

AMERICAN LEGION PREAMBLE

For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

The Definition of "Veteran"

A veteran - whether active duty, retired, national guard or reserve - is someone who, at one point in his/her life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America", for an amount of "up to and including my life." That is honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it. -- Author Unknown

American Legion - Post 4
P. O. Box 14
Pocatello, ID 83204-0014

APRIL 2008

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April 2008

**American Legion Post 4
P. O. Box 14
Pocatello, ID 83204-0014
<http://www.americanlegionpost4.com>**

Dear Post 4 Legionnaire:

Our renewals for 2008 have slowed down, with about 200 members who have still not renewed for the year. With all the Legion programs that we actively support at Post 4, we really need your support with your dues and volunteer work. If any one of you wants to renew your membership in the Legion and is having financial difficulties now which makes this impossible, please contact the Commander or any one of the officers and we will pay your dues until your situation improves. Remember, your free Accident Insurance is cancelled when your membership expires!

THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER FOR ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT RENEWED FOR 2008.

We had our Boy's State program in early March, and 16 boys were selected to attend this year. The cost has been raised to \$300 per boy, and we have 8 already paid for as a result of contributions from members such as you. Our Garage Sale paid for one boy to attend. At the March meeting, a motion was made to pass the hat for more donations, and members kicked in an additional \$109.46. We still need contributions from our members to keep this program alive and well in Pocatello. Any Boy's State "alumni" out there are encouraged to make a donation to help out this outstanding group of young men that have been selected for 2008. Several of the VSO's have also contributed to Boy's State; the Marine Corps League for \$300, and the VFW for \$150. Thank you Gentlemen!

A big thank you to all members and their families who attended the Legion's free 90th birthday party on March 15th. We had a huge turnout, and unfortunately ran out of our main course for dinner. Sandwiches were quickly made to cover the shortfall. We also had some really great music played by Post 4 Legionnaires.

Election of officers took place with all officers returned to their positions with the exception of the 3rd Vice Commander who stepped down and was replaced by Mario Chacon. Congratulations to Mario, one of our younger members, and a "former" Marine.

Pocatello hosted the District 6 meeting held on 3/22, and most officers were returned to their position. Cody Vienza from Post 23 in Blackfoot was elected as the new District 6 Commander, and will take over that position at the State Convention in Lewiston.

The Chili-Cookoff hosted by Post 4 for Aid For Friends was a resounding success with over 32 different chili's to be sampled by more than 350 people and raised \$3,791 for the local charity.

There are several programs the American Legion supports that are not so well known. These are the Boy Scouts and the Junior Shooting Sports.

Boy Scouts is a program that needs no explanation. Our support of scouting dates from our founding in 1919. Over 73,000 young men and women are enrolled in Legion-sponsored Scout units.

Junior Shooting Sports is a relatively new, yet fast growing, program in the Legion. Last year, 13,000 young men and women competed in an Olympic-based shooting competition using air guns. In addition to honing their skills, they learn gun safety, sportsmanship, and the value of hard work, competition and achievement.

These programs represent many of the values that we as veterans share. All of them are participatory teaching activities based on American values.

Each year, 200,000 young men and women are enrolled in such programs, funded by your dues dollars. Each year, \$562,000 in scholarships is awarded to young Americans because of your membership in The American Legion.

**Mike S. Schow
Commander, Post 4**

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT NEEDED for the following events at the Bannock County Veterans Memorial Building which are sponsored by the American Legion. Please call Win Lomon at 232-8919 if you can help. We just need people at the building; NO HEAVY LIFTING is needed!

Friday, April 4; Leadership Pocatello, all day, NEED HELP

Saturday, April 5; Pocatello Police Department, all day, NEED HELP

On Tuesday, April 22, the Idaho State Job Service on Yellowstone Ave. is holding a Job Fair and the Legion will be there to assist veterans. NEED HELP from 1 to 6 PM.

The VFW requests support for the following community event;

The next Post kite fly will be part of the Community Environmental Fair 2008.

The event will be 26 April 2008 at Optimist/Tydemans Park across 7th street from City Hall. Set up time will be 9:30AM with the fair running from 11AM to 3PM. The post will distribute buddy poppies, recruit new members as well as promote the VFW National Home for Children. There will also be a collection box for used, old, or broken cell phones that will be refurbished and sent to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Micki Kawakami will have a different kite workshop each hour or so and do flag kites till they are used up. One hour will be a VFW event named "GO GREEN WITH THE RED WHITE AND BLUE" using 25 flag print kite sails made from used tablecloths from a cancer survivors event.

Marine Corps League Golf Scramble: The annual Golf Scramble will be held on May 10th at the Highland Golf Course. Fees are the same as last year, \$45 per participant or \$180 per team of 4. We will be busy soliciting for "Green Hole" pennant sponsors at \$75 per sponsor. In addition, solicitations for raffle items are on the agenda. There's a 9 AM start, and you can pick up entry forms at the Memorial Building in the MCL handouts.

