



January 2024

Idaho Military Retiree

Newsletter

Upcoming Events

January

23rd - Tax Assistance Begins (thru 30 April)

February

1st - North Idaho Retiree Social America Legion Post 143

2nd - AAAA Winter Meeting

8th - Gowen Food Baskets Giveaway/ Joining Forces

10th - AAAA 12th Annual Bowling Tournament

21st - Gowen Retiree Social

24th-25th - TAG Leadership/Volunteer Symposium (Boise)

March

7th - North Idaho Retiree Social America Legion Post 143

14th - Gowen Food Baskets/ Joining Forces

20th - Gowen Retiree Social

23rd - Easter Egg Hunt (Gowen, Lewiston, Pocatello, Post Falls)

30th - Easter Egg Hunt (Twin Falls, Idaho Falls)

April

11th - Joining Forces Conference (Simplot)

[Click Here For A Complete List of IDNG Events](#)



Free Tax Assistance

through
VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

**Available to Service Members and Veterans
at Gowen Field or online**

Bring required tax documents to Building 270 on Gowen Field

Drop documents off at the beginning of drill

Pick up prepared taxes by the end of the weekend

Not drilling on Gowen Field? Receive assistance remotely by
contacting Jennifer Wood

Available on the following drill dates and daily times:

2-4 Feb

1-3 Mar

5-7 Apr

Fri 6pm-9pm

Sat 6am-6pm

Sun 6am-12pm

**Walk-ins also available with Jennifer Wood
23 Jan - 30 Apr
BLDG 270 Conference Room**

For Questions please reach out to:

Jennifer Wood, AFC®, Financial Counselor, Idaho National Guard
208-272-8332 jennifer.m.wood26.ctr@army.mil



J9- IDNG Service Member & Family Support

Gowen Field Food Box Giveaway

2nd Thursday of Every Month

Pick up location:

DFAC are in BLDG 400, 11am - 12pm

Use QR code to sign up!

**1 Box
Feeds
a Family
of 4**

**Available to all
current Service
Members and
Retirees while
supplies last**



Questions?

Contact: TSgt Rebecca Bryant

Office: 208-422-5374

Email: rebecca.bryant.5@us.af.mil





Gowen
**Military Retiree
Social**

**FEBRUARY 21, 2024 |
4:30-6:30 PM
Rally Point**

Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Beverages
Free Snacks | Dinner for Purchase

NORTH IDAHO

**military
retiree
social**

FOOD | DRINKS | GAMES | MUSIC



1 FEB. | 6-8PM



**NORTH IDAHO RETIREE
SOCIAL - AMERICA LEGION
POST 143**

**FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:
ROPROUGEONEIDAHO@GMAIL.COM**





Gowen
**Military Retiree
Social**


**MARCH 20, 2024 |
4:30-6:30 PM
Rally Point**


Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Beverages
Free Snacks | Dinner for Purchase



NORTH IDAHO
**military
retiree
social**

FOOD | DRINKS | GAMES | MUSIC

 **7 MAR. | 6-8PM**

 **NORTH IDAHO RETIREE
SOCIAL - AMERICA LEGION
POST 143**

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:
ROPROUGEONEIDAHO@GMAIL.COM



SAVE THE DATE

April 11, 2024

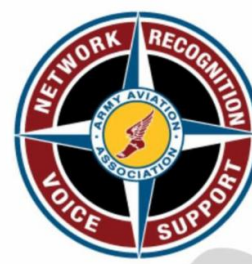
Joining Forces Conference

Simplot Building, 1099 W Front St. Boise.
9:00am - 3:30pm

A day of interaction and collaboration with
other organizations that serve Veterans to
ensure we never turn away an Idaho Veteran
or their family in need.

Lunch and location sponsored by:





12TH ANNUAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

February 10, 2024 | Saturday | 2PM

MERIDIAN BOWLING LANES

Check-in and Raffle Ticket Sales Start at Noon

PROCEEDS SUPPORT AAAA SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN THE NAME OF FALLEN AVIATORS

\$20 PER PERSON

INCLUDES: SHOES/3 GAMES/RAFFLE ENTRY

34 TEAM MAXIMUM / 4 PEOPLE PER TEAM

REGISTRATION: IDAHOSNAKERIVERCHAPTERAAAA@GMAIL.COM

SUBJECT LINE: "BOWLING TOURNAMENT"

INCLUDE: TEAM NAME/ALL TEAM MEMBERS NAME

AWARDS FOR BEST COSTUME AND BEST TEAM NAME
TONS OF RAFFLE PRIZES
BAR AND GRILL ONSITE





ARMY AVIATION
Association of America

AAAA Winter Meeting

Aviation Team,

Please join us on Friday, **02 February 2024 at 17:30**, for a gathering at the Rally Point (GFAC) on Gowen Field.

