



WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

NEXT MEETING - June 21st, 2006 - 7:00 PM

Sara's Place Restaurant

Joliet, IL (815)741-3076

Our guest speaker for June will be **ISRA Executive Director, Richard Pearson**. Richard will speak to us on the ISRA's efforts in Springfield to counter the Blago/Daley gun grab attempts. Please bring your friends and family for a very informative evening.

Gene Sowa and the .17 Mach II

Will County members know Gene Sowa. He is a strong supporter of the ISRA and is always willing to share his knowledge of firearms, especially Brownings.



This month Gene went in a different direction and presented his thoughts on two new cartridges, the .17 Mach II and its hotter cousin, the .17 HMR.

As can be noted by the caliber designations, these cartridges seem small in size but, from the perspective of small varmints, pack a powerful punch. Gene brought along some firearms, formerly .22s, that he felt could be used as test vehicles for these new cartridges.

Gene's first item was a Browning Buckmark. He had a new 9-inch barrel made for it, chambered in .17 Mach II. So far it has not had any problems and Gene is still testing it. The next gun, also in .17 Mach II, is a Browning .22 Rifle. The barrel on this one is 19 inches long and Gene has not used it too often, but when he has, it seemed very effective.

We were surprised to see Gene with rifles that had a name other than Browning. First was a Ruger 10/22

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with a 17 inch carbon fiber barrel, in .17 Mach II. This is the rifle that Gene likes to carry around when he is searching the back forty for varmints. The rifle is extremely lightweight and seems to function well as a semiautomatic. The other rifle was a Marlin bolt action that was converted to .17 Mach II.

Gene also had a small display of the various .22s, .17 HMR and the .17 Mach II to show the audience. One would think that these cartridges would be very similar, but with a side by side comparison there doesn't seem to be much of a visual resemblance. Accuracy may be somewhat better in the .22 family, up to 75 to 100 yards,

but then the .17s start to give a better ballistic edge for another 25 to 50 yards. Eley, a premium ammo manufacture is producing .17 cartridges and the accuracy is excellent. A few other companies are producing the .17s and it will be up to the owner to determine what will work best in the firearm safely.

As always, it was great to hear Gene talk about our favorite subject.

Al Tiscareno

NRA Convention 2006

May 19th through the 21st was a busy time in Milwaukee Wisconsin. The NRA held its 135th Annual Meeting and Exhibits for its members and approximately 54,000 patriots attended. If you have ever been at one of these conventions you know about the scope and size of the exhibits, the proud feeling of mingling with thousands of Americans at one time, supporting not only the Second Amendment but the all of the rights that our founding fathers established. This event is the USA and Patriotism all in one place on a grand scale!

I didn't count how many exhibitors were there, but I could probably state that everyone in the firearms industry was there. Not only were all of the gun manufacturers there, but probably every maker of ammo, reloading supplies, optics, and other accessories. There were also retailers, collector associations, outfitters, and hunting clubs from across the world.

The NRA also offered workshops for members. Subjects ranged from Club and Association workshops, Law seminars and even a NRA-ILA grassroots workshop. On each of the three days the NRA provided

Suggestions Anyone?

We are always searching for interesting topics and speakers for future meetings. What would you like to learn more about? Legislative issues? Personal protection? Competitive shooting? Contact us at willcounty@isra.org or let us know at the next meeting.

all sorts of opportunities to gather together and show our support and patriotism.

NRA members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Members to hear the reports by the officers of the NRA. This is also when the members vote.

That Saturday evening the Reception and Banquet brought together good food and friends with the added bonus of keynote speaker General Tommy Franks. Later, entertainment was provided by comedian T. Bubba Bechtol, and country singer Miranda Lambert.

The ISRA was in Milwaukee for the three day event, and it was great to meet all of the fine people from not only Illinois and Wisconsin, but the entire USA. This is such a huge event that every state seemed to be represented, and many came by the ISRA table to say hello.

