



WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

NEXT MEETING - November 21, 2007 - 7:00 PM

Sara's Place Restaurant

Joliet, IL (815) 741-3076

This month, **Senator Christine Radogno** (R) 41st District will address our group regarding the current state of affairs in Springfield. As always, we hope to see you there and don't forget to bring a friend!

Will County ISRA member, Charles M. Creel, was the name drawn at the October meeting in the WCGR "Gun Giveaway". Unfortunately for Charles, he was not present. Another name will be drawn at our November meeting. Remember, the winner must be present, have a valid FOID card and comply with all local, state and federal firearm laws.

Bow Hunting Essentials

This month, Frank Perrotta shared some of his knowledge with us on the subject of bow hunting. Frank has been involved with the ISRA's Youth Camps and Range Open Houses and has spent many hours instructing on the art of archery. As you will remember, this past July, Mike Drackley spoke to us about competitive archery. Frank, with Mike's assistance, continued with the basics of bow hunting. Since this is a sport that requires time to develop the necessary skills to become a successful bow hunter, Frank and Mike wanted to



give a brief overview on the equipment and techniques used with this type of hunting.

As I wrote back in July, archery evolved from the need to hunt game and defend one's life and family. Since its inception, much has happened to this old weapon. And, the technology relating to bows has considerably improved its potential. The bow itself has seen some amazing changes, especially in the last thirty years, which gives the hunter a powerful and reliable means to take game. Bows have benefited not only from technological advances, but also in tuning methods, which "blueprints" the bow, helping to maintain its accuracy and power.

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The shafts, broad heads and vanes that make up the arrows are also very different in their material makeup. Depending on the quarry, a hunter can select from numerous arrow components to create a deadly, but humane, arrow.

Other accessories aid the hunters in their pursuit. Sights and rests increase the accuracy of the arrow. Techniques using different release devices can provide a hunter with control that instills confidence. The bow-hunter can blend into the background using various forms of camouflage clothing or blinds. The

ability to safely shoot from a tree is made possible by engineering lightweight, but strong, tree stands.



The bow-hunter can entice game using many types of attractants, decoys and calls. Using these devices may bring more than one animal toward the bow-hunter, providing a method of conservation. It helps to bring the game within range for an accurate shot while providing means for a hunter to be selective.

Throughout the evening, Frank and Mike provided us with some of the techniques and methods used by today's bow-hunters. Their expertise on archery and hunting was very evident. We thank both of them for sharing some of their time and providing the Will County Grassroots with an enjoyable evening.

Al Tiscareno

In Remembrance...



We regret to announce the passing of ISRA Director, Dean W. Martin Oct.29, 2007

Dean was a devoted family man, friend and a valued member of the ISRA. He will certainly be missed.



Thank you, Senator A.J. Wilhelmi, for taking some time from your busy schedule to present our group with an update from Springfield. Our legislators are always welcome guests at our Grassroots meetings.

Chairman's Comments



On October 16th, Richard Pearson, the Executive Director of the ISRA, along with some of the ISRA Board members met in Tinley Park with residents of several southern Cook County towns to discuss Mayor Daley, Governor Blagojevich and their ongoing attempts to deny law-abiding, Illinois citizens of our civil rights. The ISRA sent out a mailing to selected residents in Tinley Park and surrounding towns. Approximately two hundred people were in attendance that night. Richard Pearson began by explaining what has been going on in Illinois and the ISRA's responses to the actions of the Governor and Mayor. He explained that we are leading the charge in preventing new, unfavorable bills from being voted into law. We have also been working very closely with pro-gun legislators to get pro-gun bills out onto the floor for debate.

It was really motivating to see all the people there and even more remarkable seeing so many females in attendance. The people came from various surrounding communities as well as Tinley Park. The reason for the town hall meeting was that Tinley Park was trying to institute a gun ban similar to the Cook County, so-called, "assault" gun ban. Upon hearing of the proposed ban, Don Shanto, a retired Tinley Park police officer, became very annoyed and decided to do something about it. He talked to Richard Pearson and Jim Vinopal about what to do in this situation and the town hall meeting idea was conceived. I have also had a couple of conversations with Don Shanto and explained how our Will County Grassroots works. Several town hall attendees attended our Will County Grassroots meeting the very next night. Before the town hall meeting ended, a sign up sheet was passed around and it is hopeful that a successful Southern Cook County Grassroots movement will soon be underway.

*** 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.

It was encouraging to see that so many strangers were brought together that night all for a common goal...to fight for our rights. I will keep you informed as to the future success of the endeavor.

This October, I was able to attend the annual USO fundraiser at Navy Pier. This is their largest fundraising event of the year and it is an extremely impressive one at that. Those of you who know me will attest that I am much more of a blue jeans type of guy, but for this important and very worthwhile event, I am willing to break out the black tie attire.

The USO has only one function and that is to support the troops and their families. Over ninety percent of the money donated is used directly for supporting the troops, leaving very little money used for overhead expenses. And, all of the money comes from private funds; there is no government funding for this whatsoever. The USO was initiated during WW II and has been supporting our troops ever since.

Seeing all of the soldiers in their dress uniforms is quite impressive to say the least. And, to see the celebrities who give their time and money to support the troops is very refreshing. The Master of Ceremonies was Roe Conn, the wildly popular afternoon talk show host of WLS talk radio. As it turns out, Conn is part of a military family and donates a lot of his time for military events. Miss USA was also there, as was Gary Sinise who played Lieutenant Dan in the movie Forrest Gump and who now stars in CSI New York. Sinise is joined by the Lt.Dan Band, who provides the entertainment every year. He also travels to Iraq to entertain the troops. To me, he is not your typical spoiled movie star. He actually supports our troops, rather than criticizes the President and the war.

Reporter Bob Woodruff and photographer Doug Vogt, both who suffered severe head injuries in a roadside bomb attack were both proudly in attendance. After the attack, Woodruff remained in a coma for thirty-six days, but is now fully

functional. He told of how he and Vogt are doing all they can to support the troops and will do their best to report on all the positive things our troops are accomplishing in Iraq. It was inspiring to hear them speak about their pride in our troops and the good that's being accomplished.

Also present that night was a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Sammy L. Davis. He is quite an interesting person and is, supposedly, the person of whom the movie Forest Gump was made. He was very interesting to talk to and extremely friendly.

Lisa Moeller who has been at a number of our Will County Grass Roots meetings is the president of USO Illinois. As always, she and her cohorts did an excellent job putting on this event.

I am very proud of all our military personnel and the tough job do in all-too-often terrible conditions and I am pleased that there is the USO and other groups that so passionately support the soldiers.

Doug Mayhall

UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS



The mission of the USO of Illinois, in times of peace and conflict, is to enhance the quality of life of the active duty men and women of the Armed Forces and their families through social, recreational, entertainment and educational programs and services.

For more information about the USO Illinois and its programs, please visit www.uso.org/illinois or contact them at:

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Calendar of Events

- November 17** Women on Target - Women's Pistol Shooting Class sponsored by the ISRA - Chillicothe - contact ISRA (815) 635-3198
- November 22** **Happy Thanksgiving !**
- December 1** NRA First Steps Rifle Orientation - Mega Sports - Plainfield - contact Kent at (815) 545-4872 or visit www.firearmsafetytraining.com
- December 2** Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - Jim McAra (773) 237-8844
- December 8** NRA First Steps Pistol Orientation - Mega Sports - Plainfield - contact Kent at (815) 545-4872 or visit www.firearmsafetytraining.com
- December 9** Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - Kathy Carlson - (815) 758-2773
- December 15 & 16** Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - (815) 939-7572
- January 26, 2008** ISRA Annual Meeting - Diplomat West - Elmhurst - contact ISRA (815) 635-3198
- March 30, 2008** Three Rivers FNRA Dinner - Renaissance Center - Joliet - contact Doug Mayhall - (708) 514-4591

*** Please use the above contact information for registration information (where applicable) and to confirm events as dates may 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 willcounty@isra.org if you have any events you would like included in next month's newsletter

***** 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.

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