

Harold Baggenstoss
Post 1260

May 2021
Volume 88, Issue 5



FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Brothers and sisters of the VFW,

Our monthly meeting will be held May 4th, 7:00 p.m. at the Eagles Club rooms. Come early and enjoy a burger or appetizer of your choice that's offered by the kitchen at the Eagles. The price is right.

On the 1st of May we will be holding the 9th District Convention, known as Loyalty Days. We will start the day out with Registration at 8:30 a.m. a parade at 9:00 a.m. with the meeting starting at 9:30 a.m. nominations on the agenda. We will end the day at 6:00 p.m. with a Testimonial Banquet beginning at 6:30 p.m. for outgoing district commander Lynette Dornbusch. This all takes place at Post # 612 Fergus Falls. Then we will congratulate Kelly Booge as the new incoming 9th District Commander, from our very own post 1260 Bemidji.

In reading the VFW Action Corp Weekly, I found it interesting that the U.S. Army wants a deadly new networked land mine system that's more capable than current models at detecting enemy tanks and launching munitions that attack from above. The Army's Project Manager Close Combat Systems, or PM CCS, is looking for defense firms that can produce Terrain Shaping Obstacle, or TSO, Top Attack prototypes, according to an April 12 sources-sought solicitation posted on the federal government's contracting website. "The top attack system shall provide a lethal obstacle capability sufficient to [control] terrain by disrupting enemy maneuver and defeating threat forces," the document states. More new technology. Where does it end.

I should also mention that at our May post meeting we will be installing the new officers for the coming year 2021/2022. I hope by then that the installing officer will be back from Florida. That's you Duane B. in case you don't know it yet.

WWW.VFWPOST1260.ORG



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

*Installation of leadership
this month!*

Next Two Months Meetings

June 1st

July 6th

I received an E Blast,(instant message) from the state vfw about a week ago stating. KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Tonight, during the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) first-ever virtual Parade of Winners, the organization proudly presented more than \$208,000 in scholarships and awards as it named the national winners of its 2021 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen youth scholarship competitions.

Due to the pandemic and the cancellation of the VFW's annual legislative conference, the VFW instead chose to virtually host its awards show, sponsored by Twisted X and Dell, live on Facebook. Together with VFW Auxiliary President Sandi Onstwedder and Twisted X President Prasad Reddy, VFW National Commander Hal Roesch traveled to Rochester, Minnesota, to surprise this year's national Voice of Democracy winner, Erin Grace Stoeckig, and present her with the \$30,000 first place scholarship. Stoeckig was sponsored by Rochester, Minnesota, VFW Post 1215 and its Auxiliary. on this year's theme, "Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?" What a nice big surprise and being from Mn. this year. Congratulations go out to her.

By the time you read this our poppy program for the year should be in place and ready to hit the street. The cards offered to the businesses will be the last week of April and the individual poppies offered to the public will be the last week of May.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE: ONCE IS ENOUGH – a happy mother phoned the newspaper and reported the birth of triplets. The girls at the desk didn't quite catch the message. "Will you repeat that?" she asked. "Not if I can help it," The mom replied.

MIND YOUR MANNERS – A teacher observed a little girl entering the classroom with dirty hands. She stopped her and said, "Please wash your hands. My goodness, what would you say if I came into the room with hands like that? With a smile the little girl replied, "I think I would be too polite to mention it."

Bruce Malterud, Commander

Mark your calendars! Next meeting - Tuesday, May 4th.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

May 19, 1943 - During World War II in Europe, Royal Air Force bombers successfully attacked dams in the German Ruhr Valley using innovative ball-shaped bouncing bombs that skipped along the water and exploded against the dams. The dams had provided drinking water for 4 million persons and supplied 75% of the electrical power for industry in the area.

May 20, 1862 - President Abraham Lincoln signed the Homestead Act opening millions of acres of government owned land in the West to "homesteaders" who could acquire up to 160 acres by living on the land and cultivating it for five years, paying just \$1.25 per acre.

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, May 4th

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Eagles Club

May 1st – 9th District Convention, Fergus Falls/ National Loyalty Day / Silver Star Service Banner Day / Kentucky Derby

May 4th – VFW Post 1260 Meeting, 7:00 PM / National Teacher Appreciation Day

May 5th – Cinco de Mayo

May 6th – National Day of Prayer

May 7th – Military Spouse Appreciation Day

May 8th – V-E Day (1945)

May 9th – Mother's Day

May 11th – Ramadan Ends

May 15th – Armed Forces Day

May 27 – 31 – VFW Post 1260 Poppy Distribution (Various locations and times)

May 31st – Memorial Day

Bring another veteran to our meeting.

