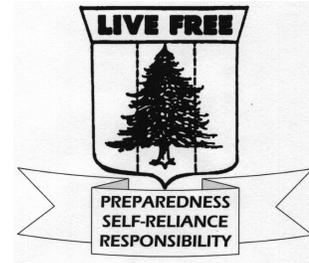


# LIVE FREE REPORT

## Fall & Winter 2011

LIVE FREE USA, P.O. BOX 3295, MUNSTER, IN 46321

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## LOOKING TOWARDS 2012 AND BEYOND

As the organization grows, every annual meeting becomes more important. At last years annual meeting several offices were left without nominations. These open directorships simply dumped double or triple work on others. The workload was then multiplied further by increased membership and more activities. A few projects had to be dropped for lack of time and help. We are at a point where we must fill all of the directorships and deputy directorships with dedicated people or become buried by our own success.

- / Nominations must be written or e-mailed by the nominee or nominator before the March annual meeting. We can't go into the meeting not knowing if anyone is running for anything!!
- / Existing officers will be required to report verbally on their activates in 2011 and plans for 2012
- / Copies of the by-laws that specify the exact responsibilities of officers are available to all officers on request.
- / There will be several amendments to the bylaws proposed in 2012. Some of these will empower chapters and define policies.

### Offices to be filled in 2012

President	Recording Secretary	Fund Raising Director
Vice-President	Publications Director	Safety & Security Director
Treasurer	Public Relations Director	Four "Directors at Large"
Membership Secretary	Training Director	+ Deputy Directors

**The Annual Meeting is scheduled to be held at Cabela's in Hammond Indiana on Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM**

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## Instructor Registration and Certification

In order to meet the increasing need for survival and preparedness related education throughout the region, Live Free is expanding its certification and recognition programs. Our objective is to establish a secure database of qualified instructors on a wide variety of survival and self-reliance related subjects. **This list would not be published, but would be used to refer instructors to organizations requesting their help.** Live Free USA membership is not a requirment for participation at this time. To participate you just need to::

- / Provide documentation of related certifications such as military certificates, NRA certifications, etc.
- / Provide documentation of having instructed related classes for community organizations, schools, fraternal organizations, etc.
- / Conduct two or more related classes at Live Free chapter meetings and/or regional events.
- / Any combinations of the above.
- / Then fill out the Instructors Data Questionnaire \*

In order to encourage maximum participation we are waving the registration fee (normally \$20.00) and we will send the instructors certification brassard free to the first ten who register. **We have also simplified the registration form to one page. We hope that this program will be a service to the communities and concerned organizations throughout the region. Request forms from [lifnow@aol.com](mailto:lifnow@aol.com) or from your chapter leader.** This form is also available on the website.

## **2012 CAMP INDEPENDENCE 2012**

**Saturday, May 5th 2012 at  
Tippecanoe River State Park, Winamac Indiana**

**A wide variety of emergency preparedness, self-defense, field survival and self-reliance classes, exhibits and demonstrations will be presented throughout the day. Cabins are available on a first come basis. Meals are available at reasonable prices. Enter the Survival & Self-Reliance Exhibit Contest. Meet chapter leaders and instructors. Enter the big "Survival Stuff" raffle. Bring the family on Friday and stay in a cabin both nights.**

Advanced Registration Before April 15<sup>th</sup>

Individual \$20.00, Family \$30.00, Add \$10.00 for a cabin. Registration After April 15<sup>th</sup> or At The Site. Individual \$25.00, Family \$35.00, Add \$15.00 for a cabin Group Rates Available

## **LIVE FREE USA REACHES OUT IN PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

Many "survival" organizations focus on internal survival and security only. Live Free USA has always maintained that this is a self-defeating attitude. The better the public understands the need for self-reliance the safer we all are and the more people that become prepared and self-reliant the stronger we all are. This is why we require our chapters to sponsor public education programs at least once a year. Such programs are a great public service while changing attitudes and opening doors for further development. During Preparedness Month (September) 2011 Live Free chapters did five major preparedness education seminars and many shorter presentations at community centers, conference centers and public parks. We were able to help hundreds of citizens become

more prepared and self-reliant while recruiting new members and developing new instructors. We anticipate doing many more public education programs in 2012. Anyone interested in hosting or sponsoring a Citizens Preparedness Seminar or a Self-Reliance Fair in 2012 should contact us early as possible. The availability of dates and instructors is limited.

