



2404 E. Broadway, Alton, IL 62002

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Rosi Franke, Editor

Tel: 618-396-2509

e-mail: rgfranke@frontiernet.net

Rep. Dan Beiser and Sen. Sam McCann Spoke at the June 2013 MWHI General Membership Meeting



Illinois State Representative Dan Beiser (l) and Illinois State Senator Sam McCann (r) answered questions and concerns on the concealed carry bill, HB0183 (as amended), which passed through the Senate and House by overwhelming majority, and was at the time waiting for Governor Quinn's signature.

MWHI OFFICERS 2013

President

Banquet Chairman
John Gineris
618-708-8117 (cell)
618-786-2596 (home)

Vice-President

Mike Arnold
618-786-2300

Treasurer

Shane DeSherlia
618-639-0855 (home)
618-946-4520 (cell)
desherlia3@hotmail.com

Membership Secretary

Mike Devening
618-259-6181

Correspondence Secretary

Rosi Franke
618-396-2509
rgfranke@frontiernet.net

Recording Secretary

Cheri Gineris
618-786-2596

MWHI DIRECTORS 2013

Bob Jones
Area Projects Chairman
IFOR Board Representative
618-578-9547 (cell)

Chris Tite
Co-COE Chairman
618-610-3513

Dave Geisler
Nilo Chairman
618-576-9845

Eric Rhuede
Wood Duck Nest Box Chairman
Gun Raffle Chairman
618-410-9853

Justin Wolfe
Carlyle Lake Area Projects Chairman
618-377-0397

Don Taul
618-978-8285

Brian Arnold
Refuge Chairman
COE Chairman
618-535-9979

Bob Schneider
618-960-9906

Scott Bryant
IFOR President
618-535-0151 (cell)

Bo Adcock
618-910-2061

Larry Franklin (Advisor)
John Popov (Advisor)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, August 5, 2013

MWHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
at 2404 E. Broadway, Alton at 6:15 pm

Wednesday, August 21, 2013

MWHI GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
at Alton-Wood River Sportsmen Club
in Godfrey, IL at 7:00 pm

Monday, September 9, 2013

MWHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
at 2404 E. Broadway, Alton at 6:15 pm

Monday, October 7, 2013

MWHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
at 2404 E. Broadway, Alton at 6:15 pm

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

MWHI GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
at Alton-Wood River Sportsmen Club
in Godfrey, IL at 7:00 pm

Visit us at our website:
mwhi.us

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A Different Summer

Duane Hahnenkamp

For everyone's sake, I hope you and I are finally working on our duck blinds by the time you all read this. This spring has been an exact copy of the 2008 spring and summer, even down to the major river flooding. That year, I finally started working on my blind the last week of July and the water was barely off the parking lot. This time last year I was standing in the middle of my pothole in dry tennis shoes looking at all the feed that was about to take over the lake. My main concern at that time was how I was going to keep the pothole open and where I was going to find any willows for my blind. This year, on the 4th of July, the water is still on the road to the lake and probably weeks away before I will attempt to put a boat into the water to see if my blind is even there.

I'm pretty sure duck feed in the lake is out of the question in my hunting area, Calhoun Point. Areas like Stump and Glades will still have a chance for a little feed if it doesn't rain anymore. The big question is whether Swan Lake and the other refuges can get any feed growing with any kind of draw down. The key to our success this fall will be (1) if there is enough feed on the refuges to hold the ducks for a time (truthfully, it would help if we could get enough vegetation along the lake shore just for cover); and (2) whether the picked corn fields are not plowed under when the ducks get here. Reports upriver sound like there is no natural feed anywhere, so the ducks should already be in the habit of flying out to feed in corn fields away from the river. This feeding habit saved our duck season even after the Great Flood of 1993 destroyed all natural feed and crop fields along our river bottoms. Keep your fingers crossed for lower river levels the rest of the year.

