

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Harold Baggenstoss
Post 1260

September 2022
Volume 89, Issue 9



FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Comrades;

Believe it or not we are in the months that have R's in them and you all know what's coming, besides our meeting on September 6th at 7:00 p.m. at the Eagles Club rooms.

We had a rather slow month of August except, I had to do a couple of days of fishing with a couple of vfw fishing buddies to catch enough fish for the retirement of old worn and tattered flags we have collected since last year. Also to clean our ceremonial rifles. We have roughly 300 flags to retire this year. As you read this we will have had our retirement as it was held on Aug. 28th.

The senate passed the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022, known as the Honoring our PACT Act. This bill now heads to the president for signature.

Thank you to our VFW advocates from around the country who reached out to their senators urging them to support the final vote on this historic legislation. This legislative victory will help millions of toxic-exposed veterans receive the health care and services they and their families desperately need and deserve.

Depression: When to Call Your Health Care Provider

If you have been diagnosed with depression, call your health care provider if:

- You find it hard or it's getting harder to deal with your job, family, and friends.
- You think your treatment is not helping or you are not getting better.
- Your symptoms get worse or you get new symptoms.
- You have any problems with your antidepressant medicines, such as side effects, or you are thinking about stopping your medicine.



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Next Two Months Meetings

October 4th

November 8th

WWW.VFWPOST1260.ORG

-You are having manic behavior, such as having very high energy, needing less sleep than normal, or showing risky behavior such as spending money you don't have or abusing others verbally or physically.

-You have thoughts about hurting yourself.

With so many suicides today I found this interesting in an article I found on line, The Veteran News Letter.

The month of Sept. we have a district meeting coming up on the 17th. And then on the 22 thru 25th we have Fall Conference at Plymouth, MN. On the 5th of this month is Labor Day so we will be carrying the colors at the Bemidji Daze Parade.

On the lighter side:

A DEA officer stopped at a farm in Minnesota, and talked with an old rancher named Ole. He told the rancher. " I need to inspect your ranch for illegally grown drugs." Ole said, "Okay, but don't go in dat field over dere," and he pointed out a distant location. The DEA officer verbally exploded, saying, " Mister I have the authority of the Federal Government with me!" Reaching into his rear pants pocket, he removed his badge and proudly displayed it to Ole. " see this badge?! This means I am allowed to go wherever I wish... on ANY land! No questions asked or answers given! Have I made myself clear? Do you understand?" Ole nodded politely, apologized, and went about his chores. A short time later, Ole heard loud screams, looked up and saw the DEA officer running for his life, being chased by the farmer's bull. With every step the bull was gaining ground on the officer, and it seemed likely that the officer would be gruesomely gored before he reached safety. The man was clearly terrified. Ole threw down his tools, ran to the fence and yelled at the top of his lungs, " Your badge... show him your BADGE!"

Have a good Sept and be safe, Your Commander, Bruce

Mark your calendars! Next meeting - Tuesday, September 6th.

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.

Date: Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 7:00 pm at the Eagles Club



August 25 – Sep 5th – Minnesota State Fair
Sep 2 – Japan formally surrenders (V-J Day) (1945)
Sep 5 – Labor Day
Sep 6 – Post 1260 Meeting, Eagles Club, 7:00 P.M.
Sep 11 – War on Terrorism begins (2001) / Patriot Day
Sep 13 – VFW Auxiliary Anniversary (1914)
Sep 16 – POW/MIA Recognition Day
Sep 17 – 9th District VFW Meeting Thief River Falls #2793 1:00 PM
Sep 18 – United States Air Force & Air National Guard Birthday
Sep 22 – 1st Day of Fall
Sep 23-25 – MN VFW Department Fall Conference, Plymouth, MN
Sep 25 – Gold Star Mother's & Family Day
Sep 29 – VFW Anniversary (1899)

Please continue to check our VFW Post 1260 Facebook Page and Webpage as: <https://www.facebook.com/BemidjiVFWPost1260> and <https://www.vfwpost1260.org/> for updates.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY & PATRIOT'S PEN time begins now. The VOD Theme this year is "Why Is The Veteran Important?" The Theme for Patriot's Pen is "My Pledge to Our Veterans". You can download the VOD entry form at <https://vfwmn.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=77515> and the Patriot's Pen Entry form at <https://vfwmn.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=77515>. Please make sure that the student picture is sent with the application.

