



# WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

**NEXT MEETING - January 18, 2012 - 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**

*Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed the recent holiday season and its festivities and are ready to start a new year of promoting, protecting and preserving our Constitutional right to keep and bear arms!*

Our guests this month will be some of the participants in one of most recent leagues created at the ISRA Range, the **F-Class League**. Tim Dalan, Jeff Gregorec, Terry Kreimeier and Pat Ventola are among those who have discovered a fun way to spend their Wednesday evenings at the range. They will explain what the F-Class includes and will give us some information on league/match participation and give us some tips on how to get started in the sport.

We send our congratulations to *James C.*, the winner of last month's "winner must be present" monthly firearm drawing and now we are excited to start off this year's drawing. We have a S&W 380 Bodyguard pistol – wouldn't that be a nice addition to your collection? Join us at the January meeting and find out more about it. Remember, the winner must be present, an ISRA member, have a valid FOID and comply with all local, state and federal laws.

## December 2011

Our December meeting was, as always, a very light and fun-filled meeting. It is our annual Show and Tell meeting and a lot of people brought their favorite firearm to show. For some, it was the first gun they ever owned; for others, it was a gun that holds a sentimental meaning; and, for others, it was a collector's item which they acquired. The whole hour was filled with people showing off their firearms and sharing with us the reason that the guns were special to them. It was quite an interesting evening for all.

One person had an extremely old revolver which was one of, I believe, only eighty-seven of its kind ever built. That particular firearm is extremely valuable and its owner wore white gloves while handling it to help preserve its pristine condition. As always, our members came out with all makes, models and sizes of firearms to show.



And, we were delighted to see that our former Will County Grassroots Committee Chairman, Dr. Daniel Beck, was able to join us that evening. Doc brought along his son, Michael, who has recently graduated from West Point and was home on leave. Michael brought two very special guns to show; both had been presented to West Point graduates. One was a revolver with simulated pearl handles and the

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\*\*\*\*\*

## **ISRA CONTACTS**

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other was a 1911 semi-automatic.

We also chose one lucky winner for our Winner Must Be Present raffle that night. After following the necessary and legal procedures for obtaining a firearm, I'm guessing the winner is going to enjoy his new pistol.

Hmm...it's always funny how crowded the meeting is in December.





## **Chairman's Comments**

*by Doug Mayhall*

The New Year is finally upon us and the weather makes it seem more like spring than winter. We have only had a few really cold days and really no snow to speak of, so it is really hard to imagine that it's early January.

But, the start of the New Year brings out a lot of other things. The first event that I am preparing for is the Shot Show in Las Vegas which will be held January 16th thru 20th. It is a phenomenally large event. It literally takes days to go through the Show and, still, it is almost impossible to see everything. All of the firearm manufacturers are there as are the suppliers of hunting equipment, clothing, optics, air gun accessories, reloading supplies...I could go on forever. Then, there is all the stuff for military and police which is a huge show in itself. I go to the Shot Show every year to visit with the manufacturers to encourage them to attend our annual Range Open House, an event that the ISRA does in conjunction with the NRA. Besides being a very busy and tiring trip, it is very satisfying. To see all of the latest stuff, the hundreds of manufacturers and the thousands of attendees and buyers there, is truly gratifying, knowing that there are millions of "gun people" out there. It is not quite like the anti-gun spokesmen say, that we are a warped minority of US citizens.

And, speaking of the ISRA Range Open House, this year it will be held on Saturday June 23rd. We had the biggest turnout ever in 2011, with 2,058 people attending. We hope to make it even bigger...and better...with even more participants and attendees. Mark your calendars!

Last Saturday, several of us attended an Outdoor Show in Kankakee. There was a huge amount of attendees and we were able to sell many new ISRA memberships and a lot of raffle tickets for our Three Rivers Friends of NRA dinner. It was good to see so many people willing to put out the money to join the ISRA and to buy raffle tickets. It was disappointing, though, to hear that many people didn't know about the ISRA, but said they belonged to the NRA. We have got to spread the word out about the ISRA and what it does for not only the citizens of Illinois, but for those throughout the country.

