



# WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

**NEXT MEETING - September 17, 2008 - 7:00 PM**

**Sara's Place Restaurant  
3501 Channahon Rd. (Route 6)  
Joliet, IL  
(815) 741-3076**

ISRA members, **Frank Perrotta** and **Mike Drackley**, will be our speakers this month. Frank and Mike will be discussing hunting with bow and arrow as well as how to select a bow. As always, we invite you to bring a friend...it's sure to be an interesting and informative evening!

Will County ISRA member, *Kris Cisco*, was the name drawn for the WCGR Gun Giveaway last month. Unfortunately, Kris was not present, so he missed out on the Mossberg 500 shotgun. Remember, the winner must be present, have a valid FOID and comply with all local, state and federal firearm laws.

## ADVICE



We had the pleasure of having Carl Kuhn as our guest speaker for the August meeting of the Will County Grassroots. He served on the Board of Directors of the ISRA for over

twenty-five years and even had the distinction of serving as Second Vice President. Carl, a WWII veteran, worked in law enforcement, practiced law for fifty-two years and is a former judge in DuPage County. Earlier this year, Carl was honored by the ISRA, in recognition of his un-ending dedication, loyalty and service to the ISRA. Carl had much to say about this election year and hoped that we, the voters, would give thought to the importance of this November's election. I also have a hope that this country's voters will choose wisely.

This year has been an eventful one. Between the long-awaited Supreme Court's "Heller" decision and the much too long wrangling over who will be the Democratic Party's candidate gave us much to ponder as to what could possibly happen next. It seemed all too normal for Barack Obama to pick Joe Biden for his Vice Presidential nominee. On the other hand, nobody ever thought that the

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(815) 635-3198  
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Republican Presidential nominee, John McCain, would have picked Sarah Palin as his Vice Presidential nominee.

To all of the members of the Will County Grassroots, I have but one message. "Please vote on November 4th, 2008". This Presidential election is important. Nothing will be gained if you stay home on that day. Keep in mind that the candidates running in other than the Presidential race, such as U.S. Senate and House, state legislators and many local races are not determined by an Electoral College. All of these other candidates are looking for your vote. Many incumbents are hoping for a low voter turnout, hoping

to hold on to their offices. Not only is it important for you to get out and vote that Tuesday, but you should also alert family members and friends to the importance of that day. If you know of anyone that needs assistance getting to the polls, do them a great favor and take them with you.

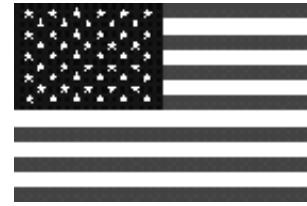
When this concept of an Electoral College was first discussed in 1787 it seemed like a confusing way to select a President. The argument for this selection method was simple. To keep Congress and large organizations from influencing the selection of the President. The major consideration of the founding fathers was to maintain "checks and balances" throughout the U.S. Constitution. Today, if the Electoral College were to suddenly evaporate, we would expect the largest lobbying groups to fight over who would be the next President. Major unions, community organizations and even the NRA, through its members, would fight for the privilege of selecting the next President of the U.S. on Election Day. Having the "popular vote" decide the President, though, has its problems. Many are influenced by the media or the above-mentioned groups. Would this influence on the average American voter be a fair way to make this important decision? Are all of the voters going to make a decision based on qualifications or will their decision be based on superficial reasons? This selection method is not a perfect way to accomplish the most important decision of all, but a great deal of thought was put into it in 1787, in the hope that the President was not going to be influenced by any group or other power base.

We all thank Carl Kuhn for bringing us his wisdom and thoughts about this important election year and, especially, for the dedication that he has given to his community and to the ISRA.

Al Tiscareno

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

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



## Chairman's Comments

What a great sight to see nearly fifty girls and boys, all with their eyes wide open in eager anticipation. This was the sight on a recent Saturday in August as the ISRA/NRA's annual Youth Shooting Sports Camp got underway. I have been helping out at the camp for the last four years and it is encouraging to see some of the same faces come year after year and it is encouraging to see new faces of those who are eagerly waiting to see what the shooting sports are all about. Every year, this event grows. This year, although there was a set limit of forty kids, so many signed up that we didn't have the heart to turn away the kids who have waited all summer for this opportunity. So, more adults were rounded up to supervise and instruct.

The first order of business for the day is to thoroughly instruct everyone present on the importance of safety. Safety always comes first. After completion of the safety briefing, the students were divided into groups and sent to the various disciplines (pistol, rifle, shotgun, muzzle-loading and archery) to learn the art of each.

It was fun to see the kids hit the targets...some, with great accuracy. It was especially fun to watch while they practiced with the shotguns on the skeet range. It was amazing to me how some youngsters, never having fired a shotgun before, could hit a moving target after only two or three shots. Ah...the youth, with their quick reflexes and great eyesight.

