



# WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

**NEXT MEETING - August 19, 2009 - 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 our speaker will be **Earl J. Gorman**. He has written a book called **Fire Mission**, which is about his time as a marine artillery officer in Viet Nam. He is also a graduate of the Naval Academy at Annapolis as well as the artillery schools at Quantico, Virginia and Fort Sill, Oklahoma. As always, we invite you to bring a friend.

Will County ISRA member, *Fred J. Moffatt III*, was the name drawn for the WCGR Gun Giveaway last month. Unfortunately, Fred 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.

## **M1918 Browning Automatic Rifle**

John Moses Browning came out with the design for the BAR in 1917 and it has become one of the most important weapons in our military for over forty years. Though heavy and limited in firepower because of its 20-round magazine capacity, this light machine gun would be the centerpiece of small unit infantry tactics.

Quoting from the May 1966 Guidebook for Marines, "The Browning Automatic Rifle, M1918A2, is a relatively light, maneuverable weapon of great firepower. Each fire team is built around a BAR. This gives each rifle squad three of these weapons and each rifle platoon nine. Because of its great firepower it is the most vital weapon of the platoon."

In 1968, I trained with the BAR in the Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Pendleton in California. The one hope I had was to find a Marine bigger than I to carry it. It's not that I disliked the BAR, but my M14 had full-auto capabilities and I thought 10 lbs. of weight was not bad. Luckily, there was a Marine in my fire team that really liked that BAR and I had no problem trading positions with him. The BAR's weight of 19

## **WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS CONTACTS**

*Chairman* - Doug Mayhall

W (708) 349-2222 H (708) 479-2506 [doug@isra.org](mailto:doug@isra.org)

*Vice Chairman* - Terry Kreimeier

[TerryK@isra.org](mailto:TerryK@isra.org)

*Secretary* - Al Tiscareno

[willcounty@isra.org](mailto:willcounty@isra.org)

*Webmaster* - Dave Beard [willcounty@isra.org](mailto:willcounty@isra.org)

*Editor* - Kim Beard [kbeard@isra.org](mailto:kbeard@isra.org)

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## **ISRA CONTACTS**

*Anita (Range) - Kristi (General) - Lori (Membership)*

(815) 635-3198

[member@isra.org](mailto:member@isra.org)

lbs. gives it a definite advantage over the much lighter M14. I have fired both weapons in full-auto and can tell you that the BAR is a lot more controllable. Its only weakness is the twenty round limitations, which translate into just over two seconds of fire suppression, but that is true for most of the modern automatic weapons with twenty round capacities.

M14's, at the time, were coming into their own and one of the design characteristics of the M14 was to simplify the weapon needs of the infantry and

combine the battle rifle and light machine gun roles into one weapon. As a military battle rifle, the M14 is a great, but it just does not work well as a light machine gun. On full-auto, the M14 has a muzzle rise that is hard to control and it is a disadvantage once your enemy learns of it. This was one of the reasons for the development of the M16; its full-auto capabilities were very controllable. This also signaled the end of the M1918 as a primary military weapon.

At our last WCGR meeting, Charlie Brown brought his semi-automatic replica of an M1918A2 that he put together. It is an example of what the genius of John Browning gave to this great country of ours and to the rest of the world. This firearm deserves to be classified as one of the greatest designs of modern warfare. In WWI, it was the only weapon that was effective against the machine guns that decimated our troops in the horrific trench warfare battles. This gun punched through the resistance of both European and Pacific theatres of WWII. It had seen action in Korea and in Viet Nam. It is not hard to give praise to this weapon. The BAR has been the one weapon to allow all around it to move ahead and advance through the enemy.

The Will County Grassroots of the ISRA thanks Charlie Brown for his presentation on the M1918 BAR.

**Al Tiscareno**



*Thank you*  
to everyone who  
joined us at the  
Three Rivers  
FNRA Hog Roast!  
We appreciate  
your support and  
look forward to  
seeing you at our  
next event.

\*\*\* 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.