Join us as we raise glass to our friends and comrades

-Geoff Laubhan, Jess Anderson, and Matthew Peltzer

-Chapter Officer Elections for VP's of Membership, Scholarship, and Awards.

-Raffle following our membership drive to send one Soldier to AAAA Army Aviation Mission Solutions Summit in Denver, CO from 24-26 April 2024.



Your attendance and support is appreciated as always and allows us to do even more for the rest

Idaho Snake River Chapter President:

CW4 John Jacobs

208-921-4426

idahosnakeriverchapterAAAA@gmail.com



Reuniting the men and women of the

116th BCT OIF III

Save the Date! The 116th BCT OIF III Reunion Committee is preparing plans


to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the largest and most historic deployment of the Idaho Army National Guard. This reunion will be a three-day event.


Friday, August 9, 2024: Battalions will host local socials at various locations across many states.

Saturday, August 10, 2024: the BCT will enjoy a family day and dinner at the Hayden Beverage Company concert area in Boise, Idaho.

Sunday, August 11, 2024: we will close the reunion with a Chaplain's breakfast and remembrance of lost Soldiers at a park in Boise, Idaho.

Details are forthcoming, but you can get the most up-to date info by visiting the 116th BCT OIF III Deployed Veterans Facebook Page.



 **VA** | Boise VA Medical Center

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

2024 VETERANS LEGAL CLINICS

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**FREE TO ATTEND
FOR VETS & SPOUSES**

Legal Clinics are held from 2PM to 4PM in Bldg. 54 at the Boise VA Medical Center 500 W. Fort St. Boise, ID 83702. Assistance with Estate Planning & Wills are not included at these Legal Clinics. Please contact Amanda Pentland, LCSW at (208) 422-1064 for additional information.

**January 18, 2024
February 15, 2024
March 21, 2024
April 18, 2024
May 16, 2024
June 20, 2024**

The Boise VAMC holds a FREE legal clinic each month for veterans and spouses. Please see the flyer below for dates and times.



Caldwell CBOC
(208) 454-4820

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
713

 **VA** | Boise VA Medical Center

You are invited to an open house!

The Caldwell CBOC has moved to a new location!

Join us on February 2, 2024 from 1PM to 3PM at the new Caldwell CBOC located at 713 Haystack Way Caldwell, ID 83605.

See the spacious 21,00 sq. ft. brand new facility that serves more than 5,760 veteran patients of the Boise VA Medical Center.

The VA's NEW Caldwell Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) will be having an OPEN HOUSE this Friday, February 2 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Please come out and see this beautiful new facility. See flyer for details.

This is an alert about an important change in veterans law that VA has not sufficiently publicized and that veterans and accredited representatives should know about.

Last year, VA created a unique, one-year open period during which veterans enrolled in VA Health Care can apply for VHA reimbursement of their emergency medical expenses at non-VA facilities for emergencies that occurred at any time during the last 14 years. This right to a new reimbursement decision applies even if the veteran was previously denied reimbursement or never even applied for reimbursement in the past. But to be eligible for this new reimbursement decision, veterans must apply to VHA for reimbursement by February 22, 2024.

We have enclosed with this letter NVLSP's flyer describing the open period that ends on February 22 and what veterans should do to take advantage of it. Please feel free to forward

the flyer to your accredited representatives and others who may be interested.

Sincerely,

National Veterans Legal Services Program
1100 Wilson Blvd., Suite 900
Arlington, VA 22209
Direct: (202) 721-0186
Office: (202) 265-8305, ext. 117
Fax: (202) 328-0063



NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

NVLSP ALERT:

TO GET REIMBURSED FOR POST-2010 EMERGENCY MEDICAL EXPENSES, VETS MUST APPLY TO VA BY FEB. 22, 2024

Last year, VA announced that it had created a unique, one-year open period during which veterans enrolled in VA Health Care can apply for VA reimbursement of their emergency medical expenses at non-VA facilities for emergencies that occurred at any time during the last 14 years (that is, after Feb. 1, 2010). This right to a new reimbursement decision applies even if the veteran was previously denied reimbursement or never applied for reimbursement in the past.

