

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Volume 13, Number 1

ISSN: 1086-4172

January, February, March 2006



Bill Coulter at the W. G. Coulter range in 1997

Left the Range

William "Bill" G. Coulter
1907-2005

Just three weeks short of his 98th birthday the Lord said to Bill: Come with me and I'll show you a new shooting range....

We are saddened to report that Bill Coulter left the range on October 28, 2005. Bill's obituary, provided by the Stennis Funeral Home, is on page 3.

Memories

I didn't meet Bill Coulter at the range, but that was not his fault. I am sure he would have been there if I had just developed an interest in the sport of NRA rifle shooting at an earlier age. Bill's 65 years of service to the Forks Rifle Club as its Secretary/Treasurer are an amazing example of his dedication to the sport of rifle shooting. The Forks Rifle Club and our North Dakota Shooting Sports Association are indebted to Bill's many hours of volunteer effort. He will be missed, but his spirit and example will be an inspiration to us all.

Rick Jorgenson

Editorially Speaking

The winter shooting schedule is full, and the only open weekends are the big holidays of Christmas, New Years and Easter. I hope that you all can find time to reflect on your good experiences in 2005. Remember that life is really a lot like a shooting match. At a shooting match, we need to take the time to enjoy each ten and we need to learn that it is better not to waste time reflecting too much on those shots that go astray. In order to fire a good score, we must remain confident and focused on our shot plan for each shot. The score will take care of itself, and it will be a good one.

Take a look at your shot plan for your matches in 2006, and approach each shot confidently. I wish you all the best in 2006. In this issue, we have a very fine article about the experiences of our NRA National Rifle Championships in Camp Perry, and I thank Tom for that article. We have some more rifle shooting results for you here in the newsletter as well. We honor the passing of Bill Coulter, and the rifle articles really fit in with Bill's passion for the competition of rifle shooting.

Last issue, I reported that the Senate passed legislation to limit liability for manufacturers or sellers of firearms and ammunition in S. 397. The House adopted the Senate bill and passed it by a vote of 283-144 on October 20, 2005. I received that news from Congressman Pomeroy, and I thank him for his and his staff's efforts toward passage of this legislation. Congressman Pomeroy voted in favor of this bill. Our Association was instrumental in the passage of similar legislation here in North Dakota, and it is great to see that our nation's Senators, Congressmen and President have finally seen fit to protect us from the huge costs that were being incurred by our firearms manufacturers in successful defense of those lawsuits brought against them principally on the false premise that firearms are inherently evil and dangerous. Again, this is great news for all of us who have worked hard for this legislation first in North Dakota and now in the entire USA.

Our North Dakota Shooting Sports 2006 annual meeting and banquet is in Bismarck, ND on January 28, 2006. Walt Fairbanks has been able to arrange for Dan Durbin to speak at the banquet. Dan will present a short rifle coaching clinic as well. Dan Durbin is a physics professor at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, SD. As an athlete, he was a Collegiate All-American at Eastern Kentucky University and a Resident Athlete at the US Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs (1984-1988). He was a National Champion in both Smallbore Rifle and Air Rifle (1987) and World Champion in Air Rifle (1987). He was a 1988 Olympian (Seoul). As a coach, he has over 25 years of coaching shooters, from beginners to Olympic Gold medalists, including Assistant Coach, West Virginia University (1982-84) - the first two years they won the NCAA Championships. He was our USA National Team Coach from 1997-2000. He was Head Coach, USA Olympic Rifle Team in 2000 (Sydney) and Head Coach, USA Para-Olympic Shooting Team in 2004 (Athens). He is currently Head Coach, USA Para-Olympic Shooting Team and Director, Civilian Marksmanship Program's 3-Position Air Rifle Summer Camps. He's doing research aimed at improving athlete performance.

At this year's evening banquet, we will recognize Dean Hildebrand for his generous support to our North Dakota Shooting Sports Association and the shooting sports throughout North Dakota during his years of service in the North Dakota National Guard and as the North Dakota Game & Fish Commissioner. As you know, Dean is retiring as North Dakota Game & Fish Commissioner. We hope you can take this opportunity to attend the annual banquet and offer your personal thanks to Dean for his many efforts in the promotion of safety and education in the sport of shooting and hunting in North Dakota.

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The Target

ISSN: 1086-4172

PUBLISHED quarterly (four issues a year) by the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc., P. O. Box 228, Bismarck, ND 58502-0228, a non-profit organization affiliated with the National Rifle Association of America, for the purpose of promoting safety and education in the sport of shooting. The Target is provided to all members of the NDSSA. Individual subscriptions are \$10.00 a year and club subscriptions are \$20.00 a year. The editorials and articles appearing in the publication reflect the differing views present among sportsmen and gun owners, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Target, P. O. Box 228, Bismarck, ND 58502-0228.