### Chairman's Comments

*by Doug Mayhall*

Cap and Trade; trillions for the Stimulus package; universal health care for everyone EXCEPT for a certain 535 legislators; clunkers for new cars. The President promised change and in six months, we have had more change than in the last sixty years...I think almost all of it for the worse. You may wonder what does this have to do with our firearm rights. Well, it has everything to do with firearm rights. I believe our rights are being taken from us by the Federal Government one little right at a time. In fairness, past Presidents and Congresses have been eroding our rights a little, too. The First Amendment took a huge blow when the McCain-Feingold Bill took effect in 2002, not allowing groups or individuals to broadcast or print newspaper ads for sixty days before an election. The Gun Control Act of 1968, signed by President Johnson, severely affected firearm rights, though much of it was later rescinded in the late 1980's, I believe. The so called "assault rifle ban" in 1994, orchestrated and signed by then President Clinton, was the start of his goal to eliminate the possession of firearms from private individuals.

Sonia Sotomayor for Supreme Court Justice. Sotomayor has the embarrassing fact of having five of her rulings being overturned by the Supreme Court, yet she has now been nominated and voted into the Supreme Court. Eric Holder for Attorney General. Rahm Emanuel as Chief of Staff. Obama has just appointed two devout Muslims to very high Homeland Security posts; one was even born in Damascus, Syria. Every single one of Obama's chief policy makers is an avowed anti-gunner. While in the state government, he was vehemently anti-gun and as well

\*\*\* 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.

as when he was a US Senator. As President, he has constantly stated that one of his major goals is to permanently reinstate the ban on assault weapons. One hundred days into his presidency, he again stated this goal. Fortunately, sixty-five Democratic legislators sent the Attorney General a letter stating they would not support any such bill and it has not surfaced so far.

There is now a White House government "snitch" policy. In his post on the White House blog, Macon Phillips, White House Director of News Media, wrote: "There is a lot of disinformation about health insurance reform out there, spanning from control of personal finances to end of life care." "These rumors often travel just below the surface via chain e-mails or through casual conversation. Since we can't keep track of all of them here at the White House, we're asking for your help. If you get an e-mail or see something on the web about health insurance reform that seems fishy, send it to [flag@whitehouse.gov](mailto:flag@whitehouse.gov)."

An attorney for Red State noted that the White House's actions may be in violation of current U.S. law:

"According to 5 U.S.C. § 552a, United States agencies, including the Executive Office of the President shall, 'maintain no record describing how any individual exercises rights guaranteed by the First Amendment unless expressly authorized by statute or by the individual about whom the record is maintained or unless pertinent to and within the scope of an authorized law enforcement activity.'"

Attorney Eric Erickson noted, "This will be the first significant time the White House has ignored the Privacy Act and may open President Obama up to litigation."

What is our Government trying to do to us? We are all seeing political cartoons with a hammer and sickle along with "socialist" words and pictures associated with Obama. I believe very strongly and firmly in our Constitution and the Bill of Rights. **All** of them, not just a special few at the whim of the government in place at any given time, need to

be preserved and protected. Thomas Jefferson said, "The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government." The President said, "I have a mandate" now that I was elected. Well, almost 49% of the people voted against him, so he certainly does not have a mandate, only a very small majority (as did President Bush).

Another quote from Jefferson: "A democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where fifty-one percent of the people may take away the rights of the other forty-nine." This seems to me to be the case now, where the Brady bunch is getting behind every anti-gun politician and writing anti-gun bills. So to use yet a third Jefferson quote, "All tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent." We, the good silent majority, must not be silent any more! We need to be very vocal about what we want and don't want. We need to write letters to our legislators, letters to the editors and make it known that we are tired of these lies and tired of being forced legislation that is not what we want or need. We are finally hearing news reports of some town hall meetings where there is a lot of dissent. The politicians are saying it is all very organized from health care groups and right-wing extremists. Just like the recent tea parties, "we the people" are getting tired of the government trying to oppress our rights. We are a growing group of concerned citizens, not people bussed in by health care insurance companies. Let's let our legislators know we demand **all** of our freedoms promised in the United States' Constitution.

**Glock Shooting Sport Foundation**  
**Illinois State Rifle Association League**  
**Sunday, August 30, 2009**

ISRA Range, Bonfield, IL

Registration: 8:30am - 2:30pm

Registration fees applicable

For each different model of Glock pistol, you will be entered in a drawing for a new Glock pistol to be given away after the August 30th match.

