



WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

NEXT MEETING - March 17, 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, **Dave Lombardo** is the speaker. He is a reporter who travels the world for aviation magazines, author and in the shooting world, he is a NRA training counselor, president of the Howell Shooting Club and president of SAFER USA, a firearm training school.

Will County ISRA member, Kevin Kosteck, was the name drawn for the WCGR Gun Giveaway last month. Unfortunately, he 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.

Gary Gross

This month, the Will County Grassroots had the pleasure of an evening with Gary Gross, a "Use of Force" instructor. The big question in your mind probably is, what is Use of Force and can I benefit from these instructions and learn how one can defend against an attack without a weapon in hand?



It is somewhat like a martial arts type of program and uses principles of basic martial arts techniques. Gary trains students in these basic moves to develop a type of defense to counter an attack. This is not a program that can be mastered in one or two lessons. Your training will



revolve around hands-on instruction with Gary and practicing these moves to develop the confidence and speed needed to surprise an attacker. It is a physical program, but not strenuous

WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS CONTACTS

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and can be learned by anyone, young and old.

Learning these effective techniques and applying them is not difficult and Gary is experienced, licensed and certified to train students in this discipline.

He can be contacted at:

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Mt. Greenwood, IL 60655
773-504-4341

Or e-mail Gary at: ggrossdtel@yahoo.com

Al Tiscareno



Chairman's Comments

by Doug Mayhall

The suspense is mounting as the day comes near...the day the Supreme Court will finally hear the McDonald case. This has been a long time in coming. Many, many years in fact...far too many years, according to some gun rights organizations. They have long felt that we needed to have the Supreme Court hear a gun case to, once and for all, say if the Second Amendment is indeed an individual right or not. So in 2008, we finally got a chance for the Supreme Court to hear a case, ironically a case based in Washington DC. The case was won in a split decision, 5 to 4, in our favor. It stated that Washington DC did not have the right to restrict gun ownership to law-abiding citizens.

After their long-awaited decision was announced in June of 2008, it was applauded by gun owners and people who believe in the Constitution and condemned by anti-gunners and Mayor Daley as ridiculous and crazy, supposedly opening up the country to lawlessness. This, despite the fact that it has been proven time and time again that gun control actually increases crime.

Most cities with their now illegal gun bans had their city councils rescind the bans to avoid the inevitable law suits the ISRA and other pro-gun organizations promised would be coming. One notable exception, which was no surprise, was Chicago. The Mayor boldly stated that Chicago would not change their draconian, anti-citizen anti-gun policy. Chicago's opinion, as well as a few other cities, was that the Heller case only applied to Washington DC; that it was a federal jurisdiction and didn't apply to individual states. That being the case and anticipated by both the ISRA and Second Amendment Foundation, four plaintiffs living in Chicago came forward. They all felt very strongly that their 2nd Amendment, along with their 14th Amendment rights, were being violated. They sued the city of Chicago for that violation on 12.18.08. It was also anticipated that the case would lose in the Chicago court system, as it did. It was also anticipated it may lose in the 7th Appeals court when it was taken there on 6.2.09. As was expected, it did lose in the appeal court and our hope for it to go to the Supreme Court was realized on 9.30.09 when the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case.

The case is scheduled to be heard on March 2nd with Alan Gura (who won the Heller case) being the main

attorney to present this case to the Supreme Court. Being present to hear the testimony will be Richard Pearson, Executive Director for the ISRA, along with Don Moran, its President. Even though the case is heard in early March, the decision will not be rendered until June; the anticipated date is June 28th. Both pro and anti-gun groups are predicting we will win the case. But the case will not be over until the decision is announced, so don't break out the champagne out yet.

Once the announcement is made, assuming it is in our favor, there still will be huge amounts of work to be done. Chicago and other cities will not fold up their anti-gun tents willingly. Just as after the Heller decision, Washington DC tried many other routes to stifle legal gun ownership and, in fact, is still fairly successful in curtailing fair and normal access to gun ownership. The new Washington, DC laws say that firearms owners must register their guns every three years and undergo criminal background checks every six years. Anti-gun groups have promised to step up their methods to limit and restrict gun ownership. Don't forget...their supply of money is not hampered. The many foundations that support anti-gun crusades like the Joyce Foundation and George Sores, etc. are still cash rich and will continue to fight. They will figure out new laws and roadblocks to thwart our every effort in order to deny us our right to keep and bear arms. The fight to protect our rights, sadly, will never be over.

