Jan-March 2022



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE IDAHO MILITARY VEHICLE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION



FROM THE TOP From the President

There will be a meeting of the Idaho MVPA on Tuesday March 1 at 7PM at Gates & Assoc 604 N 36th St. Nampa ID. This is the time of year to discuss upcoming events and officer positions.

IMVPA CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bruce Gates Vice President: Matt Wrobel Treasurer: please volunteer Quartermaster: Erik Kunkel Secretary: Secretary Fairy Services LLC Social Media Director: Benjamin Sterling Website, Newsletter Editor: Ron Powell

Spotted: do you long for spring to get here? Us too. This was in President Gate's parking area last summer. What is it exactly? We don't know either.



It was in the news...

-The year 2022 is here. Russians invaded Ukraine. Gas has doubled. Inflation and food prices are up. Yay for the new year. Um, yay.

-Our friend and firefighter Benjamin will climb 69 stairs while wearing 60lbs of gear. He does this for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society. Donate here please and let's keep up the fight against cancer. To donate Go to (Ilswa.org) (type in Benjamin

-There was no February IMVPA meeting, because of COVID, bad weather and winter is a slow season. We will have a March meeting however. Also there was no newsletter last month (don't cry). As we restart this process, The first newsletter of the year 2022 will start with March so it looks like its in the current month instead of last month. So the last newsletter was December 2021 and this one is March 2022 (We actually only missed one month). Thank you for the confusion and understanding.

The literacy rate among Idaho graduates continue too improv, even as kids ware masks and miss skool. Thank you COVID.

-Quality Assurance Dept

-Your call is very important to us. Stay on the line. We'll disconnect you after you've waited for 55 minutes.

World news and events: our hearts go out to our brothers in Ukraine and we pray for them and their families.

Complaint Department: do you have an issue, complaint, or simply a suggestion for IMVPA officers or for the newsletter? Maybe you don't like the way things are ran around here. We value your opinion. Please reach out to us at www.wecare.

The largest Event in the West! Camp Plymouth Calif Big Spring Meet is April 27-30th. Military Vehicle Parts, Buy, Sell, Show, Drive. The Fall Camp Plymouth Show is Sept 14-17th. This is the 45th anniversary of this show!

Event Info: call Don at 209-765-1273 or email caddymanwestside@yahoo.com

IMVPA MEETINGS: Always the 1st Tues of the Month at 7PM at Gates & Associates at 604 N. 36th St. Nampa, ID

Happy Taliban - by Alex Gordon of the Idaho Motor Pool

Thanks to the Government Accountability Office, we now have a clear picture of just how much U.S. military equipment has fallen into the hands of the Taliban, thanks to Joe Biden's bungled withdrawal from Afghanistan. Let's have a look...

Planes: 60 transport/cargo, 20 light attack, 18 intelligence/surveillance; 110 helicopters

Vehicles: 75,898 vehicles: 42,604 tactical vehicles 22,174 Humvees 8,998 medium tactical vehicles, 1,005 recovery vehicles 928 mine-resistant vehicles 189 armored tanks

Weapons: **599,690 of our weapons** are now in the hands of the Taliban: 358,530 rifles, 126,295 pistols, 64,363 machine guns, 25,327 grenade launchers, 12,692 shotguns, 9,877 RPGs, 2,606 howitzers

And you can throw a couple thousand night-vision goggles, surveillance drones, and communication devices on that list as well.

Price tag: In total, it adds up to nearly \$84 billion dollars in tax-payerfunded U.S. military equipment.

His Glass is Half Empty -by Anonymous

Editor's Note: this space is reserved for any member or guest, anonymous or not, to contribute to the newsletter. This month's contribution is by –anonymous

The Year 2022 is here and I've never been so depressed. This year is going to be a bag of \$h#(. I've got bags under my eyes from lack of sleep. Life is just like a bag, you know? Ever set a bag down, and it spills, because 100% of the time if it was turned around it would have stayed up right. A military person has done the duffel bag drag, which means they're going someplace horrible, like to a democratic state (No politics, you've been warned –ed).

The best day I ever had was still a mixed bag, was married to an old bag, and had to have a bag over my head to make love (actually yes you read that right). Now if I go buy groceries I gotta pay for the bags that I used to get for free. Of course I can't fill these bags with what I want because of grocery shortages. The gubmint wants the rich to pay their fair share, while I now have to pay taxes on my little paypal account. I guess I'll fill a bag with my money to give to the IRS. Now all I really want to do is fill up a hefty garbage bag full of military surplus, canvas and MREs Meals Refused to Eat but I can't afford to.. Wake me up when 2023 gets here. I'll be asleep in my army mummy bag.