Harold Baggenstoss

VFW Post #1260

P.O. Box 1271

Bemidji, MN 56619

VFW Post Adjutant

Curt Anderson,

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(502) 263.9802



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VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Beltrami County

Desk of the Commissioner - April

SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES

I've got my vaccine.

Have you? COVID-19 vaccinations dominate the headlines. Moderna. Pfizer. Johnson & Johnson. One dose. Two doses. Where and when to schedule an appointment?

I support the COVID-19 vaccine as a critical step toward achieving 80% of the population immunized, creating herd immunity, to overcome this pandemic. We will then be able to return to the things we miss and love. Spending time with extended family. Going to a ball game or concert. Dining out with a group of friends.

I received one shot in March and the other in April, both at the VA Medical Center in St. Cloud. I received the Moderna vaccine in March and had a good experience. After my first shot, I had soreness in my arm and a slight elevation in my temperature for two days. After my second shot, I again had soreness in my arm but no other side effects.

As a Veteran, I have served my state and my country for many years. Receiving the vaccine is one more act of service for our communities. Now that the vaccines are available to everyone age 16 and older, I strongly encourage you to get yours as soon as possible if you haven't already. Find out how to get your shot at mn.gov/vaccine. And sign up to be notified of vaccine appointments at [Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector](https://mn.gov/covid-19/vaccine-connector).

Veterans who receive care within the VA Health Care System can schedule their COVID-19 vaccine appointments. Visit <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/>.

Our communities continue to be impacted by not only the coronavirus but are again reeling from the tragedy of the death of a young Black man by a police officer. We grieve with the family and friends of Daunte Wright and support our neighbors' rights to peacefully protest and express their demands for change in the relationship between law enforcement and communities of color.

The death of Daunte Wright exacerbates ongoing pain and trauma that Minnesota communities of color are feeling, especially as former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin's trial continues and tragic hate crimes against Asian American Pacific Islanders in our nation occur.

The military and Veteran community is a richly diverse group who have served and sacrificed together. I encourage us to role model behavior of respect and tolerance during these challenging times. MDVA's Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Valerie Klitzke continues to support our team. Please contact Valerie with questions or concerns at diversity.MDVA@state.mn.us or 612-548-5961.



As always, If you need information or support on any Veteran issue, please visit our [website](#), contact your [County Veterans Service Officer](#), or contact [LinkVet](#) at 1-888-LinkVet.

Thank YOU for your service!

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

(Memorial Day Prayer)



Gracious God, grant that we may appreciate and treasure the freedom that is our gift and our heritage, and that we may never forget the great price at which it was purchased for us all. We remember this day before You all who serve in the Armed Forces of our nation. Protect and defend them in the day of battle, and in the time of peace. Grant that they may serve with honor and dignity both to Your great glory and to the credit of this Nation.

We ask also that You will watch over the veterans of this land, inspiring them to serve You and this Country in ever new and creative ways. Comfort our ill and wounded comrades who languish in hospitals or homes. Lighten their burdens, relieve their suffering and pain, and restore to them the blessings of health again. We also pray for those who have given their lives in the service of our Country (moment of silence), and for those, our fellow veterans who have served this Nation both in time of battle and in time of peace. May light perpetual shine upon them. May the good work which You have begun in them be brought to perfection, that this land may prosper and that there may be lasting peace throughout our world. All this we ask You, Almighty Father, in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

SPOT LIGHT ON....

VFW District 9 Meeting in Bemidji



VFW Post 1260 hosted the 9th District VFW in Bemidji on March 6th. Even in the mist of COVID restrictions and protocols, the 9th District meeting was well attended.



State Jr. Vice Commander Dale Hoogeveen represented the Department of Minnesota VFW (pictured above with Post 1260 Commander Bruce Malterud).

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HOT OFF THE PRESS

The VA Is Testing an Implant That Could Allow Paralyzed Veterans to Walk Again

25 Apr 2021

Military.com | By Patricia Kime

Five years ago, Marine Lance Cpl. Joshua Burch became the first paralyzed service member to walk to his own promotion ceremony, wearing an exoskeleton that helped him walk and stand to receive his corporal chevrons.

