



# WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

**NEXT MEETING - November 15th, 2006 - 7:00 PM**

**Sara's Place Restaurant**

**Joliet, IL (815)741-3076**

**Dennis Hrusosky**, Joliet native, collector, shooter and student of single-shot and muzzle loading target rifles will be our guest speaker for November. Dennis will speak to us about the history of the "Joliet Schuetzen Verein" or Sharpshooter's Association, circa 1866 through the 1920's. Dennis is a forty-year member and past director of the American Single Shot Association and is on the technical staff of the "Small Caliber News". Join us for an interesting evening of history and firearms. Bring your friends and family.

## **Where They Stand**

In October, we were joined by some local candidates who shared with us their views on various subjects.

**Judge Daniel J. Rozak**, 12th Judicial Circuit, is seeking retention in office. There is no other Judge running against him, he is simply looking to retain his current position. Rozak is presently Chief Judge of the Felony Division. Although Judges are not allowed to state their views on subjects,



he did say that he is a member of both the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the Illinois State Rifle Association (ISRA).

**Paul Kaupas (R)** is currently the Will County Sheriff. Kaupas is a strong supporter of gun rights for law-abiding citizens. He testified to allow retired police officers to "carry" and, when it came time, readily volunteered the Will County Sheriff's range as a place for them to



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qualify. So far 1,400 retired officers have qualified.

**Caren Gordon (D)** is the Representative for the 75th Illinois House District. She served as a District Attorney prior to becoming a State Representative. Gordon spoke of her unequivocal support of gun rights for law-abiding citizens, as it is written right in the Constitution. Gordon also notes that other issues of which she is most concerned are education, jobs and healthcare.



**Jerry Weller (R)** has served as Congressman for the 11th District of IL for six terms. Weller stated that he continues to be a strong supporter of the Second Amendment. He also declared his support of President Bush regarding the "Disaster

Recovery Personal Protection Act" which prohibits the confiscation of legal firearms from law-abiding citizens during states of emergency.

Weller stated he is a strong supporter of tax



cuts and sponsored the marriage tax cut bill that was signed into law. Weller reminded us that many tax bills have a "sunset clause" and will end unless they can make the tax breaks permanent. He sponsored legislation regarding the Joliet Arsenal revision, which helped to create 2500 permanent jobs, a national cemetery and the preservation of prairie grassland.

Weller pointed out that the current House bill provides no amnesty to illegal immigrants, but the Senate bill does give amnesty. He feels the Senate bill is unfair to the 5.6 million legal immigrants and reported that illegal immigrants cost us billions of dollars each year in healthcare, social security benefits, unpaid taxes, etc.

Weller wrote the energy bill that focuses on tapping domestic resources and not the Middle East for fuel. He reported that it has helped farmers get almost double the price for corn and bio fuel production has doubled this year. He also supported the designation of thousands of acres of land to be deemed as conservation reserves.

**Jim Pavich (D)** was represented that evening by his brother, Matt Pavich. Jim is the candidate opposing Congressman Jerry Weller. Pavich told us that his brother, Jim, is pro-gun and that he was rated a B- by the NRA. Jim, a native of Glenwood, IL, worked for the CIA for three years.

Pavich said he wants to change the way things are done in Washington and wants to get both parties to work together to straighten out the "mess in Iraq".

Thank you to all of the candidates that came out to speak with us!



### Chairman's Notes

On Saturday 10.14.06, the USO of Illinois held its annual fundraiser dinner at Navy Pier. It was a 'black tie' event that, as usual, was presented in a very professional manner and was quite impressive.

Upon walking in the door, we saw people representing all branches of the military, standing at attention in their dress uniforms. They were positioned at every stairway and hallway, directing guests to the registration area. We checked in and, after being given a folder that contained information about the event, those involved and program of the evening's events, we walked through a Color Guard of soldiers. They adorned both sides of the hallway, each of them holding a flag representing their branch of service. It was like walking through a tunnel...extremely impressive.

