



WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

NEXT MEETING - August 18, 2010 - 7:00 PM
Ivo's Express Restaurant
23819 West Eames Street
(Southeast Corner of Route 6 and I-55)
Channahon, IL 60410
815-467-0940

This month we are pleased to have ISRA member and lead plaintiff in McDonald v. City of Chicago, **Otis McDonald**, as our speaker. As you know, this is the lawsuit that challenged Chicago's nearly 30 year-old gun ban and went to the US Supreme Court. This will be a very interesting evening so be sure to attend and bring a friend.

Will County ISRA member, *Tom Kasprzak*, was the name drawn for the WCGR Gun Giveaway last month. Unfortunately, Tom was not present so another name will be drawn at the next meeting. Remember, the winner must be present, have a valid FOID and comply with all local, state and federal laws.

Jeff Gregoric

Jeff Gregoric was our guest speaker on July 21st and gave a most interesting presentation. Jeff is Vice President for Safer USA, a NRA certified instructor and is licensed to teach courses for Chicago gun permits. He spent twenty years in the Marine Corps in the Special Forces Division, whose mission is Counter Terrorism.



He showed to us an excellent video of the six-month pre-deployment training a Marine must complete. In the marksmanship segment, each man must shoot 100,000 rounds. Most of

the training is done in Japan. Watching this well-made video increased my respect for our military many times over and gave me a true sense of pride and appreciation for the men and women who serve.

Jeff also brought along some of the equipment each man must carry. One item, a tactical vest, will stop a .50 caliber bullet, although not without painful injuries. However, it does prevent bullet penetration. There is a second tactical vest, which carries a first aid kit, a flash and bang grenade and a ceramic trauma vest which gives additional protection. Included are two Kimber 1911 handguns, a tactical knife and a tactical light with 260 lumens, so powerful it can melt the lens unless used for short periods of time. They also wear an assault suit made of Kevlar. Completing the gear is an

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M4 rifle, whose muzzle brake reduces recoil by 80%. The sling is attached to the vest allowing the men to simply drop it if they need to use their handgun. There is no need for long-range rifles as the men are surrounded by snipers. All of this gear weighs around forty-five pounds, which is much lighter than the older gear that was worn in 2001 that could weigh up to eighty pounds.

Judging by all the questions from the audience at the end of his talk, Jeff certainly was one of our most interesting speakers. Thank you, Jeff. We hope you will come back again.



Chairman's Comments

by Doug Mayhall

Arizona is a nice place to visit, live and work and, usually, everybody is eager to go there. Recently, however, many liberal politicians, celebrities and businesses are trying to find ways to avoid Arizona or having anything to do with Arizona at any cost. The reason is that Arizona has decided to do something about the illegal immigrants that have infested the whole state of Arizona, as well as the rest of the country. Arizona actually had the nerve to pass a law that allowed police to ask for identification from those who were stopped for probable cause. This law, which isn't even as stringent as a similar law in California, has been portrayed by the media and the federal government as being racist, evil and unconstitutional. When questioned, President Obama, Attorney General Holder and Homeland Defense Secretary (and former Arizona Governor) Janet Napolitano publicly admitted that they had not taken the time to read the ten-page Arizona law and were basing their opinion on what they had heard in the mainstream media. On top of this, some cities and groups are trying to cancel contracts with Arizona-based businesses in an attempt to boycott the state.

One of the reasons Arizona has had to pass this law is to try and overcome the billions of dollars that illegals are costing them. Felons, from Mexico, now fill over one third of Arizona jails and millions of dollars are spent on medical expenses for injuries incurred and for babies born on this side of the border. Instead of getting help from the federal government, Arizona is being sued by the federal government who refuses to enforce the federal laws against illegal immigration.

There are sections of Arizona that actually have huge signs that warn Americans not to enter those areas, as there are large numbers of illegals and drug trafficking operations happening there and it is not safe to enter. These areas are in the United States!!! I think the federal government is fully capable of making sure these areas are safe for Americans. It is beyond belief that the President, Attorney General and Congress find it more important to sue Arizona for enforcing federal law than to enforce it, something of which they are required to do by the Constitution.

Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu has been informed by the DEA, Border Patrol and ATF that there are several very credible threats against his life by the drug cartels that he is trying to stop trafficking into the United States. He, too, is getting no help from Obama or Holder.

A foreign national, legally in the United States, has to

have his papers with them by law. When I go to an airport, open a bank account or am stopped by the police, I am required to present proof of identity. Why is it wrong for Arizona police to ask for that?

The following is amazing and I applaud the Arizona Governor for making such an easy to understand analogy to this man. The owner of the Phoenix Suns basketball team, Robert Sarver, opposes Arizona's new immigration law. Governor Brewer released the following in response to Sarver's criticism of the new law:

"...What if the owners of the Suns discovered that hordes of people were sneaking into the games without paying? What if they had a good idea who the gatecrashers are, but the ushers and security personnel were not allowed to ask these folks to produce their ticket stubs, thus non-paying attendees couldn't be ejected? Furthermore, what if Suns' ownership was expected to provide those who sneaked in with complimentary eats and drink? And what if, on those days when a gatecrasher became ill or injured, the Suns had to provide free medical care and shelter?"

This is why Arizona and every state have to stand up and defend their legal residents from any kind of illegal activities.

I believe there is still hope for Chicago. There were several very good speakers at the Second Amendment Freedom Rally held in downtown Chicago last month, which celebrated the McDonald decision. One who impressed me very much was a black police officer, Frederick Collins, who gave a very rousing talk about rights and the right to carry, something of which he is very much in favor. I had the pleasure of speaking with him and found out that he is running for Cook County Sheriff. Interestingly enough, I got a call a couple of weeks later from his campaign manager asking for any support I could give so I have offered him the use of my military truck for a couple of parades. Our rally downtown got no significant coverage in the mainstream media as far as I am aware. However, the Bud Billiken Parade we will be held on Saturday, August 14th and WILL have scheduled coverage on WGN, WLS and TV-ONE with 26 million viewers. How does that seem fair and impartial?

The elections seem a long time away, but in reality they are just a blink in time away. All gun owners must start showing their support for pro-gun candidates in any way they can. If not with monetary donations, people can help by doing things such as donating their time, passing out literature and by proudly displaying yard signs on their property. We need to take this country...and this state...back. We are winning some great legal battles, but we must get more pro-gun candidates in office in order to get more pro-gun laws passed and stop the anti-gun bills in their tracks.

Honor Flight

To my friends, relatives and well wishers,
What an honor to be a chosen participant in the "Honor Flight." I would like to share this great day with you.

I, with ninety-three other WWII veterans, arrived at Midway Airport at 4:30 A.M. at the Southwest Airline arrival area. We were provided with a monogrammed shirt and a ditty bag for our carry-on items. We were then escorted through Security by a volunteer guardian. The assistance of the guardian was very helpful and, in some cases, necessary.

When we arrived at our plane gate, we were treated to breakfast and/or donuts and coffee. Then the Legacy Girls provided a treat. They sang all of the Andrew Sisters' favorites. If you closed your eyes, you would have thought they were the originals.

The flight to D.C. was only an hour and a half. When we deplaned we were greeted first by the Airport Fire Department who welcomed us with a Fire Hose Blast. We were then led through a column of well wishers, clapping and thanking us over and over again. It was a very emotional feeling, hard to keep one's composure.

Our group was divided into three busses, each having a bus captain, a nurse and many guardians. Those who needed a wheel chair had their own guardian. My partner, Hugh Lynch and I were in a group of three with a guardian, Chuck Sebastian. He was great - could not have been nicer. A volunteer who came from Chicago at his own expense, a school teacher on summer vacation. He was there to help us with anything we needed.

When the three busses were loaded, we had to get to our first stop, the Iwo Jima Memorial. It is a larger than life size statue and a very good likeness of the famous flag raising. When we reboarded our bus we had a box lunch on the way to the World War II Memorial. Upon arriving there, we were greeted by a military Color Guard



and bugler who played Taps. A wreath was placed in memory of our fallen comrades. We were then free to tour the memorial.