At the muzzle loading, it was interesting to see the instructors that were dressed in period clothing. They described how shooters had to improvise back in the 1700's and 1800's. For example, the powder horns had to be made extremely well in order to keep the powder dry or else no shot could be made, whether it be to gather food or for protection. The original

powder horns were actually made from horns of animals and were well protected from water, yet they could be opened rapidly for use. Measuring devices were designed to rapidly dispense just the right amount of gunpowder into the barrel. Muzzle-loading rifles were long and heavy back then, yet were amazingly accurate when used by an experienced shooter. The youth seemed to really get a kick out of shooting those old time guns and by seeing all the memorabilia that was displayed.

As time permitted, I observed some at rifle, pistol and archery and everyone seemed to be doing well and enjoying the day. I really enjoyed seeing the rifle instruction as my grandson, who participated as a student for the past three years, was now helping with the students. He has been shooting high power rifle for three years now and attended Camp Perry this year for the first time as an ISRA Junior. It was fun, yet strange, to see him growing up and actually helping the kids rather than simply getting help himself.

Seeing all the tired, yet satisfied, kids at the end of the day made me think of just how important it is to pass on marksmanship skills and to teach the importance of firearms and their purpose in our society, to our children and grandchildren. We must keep the vigilance strong to defend the most fragile civil right of all...that which is provided for by the Second Amendment.

And that is why we must choose wisely when it comes to voting in our elected officials, especially the President of the United States. If an anti-gun President is elected, we stand to lose ALL of the ground for which we have fought so hard. Think about it. The Supreme Court case, "Heller", was won by only one vote. Two or three Justices are set to retire soon. The next President will likely set the course for gun ownership either on a very positive or a very negative course. This would mainly depend on if conservative or liberal

Justices were appointed. (I think we all know which type Barack Obama would appoint.) So please keep up with the letters, your contributions and continue to volunteer in any way you are able to help support those that are in favor of and support our most important right...the right to keep and bear arms.

Doug Mayhall

For information regarding future ISRA events, please visit: [www.isra.org](http://www.isra.org)

**If you missed the last meeting...**  
*Sen. Debbie Halvorsen (D), candidate for the IL 11th Congressional District, made a surprise appearance at our August meeting. She spoke to us about her legislative experience, her candidacy and issues on which she's focusing.*  
*Thank you, Senator, for stopping by!*

**Once In A Lifetime**  
*Fellow women voters! We have a once in a lifetime opportunity this November to help make history. Please do not let this opportunity to vote for the candidate of your choice pass you by.*  
*This election may well be decided by our votes. Please keep this in mind as you go to the polls on November 4th. Let's make sure our voices are heard!*

**Glock Shooting Sport Foundation**  
**Illinois State Rifle Association League**  
Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's GSSF matches. We had three good matches, introduced some new members to the league and had a great time. We look forward to seeing all of you next year!  
Terry K.

\*\*\* **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.

## Calendar of Events

- September 12-13** SAFER USA Basic Shotgun - Howell Shooting Club - Yorkville - David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487 - **Early registration & fees applicable**
- September 13** **Annual ISRA Sighting-In Day - ISRA Range** - Bonfield - ISRA (815) 635-3198  
*OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - FREE PARKING* - ISRA or Range membership is not required - nominal \$10.00 fee per firearm sighted in - bring your own ammunition  
Volunteer to help at this event...call the ISRA office today!
- September 13-14** Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - Terry Keller (815) 930-4422
- September 14** **ISRA/CMP Qualification & Vintage Military Rifle Match - ISRA Range** - Bonfield - Jess Brandt (815) 697-2205 or John Newman (815) 485-0351
- September 26-27** SAFER USA Basic Rifle - Howell Shooting Club - Yorkville - David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487 - Early registration & fees applicable
- September 27-28** Northern IL Hunting & Fishing Days - Silver Springs State Park - Yorkville - [www.huntingandfishingdays.org](http://www.huntingandfishingdays.org)
- October 4** **ISRA Doughboy Match - ISRA Range** - Bonfield - ISRA (815) 635-3198  
Fees applicable. Advanced registration by mail closes Sept. 26, 2008
- October 4&5** Midwest Training Group - Advanced Handgun Skills - Howell Shooting Club - Yorkville - Robert Houzenga (563) 259-2123 - Prior formal instruction is a pre-requisite, early registration & fees are applicable
- October 5** Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - Mike Holan - (630) 365-2808
- October 12** Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - Kathy Carlson - (815) 758-2773
- October 17-19** SAFER USA NRA Pistol Instructor - Howell Shooting Club - Yorkville - David Lombardo (815) 744-5487 - Early registration & fees applicable
- October 19** **ISRA Carbine & Pistol Match - ISRA Range** - Bonfield - ISRA (815) 635-3198  
Fees applicable.
- November 4** **ELECTION DAY - DON'T FORGET TO VOTE !**

*\*\* 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 the monthly newsletter*

## Join the ISRA

www.isra.org

## Join the NRA

www.nra.org

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

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