The elections are coming in November and the presidential election is going to be the most important one in history, as whoever is President for the next four

years is going to probably have the opportunity to appoint two new Supreme Court Justices. Since we have won two Supreme Court cases in a 5-4 decision the last couple of years and the President has already appointed two anti-gunners who said they were open-minded (yea right, we knew before they were even confirmed that they were anti-gun; for example, Justice Sotomayor, appointed by President Obama, voted against the Second Amendment in the McDonald case), we need to keep informed and be mindful of what's going on in Washington, DC. Let's face it. If the President were to appoint one more anti-gun Judge to the Court, it will make our job a lot tougher to win any pro-2A cases. The last thing we need to happen is to have our firearm rights go down the drain just like they did in Australia and England. Besides that, the new president will also have the ability to appoint many federal judges. I believe we can draw from our experience of three years with Obama that he appoints people that are strongly anti-gun to any judgeship or any position at all. I think that this can be proven by reading the bio of any person that Obama appoints; they are consistently against gun rights. Eric Holder is a perfect example of this. I believe that he is so involved in Fast and Furious and continues to stonewall and lie about his involvement. I, as do many others, consider him extremely anti-gun and this "gunrunning" he allowed and actually insisted that the gun shops sell to the "baddies" even when the gun shops called the BATF, telling them of their suspicions. If this hadn't gotten revealed by certain occurrences including the unnecessary death of a border patrol agent, Holder would have been able to say something like, look at these illegal sales – let's close the gun shops.

Besides the great importance of the presidential election, we have the importance of the Senate and House. It seems to me that the Republicans will hold on to the majority in the House, which will not allow Obama to force his will through Congress...at least without a good fight in the House. But, there is a fair-to-good chance that the Senate will also turn Republican. That, alone, may stop a real bad anti-gun person from being confirmed to the Supreme Court. Unfortunately, we currently have two very anti-gun senators in Illinois.

Keep in mind that these state-wide elections are going to be very important for us in getting our concealed carry rights in Illinois, the only state in the Union with absolutely no way for a person to legally carry a gun on them for

\*\*\* Please note \*\*\*

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personal protection. A few months ago, when we had a vote on a bill for concealed carry, we almost had enough votes to make it veto proof. This was not thought to be possible even a couple of years ago. Thankfully, we are getting more and more pro-gun legislators in Illinois. We must work very hard at getting pro-gun legislators elected and reassure those pro-gun legislators already in office that we support them.

One great way to do that is to attend IGOLD, to be held this year on Wednesday, March 7th. Get every friend you have to attend. And your relatives, too. Every year, this event gets bigger and every single legislator takes notice. I can't help but think that all but the most diehard anti-gunners have got to realize that gun rights are in the Constitution and should be honored....and that we have enough clout to get them unelected.

As the saying goes, freedom isn't free, so let's pay the price and do all we can to support our pro-gun legislators and do all we can to get rid of the anti-civil rights legislators.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS & MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US IN SPRINGFIELD WEDNESDAY MARCH 7, 2012**



*Rest In Peace, Jack*

On December 11, 2011, the ISRA was saddened by the loss one of its most dedicated volunteers, John "Jack" Cantillion. Jack was an integral part of daily operations at the ISRA Range and he will be missed by all.

Jack was a loving husband, father, a proud grandfather and a friend to so many of us. Please keep his family in your thoughts as they grieve during this time of great sorrow.

Thank you for your service; we'll miss you, Jack. *Sempre Fi!*

**Calendar of Events**

- January 21**            **ISRA Annual High Power Winter Wars Shoot - ISRA Range - Bonfield - Kevin Baxter - (847) 683-1913**
- January 21& 22**    **Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - Terry Keller - 866-930-4422**
- February 4**            **Women on Target - Chillicothe Sportsman Club - Chillicothe - ISRA Office (815) 635-3198**
- February 5**            **Wheaton Gun Show - DuPage County Fairgrounds - Wheaton - Mike Holan (630) 365-2808**
- February 12**          **Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - St.Charles - Kathy Carlson - (815) 758-2773**
- February 15**          **Will County Grassroots Meeting - Ivo's Restaurant - 7:00PM**

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

*Contact our 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](mailto: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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