

Harold Baggenstoss
Post 1260

August, 2020
Volume 87, Issue 8



FROM THE COMMANDER

BY BRUCE MALTERUD

Comrades,

Meeting coming up for the month of August, 7:00 p.m. Aug. 4th at the Eagles club. But of course like everything else that will depend on this covid thing.

It has been rather quite these past 3 or 4 months. We have been pretty busy this past month doing funerals in Debs, Puposky, Nebish and Bemidji. We posted the colors for the 4th of July fireworks down at Veronon's Resort on Bad Medicine Lake. There will be a 9th District VFW meeting coming up on Aug. 22nd in Dilworth

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Next Two Months Meetings

Social Distancing Re-
striction:
September 1st
October 6th

This year because of Covid virus we were unable to offer the poppies to the public or distribute the cards to the businesses in April as in the past. Now with things opening up just a little some of us are making the rounds to the businesses to get the cards to them so they can show their support of the veterans. We are not asking them for any donations this year as the shut down hurt them as well as any one else. Some still showed their support with a donation which is well appreciated.

If any of our members out there have any interest in helping out with the Color Guard or Honor Guard please let me know or get ahold of any one of us. It sure would be helpful and rewarding.

On the lighter side; Husband: "Seems all we ever do is argue. Let's both stop our sarcasm and just enjoy this drive." Wife: "Fine with me. Look at that fine pen of mules over yonder." Husband: "Relatives of yours?" Wife: "Yep. in-laws."

Bruce Malterud
Commander
218-766-3898

Mark your calendars! Next meeting is hopefully Tuesday, August 4th!!

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

August 15, 1969 - Woodstock began in a field near Yasgur's Farm at Bethel, New York. The three-day concert featured 24 rock bands and drew a crowd of more than 300,000 young people. The event came to symbolize the counter-culture movement of the 1960's.

August 16, 1777 - During the American Revolutionary War, the Battle of Bennington, Vermont, occurred as militiamen from Vermont, aided by Massachusetts troops, wiped out a detachment of 800 German-Hessians sent by British General Burgoyne to seize horses.

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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, Aug 4th

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Eagles Club



Aug . 22- Sat. District # 9 Meeting. at Dilworth.

Bring another veteran to our meeting.

Harold Baggenstoss

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VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Beltrami County

Desk of the Commissioner - July

“Veterans are people, too.”

This is one of the favorite expressions of MDVA Deputy Commissioner Brad Lindsay. It is a good reminder that while serving our country is the common experience among all Veterans, we are also a diverse group of people that represent all facets of society, all genders, races, creeds, colors, origins, sexual orientations, and physical abilities. We all have different skills and talents, a variety of personalities, and enjoy a wide range of activities or hobbies.



It's our diversity that is our strength.

As I shared in my column last month, the death of George Floyd while in the custody of Minneapolis Police has ignited a rebellion against racism. Many of us have paused to reflect on racism in Minnesota and across the country with a new perspective. And we have reinforced that we do not and will not tolerate racism at MDVA.

Diversity among Veterans is a strength to employers. We recognize July as “[Hire a Veteran Month](#)” in Minnesota. Our diverse training and experience provide myriad employers with a talented and enthusiastic workforce. Veterans can be found in Fortune 500 boardrooms and sole proprietor small businesses and every business in between.

Because Veterans returning from deployment face higher unemployment rates, especially during these challenging times, MDVA advocates for [Veteran education and employment](#). MDVA Director [Dave Bellefeuille](#) leads a team that partners with institutes of higher learning across the state, as well as many trade organizations that offer apprenticeships. With a solid education behind them, Veterans can then count on MDVA to support their job search. Career Fairs have gone virtual and Dave's team publicizes opportunities for Veterans to explore opportunities in a variety of fields and with many different employers. Our annual Veterans Career Fair typically held each July has been moved to November; watch for more details.

Embracing diversity also means supporting those with varying abilities. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#). Since its passage in 1990, this landmark legislation has helped increase access and opportunity for people with disabilities in our nation's workplaces and communities. At MDVA, we advocate for Veterans with disabilities through our [Claims division](#) led by MDVA Director [Ron Quade](#) as well as through partnerships with Veterans Service Organizations such as [Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America](#) and [Disabled American Veterans of Minnesota](#).

Finally, diversity is an asset to the MDVA team. We are encouraging our staff to create and join new Employee Resource Groups (ERGs), a network of employees who help drive results and act as a catalyst to build a culture of inclusion. MDVA Director [Valerie Klitzke](#) explains that ERGs help to foster an environment that embraces and leverages the culture of employees, foster talent growth and development, and encourage meaningful community involvement. ERGs help staff to amplify their voices and cultivate inclusive workplaces by tapping into our diverse workforce.