The first reports I've read from Ducks Unlimited have confirmed what I believed was happening in the duck factory from North Dakota to the arctic circle. A lot of wet snow and rain this spring, plus a cool summer so far, are doing wonders for the ducks on the prairies. If you get a chance to hunt up north this fall, this would be the year to go. There is a lot of water and there will be a lot of ducks to go around. You never know what next year will bring as far as the weather goes, and next year it could be the start of the long overdue dry cycle that could slow down duck hunting for years. I stuck with duck hunting during the last dry cycle of the 1980's but saw a lot of guys give up. I don't know if I could make it through that long of a dry spell any more. So if you can, go and have a trip of a life time for a duck hunter.

Lastly, I would like to end this article on a sad note. On the early morning of July 4th, a friend of mine lost his son to a car wreck outside Grafton. Sam Allen was only 23 years old and had a great life ahead of him. He finished college the year before and was starting his career as a family farmer with his dad. He loved farming and would have made a very good farmer. He also had a love and passion for turkey and duck hunting with his family. Truthfully, I don't know if Sam was a member of MWHI, but he had come to our dinners before and was the type of person to be involved. Sam and his dad, Larry Allen, were known to many of our members over the years. Sam's passion for duck hunting was great and would have put him in the middle of the Grafton duck hunting community in the years to come. When Sam was laid to rest, buried with him were his duck calls and his favorite duck hunting hat. His loss has been great to his family and all who knew him. He will be sadly missed in the duck hunting world around Grafton and will be thought of often when we hunt Calhoun Point. To Sam Allen, may the mallards always be flying for you and your shots always be true. Hope to see you later, Sam.

Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge Announces New Nature Trail and Naming Contest

Courtney Solum, USFWS Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge 7/22/2013

Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge will open a new nature trail at the Visitor Center near Brussels, Ill. on Aug. 1. This one-half mile long trail will take visitors on a walk through the prairie to view the seasonally changing flowers and grasses, by the pond to see frogs and busy dragonflies, and into the woods to explore the forest habitat before returning to the Visitor Center.

There are many learning opportunities along the trail and if interested guide books are available in the Visitor Center to help identify common animals, flowers, trees and grasses.

Our trail needs a name! A trail naming contest will run Aug. 1-Sep. 1. Submit a creative name by email, Facebook, or in the Visitor Center while exploring the trail. Entries can be emailed to tworivers@fws.gov. The contest is open to all ages. Each person may submit one entry.

Three of the best entries will be available for final vote in the Visitor Center and on Facebook from Sep. 2-17. The winning trail name will be revealed at the Refuge Open House on Saturday, Oct. 19.

For more information about the trail or naming contest, call Cortney Solum at 618-883-2524 or visit www.fws.gov/refuge/two_rivers.

How Much Does Temperature Effect Bullet Impact?

Keith Wood, American Hunter, June 28, 2013

The Background

I got an email from a reader who was looking to order a CDS dial from Leupold, which requires certain information (including altitude, temperature, etc.). He was concerned about what temperature to provide them. What if his dial said 80 degrees Fahrenheit and he was hunting in 40-degree weather?

The Question

What effect does temperature have on a bullet's impact at reasonable hunting distances?

The Data

We'll take a fairly common hunting round, the .270 Winchester with a 130 gr. TTSX bullet. The Barnes Vor-Tx factory load advertises a muzzle velocity of 3060 fps. Using the Hornady Ballistics Calculator, we will set the altitude, barometric pressure, and humidity at a constant (Sea Level, 29.53 hg, 78 percent) and adjust temperature to determine the variance.

Bullet drop

| Distance (yards): | 200 | 300 | 400 | 500 |
|-------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 100 Deg F | 2.8" | 10.7" | 24.6" | 45.4" |
| 80 Deg F | 2.9" | 10.9" | 25" | 46.3" |
| 30 Deg F | 3" | 11.2" | 26" | 48.6" |
| 0 Deg F | 3" | 11.5" | 26.7" | 50.3" |

The Results

As you can see from the numbers, temperature has a minimal effect on bullet drop at reasonable hunting distances. All things being equal, bullets will drop more at lower temperatures, but the difference is negligible. (Note: Changes in temperature are often accompanied by changes in humidity and pressure that can give you different results)

The Ruling

Temperature is a non-factor for 98 percent of shots in big-game hunting. Even with a temperature swing of 50 degrees, the difference in point-of-impact is only an inch at 400 yards. I don't know about you, but I can't hold an inch at 400 yards under hunting conditions. If you're ordering a custom dial, use a reasonable "average" temperature for the locales where you'll be hunting and put it out of your head.

