

Harold Baggenstoss
Post 1260

December 2020
Volume 87, Issue 12



FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Comrades,

Sorry to say but our Dec. meeting has been canceled due to the restrictions put forth by our governor, social distancing and the closer of the bars and restaurants for gathering places. Also on that note the state Mid-Winter Conference to be held in Mpls. has also been canceled. Our 9th District meeting to be held in Crookston has also been canceled and a meeting for the line officers will be held in Dilworth on Dec. 5th at 10:00 a.m. just so we can pay the bills.

There will be no Pearl Harbor Dinner put on by post #1260 and the aux. this year due to the shut down and this covid thing. So many of our veterans have enjoyed the annual auction, meal and the program put on each year the first part of Dec. I as well will miss it cause I've enjoyed seeing you all and the good fellowship that went along with it.

Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy on Tuesday ordered Arlington National Cemetery to reverse course after it canceled the annual "Wreaths Across America" tribute to the nation's fallen that had been set for next month. On Monday, the cemetery announced "with great regret" that the event could not be conducted safely because of the nationwide surge in COVID-19 cases.



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Next Two Months Meetings

Social Distancing Re-
striction:

January 5th

February 2nd

However, McCarthy, who has jurisdiction over the Army cemetery, overruled the cancellation. The event, which has come to be associated with the holiday season, had been set for Dec. 19, but it was not immediately clear whether that date will hold. "Arlington National Cemetery will provide an update on the final schedule soon," according to the Army.

Veterans Day this past month was not as busy for this year as in the past. Myself and part of the Honor Guard had a flag rising and retirement of the colors held at BSU in front of Deputy Hall on Nov. 10th. On Nov. 11th I was asked to talk to the students in a home school setting in Walker. We discussed proper care of our colors and what the vfw does to retire the colors, the proper procedures and not to just destroy or throw them in the garbage. This included first, second and ninth grade at the school. Grave marker flags were handed out to each student.

On the lighter side; a random thought, You drop something when you were younger, you just pick it up. You drop something when you're older, you stare at it for a while wondering if you actually need it.

Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays to you all.

Bruce Malterud, Commander

Mark your calendars! Next meeting is Tuesday, January 5th!!

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

December 13, 1862 - During the American Civil War, the Battle of Fredericksburg occurred in Virginia as the Union Army of the Potomac under General Burnside suffered a costly defeat, losing 12,653 men after 14 frontal assaults on well entrenched Rebels on Marye's Heights. December 13, 1937 - The beginning of one of the worst atrocities of World War II as the Chinese city of Nanking (Nanjing) was captured by the Japanese. Over the next six weeks, the Rape of Nanking occurred in which Japanese soldiers randomly attacked, raped and indiscriminately killed an estimated 200,000 Chinese persons.

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ADJUTANT'S CORNER

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

VFW Post #1260 Meeting Date: Tuesday, December CANCELLED

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Eagles Club



Dec 1 – Civil Air Patrol birthday (USAF Auxiliary – 1941)

Dec 7 – Pearl Harbor Day

Dec 8 – US Declares war on Japan (1941)

Dec 11 – US Declares War on German and Italy (1941)

Dec 15 – Bill of Rights Day

Dec 16 – Battle of the Bulge begins (1941)

Dec 19 – National Wreaths Across America Day

Dec 20 – Operation Just Cause begins (Panama 1989)

Dec 20 – US Space Force Birthday (Established 2019)

Dec 21 – 1st Day of Winter

Dec 25 - Christmas

Dec 31 – New Year's Eve

Bring another veteran to our meeting.

Harold Baggenstoss

VFW Post #1260

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VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Beltrami County



VFW Post 1260 Commander Bruce Malterud (right) and Russ Fricke (left) raise the flag at Bemidji State University on November 10th in support of Veterans Day Ceremonies.



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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

Military Thanksgiving

Almighty God, creator and sustainer of all life,

It is our duty and our privilege to give you thanks for your loving care. We thank you for the many blessings you have given us over this past year.

We thank you ...

For food to eat and clothes to wear,
For shelter from the heat of summer and the cold of winter,
For the fruitfulness of farms and factories and fertile minds,
For safety in our homes and in our homeland,
For health and happiness of every sort,
And, perhaps most of all, for friends and family who love us.

As citizens of these United States, we are also grateful for the civil and religious freedom we enjoy. We thank you for the labors of all those who have who have secured these many blessings for us, especially for those who serve in our nation's armed forces. Watch over our brothers and sisters in arms who today are far from home. Heal those who are suffering from the grief and wounds of war, and provide for all those in need.

We pray for your continued care and protection for our nation. Form in us a more perfect union. Establish your justice throughout the land. Enable us to provide for the welfare of all. Secure for us and our posterity, the blessings of liberty. Defend us from harm. Grant us peace.

The gifts we seek for ourselves, we also seek for others. Pour out your blessing on our community, our nation and our world. Amen.

