

Harold Baggenstoss
Post 1260

September 2020
Volume 87, Issue 9



FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Comrades,

Sept. 1st meeting is a go. I have the ok from the manager at the Eagles Club to hold our meeting at 7:00 p.m. that night. We just have to watch our social distance and the tables are set up for that.

We had our 9th District meeting on the 22nd of Aug. in Dilworth. Our state commander was there Curt Hermanson to give us some direction where he wants to take the VFW for the next year. And the Kelliher Post #7052 has been officially consolidated with the Bemidji VFW Post. Next thing coming up will be the Fall Conference in St. Cloud held on Sept. 25 thru the 27th.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars gives witness to the fact that we have a special bond of which that the rest of the citizens of the United States do not know. We served together on a land far away in a time of war and conflict as soldiers in arms. During this time in our lives, we developed special relationships and bonds with our fellow comrades in arms. This bond is so special that time does not affect our relationships. I can attest to this as fact having the privilege of being reunited with a couple of my Army buddies after a separation of more than 30 years.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Next Two Months Meetings

Social Distancing Restriction:

October 6th

November 3rd

It was a tremendous feeling to be with them again. We treasure those memories even though some were not pleasant. We are saddened when one of them passes on from this life. I always enjoy meeting new comrades. Due to our shared experiences in the military, we also can establish a bond. In a similar manner, we who have established a relationship with God enjoy the company of others of like faith, even if we have never met them before. His bond is deeply rooted in our relationship with God and it is eternal. Yes, we are saddened when one of them passes on, but we know we will see them again in eternity. Today, I encourage you to read the Bible or spiritual book of your choosing – trust and believe in the one who spoke it all in being. VFW's 2019-2020 National Chaplain reminds his fellow vets of the sense of camaraderie within VFW's ranks, This was a quote taken from the VFW Advocate news letter.

One other thing that I want to mention is that on the 13th of Sept. is set for the flag retirement at my place out south of Becida and we will also be cleaning the rifles that day. With this covid thing there isn't much else happening here.

ON the lighter side, A man was selling a brand-new luxury car for \$10.00. A women answered the ad, but she was slightly disbelieving. Ten bucks? What's the gimmick? she inquired. No gimmick the man answered. "My wife died, and in her will she asked that the car be sold and that all the money go to the mailman".

Bruce Malterud, Commander

Mark your calendars! Next meeting is Tuesday, September 1st!!

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

September 15, 1944 - The first entry of American troops into Hitler's Germany occurred as elements of the U.S. 7th and 5th Corps reached the southwestern frontier of Germany.

September 16, 1620 - The Mayflower ship departed from England, bound for America with 102 passengers and a small crew. The ship weathered dangerous Atlantic storms and reached Provincetown, Massachusetts on November 21st. The Pilgrims disembarked at Plymouth on December 26th.

September 16, 1810 - Mexico's break from Spain began in the town of Dolores Hidalgo as Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla rang his church's bells and exhorted local Indians to "recover from the hated Spaniards the land stolen from your forefathers..."

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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, September 1st

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Eagles Club



Sept. 2 – V-J Day (1945)

Sept. 7- Labor Day

Sept. 11 – Patriot Day/National Day of Service and Remembrance

Sept. 18 – U.S. Air Force Birthday/National POW/MIA Recognition Day

Sept. 22- Fall Equinox – First day of Fall.

Sept. 25 – 27 – VFW Dept of MN Fall Conference, Best Western Kelly Inn, St. Cloud, MN

Bring another veteran to our meeting.

Harold Baggenstoss

VFW Post #1260

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VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Beltrami County

Desk of the Commissioner - August

August 20, 2020



Going back to school is certainly different this year. From kindergarteners to college kids, students of all ages are going to learn new skills in adaptability, flexibility and technology in addition to their core subjects. But it's not just the kids who must adapt. The coronavirus pandemic has impacted adults in all walks of life, and Veterans are certainly among those who may be reassessing their careers and the need for education. The impact of COVID-19 on the economy has resulted in temporary or permanent job loss for thousands of Minnesota's Veterans. Whether its employment assistance, education support, or a grant to assist with finances, the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) is here for our Veterans.

Employment

MDVA works with many of our state's employers, from Fortune 500 corporations to small businesses, who are eager to hire Veterans. Our staff can assist Veterans in making the transition from military life to a civilian career.

Minnesota employers are Veteran friendly! Throughout the state, companies and corporations are making a commitment to those who wear and have worn the uniform. The [Yellow Ribbon Company Program](#) is one example of how Minnesota companies go above and beyond.

Education

MDVA's Higher Education Veterans Program staff are ready to assist Veterans and eligible family members with accessing their benefits, school, and programs. For more information on how to contact your Regional Coordinator and Veteran education benefits, visit our [Veteran Support Portal](#).