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Godar – Diamond Plans

Submitted by Kim Postlewait, IDNR – MRA Site Superintendent 7/22/2013

I've spoken with the region biologist and he agrees that time to get any food production and still get blinds built and brushed is gone.

We will be holding the water on the hunting areas, so you will want to get out there and get repairs made while access is easy, we will lose water to percolation and evaporation.

We are still draining the refuge and may try to plant some buckwheat in the riverside field. The refuge drains very slow so we probably will just be drawing down to hunting season levels.

Everyone who wants no food in the refuge will be getting their wish this season.

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Support MWHI – Sign Up a New Member Today!



Legislative Update

John Popov

On 6/18/2013, Attorney General Lisa Madigan asks the U. S. Supreme Court for another 30 day extension to appeal the lower court order allowing citizens to have a concealed-carry law enacted. Madigan's army of lawyers are building a case for an appeal of the lower court ruling to the Supreme Court.

The deadline for Governor Quinn to move on concealed-carry is July 9. Does this sound like the U.S.A. we grew up in? How you vote does make a difference. There are good people on both sides. You have to do your own homework on your candidates. Where have most of the mass killings happened? They take place in gun free zones. Responsible gun owners obey the law, criminals will go around them.

The President has endorsed Connecticut's gun law – over 100 models of firearms. This includes many shotguns and registration of many huns and magazines. The President calls this common sense bi-partisan legislation. Connecticut Governor Malloy says there is a lot more to come. Read Standing Guard by Wayne LaPierre, July 2012 issue, NRA magazine.

We are headed for a total gun ban. The only way it can be stopped is by WE THE PEOPLE.

If it is to be, it is up to you and me!

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the Government of any other."

**John Adams -
2nd President of the United States**

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

NRA Update on Gun Bills **1-800-392-8683**

Federal Senate Office **1-202-224-3121**

Federal House Offices **1-202-225-3121**

Illinois State Rifle Association **1-815-635-3198** www.isra.org

Illinois Senate Information **1-217-782-4517**

Illinois House Information **1-217-782-8223**

Sen. Wm. Sam McCann – 50th District
Tel: 217-782-8206 Email: SenatorSam@frontier.com

Sen. Kyle McCarter– 54th District
Tel: 217-782-5755 E-mail: senatormccarter@gmail.com

Sen. Chapin Rose – 51st District
Tel: 217-558-1006

Sen. William R. Haine – 56th District
Tel: 618-465-4764 E-mail: haine@senatedem.state.il.us

Sen. James F. Clayborne – 57th District
Tel: 618-875-1212 E-mail: clayborne@senatedem.il.us

Sen. David Luechtefeld – 58th District
Tel: 618-243-9014 E-mail: sendavel@midwest.com

Sen. Gary Forby - 59th District
Tel: 217-782-5509

Rep. Dan Beiser – 111th District
Tel: 217-782-5996 E-Mail: dvbeiser@sbcglobal.net

Rep. Natalie A. Manley – 98th District
Tel: 217-782-3316

Rep. Adam Brown – 102nd District
Tel: 217-782-8398

Rep. John D. Cavaletto – 107th District
Tel: 618-548-9080

Rep. Dwight Kay – 112 District
Tel: 618-307-9200

Rep. Jay Hoffman – 113th District
Tel: 217-782-0104

Rep. C. D. Davidsmeyer – 100th District
Tel: 217-243-6221

Rep. Mike Bost – 115th District
Tel: 618-457-5787 mikebost@midwestmail.com

Rep. Dan Reitz – 116th District
Tel: 618-443-5757 E-mail: [dreitz@egyptian.net](mailto:dreiz@egyptian.net)

.....
Rep. Rodney Davis - 13th District
Tel: 202-224-3121

Rep. John Shimkus - 15th District
Tel: 618-344-3065 E-mail: house.gov/shimkus

Sen. Richard J. Durbin
Tel: 202-224-2152 E-mail: dick@durbin.senate.gov

Sen. Mark Kirk
Tel: 202-224-2854 Email: kirk.senate.gov
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Duck Numbers Remain Strong

Breeding Population Survey estimates 45.6 million ducks; Water conditions right for excellent duck production

Delta Waterfowl, 7/12/2013

“We have great water this year, and that equals great duck production.”

- Dr. Frank Rohwer, Delta Waterfowl President

North America’s spring duck population is down slightly from record levels, but pond counts are up 24 percent over last year, according to the 2013 Waterfowl Breeding Population and Habitat Survey released today.

The survey, which has been conducted annually since 1955 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Canadian Wildlife service, puts the breeding duck population at 45.6 million, the second-highest level ever recorded.

“We started with high numbers of breeding ducks, and we have great water in the right places for reneating and duckling survival,” said Frank Rohwer, president of Delta Waterfowl. “Duck production should be excellent.”

Of the 10 species cited in the survey index, only American wigeon and canvasbacks showed an increase from 2012. Wigeon breeding numbers sit at 2.64 million, up 23 percent from 2012 and 2 percent above the long-term average for the species. Canvasbacks showed a modest increase of 4 percent, with the population estimated at 787,000, well above the threshold to have an open season.

“Wigeon, a species which had many folks concerned about a long term decline have now increased two years in a row,” said Joel Brice, vice president of conservation for Delta Waterfowl. “It is nice to see canvasbacks back to near record populations.”

Mallards were at 10.37 million, down 2 percent, but still 36 percent higher than the long-term average. Despite the overall decline, mallards increased locally in the Eastern Dakotas, Southern Manitoba and Southern Saskatchewan. Gadwalls dipped 7 percent to 3.35 million, but the population remains an impressive 80 percent above the long-term average of 1.86 million.

Northern pintails came in at 3.34 million, a decrease of 4 percent overall. However, pintail numbers increased in southern Saskatchewan and Alberta, a reflection of improved May pond count numbers. Pintails remain 17 percent below the long-term average.

Both blue-winged teal and green-winged teal populations dropped from record levels of 2012. Bluewings are estimated at 7.73 million, a 16 percent decline. However, bluewings are still 60 percent above the long-term average. Greenwings declined 12 percent to 3.05 million, but like bluewings, remain at historically high levels — 51 percent above the long-term average.

“Blue-winged teal, while a decline from last year’s staggering populations are still at extraordinarily high levels,” Rohwer said, acknowledging the USFWS action to increase the bag limit during the early September teal season to six teal daily. “This population, coupled with good water, is good news for hunters chasing bluewings.” Northern shovelers, another species at record levels in 2012, fell to 4.75 million, a 5 percent decrease. Still, shovelers were found at nearly double the long-term average.

Redheads continue to thrive, coming in at 1.2 million, down 5 percent but still 76 percent above the long-term average. Scaup — lesser and greater combined — are indexed at 4.17 million, a 20 percent decline and 17 percent below the long-term average. However, scaup are still well above the historic low of 3.3 million in 2006.

| Species | | 2013 | 2012 | % change from 2012 | % change from LTA |
|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|  | Mallard | 10.372 | 10.602 | -2 | +36 |
|  | Gadwall | 3.351 | 3.586 | -7 | +80 |
|  | Wigeon | 2.644 | 2.145 | +23 | +2 |
|  | Green-winged | 3.053 | 3.471 | -12 | +51 |
|  | Blue-winged | 7.732 | 9.242 | -16 | +60 |
|  | Pintail | 3.335 | 3.473 | -4 | -17 |
|  | Shoveler | 4.751 | 5.018 | -5 | +96 |
|  | Redhead | 1.202 | 1.270 | -5 | +76 |
|  | Canvasback | 0.787 | 0.760 | +4 | +37 |
|  | Scaup | 4.166 | 5.239 | -20 | -17 |
| Total Ducks | | 45.607 | 48.575 | -6 | +33 |

All numbers in millions. LTA is long-term average.