We sat at our assigned table with several fellow military vehicle club members. Right next to our table was one of two 1943 Harley military motorcycles. It stood complete with leather scabbard and a WW II Thompson machine gun that was brought to the event by the military vehicle club. Alongside it were two immaculately restored WW II jeeps, one complete with a .30-caliber machine gun.

### \*\*\* 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.

Be sure to  
visit the ISRA-PVF website

<http://www.isra-pvf.org>

for a list of ISRA-PVF endorsements and candidate preferences.

I ran into Major General John Borling who surprisingly, remembered me. General Borling was



a P.O.W. for six and a half years in Vietnam. He later flew the SR-71 Blackbird spy plane as well as many other planes in the Air Force inventory. Borling,

who ran in the Republican primary for the Senate a couple years ago, has spoken to both the Warbird group I belong to and our Grassroots members. He is very conservative and modest about his accomplishments. After spending some time talking with him, I thought he was there merely as attendee. However, he was one of the VIP's attending and, in fact, presented Nancy Sinatra later that evening.

Sinatra has been an active supporter of our troops, dating back to the Vietnam War. She continues to visit troops wherever "conflicts" arise, entertains and support our troops overseas and visits injured soldiers at military hospitals in the United States. There was an inspirational slide presentation that displayed her efforts throughout the years at various theatres of war.

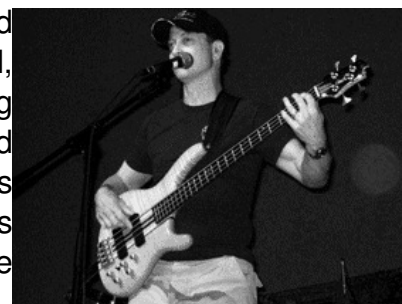


The Master of Ceremonies was Eileen Byrne, a popular conservative talk show host for WLS Talk Radio. Byrne set the stage for an enthusiastic evening of honoring the troops, while raising money for the cause, as well.

There was a silent Military Honor Guard Drill Team, immaculately outfitted in their dress uniforms and donning dark sunglasses that

executed a drill for several minutes. No commands were uttered, not a word spoken. It was extremely impressive to observe the team members marching and twirling their rifles, fixed with bayonets, with such precision. The sound made by the rifle butts tapping the ground in perfect unison was amazing.

Actor and founder of the *Lieutenant Dan Band*, Gary Sinise, is another very outspoken supporter of our troops. He and his band performed for the crowd, rounding out the evening with some very good music. Miss USA was also in attendance and is a big supporter of the troops.



The USO was honoring troops who had just returned from Iraq and extended a special thanks to the families that were there representing soldiers that had been killed in overseas actions. I was impressed that those families came to this event and that they were so honored to be there. There were also many wounded soldiers in attendance, some in wheel chairs, some missing limbs and several with obvious burn injuries. There was a special thank you extended to those soldiers. One soldier in particular impressed me. He proudly wore his military dress uniform, including Calvary hat (as did many). It was obvious that he had been burned very badly on his face, had a hook for a right arm and was missing the fingers on his left hand. Yet with all this, he was laughing and talking to all of his friends (who seemed to be nearly everyone there) and seemed to be having a great time. I think that he should stand as an inspiration to anyone who thinks they have problems.

The USO is not funded by the government in any way and raises all of its money from contributions. Its only function since it was founded sixty-five years ago during WW II is to provide aid and comfort to the

troops and their families. My friend, Lisa Moeller, is President of the USO of Illinois and she worked very hard with others to organize this event and what a huge success it was!

Anyone that attended this function could not help but be extremely proud of our troops and admire the job that they do. Although it may be boring at times, it is more often performed in very dangerous and miserable conditions. The men and women in our Armed Forces serve so that all Americans can be free to live the "easy" life with our abundant freedoms, two of the most important being freedom of speech and freedom to keep and bear arms. This freedom of speech is often used against the very soldiers who risk and sometimes give of their lives to keep us free. For example, many of the Hollywood 'elite' are busy proclaiming things such as we don't need to fight wars, we need only to negotiate with terrorists and then they will leave us alone. And, they say that the Second Amendment is no longer relevant and that only policemen should have guns...after all, the police are the ones that will protect us.