But to be eligible for this new reimbursement decision, the veteran must apply to VHA for reimbursement on or before FEBRUARY 22, 2024.

To file a reimbursement claim, a veteran must complete and sign VA Form 10-583 and mail or deliver it to the nearest VA medical facility to where you live. You can get a copy of VA Form 10-583 at www.va.gov/communitycare/programs/veterans/file-a-claim.asp. or <https://www.va.gov/resources/reimbursement-of-non-vva-prescriptions-or-medical-expenses/>

You can find the nearest VA medical facility to you at www.va.gov/find-locations/

The VA form must be **received** by the VA medical facility by the **February 22, 2024 deadline**. If you decide to hand-deliver the form, get a VA employee to sign his or her name and date of receipt to the copy of your signed VA Form 10-583 that you keep for your records. If you decide to mail the completed VA form, it should be sent in a way that allows you to prove the date on which the medical facility received the form – for example, by Priority Mail, or Federal Express.

To the extent possible, you should also include the following along with the completed form:

- a statement identifying the dates of the medical emergency care, and the name of the non-VA facility at which emergency medical care was provided;

1100 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 900 • Arlington, VA 22209 • Tel 202.265.8305 • Fax 202.328.0063
Email: info@nvlsp.org • www.nvlsp.org

- a copy of any invoices provided by the non-VA facility for the medical services;
- a copy of receipts of any payments you made for the non-VA medical services; and
- if Medicare, Medicaid or other private health care insurance covered part of the emergency expenses, a copy of any Explanation of Benefits or Medical Care Summary Notice prepared by these insurers.

You should keep a copy for your records of all the papers you provide to the VA medical facility.

The one-year open period for applying for reimbursement is an outgrowth of NVLSP's victory in the lawsuit *Kimmel v. Secretary of Veterans Affairs*. In that case, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit invalidated the part of VA's reimbursement regulation that prohibited VA from reimbursing a veteran with private health insurance for the veteran's coinsurance liability not covered by insurance. In February 2023, VA announced the one-year open period to apply for reimbursement so that veterans who had emergencies in the past can take advantage of the favorable changes in the VA reimbursement system that have taken place over the last 14 years.

GET ADVICE: During the last two years, did VA deny you reimbursement for emergency medical expenses you incurred at non-VA facilities? If so, NVLSP may be able to advise you on what to do about it. Contact us at reimbursement.help@nvlsp.org with the date of the VA denial letter, and, if possible, a copy of the denial letter.

About The National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP)

The National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP) is an independent, nonprofit veterans service organization that has served active duty military personnel and veterans since 1981. NVLSP strives to ensure that our nation honors its commitment to its 18 million veterans and active duty personnel by ensuring they have the benefits they have earned through their service to our country. NVLSP has represented veterans in lawsuits that compelled enforcement of the law where the VA or other military services denied benefits to veterans in violation of the law.

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Page 2



Financial Spotlight

“It’s the best time of the year because TAX season 2024 is almost here! Tax preparation just keeps getting better and reaching more service members throughout the state. For the first year ever, Gowen Field will be hosting an IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site for all who have a military affiliation. Whether you are a

retiree, active duty, reserve component (NG or Reserves), or a direct family member, we are available for FREE tax filing assistance. The in-person and virtual tax preparation service is available for all military ID card holders in the state.

