



WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

NEXT MEETING - June 15th - 7:00 PM

**Sara's Place Restaurant
Joliet, IL (815)741-3076**

Alan Dementer will be our guest speaker for June. Alan received the Bronze Star in Iraq, and is currently a medic stationed at Great Lakes Naval Base. He will give us his "first hand" perspective of the war in Iraq from a soldier's point of view. If you want to get the real scoop on what is happening in Iraq, be sure to join us for what promises to be an interesting evening.

Glasgow on Guns



Our guest speaker for May was none other than Will County States Attorney, Jim Glasgow (D). Mr. Glasgow recently won a close election with embattled incumbent Jeff Tomczak, to take the post of States Attorney for a second time. First Assistant States Attorney and ISRA member Phil Mock, introduced Jim to the audience.

Glasgow began his speech by sharing his basic reasoning behind prosecuting firearm-related crimes. He stated that he aggressively prosecutes the 'bad guys', but is lenient on the honest and otherwise law-abiding firearm owners who make honest or "technical" mistakes with firearms. For example, if a hunter makes a mistake in how he transports a firearm in his vehicle, odds are that Glasgow will not prosecute the hunter. On the other hand, cases involving known felons (such as a 'gangbangers') that transport or possess a firearm illegally will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. The State's Attorney's office is always trying to find new laws or new charges to file that will guarantee jail time for repeat criminal offenders. After his brief speech, Mr. Glasgow opened the floor to questions.

Retired Cook County Assistant State's Attorney and ISRA member Ed Ronkowski, asked Jim if he would prosecute a case involving a person carrying an unloaded firearm in a fanny pack. Glasgow immediately responded that he does not advocate the use of fanny packs to transport/carry firearms and that cases involving fanny packs present a delicate situation for prosecutors. Jim added that he would

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probably not prosecute a law-abiding citizen for a first offense, assuming there were no aggravating circumstances. He would, however, prosecute a "gangbanger" or known felon under the same circumstances.

Mr. Glasgow's major focus is on education. He feels that not enough money is spent on educating underprivileged children in Illinois, thus they fall too easily into a life of crime. To that end, he is starting a "Character Counts" program to help kids learn right from wrong.

Glasgow emphatically stated that he is "all for employees having guns at their place of employment". In his office, he would not want someone getting past security and shooting up the place, only to find there is no one with a gun to stop the criminal.

We want to thank Jim for taking the time to speak to us and Phil for arranging to have Mr. Glasgow come to our meeting.

WHAT IS BARRY DOING NOW?

That is a question I am asked every few months about our former Will County Grassroots Chairman, Barry Bucciarelli. For those of you who are new to us, Barry took charge of the Will County Division a few years back and turned it around from a small meeting with 4 or 5 attendees, to the interesting and well-attended meetings we have today.

Barry sold his business, retired and moved to Monticello, Kentucky on Lake Cumberland about 3 years ago. I usually get down to see him at least once a year. We visited him last August and, at that time, we ran into Earl Clark who was staying in Barry's cottage. Earl was looking at various properties in the area and mentioned that he was considering moving.

Just this past Memorial Day weekend, my wife and I were invited down there to do a little fishing and relaxing. We got there Saturday afternoon and after a nice dinner, went to a huge antique car show and car parade in nearby Summerset. After fishing on Sunday morning, Barry took us to see the subdivision he is building with all 16 lots overlooking Lake Cumberland. There are individual homes and two villas. It is a beautiful area with some very nice home sites. After more fishing in the afternoon, we were treated to a meal featuring a wild turkey that Barry had shot. He and his wife, Patrice, are both gourmet cooks and their meals are superb.

Monday morning, we did some more fishing before having to head back home.

Our little trip gave me some insight about our "retired" friend. He fishes a lot, he hunts a lot, and he also works a lot. He is not really retired, being a workaholic. However, he is now able to work a lot less and enjoy himself a lot more. Since his retirement, he has bought and sold properties, a trailer park and builds and remodels houses.

As for his success in fishing and hunting in KY, he caught a 35-lb, 1-oz. striped bass that was 44 inches long. He also caught a 7 ½-lb small mouth bass, which was the largest caught in the lake last year. And, Barry just shot a 31-pound turkey (just two pounds shy of the state record) with a 10.5-inch beard first thing in the morning on opening day. It was this turkey that we enjoyed for dinner on Sunday night.

The bottom line is that he is enjoying himself immensely and is glad that he is no longer in Illinois with all of our crazy gun problems. Barry sends his greeting to all of us.

Doug Mayhall

Lynnette (Krohn) and Larry Steven

May 21st, 2005

I started coming to meetings in the Fall of 1999 with my ex-husband. He wanted me to learn to shoot and be involved. So I went. As time went on, I became involved with the 2001 Clyde Howell NRA Youth Shooting Sports Camp. Since I am a RN, I volunteered to be the medical person on site during the camp and helped with registration. As each year passed, I became even more involved to the point I was the Youth Camp's Co-Director in 2002 and Camp Director in 2003. I also became an NRA Certified Instructor. I would talk about the camp at the monthly Will County ISRA meetings to drum up volunteers and their children to participate in the camp.