Let me tell you something. We all need to all stand up for our rights, support our soldiers that are in harms way and do all we are able to express our views. We should be vocal about them to our friends, family, co-workers, etc.; write letters to the editor; call into talk radio shows; call and write our representatives in Washington and in state and local governments; and support those who share our viewpoints with whatever financial contributions we can afford.

Just as the troops in Iraq cannot let their guard down for fear of an ambush, neither can we. The threat of having our rights ambushed is too severe. Those who want to take all our guns away will work at it, one gun at a time, and soon they will all be gone.

**MOST IMPORTANT...GET OUT AND VOTE!!!**  
Encourage others to do so, also.

Doug Mayhall



## How I Became Hooked on Archery

Now we have all probably shot one of those small wood or fiberglass "recurve" bows when we were growing up. They serve their purpose, but in 1998, I got an itch to try one of the new compound bows on the market. Having never archery hunted before, I was unsure of what I wanted to buy. I didn't really want to invest in a high-end bow, but I also did not want something so inexpensive that I would be replacing it the next year. I stopped at my local gun shop and they referred me to Glisson's Archery located in Plainfield, IL.

So I went over to see Sonny Glisson. In his shop, he has a bar stool so you can sit and talk about what type of archery you want to shoot. If you are a more experienced archer, you talk about what features the latest models have and if they can help you shoot a better score.

Now the way it works with compound bows is there are certain accessories that are necessary for shooting the bow. For instance, you need a sight; a peep for the string; and a stabilizer below the front of the handle to dampen the twang of the limbs. You can shoot with your fingers at this level, but you will need a finger tab or glove. You can choose a release-type device, most of which have caliper jaws to grab the string. Oh...and don't forget arrows. All of this will probably cost you between \$500-\$600, but you will be ready to shoot.

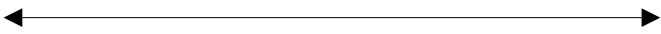
Once you start going to the range on a regular basis and get to know the club target shooters, you will be anxious to buy more elaborate equipment that can help you perform better and when you get better, you will probably even be encouraged to go to indoor target shoots during the winter months. In the summer, there are 3-D shoots with the foam animal targets and state outdoor target shoots, which are like what you see in the Olympics. Incidentally, the Olympic archers use extremely high tech equipment. The bows alone start at \$1000 dollars. The technique they



use is more timed and precise than with a compound bow. It doesn't take long for you to start respecting their skill & performance after you've tried one of their bows.

It's all fun and, just like with any other sport, it's easy to spend a lot of money. But if you enjoy it, you don't really mind the cost. And, if it enables you to become really good...that's even better.

Mike Drackley



## ENEMIES FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

By Matthew Bracken

Bullets rain down upon a packed football stadium, killing dozens, and triggering a panic stampede which leads to a thousand more deaths. A police marksman kills the sniper, a mentally unbalanced Desert Storm veteran holding a smoking assault rifle. It's an open and shut case, or so America is lead to believe...

In the aftermath of the stadium massacre, an outraged public demands an end to the threat posed by assault rifles, and Congress passes emergency legislation banning their private possession. American gun owners have one week to turn in their semi-automatic rifles, or face mandatory five year federal prison terms.

Jimmy Shiffett, the alleged stadium sniper, is linked to a shadowy "gun club" in southeastern Virginia, which the FBI believes is a cover for a secret right wing militia terror group. Those who knew Shiffett the best don't believe he was a

member of any militia, or that he was guilty of the horrific mass murder.

But if he didn't fire the "assault rifle" into the stadium, who did, and why?

