To start of the new year, we will have Michael Eichenberg, a former USMC Security Forces team leader as well as a certified executive protection agent, as our guest speaker. Michael will explain how we can defend ourselves...particularly when we find ourselves in a gun-free zone. This should definitely be an interesting and informative meeting so you won’t want to miss it! As always, don’t forget to bring a friend!

Will County ISRA member, T. Fenn, was the name drawn for the WCGR Gun Giveaway last month. Congratulations, Ted! We will have a new gun to raffle off this month, so be sure to attend. Remember, the winner must be present, be an ISRA member, have a valid FOID and comply with all local, state and federal laws.

December Show and Tell

In December, we had our Annual Show and Tell Christmas Meeting. It is so nice to be able to say “Christmas”, instead of the politically correct “holiday.” Several members brought unique firearms to show and explain why they are special to them. Among the firearms was a Model 29 German rifle; a Dirty Harry S&W .44 mag; a 1917 .45 acp S&W wheel gun, model 62; an M1 Garand, built from scratch at a CMP class with a beautiful, brand-new stock; a 4-shot Derringer (I wouldn't want to shoot that); a semi-automatic, supposedly from a gangster in the 1930's; and many more fun and interesting guns. Thank you to everyone who attended!
A red letter day is today. As I write this, the new Congress was sworn in. We will very soon have a new President and, hopefully, a new direction for the country to go in (like the direction it used to be going, where honesty and ethics are important). As in any company, how the leader acts is what the rest of the company. The same is true with a Country. I hope we will now have a real leader instead of the figure head we have had for the last eight years who never did lead, only reacted. We hear (after a threat from Trump that he would impose large tariffs on products that Ford built in other countries) that Ford is now cancelling its plans to spend billions of dollars in Mexico and is, instead, going to spend the money ramping up production in Michigan and building their small cars there instead of out of the country. Carrier (air conditioners) is going to now stay in the USA; Verizon is bringing thousands of jobs back to America; a Japanese businessman is investing billions in the US, as are several other companies. With all these good things happening even before he is actually President, the leftists of the country including many Hollywood liberals are going absolutely berserk, calling Trump a Nazi, anti-Jew; Whoopi Goldberg and Rosie O'Donnell are calling him mentally incompetent and worse. They are saying rapes are up because of him?? Crimes are up because of him?? How is this man capable of making all this happen? The media is just as bad, if not worse. Just as George W. Bush never had a chance against the left, they are trying the same with Trump. For the good of the Country, I hope he fights back harder that Bush did.

"Thank you for calling Turner LP Gas. If you voted for Donald Trump for president, I will no longer be delivering your gas — please find someone else," the message states. This is an actual voicemail from Mike Turner, owner of Turner LP in Skowhegan, Maine. Can you imagine needing propane for your furnace in the bitter cold of a Maine winter and getting this message? There are many other businesses doing the same thing. If Clinton had won and a conservative did this, I bet the Department of Justice would sue for discrimination and put all these businesses out of business.

Black Lives Matter co-founder, Patrisse Cullors, insisted that their group would not "be taking meetings with Donald Trump" and that there would be no negotiations at all between members of the group and his administration. Instead of having a dialogue about race relations in America, Cullors would rather protest and riot against alleged ‘white nationalism.’ Cullors said, “We’re not going to be sitting with his Attorney General. What we will be doing is protesting. What we will be doing is calling for an end to white nationalism and fascism.” I think it’s amazing that, for all this time, they have been demanding to be heard, but now they do not want to talk. How is that for real racism!! They would rather disrupt people with protests (protests that typically turn into riots) than meet with White House officials. I believe that these real race-baiters want to harm the country, not stabilize race relations that were going so great that George Bush had two, very important black cabinet members...Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice. And, then Americans elected a black president. But now, after eight years of Obama inciting blacks against whites, we are back to the situation of the 1960s.

Back in our great state of Illinois, specifically in Cook County, the State’s Attorney’s office has a new policy concerning retail thefts. Felony Review will not be approving felony charges unless the property in question is valued over $1000. However, if felony charges are based upon the offender’s prior criminal history, then charges will not be approved unless the offender has ten or more prior felony convictions. Felony Review assistants will be looking at the defendants on a case by case basis with this in mind. So if you are only a nine-time offender, no problem...you get a pass. And we wonder why Chicago is the murder capital of the world. In Chicago, there is just bad news. In the year of 2016, there were 795 murders, not the fabricated smaller number of 762 you may have heard. According to former Cook County Assistant State’s Attorney, Ed Ronkowski, the difference is because the other murders were listed as death investigations and will eventually…and quietly...be reclassified as homicides.

U.S. Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC) introduced the NSSF-supported Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017 (H.R. 38) on the first day of the 115th Congress. The proposed legislation, with 63 co-sponsors, would compel states to recognize concealed carry permits issued from other states that have concealed carry laws within their own borders - much in the same way a driver's license is recognized. The bill aims to eliminate the confusion of varying state-by-state laws and provide protection for Second Amendment rights for permit holders.

"Our Second Amendment right doesn’t disappear when we cross state lines, and this legislation guarantees that," Hudson said. "The Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017 is a common sense solution to a problem too many Americans face. It will provide law-abiding citizens the right to conceal carry and travel freely between states.
without worrying about conflicting state codes or onerous civil suits.” In addition to interstate recognition of concealed carry permits, the bill would also allow concealed carry in the National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, and on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, as well as provide greater legal protections in both civil and criminal cases for permit holders.

With a new Congress and a pro-gun President, maybe now this long-overdue, common sense gun legislation will pass and get signed by the President. Then we will not be burdened by needless "crimes" by innocent persons who unknowingly broke a gun law from states such as the notorious New Jersey, New York and California. Again, more gun instant checks were done in November than any previous month.

In Illinois, there is both good news and bad news with the loss of four Democratic seats. The good news is that ‘King’ Madigan no longer has a super majority to force his will against common sense. The bad news is that some of these were pro-gun people who were able to talk a little sense to Madigan. So we have to be more vigilant and active in letting our legislators, especially Representatives, our feelings about our civil rights (gun rights). Unfortunately, we can never let our guard down for even a moment. There are thousands of very anti-gun extremists out there and, sadly, many of them have more money than they know what to do with so they throw it at their causes and we have a perpetual fight on our hands.

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**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.

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## Calendar of Events

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<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>Will County Grassroots Meeting - Silver Dollar Restaurant - Elwood</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>ISRA Care &amp; Maintenance of the M1 - ISRA Range (classroom) - Bonfield - ISRA (815) 635-3198</td>
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<td>February 15</td>
<td>Will County Grassroots Meeting - Silver Dollar Restaurant - Elwood</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
<td>ISRA Care &amp; Maintenance of the AR-15 - ISRA Range (classroom) - Bonfield - ISRA (815) 635-3198</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
<td>Women On Target Pistol Clinic - Chillicothe Sportsmen’s Club - ISRA (815) 635-3198</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
<td>Emergency Medical Response for Firearm Instructors &amp; RSOs - ISRA Range (classroom) - Bonfield - ISRA (815) 635-3198</td>
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<td>April 5</td>
<td>Illinois Gun Owners' Lobby Day (IGOLD) - Springfield - ISRA office (815) 635-3198</td>
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* * * Please use the above contact information for detailed information (i.e. fees, registration) and to confirm events as dates and other details are subject to change without notice * * *

* * Contact our 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 occasionally 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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