Hugh and I had to have our picture taken at the Illinois section. There was a slight rainfall, but it didn't spoil our visit. In fact, it probably kept the temperature lower. We were surprised to learn that *Kilroy* is also part of the Memorial. At the back of the inner ring at an access area is the famous cartoon character "Kilroy was here."

Our next stops were at the Korean and Viet Nam Memorials. The Viet Nam Memorial is famous because it lists the names of all who were killed in that war. The Korean Memorial is a series of soldiers, larger than life, climbing up an incline.



The return trip to Dulles Airport included a trip through D.C. by the Capitol Building and the White House. We had dinner at Potbelly's at the gate and then we were on our way home. However, the biggest event was yet to come. We were surprised with a Mail Call. When our names were called, we raised our hands and were each given a large brown envelope containing letters and cards from friends, relatives and well-wishers, thanking us for our part in the war. What a pleasant surprise.

As the arrival at Midway unfolded, the approach to the gate was lined with fire engines and fire fighters at attention, saluting the plane as it passed. The entry to the terminal was lined on either side of the corridor with hundreds of people, a military Honor Guard Band, a Bagpipe and Drum Band as well as many groups cheering and thanking us for serving.



We who are here enjoying the Honor Flight have had sixty some years of living in the greatest country in the world because of these heroes. This Honor Flight experience is an example of U. S. A. at work. Fellow Americans - gathering as volunteers from all walks of life - a spontaneous grass roots action.

Each veteran had friends and family to greet them. While walking through all of these great people, I was overcome with emotion - happy and sad. The real heroes are those who didn't return.

Thanks to all of those great people for this "honor."

Ray Buktenica

Machinist Mate 3rd Class

USS Guardoqui (IX-218)

Calendar of Events

- August 18** ISRA Will County Grassroots Meeting - Ivo's Express Restaurant - Channahon
- August 26** SAFER USA NRA Basic Pistol - Howell Shooting Club - Yorkville - David Lombardo (815) 744-5487
- August 28** ISRA/NRA Youth Shooting Sports Camp - **ISRA Range** - Bonfield - 815-635-3198
- August 28** Ladies Night Out - Maxon's Shooter's Supply - Des Plaines - Maxon's (847) 298-4867
- August 29** Glock Shooting Sports Foundation (GSSF) **ISRA** Glock League - **ISRA Range** - Bonfield - Terry Kreimeier - (815) 635-3198
- September 4** ISRA Women On Target - Chillicothe Sportsmen's Club - Chillicothe - ISRA - (815) 635-3198
- September 10-12** Rock Island Auction Company Firearm Auction - Moline - (800) 238-8022
- September 11 & 12** Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - Terry Keller - 866-930-4422
- September 17 - 18** **ISRA 2010 Annual Meeting** - Rend Lake Resort - Whittington - **ISRA** (815) 635-3198
Friday Night: Meet & Greet Saturday: Seminars ,Meeting, Banquet
Sunday Morning: Shotgun Sports
- September 25** Ladies Night Out - Maxon's Shooter's Supply - Des Plaines - Maxon's (847) 298-4867
- September 25 & 26** Northern IL Hunting & Fishing Days - Silver Springs State Park - Yorkville
www.huntingandfishingdays.org

* * Please use the above contact information for detailed information (i.e. fees, registration)
 and to confirm events as dates are subject to change without notice * *

Please contact Chairman Doug Mayhall or the ISRA office if you would like to
 volunteer at any of the **ISRA** events

E-mail us at willcounty@isra.org if you have any events you would like included in this monthly newsletter

*** **Political Disclaimer** ***

The ISRA and the Will County Division of the ISRA **cannot** and **will not** endorse any candidate or party. We feature speakers to allow us to learn about the positions a candidate holds on the Second Amendment and welcome all candidates to speak to us. Only the **ISRA Political Victory Fund (ISRA-PVF)** can endorse candidates or donate to political campaigns.

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