New education benefits, including the post 9/11 GI Bill® and sustained deployments have dramatically increased the number of Veterans attending college in recent years. Veterans interested in a career in the trades are entitled to receive federal and state GI Bill benefits while in an approved Apprenticeship Program. Call 1-888-LinkVet to find out if your employer is approved.

Grants

Since April, MDVA has been facilitating applications from Minnesota Veterans for COVID-19 Disaster Relief and Special Needs Grants. The Minnesota Legislature allocated \$6.2 million to assist Veterans who have been financially impacted by COVID-19.

The COVID-19 Disaster Relief Grant of \$1,000 is available to [Veterans as defined my MN Statute 197.447](#) who are a Minnesota resident and have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

- The COVID-19 Special Needs Grant provides one-time financial assistance to a Veteran or surviving spouse who needs assistance due to a COVID-19-related event. Items covered by a COVID-19 Special Needs Grant may include utility bills, auto insurance, rent/mortgage, security deposits, medical bills, auto loan payments, auto repairs, furnace/AC repairs or home repairs.
 - Because of the economic impact of COVID-19, the grants may also be used to support expenses related to eligible Veterans, spouses or children returning to school, whether online or in-person.
- For more information on all the COVID-19 grants, visit our [website](#), contact your [County Veterans Service Officer](#), or contact [LinkVet](#) at 1-888-LinkVet.

MDVA is here to serve Minnesota Veterans during this challenging time.

Thank YOU for your service!



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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	20,147
Iraq War	32,292

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

Afghanistan & Iraq source:

<https://www.defense.gov/casualty.pdf>

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

THE CHAPLAINCY



During times of turmoil and war, mankind always looks to religion and religious figures for comfort. Both ancient and modern societies have turned to religion and communities have extended the comfort of religion to those serving in the heat of battle. Priests and other religious figures petitioned gods and spirits for victory in war. The Scriptures often refers to priests accompanying troops into battle. (see: Deut. 20: 2-4; Joshua 6: 2-5).

The modern chaplaincy's roots and origin are essentially in the medieval church. The word chaplain dates from this period. A fourth century story tells of the pagan Roman soldier called Martin of Tours. As Martin and his men were returning from the battlefield in the middle of a severe winter, they met a shivering beggar at the city gate of Amiens. Martin had compassion on the beggar. He cut his cloak in two parts and gave one to the beggar. That night he had a vision of Christ wearing the beggar's cloak. As a result, Martin converted to Christianity. Martin enraged Emperor Julian by saying, "Hitherto I have served you as a soldier; allow me now to become a soldier to God..." The Emperor later released him from the army. He was baptized and in 371, the people of Tours were so impressed by his holy life and miracles, they made him their Bishop.

Martin of Tours later became the patron saint of France and his cloak, considered a holy relic, was carried into battle by Frankish kings. This cloak was called in Latin the "cappa." Its portable shrine was called the "cappalla" and its caretaker priest, the "cappellanus". Eventually, all clergy affiliated with the military were called "capellani," or in French, "chapelains, hence chaplains. The Council of Ratisbon (742) first officially authorized the use of chaplains for armies, but prohibited "the servants of God" from bearing arms or fighting.

SPOT LIGHT ON....

Operation Market Garden

The Largest Airborne Operation in History

Operation Market Garden was one of the largest Allied operations of the Second World War. It aimed to secure the bridges over the rivers Maas (Meuse), Waal and Rhine in the Netherlands in order to outflank the heavy German defences of the Siegfried Line and to insure a swift advance towards Berlin.

Operation Market Garden was one of the largest Allied operations of the Second World War. It took place in September 1944. The goal of the operation was to secure the key bridges over three wide rivers in the Netherlands (Maas/Meuse, Waal and Rhine, respectively) in order to outflank the heavy German defences of the Siegfried Line (Westwall) which protected heartland Germany beyond the Rhine. It was hoped that with a swift advance towards Berlin the war would be over before Christmas.

Market Garden was a risky plan of British Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery. It was executed by 41,628 English, American and Polish airborne troops and three divisions on the ground.

The operation consisted of two parts. Operation Market was the largest airborne operation in the history of warfare. Operation Garden was the campaign on the ground of the 30th Corps aimed at securing the bridges captured by the airborne forces.

The operation was highly ambitious and in the end it failed due to weather conditions and heavy German opposition, especially near Arnhem. But there were more causes of failure: The airborne drop zones were situated too far from the Nijmegen and Arnhem bridges. Combined with communication problems, the laborious advance of the ground troops and a few mistakes by the high commanders in the final days of the operation, they led to failure in the end. After the successful Battle of Nijmegen the Allies did not manage to take the last bridge in Arnhem: the proverbial 'Bridge Too Far'.

