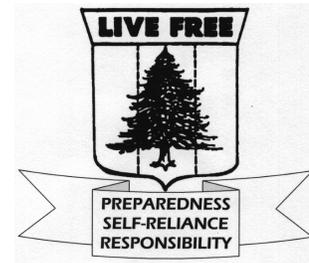


# LIVE FREE REPORT

Winter 2010-11

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

Americansurvivor.org, lfinow@aol.com



## 2010 PROGRESS REPORT

Your Live Free organization continues to grow and expand. For the third year in a row we have increased membership, increased activities and increased available funds. At the start of the year we were still struggling to have one activity someplace each month. By the end of the year we were conducting a variety of activities simultaneously each month. At the start of the year we did not have enough members in any one area to establish chapter groups. By the end of the year we had 5 chapters in operation and several others in the works. In late 2010 we rebuilt our website with the capacity to show video of our classes, download publications and showcase our programs. The new site allows people to join on-line. Members can access the "Members Only" areas of the site to get their newsletters, special publications and special downloads. We initiated the first full-scale national display advertising campaign since the late 1980s.

At the end of the Cold War there was a wave of euphoria and a general feeling that all would be well and there was no need for preparedness and self-reliance. This in combination with the media's misrepresentation of what "survivalism" was all about resulted in a huge decline in interest and support. Virtually all survival organizations and publications went out of business. Live Free was scarcely able to survive with a few dozen loyal members and an occasional

newsletter. We were forced to focus on rebuilding our local and regional (Illinois, Indiana) core at the expense of our national and international development. This core would be essential to supporting future growth. As the new millennium dawned, the realities of dwindling resources, terrorism, economic decline, eroding freedoms, natural disasters, and the inability of government to protect citizens and provide security in the future all combined to awaken at least some of the public to the value of our mission and programs. Of course it also brought forth a plethora of newcomers, for profit and/or agenda driven survival websites and groups. Many of these are high quality and well directed. While Live Free was the oldest established survival organization, having started in the late 1960s, we entered the 2000s with very few members and almost no funds. Our well-established publications, training events, and programs that were well known in the 80s were not publicized or expanded. In fact many of the contacts and publications we have made in the last few years thought we were a new organization. Some of these folks were children when we were out there practicing and publishing!

So here we are. Having rebuilt our foundation the original, surviving, not-for-profit, survival and self-reliance support organization is moving to catch-up and take our rightful place as leaders in the

fight to make the American people safe, strong, prepared and independent again. Unlike the 70s and 80s, our movement is now accepted and “main stream”. We are now challenged with building survival and self-reliance against a ticking clock of a declining socio-economic system. Not a nuclear war that *might* happen, but a combination of disasters that *are* happening and *will* happen to our children and us. Live Free USA has an important part to play in the future, but it will now depend on those new leaders that will take us through the next 10 to 50 years where the very survival of life, family, freedom and American values will depend in individual survival skills.

### **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES IN 2011**

There are some great opportunities that result from continued growth and increased membership. If we continue to develop active chapters in a wider and wider area, we should be able to sponsor some more ambitious regional events such as regional expositions and conferences with participation of major suppliers, publishers and speakers. We can also negotiate discount pricing on equipment and training. Many years ago we had a 60-acre “American Survival Education Center” perhaps with enough contributions and maybe a few major donations that can be once more. The challenge is to maintain the quality and rate of our growth. Our original leadership base is dwindling and our core group is still overloaded. We need to continue to recruit, inspire and develop energetic and motivated leaders at all levels as well as dedicated supporters and volunteers. We can no longer fill any directorships and deputy directorships with names. We are encouraged by the continued work of our veteran officers and the growing number of new leaders.

While the value internet presents and networking are recognized, we will continue to focus on real, boots on the ground, face-to-face organization and activities. Building a real organization member-by-member, chapter-by-chapter that can do real work and be of real value to real people. The internet will support this effort. We will also continue to use a variety of public relations and advertising programs designed to advocate self-reliance, define our mission and bring together like-minded citizens. We will work with and within community groups and organizations to support and educate the growing need for preparedness and self-reliance support. We also need to organize our growing staff of speakers and instructors so that they can be accessed by our chapters and event sponsors. The Survival Self-Reliance Instructor Certification program needs to be upgraded and promoted in 2011. We cannot assume that the world and it’s growing hazards will wait for us to get better, bigger and more effective. Things are going to get harder and costlier and unexpected events are going to hit us. That said, we need to stay on the offensive and proactive regardless of events and conditions.



**Liberating America  
One Family At A Time**

# CHAPTERS

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. 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. Contact us for help in forming or joining a chapter

## Each chapter would be required to:

1. Have at least 5 paid LF members
2. Have a designated Chapter leader and Deputy Chapter leader (LF Members) with contact information.
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 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
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.

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## OFFICER NOMINATIONS FOR 2011

There will be no preselected slate or assumed nominations for offices in 2011. Every candidate for every office must be nominated in writing before the annual meeting or from the floor at the meeting. With more members we need to open this process up to the correct procedures. Anyone wanting to know what the responsibilities of each office are can send to us for a copy of the by-laws. The offices to be filled at the March 2011 annual meeting are:

- |                        |                              |                                   |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| •/ President           | •/ Membership Secretary      | •/ Fund Raising Director          |
| •/ Vice President      | •/ Public Relations Director | •/ Safety & Security Director     |
| •/ Treasurer           | •/ Publications Director     | •/ Director at Large (4 openings) |
| •/ Recording Secretary | •/ Training Director         |                                   |

# 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

**SUNDAY MARCH 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 1:00 PM. AT: CABELA'S Sporting Goods Store,**  
Second Floor Conference Center, 7700 Cabela Drive, Hammond IN, Just South of  
I-80 at the Indianapolis Blvd. Exit. Details to be provided

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## CAMP INDEPENDENCE 2011

**FREEDOM THROUGH PREPAREDNESS**

**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**COME FRIDAY NIGHT, STAY TILL SUNDAY MORNING**

**Tippecanoe River State Park, Winamac Indiana  
(in the Potawatomi, Group Camp)**

**Training Activities Start at 8:00 AM , Run Through 6:00 PM**

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

### **TAX DEDUCTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS**

Live Free, USA is an incorporated not-for-profit, tax deductible organization. Our only income sources are membership dues and contributions. Tax-deductible letters will be supplied to contributors of funds, facilities and services. Receipts and copies of our IRS letter can be provided on request.

#### **RENEWAL & CONTRIBUTION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND TO: Live Free, USA, P.O. Box 3295,  
Munster, IN 46321**

1-year, \$20.00 [  ]

3-years, \$50.00 [  ]

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send information on  
joining or organizing a  
chapter in my area [  ]

Total enclosed

\$ \_\_\_\_\_