



**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE IDAHO MILITARY VEHICLE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION
JANUARY 2016**

The President's Corner

Whoa, where is Bruce? And why am I writing this again? President Bruce didn't get his corner in before publishing. I'm sure he got busy with the holidays and snowy weather.

If he had written this I'm sure he would say that elections are this month! And everyone should attend the meeting, to vote, and then step up to volunteer for President and other offices.

Bruce has done a fantastic job as the leader, and in my humble opinion has shown us "what right looks like". As a lifelong student of leadership, and having been taught it in the military, I know it when I see it. But it doesn't come naturally to most of us. Bruce however is a natural leader. He took charge, led from the front, and set the

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PATTON MUSEUM TOUR IN THIS ISSUE!

CLUB MEETINGS:

Always the first Tuesday of the month at Gate's Towing in Nampa. 6 PM BBQ or 7 PM for the meeting.

Officers:

President: Bruce Gates (208) 890-2249 /
bruce@gatesassoc.net

Vice President: Mike Sword (208) 422-7668 /
SWORDMD@YAHOO.COM

Treasurer: James Galloway (208) 365-8944 /
JNG454@YAHOO.COM

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example. Did you know that he attended darn near every single club event this year?

In this issue of the newsletter I've chosen to focus on another leader - General George S Patton. During this time in history Patton led his Army in relief of the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne, halting the German offensive and setting the allies on course to end the war.

As for the club, I'm 100% sure we don't need leaders as charismatic and battle tested as General Patton. All we need this month -really- is a few members willing to step up and help. Will that be you?

I have no doubt that club members will beg Bruce to stay in the job, because he really has been excellent. But no matter what happens I'd like to be first to say **THANK YOU BRUCE**, for taking charge, leading from the front, and setting the example.

By Ron P



Club Minutes

There was no meeting in December due to the **holiday Club Party**. Check out the pictures.

There was no formal business held and no minutes to record. Vice President Mike Sword presided as Bruce unexpectedly was unable to attend due to a work conflict. Mike thanked everyone for coming and reminded us that **January means dues – and elections**.

For those of you who get the MVPA magazines you might notice that our Idaho Military show is now advertised in print. We were more proactive this year and got it in early. ❖

Scuttlebutt:

-Bart Bryson bought 50 turkeys and donated them to the Boise Rescue Mission in the name of the IMVPA. Way to go Bart!

- Barry McCahill shared some links from ranker.com about Henry Ford's planes and secret weapons of WWII. Very interesting read for those who enjoy history.

-Member of the MVPA? Your annual dues must be paid now.

Did you Know?!

-The Battle of the Bulge took place during this time in history December 16th 1944 to January 25th 1945.



SPOTTED! What is this, a jeep at the famous battle of the bulge? Nah, just one of our members taking it out in the winter time snow. We all drive our open top, no heater, no doors MVs in winter.....right, Ja nicht wahr?

UPCOMING EVENT: FRUITLAND MILITARY SHOW

Fruitland Idaho, June 1-4th 2016. This is our club annual event. Details are available on the website, online at MVPA.com, or in the MVPA Supply Line Magazine.

UPCOMING EVENT: NORTHWEST MOTORFEST

Thank you Barry M for letting us know this event is back! Saturday and Sunday, June 18th-19th 2016. Read about it at EventBrite.com ❖

Club Event: Holiday Party

By Ron P

The December 2015 club holiday party took place at the Elks Club in Caldwell. President Bruce Gates had an unexpected work conflict so Vice President Mike Sword presided. The first thing he said was there will be no work, let's just have a good time!

The secret santa gift exchange was really fun. Barry McCahill seemed to open almost every gift because no matter what he got, someone else took it!

I would have like to have seen more club participation as I feel it was just a little light. But we had a great time. Can't wait for next year. ❖



Member spotlight: Al and Bonnie Mizner

By Ron P

It was at the Fruitland Show that I had the privilege of spending time with and interviewing Al Mizner. His love of jeeps and military vehicles stretch all of the way back to the Korean War where he served in the US Navy. How many of us can say we have been in the Jeep hobby that long!

Al met his current wife Bonnie when they were in High School in Colorado in the early 1950s. After graduation Al joined the Navy and earned his aircrew wings serving with a Vought F4U Corsair Squadron (Al subsequently retired from the US Navy Reserve in 1985). After his stint on active duty, Al worked for Lockheed Martin for 18 years, and Aerojet for more than a decade after that. He also ran his own laboratory in Sacramento Calif. Al retired in 1999 as an Integrated Launch Support Engineer. His resume includes the Titan rocket Program, Skylab, Viking, and the X24 program!

About his Jeep addiction: after he left active duty Al started looking for a 4x4 for fun and play. He found a M38 with 9000 miles on it on sitting on a car lot in Colorado and he purchased it for \$600. This is the same one he still owns today! He used this jeep for mud racing, hill climbing, and trail riding as a member of the Mile High Jeep Club in Colorado. Yes that club is still active. In the 1970s Al even used this jeep for racing!