DEADLINES: Closing date for material for each issue is the first day of the month preceding the month of publication. Publication dates are: January, April, July, and October. All materials are to be provided to the following address:

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The Life of Bill Coulter

William "Bill" Coulter, 97, formerly of 1302 Cherry Street, Grand Forks, North Dakota passed away of Friday, October 28, 2005 at the Valley Eldercare Nursing Center, Grand Forks, North Dakota. William was born November 21, 1907 on a farm in rural East Grand Forks, Minnesota the son of Jesse and Margaret Coulter. He attended grade school in East Grand Forks and graduated from high school in Hudson, Wisconsin in 1925. He attended the University of Minnesota majoring in chemistry. He served as an officer in the Army Reserves. He married Gladys Ottum in Warren, Minnesota on October 8, 1933. Gladys died October 24, 1991. William managed several grain testing laboratories for Tri State Labs until purchasing the Tri State Lab in Grand Forks in 1946. He sold the grain testing business in 1970 and then worked as a consultant for the King of Spuds. Bill was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Forks, the Elks Lodge 255, Jaycees, Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce, the American Chemical Society and American Society of Cereal Chemists.

Bill was active in the shooting sports and established the Forks Rifle Club in 1933 serving as Secretary/Treasurer for 65 years. He also helped to establish the Red River Valley Rifle League and was instrumental in organizing the North Dakota Rifle and Pistol Association. He was a lifetime member of: The National Rifle Association, The North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, and the Forks Rifle Club. Bill was also a member of the North Dakota Hall of Fame for Marksmanship. The Grand Forks range complex south west of Grand Forks was named The "W. G. Coulter Range" was named in his honor a number of years ago.

Three children survive him: Delores Probert of Winter Haven, Florida; Susan (David) Skinner of Grand Forks; and Dennis (Brenda) Coulter of Grand Forks. He left ten grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife on October 24, 1991, his parents, two brothers, Kenneth and Francis, one sister, Clair, two infant sons, and two grandsons and one son-in-law, Charles Probert.

Memories

I must have been 23 when I fired my first ND High Power State Championship in 1955 at Camp Grafton, Devils Lake, ND. It was also my very first HP match! I met Bill that day for the first time. My rifle for that match was a "rack grade" M-1 and my ammo was "out of a can", M-2, Ball Ammo. I knew I would be having a problem when we got to the 600-yard firing line, as I had never fired that rifle before, and of course did not have any zero's to work from. Bill patiently tried to explain how many clicks of elevation I would need to come up from my 300 yard settings. Needless to say, it was the beginning of a life long friendship with Bill.

Ed Jensen

Long Range High Power Regional Championship

September 17th and 18th, 2005

Russell Theurer of Menoken North Dakota won the Gold Medal in the Long Range High Power Regional Championship with a score of 980-37x total for the five 20-shot matches fired at

1,000 yards. Nineteen shooters from North Dakota, Montana, Minnesota, South Dakota, and California competed in this third annual event.

Thomas A. Thompson of Bismarck, North Dakota took home the Silver Medal with a score of 977-38x, and Dennis Coulter of Grand Forks North Dakota won the Bronze Medal with 976-40x.

In F-Class competition, Donovan Moran of LaMoure, North Dakota was first with 988-52x, while Nathan Dagley from Center, North Dakota placed second with 972-51x. The match was sponsored by the Bismarck/Mandan Rifle and Pistol Association.

Leon Nesja, Match Director
708 Sweetbriar Road
Mandan, ND 58554

2005 Camp Perry High Power Report

As I sit down to write this article on November 24, 2005, Thanksgiving night - I have a lot to be thankful for. I had a great time this past summer in the high power game, had fun this fall in the outdoors of North Dakota hunting, and I just enjoyed a great Thanksgiving meal with family and friends in my hometown of Dickinson. I have some time on my hands tonight - so it was time to get the 2005 Camp Perry report written.

I've been attending the National Championships since 1988 - 17 years now. I've gotten used to the routine of packing the pickup in early August, with just about everything imaginable that a shooter might need, and then heading east for 1100 miles. I spent some thinking about what to write concerning the 2005 National Championships. One issue that kept coming to me is why the heck do people (like me) travel half way across the country to compete at this place for years on end, competing against some of the top shooters in the country - which doesn't give someone like me, with limited time to devote to the sport, much of a chance against these top competitors - put up with the heat and humidity of mid-summer in a corn belt state - temperatures usually in the high 80's or 90's - and the humidity about the same (not easy weather for a North Dakotan to get acclimated to), live in World War II prisoner of war huts for 2 weeks - and get up at about 5:00am each morning during your summer vacation- this is fun?