<https://liberationroute.com/the-netherlands/stories/o/operation-market-garden>

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVE



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Contact Steve Krueger at 218-751-1564
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HOT OFF THE PRESS

US Troops May Have Role in Mass COVID-19 Vaccination Effort

29 Aug 2020
Military.com | By Patricia Kime

U.S. military medical personnel or National Guard troops might assist in inoculating the public once a viable, safe vaccine is developed for COVID-19, senior government health officials said Friday.

Paul Mango, deputy chief of staff for policy at the Department of Health and Human Services, and Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said localities are currently developing how to vaccinate Americans when one becomes available.

The strategy could include using pharmacies as distribution points, or setting up mass inoculation centers and employing military support, they said.

“We are not going to take anything off of the table,” Redfield said in response to a reporter’s question during a press call Friday. “There is the potential for jurisdictions to want assistance from the National Guard or the military. The military is clearly providing a lead role in [the] logistics of all of this.”

Source: military.com

WELCOME

In appreciation of Military service, Schummer's Backwoods Bar & Grill offers all Active Duty and Veterans a 50% discount on selected food purchases at the Grill on the 2nd Tuesday of every month!

Backwoods Bar & Grill
 48220 Reserve Trail
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 6 Mi S on US #71 - 3 Mi W on US #9
 Formerly "The Blue Moon"

POST AUXILIARY

Is it possible we are heading into fall already? It went by so fast it feels as if we went from a pandemic shutdown in March directly to Labor Day with very little time in between.

Our monthly meeting in September is very early in the month this time. We will meet at the Bemidji Eagles on Tuesday, September 1st at 7:00 p.m. Thanks again to those who come join our meeting in person, and to those of you who continue to do what you can for our Veterans from

home while staying safe. We will still observe our "new normal" of wearing face masks and observing social distancing. We are all encouraged to enter through the back door directly into our meeting rooms. This is just one more safeguard for our Post and Auxiliary members. This month we welcome the members from the former #7052 Stanley Pearson Post and Auxiliary in Kelliher to our group. The two Auxiliaries have been combined into one. We welcome the additional members, and look forward to having more great ideas of ways to help our Veterans and their families.

September has several special days that we can celebrate. They are: Patriot Day (September 11) is a day of remembrance in memory of those killed during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Constitution Day (September 17) commemorates the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution. This document established the framework of our government and the rights and freedoms we enjoy today. POW/MIA Recognition Day (third Friday in September) honors the commitments and sacrifices made by our nation's prisoners of war and those who are still missing.

Gold Star Mother's Day (last Sunday in September) honors mothers and families who have lost a service member in the line of duty or in support of military activities.

We plan to have our annual flag retirement ceremony and fish fry in September. We will get the date and details out as soon as we can. Please take good care of yourselves, and be safe. Best Regards,

Margaret Booge

President, VFW Auxiliary 1260

218-556-9482

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

September 17, 1787 - At the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, delegates from twelve states voted unanimously to approve the proposed U.S. Constitution.

September 17, 1862 - The bloodiest day in U.S. military history occurred as General Robert E. Lee and the Confederate armies were stopped at Antietam in Maryland by General George B. McClellan and numerically superior Union forces. By nightfall 26,000 men were dead, wounded, or missing.

September 18, 1947 - The U.S. Air Force was established as a separate military service.

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ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH



Julie Harris was recognized at the last Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting held on June 2nd, for her many years of dedication in assisting our veterans and their families in our community. She was presented with a check and a Certificate of Appreciation.

Pictured L to R, Kelly Booge, Harris and Commander Bruce Malterud



OUR DAILY COMMITMENT

Hours served: 169
Members volunteered: 27
Total dollar: \$626

Current Members: 247

2020 TAPS

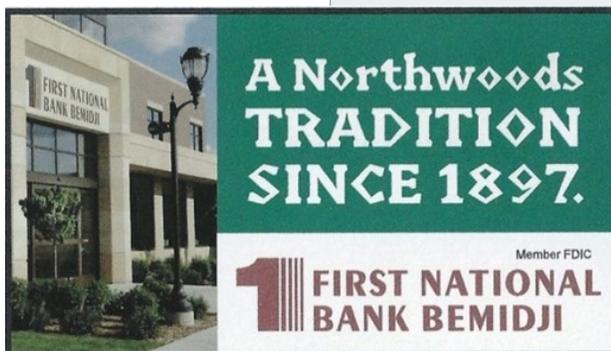
Jack Geller

POINTS OF CONTACT

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Jr. Vice Commander	Mike Gutz	218-308-3927	
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Asst Chaplain	Vacant		
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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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- *Patriotic Activities*
- *Aid to Schools & Churches*
- *Membership*
- *Help to obtain benefits*
- *Legislative Service*
- *Buddy Poppy Promotion*

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 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, whosoever.

HAROLD BAGGENSTOSS
POST 1260