For additional information or to register, contact:

**ISRA (815) 635-3198**

**[www.isra.org](http://www.isra.org)**

## Calendar of Events

- August 19**      **ISRA Will County Grassroots Meeting - Ivo's Express Restaurant -**  
23819 West Eames St. (Southeast Corner of Route 6 and I-55) - Channahon
- August 22**      **ISRA Battle Rifle Belly Match - ISRA Range - Bonfield - Claude Heale (815) 553-0591**
- August 22**      **ISRA Women's Introductory Pistol Class - ISRA Range - Bonfield- (815) 635-3198**
- August 29**      **ISRA Annual Sighting-In Day - ISRA Range - Bonfield- (815) 635-3198**
- August 29**      SAFER USA & Howell Shooting Club, Inc. - NRA Instructor-Personal Protection in the  
Home - Howell Shooting Club - Yorkville - David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487
- August 29 & 30**      CADA Gun Show - Dupage Expo Center - St.Charles - Special: Show ISRA membership  
card for \$5 off regular admission!
- August 30**      **ISRA Doughboy Match - ISRA Range - Bonfield - (815) 635-3198**
- August 30**      Glock Shooting Sports Foundation (GSSF) Glock League - **ISRA Range - Bonfield -**  
Terry Kreimeier (815) 635-3198
- August 30**      SAFER USA & Howell Shooting Club, Inc. - Beginner's Guide to Hunting  
Gander Mountain - Joliet - David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487
- September 5**      SAFER USA & Howell Shooting Club, Inc. - NRA Basic Shotgun  
Howell Shooting Club - Yorkville - David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487
- September 5 & 12**      SAFER USA & Howell Shooting Club, Inc. - NRA Marksmanship Qualification  
Program-Handgun - Howell Shooting Club-Yorkville-David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487
- September 12**      **ISRA/NRA Youth Shooting Camp - ISRA Range - Bonfield - (815) 635-3198**
- September 12&13**      Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - Terry Keller (866) 930-4422
- September 13**      SAFER USA & Howell Shooting Club, Inc. -NRA Refuse To Be A Victim Course  
Gander Mountain - Joliet - David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487
- September 20**      **ISRA CMP Qualification & Vintage Military Rifle Match - ISRA Range -**  
Jess Brandt: (815) 697- 2205 or John Newman: (815) 485-0351
- September 20**      SAFER USA & Howell Shooting Club, Inc. - NRA Reloading-Shotgun Shell  
Gander Mountain - Joliet- David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487
- Sept 25,26,27**      Second Amendment Foundation's Gun Rights Policy Conference - St.Louis, MO

*\*\* 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](mailto:willcounty@isra.org) if you have any events you would like included in this monthly newsletter*

## Join the ISRA

[www.isra.org](http://www.isra.org)

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[www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)

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Office (815) 727-8895  
FAX (815) 727-8918  
Email [pkaupas@willcosheriff.org](mailto:pkaupas@willcosheriff.org)



PAUL J. KAUPAS  
SHERIFF

WILL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
14 W. JEFFERSON ST. JOLIET. IL 60431

### Greg's Body Shop



2221 Oakleaf  
Joliet, IL 60436

(815) 729-1299



708-479-9149  
19129 S. Wolf Road  
Mokena, IL 60448

Kurt A. Leinweber  
Attorney At Law  
63 W. Jefferson St.  
Suite 101  
Joliet, IL 60431  
(815) 726-0303

*Mr. Benny's Steak  
and Lobster House*  
19200 Everett Lane  
191st and La Grange Road  
Mokena, IL 60448  
(708) 478-5800

### STEPHEN P. WEBER

Certified Public Accountant

815/469-5290 Bus.      19200 SCHOOLHOUSE RD  
815/469-5618 Res.      MOKENA, ILLINOIS 60448



TC-ACCESSORIES

11850 W 187th St  
Mokena, IL. 60448  
(708) 479-4815

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

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3.1.2-3.1.3-3.3.1

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Phone: (815)476-7525  
Email: [handsomealice@yahoo.com](mailto:handsomealice@yahoo.com)