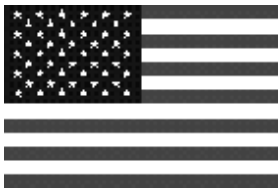
IGOLD is a tremendously effective way for us to affect our lawmakers. Just as the Supreme Court case will have been heard by the time you read this, IGOLD will be over and, hopefully, will have been even more effective than last year's tremendous event. A great thing about IGOLD is that different pro-gun groups have gotten together to sponsor this event, such as the ISRA, Illinois Carry and Champaign County Rifle Association. Instead of arguing and fighting about the most effective way to maintain and gain rights such as concealed carry, we are working hand in hand. The same thing has happened with the McDonald Supreme Court Case. We are working with the Second Amendment Foundation to fight and win this case. The ISRA Range Open House is yet another example where we are working with the NRA. Almost all groups fighting for any cause have either slightly or radically different views as how to attain their goal. This is normal and probably a good thing, as the

* * * Please note * * *

Articles in the WCGR newsletter contain information gathered by and are of the specific viewpoint and beliefs of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ISRA.

more different views that are produced, the more the likelihood that there will be several good ideas revealed. The bad thing that can all-too-often happen is that infighting between these groups can be more destructive to the common cause than the actual enemy.

The ISRA is fortunate to have some excellent leadership and is respected nationally by most, if not all Second Amendment rights groups. We were again the winners of the best Association by the NRA and Affiliate of the Year by the Citizens Committee to Keep and Bear Arms...quite an honor and well-deserved for all that ISRA does for gun owners in both IL and the entire country. We have won this honor three times from the NRA and four times from the Second Amendment Foundation, a feat never accomplished by any other gun rights organization. I am very proud of our organization and all that it has accomplished. Hopefully, you are a proud member as well and will do your part to instill in everyone you know the need to join the ISRA and join us in the fight to preserve, promote and protect our rights as provided to us by the Constitutions of both the USA and the State of Illinois.



McDonald v. Chicago

In June 2008, the U.S. Supreme Court handed out a decision in *Heller v. District of Columbia*, which ended a long-standing argument. Is the right to keep and bear arms an individual right? The Court declared, for the first time, that it was an individual right. Along with that decision, Justice Scalia also declared that the handgun ban in Washington D.C. was unconstitutional. Law-abiding citizens, residing in our nation's capitol, could now keep handguns in their homes for lawful purposes.

Within an hour of that decision, the Illinois State Rifle Association, the Second Amendment Foundation, along with four Chicago residents, Otis McDonald, Colleen and David Lawson and Adam Orlov, filed a lawsuit against the City of Chicago, challenging the handgun ban in Chicago that prevents lawful self-defense. Most of us would think that the "Heller" decision would have thrown out the handgun ban in Chicago, but it does not. This Supreme Court decision is only binding on the federal enclave of Washington

D.C. and to the Federal government. All state, city and local governments are not bound to the U.S. Constitution or most of the Amendments.

When the founding fathers wrote our Constitution, it was to put controls on our national government and to give power to us, the U.S. citizens. We, in turn, allowed our state legislators and officers to do our bidding and create laws that would reflect our needs and wants within each state. As our country developed and matured, rights became more of a focal point and the abolition of slavery was a hot topic. The Civil War resulted from that and slavery ceased to exist after the fighting stopped. The 13th Amendment was ratified to ensure that slavery was unconstitutional and then to address the question of binding the Bill of Rights to the states, the 14th Amendment was ratified.

It was obvious that the southern states were not happy about all of the new changes that were taking place. They lost the war and their major workforce was not necessarily going to come back to the plantations. The former slaves were now citizens of the U.S. and they had the same rights as everyone else. Within a few years, attempts were made to weaken the 14th Amendment and challenge its authority to bind the states to the Constitution. Eventually, a case came to the Supreme Court from Louisiana and it became the vehicle to reduce the 14th Amendment powers. Known as the "Slaughter House" case, it undermined the 14th Amendment and, until now, has kept the 2nd Amendment from being applied to the states. What is necessary now is to incorporate the 2nd Amendment to the 14th Amendment via a Supreme Court decision so that the 2nd Amendment is binding on all state, city and local governments.

The handgun ban in Chicago is the focal point of our lawsuit, but if the Supreme Court could correct Slaughter House and return the 14th Amendment to its intended powers and incorporate the 2nd Amendment to the 14th, it would be big...for the entire country! *McDonald v. Chicago* could correct a past Supreme Court decision and bring the 14th Amendment in line with its founders' intentions. This case has the liberals worried. It could realign the intentions of our founding fathers to bring new strength to the Constitution.

The Illinois State Rifle Association has fought long and hard to have the 2nd Amendment made whole in Illinois. This organization now sees a light at the end of this very long tunnel and it is because of the dedication of our organization to fight for all gun owners in Illinois. Our state has many hunters, firearm owners and enthusiasts that

enjoy the shooting sports. I believe that if the majority of these folks were to join the ISRA, we would not have to fight all of the legislative obstacles that are brought about by the likes of the Daleys, Madigans, and Cullertons of this state. I believe that there would be concealed carry and the crime rate would decrease. Since the Supreme Court found that the handgun ban in D.C. was unconstitutional, the crime rate in D.C. has gone down by 25%.