American Legion Post 4 Officers

Commander - Mike Schow 234-4914
1st Vice Commander - Winford Lomon 232-8919
2nd Vice Commander - Jim Keezer 232-4821
3rd Vice Commander - Mario Chacon
Chaplain - Dave DeGarlis 238-1247
Sergeant At Arms - Bob Holden 406-7113
Adjutant - Al Gibson 201-0539
Newsletter - Al Gibson
Service Officer - Open
Treasurer - Mike Schow
Sons of the American Legion - Wade Beery 223-6228
40&8 Voiture 451 Chef de Gare - Jim Keezer

American Legion Riders Officers

Director Frank Smith 317-1424
Ass't Director John White 681-0198
Secretary Al Gibson 201-0539
Membership Al Gibson
Treasurer Win Lomon 232-8919
Purchasing Agent Win Lomon
Historian Phil Meek 241-3349
POW/MIA Liaison Randy Gomes 220-6638
Sergeant At Arms Tom Janson 226-6653
Road Captain Tom Janson
Chaplain Jim Humble 237-0690

Meetings for Service Organizations

(unless noted, meetings are at the Memorial Building)
1st Mon. **American Legion 40&8** 7 PM
1st Thurs. **Fleet Reserve Assoc.** 7 PM
2nd Mon. **Purple Heart** 1PM / **VVA** 7 PM
2nd Wed. **American Legion** 7 PM, **Sons Of The American Legion** 6 PM, **Legion Riders** 8 PM
2nd Thurs. **NCOA** 6:30 PM
2nd Fri. **MAC** 11:30 AM
3rd Mon. **BCVMA** 7 PM
3rd Wed. **VFW & Auxiliary** 7 PM
3rd Fri. **POW/MIA** 7 PM, Red Lion Inn
4th Wed. **MCL Det. 698** 7 PM
4th Thurs. **DAV** 6:30 PM
Last Mon. **American Legion Auxiliary** 12 noon
DAV Van Schedule: Call 208-221-0362
contact rlillig@cableone.net for **MAC** info

American Legion Internet Addresses

American Legion Post 4, Pocatello, ID
<http://www.americanlegionpost4.com>

American Legion Riders, Post 4, Pocatello, ID
<http://www.idaholegionriders.com>

American Legion, Idaho State, Boise, ID
<http://idlegion.home.mindspring.com>

American Legion, National
<http://www.legion.org>

VA Contact Numbers

Bannock County Vet Svcs. Melissa J. Hartman
Courthouse Annex Cnty. Vet. Svcs. Coord
130 N. 6th, Pocatello 83201 Ph. 236-7411
melissah @co.bannock.id.us

Idaho Div. of Vet. Svcs. Deborah A. Harmon
Office of Veterans Advocacy SE Idaho Veterans
Idaho State Veterans Home Service Officer
1957 Alvin Ricken Dr. 208-236-6358
Pocatello 83201

Poc. VA Outpatient Clinic 208-232-6214

Pocatello Vet Center [Counseling] 208-232-0316

We support the Yellow Ribbon campaign to recognize homecoming veterans. Contact John Rogers 232-4843

NOTE: This newsletter plus attachments containing more information for veterans can be received electronically or viewed on our Post 4 web site.

Dates Of Interest

Apr 4 and 5 – need help at the BCVMB

Apr 9 – American Legion meeting 7 PM, Sons at 6, Riders at 8

Apr 18 & 19 – St. Anthony Cowboy Poet gathering, St. Anthony.

Apr 22 – Idaho State Job Fair, need help 1 to 6

Apr 26 – VFW Kite flying. See newsletter note.

Apr 26 & 27 – Breakfast fundraiser for Roger Annen at Gowen Field, Boise

May 3 – Riders Awareness Run to Idaho Falls. Local meeting place and time is TBA.

May 10 – MCL; Golf Scramble at Highland

SLC VA Hospital 800-613-4012
Boise VA Regional Office 800-827-1000

Veterans Affairs Phil Clifton
Vocational Rehabilitation 208-478-9866
800-509-8547

PAID UP FOR LIFE (PUFL) MEMBERSHIP COST:

Below is the Life Membership cost for American Legion Post 4. Find the column with your age, then go down to the cost. You'll never have to worry about another dues increase by enrolling for PUFL Membership. Full payment is not required, just 10% down which includes the 2007 dues, and the balance is paid over one year and is ***interest free***. The table below is for the \$35 membership. Your age is on the top 2 lines, PUFL cost on the third.

NOTE: May 1st 2007 was the effective date for the new \$35 per year membership rate.

