



Illinois State Rifle Association

Since 1903 - Dedicated to Education, Safety Training and Support of Illinois Firearm Owners

Thursday Bulletin – August 24, 2023

Executive Director's Message

Richard Pearson

In only a few days Labor Day will be here, the unofficial end of summer. Dove season will start September first. Dove hunting is one of my favorite things to do. If you want to be a good wing shot, hunt doves. One of my favorite memories is a dove hunt that Dr. Tom Samuels and I went on, years ago. Tom Samuels and I did a lot of pistol shooting together. Tom and his wife were big game hunters and hunted in several parts of the world. **Bird hunting was Tom's favorite.**

One day I got a call from Tom asking me to come down to Decatur, Illinois to talk to him. When I got there, he gave me the sad news that he had brain cancer. Tom was a surgeon and decided not to fight it. He knew the outcome would be the same, and he would be miserable. I asked him if there was anything I could do, and he told me yes. He explained he wanted to go on one last safari, and would I go with him. His wife had Alzheimer's and had to be in a special facility. Of course, I agreed. When I asked where, he told me **Argentina dove hunting.**

Tom knew an outfitter that was putting together a group of guys to go. The cost was \$3000, cheap for what we were getting. I agreed, and we began making plans. I had never taken any firearms overseas or been on a safari. I'm glad we had the guidance of a professional to get us through the ins-and-outs of the process. My passport had lapsed, so I had to get it renewed, first.

We were allowed to take two shotguns with us. I took a Browning Gold Hunter and a Winchester X-2. Really the same gun. The Browning was wood stocked, and the Winchester synthetic stocked. **I knew they would be used hard, and they were.**

We drove to St. Louis where we met the rest of the hunting party for the first time. A couple of them were professional shooters, so I knew we were in for some good shooting lessons. We flew to Miami and boarded a Boeing 777, for Santiago Chili. It was a long flight, but the airplane was comfortable, for which I was grateful. When we got to Santiago, we all bought our favorite liquor at the duty-free store, to take to the lodge. The rule was: You bring what you like and leave it for the next guy. You get to drink what the last guy left. I chose Famous Grouse Scotch, *a safe bet.*

At Santiago, we caught a LAN Airways to Córdoba, Argentina, on a rather tired Boeing 737. I watched something drip off of the right engine, all the way, **but we made it!** Our paperwork was

all in order, and we sailed through customs without incident. We boarded a small bus with a truck loaded with our gear, following behind. **Soon we were out in the bush.** The countryside is covered with rock outcrops and littered with **really, nasty thorn trees.** This has to be a haven for doves. The weather there is warm enough that doves have seven clutches a year, and with no predators to keep them in check, they are a real nuisance. In Córdoba Province, they eat 50,000 bushels of grain a day. **The farmers were glad to see us.**

We stayed at a hunting lodge, known as Rancho Del Norte. A great place. Tom and I bunked in a room with two other guys. We were required to store our guns in the armory each night. The ammunition in Argentina is sold by the government, and you **must buy your ammunition from them.** The cost is about 300 percent more than it is here. Your choices were RG, Rio, and Fiocchi. I drew RG which is the dirtiest shotgun ammunition I ever shot. We had to take our guns to the armory every night and clean them before we took our showers. By the time we got done we would be covered with gun powder residue, cleaning fluids, and everything else! We were assigned a "bird boy" to carry shells, pick up any retrievable birds and count every shot you took, every shot you missed, and every dove you got. **I really appreciated the bird boys.** The first day we drew 500 rounds, which was gone by noon. Humping that ammo up and down those foothills would have been tough without them. They also carried your extra gun.

The best way to describe how many doves are down there is that they actually are more like a swarm of insects than anything else. The longest I ever went without a shot was less than a minute. My shots the first morning were awful, averaging 17 percent. By afternoon, I was up to 30 percent, and on my last day, I was at 76 percent. Much better! **My final count was 1794 doves in the four days.** I think I shot about **4000 rounds in four days.** Our top shooter had 4100 plus, doves. Our party harvested over 43,000 doves. I was below average because of my lousy performance the first two days. Those records came in handy for tracking improvement in our shooting abilities. On the second to last day, I noticed **the forestock of my Browning was smoking!** There actually were red embers burning where the wood was next to the barrel. We were told to bring gloves and *I was glad I had them!*

We would break an hour-and-a-half for lunch. Lunch is not the way we think of lunch in the States. A safari kitchen was set up, and the two chefs that came along, prepared fresh dove in various ways, right there. **The food was delicious!** Then tents were put up, complete with white tablecloths and napkins on every table. Two or three waiters in tuxedos served everyone.

