the new home will be a priority as the home’s construction is completed. All staff will be State of Minnesota employees who receive competitive pay and generous benefits. About six months prior to opening, hiring will begin for leadership positions with more than 100 other roles filled thereafter.



## 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

### VETERANS' DAY PRAYERS



Let us remember before our God today, those who sacrificed during times of war in order that we might have liberty and freedom and security.

- Veterans both living and dead who fought on land, in the air, and on the water;
- The men and women in labor and industry who provided the machinery and weapons of war.

Eternal God, who alone rules the destinies of nations, and who has deemed that men and women should live together in peace. We pray for those who fought a good fight and finished the course.

On this day we call to remembrance those who served in far off places and have laid down their arms to march into that land of eternal peace. We also call to remembrance all veterans who served in the Armed Forces of our Nation and contributed to the greatness of our national defense.

We are indeed grateful for their service and sacrifice. And, if it were not for the men and women in our factories, their victories would not have been sustained. Keep sacred all their sacrifices in our hearts. Keep holy our course in Your sight. Enkindle within us a flame of selfless, unwavering devotion to duty that we may never be found wanting in those qualities of spirit and mind which alone are able to preserve our homes, the peace of our nation, and the tranquility of the world.

In Your Holy Name we pray.

**Amen.**



## SPOT LIGHT ON....

**Veterans Day** is a well-known American holiday, but there are also a few misconceptions about it — like how it's spelled or whom exactly it celebrates. To clear some of that up, here are the important facts you should know.

A lot of people think it's "Veteran's Day" or "Veterans' Day," but they're wrong. The holiday is not a day that "belongs" to one veteran or multiple veterans, which is what an apostrophe implies. It's a day for honoring all veterans — so no apostrophe needed.

Veterans Day is NOT the Same as Memorial Day. A lot of Americans get this confused, and we'll be honest — it can be a little annoying to all of the living veterans out there.

Memorial Day is a time to remember those who gave their lives for our country, particularly in battle or from wounds they suffered in battle. Veterans Day honors all of those who have served the country in war or peace — dead or alive — although it's largely intended to thank living veterans for their sacrifices. It was originally called Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I.

World War I officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919. However, the fighting ended about seven months before that when the Allies and Germany put into effect an armistice on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

For that reason, Nov. 11, 1918, was largely considered the end of "the war to end all wars" and dubbed Armistice Day. In 1926, Congress officially recognized it as the end of the war, and in 1938, it became an official holiday, primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I.

But then World War II and the Korean War happened, so on June 1, 1954, at the urging of veterans service organizations, Congress amended the commemoration yet again by changing the word "armistice" to "veterans" so the day would honor American veterans of all wars.

Congress signed the Uniform Holiday Bill in 1968 to ensure that a few federal holidays — Veterans Day included — would be celebrated on a Monday. Officials hoped it would spur travel and other family activities over a long weekend, which would stimulate the economy.

For some inexplicable reason, the bill set Veterans Day commemorations for the fourth Monday of every October. On Oct. 25, 1971, the first Veterans Day under this new bill was held. We're not sure why it took three years to implement, but not surprisingly, there was a lot of confusion about the change, and many states were unhappy, choosing to continue to recognize the day as they previously had — in November. (<http://www.defense.gov>)

## 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

Army Selects GDLS' Robotic Mule to Haul Soldier Gear into Battle

1 Nov 2019

Military.com | By Matthew Cox

The U.S. Army just awarded a contract worth \$162 million to General Dynamics Land Systems to produce remote-controlled robotic mule vehicles to transport heavy combat necessities so small units won't have to carry them into battle.

After months of testing, Army robotic officials selected the GDLS Multi-Utility Tactical Transport (MUTT), which will become the service's Small Multipurpose Equipment Transport (SMET). The Army plans to start fielding it to infantry brigade combat teams (IBCTs) by early fiscal 2021.

GDLS beat out Polaris Industries Inc., Applied Research Associates Inc. (ARA) and Neya Systems LLC's MRZR X; HDT Global Hunter's WOLF; and Howe and Howe Technologies Inc.'s Grizzly in an operational test demonstration last November run by the Army's Maneuver Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate (MCDID) at Fort Benning, Georgia.

"The MUTT did very well in the [test demonstration]; it was the clear favorite among the soldiers," Lt. Col. Rob Brown, the military deputy of the Robotics Requirements Division at MCDID, told Military.com. "GD did a really good job with their system."



## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

November 16, 1918 - Hungary was proclaimed an independent republic following the break up of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

November 16, 1933 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced the U.S. and Soviet Russia had resumed diplomatic relations, suspended since 1919.

November 16, 1989 - South African President F.W. de Klerk announced the abandonment of the Separate Amenities Act, thus opening the country's beaches to all races.

November 16, 1995 - The United Nations charged Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, and his military commander, Ratko Mladic, with genocide.

## POST AUXILIARY

This month gives us special times to stop and give thanks. First we should find ways to thank our veterans on Veterans Day. Thank them for their sacrifice both during times of war, and times of peace. Also give thanks at Thanksgiving for our many blessings (including our veterans). If possible, include a veteran and their family in your celebrations this month. Remember, they are the reason we exist as a Post and Auxiliary.

Auxiliary members gathered on a Saturday morning recently to put together "fall decorations" to give to our nursing home veterans. This is a simple, inexpensive way to honor our vets and remind them that they are always on our minds and in our hearts. How about taking a few minutes to make decorations for a veteran as well? You could drop them off at any of our nursing home facilities and ask that they give them to a vet.

Remember we are still in our membership drive. We are still "Fishing For Members". Encourage your friends and neighbors to come visit a meeting to see what we are about. Then follow up by encouraging them to join our group – either as an annual member, or as a lifetime member. Each new member we bring in comes with a new set of enthusiasm, wonderful ideas, and a love for our veterans that can only help to make us a stronger group as a whole.

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 a 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., and dinner will follow at 5:00 p.m. 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. We encourage you all to come to the dinner and join us. We ask a free will donation for the meal.

Look for ways to give thanks this month, and remember our many blessings. Wishing all Veterans a heartfelt THANK YOU this Veterans Day, and wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Margaret Booge  
President, VFW Auxiliary 1260

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# Hill's

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## ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH



VFW Post 1260 and Auxiliary members sponsors several lunches throughout each summer providing Kentucky Fried Chicken, cake, ice cream, and music at area nursing homes. Pictured above at the Bemidji Adult Day Services luncheon are Wes Djonne, Marlyce Trepanier, Duane Bundy, Ruby Wiese, Commander Bruce Malterud, Joan Ranney, Janet Haugan, Janie Malterud, and Rick Ludtke.

Special thanks to Duane Bundy for organizing these events!

## POINTS OF CONTACT

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Sr. Vice Commander	John Naastad	651-283-8657	johannaastad@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 Dosdall  
James Ghostley  
Wilber Kraft  
John Liapis  
John O'Boyle  
Merril Thiel  
Dean Kondos



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- *Youth activities, Voice of Democracy & Youth Essay*
- *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.