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 Overlord (6 June—30 August 1944)

Rehearsals and security

Training exercises for the Overlord landings took place as early as July 1943. As the nearby beach resembled the planned Normandy landing-site, the town of Slapton in Devon, was evacuated in December 1943, and taken over by the armed forces as a site for training exercises that included the use of landing craft and the management of beach obstacles. A friendly fire incident there on 27 April 1944 resulted in as many as 450 deaths. The following day, an additional estimated 749 American soldiers and sailors died when German torpedo-boats surprised members of Assault Force "U" conducting Exercise Tiger. Exercises with landing craft and live ammunition also took place at the Combined Training Centre in Inveraray in Scotland. Naval exercises took place in Northern Ireland, and medical teams in London and elsewhere rehearsed how they would handle the expected waves of casualties. Paratroopers conducted exercises, including a huge demonstration drop on 23 March 1944 observed by Churchill, Eisenhower, and other top officials.

Allied planners considered tactical surprise to be a necessary element of the plan for the landings. Information on the exact date and location of the landings was provided only to the top-most levels of the armed forces. Men were sealed into their marshalling areas at the end of May, with no further communication with the outside world. Troops were briefed using maps that were correct in every detail except for the place names, and most were not told their actual destination until they were already at sea. A news blackout in Britain increased the effectiveness of the deception operations. Travel to and from the Republic of Ireland was banned, and movement within several kilometres of the coast of England restricted.

Source: Wikipedia

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVE



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HOT OFF THE PRESS

Military Stolen Valor Cases on the Rise, Investigators Say

27 Jul 2020
Military.com | By Richard Sisk

Investigators at the National Archives have taken steps to make their research resources more available to federal and local law enforcement to deal with what they suspect is an uptick in "stolen valor" cases to obtain benefits or loans during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We believe they're doing it," said Jason Metrick, assistant Inspector General for Investigations at the National Archives. "It's a matter of exposing or finding it."

The archives have jurisdiction over the nation's repository of military records at the National Personnel Record Center (NPRC).

"We see lots of ID theft" by individuals seeking to claim a veteran's identity to get a credit card or a loan, Metrick said.

In an interview Monday, Metrick and Waleska McLellan, special agent in charge at the Office of Inspector General in the National Archives and Records Administration, said their initiative is focused on putting out the word their resources are there to help in stolen valor cases.

"We have a responsibility to protect these records" from misuse, McLellan said.

"We want to let folks know we're here," Metrick added.
Source: military.com



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

August 16, 1780 - The Battle of Camden in South Carolina occurred during the American Revolutionary War. The battle was a big defeat for the Americans as forces under General Gates were defeated by troops of British General Charles Cornwallis, resulting in 900 Americans killed and 1,000 captured.

August 16, 1896 - Gold was discovered in Rabbit Creek, a tributary of the Klondike River in Alaska, resulting in the Great Klondike Gold Rush.

August 16, 1977 - Elvis Presley was pronounced dead at the Memphis Baptist Hospital at 3:30 p.m., at age 42.

POST AUXILIARY

Still in the midst of the Pandemic, and still not sure how to best help our veterans while staying safe and keeping them safe....

Our July meeting was our first in-person meeting since March. It went very well, and was well attended by our members and by two potential new members.

Thank you so much to the people who ventured out to the meeting, and thank you so much to those of you that continue to hold our veterans in your thoughts from your home while trying to stay safe.

Our August meeting will again be held at the Bemidji Eagles on Tuesday, August 4th at 7:00 p.m. It will again be with a "new normal". That means we require face masks, and social distancing. We are encouraged to enter through the back door directly into our meeting rooms. This is just one more safeguard for our Post and Auxiliary members.

During the month of July and into August we have been distributing some of the Poppy Cards that normally go to businesses in the spring. We have delivered our Poppy Cards with a note thanking them for their pervious support of our veterans and asking them to display the cards – without asking for a donation.

We are checking with Activity Directors at the local nursing homes to see if they will allow us to bring some decorations into the veterans living in the nursing homes. If they will, we will be working on that in August. Please come join us and enjoy the chance to visit with your fellow Auxiliary members - while maintaining six feet distance of course. We plan to have our annual flag retirement ceremony and fish fry in September. Please watch for more information regarding that.

Please take good care of yourselves, and be safe. Best Regards,
 Margaret Booge
 President, VFW Auxiliary 1260
 218-556-9482

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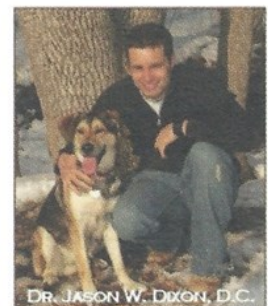


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ACTIVITIES THIS PAST MONTH



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

Commander	Bruce Malterud	218-766-3898	bmjm@paulbunyan.net
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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.

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