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VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Beltrami County

Bemidji Veterans Home Update

It's my pleasure to let everyone know the Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs (MDVA) will begin taking resident applications for the new Bemidji Veterans Home on September 15th, 2022, at 8 a.m. CT.

This is the most important date you will need to know for eligible Veterans and family members who are helping their Veterans with the application process. Any resident applications submitted before September 15th at 8 a.m. won't be accepted.

Current eligibility requirements:

- Honorably discharged Veterans who entered service from Minnesota, or are current Residents, who served 181 consecutive days on active duty, unless discharged earlier because of disability incurred in the line of duty.
- The spouse of an eligible Veteran who is at least 55 years old and meets residency requirements.
- Able to demonstrate a medical or clinical need for admission.

The submission process has changed, and the MDVA is now requesting more information, so take this opportunity to gather the documents you will need to build a complete submission.

What makes a submission complete?

- Application form dated and signed
- Copy of DD-214
- Copy of any legal decision-maker documents: Power of Attorney (POA), Healthcare Directive, Guardianship Conservatorship documents
- If a spouse: Copy of the marriage certificate / please note: Veterans have first preference.

You can find the resident application at MinnesotaVeteran.org/FutureHomes. However, the Bemidji Veterans Home is not on the current application. Write (Bemidji Veterans Home) on the form, and the MDVA will still accept the application. New applications will be updated this summer with further Veteran Home information.

Applications will be dated and timestamped as they are received, and applicants will be contacted to confirm receipt and that they are on the waitlist. 30 – 90 days before anticipated admission: Those on the active list will be contacted for financial and relevant clinical information.

The Bemidji Veteran Home is still on track to open in mid-2023 and will welcome Veterans intermittently until they reach total capacity.



For additional information about the Bemidji Veterans Home, you can email:

NewHomesAdmissions@state.mn.us. Or contact your local County Veteran Service Office.

Veterans living in Beltrami County can contact their Veteran Service Officers, Shane Gustafson and Luke Wilkowski, at 218-333-4178 or 218-333-4177.

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 | 20,149 |
| Iraq War | 31,994 |
| Operation New Dawn | 298 |
| Operation Inherent Resolve | 270 |
| Operation Freedom Sentinel | 612 |

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



As you learned last month, I am still very new at my position as Chaplain and my learning curve is quite steep. Not only am I learning the “standard” requirements for the position, but as I learn those requirements, I want to know where ‘certain aspects’ of the VFW came from and not just take them at face value.

For the next few months, I am going to share with you some of those ‘certain aspects’ I learned while researching a topic. One might say that I have Paul Harvey telling me, “Kent, what’s the rest of the story?” For this month’s ‘rest of the story’ I selected the VFW National Home.

As Chaplain, my standard duty is to provide three prayers during each meeting. Invocation and Benediction to open and close the meeting, but there is a prayer during the meeting to the children at the VFW National Home. I knew about the National Home, but I never looked in any detail until now.

As a lazy researcher, I summoned the almighty google machine to find some information and there at the corner at Raffensperfer and Waverly in Eaton Rapids, Michigan is a humble looking old house with brick siding and white shutters. It may look humble but a quote from a resident summed up perfectly what the VFW National Home is all about, “Words can’t describe my gratitude and thankfulness for the VFW National Home. They gave us hopefulness; they gave us peace at a time when we were still at war in our house” is anything but humble, those are powerful words.

Those words drew me into reviewing more on the website, www.vfwnationalhome.org.



**BUILDING
STRONG
FAMILIES**

Supporting Families - VFW National Home for Children

Almost a century ago, the VFW National Home began as a place where families left behind by war could remain together. Today, the National Home has evolved to

www.vfwnationalhome.org

They had a virtual tour that lasted 3 minutes and 44 seconds and a brief history page that took me 1 minute and 16 seconds to read, www.vfwnationalhome.org/about-us/history. If my public math is accurate, that is exactly 5 minutes to get a portion of “The rest of story” about our National Home and why we pray about it each meeting. I ask each of you to consider spending the same 5 minutes I did. It is my honor and privilege to serve with you. If you have any other topics about the VFW you want me to write about, please let me know.

God's peace to each of you.

Kent Porter

SPOT LIGHT ON....

VFW Post 1260 fed the veterans at Adult Day Care in June.