Now medically retired, Burch, 26, hopes again to be a trailblazer -- the first Department of Veterans Affairs patient to regain function in his lower body -- to include taking steps -- courtesy of an electrical implant in his spine that is designed to stimulate his body's sensorimotor networks.

"Even thinking about walking is crazy. I look at this as a stepping-stone to a future where others like me can walk. I look at my participation in this research as a way of helping people out," Burch said during an interview in March with Military.com.

Researchers at Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia, have launched a study to determine whether epidural stimulators can help paralyzed veterans recover motor activity and/or control over their "inner systems" -- their cardiovascular and bladder functions, for example.

While epidural stimulators have shown some degree of success with limb paralysis in research elsewhere, this is the first such study at the VA, explained Dr. Ashraf Gorgey, chief of spinal cord injury research at the Richmond hospital.

Source: military.com



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

May 21, 1881 - The American Red Cross was founded by Clara Barton. The organization today provides volunteer disaster relief in the U.S. and abroad. Community services include collecting and distributing donated blood, and teaching health and safety classes.

May 22, 1972 - President Richard Nixon became the first American president to visit Moscow. Four days later, Nixon and Soviet Russia's leader Leonid Brezhnev signed a pact pledging to freeze nuclear arsenals at current levels.

May 22, 1947 - Congress approved the Truman Doctrine, assuring U.S. support for Greece and Turkey to prevent the spread of Communism.

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POST AUXILIARY

Our May Auxiliary meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at the Bemidji Eagles Club at 7:00 p.m. Hope you can all attend that meeting since this is when we will have the Installation for our officers for the coming year.

May is also the month when we do our individual Poppy Drive for four days. We are not sure how it will go with the pandemic still going on – but we are going to give it a

try. Hope you will be able to help us out by taking at least one shift during those four days. The days are over Memorial Day weekend - Thursday thru Sunday, May 27th thru 30th. We will have people working at several locations throughout town to distribute poppies. We are just beginning to fill out the schedule. If there are certain days or times you would like to help out, please contact me. We still have openings on our schedule, and we could sure use your help. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year, and all the proceeds stay local and are used on our veterans and their families.

As of this writing, we are not certain what we will be doing for a Memorial Day service. Again, the pandemic makes the planning difficult. We will send out more information in a week or two – or you can always contact Commander Bruce Malterud, or myself to see what has been decided.

Hope your month of May is a wonderful one. Enjoy seeing everything as it starts to come out, and blossom and promise us a reprieve from cold weather. Remember to take the time to thank a veteran for all they (and their families) have done for us.

Best Regards,
Margaret Booge
President, VFW Auxiliary 1260
218-556-9482

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ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH



Commander Bruce Malterud and Quartermaster Kelly Booge Presents Cedrik Barrett with a \$250.00 scholarship from VFW Post 1260, Two were unable to attend which received scholarships of \$250.00 each. All three from Kelliher High School.

Not in attendance: Tera Schuh-Dietrich-\$750; Trinity Schuh-Dietrich- \$250

POINTS OF CONTACT

Commander	Bruce Malterud	218-766-3898	bmjm@paulbunyan.net
Adjutant	Curt Anderson	502-263-9802	anderscu@gmail.com
Quartermaster	Kelly Booge	218-308-1171	kelbooge@paulbunyan.net
Sr. Vice Commander	John Naastad	651-283-8657	johnnaastad@hotmail.com
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
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

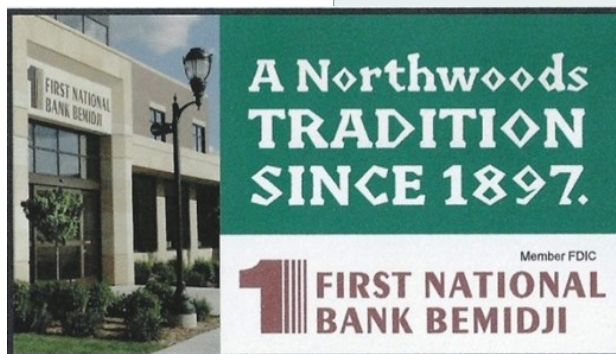
Hours served: 121

Members volunteered: 49


Total dollar: \$910

Current Members: 223

2021 TAPS



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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.