



A Message from First Lady Teresa Little

Inauguration 2023

January 18, 2023

Dear Friends,

Friday, January 6, marked the State of Idaho's 49th Inauguration. It was held on the South Steps of the Statehouse and began promptly at noon.

Our Idaho National Guard bears the responsibility and honor of bringing all the participants, parts and pieces together for a precise and stirring ceremony as well as covering all details for the Inaugural Ball/Processional which took place on Saturday, January 7, at the State Capitol. The Guard begins their planning in the month of March before the January event. The following individuals assumed leadership responsibilities. We extend to them our sincere gratitude.



E-MAIL FIRST LADY
with any of your
thoughts or
suggestions!

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IDAHO MILITARY DIVISION LEADERSHIP

Maj. Gen. Michael Garshak - The Adjutant General, Idaho Military Division
Brig. Gen. Farin Schwartz - Assistant Adjutant General, Army National Guard
Brig. Gen. Tim Donnellan - Assistant Adjutant General, Air National Guard

INAUGURATION TASK FORCE

Inauguration Commander – Col. Cody McRoberts
Inauguration OIC- Col. James Hicks
Inauguration NCOIC – Chief Master Sgt. Kelly Bongiovi
Inaugural Ball OIC – Lt. Col. Steven McHargue
Inaugural Ball NCOIC – Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Dean
Public Affairs/Photography – Lt. Col. Christopher Borders
Protocol – Ms. Keri Elkins & 2nd Lt. Brandt Rast
Budget – Mr. Louis Hougaard
Military Liaisons – Lt. Col. Harmon Esplin & Lt. Col. Teresa Busmann
Transportation/Parking – Lt. Col. Benjamin Cook
Web Design/Ticket Sales – Lt. Col. Anthony Vincelli
25th Army Band – Chief Warrant Officer 2 Shad Frazier & 1st Sgt. Valerie Walts
Youth Group Volunteers – Lt. Col. Christian O’Leary
Communication – Maj. Christopher Lavelle
Flyover Coordination – Col. Granger Amthor
Cannon Salute – Maj. Seth Myers & Mr. Jeff Packer
General Counsel, Idaho Military Division – Lt. Col. Stephen Stokes
Contracting/Purchasing – Mr. Jeff Hill & Ms. Liz Hughes
Accounting – Mrs. Nancy Gollaher & Mr. Carl Spjute
Department of Administration – Mr. Daniel Foster & Mr. Paul Navarro
Idaho State Police/Capitol Mall Security – Lt. Mike Kish
Boise Police Department – Lt. Josiah Ransom
101st CST – Capt. Dillon Dance
Ada County Highway District – Ms. Debbie White
State Security Manager – Mr. Steve Walker
Inauguration Advisor– Ms. Gayla Crall

Time honored traditions unite us with those who have come before us and those who will follow. There is a most familiar rhythm to the order of things, though the individuals involved may be different.

INAUGURATION CEREMONY

Friday, January 6, 2023
Statehouse, South Steps

Music by the 25th Army Band, Idaho National Guard

Presentation of Colors

Idaho National Guard Joint Color Guard

National Anthem

Sung by 2nd Lt. Rodrigo Cortes, Idaho Army National Guard

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Lieutenant Governor-elect Scott Bedke

Invocation

Bishop Jos Tharakan

Oath of Office

Administered by Chief Justice G. Richard Bevan
Superintendent of Public Instruction – Debbie Critchfield
State Controller – Brandon D. Woolf
State Treasurer – Julie A. Ellsworth
Attorney General – Raúl Labrador
Secretary of State – Phil McGrane
Lieutenant Governor – Scott Bedke
Governor – Brad Little

Cannon Salute

Idaho Military Museum

Inaugural Address

Governor Brad Little
Introduced by Mrs. Teresa Little

God Bless America

Sung by Rebecca Pearce

Benediction

Rev. Gretchen Downer

The music was superb, the invocation and blessing touched our souls and the cannon salute caught everyone's attention.

The following remarks are those given by Brad and me at the Inauguration Ceremony.

With love,



Teresa

Inaugural Introduction 2023

By Teresa Little

Thank you General Garshak. The men and women of our Idaho National Guard have prepared with meticulous attention to detail for this weekend. We are grateful.

This quote from Native American writer Linda Hogan resonates deeply with me:

"Suddenly all my ancestors are behind me. Be still they say. Watch and listen. You are the result of the love of thousands."

Four years ago, my father, Phil Soulen, was the most happy and proud person here as he joined us on the platform in celebration. Dad died on October 9, 2019. There have been many deaths; some exceedingly tragic in the last four years. There has been illness, suffering, uncertainty, and fear. There has also been much joy, many triumphs, great accomplishments, quiet satisfaction, and new beginnings. In our lives, granddaughter Lola Elizabeth Little joined brother Jack, sister Josephine and cousins Henry, Dylan, and Jay.

We sincerely hope any pain and grief in your life is softened by much kindness and love. We sincerely hope all happiness and accomplishment is met with humble gratitude.

We are here to mark this Inaugural moment. As individuals we will not experience this in the very same way because: We come to this day with very different backgrounds. We each have a different knowledge base. We are different ages. Our emotional makeup, life experiences and beliefs are different. We are filling different roles in these proceedings. We are seated in different locations or watching from home.

May our differences and different perspectives work together as we aspire to add light to our world.

I brought this candle to represent the light within each of us. In the interest of time, we will not act out the whole scenario; however, from the light of my candle I could light _____'s candle. I could light _____'s candle. I could light _____'s candle and on and on. Your candle may also light an endless number. The miracle is: our own light is never diminished by sharing. Giving from love is like that.