Our friends in Wisconsin were very gracious and helpful in providing assistance to the ISRA. The Wisconsin Rifle and Pistol Association, and Bob Burton in particular, helped the ISRA with the details and table area. They are on the web at www.wrpa.com, if you want to drop them a "Thank You" e-mail, or contact them at:

President:
Eric Obermeyer
P O Box 263
Bristol, WI 53104

Director:
Bob Burton
W5071 Paddock Dr.
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Next year the NRA convention will be held in St. Louis, Missouri. Again the ISRA will make its way down there to represent the State of Illinois.

Al Tiscareno

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.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY AT CHRISTMAS

A good example of the items that the mass-media tends to ignore, happenings that should receive page-one exposure. Not just once but frequently. I find it hard to believe that this company has done this each year since 1992 and I have never seen or heard of it anywhere before.

Thank you, Mr. Merrill Worcester. (See below.) You don't see Bob Sheaver or any other TV news people show this on there programs.



These wreaths -- some 5,000 -- are donated by the Worcester Wreath Co. of Harrington, Maine. The owner, Merrill Worcester, not only provides the wreaths, but covers the trucking expense as well. He's done this since 1992. A wonderful guy.

Also, most years, groups of Maine school kids combine an educational trip to D.C. with this event to help out. Making this even more remarkable is the fact that Harrington is in one of the poorest parts of the state.

Rest easy, sleep well my brothers.

Know the line has held, your job is done.

Rest easy, sleep well.

Others have taken up where you fell, the line has held.

Peace, peace, and farewell.

A nation that forgets it's defenders, will itself be forgotten!

Contributed by Doug Mayhall

Spychips Co-Author Adds Her Voice To "No National ID" Movement

Dr. Katherine Albrecht to address Christian rally

Consumer privacy expert Dr. Katherine Albrecht will be a featured speaker at the No National ID rally in Dallas, Texas this weekend. The event, hosted by Endtime Ministries, is expected to draw 5,000 to 8,000 attendees.

The rally is being organized in response to the REAL ID Act, federal legislation that mandates standardized driver's licenses for all Americans by 2008. Under the plan, a REAL ID compliant driver's license will be needed to board a plane, open a bank account, or enter a federal building. Critics have called it a de facto national ID card. The plan has drawn widespread criticism from civil libertarians, citizens groups, and religious leaders across the political spectrum. In addition to Endtime Ministries, other opposition voices include the ACLU, the conservative CATO Institute, the Presbyterian Church, the Jewish Labor Committee, and the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers), to name just a few.

Endtime Ministries is encouraging Americans to take the No National ID pledge on its website, <http://www.NoNationalID.com>. Concerned citizens who have taken the "No National ID Pledge" vow they will not knowingly vote for any politician who does not commit to the repeal of the Real ID Act. The original goal for the pledge was 10,000 commitments. "Already, that goal has been vastly exceeded," says Endtime's Craig Treadwell, director of the campaign. "We have received over 20,000 pledges so far, and more continue to pour in each day. This is truly a hot button issue for the Christian community."

Albrecht cautions that a de facto national ID card will not only lay the foundations for a police state, but the consolidation of sensitive data will put citizens at risk of identity theft, create a bureaucratic nightmare, and cost a fortune. "America has always been a free country," says Albrecht. "This is not a totalitarian regime where authorities can demand 'Your papers, please' of its citizens. We have to put a stop to the encroaching police state while we still can."

The No National ID rally will take place at the Garland Special Events Center this Saturday, June 17, 2006 at

6:00 pm. The event is free to the public. Albrecht will speak on privacy issues related to identification technologies and will hold a book signing after the event. For more information call: 972.530.0100 or visit: <http://www.EndtimeDallasConference.com>

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About Katherine Albrecht, Ed.D.