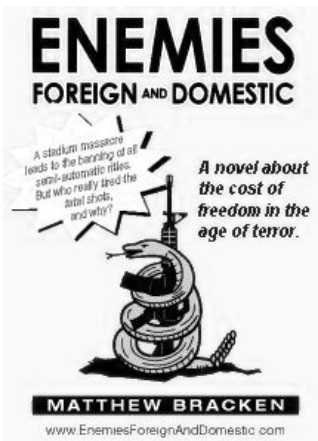
ENEMIES FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC is about one of the several fault lines dividing the world views that co-exist uneasily within the United States today. One side of this ideological divide believes that American gun rights are a dangerous anachronism, and that firearm ownership should be strictly regulated, and as far as possible curtailed by the government. This side of American society desires to see all firearms registered with the government, and many classes of firearms banned.

The other side considers the Second Amendment of the Bill of Rights to be an unbreachable wall, guarding the freedom of all Americans from steadily encroaching government tyranny. This side believes that it has learned a bitter lesson of history, and will never follow the tragic example of other peoples who have been disarmed, and then in many cases slaughtered by their own governments.

The main thesis of Enemies Foreign and Domestic is that cynical manipulators, who understand both world views, could easily shape events to create a violent crisis in America between the two camps. This could easily be done as depicted in the prologue, with a large-scale massacre blamed on a suitable villain, or by other means. Therefore, Enemies is also a cautionary tale: Be extremely wary of events tending to advance laws stripping Americans of their rights to keep and bear arms.

It is the contention of the author that it would be extremely unwise to push millions of firearms owners past their boiling points with unconstitutional laws depriving them of their right to keep and bear arms.

contributed by Linda Ward



### ??? 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? Who would you like to see as our next speaker? Contact us at [willcounty@isra.org](mailto:willcounty@isra.org) or let us know at the next meeting.

## Calendar of Events

- November 4 & 5** Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - (815) 939-7572
- November 4 & 5** Peoria Gun Show - East Peoria Convention Center (The Oaks) - (309) 274-2977
- November 5** Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - (773) 237-8844
- November 7** **ELECTION DAY - DON'T FORGET TO VOTE !!!**
- November 11 & 12** Bloomington Gun Show - Bloomington Sale Barn - (618) 495-2572
- November 25 & 26** Princeton Gun Show - Bureau County Fairgrounds - (309) 689-1934
- December 3** Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - (773) 237-8844
- December 9 & 10** Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - (815) 939-7572
- December 10** Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - (815) 758-2773

*\* 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](mailto:willcounty@isra.org) if you have any events you would like included in next month's newsletter*

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### 11th Annual Three Rivers Friends of NRA Dinner

**Sunday, March 18, 2007**

Renaissance Center

Joliet, IL

Silent and live auctions, various games, drawings and raffles will be held throughout the event, including a special raffle for our younger guests. Sponsorship packages will be available soon.

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us in preserving the shooting sports, while enjoying a scrumptious dinner and a memorable evening. All net proceeds benefit The NRA Foundation, with half allocated to fund projects within the state. The NRA Foundation has funded more than 3,400 state fund grants including but not limited to: youth firearms safety and education programs; hunter education; range development and improvement; support materials for training classes; women's safety classes; and wildlife conservation efforts. Bring your friends. Bring your family. Everyone is sure to have a good time!

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*104th Annual ISRA Meeting*

*March 23-24, 2007*

Holiday Inn Select

Naperville, IL

Join fellow members and the Officers and Directors of the ISRA at our  
104th annual meeting and banquet

*Free admission* to ISRA Annual Meeting and Educational Seminars

"Meet & Greet" Reception

Friday Evening, March 23

Educational Sessions

and

Annual Meeting of Members

Saturday, March 24

Banquet and Speaker,

Drawing and Raffles

Saturday Evening, March 24

Banquet tickets will be available in early 2007

Look for the latest details in the Winter 2006-2007 copy of

The Illinois Shooter

and at

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