Is it the competition - hey anyone can give these guys a run for their money and they do have separate classifications for shooters. Is it the chance to renew acquaintances and perhaps make a few new friends - shooters tend to be some of the best people in the world. Perhaps it's after the day is done, and we've cleaned up a bit and put equipment away for the day - and we head to town for dinner and listen to the stories of guess what happened to me today. Perhaps it's after dinner and we all head to Andy's on the north side of Port Clinton, Ohio, for some of the best homemade ice-cream in the world. Or is it because Camp Perry is more than just another rifle match? I guess I'm not really sure why the heck I keep doing this year after year - except for the fact that I love to shoot and I love the sport of high power. It's probably all of the above and the place to go each summer and compete against the best in the country is Camp Perry, Ohio.

Anyhow, I digress. We had another great year at Camp Perry.

(Tom's article on Camp Perry is continued on page 4)

Camp Perry Continued.

Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) match

As usual, the first week of high power are the National Trophy Rifle Matches sponsored by the CMP. These matches are service rifle only. Dan Marquart and Russ Theurer (both from Bismarck) participated in the CMP matches again this year. Dan placed 40th in the field of 1286 shooters in the Presidents 100 Rifle Match and 22nd in the field of 1222 shooters in the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match - or Leg Match. Attendance in both of these matches was up from last year.

This year the Springfield/Vintage Military Rifle Match drew 784 competitors. The John C. Garand Match drew 1259 competitors. The Garand match is now one of - if not the largest rifle match in the country. In 2006, the plans are to start the CMP matches one day earlier so the Garand match can be fired on Saturday by itself. In the past the Garand match has been fired in conjunction with the National Trophy Infantry Team Match (or rattle battle). But, due to attendance at the Garand match, the decision was to start the CMP matches one day earlier.

Overall, the CMP seems to be keeping or even gaining attendance at their matches. When we showed up at Camp Perry on Friday, August 5, the place was full to the brim with shooters. It was great to see the devotion of the service rifle shooters.

NRA Championships

The 2005 NRA National High Power Championships started on Sunday, August 7. As usual, the first match is the Rumbold Team match. This year's North Dakota State Association Roughriders team was made up of me (Tom Thompson), Coby Dalglish (Sarles), and Dennis Coulter and Tom Reiten (Grand Forks). There was also Team Easyriders made up of Walt Fairbanks (Bismarck), Andy Johnson (Rolla), Dan Martin (Emerado) and Tony Kozojed (Thief River Falls, MN). The Roughriders fired a 1925-65x, good enough for a 2nd place finish in the High Master - State Association class. The Easyriders fired a 1712-22x, good enough for a 2nd place finish in the Expert - State Association class.

Monday, August 8, was the start of the 2005 NRA Individual National Championship. As usual this is a 240 shot - 2400 point championship fired over 4 days. This year, we had great weather the first 2 days. Winds were a bit bumpy on day 3 and 4, and the rain stayed away somewhat. We did get one of those Ohio summer downpours on day 3 - but overall, not bad for heat, humidity, wind and rain at this year's championships.

Dennis Demille (Oceanside, CA), Norman Houle (Wes Warwick, RI - last years champion), David Tubb (Canadian, TX) and Troy Lawton would all remain close through the championships.

The first match is the 200 yard offhand Members Trophy Match. This year Troy Lawton (Columbus, GA) fired a perfect 200 with 12x's for a first place finish. Troy kept up the pace, firing clean in the 200 and 300 yard rapid fire events. On Day 2, he fired clean in the 600 yard event. Troy's score of 800-36x in the Vandenberg Cup Match was the first ever clean score fired in the 80 shot course. However, the National Championship isn't an 80 shot match it's a 240 shot match. Demille, Houle and Tubb wouldn't let this score stop them in pursuit of the 2005 National Championship.

Things began to take shape on Day 3 on the 600 yard line during the Air Force Cup Match. Typical conditions at Camp Perry is the wind will come up during the day and stay fairly constant in direction with a few pick-ups and let-offs just to keep you honest. However, on Day 3, it did a few of those 180 degree switches at 600 yards where it can hurt the most. If you didn't catch it - or if your were just plain unlucky - you were going to get caught - and Houle got caught. Houle dropped 5 points at 600 yards while just a few firing points away, Demille fired a 200-10x clean - ya gotta wonder how a guy can do that - skill - luck? Who knows?