Six Boys, Short Story by a Teacher shared by President Gates

Each year I am hired to go to Washington, DC, with the eighth-grade class from Clinton, WI., where I grew up, to videotape their trip. I greatly enjoy visiting our nation's capital, and each year I take some special memories back with me. This fall's trip was especially memorable. On the last night of our trip, we stopped at the Iwo Jima memorial. This memorial is the largest bronze statue in the world and depicts one of the most famous photographs in history -- that of the six brave soldiers raising the American Flag at the top of a rocky hill on the island of Iwo Jima, Japan, during WW II.

Over one hundred students and chaperones piled off the buses and headed towards the memorial. I noticed a solitary figure at the base of the statue, and as I got closer he asked, 'Where are you guys from?' I told him that we were from Wisconsin. 'Hey, I'm a cheesehead, too! Come gather around, Cheese heads, and I will tell you a story.

(It was James Bradley) who just happened to be in Washington, DC, to speak at the memorial the following day. He was there that night to say good night to his dad, who had passed away. He was just about to leave when he saw the buses pull up. I videotaped him as he spoke to us and received his permission to share what he said from my videotape. It is one thing to tour the incredible monuments filled with history in Washington, DC, but it is quite another to get the kind of insight we received that night.)

My name is James Bradley and I'm from Antigo, Wisconsin. My dad is on that statue, and I wrote a book called 'Flags of Our Fathers'. It is the story of the six boys you see behind me.

'Six boys raised the flag. The first guy putting the pole in the ground is Harlon Block. Harlon was an allstate football player. He enlisted in the Marine Corps with all the senior members of his football team. They were off to play another type of game. A game called 'War.' But it didn't turn out to be a game. Harlon, at the age of 21, died with his intestines in his hands. I don't say that to gross you out, I say that because there are people who stand in front of this statue and talk about the glory of war. You guys need to know that most of the boys in Iwo Jima were 17, 18, and 19 years old - and it was so hard that the ones who did make it home never even would talk to their families about it.

(He pointed to the statue) 'You see this next guy? That's Rene Gagnon from New Hampshire. If you took Rene's helmet off at the moment this photo was taken and looked in the webbing of that helmet, you would find a photograph...a photograph of his girlfriend Rene put that in there for protection because he was scared. He was 18 years old. It was just boys who won the battle of Iwo Jima. Boys. Not old men.

The next guy here, the third guy in this tableau, was Sergeant Mike Strank...(from Johnstown, PA). Mike is my hero. He was the hero of all these guys. They called him the 'old man' because he was so old. He was already 24. When Mike would motivate his boys in training camp, he didn't say, 'Let's go kill some Japanese' or 'Let's die for our country' He knew he was talking to little boys. Instead, he would say, 'You do what I say, and I'll get you home to your mothers.'

Six Boys, Short Story by a Teacher -continued

'The last guy on this side of the statue is Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian from Arizona. Ira Hayes was one of them who lived to walk off Iwo Jima. He went into the White House with my dad. President Truman told him, 'You're a hero' He told reporters, 'How can I feel like a hero when 250 of my buddies hit the island with me and only 27 of us walked off alive?' So, you take your class at school, 250 of you spending a year together having fun, doing everything together. Then all 250 of you hit the beach, but only 27 of your classmates walk off alive. That was Ira Hayes. He had images of horror in his mind. Ira Hayes carried the pain home with him and eventually died dead drunk, face down, drowned in a very shallow puddle, at the age of 32 (ten years after this picture was taken).

'The next guy, going around the statue, is Franklin Sousley from Hilltop, Kentucky. A fun-Lovin' hillbilly boy. His best friend, who is now 70, told me, 'Yeah, you know, we took two cows up on the porch of the Hilltop General Store. Then we strung wire across the stairs so the cows couldn't get down. Then we fed them Epsom salts. Those cows crapped all night' Yes, he was a fun-loving' hillbilly boy. Franklin died on Iwo Jima at the age of 19. When the telegram came to tell his mother that he was dead, it went to the Hilltop General Store. A barefoot boy ran that telegram up to his mother's farm The neighbors could hear her scream all night and into the morning. Those neighbors lived a quarter of a mile away. 'The next guy, as we continue to go around the statue, is my dad, John Bradley, from Antigo, Wisconsin, where I was raised. My dad lived until 1994, but he would never give interviews. When Walter Cronkite's producers or the New York Times would call, we were trained as little kids to say 'No, I'm sorry, sir, my dad's not here. He is in Canada fishing. No, there is no phone there, sir. No, we don't know when he is coming back.' My dad never fished or even went to Canada. Usually, he was sitting there right at the table eating his Campbell's soup. But we had to tell the press that he was out fishing. He didn't want to talk to the press.

'You see, like Ira Hayes, my dad didn't see himself as a hero. Everyone thinks these guys are heroes, cause they are in a photo and on a monument. My dad knew better. He was a medic. John Bradley from Wisconsin was a combat caregiver. On Iwo Jima he probably held over 200 boys as they died. And when boys died on Iwo Jima, they writhed and screamed, without any medication or help with the pain. When I was a little boy, my third-grade teacher told me that my dad was a hero When I went home and told my dad that, he looked at me and said, 'I want you always to remember that the heroes of Iwo Jima are the guys who did not come back. Did NOT come back.'