Then the inevitable happened-life got in the way. The jeep ended up getting parked for about 20 years. Then in 2008 Al tells us Bob Silverwood talked him into joining the IMVPA, and helped him restore the Jeep as well. It took the better part of a year, but now it's like new again.

Al and Bonnie told me there is no more racing in store for this retired M38. They now use their jeep for car shows and pleasure driving. Of course in all fairness when Bonnie is present she refers to it as HER jeep. Now that I know them better i'm embarrassed to realize that I should have interviewed her also! I couldn't help but notice that she loves the Jeep more than Al does!

Their passion for this hobby is what makes the two of them such a pleasure to get to know. By the way, Al says they have 4 kids, 9 grandkids, and 5 great grandkids. What he doesn't say is if he lets any of them drive the Jeep. ☺





Photo caption above:

Al and Bonnie are delightful together. They have shared a jeep passion that has lasted through the decades. In fact Bonnie refers to their M38 as her jeep. ❖

EDITORIAL: Patton Museum at Ft. Knox KY

By Ron P

In November I was at Fort Knox Kentucky on business. The trip was bittersweet because the last time I was there was in 1988 for basic training! I went almost directly to the Patton Museum. I recalled back then that it was the most exciting museum those young eyes had ever seen.

Fort Knox used to be the home of the armor but those forces have moved to Fort Benning Georgia, and the armor museum with it. The Patton museum is still at Fort Knox obviously but it's much smaller than it used to be. And sadly there was an extensive renovation going on. Frankly I was very disappointed with the entire experience. Partly because many of the exhibits were roped off, and much of the armor and vehicle exhibits had moved out.

The highlights would have to include Patton's recently restored command truck. Maybe you read all about it already in a recent issue of the MVPA magazine so I won't go into the details. Sadly it too was roped off so no one was supposed to get too close. The museum was almost completely empty so yes I stole a peak in the back of the vehicle and noticed it was beautifully restored inside as well as out.

On display was the automobile that Patton was riding in when he was fatally injured. Outside there were a number of military vehicles, including this neat M4 Sherman (see picture). Not sure what happened to the barrel. I had a vision of the movie "1941" in which they stored a large sausage in the breach of their main gun!

If you go, take the time to sit in the theater and listen to his story. And maybe all of the exhibits will be open so you can walk around them. An alternative would be to go to their website at generalpatton.org. Here you will find the latest news, instructional videos, their newsletter, and more information on exactly what equipment left for Fort Benning Georgia, and what stayed behind.

In closing, I don't regret going to the museum. It just seems to these older eyes that it was a fraction of its former glory.



Photos: Patton's command truck and archived photo of his car after the crash. ❖

CLASSIFIED ADS

-For Sale: Beretta M9 style auto 40 caliber pistol, like new, very little use. Comes with case, mags and ammo. These are over \$600 new. Will take \$450.



-For Sale \$1500: This is an uncut M416 1966 vintage trailer with data plates. The pintle hook, safety chains etc are there. Wheels are military and has a spare. Tail lights are aftermarket but wiring harness is there. Box has been repaired and coated with rubber bedliner. Wheel bearings were repacked 4 years ago. The hard top is bolted on only and removable. The GI canvas is included but the rover rack is not. This is located in Wyoming. Email Chuck at xviiiarchy@yahoo.com

Utah Classifieds

-For Sale: Lots of GPW and MB parts. Engines and parts, transmissions, axels, etc. Contact Dave Turley 801.787.7374 for a parts list.

-For sale: I am considering putting up for adoption one or more of my dearly beloved: -1987 M35/A2, winch, multi-fuel, many upgrades \$12,000; 1952 M38 and trailer, radio, winch, tow bar, gun pedestal. \$12,000; 1952 M37, ground up rebuild Hercules turbo diesel, winch \$15,000; 1980 era Fast Attach Vehicle, 1980 cc VW powered, Chenoweth chassis, baskets, the real deal. \$10,000; Contact Harley Jacobs 801- 360-5188 hwjacobs@aol.com ❖

Oregon Classifieds

For Sale:

M151 original NOS vinyl top, side screens and doors. Very good condition, I replaced this set with canvas. \$250 Steve Andereggen Sr. Nukesub612@comcast.net

2 halftrack rims - \$25 each or both for \$35; 1945 International M-3-4 Beam Fire Truck - \$5,000; 1954 Dodge M152 CND communications van – only 1200 built - \$5,000; Contact Jim Shipp 541-290-1779 Konig PTO with three winches; \$1,200; Contact Jim Morris 541-404-5788 or jimgarage@frontier.com

For sale: 1952 or '53 M38A1; Air Force - originally painted light blue; still has the original engine and the 24 volt system - has not run for at least 20 years \$5,000; WWII trailer also available. Erich Laetsch - ErichANI@aol.com

For Sale: set of five 700x16 ndt tires with 4 chains; estimate 50% rubber; \$300.00; M416 trailer has some surface rust; \$1300; Jerry Wheeler jrwheeler7@gmail.com or 541-260-3941.