It wasn't quite over though - as Day 4 broke, winds finally came to play. The last day starts with the final offhand match - the Crescent Cup Match. This was the type of wind that if you were careful you could probably fire a good score, however, it was windy enough that it could easily catch you for a very bad shot. John Holliger (Carlock, IL) fired an excellent score of 196-4x for the win in the Crescent Cup Match and Demille fired a very respectable 193-7x for third overall.

Houle fired clean in the last 600 yard match - the Crowell Trophy Match on Day 4 - but it wasn't enough as Dennis Demille took his first ever NRA National High Power Rifle Championship firing a 2385-119x. Houle fired a 2383-119x for second and Tubb was third with a 2378-123x.

Long Range Championship

Next on the slate was the 2005 National Long Range Championship. The long range championship is an aggregate of 3 - 20 shot 600 yard matches; 2 - 20 shot 1000 yard matches and the 45 shot Palma match for a total possible score of 1450. Conditions were excellent for long range again this year. Not quite at excellent as last year when Tubb fired the first ever clean score over the long range event - still, excellent conditions prevailed.

SFC Norman Anderson, US Army fired a pair of 200-18x's in the first 2 600 yard matches. Tubb took 600 yard Match No. 3 with a 200-17x. All one can say is the 600 yard event with long range prone guns has turned into an x-ring shoot.

Nancy Tompkins took the 1000 yard iron sight Leech Cup Match with a 199-14x and a shoot-off score of 100-3x. Daughter Michelle Gallagher took the 1000 yard any sight Wimbledon Cup with a 200-15x and a shoot-off score of 99-5x. The final long range event, the Palma Individual Trophy was won by Kent Reeve (Cary, NC) with a 449-30x. Norman Crawford (Fayetteville, NC) took the 2005 Long Range Championship firing a 1444-68x over the 1450 point course.

There are a couple of team events fired during the long range matches. Teams are made up of 4 firing members firing 20 shots each for a possible score of 800 points. The Roumanian Trophy Team Match is a 1000 yard - iron sight team event. The Army team of Tyrell Cooper, Norman Anderson, Lance Dement and Lance Hopper dropped only 1 point firing a 799-43x (possible 800) for the win. Needless to say this was another National Match record. North Dakota shooters of Thompson, Martin, Reiten and Coulter fired an impressive 755-18x to win the Master Class - State Association team event.

The other 1000 yard team event is the Herrick Trophy Team Match which is a 1000 yard, any sight event. This time our team consisted of Thompson, Coulter, Reiten, and Kozojed.

(Continued on Page 6)

2006 Winter Schedule of Opportunities

Date	Event	Location	Contact	Phone
Jan 7, 8, 2006	ND State Jr. Olympics (Air R, 3p, Air P)	Minot	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Jan 7, 8	Light Rifle Match	Bismarck	Walt Fairbanks	701-673-3321
Jan 13, 14, 15	Open Int'l Sectionals (Air, 3P)	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Jan 21, 22	Gun Show	Mandan	Roger Krumm	701-336-7533
Jan 21	Bismarck/Mandan Friends of NRA	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Jan 28	NDSSA State Convention	Bismarck	Walt Fairbanks	701-673-3321
Feb 4	Forks Friends of NRA	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Feb 11	Junior 3P Air Sectional	Buffalo	Dan Geurts	701-633-5553
Feb 12	100 Shot Offhand Match	Halstad, MN	Dan Duklet	218-456-2312
Feb 18, 19	Junior 3P State and Sectional	Minot	Wes Thomas	701-839-6075
Feb 25, 26	Open 3P State and Sectional	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Feb ???	1800 Pistol	Valley City	Brian Kiefert	701-845-0501
Feb 25, 26	Von Bismarck Pistol Match	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Mar 4, 5	Junior Air Sectional (Standing)	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Mar 4, 5	Air Rifle State Championship	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Mar 4, 5???	Light Rifle Match	Cooperstown	Larry Wathne	701-797-3327
Mar 11, 12	Junior 4P State and Sectional	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Mar 18, 19	Pistol Sectional	Valley City	James Ladwig	701-484-5236
Mar 18, 19	Open 4P State and Sectional	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Mar 25, 26???	Indoor Pistol State Championship	Valley City	Brian Kiefert	701-845-0501
Mar 25	Bis/Man Junior Club Championship	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Mar 24, 25, 26	Red River Valley Championship	Halstad, MN	Dan Duklet	218-456-2312
Apr 1, 2	Light Rifle State Championship	Bottineau	Gary Siverston	701-243-6413
Apr 8,9	LRSSA Gun Show	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Apr 29	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
May 5	Highpower Clinic – issue NDSSA Rifles	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
May 6, 7	Highpower, Std. and 1000 yd matches	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
May 13	Bullseye Pistol	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-663-8818
May 20	Blackpowder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675
May 21	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454

-Application-

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association

P O Box 228, BISMARCK ND 58502-0228

Also join via the web: <http://www.ndssa.org>

Yes, to protect my right to keep and bear arms; I would like to join the NDSSA and support the legislative efforts of the NDSSA. My dues for a membership as noted are enclosed.