Please join the Illinois State Rifle Association today! Call 815-635-3198 or sign up on-line at .

The ISRA will be in Washington D.C. on March 2, 2010 to present our oral argument to the Supreme Court. Alan Gura is our attorney. If you didn't know, he is the lead attorney that won "Heller."

On March 10, 2010, the ISRA will lead the Illinois Gun Owner Lobby Day (IGOLD) in Springfield, Illinois. Last year, over 5000 gun owners spent the day lobbying their legislators and though we did not get much press about the event, we were impressive and everyone in the Illinois capitol buildings took notice. This is the most important event that the ISRA sponsors in Illinois. IGOLD is held on a Wednesday, but it is important that all gun owners get together in Springfield and support the 2nd Amendment and the fight of the ISRA. As in past years, there are bus pick-up points throughout the state on that day and the cost is very reasonable. Please go to our web site or call to find out more about this service to Springfield. This information can be obtained through our website: . Or, call our office at 815-635-3198.

I hope to see everyone in Springfield on that day to fight the good fight!

Al Tiscareno
Director
ISRA

DON'T WAIT ANY LONGER!
BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY
for the 14th Annual
THREE RIVERS FRIENDS OF NRA
DINNER & AUCTION
SUNDAY, MARCH 21st
Renaissance Center, Joliet
Contact: Jeff Miller
815-744-4803
threeriversfnra@gmail.com

8th Annual ISRA Range Open House
Saturday, June 26, 2010
10:00am-4:00pm

FREE PARKING!
FREE ADMISSION!
RAIN or SHINE!

The ISRA is proud to announce they, in coordination with the NRA, will host the 8th Annual Range Open House at their range in Bonfield (near Kankakee).

All law-abiding citizens are invited to attend...even those who have never shot before. Attendees will receive firearm safety instruction and be able to view many of the latest models of firearms from various manufactures. Under the supervision of qualified instructors, guests will have the opportunity to test the firearms of their choice and try their hand at archery, too. A small fee for ammunition will be required. No personal firearms or ammunition will be allowed. A BB gun and air rifle range will be set up for the younger guests—what a great opportunity to get the whole family involved!

Re-enactors from WWII, the French & Indian and Vietnam Wars, along with numerous military vehicles and memorabilia will be on display. Food and beverages will also be available.

Come on out and see what the ISRA Range has to offer and find out about the wide variety of programs that promote the shooting sports. Plus, it will be a great time to join or renew your ISRA and NRA memberships.

For additional information, including directions to the range, please visit the website www.isra.org or call the ISRA office at 815-635-3198.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS !!!
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Events like this don't just "happen." We need a small army of dedicated people just like you to help out in so many different ways...all while you are enjoying a great day out at the range.

Call today to find out more about volunteering for this and other ISRA events!
815-635-3198

Calendar of Events

- March 13 & 14** Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - Terry Keller (866) 930-4422
- March 17** **ISRA** Will County Grassroots Meeting - Ivo's Express Restaurant - Channahon
- March 20** Midwest Sporting Goods Open House - Lyons - 708-447-4848
- March 21** Three Rivers FNRA Annual Dinner and Auction - Renaissance Center - Joliet
See one of the WCGR committee members for tickets and more information or visit the FNRA website at <http://www.friendsofnra.org> and click on IL
- March 27** **ISRA** Reloading Class - Gander Mountain - Geneva - Mike Chastai (310) 997-5775
- April 3** **ISRA** Women On Target - Chillicothe Sportsmen's Club - Chillicothe -
ISRA (815) 635-3198
- April 11** **ISRA** CMP Qualifying & Vintage Military Rifle Match - **ISRA Range** - Bonfield -
Jess Brandt (815) 697-2205 or John Newman (815) 485-0351
- April 11** Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - Kathy Carlson (815) 758-2773
- April 17 & 18** Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - Terry Keller (866) 930-4422
- April 21** **ISRA** Will County Grassroots Meeting - Ivo's Express Restaurant - Channahon
- April 24** **ISRA** New Shooter Service Rifle Clinic - ISRA Range - Bonfield -
Konrad Powers (630) 289-2098
- April 25 (tentative date)** Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - Mike Holan (630) 365-2808
- May 9** Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - Kathy Carlson (815) 758-2773
- May 13 - 16** NRA 2010 Annual Meeting & Exhibits - Charlotte Convention Center - Charlotte, NC
Have *you* made plans to attend this event?
- June 26** Eighth Annual **ISRA** Range Open House - Bonfield - ISRA (815) 635-3198
Speak with a WCGR committee member to find out more about more about it
and how to volunteer for this event

*** 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.

ISRA

Your Voice in Springfield

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Tom Cunningham
NRA Life Member & Recruiter
EVC 11th Congressional District
ISRA Life Member

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