In the evening, after we took our showers, there was a cocktail hour before dinner. More white tablecloths and tuxedoed waiters. The women who assisted the chefs in preparing the food were not to be seen. We finally asked to meet them. Only then were they allowed to talk to us. Not exactly like home *but decided I could get used to it!*

September is Springtime in Argentina and is supposed to be a little cooler according to the weatherman. It turns out, the weathermen in Argentina are no better than the weathermen here. It was very hot, and our clothes were always soaked though. Each night we laid our dirty clothes at the bottom of our bunks. When we got back, we found our clothes had been washed, ironed, and laid on the foot of our bed. Everything was pressed, even our socks and underwear! We tipped the bird boys and cooks and gave them the rest of the doves to feed their families or their village. **They really liked the American hunters because we treated them very nicely, unlike the European hunters.**

Four days flew by. On the fifth day we could hunt or take a tour of Córdoba. Tom and I took the tour. ***What a beautiful city!*** Wealth and poverty, but not much in between. We boarded another LAN Airways 737 and flew over the Andes to Santiago. It was on the anniversary of the airplane crash that forced the survivors to resort to cannibalism to stay alive. We were on the same flight number.

We landed safely in Santiago, then back on a Boeing 777 to Dallas. We were all thinking about what we would face going through customs. Remember, we were warned that we might have a problem. When we got there, we opened our gun cases and the biggest Policemen I ever saw, glanced at them. *"Nice guns", he said. "How was your trip? Tell me about it".* We did, and that was that. **I was glad we landed in Texas.**

Tom and I loaded up, and I drove him home. Tom had a last successful safari, and I was glad I was part of it. **It was a dove hunt to remember.** Tom began to slip in the coming weeks, his wife passed away, and soon he was gone. I was glad we went, *and I miss him.*

We have been getting calls about how to register your semi-automatic firearms as required by law. This is the latest information we have from the Illinois State Police.

Begin forwarded message

From: "ISP.AskFOIDandCCL" <ISP.AskFOIDandCCL@illinois.gov>
Date: August 21, 2023 at 13:08:26 EDT
To
Subject: RE: Where do I submit an Affidavit?

Registration is not available at this time. As you are aware, Gov. Pritzker signed Public Act 102-1116 into law on January 10th, 2023. As such, 720 ILCS 5/24-1.9 (a)(8)(d), allows for possession of an assault weapon, assault weapon attachment, .50 caliber rifle or .50 caliber cartridge device if a person has provided an endorsement affidavit to the SP prior to 1/1/2024. At this time, ISP does not have the ability to accept or receive such an endorsement affidavit, nor has the manner in which such an endorsement affidavit will be accepted been determined. Statute provides that it shall be available to the public no later than 10/1/23 and is currently under development. When the ISP has created the ability to accept and received such an endorsement, FOID card holders will be notified through their selected method and information will be publicly available notifying of the endorsement affidavit going live. i.e. We cannot take your registration yet but will have something available no later than October 1st. When we have something available, you will hear about it in some manner (i.e. letter, email, text, TV, radio, ad, etc.).

Respectfully,
Illinois State Police
Firearm Services Bureau
Customer Service Department
Call Center Phone: (217)782-7980
Fax: 217-557-1556

This response from the Illinois State Police should be self-explanatory. We will update you with any additional information, as we get it.

We are still waiting for a decision from the Seventh Circuit on the Harrel et al v Raoul et al lawsuit. I would expect it to come at any time. Our other suits are still moving along.

I have to say the antigun crowd has come up with some really dumb ideas about how to limit criminal activity. The reason is: **They don't want to hold the real perpetrators responsible, in my opinion.**

In Chicago, the mother lode of bad ideas, one Chicago alderman is asking criminals to “**cease fire**” between 9am and 9pm. **Brilliant!** I bet the gang bangers will be jumping on that idea like a **free truck load of cocaine.** *I guess everything is up for grabs between 9am and 9pm!*

Not to be out done by the State of Delaware, home of the “Big Guy” is following close behind with the idea of roving or mobile “**gun free zones**”. This is how it works: If a school, college, or university leases, rents or occupies a vehicle or property, **it is automatically a gun free zone.** How anybody knows that is unclear. Even less clear is why anyone would care, other than a concealed carry permit holder who would be disarmed, to become easy prey for criminals.

The Illinois State Rifle Association is the home of marksmanship in Illinois.

Tidbits

August 27, 1883

Krakatoa erupts. Krakatoa is a small uninhabited island east of Sumatra and west of Java. On this day, the volcano blew five cubic miles of earth 50 miles high. The explosion was so loud it was heard 3000 miles away. The tsunami it created was 120 feet high. It is estimated 36,000 people were killed but it could have been more. The ash cloud that was formed lowered the earth's temperature by several degrees. There are about **130 active volcanoes known today.** There could be more under the sea somewhere.

August 27, 1955

The first edition of the Guinness Book of World Records is published. I was fascinated by this book in high school. I would prop up my history book and read the paper back version in study hall. *I still got an “A” in history by the way.*

August 29, 1914

World War I was just getting started, but Great Britain was quick to recognize that it could face a manpower shortage. The Women's Relief Defense Corps was created. The corps was made up of two sections. The civil division used women to substitute for men in factories, and a semi-military division where women were trained in the use of arms, drilling and marching. About 80,000 women served the corps.

August 30, 1776

George Washington refuses British General Howe's letter of reconciliation. The letter was accepted by the continental Congress and negotiations began but fell apart because the British would not accept American Independence.

