

IDAHO BLUE BOOK

2013-2014



Published by
SECRETARY OF STATE
BEN YSURSA
for the
STATE OF IDAHO

Idaho Blue Book

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STATE OF IDAHO
SECRETARY OF STATE

My Fellow Idahoans:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you this twenty-second edition of the Idaho Blue Book, the official manual of the State of Idaho. This publication contains a wealth of information relating to all state officers, state institutions, boards and commissions, and county officers of the state. You will also find election results, as well as historical and statistical information.

We have attempted to maintain a tradition of quality and to keep the content true to the needs and desires of the people of Idaho. I am grateful to all who have contributed to this publication and I sincerely invite your suggestions for improvement of future editions.

I am honored to dedicate this edition of the Idaho Blue Book to three great Idahoans, all of whom made enormous contributions to human rights in our great state.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Yursa".

BEN YURSA
Secretary of State

DEDICATION

The following three men stand out in the history of Idaho Human Rights Advocates. I am pleased and proud to dedicate this edition of the *Idaho Blue Book* to them.

Bill Wassmuth

Bill Wassmuth, the former Roman Catholic priest who became one of the Northwest's most visible leaders against hate, died August 27, 2002 at his home in Ellensburg Washington. He was 61.

Mr. Wassmuth, one of nine children born in Greencreek, Idaho, entered the seminary in the eighth grade. In the late 1980s, the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations recruited Mr. Wassmuth as leader. Mr. Wassmuth mobilized a community rally the same week the Aryan Nations' annual World Congress. The rally outdrew the supremacists 20-to-1, making Mr. Wassmuth one of our state's heroes.

He is remembered for his 1999 book, "Hate is My Neighbor", chairing a state advisory committee of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and sitting on the board of the Institute for Action against Hate at Gonzaga University in Spokane. Mr. Wassmuth also helped found the Hospice of North Idaho as well as Idaho's first Cult Awareness Center.

Tony Stewart

Tony Stewart, a native of North Carolina, was a professor of political science at North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene for 40 years. He was one of the first people to join the support group that would become the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations. Stewart designed much of the group's public relations strategy, which included counter-rallies to the Aryan Nations' Congresses and parades, and the "Lemons to Lemonade" campaign.

He was among the first and strongest voices speaking out against Richard Butler's Aryan Nations, during the era when the racist group's Hayden compound was attracting white supremacist and national media attention. He worked on the case that brought the Aryan Nations to bankruptcy. He is a key figure in helping to establish human rights as a value in his community and state. Mr. Stewart was a public television TV host and at NIC, organized the annual Popcorn Forum – a lecture series for 37 years, and the Human Rights Celebration for area youth for 23 years.

Norman Gissel

Norman Gissel is an attorney in Coeur d'Alene and one of the original members of the group that became the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations, which spoke out against the Aryan Nations. Gissel also provided legal support for victims of harassment, and was particularly crucial in convincing the Keenans to pursue their case against Richard Butler and in securing the legal assistance of Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center.

His life is best summed up by the following quote, given in an interview with Marcia Franklin in 2010. " ...to be given the honor of leading a purposeful life is a precious thing and certainly this part of my life and this part of my wife's life, we will never forget it."

For more information, you can watch Marcia Franklin's documentary "*The Color of Conscience*" online at Idaho Public TV, a one-hour program that looks at the history of the Aryan Nations group in Idaho and the people who fought against it, as well as current human rights issues

Following page -

Bill Wassmuth Photo Courtesy: photographer Darin Oswald, and The Idaho Statesman

All Tony Stewart & Norman Gissel Photos Courtesy: Diana Gissel

Norman Gissel (right)
Norman Gissel & Tony Stewart (below)



Bill Wassmuth, right, greets friend Keith Keener, who worked with Wassmuth for many years on human rights issues in Idaho.



Tony Stewart & Norman Gissel (above)
Tony Stewart (left)

PREFACE

This is the twenty-second edition of the *Idaho Blue Book*, which is published biennially in odd-numbered years under the direction of the Secretary of State. The 2013-2014 edition contains constitutional, historical and statistical information about the state of Idaho. It also details the structure of Idaho's government and includes biographies of elected officials. The book is distributed free to all schools and libraries in the state upon request.

The Blue Book received its name not from the color of its cover but rather by definition of content. *Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms* defines the term Blue Book as "a printed book containing the names of all persons holding office under the Government of the United States. It answers the Red Book of England." Individual states have taken this concept and expanded it to include a wealth of information about state officials and resources as well as statistical and historical profiles.

This office strives for the greatest accuracy possible with this type of publication; however, because of the constant changes in appointments, some information contained within the section on Governor's Appointments is out of date even as this book is being printed.

I would like to thank the many individuals, including state, federal and local government officials and employees, whose assistance helped make the 2013-2014 edition possible.

I would like to thank Marilyn Johnson, the previous editor, for all of her help, advice and support. I am grateful to Miren Artiach for her diligence in providing the most accurate information on appointments to boards and commissions. A special thank you goes to Jeff Tucker and Bruce Reichert at Idaho Public TV for recruiting new photographers who contributed some truly stunning photos to this edition. My thanks also goes to everyone else who contributed photos to this edition. Thank you to Marcia Franklin, also of Idaho Public TV, for her help with information that contributed to the Dedication in this edition. I hope that the readers will find the *Idaho Blue Book* to be an interesting and useful reference on the State of Idaho.



Patricia Herman
Editor