-24	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85+
\$35/yr	- 29	-34	-39	-44	-49	-54	-59	-64	-69	-74	-79	-84	
\$1219	1160	1095	1024	946	862	772	679	585	493	406	325	253	206

Membership Renewals: There are still some local Active Duty military who have not joined as yet. Please let them know that we have a "paid up" program for all those serving on Active Duty. **First year is FREE. And for those of you who have NOT renewed as yet, PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DUES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OR THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER!**

Newsletter Mailing: You can sign up for the electronic newsletter by sending an email to "**algibson912@hotmail.com**". The current and past newsletters may be read on the Post 4 web site. We add several additional articles in the email and web site version of the newsletter. Good information on veteran's benefits and events taking place around the area and around the nation. This issue of the newsletter will go to over 800 people in the local area, plus state and national. As noted previously, next month the newsletter will only to 2008 paid-up members.

Ebay Legion Sales: Our Post 4 Store on Ebay is on vacation and is temporarily closed. We need a local Pocatello person to step up and take over this excellent fund-raising source for the Post!

Attendance Drawing: The drawing for the \$20 dinner prize is held at the end of each monthly meeting. You must attend to be eligible, and the entry form has been made a part of the Monthly Minutes distributed at each meeting.

DAV Van: If you must miss you appointment on the van, contact the DAV scheduler as soon as possible so that the seat may be filled by another veteran needing transportation. **Very Important!!**

American Legion Riders: May 3rd is the yearly Motorcycle Awareness Ride from Pocatello to Idaho Falls for a parade through town, ending at the Vietnam Memorial. Last year was a ride in the snow! Local meeting time and place will be announced at the Riders monthly meeting.

Texas Hold-Em Tournament planning is in the works. Date and time is still TBD.

Handicapped Boat Program (fishing trips) is alive and well. Veterans with prostheses or difficulty just getting around are the target audience for this program. If interested in this fantastic program to get our veterans out to fish and enjoy the outdoors, call Mike Schow or any Post Officer.

Local Business Supporters In Pocatello;

Eclipse Printing at 156 S. 3rd Ave. will provide business cards for Legion members at \$35 for 500.

Grandpa's Coffee Shop at 3304 Poleline Rd. for coffee, food, conversations. Smokers welcome.

Inkjet Express at 3318 Poleline Rd. for supplies and printer cartridge refills.

Jones Guns & Antiques at 546 S. Main St. for military collectibles, uniforms, firearms, and antiques.

AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAMS AND ASSOCIATED VETERAN PROGRAMS

Here's a list of just a few of the programs that Pocatello American Legion Post 4 is promoting and participating in Pocatello and Bannock County:

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- § Fishing Derby, two per year. Middle of June and last of August
- § Toys for Tots, November and December. The American Legion assists the USMC Reserves
- § Temporary Financial Assistance (Families with Children) any time of the year needing help
- § Baseball (Four Teams)
- § Boy's State (13 Boys in 2007)
- § Boy Scouts (Eagle Venture 148 Local)
- § Boy Scouts Iraq (Eagles, Lighting, Tiger) thru National Guard
- § Junior Shooting Team
- § Oratorical Program (\$160,000 Plus Scholarships) Post to National
- § R.O.T.C Awards (ISU, BYU Idaho)
- § School Awards All high schools in Pocatello
- § American Legion Scholarships For Idaho High School Senior

VETERANS PROGRAMS

- § Veterans Rehabilitation
- § Veterans Assistance Financial
- § Veterans Educational Assistance
- § Food Convoy (3 Idaho State Veterans Homes) November each year
- § Idaho State Veterans Homes (Pocatello, Boise, Lewiston) VAR and VAVS support for each
- § Idaho State Cemetery (Boise) Project now to find land and put Cemetery here in SE Idaho
- § Blood Donor Program in December with POW/MIA blood drive
- § Medical Assistance For Veterans in Need
- § Financial support for all veterans
- § Support Active Duty Soldiers, Reserve and National Guard, or any branch of service
- § Community Support
- § Service Office in the County, 2 State Service officers at the Veterans. Home
- § Veterans Day Program each 11th of November
- § Memorial Day Program in May of each year
- § Bingo, Dances, American Legion Birthday Party and other social events

OTHER EVENTS AROUND THE AREA OF INTEREST TO VETERANS

The American Legion and VFW are presenting the **21st annual St. Anthony Cowboy Poetry Gathering** at the St. Anthony Roxy Theater on Friday, April 18th and Saturday, April 19th. The events run all day Friday and Saturday for \$8 or \$30 for a family, with FREE admission both evenings from 6:40 until 10 PM. Come early for the best seating!

A Breakfast Fundraiser is being held to raise funds for the family of Roger Annen, Past Dept. Commander, at Gowen Field Officers Club, Bldg 710, Boise, on April 26 and 27 from 6 to 10 AM. Roger has lung cancer with no income to support his family during this time. Anyone who cannot attend or wishes to donate to the family, please send "C/O American Legion, Dept. of Idaho, 901 Warren St., Boise, ID 83706". All donations are greatly appreciated. Write on the check "for Roger Annen Fund".