By

Mitchell Lewis

November 27, 2014

<https://milewis.wordpress.com/2014/11/27/thanksgiving-prayer-civic-occasion/>



SPOT LIGHT ON....

Photo # NH 97079 Troops aboard LSU-1317 at Inchon, Korea, Dec. 1950



THE EVACUATION OF INCHON, DECEMBER 1950 - JANUARY 1951

On 7 December 1950, while the enemy onslaught seemed unstoppable, the evacuation of the port of Inchon, whose capture less than three months earlier had so changed the war, was ordered. This effort was supported by a combined U.S. and British Commonwealth naval force. When the renewed Chinese offensive compelled UN forces and the Republic of Korea Government to leave Seoul early in the New Year, the withdrawal of assets through Inchon was completed. Though most the Eighth Army retired to new defensive lines by land, almost seventy thousand troops, nearly as many refugees, and a large quantity of vehicles and supplies departed by sea through Inchon. The port's facilities were destroyed on 5 January 1951 and its ruins left to the enemy.

<https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/OnlineLibrary/photos/events/kowar/50-chin/inch-evc.htm>

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Air Force Special Ops Must 'Ruthlessly' Cut Legacy Systems, 3-Star General Says

24 Nov 2020

Military.com | By Richard Sisk

Air Force Special Operations will have to adapt to major changes in mission and organization while coping with tighter budgets in the new era of great power competition, Lt. Gen.

James Slife said Monday.

"One thing that's clear to us is that the future doesn't look a lot like the present to us," Slife, head of Air Force Special Operations Command, said in a virtual discussion with the Center for Strategic and international Studies.

If predictions within the Defense Department for flat or declining budgets in future years come true, "the only conclusion one can come to is we have to stop doing some stuff," he said.

"We have to divest in order to invest" in systems and equipment more suited for generational competition against China and Russia than the conflicts with violent extremist organizations that have dominated missions for Special Forces since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Slife said.

Source: military.com

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THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

December 13, 1991 - North and South Korea signed a treaty of reconciliation and nonaggression which also formally ended the Korean War, although actual fighting had ceased in 1953.

December 14, 1799 - George Washington died at Mount Vernon.

December 14, 1995 - A Bosnian peace treaty was signed in Paris by leaders from the former Yugoslavia. The treaty ended Europe's worst conflict since World War II.

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

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POST AUXILIARY

Greetings Everyone,
As I write this article we have just gone into another four weeks of tighter shut-down due to the Covid pandemic. Our gatherings and meetings and general coming and going have all been thrown out of alignment this year. It has made it harder to find ways to help our veterans and their families, and we ourselves are more nervous and anxious about things

we should go ahead and do, or say "no thank you" about. Even though it is harder to find ways to help, I hope you will do all you can to include our local veterans and their families in your holiday plans this year. Also remember at every opportunity to thank our veterans for their service to our country.

Because of the Pandemic, and the increased numbers of people in our area testing positive, we have decided to cancel our monthly Post and Auxiliary meeting. It had been scheduled for Tuesday, December 1st, but is now cancelled. Also we have cancelled the Pearl Harbor Dinner that is usually held in early December. The District Meeting that had been scheduled for Saturday, December 5th in Dillworth is also cancelled.

One more reminder about our membership dues. If you are an annual member that has still not paid your annual dues, please send it in right away so we can keep everyone in good standing. If you are a life member, you are also encouraged to send in your cancer payment and any donation you care to make to the "no bake bake sale". Also 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.

Wishing you all the blessings of the season. Though our holidays may be a little bit different this year, they can still be special. Don't forget our veterans in your celebrations and your prayers, and please be safe.

Margaret Booge
President, VFW Auxiliary 1260

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ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH



Commander Bruce Malterud presents Senior Vice Commander John Naastad with a VFW plaque for 1st Place in post publications.



OUR DAILY COMMITMENT

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

Current Members: 247

2020 TAPS

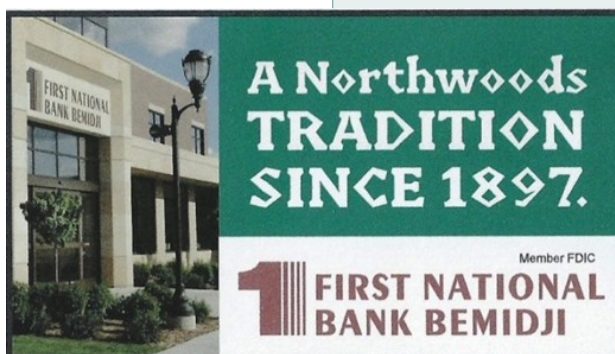
Jack Geller
Aaron Powers

POINTS OF CONTACT


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Jr. Vice Commander	Mike Gutz	218-308-3927	
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
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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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WHAT THE VFW DOES FOR THE COMMUNITY

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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.