Continued on page 11

Strong Production Expected

May pond counts, an index of wetlands across the survey area, were tallied at 6.89 million, a significant and important 24 percent increase over 2012.

“We started with good water, and it got better with rains in May,” Rohwer said. “All research shows that renesting effort and duckling survival are tied to good water conditions.”

May ponds were up 59 percent in the Eastern Dakotas, 44 percent in Southern Manitoba, 40 percent in Southern Alberta and 6 percent in Southern Saskatchewan.

“Southern Saskatchewan and the Eastern Dakotas are the holy grail for prairie duck production as they hold a very high number of breeding ducks,” Brice said. “This year, duck numbers and wetland conditions are excellent in both places.”

“A number of our staff were concerned in April about the late spring, delayed nesting and a poor frost seal which resulted in poorer than normal run off. However, then the rains came. These rains helped recharge and sustain the small, temporary wetlands that drive duck production. The presence of these wetlands will drive the renesting rate and significantly improve duckling survival.”

Renesting rates are important because many areas of the breeding grounds have poor hatching rates. In drier years, such as 2012, hens that lose a first nest to predators are far less likely to make a new nest and lay more eggs. “Last year, wetland conditions eroded over the course of the breeding season which is very common, this year conditions improved markedly with spring early summer rains,” Rohwer said. “Our field crews in North Dakota and Manitoba have found renesting ducks, including a gadwall still laying eggs just this week.”

Good production translates into a lot of young ducks.

“Young ducks are far more likely to decoy and respond to calling,” Rohwer said.

For more information: John Devney, vice president of U.S. policy (888) 987-3695 ext. 218, jdevney@deltawaterfowl.org, or Dr. Frank Rohwer, president (888) 987-3695 ext. 217, frohwer@deltawaterfowl.org.

Delta Waterfowl Foundation is a leading North American conservation organization, tracing its origins to the birth of the wildlife conservation movement in 1911. The Foundation supports research, provides leadership and offers science-based solutions to efficiently conserve waterfowl and secure the future of waterfowl hunting. Delta Waterfowl is based in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Bismarck, N.D.

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Campaign Launched in Maine to Ban Bear Hunting

U. S. Sportsmen’s Alliance, posted on July 12, 2013

A new anti-hunting organization has announced its intent to qualify a ballot initiative before voters to ban the most successful methods of controlling bear numbers in Maine. Called Mainers for Fair Bear Hunting, the organization is actually backed by the nation’s largest anti-hunting organization; the Washington DC based Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

The goal of the organization and their ballot initiative is to ban bear hunting using hounds, bait and trapping. The group must gather nearly 57,277 valid signatures by February 3, 2014 to place the issue before voters in the November 2014 election.

Maine voters shot down an identical measure financed by HSUS nearly ten years ago. In 2004, Question 2 was defeated 53 percent to 47 percent. Earlier this year, HSUS backed legislation to ban bear trapping and bear hunting with hounds. The bill, LD 1474, was unanimously voted down by a joint committee of the state legislature.

“The citizens of Maine and their elected representatives have already spoken on this issue,” said Evan Heusinkveld, U.S. Sportsmen’s Alliance director of government affairs. “They have rejected the false claims of outside groups because they understand that using hounds, bait, and trapping methods to hunt bears in the state are humane and important tools for controlling the bear population, for public safety and for protecting agriculture.”

Maine has the largest bear population in the continental U.S. As the bear population has continued to grow, so has the number of nuisance bear complaints. HSUS’s bear hunting ban would politicize wildlife management and take this important tool out of the hands of the state’s bear biologists who have done an excellent job managing the bear population for the state.

Registration/Titling of your Watercraft

Notice - The Department of Natural Resources **DID NOT** send out watercraft renewal notices this year. It is your responsibility to make sure that your watercraft registration is current.

All watercraft other than non-powered watercraft on the waters within the jurisdiction of this State shall be registered and titled.