Please return this form. Print name and address as you wish it to appear in our records.

Name: _____	Phone: _____	Interests	
		___ Legislation	___ Junior Program
		___ Hunting	___ Conservation
Address: _____	E-Mail Address _____	___ Collecting	___ Bullseye Pistol
		___ Air Rifle	___ Hi-Power Rifle
City: _____	State: _____ ZIP: _____	___ Air Pistol	___ Smallbore
		___ Police PPC	___ Other
		___ Rifle Silhouette	
		___ Pistol Silhouette	
		___ Hunter Safety	

Membership Dues Schedule-(Effective July 1, 2003)

Life.....\$200.00 One Year\$15.00 Clubs One Yr.....\$15.00

5 Year....\$60.00 Junior.....\$5.00 Club 5 Yr..... \$60.00

Make check payable to: North Dakota Shooting Sports Association and mail to above address. (July 2004)

Camp Perry Continued from Pg. 4

We fired an excellent score of 779-23x - dropping only 21 points to win the Master class - State Association team event again. It wasn't long ago when we didn't have any long range shooters in this state. With the new 1000 yard range in Bismarck, we are now starting to have some shooters from this state acquire the necessary long range equipment and we are starting to put together some respectable team scores in these events. Hey - if you want to be challenged in long range - come to Bismarck for a long range match. You will learn how to fire under severe/adverse conditions.

New Stuff

It seems that the development of new stuff never stops. Once again, space guns are in the majority during the National Matches. Still, those who can afford the Tubb gun are usually at the top of the list. The 6mm round (in whatever configuration) is hard to beat as an across-the-course round and it is really tough to beat at 600 yards. Sierra has now come out with a new 90 grain .223 bullet and it is finding its way to the line. You'll need a 6.5-inch twist barrel to stabilize the 90 grain bullets. However, 80 grain bullets in .223 are still in the majority at 600 yards. But military units are now beginning to extensively test the 90 grain bullets (so look out).

One of the bigger changes is on the 1000 line. Used to be you charged up that 300 Win mag. or 300 Weatherby mag. with half a can of powder and a 240 grain 30 cal bullet and touched'er off, put your brain group back in battery, loaded another round and touched'er off again. After a couple of days of this - you put the gun away - took a few aspirin - and didn't much worry about pullin' the trigger on the 1000 yard gun till next year. Well, things are beginning to change. The little 6mm bullets (or other little bullets such as the 6.5mm) are again finding their way to the 1000 yard line. Turns out a 6 mm bullet in Tubb's 6XC or Randy Gregory's (Wisconsin) 240 NMC rounds are excellent 1000 yard rounds. Also, the 6.5 bullet in a straight 260 Remington case (or improved) is also another excellent choice for pokin' holes in paper at 1000 yards.

After 2005 Perry I experimented a bit with my 240 NMC round and 107 grain Sierra bullets at 1000 yards. In my little experiment, this round printed 20 inches **HIGHER** using the same come-up from 600 yards (18 minutes) as my 7mm Short Mag with 175 Sierra match kings going 3000 feet/second at the muzzle. I may have to try this round next year for the National Match long range champ.

Finally, after years of deterioration - the Great State of Ohio is making some improvements to the post. Most of the roads are now paved or they have been re-paved. They are also making improvements to the huts. You now can hookup window air-conditioner units in the huts which took us about 2 nights to figure out that this was the way to go! So now you can now sleep in air conditioned comfort in the huts - of course this takes 1 trip (and about \$100) to Wal-Mart. The old pits on the Valie Range (which were nearing 100 years old) are **GONE!** New pits are under construction and they are scheduled to be ready in May, 2006. Take a look at the CMP website - they have a host of pictures of the construction activity on their web site.

Well - that's it for the 2005 Camp Perry report. Another great year is again behind us. We will be there again in 8 months, and I hope that more North Dakota shooters can attend. It is the greatest shootin' match in the world. If you're interested in joining the team and making a trip to the Nationals give me a call (701)255-4601.

Tom Thompson

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PO BOX 228
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED.



**The Official NRA State
 Association Newsletter**

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 Permit No. 419