Our beautiful Capitol building, located behind me, is known as the Capitol of Light. John Tourtellotte, the original Capitol architect, used light shafts, skylights, and reflective marble surfaces to capture natural sunlight and direct it to the interior space. He said, "The great white light of conscience must be allowed to shine and by its interior illumination make clear the path of duty."

May you Legislators, Constitutional Officers, staff and all who enter our Capitol to engage in work to move Idahoans and Idaho forward in peace and prosperity do so with integrity, empathy, and kindness.

Your descendants, our children, and grandchildren, are watching, listening, and learning from you and all of us.

I am happy to present our Governor, my husband, Brad Little.

2023 Inaugural Address

*The Honorable Brad Little
33rd Governor of Idaho*

Teresa and our family, my fellow constitutional officers, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Pro Tem, honored legislators, Mr. Chief Justice, and members of the judiciary.

I stand before you incredibly humbled and grateful. The people of Idaho have placed their trust in me to be their Governor for another four years.

It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve you – the people of Idaho – as the 33rd Governor of our great state. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

First, I want to recognize the men and women of our National Guard and echo Teresa's comments. The past few years have highlighted even more the tremendous value of our guardsmen in a time of need. These Idahoans sacrifice their safety and time with their families to serve our state and our nation. America and Idaho are a better place because of the service rendered by these selfless neighbors and friends.

Thank you, Guardsmen, for everything you do to strengthen our state, keep us safe, and protect the values we all hold dear.

Idaho is a special place. Yes, Idaho is vast, diverse, and unique in many ways, but it is our people that really sets us apart from every other place.

From Boise to Buhl, Cambridge to Coeur d'Alene, Pocatello to Pierce, and everywhere in between, Idahoans for generations have always stepped to up to support their neighbors and improve their communities. When we see a need, we don't sit idly by and let others (or government) find a solution. Whether it is in our churches, schools, or neighborhoods, Idahoans are there for each other. They work hard, press forward in the face of challenges, and never lose sight of what is most important – opportunity, faith, family, and freedom.

One of the greatest blessings of being in this job is getting to see that spirit of service play out in communities across our state.

No matter how much things seem to change around us – and change is inevitable – our Idaho values never seem to drift away from us.

Idahoans are still as tough yet compassionate and self-reliant yet community minded as we were from the earliest days of our state's history when Teresa's and my ancestors arrived well over 125 years ago.

Those enduring Idaho values have established the foundation of our incredible success.

For the past three decades, I have seen Idaho Governors lead with their own take on our Idaho values.

For Phil Batt, a stalwart Republican, it was about governing with the lightest hand. For Dirk Kempthorne, it was about empowering families and children with better education opportunities. For Jim Risch, it was about not wasting a short but unique chance to put your foot on the gas and make huge progress on critical issues. For Butch Otter, it was about wisely navigating a prolonged economic crisis with courage and putting his love of Idaho at the forefront of his decisions.

For me, it has always been about putting Idaho first.

By now you know my goal: to make Idaho the place where we all can have the opportunity to thrive, where our children and grandchildren choose to stay, and for the ones who have left to choose to return.

We've had our share of hardship and challenges over the past few years, but I have learned we will reach my goal when we put Idaho first and focus on what matters well beyond our time here – doubling down on our support for school children, supporting our neighbors in need, tax relief, cutting red tape, improving our quality of life – all while making long-range investments that stand the test of time.

Our enduring Idaho values are also the reason we will continue down this path of prosperity.

Idaho has the strongest economy in the nation. We will continue to lead in economic resiliency, budget stability, and good government if we continue to put Idaho first.

Success builds success, and the people of Idaho have continually demonstrated they want our state to keep getting better.

It is just who we are.

My first term as Governor has reinforced the famous saying, "It's amazing what you can accomplish when you do not care who gets the credit."

What we do here is far more important than any one of us, and the work we do will outlive us all.

With that in mind, I want the people of Idaho to know that in my second term as Idaho's 33rd Governor, I will lead with integrity, civility, and humility – always putting Idaho first.

God bless Idaho, God bless America, and God bless our children and our grandchildren – Idaho's future.

Thank you.



I served this soup recipe at Adam and Angela's home (our son and daughter-in-law) after the Friday Inauguration, where our family gathered to share time and conversation.

Grandson Dylan had 3 bowls of this soup, so I considered that pretty high praise. Enjoy!

Turkey or Chicken Soup

1 Tablespoon butter
1 Tablespoon olive oil
½ cup chopped carrots
½ cup chopped celery
½ cup chopped onion
¼ teaspoon dried thyme
¼ teaspoon crushed dried rosemary
6 cups chicken or turkey broth/stock
½ to ¾ cup brown and wild rice blend
2 teaspoons salt
Pinch of black pepper
1 cup half and half
1/3 cup all-purpose flour
3 to 4 cups cooked, chopped leftover turkey or chicken

1. In a 6-quart saucepan or pot, heat the butter and oil until hot over medium heat. Add the carrots, celery, onion, thyme, and rosemary and cook, stirring often, until vegetables are slightly tender, 3-4 minutes.
2. Add the broth, rice, salt, and pepper. Bring the soup to a simmer and cook, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking, until the rice is tender. The exact time will depend on variety of rice. For a brown and wild rice blend, the time will be about 30 minutes.
3. Whisk together the half and half and flour until smooth and there are no lumps. Stir the flour mixture into the soup, whisking quickly, and simmer gently until slightly thickened, 5-6 minutes.
4. Stir in the cooked turkey and heat through. Season to taste with additional salt and pepper, if needed.