Canoes, kayaks and paddle boats are no longer required to be titled/registered in Illinois UNLESS they have a motor or sail; otherwise customers will be able to purchase a 'Water Usage Stamp' for \$6.00 per calendar year for each of the first three vessels, and \$3.00 each for any additional vessels . Please note: an agent fee of \$.50 will be charged per vessel. All of the new Water Usage Stamps must be purchased at the same time to receive the discount.

Water Usage Stamps are mandatory for all non-powered watercraft, except those with an Illinois registration that does not expire until June 30, 2014 ("14") or June 30, 2015 ("15"). They are available, over the counter, at any point-of-sale vendor beginning June 19, 2013.

State law requires that the purchaser of a powered watercraft shall, within 15 days after purchase, make application to the Department for registration/title. Watercraft purchased from a dealer, the dealer must within 15 days mail or deliver the application to the Department.

No titles, registration cards, and/or decals are issued over the counter at any Natural Resources Offices. Applications are processed by mail at the Springfield Office.

Processing Times for Watercraft Applications:

Internet or phone-in renewals - processing times take approximately 4 weeks.

Long form Watercraft Registration/Title applications - We are currently processing applications received April 01, 2013 - April 07, 2013.

Please allow 12 weeks after your submission date for inquiries regarding the status of your application.

Water Usage Stamps now Available: IDNR NewsBits July 2013

Non-motorized watercraft, canoes, kayaks and paddle boats in Illinois are no longer required to be titled/registered in Illinois, unless the vessels have a motor or sail. Non-motorized watercraft owners are now required to purchase a 'Water Usage Stamp' for \$6.00 per calendar year for the each of the first three vessels, and \$3.00 each for any additional vessels. All of the new Water Usage Stamps must be purchased at the same time to receive the discount. Water Usage Stamps are mandatory for all non-powered watercraft, except for those watercraft on which existing registration has not yet expired. The stamps are available over the counter from DNR Direct license and permit point of sale vendors. Use this link to find vendor locations for purchase of the water usage stamp:

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR/Pages/LicensePermitVendors.aspx>

E-Mail from Kim

Kim Postlewait, IDNR – MRA Site Superintendent 7/2013

After going though the point of sale license machine we have found what you will need to buy your stickers.

Boat sticker will require Hull identification number, Make, Model, and boat color. It will also ask for your hair and eye color?

ATV sticker will require VIN number, Make , Model and color.

Neither asks for title or proof of ownership.

You will need your customer id number from your hunting or fishing license to simplify things.

Batchtown boys - The Obermeyer Gate was lowered Thursday Morning.

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Illinois State Rifle Association

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Richard Pearson, ISRA Thursday Bulletin, 7/11/2013

This week we had a great victory when we overrode the Governor's veto HB0183. We now are on the road to concealed carry in Illinois. I would like to thank all of those who called, wrote, e-mailed, and faxed their legislators. And also those who showed up at the IGOLD events over the past years.

To get conceal carry in Illinois was a long, evolved, arduous, and expensive task, to say the least. In every other state gun owners simply went to the legislature, but not Illinois. We tried that, of course, but to no avail. The ISRA went to both the Federal and State courts to force the Illinois legislature to do the right thing – it worked. A long time ago, I was told that it was impossible to pass concealed carry in Illinois, by going by my personal motto “just because it is impossible, there is no reason not to do it” proved to be right.

The battle for our gun rights is far from over in Illinois. We saw our first challenge to concealed carry before the Illinois Senate overrode the Governor's veto. The Senate put forth a bill, HB1453, which was a “gotcha!” bill that would have trapped Illinois gun owners by removing postings from prohibited places. We defeated that bill in the House of Representatives in the final hours of July 9th, 2013. It was the last action of the day.

The Governor's amendatory veto signals the topics that will be used in future sessions to attack our Second Amendment rights. Beware: the fight to keep concealed carry has just begun. In the coming weeks we will see all sorts of ‘assault weapons’ bans being pushed in home rule communities across the state. Our 2nd VP, Mike Weisman, has done a great job coordinating and appearing at as many of these town hall meetings as he could – we will keep you informed by what transpired at these meetings by sending alerts. I would also like to thank the ISRA staff for doing a great job fielding phone calls and getting out alerts.