The in-person VITA site will be held on Gowen Field in building 270 conference room for walk-in clients on the following dates:

February

Feb. 2, Friday: 6-9pm
Feb. 3, Saturday: 6am-6pm
Feb. 4, Sunday: 6am-12pm

March

Mar. 1, Friday: 6-9pm
Mar. 2, Saturday: 6am-6pm
Mar. 3, Sunday: 6am-12pm (additional dates and times may be added if needed)

There will be three different modes of tax preparation this year:

1. Face-to-face: walk-in, sit down and complete taxes together with a VITA representative on Gowen Field in building 270 during one of the times listed above, or make an appointment with Jennifer Wood, AFC® for a different date and time.
2. Personal Intake and Upload: Bring your military identification and a picture of your spouse identification card (if married and filing jointly), a copy of last year's Federal Tax return (or Social Security Cards for each member of the household), and all pertinent tax forms to the VITA clinic. Your information will be verified, scanned and uploaded into the IRS Taxslayer secure portal. Taxes will be prepared by a VITA volunteer (you do not need to be present) and left in the portal for your review before electronic filing.
3. Virtually: Create a Taxslayer login and upload your documents to the portal. A VITA volunteer will verify your identity via a TEAMS meeting and complete your taxes. Upon completion, they will be uploaded back to the portal for electronic filing.

Gowen's VITA site is the first of its kind on a Guard/Reserve military base. I believe the different tax preparation modalities will be sure to fit everyone. More information will be released as time gets closer, so be sure to monitor the Idaho National Guard Service Member & Family Support Facebook page and check your email.

Jennifer Wood, AFC®
208-272-8332
jennifer.m.wood26.ctr@army.mil



MilitaryOneSource offers free tax preparation for service members, eligible family members and survivors. Eligible service members include retirees who are within 365 days of their retirement date, end of tour of service, or discharge date. New to 2024 is an eligibility screening verified through the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. Unfortunately, eligibility requirements have changed for Veterans and retirees past 365 days of retirement.

This information is found here: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/taxes/miltax-military-tax-services/>



Welcome to tax time, fellow retirees! As we dive into tax season, I want to share a valuable tip with you. If you're accustomed to receiving your Tax Statement 1099R for your military retirement via mail, did you know that you can conveniently print it out from MYPAY? Whether you're a MYPAY account holder or facing difficulties accessing your account, worry not – I'm here to lend a hand. Serving as the Trusted Agent for the Treasure Valley and proudly wearing the hat of YOUR Retirement Services Officer, feel free to reach out to me for any assistance with MYPAY. Your financial ease is my priority!

Bill Fackler

208-272-3815

william.e.fackler.nfg@army.mil



Idaho Veterans Property Tax Benefit

The Veterans Property Tax Reduction benefit reduces property taxes for qualified veterans with a 100% service-connected disability or receive 100% compensation due to individual unemployability.

Please visit the following website for more information and a list of application forms:

<https://tax.idaho.gov/taxes/property/homeowners/veteran-benefit/>

Applications must be submitted to your County Assessor by April 15, 2024 for a reduction to 2024 property taxes. You must apply and qualify for this program every year.


Application must include a current letter from the VA confirming your 100% service-connected disability rating or your individual unemployability if being paid at 100%.

Those letters can be obtained one of four ways:

1. Go onto VA.gov and request a benefit letter.
2. Call the VA's toll-free number and request the letter (800-698-2411)
3. Stop by the Boise VA Regional Office to request the letter from the VA Public Contact Team
4. Contact your Veteran Service Officer and they can request it for you.

The surviving spouse (not remarried) of a qualifying veteran can also apply.

Don't wait until the last minute! Do it today!



Joining Forces Idaho

JFIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov

Be sure to let us know which areas you would like to subscribe to

- Joining Forces Treasure Valley –**
JFTreasureValley@veterans.idaho.gov
Ada, Canyon, Elmore, Owyhee
- Joining Forces Central Idaho –**
JFCentralIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov
Butte, Custer, Lemhi
- Joining Forces Eastern Idaho –**
JFEasternIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov
Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Caribou, Clark, Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Power, Teton
- Joining Forces North Central Idaho –**
JFNorthCentral@veterans.idaho.gov
Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce
- Joining Forces Panhandle –**
JFPanhandle@veterans.idaho.gov
Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, Shoshone
- Joining Forces South Central –**
JFSouthCentral@veterans.idaho.gov
Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Twin Falls
- Joining Forces West Central Idaho –**
JFWestCentralIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov
Adams, Boise, Gem, Payette, Valley, Washington

The 1st Annual Joining Forces Idaho Conference on April 11 in Boise is **SOLD OUT**.

