



**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE IDAHO MILITARY VEHICLE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION**  
July 2015

## The President's Corner

By Bruce Gates

We are in the midst of our busy summer schedule.

Motorfest is over and it was a very successful show. We had 18 vehicles, which was a little shy, but we had a lot of interest and a lot of spectators coming through. I want to personally thank all those members that took the time to take their vehicles to the show and to answer people's questions about the vehicles.

It's seems a little sad, but after 13 years there will be no more Motorfest unless someone new picks it up. There has been some talk about the fair or some of the clubs continuing it but nothing very definite. Motorfest has always been a good

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## No July Meeting!

- Yeah it was a last minute change!

Kohler Lawn 2015 (photo submitted by Bruce G)



*Official Seal of the IMVPA.*

### CLUB MEETINGS:

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

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show for us for the last 5 years. It gets us the greatest exposure of any event as nearly 16,000 people come through the front gates to see the vehicles. Our next event is "God and Country" at the Idaho Center on July 2. It's a short event as they like us to be at the front gate as people enter so we are there from about 4:15 PM to 5:30 PM. Next we have the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events. A lot of us will be going to the Middleton parade who's theme is "Honoring Veterans" so the spotlight will be on us. We'll assemble at the Middleton Middle school on highway 44 at the west end of town at 10:00 AM. The parade lasts about an hour from Noon to 1 PM. This is a very long parade with a lot of people and it's one of only two parades left in Idaho where you can throw candy so stock up on hard candy and come to the parade. I usually buy mine at Winco and my wife can throw out 35 pounds in a heartbeat. I believe Boise, Payette and Star are also having parades but Star's parade last year was only a half mile long so it hardly seemed worth doing. Our next meeting will be on July 7<sup>th</sup> so we'll discuss upcoming events then.

**Bruce Gates**  
**President**  
**IMVPA**



Editor's note, per email from Alex no 7 July meeting). Also no formal meeting was held last month. It was informally held during the clean up at the Idaho Motor Pool. No notes recorded. ❖

## Notes from the Secretary:

### 2015 Veteran's Day Parade Sat Nov 7th

I submitted the application and gave an estimate as to number of vehicles. I do need all members to let me (Ron) know the following:

- 1-vehicles by type that will attend
- 2-number of people that will attend
- 3-what vehicle will be carrying the grand marshal

DEADLINE IS JULY 7<sup>th</sup>. Yes it's a little early but keep in mind that the parade committee must plan the staging and parking areas, prioritize who goes where, and approve all applications. This is a swag I know and it's okay to make changes later. But if you think you are going simply LET ME KNOW by email. Thanks! -Ron



## Club Officers:

**President: Bruce Gates** (208) 890-2249 /  
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**Secretary: and Newsletter Editor: Ron Powell**  
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**From the Newsletter Editor:** Is this club about sharing a hobby, knowledge, experience, or fellowship? The newsletter can contribute to these ideals. But only with your input. Contact me today!

Did you notice the website was updated? Do you have any ideas for new and fresh content?

## Scuttlebutt:

-tire purchase is happening. President Bruce will ask for funds up front. The freight cost will be minimal. More to follow soon.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**EVENT: GOD AND COUNTRY JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>  
4:15-5:30**

**EVENT: MIDDLETON 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY  
PARADE: 12 NOON (LINE UP AT  
MIDDLE SCHOOL ON HWY 44 10AM)**

**EVENT: VICTORY BELLES-  
SATURDAY, AUG 15<sup>TH</sup> 1PM AT THE  
WARHAWK MUSEUM**

**EVENT: HARLEY DAVIDSON SHOW  
AUG 22<sup>ND</sup> 9AM-6PM**

**EVENT: BOISE VETERAN'S DAY  
PARADE NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>:**

**THE 2015 VETERANS DAY PARADE WILL  
TAKE PLACE IN DOWNTOWN BOISE ON  
SATURDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>,  
2015**

**THIS YEAR'S PARADE WILL FOCUS ON  
THE VIETNAM WAR, BUT ATTENDING  
THE PARADE IS A GREAT WAY TO SHOW  
YOUR SUPPORT FOR ALL UNITED  
STATES ARMED FORCES VETERANS.  
WWW.BOISEVETERANS DAYPARADE.ORG**



-An email went out to all members from Dana Smith. He is selling military vehicles now. two M-37s, 2 M56B1s, a Canadian Army M152, a radio/communications vehicle. And an extremely rare XM-708 dump truck and a Kaiser 2 & 1/2 ton truck. Contact him at [drsm@ida.net](mailto:drsm@ida.net)

Here is a link submitted by Barry M that you might enjoy:

[www.youtube.com/embed/uoABty\\_zE00?rel=0](http://www.youtube.com/embed/uoABty_zE00?rel=0)



## CLUB EVENTS: Kohler Lawn and Hillcrest 2015

By Bruce Gates

For Memorial Day activities six vehicles met at Gates & Associates lot in Nampa at 8:30 AM. We convoyed over to Kohler Lawn Cemetery to display the vehicles. They have a large turnout for the event with a flyover provided by the War Hawk Air Museum. The ceremonies started at 10:00AM and were over a little after 11:00 AM. By 11:45 AM five of the six vehicles convoyed over to have lunch and continue to Hillcrest Cemetery in Caldwell for their ceremonies that were to begin at 1:00 PM. In years past Hillcrest Cemetery was not very appreciative of us, but it's now under new management and our presence was greatly appreciated by the staff. The guest speaker was Dante Skywalker who gave an excellent presentation of his time as guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington DC.

The forecast on Monday was for 30% chance of rain but we got lucky and the sun stayed out until about 2:30 PM when it began to cloud over and a storm chased us all the way back to Nampa.

All in all it was a beautiful day spent with good people and good friends. A complete success!



Photos above: Club members enjoy the club event! ❖

# MEMBER REPORT FOR THE VINTAGE MILITARY SHOW JUNE 3-6 2015

**Report by Dale Smiley**

The Idaho Military show and swap meet is the very first military collector event Dusty and I attended nine years ago. We had such a good time; we have tried to go nearly every year since. This time Donna and I attended while Dusty had other responsibilities at home. We left Mount Vernon at 1800 hrs. Wednesday, June 10. I was pleased to get away only an hour after closing up our business. We traveled in our F450 with camper aboard and towing our VC-5 Dodge inside the trailer. All went well until traffic stopped on Snoqualmie pass for the 7:30 to 8:30 rock blasting. This was an unexpected and frustrating delay in my plans to drive until too tired to go further. As it turned out we made it to the Pendleton, Oregon Wal-Mart where we parked and slept comfortably in the camper. Next morning we pushed on to Fruitland, Idaho arriving in time to get parked and situated before lunch. The show/swap meet is held adjacent to Alex Gordon's Idaho Motor Pool military truck sales yard. The Idaho MVPA has a small museum on the same site, displaying U.S. weaponry and vehicles as well as a few German spoils of war. That afternoon Donna took a nap while I reacquainted myself with some of the Idaho club members and some of the vendors already set up. Thursday evening we drove into Boise to have supper with some friends now living there but previously from Anaconda, Montana. We had a most enjoyable visit, but staying later than we should have. Back at Fruitland long after dark, we were really tired and slept well.

Friday morning I got up early and walked through Alex's vast selection of trucks and equipment, taking a few photos and checking out his inventory. I can only estimate he has more than 50 trucks, with lots of trailers, and a few Humvees and other misc. surplus military vehicles on his sales yard. Later I checked out more vehicles and vendors as they arrived. I bumped into Bob Hamm and later Chad Stevenson from the PSMVCC. A couple cars were crushed by Alex's tank soon after lunch, always fun to watch. He also has a mud pit and a balance rack if you wish to test your vehicle and driving ability. We discovered Jerry Cook visiting the event from San Diego, Ca. I had helped Jerry about five years ago while he was finishing up an International M-2-4 at the Camp Pendleton museum. Jerry has volunteered there for years. At the time I sent him multiple photos of the electrical wiring, suppression filters, junction blocks and etc. located on the firewall of the M-2-4 so he could put everything in the correct location.

Donna and I were very pleased to see an "old" friend Dick Bengochea who is now 90 yrs. old and carries multiple Purple Heart awards from his time in the Army. A couple years ago there was a gas leak in his home near Boise. The explosion picked the home up off the foundation while Dick was inside. Miraculously he survived but has been dealing with some health issues since and unable to get out to the events. Dick is one of the Idaho club members who welcomed Dusty and me into the military vehicle hobby some nine years ago. Dick and I usually talk on the phone a couple times a year just to keep up with one another's projects. Donna and I shared ice cream bars with Dick while we visited in the shade of our shelter.

Another "old" friend Charlie Geer stopped by for a visit on Saturday. Charlie is the one who got me interested in the VC Dodges years ago when he showed his restored VC-1 Command car. Since then he and I have traded Dodge and IHC parts back and forth for our restoration projects. Charlie's son Will is also an avid collector/restorer and knows Dodges, IHC M-2-4, and FAV (fast

attack vehicles) inside and out. I also visited with Mike Breshears who wishes now he had not sold me his half track project. Mike owns a company called Vintage Airframes and is restoring a P-47 from ground up – talk about a long term restoration project! He recently found a Quad Fifty to bring home for his own collection of military vehicles and gear. Bruce Gates, President of Idaho MVPA brought a GPA amphibious Jeep to the show. He is assisting a British collector who bought the GPA in Pennsylvania and had it shipped to Bruce’s shop. The GPA is unrestored and has been in storage for forty years. It is very straight and very complete and I would assume a fairly straight forward restoration when it gets to England.

The last time I saw Chad Stevenson, he and Alex were scrounging through the Idaho Motor Pool “boneyard” searching for M715 parts. Then we said “farewell” to Duane and Joan Seidenstucker who have a must visit surplus store in Caldwell. Duane sold me some very nice leather scabbards and a WWII BAR ammo belt. We packed up our gear, loaded the VC-5, and pulled out around 1600 hrs. Saturday. Being anxious to get home we decided to drive straight through and arrived back in Mount Vernon early Sunday morning. We had a great time and would encourage you to visit the show/swap meet some time in the future. We look forward to seeing you there.



Pictures as shown above at the show left to right: tank crushes cars, mud bog, and vendors. Some members brought campers and stayed the night! (photos courtesy of Alex G)❖