Also, thank you to Illinois Carry for always being there to handle all kinds of Internet blogs. A special thank you goes to Representative Brandon Phelps who let the fight and never gave up. Lastly, thank you ISRA members! As a reward, you can relax for the next 24 hours – the new battle starts tomorrow (I don't know what it will be, I just know it's coming).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Richard Pearson, ISRA Thursday Bulletin, 7/18/2013

Last week attorneys for the ISRA and Mary Shepard filed a motion in the United States District Court in Benton opposing Attorney General Lisa Madigan's motion asking that the case be ruled moot. It was learned late Tuesday afternoon that the Judge was going to allow motions to be filed until the end of business today. We expect hear a preliminary ruling late next week.

We have seen many suburban municipalities trying to pass so called “assault weapons” bans by Friday. This was encouraged by Governor Quinn, Lt Governor Simon, and others. These bans do nothing to stop crime but of course most of the aldermen and trustees know that. These people are not really interested in solving the crime problem. Their target are the legal gun owners like you and me. Besides if they talk about a phony issues like gun control they don't have to talk about the real issues. The real issues are the ones that are hard to solve and cause people to be responsible for themselves.

The Zimmerman case is now decided, but not over. We are witnessing the Department of “Justice” attempting to prosecute George Zimmerman for a Hate Crime. There didn't appear to be any evidence of a hate crime presented in the evidence presented in trial. We will have to see how this unfolds but I don't think it is going to be pretty.

The 2014 elections are coming sooner than you think. No gun owner should stay home. We need to get even at the ballot box.

Thanks for being a member.

Senate Bill Addresses Top Sportsmen's Priorities

U. S. Sportsmen's Alliance Posted on July 18, 2013

A new package of pro-sportsmen's bills was introduced in the U.S. Senate today that addresses the top concerns of American hunters, anglers and recreational shooters. Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski's Sportsmen's Act protects hunting, fishing and recreational shooting on federal lands and slams the door on many legal loopholes through which the anti-hunting and extremist environmental lobbies attack sportsmen and women.

Among the items contained in the Sportsmen's Act is essential "Open Until Closed" language which spells out in law that fishing, hunting and recreational shooting are legitimate and important activities. It mandates that U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management properties are open to these pursuits unless specific steps are taken to close those lands for necessary, scientific reasons. This language is the top federal priority for the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance because it blocks many potential lawsuits aimed at closing public land to American sportsmen and women.

USSA championed a similar law in 1997 that focused on National Wildlife Refuges, which resulted in millions of acres of additional land access for hunters.

Other key priorities include:

The Hunting, Fishing and Recreational Shooting Protection Act:

This language clarifies and specifically excludes ammunition and fishing tackle from the Toxic Substances Control Act. This would prevent the Center for Biological Diversity from using federal courts to force the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to regulate ammo and fishing tackle. Instead, ammo and fishing tackle would continue to be regulated by state fish and game agencies and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Polar Bear Conservation and Fairness Act:

This allows for the importation of 41 legally harvested Polar Bear trophies from approved populations in Canada before they were listed as an endangered species in 2008. This measure does not allow for new hunting. Instead, it simply allows those 41 successful hunters to bring home their taxidermy mounts that are currently sitting in storage.

Bows Transported through National Parks:

Under current law, only firearms are legally allowed to be transported across National Park Service lands. This is problematic for bow hunters that cross Park Service Lands to hunt on Forest Service or BLM properties.

"Senator Murkowski's package is critically important to the future of hunting," said Evan Heusinkveld, USSA's Director of Government Affairs. "Open Until Closed is a game changer that will ensure that sportsmen and women are granted access to federal public lands for generations to come. Paired with these other vital pieces, sportsmen need to call their Senators immediately asking them to support the Sportsmen's Act."