Larry started coming to the Will County meetings in late 2002. I remember him coming to the meetings and I would notice him because he always had a smile on his face. He later told me after we started to date and became serious, that he noticed me right away because of my smile and "I seemed very nice". He volunteered to help out at the 2003 Youth camp and then again at the 2004 camp. We had only chatted a few times over those 2 years. We were both married at the time to other people.

Circumstances in our individual lives occurred and we both ended up divorced from our first spouses by the time the 2004 camp came around. When we had spoken at the 2004 camp, we discovered that we were both now divorced. Over that summer, I was not able to attend the monthly Will County meetings due to a class I was taking. One night, I saw Larry as I was getting out of my car and he offered to help me inside since I had my son with me. We walked into the October 2004 monthly meeting together. We ended up sitting at the same table and had dinner together. I mentioned that I had just sold my house and was moving into a townhouse within the next few weeks. He called me a few weeks later, actually on the day I was moving, and offered to help. I gladly accepted. At that point in my life, I had no plans on dating. I didn't think about it since I had just gone through a bad divorce while trying to raise a newborn. We started talking on the phone and seeing each other more and more and quickly realized that we were meant to be together.

Larry and I got married on May 21, 2005 in Las Vegas. Next to the birth of my son, it was the happiest day of my life.

To quote Larry, "When guns are in your life, good things will happen" and "I didn't lose my freedom by getting married; I just doubled my gun collection". But you guys don't seem to get it. When you get married "what is mine is mine and what is his is mine." :)

Happily Married and Certified gun enthusiasts,
Larry and Lynnette Steven

Calendar of Events

- June 17** Old Canal Days Parade - Lockport - 815-4744 or call Doug Mayhall for more info
June 18 3rd Annual ISRA Open House - ISRA Range, Bonfield (815) 635-3198 www.isra.org
August 6-7 CADA - St.Charles - Dupage Expo Center (815) 259-5445
August 20 2nd Annual ISRA/NRA Youth Shooting Sports Camp - ISRA Range, Bonfield
Lynnette (Krohn) Steven, Registrar, lynnette67@aol.com Kim Beard, Director, kbeard@isra.org

Please contact Secretary, Doug Mayhall, or the ISRA office if you would like to help out at any of the ISRA events. E-mail willcounty@isra.org if you have any events you would like included in next month's newsletter.

2nd Annual ISRA/NRA Youth Shooting Sports Camp

On Saturday, August 20, 2005, the ISRA will be hosting the 2nd Annual ISRA/NRA Youth Shooting Sports Camp. It will be held at the ISRA range in Bonfield, IL. Children ages 10-14 are invited to attend. The cost will be \$25 per child, which includes lunch, use of firearms and ammunition, and a T-shirt to the first 40 applicants. Included in this year's camp will be a drawing for a shotgun to one lucky youth.

If interested in registering, volunteering or for additional information, please contact Camp Director, Kimberly Beard at 815-467-8721 or e-mail kbeard@isra.org. You may also contact Camp Registrar, Lynnette (Krohn) Steven at 815-744-5215 or e-mail Lynnette67@aol.com

GETTING THE TRUTH OUT...

by Linda Ward

Writing letters to politicians can be helpful if they get enough of them, but your thoughts may only be read by one person. A more efficient use of your time and effort would be to write something that thousands will see, greatly increasing the impact of what you say. I am referring, of course, to writing "Letters to the Editor" of your local newspaper. You may not have much success with the Chicago Tribune or the Sun Times as they get hundreds of letters a day. However, local newspapers do not. Almost all of the letters that I've submitted to the Daily Southtown have been published, and the Daily Southtown is pretty anti-gun. The anti's get their letters published with regularity, vocal and emotional folks that they are. Unless we can counter their lies with the truth, the readers get a very slanted view of Second Amendment issues.

An even better strategy is to not only respond to their lies, but to get our truths out first and frequently. If I am the only person writing, readers may think "Oh, that's just so & so again, nobody else says that". However, if many people write in accord on the same issues, some readers will be swayed to the truth.

Writing letters does not come easy to everyone, so here are a few hints to help you out.

1. Try to make sense to the average reader. "Preaching to the choir" is easy, but we are already singing the same song.

2. Don't directly attack the anti's (as much fun as that can be). Be polite and professional.

3. Use an example everyone can relate to.

I know these hints may seem vague, so here's an example of a letter I recently sent to the Daily Southtown. Even two anti's called me up to say they liked it. In part, I pointed out that Mayor Daley said he didn't think anyone should have a gun, yet he never goes anywhere without his personal armed guards. Daley thinks that the rest of us should call 911 if we need help. If that's such a good idea, why doesn't he simply get rid of his armed guards and rely on a cell phone if trouble arises? This example shows the readers 1) Mayor Daley's hypocrisy 2) that I am not attacking Mayor Daley (well, maybe a little), and 3) the reader can see themselves being unfairly judged.

I bet many of you out there have much better ideas than I, so get to it. Take the time to send a letter to your local newspaper. I'm looking forward to reading them!

Political Disclaimer

The ISRA and the Will County Division of the ISRA **CAN NOT** and **WILL NOT** endorse any candidate or party. We feature speakers to allow us to learn about the positions a candidate holds about the Second Amendment, and welcome all candidates to speak to us. Only the ISRA Political Victory Fund can endorse candidates or donate to political campaigns.

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