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## Chapter / Affiliated Organization

Live Free USA has reached a point where we are too big and spread out to have just centralized activities. In many areas we have enough members to form the core of active chapters that can better serve members in a small geographic area. **While we continue to develop our national organization and a few major events, our focus will be on organizing and supporting local groups.** These groups will be able to have more frequent meetings and activities while building local preparedness and self-reliance capacities. There will be minimal requirements and no chapter dues at this time.

### **Each chapter is required to:**

1. Have at least 3 paid LF members
2. Have a designated Chapter leader and Deputy Chapter leader (LF Members) with contact information provided to Live Free USA.
3. Conduct at least one public education program in their region each year.
4. Conduct at least one training event open to all LF members each year.
5. Conduct at least one open meeting (LF members and guests) each year
6. Conduct all activities legally, responsibly and in accordance with the Live Free, USA mission statement.

### **Live Free USA would support the chapters by:**

1. Refer new members
2. Conduct periodic combined events
3. Provide publicity and website contacts
4. Publicizing activities in the newsletters and flyers
5. Provide literature instructors and speakers.
6. Coordinating combined programs that benefit all members and chapters
7. Establishing discount programs and multi-chapter purchases when possible.

Contact us about joining a chapter near you or helping to organize a new chapter in your area. Growing membership outside the Great Lakes Region is starting to develop chapters in other regions.

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## **THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF LIVE FREE USA**

As I celebrate my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and many, many years as the president of this organization, I must recognize the need to step aside in the near future. I will be available

for nomination in 2012 and maybe 2013, but that's it. I would then be ready to take any directorship or director at large nomination. Of course I would be prepared to work just as hard and fully support anyone who becomes the president. Being the sole proprietor of the mailing lists, critical documents, funds, and publications of the organization makes us way to vulnerable. In the next year we need to start dispersing critical responsibilities and mentoring leaders while continuing our growth. Next years vice-president, and key directors need to be supported and mentored as potential presidents. Obviously these folks need to be committed to our mission, but they also need to have administrative capabilities and computer skills. Such leaders will need to have well defined goals and a vision of where Live Free USA will go in the next decades. Live Free USA is far more important in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century than it was when it was founded. We have built a solid foundation and a proud history. The organizations survival and future will be the responsibilities of our younger members and those yet to join.

Jim Jones

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## SHOW ME THE MONEY!!

Live Free dues in the 1980s was \$20.00 per year. That's right, we have not raised them in about 25-years. We have no plans to increase our dues in the near future, but we do need to pay our bills and keep expanding our programs. Dues alone will never cover our costs. The sale of books, DVDs and logo items have managed to close the gaps for a while. As we grow, we are planning to expand our DVD and logo item sales to all members and chapters via mail order and the website store. In addition, we may have the volume to negotiate deals with survival supplies to give discounts to members and a small percentage to Live Free. **We have no grants or major sponsors, so any contributions are much needed.**

We have not yet established a policy about chapter fund raising. Some chapters sell books and other items to raise funds for local activities. Some have raffles and a few have dues. At this point we do not charge any kind of chapter registration fee or annual fee. We have no plans to do so at this time even though we spend money helping the chapters in a variety of ways.

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### SPECIAL RENEWAL OFFER!!

Renew or Extend Your Current Membership With This Coupon And We Will Add Two Free Months To A One Year Renewal And 6 Free Months To A Three Year Membership Renewal  
**DON'T WAIT! OFFER EXPIRES JANUARY 1<sup>st</sup> 2012**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_, E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Renew for: 1-year for \$20.00 [ ] 3-years for \$50:00 [ ]

Contribution: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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