Dr. Katherine Albrecht is a consumer privacy expert who regularly speaks to audiences across Europe and North America on the impact of new technologies, with an emphasis on RFID and retail issues. She is the co-author, along with Liz McIntyre, of the award-winning "Spychips: How Major Corporations and Government Plan to Track your Every Move with RFID" and "The Spsychips Threat," a Christian version of the book.

Katherine is the head of CASPIAN, a 13,000 member

grass-roots consumer privacy group she founded in 1999. She holds a Doctorate in Education from Harvard University, with a research emphasis in consumer privacy and psychology.

See: www.spsychips.com and www.nocards.org

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CASPIAN: Consumers Against Supermarket Privacy Invasion and Numbering
Opposing supermarket loyalty cards and other retail surveillance schemes since 1999

www.spsychips.com

www.nocards.org

You're welcome to duplicate and distribute this message to others who may find it of interest.

WOMEN'S FIREARM SAFETY CLINIC

CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR CHILDREN AND GUNS?

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CONCERNED ABOUT HAVING A GUN IN THE HOUSE?

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Learn the answers to these questions along with firearm safety at the
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SEMI-ANNUAL WOMEN ONLY FIREARMS SAFETY CLINIC

Participants will receive hands on classroom instruction in the basics of firearm safety, including safe handling and storage, proper techniques to load and unload a variety of firearms, and the opportunity to participate in live fire exercises in an enjoyable and relaxing atmosphere.

As usual, space is limited, so please call to reserve your space in the class of your choice.

May 21st or August 20th

Experience the camaraderie and support of the other ladies. Come learn, enjoy and become proficient in SAFETY all at the same time.

For more information, registration and directions, please call the Aurora Sportsmen's Club at 630-466-9711, ext 40

**Women's Firearm Safety Clinic
Aurora Sportsmen's Club
Sugar Grove, Illinois**

Class #1 May 21, 2006 Class #2 August 20, 2006 12:30PM to 6:00PM

All classes taught by experienced NRA and Illinois certified instructors.

YES, we also have "FEMALE INSTRUCTORS"

The Aurora Sportsmen's Club sponsors the clinic as a PUBLIC SERVICE

There is no fee to the participant! FOID cards are not required.

Calendar of Events

June 16 Lockport Canal Days Parade - Lockport, IL - contact Doug Mayhall for details

July 16 Glock Shooting Sports Foundation League Match - ISRA Range, Bonfield, IL - ISRA (815) 635-3198
(GSSF League Matches will also be held on July 16 and August 20, 2006)

August 20 Women's Firearm Safety Clinic - Aurora Sportsmen's Club - Sugar Grove, IL - 630-466-9711 xt. 40

** Please use the above contact information to confirm events as dates may change without notice **

Please contact Chairman, 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

3rd ANNUAL YOUTH SHOOTING SPORTS CAMP

The Illinois State Rifle Association will be hosting it's 3rd Annual ISRA/NRA Youth Shooting Sports Camp on Saturday, August 19th, 2006. The camp will be held at the ISRA Range in Bonfield, IL.

Girls and boys ages 10-14 are invited to attend. The cost is \$25 per applicant. This fee covers lunch, the use of firearms, ammunition and targets. The first 40 applicants will receive a NRA camp T-shirt. In addition, there will be a drawing for a shotgun to one lucky girl or boy.

NRA certified instructors will be teaching the girls and boys firearm safety, basic firearm components and allow them hands-on experience with a variety of firearms which include .22 pistol, .22 rifle, shotgun and archery.

We are looking for "NRA certified instructors" to assist with this year's camp. NRA instructors are needed for the following disciplines: pistol, rifle, shotgun and archery. Lunch will be provided.

We are looking for "volunteers" in the following areas: range set-up/clean-up, registration, Range Safety Officers, food service, security and medical personnel. Lunch will be provided.

If you are interested in assisting with this youth shooting sports camp, or know of a boy or girl that would like to attend the camp, please contact one of us for more information.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support!

Jeff Battaglia, Director

Rita Siwinski

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jeffb@isra.org

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