August 30, 2003

Actor Charles Bronson dies at age 81. He was born Charles Buchinsky of Lithuanian parents in Ehrenfeld, Pennsylvania. He served in WWII and began taking acting lessons. He changed his name because it sounded Russian during the "Red Scare" of the 1950's. His first film was "**Your in the Navy Now**" starring Gary Cooper. His biggest successes were his series of "**Death Wish**" films.

1911 COLLECTORS

CMP 1911 Round 3 Deadline:

CMP will stop receiving Round 3 1911 Pistol orders, **postmarked after August 25th.** This is so we can prepare for Round 4.

View details on the CMP 1911 Pistol Program on our website at <https://thecmp.org/sales-and-service/1911-information/>.

Sporting Clay Fundraiser for the ISRA

Hosted by Jack Miller of the X-Line Shotgun Club

Saturday, August 26, 2023, from 2 – 6 pm

X-Line Shotgun Club

4800 East Exline Road, Kankakee, IL 60921
East of Kankakee, Illinois

Cost is \$30 (\$15 for targets; \$15 for ISRA donation). Hamburger soup and homemade bread, provided by Big Jack! Prizes & split-the-pot raffles.

The ISRA would like to thank Jack Miller and X-Line for this help!

At the Range

All classes and events are open to the public & all range members, unless otherwise noted.

Massad Ayooob's MAG 40 Class

October 5, 6, 7 and 8

Massad Ayooob will be back teaching.

A Must Have Class!

For every person concerned about self-defense, concealed carry license holders, and concealed carry instructors.

[Please click here for details on how to sign up.](#)

Don't wait to sign up – it'll fill up fast!

[Hotels near the ISRA Range](#)

[ISRA Smallbore & F-Class Rifle League - Range 5 - 2:00-Dusk](#) – Aug 24

[Advanced Handgun Skills – Range 11 & Clubhouse – 8:00-6:00 – CANCELLED](#) – Aug 26

[AWA Monthly Meeting – Clubhouse 9:00-10:00; Range 10-10:00-12:00](#) – Aug 26

[Defensive Shooting Class – Range 11 – 9:00-4:00](#) – Aug 26

[Advanced Handgun Skills – Range 10 & Clubhouse – 8:00-6:00 – CANCELLED](#)– Aug 27

[Guardian Tactics Level 1 & 2 – Range 9 – 8:30-5:30](#)– Aug 27

[Glock Summer League – Range 11 – 8:30-12:00](#) – Aug 27

[Basic IL CCL – Range 8 – 1:00-5:00](#)– Aug 27

[Vintage Military Rifle League – Range 5 – 3:00-5:00](#) – Aug 28

[Tuesday Night Irregular Rifles – Range 3 & Pavilion – 11:30-Dusk](#) – Aug 29

[F-Class Rifle League – Range 3 – 8:00-5:00](#) – Aug 30

[Benchrest League – Range 4 – 8:00-Dusk](#) – Aug 30

[Paper Steel League – Range 11 – 5:00-Dusk](#)– Aug 30

[ISRA Smallbore & F-Class Rifle League – Range 5 – 2:00-Dusk](#)– Aug 31

The ISRA Range offers great classes and leagues, for shooting enthusiasts!

Interested in joining a league? Just show up 15 - 30 minutes early.

[Range memberships are available.](#)

A day at the ISRA Range is ***always*** a great day!

Thank you for being a member!



If you are not an ISRA member, **join today!**

Donate: <https://isra.org/support-us/>

Visit: www.isra.org

Upcoming Meetings: <https://isra.org/isra-activities-and-events/>

Upcoming Range Events: <https://isra.org/the-range/#range-calendar>

Upcoming Gun Shows

While the gun show information shown in this email is believed to be accurate – sometimes changes occur. This is provided for informational purposes only.

August 26 – 27 Belleville Gun & Knife Show, Belle-Clair Fairgrounds, Belleville

August 27 Lake County Gun & Sportsman Show, Antioch VFW, Antioch

September 16 – 17 Kankakee Gun & Sportsman's Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds, Kankakee

September 17 McHenry County Gun Show, McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock

September 23 National Civil War and Collector Arms Show, DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton

September 23 Chillicothe Sportsmen's Club Gun & Knife Show, Chillicothe

Sept. 30 – Oct. 1 Central Illinois Gun Collectors Assoc. Sangamon County Fairgrounds, New Berlin

October 8 Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles

October 22 McHenry County Gun Show, McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock

October 28 – 29 Sauk Trail Gun Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton

November 4 – 5 Decatur Gun & Knife Show, Decatur Conference Center, Decatur

November 4 – 5 ECA Hunting & Trade Shows, Belle-Clair Fairgrounds, Belleville

November 4 – 5 Kankakee Gun & Sportsman's Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds, Kankakee

November 12 Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles

November 19 McHenry County Gun Show, McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock

November 25 – 26 Central IL Gun Collectors Association, Sangamon Co. Fairgrounds, New Berlin

November 25 – 26 Sauk Trail Gun Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton