



*“Preserving the Past, Enriching the Future”*

**News Release**

For Immediate Release

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April 8, 2012

**Lock-Up Luck at the Old Idaho Penitentiary Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> with Tours, Artifacts, and Fun**

Friday, April 13, the Old Pen opens its doors for “Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Tours” from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., with last admission at 9:00 p.m. Enjoy self-guided tours or join a guided tour and experience the unlucky lives of inmates while walking through 140 years of history! April 13 also marks the 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Idaho’s only double execution. On Friday, April 13, 1951, Troy Powell (21) and Ernest Walrath (20) became the youngest men ever executed in Idaho for their role in the murder of Boise grocer Newton Wilson.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids (12 and under) and can be purchased at the door. Attendees can have fingerprints taken, take a mug shot, or try to locate the prison cat and in the “Where’s Dennis?” search activity. Guided tours start on the half-hour between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. and have limited availability on a first come, first served basis. Also, don’t miss a rare opportunity to view unique artifacts from the Idaho State Historical Society collection including items used in state executions as well as confiscated weapons and contraband.

The Old Idaho Penitentiary is one of only four territorial prisons open to the public today. On March 21, 1872, the penitentiary officially opened its doors to the first eleven inmates. Come and help us commemorate 140 years of remarkable history and support educational programs and preservation.

For more information about our Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> tours or Old Idaho Penitentiary events, please call 334-2844.

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The Idaho State Historical Society is an extraordinary system of cultural and historic resources comprised of the Idaho State Historical Museum, State Archives, State Historic Preservation Office, and Historic Sites Program. We seek to inspire, enrich and engage all Idahoans by leading the state in preserving, sharing, and using history and cultural resources relevant to today to inform and influence the future. Learn more about ISHS at [www.history.idaho.gov](http://www.history.idaho.gov).