There is now a waitlist in case there are any cancellations. Click on the “get tickets” button at this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1st-annual-joining-forces-idaho-conference-tickets-795389620767>

Joining Forces is a “coalition of communication” between veteran service organizations helping our Veterans, active-duty military, Guard Members, and Reserves. If you would like to know about events or resources in your region, please email that region (see map) to be put on the distribution list. You can sign up for as many regions as you like, and everyone is automatically enrolled in Joining Forces Idaho to receive information pertinent to all Idaho Veterans. To enroll, email: JFIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov.

For more information you can contact Mitzi Cheldelin, Community Resource Coordinator at the Idaho Division of Veterans Services 208-957-3633.



Recently Deceased List

Our sincere condolences to those who have lost a loved one. In an effort to keep our Retirees informed of recent deaths, we will start including a deceased list at the end of every newsletter. We apologize if we have forgotten anyone, and encourage you to send us your loved one's obituary if you would like it to be sent to our Idaho Military Retirees.

MAJ Roger Warrick 11/9/2023

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CW5 Michelle Hartley 12/21/2023

Services:

Idaho Military Division Memorial Service:

2pm March 8, 2024

Gowen Field, Building 440, Kane Auditorium

Attire: (Military) Duty uniform (Civilian) Business Casual

[CW5 Michelle Harley Memorial Ceremony E-Invitation](#)(click this link to RSVP)

Save the date for a Graveside Service (more details to follow)

June 20, 2024

Idaho Veteran's Cemetery

Attire: (Military) Service Dress (Civilian) Business



*Your presence has been requested to attend a
Memorial Service
for*

*Chief Warrant Officer Five (Retired)
Michelle Hartley*

*Friday, the eighth of March
Two thousand and twenty-four
Two o'clock in the afternoon*

*MG Kane Auditorium
Building 440
Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho*

*Military: Duty Uniform
Civilian: Business Casual*

** * **

*Please save the date for a
Graveside Service*

*Thursday, the twentieth of June
Two thousand and twenty-four
Time TBD*

Idaho Veteran's Cemetery

*Military: Service Dress
Civilian: Business*

*POC: [SPC Devin Stevens](#)
(208) 801-4204*

Recruiting Regional Representatives for Retiree Outreach Program

The Retiree Outreach Program (ROP) was established in 2012 as a way to keep retired Idaho Army National Guard Members informed and connected to each other and the organization. Initially it was a Treasure Valley-centric effort, but expanded to the entire state with regional representatives in Twin Falls, Idaho Falls, Lewiston, and Post Falls. In 2020, the Idaho Air National Guard joined the program. Retirees from both services are now briefed about the program during their retirement out processing. Currently there are over 2,200 registered retirees in the ROP database.

In the spring of 2020, during the coronavirus shutdown, the ROP paused its activities. At that time, several of the founding members of the ROP stepped away from the program. The loss of regional representatives is where the program was most impacted. The Retiree Outreach Program Advisory Council meets quarterly for about an hour. Regional representatives are members of the council who share information about the interests and needs of those in their area. Additionally, we ask that representatives coordinate with units and Service Member & Family Support Specialists, to organize annual Retiree Appreciation Day briefings. Typically, these are done in conjunction with family day activities at battalion headquarters, though each is tailored to local needs. We have a team of representatives who work together in Post Falls, which has worked very well for them. We are looking for one or more folks to represent retirees in areas around Lewiston, Twin Falls, Pocatello, and Idaho Falls.

If you would like more information or are interested in helping your fellow retirees, please contact either Bill Fackler, our Retirement Services Officer at (208) 272-3815, or by email at william.e.fackler.nfg@mail.mil, or the ROP Outreach Coordinator Dean Hagerman at (208) 608-3353 or by email at deanchagerman@gmail.com.



A note from your Service Member & Family Support Team

The Idaho National Guard Service Member & Family Support Division encompasses a vast range of programs designed to help Service Members, Dependents, Veterans, Retirees and Family Members with any issue they may encounter. We invite you to take a look at our website and join our Facebook group to stay up-to-date with the latest resources and offers that may benefit you and your Family. Additionally, we always welcome feedback on how we can improve our programs to better serve you. You can take [this survey](#) to tell us your thoughts!

CONNECT WITH US



Service Member & Family Support | 4250 Cessna St BLDG 270, Boise, ID 83716

[Unsubscribe familyprogramsmarketing@gmail.com](mailto:familyprogramsmarketing@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by servicemember&familysupport@idngj9.ccsend.com powered by



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