



WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

NEXT MEETING - November 18, 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

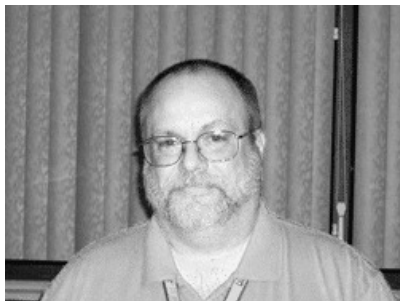
This month our speaker will be ISRA Will County Grassroots member, **Mike Jones**. Mike will be speaking to us about hunting and safety, first aid, getting lost, lighting a fire and basic survival skills. As always, we invite you to bring a friend.

Will County ISRA member, *Edward Kosteck Jr.*, was the name drawn for the WCGR Gun Giveaway last month. Unfortunately, Edward 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.

Hypothermia

There is a chill in the air tonight. The weatherman promises that the jet stream is pushing south into our neck of the woods and the temperature will drop to below freezing. How many times have we all heard that and not paid much attention to the warnings? At least we have the information to take action and prepare for the predicted weather. Regardless of what Mother Nature throws at us, there is a need to protect ourselves from the heat and the cold.

Our body does its best to maintain its core temperature so all internal organs and the brain survive extreme temperature changes. The regulation of body temperature is automatic and we need to do nothing more than to "dress for the weather". This works when we are cognizant of what's ahead in the foreseeable future. Sometimes, though, we can deceive ourselves into believing that it really is not as bad outside as



it looks or that the weatherman may have made a wrong forecast and it will be a great day for that ball game. We all have been caught up in telling ourselves

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that a light jacket will suffice.

The Will County Grassroots extended an invitation to Dr. Dan Beck to talk about the dangers of hypothermia and how to prevent it. Dr. Beck spoke about the basic ways we can lose or gain heat from our bodies. Conduction is the direct transfer of our body temperature through direct physical contact, like falling into waters that have very low temperatures. This would cause your core temperature to be transferred from your body to the chilly waters. Another way to lose body temperature is through convection, the transfer of our body temperature with

air or some other gas as the transfer medium. Rooms that are too cool or hot are an example of this and hypothermia can be experienced in these environments. Conduction and convection are two examples of how we can get into trouble with exposure to our environments.

Heat exposure has its dangers, too. If our bodies cannot automatically counter the effects of too much heat, we can experience problems from that type of exposure. Radiating this excess heat from our bodies because of absorbing too much heat from external sources, such as the sun or an environment that is much too warm, will cause the homeostasis process to work overtime. When this occurs, our bodies will attempt to reduce the heat within our body by sweating. This evaporation process works as long as we can produce sweat. When we run out of sweat, that is the point heat stroke can be a problem. Radiation and evaporation are two other methods that can get us into trouble if there is too much for our bodies to handle. Maintaining proper energy levels within our bodies is critical.

What is important here is to recognize what will protect us from the extremes that Mother Nature can throw at us. Knowing how to protect ourselves by using shelters, proper clothing and understanding the basic survival techniques will help us prevent hypothermia. The WCGR thanks Dr. Dan Beck for his presentation on hypothermia.

Al Tiscareno

Use of Force

Last month, we heard from Gary Gross about the "Use of Force" defense. This type of defense is more about the use of physical interaction with an opponent rather than the use of firearms. Gary is a certified Use of Force Instructor Trainer, a firearms instructor and trains in firearm retention and disarming as well. He is certified to train law enforcement personnel as well as civilians. His contact information is as follows:

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POB 557954
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ggrossdtel@yahoo.com

The Will County Grassroots appreciates Gary taking the time to introduce us to this discipline.

Al Tiscareno

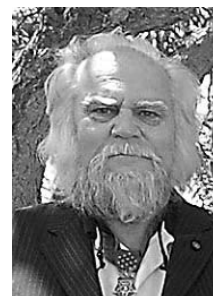


Chairman's Comments

by Doug Mayhall

The Congressional Medal of Honor is the highest award that can be bestowed upon a person in the military. It is awarded for acts of extreme valor, actions way above and beyond the call of duty. Unfortunately, all too often, it is given posthumously to the recipient; the person lost their own life saving their fellow soldiers from grave danger. An example of this would be a soldier jumping on a grenade, sacrificing his own life, knowing he would perish in order to save his "buddies."

Back in 2007, there were one hundred sixteen Congressional Medal of Honor recipients still alive. As of September this year, that number diminished to ninety-five. Sadly, there is now another to report is gone.



Leonard B. Keller

02/25/47 – 10/18/09

Sergeant Leonard Keller, 62, was killed in a motorcycle accident a few weeks ago in Florida after leaving a veteran's club. I was able to meet and talk to him in September of this year, so I felt a little personal loss at the passing of this "real" hero. A "real" hero; not a movie star who is idolized for their acting abilities or an athlete playing a sport; nor a politician who is good at telling the masses what they want to hear and then doing something completely different. Sgt. Keller risked his life to save his unit (in Viet Nam) from very intense, enemy automatic fire from fortified bunkers. His unit was taking on heavy casualties and some soldiers were even calling for a retreat. Seeing all the dead and wounded soldiers surrounding him, Keller became angry and yelled, "let's go get them!" He and another soldier armed with M-60 machine guns and grenades, charged the enemy and amidst heavy enemy gunfire, managed to

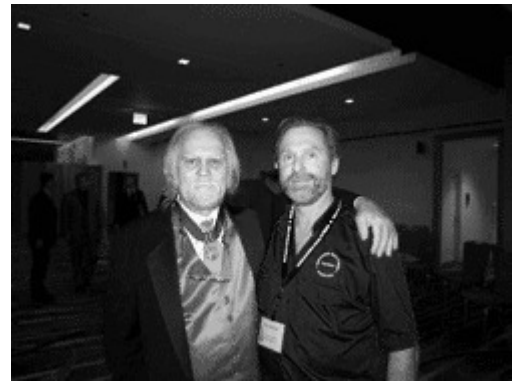
destroy seven enemy bunkers. Eventually, the entire remaining enemy force broke rank and ran.

I met Sgt. Keller by attending the annual meeting of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Each year the meeting is held in a different city and Chicago was chosen for 2009. The co-chairman of the event is a good friend of mine and suggested that I volunteer, as I would meet some pretty extraordinary people. And, that I did! While I was speaking with Sgt. Keller in September, he was enjoying a cigarette and complaining about all of the rights that our present government is trying to take away from us, including our Second Amendment rights and the right to smoke (even though the President is a smoker). He mentioned that he kept his hair quite long as part of his protest against the mainstream establishment.

For the opening ceremonies, our military vehicle club was asked to bring some military vehicles to Soldier Field for a backdrop. I brought my WWII armored Scout car. It was a stirring sight to see over fifty living "heroes" all together. The Governor and Mayor were there along with many other dignitaries, including the top General of the Marine Corp, who gave an excellent speech. The Army's "Golden Knights" parachute team gave a fantastic precision jump with all its members touching down within a 3-foot square zone. A Chicago high school drill team offered a superb performance that included a very difficult routine of passing their rifles from one member to another as the rifles twirled through the air. As the drill concluded, everyone applauded heartily...except the Mayor. Following the opening ceremonies, the recipients had an autograph session. Here, anyone could purchase the Medal of Honor book that highlighted the members, those who are still living and those who have already passed on. One recipient present was 100 years old! It was heartwarming to have the opportunity to speak with all of these proud, yet humble, Americans. Every one of them took the time to speak with those getting their books signed. The volunteers had a special shirt to wear and I noticed that every time we would talk to a recipient, they would thank us for our support. We were all amazed that *they* would take the time to thank *us*, when we were

doing so little compared to what they had accomplished.

The entire week was filled with activities for the recipients, including golf, luncheons and, probably most important, visiting local schools to instill upon the impressionable young students a sense of pride in country and in one's self. The grand finale on Saturday evening was a formal dinner with several hundred supporters present. A great line-up of entertainment followed, along with some political speeches. I went out in the hallway to take a break and a minute later, Sgt. Keller came out. He approached us and said, in his typical unconventional manner, "...we need action, not politics in this country. But now, I want a cigarette."



With November 11th being Veterans' Day, I believe it is appropriate to honor *all* veterans in America. Not just the Heroes awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, but *all* veterans. All of them...career soldiers or those in for just two years, drafted or enlisted...gave their full time service for our great country, often with great sacrifice to their family and financial well being. Many, literally, gave of their life or limb so we could be free. Let's honor them not just on Veterans' Day, but remember them every day. A couple of good ways are to donate your time or money to groups that support our soldiers such as the USO, Wounded Warriors, etc. I'm sure you've heard this many times before, but I'll say it to you again. Freedom is not free. Thank you, to *all* of the veterans that have kept this country free!

*** 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.

Calendar of Events

- November 14** SAFER USA & Howell Shooting Club, Inc. - NRA Reloading-Shotgun Shell
Gander Mountain - Joliet- David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487
- November 18** **ISRA** Will County Grassroots Meeting - **Ivo's Express Restaurant** -
23819 West Eames St. (Southeast Corner of Route 6 and I-55) - Channahon
- November 26** **H A P P Y T H A N K S G I V I N G !!!**
- November 28** SAFER USA & Howell Shooting Club, Inc. - Wilderness First Aid -
Gander Mountain - Joliet- David Lombardo - (815) 744-5487
- December 6** Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - Jim McAra (773) 237-8844
- December 12 & 13** Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - Terry Keller (866) 930-4422
- December 13** Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - Kathy Carlson (815) 758-2773
- December 16** **ISRA** Will County Grassroots Meeting - **Ivo's Express Restaurant** -
23819 West Eames St. (Southeast Corner of Route 6 and I-55) - Channahon
- January 3, 2010** Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - Jim McAra (773) 237-8844
- January 16** **ISRA** Winter Wars Match VI - **ISRA Range** - Bonfield - Claude Heale (815) 553-0591
- January 30** **ISRA** Women on Target - Chillicothe Sportsmen's Club - Chillicothe -
ISRA (815) 635-3198
- February 7** Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - Jim McAra (773) 237-8844
- February 27** **ISRA** Women on Target - Chillicothe Sportsmen's Club - Chillicothe -
ISRA (815) 635-3198
- March 10** **IGOLD** (Illinois **G**un **O**wners **L**obby **D**ay) - Springfield - ISRA (815) 635-3198
- March 21** Three Rivers FNRA Annual Dinner and Auction - Renaissance Center - Joliet
Save the date & look for more information in future newsletters

*** 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 if you have any events you would like included in this monthly 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:

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