Front (L-R): Post Auxiliary Treasurer Janie Malterud and
Post Auxiliary member Ruby Wiese

Back (L-R): Post Commander Bruce Malterud,
Post Quartermaster Kelly Booge,
Feed the Vets organizer Duane H. Bundy,
and James Bailey



HOT OFF THE PRESS

Record Pay Increase Likely
Coming for Disabled Veter-
ans and Military Retirees in
2023

17 Aug 2022
Military.com |
By Amy Bushatz

Military retirees and veter-
ans receiving disability
pay from the Department of
Veterans Affairs are likely to
see record monthly check
increases for the second year
running thanks to the pace of
inflation, according to new
estimates.

The annual VA disability pay
and military retirement cost-
of-living pay adjustment,
known as COLA, is typically
tied to the Social Security
rate change, which will likely
be announced in October.
An early projection based on
national inflation data by
The Senior Citizens League
(TSCL), a nonpartisan senior
advocacy nonprofit, esti-
mates rates will rise by 9.6%.

That increase would be the
highest veterans and seniors
have seen since 1981, when it
went up 11.2% in response to
inflation at the time, accord-
ing to a TSCL press release.

For 2023, that means mili-
tary retirees would see an
average increase of more
than \$240 in their monthly
retirement checks. Veterans
receiving disability compen-
sation from the VA also
would see their monthly dis-
ability payments increase,
with the average monthly
amount going up by more
than \$150.

Source: military.com

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVE



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South – Bemidji.



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

September 19, 1676 - Jamestown, Virginia, was attacked and burned during a rebellion led by Nathaniel Bacon against the Royal Governor, Sir William Berkeley.

September 19, 1994 - U.S. troops invaded Haiti, with the stated goal of restoring democracy.

September 22, 1776 - During the American Revolution, Nathan Hale was executed without a trial after he was caught spying on British troops on Long Island, his last words, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

September 22, 1862 - President Abraham Lincoln issued a preliminary Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves in territories held by Confederates as of January 1, 1863.

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POST AUXILIARY

Hope you plan to enjoy a wonderful and relaxing Labor Day weekend. This "unofficial" end to summer is somewhat hard to see. We have to help the kids get back into a school routine, and also means we have to begin to button up those projects and preparations for fall and winter. I hope one of the projects on your list is to help out a veteran and their family.

Remember "Patriots Day" is September 11th. It is also known as a day of remembrance for those killed on September 11, 2001. It is very appropriate to have a ceremony of remembrance on this day. A moment of silence should be observed at 8:46 a.m. to commemorate the day and time of this attack.

Additional special days in September include POW/MIA Remembrance Day, and Gold Star Mother's Day. Go to the VFW Auxiliary website at vfwauxiliary.org and read more about these special remembrances, and have a look at all the other information available on our website.

On Sunday, August 28th, we held our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony. There were even more flags turned in this year. This is a solemn and respectful way to retire all the flags we have collected over the year. Please continue to accept flags that need to be retired. We will hold another retirement ceremony next year.

Just a quick reminder that you should send in your dues as soon as possible. For annual dues, that is \$25. For lifetime members, that is \$5 for your cancer insurance, and a donation to the "no bake sale" in an amount of your choosing. We need to keep our dues paid and remain strong as an organization so that we can petition our legislators for the needs of our veterans and their families. It is up to us to continue that good work.

We hope you will join us for our meeting the first Tuesday evening of each month at the Bemidji Eagles at 7:00 p.m. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6th. Bring your ideas and willing spirit, and we can do great things for our local veterans and their families.

Thank you, and take care.

Margaret Booge, President

Hill's

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ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH

VFW Post 1260 Color Guard posting the Colors at LaMettry's Collision and repair veteran car giveaway.



In this photo is Larry Muller, Kelly Booge, Curt Anderson, and Bruce Malterud.



OUR DAILY COMMITMENT

Hours served: 136
Members volunteered: 48
Total dollar: \$387

Current Members: 208

2022 TAPS

Leander F. Peterka
Francis Petersen
Clinton Lydick
Roger Burgoon

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 | Kent Porter | | |
| Asst Chaplain | Vacant | | |
| Veterans Service Officer | Shane Gustafson | 218-333-4177 | shane.gustafson@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



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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.

- *Youth activities, Voice of Democracy & Youth Essay*
- *Patriotic Activities*
- *Aid to Schools & Churches*
- *Membership*
- *Help to obtain benefits*
- *Legislative Service*
- *Buddy Poppy Promotion*