



WILL COUNTY GRASSROOTS DIVISION OF THE ILLINOIS STATE RIFLE ASSOCIATION

NEXT MEETING - December 19, 2007 - 7:00 PM

Sara's Place Restaurant

Joliet, IL (815) 741-3076

This month we will have our annual **Christmas "Show and Tell"**. Bring your favorite firearm to share with the group. Also, bring some Christmas treats and goodies to pass around. As always, we hope to see you there and don't forget to bring a friend!

Will County ISRA member, *Richard E. Zednick*, was the name drawn at the November meeting in the WCGR "Gun Giveaway". Unfortunately for Richard, he was not present. At our December meeting, a winner's name will be drawn only from names of those present at the meeting that night. Remember, the winner must be present, have a valid FOID card and comply with all local, state and federal firearm laws.

Thank You

At November's meeting, we had two guest speakers. Senator Christine Radogno (R) 41st District spoke to our group about the extended special sessions in Springfield this year. She described some of the "behind the scene" wranglings that have taken place as a divided Congress tried to hammer out an agreement on the state budget with little help from an absentee Governor.



Mayor Tim Balderman (New Lenox) introduced himself and his campaign for Congressional Representative of the 11th District. He expressed his strong support for Second Amendment issues and as well as other conservative issues affecting the citizens of Illinois.



We are fast-approaching the end of another year. Throughout 2007, there have been times to celebrate victory and times that tested our resilience and determination in defending our

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rights. We have gained new members and we have experienced the passing of some of our most respected friends and dedicated volunteers.

The time to plan the future is now. Whether it is educating our youth on the importance of safety in the handling of firearms, furthering the education of those around us about firearms and their role in society today, getting involved in the political scene or simply getting out to the range to sharpen our marksmanship

skills, the time has come to act.

The ISRA and organizations like it need your support. It takes time, talent and, of course money to fight the never-ending battles and to support the various programs that are made available to you. We appreciate all of the hard work and support that you, our members, provide and we look forward to your input and involvement in the future.

The following are some of those to whom we would like to extend a special, "thank you." They are the men and women who took the time from their busy schedules to present to us at our monthly meetings. Each, in their own special way, managed to inform, enlighten and entertain us with their knowledge. We are appreciative of their interest in our association and welcome them to visit us again in the future.

- Mike McIntyre, President and Owner of McIntyre Precision Rifles, Inc
- Lisa Moeller, President of USO Illinois
- Gene Sowa
- Doug Mayhall, Director, ISRA
- Don Moran, President of the ISRA
- Mike Drakely
- Terry Kreimeier, Director, ISRA
- MSgt. Chris Miller, USAF
- Frank Perotta
- Senator A.J. Wilhelmi (D) 43rd District
- Senator Christine Radogno (R) 41st District
- Mayor Tim Balderman (New Lenox)



On behalf of the
Will County Grassroots Committee,
I would like to wish each of you a very happy
holiday season. We wish you a happy,
healthy and prosperous new year!

Kim Beard



In Memory Of...

We regret to announce the passing of one of our most dedicated members, **Jim Kinkade**. The ISRA was just one of many organizations to which Jim volunteered his time, talents and efforts.

As noted on the ISRA website, "There was never anyone more committed to the current state and the future of the shooting sports than Jim Kinkade. His passing leaves a void that will be hard to fill."

Memorial Contributions should be made to:

Jim Kinkade Shooting Camp
c/o Janet Spies
310 S Bloomington St
Streator, IL 61364
(815) 672-0177



***** 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.

Chairman's Comments



Hunting season and the holidays are now upon us. This became even more evident as we received our first measurable snowfall of the season last night. After a long day at work, I didn't feel the ambition to go work out in the barn to fix a broken snowplow, so I decided to take it easy, stay inside and get caught up on paperwork. I was thinking of how lucky I am to be able to work on my computer in a nice, warm house. Once on-line, I saw some good as well as some troubling items popping up on the screen. This got me to thinking about how lucky I am to live in the country with the most freedom but, also, of how fragile is our freedom.

I read a report on how successful the deer hunting in Illinois has been this year. With the large number of deer I have seen killed on the side of the road, it I believe it is apparent that the deer population is way over abundant and needs to be thinned down. This gives hunters the opportunity to take to the fields and enjoy nature while doing their part in keeping deer herds at manageable levels – not to mention to put great tasting meat on the table. Many hunters even give the meat to shelters and people in need. Everyone wins, right? Then comes along PETA, the Humane Society and other anti-hunting groups who try to stop us from eating meat, hunting and owning guns in general. They think that everyone must agree with their ways, even if it is contrary to the lifestyles that have been in existence since the founding of our country.

Next, I saw a report about the hunting ban in England. It seems it was dealt a large legal blow by a judge who said, in effect, that hunting was a legal activity. So, maybe hunting will again take hold there. I then read an article of how in France, where gun ownership is severely limited, gangs are terrorizing people. They are robbing and raping them, knowing that the citizens will be unarmed. It is like

open season on people on the metro going to the suburbs. In other parts, there are also gangs of Arabs who are armed better than the police. And still, in England, violent crimes continue to rise even with the gun ban in place.

What is going on in this world we live in? I read how a young man used a rifle to kill nine people in a Nebraska shopping mall. I heard on the radio about a girl in the Middle East who was in a car alone with her fiancé, without a relative along, which is against Islamic law. She ended up getting gang raped and, adding insult to injury, she was sentenced to six years in jail and two hundred lashes, which was later reduced to ninety lashes. What about the guys that raped her? What happened to them?

Finally, I was pleased to read of how the ISRA is going forward and helping lead the charge. In fact, the ISRA is filing a brief for the Supreme Court case against the Washington, DC gun ban. I am proud to be a member of the ISRA and its leadership.

I believe our country is great in comparison to other countries, even though we do have some pretty obvious warts that need constant attention to insure they do not get any worse. With the upcoming elections, we need to push harder than ever to get pro-gun candidates elected. Our fragile freedoms depend on our aggressive defense of our rights. Don't forget to write and call your local, state and federal legislators and politely let them know your views. Donate what you can, whether it's time, money or another type of support to the candidates that share and support your issues.

Please remember to appreciate the freedoms that we have and the men and women that fight for our freedom each and every day. Have a great Holiday season.

Doug Mayhall

* * * 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.

Calendar of Events

December 15 & 16 Kankakee Gun Show - Kankakee County Fairgrounds - (815) 939-7572

* * * * * **HAPPY NEW YEAR ! ! !** * * * * *

January 6 Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - Mike Holan - (630) 365-2808

January 13 Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - Kathy Carlson -
(815) 758-2773

January 26, 2008 ISRA Annual Meeting - Diplomat West - Elmhurst - contact ISRA (815) 635-3198

February 3 Wheaton Gun Show - Dupage County Fairgrounds - Mike Holan - (630) 365-2808

February 10 Kane County Gun Show - Kane County Fairgrounds - Kathy Carlson -
(815) 758-2773

February 23 & 24 G.A.T. Guns Factory Shoot - G.A.T. Guns - Dundee - (847) 428-4867

March 30 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

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STEPHEN P. WEBER

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Tom Cunningham Case Deflector, s
NRA Life Member & Recruiter For All AR15
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