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Governor Quinn Signs Laws to Make Waterways Safer for Illinois Families House Laws Crack Down on Boaters Who Drive Under the Influence of Alcohol News Release 7/22/2013

Governor Pat Quinn today issued a stern warning to anyone who pilots a boat while under the influence of alcohol: if you're drunk while operating a boat, you may lose your right to operate a car. Standing at Chicago's new 31st Street marina and joined by the family of Tony Borcia – the 10-year old Libertyville boy killed last July by a drunk boater – Governor Quinn signed two bills [Senate Bill 1479 to crack down on boating under the influence and strengthen other provisions of Illinois' boating safety laws. Today's action is part of the governor's agenda to keep Illinois families safe.

Governor Quinn today signed Senate Bill 1479 – sponsored by State Senator Julie A. Morrison (D-Deerfield) and State Representative Scott Drury (D-Highwood) – which ensures that anyone operating a motorboat involved in an accident involving serious injury or death must consent to the chemical testing of their blood, breath or urine to determine blood alcohol or drug content. Operators who refuse testing, test positive for drugs or exceed the legal blood alcohol content limit, face suspension of their Illinois driver's license. This law takes effect on Jan. 1.

Governor Quinn also signed Senate Bill 1310 – sponsored by State Senator Melinda Bush (D-Grayslake) and State Representative Michael J. Zalewski (D-Riverside) – which strengthens the state's Boat Registration and Safety Act regarding a boat's carrying capacity, redefines "authorized emergency watercraft" and hikes penalties on boat rental operators who fail to equip their crafts.

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Bertoglio Drywall

Shawn Bertoglio **HANGING**
616-779-0424 **TAPE and FINISHING**
618-498-5268 **TEXTURING**
 PAINTING

MWHI 2013

**Donated 5 Wood Duck Nest Boxes to the
Batchtown Sportsmen's Club**

Awarded two \$500.00 Scholarships

**Donated \$450.00 to the Wounded Warrior
Project**

**Donated 1 Wood Duck Nest Box to the
Ducks Unlimited Kansas City, MO Chapter**

2013-14 MWHI Gun Raffle

One Winner Every Month

**Ticket will be drawn on first of every month,
beginning at the October MWHI General
Membership Meeting**

\$40 per ticket Only 500 sold

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|--------------------|--|
| October - | Super X 3 |
| November- | Savage 20ga Bolt Action w/Nikon scope |
| December- | T/C Endeavor camo |
| January- | T/C Venture 22-250 |
| February - | Browning A5 |
| March - | Glock 22 40 cal |
| April - | Rem 870 Supermag Turkey Gun |
| May - | Rem 1911 45 cal |
| June - | Ruger Mini 14 Ranch |
| July - | Beretta 92 9mm |
| August - | CMMG AR15 .223 |
| September - | Rem Versa-Max 12 ga |

**For tickets or more information, please contact
Eric Rhuede at 618-410-9853**

From the Sentry Archives

Many years ago Otto Fischer wrote these stories for the *Sentry* ...

"Condominium for Mice"

This last season we set up some goose shells for geese in a plowed corn field. One of the goose shells was missing a stake, so we just laid it flat on the ground. When it came time for us to pick them up at the end of the season, I noticed that as I picked up the one that was flat on the ground that there was a nest of mice. The nest was approximately 10" in diameter and about 5" thick with a few burrows in the ground. Next to the nest was a pile of corn kernels. It looked as if the mice were set up for the winter. There were about 10 to 12 mice which ran in different directions when I lifted the shell up. The black Lab standing beside me did not know which one to chase. It would have been a feast for a coyote had he found them during the season. I believe that had the coyote found this condominium, he would have upset the rest of our goose shells.

"Job Jurisdiction"

An occasional duck hunting friend of mine, who is an avid fisherman, came up with an idea. Since some fishermen drop weighted evergreen trees in the water for crappie beds, he came up with his own plan.

He dropped a large tree in the water. When he came to the spot to go fishing, was he in for a surprise. The beavers had stripped the tree of all bark and carried off some of the branches. Also, there was so much activity around the tree that he did not have any success fishing. He had to find another brush spot to fish. I am sure the beavers appreciated his efforts and also saved them a nite's work. Don't worry about the tree because I am sure the beavers had targeted the tree for a dam and food project later.

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