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Boise, ID 83709  
1-800-853-2570 x0

Coeur d'Alene  
411 N. 15th Street  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
1-800-853-2570 x103

Idaho Falls  
330 Shoup Avenue  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402  
1-800-853-2570 x701

Lewiston  
3332 10th Street  
Lewiston, ID 83501  
1-800-853-2570 x201

Twin Falls  
253 4th Ave. N.  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
1-800-853-2570 x301

Please visit our web site  
[www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org) or call  
us at 1-800-853-2570 for more  
information on how to volunteer  
or donate.  
Training Schedules and  
Registration can be located  
on [www.redcrossidaho.com](http://www.redcrossidaho.com)

**The Red Cross Reader  
Statement of Purpose**  
Expanding Awareness and  
Encouraging Engagement  
and Support of the  
Humanitarian Mission of  
the Red Cross throughout  
Idaho

## Calendar of Events

May 7, 2010—Annual Meeting, Boise  
May 13, 2010—North Central Idaho Meeting, Lewiston  
May 18, 2010—South Central Idaho Red Cross Meeting, Twin Falls  
May 19, 2010—Eastern Idaho Red Cross Meeting, Idaho Falls  
May 20, 2010—Southwest Idaho Red Cross Meeting, Boise  
May 26, 2010—Tri-Annual Airport Exercise, Boise  
May 27, 2010—North Idaho Red Cross Meeting, Coeur d'Alene

## Thank You to Peterson Motors

Peterson Motors has been a fixture in the Treasure Valley since 1928 and is doing its part to give back to the community. Peterson's Partners in Giving program sends a \$100 donation to the charity of your choice in your name when you purchase a vehicle at Peterson Motors at either location in the Treasure Valley. The Greater Idaho Chapter of the American Red Cross has been receiving numerous donations through the Partners in Giving program. As of March 2010, Peterson Motors had donated \$52,000 to 159 charities with \$2,300 going to our chapter in 2010 alone! Thank you to these donors and to Peterson Motors. Visit <http://www.petersonmotors.com> for additional details.

## Welcome to the Team

The Greater Idaho Chapter would like to welcome some new additions and new position placements to our great team of volunteer leads. Walt Mott joins the chapter as the Disaster Committee Chair. In the Southwest Idaho District, Louise Nagel has stepped forward to serve as Disaster Services Training Coordinator and Nick Roehr begins his Red Cross service as the SWID Disaster Action Team Coordinator. Kirk Marshall has taken on the position of Fleet Associate in the North Idaho District in addition to his role on the NID Disaster Action Team. We know these volunteers will be great additions to our already outstanding group of Red Cross staff.

## Help Red Go Green

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, please send your e-mail address to:  
[newsvol@redcrossidaho.org](mailto:newsvol@redcrossidaho.org)

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# Red Cross Reader

A PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS OF GREATER IDAHO

May 2010

## Red Cross Supports Our Troops

Many people aren't aware of the services the American Red Cross provides to military personnel and their families. This month, as we honor our troops with National Armed Forces Day (May 15) and Memorial Day (May 31), we wanted you to know how your support of the Red Cross assists our armed forces at home and abroad.

The Red Cross has been helping our troops for over a century since the Spanish-American War in 1898. The Service to Armed Forces program supports the men and women of the military along with their families. During World War I and World War II, Red Cross nurses and ambulance drivers were a vital part of wartime efforts. The Red Cross provided additional services during the Korean Conflict, including blood donation programs, recreation services, and communication for wounded service members. The Red Cross also provided services during the Vietnam

War, Operation Desert Shield, and other more recent conflicts around the globe, including Operation Iraqi Freedom.

around the world. Reserves and National Guard members also receive support services from the American Red Cross when they are mobilized and away from

their families. Supporting military families is a vital part of the organization's military support programs. The Red Cross has developed a course called "Coping with Deployments: Psychological First Aid for Military Families." Visit the Red Cross website at <http://www.redcross.org> to get more information about military services and for a full list of deployment tips for military personnel and spouses.



Today, the Red Cross provides many services to the armed forces. The Red Cross provides emergency communication services to the military by sending accurate, timely, and verified messages to troops about urgent matters at home. The Red Cross also helps provide emergency financial assistance to troops and their families in times of need. Each year the Holiday Mail for Heroes Campaign delivers holiday cards to military personnel, veterans, and military families

The Red Cross is also committed to helping support our nation's veterans and their families. Red Cross volunteers help in 153 veterans medical centers around the country and help veterans with benefit claims and appeals. The Red Cross is proud to serve active and reserve military members, their families, and our incredible military veterans. Please have a safe and fun Memorial Day and remember to take a moment to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our great nation.

[www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org)

## Airport Disaster Exercise in May

On May 26, the Greater Idaho Chapter will participate in the Boise Airport's tri-annual airport disaster exercise. On the day of the exercise, the chapter will receive a phone call between 8:00 and 10:00 AM announcing a large-scale disaster exercise at the Boise airport. The start of the exercise will be conducted like an actual disaster response: no paid or volunteer staff will be assigned duties prior to the event and participants won't know how many Treasure Valley hospitals might be involved. After the initial call comes in, Jodie Andrew, the Emergency Services Director for the Red Cross, will trigger the call-down for staff to report for briefing. The Red Cross will also provide a canteen for all participants. Other participating agencies and organizations include the Boise Airport, City of Boise, fire departments, paramedics, hospitals, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, and an unannounced airline. After the exercise, a debriefing by lead staff from participating organizations will help assess the exercise and improve future response efforts.

## Delicious Donations

Thanks to everyone who turned out for Ben and Jerry's Free Cone Day in downtown Boise and donated to the Greater Idaho Chapter of the American Red Cross. The turnout was phenomenal, with lines down the block and around the corner for hours! Thanks to Ben and Jerry's for inviting the Red Cross to be part of the Free Cone Day fundraiser and kicking in all the additional help. We hope to participate in this "sweet" fundraiser again next year!



## Did You Say Pet CPR?

That's right. Many people are surprised to learn about the diversity of classes offered by Red Cross—including pet CPR. While just the thought might be too much for some of you, we know that just as many of you out there would be willing to do whatever it took if your furry friend was in trouble. Here's a recent story reported to us by a friend of the Red Cross:

Christmas night 2009 we were visiting my mother in Idaho Falls. We were all busy visiting when I realized our 9-month-old Yorkie, Buddy, was not around. I had just seen him so I knew he was close by. We quickly searched the house and decided to check under both recliners built into the couch. My daughter discovered our puppy lying lifeless underneath one of them. He had been crushed by the closing recliner. My husband quickly picked up the couch. I scooped Buddy up in my arms but he was limp with his eyes open. I tried to pat his face to revive him but he wouldn't come to. It soon became obvious that we had to get air into him.

I checked for a pulse by feeling his chest; he had a weak heartbeat. My husband tried to blow air into his mouth, but it escaped out the side of his mouth. I took him back and wrapped my hand around his snout and my infant CPR training came into my head—small breaths, small breaths. I gave him a small breath of air and I could hear a gurgle come out of him, but he still wasn't breathing. I gave him another small breath. Then I could feel his body change and could tell that he had air in his lungs. After about four more times, as we were rushing to the front door to leave for the veterinarian, he started breathing shallowly on his own. At the emergency room they were shocked he was alive. He has made a full recovery. CPR saved our new family member's life and I will never forget it.

You never know when you may need CPR—or who it might save! Take a class and be prepared. Visit <http://www.redcrossidaho.org> and click on the "Take a Class" tab to browse the extensive class listings offered by the Greater Idaho Chapter.

## Estate Planning

Sadly, 50-70% of Americans die without ever writing a will. The great tragedy is that their assets are given away according to a government formula, which is usually different than their personal wishes.

The American Red Cross has a resource to help you prepare to write or update a will or living trust. It's called "Touching the Future: A Guide to Estate Planning and Charitable Gifting." This free, comprehensive workbook provides ample space to help you organize your financial information and make key decisions to prepare to meet with an estate planning attorney. Consider it our thank you for your help as a Red Cross supporter.

Some of our volunteers, staff, and donors have an interest in considering a bequest to our chapter, either within their will or through easy-to-change "beneficiary designations" outside their will. These designations are made on pre-tax retirement plans, bank accounts, and life insurance policies. Many people find that they can leave 1%, 5%, or 10% of their assets to their favorite charities at death and still adequately provide for family members.

To receive your copy of "Touching the Future," please contact Jerry Nielsen, our chapter's Gift Planning Officer, at (888) 709-9861 or [nielsenj@usa.redcross.org](mailto:nielsenj@usa.redcross.org). He can also provide a list of estate planning attorneys who can help you. Thanks for your support of the American Red Cross.