So that's the story about six nice young boys. Three died on Iwo Jima, and three came back as national heroes Overall, 7,000 boys died on Iwo Jima in the worst battle in the history of the Marine Corps. My voice is giving out, so I will end here. Thank you for your time. Suddenly, the monument wasn't just a big old piece of metal with a flag sticking out of the top. It came to life before our eyes with the heartfelt words of a son who did indeed have a father who was a hero. Maybe not a hero for the reasons most people would believe, but a hero, nonetheless. One thing I learned while on tour with my 8th grade students in DC that is not mentioned here is, that if you look at the statue very closely and count the number of 'hands' raising the flag, there are 13. When the man who made the statue was asked why there were 13, he simply said the 13th hand was the hand of God.

Your Free Free Free Classified Ads

WANTED:

-Brian Tharp is looking for a full ring mount for an M35A2 if POC is Bruce Gates

-Looking for 8 pieces of WW2 steel landing matt, can pick up within 250 miles of Wendell ID. Ask for John jrjrfm@yahoo.com

-43 GPW project, tub, frame, lots of parts, has title, Make reasonable offer. Mosinmatt@gmail.com

For Sale,

41 Dodge WC closed cab, fairly complete, engine free \$3750 w bill of sale; 1941WC winch model, fairly complete, engine turns free, winch frame was torched off, another WC winch frame is complete no body, w winch, engine ran 20 yrs ago \$5100

WANTED!

1941 powerwagon restored or to be restored. Send pics and price to Alex Gordon at www.idahomotorpool.com -77 Kaiser M35A2 w winch, runs great, complete, soft cab and hard cab, w Idaho title, drive it home now \$7000

-M105 trailer for M35, clean w bows and spare tire. \$700 if you buy it with the M35, \$900 on its own, no canvas Wash title.

-1945-52 Winter-Weiss 7 ton navy model M1 medium tractor bulldozer, was at Papau new Guinea, runs great \$5500

-lots of misc 1/2 Dodge parts, fenders, priced to sell, want to sell all or none. 45 years of collecting. Also WW2, Korean War radio equipment. Make me offers. Contact John. All items in Wendell ID. Email at jrjrfm@yahoo.com

Urgently wanted! Cargo box for a CCKW. Reach out to Ian Newby at ims@telus.net or 604 616 2537

Preppers get ready for 2022. Reach out to www.cdvs.us; Combat Veterans Surplus/Big Sky Surplus Spokane Washington.

IMVPA and MVPA Membership!

Idaho Military Vehicle Preservation Association Membership Application

-Since 1993, an Idaho Organization has been dedicated to the preservation of old and historic military vehicles. The IMVPA encourages the acquisition, preservation, restoration, and the public education of historic military vehicles. The Idaho club encourages and supports museums, as well as national and community events.

Membership Fees - \$20.00 per year

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip	
Email			
Phone			Please
mail this membe	rship application	n to :	
Bruce Gates			
PO Box 592 Nam	npa,		
ldaho 83653	•		

Ownership of a military vehicle in not a requirement for

membership! Monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call (208) 890-2249 for more information.

Are you a member of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association, or MVPA?

Why join? You get access to thousands of members worldwide for information, vehicles, parts, resources and a community of shared enthusiasm; Premium publications – *ARMY MOTORS* and *SUPPLY LINE*, the best in the hobby from the **only** international historic military vehicle association; An organization that supports pro-HMV legislation to protect your access to vehicles, parts and vehicle usage; Doing your part to support vehicle and archival preservation and research; Preferred pre-registration status and vehicle judging access for the annual convention; Reduced ad rates in SUPPLY LINE; Access to the members only website section and directory; A vote and voice in the operation and direction of the MVPA Go to MVPA.org, or

Join by Mail: Don't want to join through our online store? Go to mvpa.org to print a membership form. Mail the form with a check or money order to: MVPA PO Box 520378 Independence, MO 64052 USA

Idaho Military Vehicle Preservation Association

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	Membershi	p Application
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Ar	•	e Military Vehicle Preservation Association? s know your membership number!

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U.S.A. MEMBERSHIPS	MEMBERSHIPS OUTSIDE THE U.S.A.	OUTREACH SPONSORSHIP	Electronic Membership		
Second Class Postage - \$50.00	Canada Economy Air - \$60.00	To Organization or School	□ Worldwide E-Membership - \$35.00		
First Class Postage - \$75.00	International Economy Air - \$70.00	Second Class Postage - \$50.00	(Does not receive Printed Publications)		
Name of Applicant	State		I		
	City State Zip Telephone E-mail Address				
16 Digit Credit Card #					

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