

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Hall of Fame Induction

Jim Shulind will be inducted into the North Dakota Shooting Sports Hall of Fame on January 27th at the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association (NDSSA) annual meeting and banquet to be held at the Ramada Inn in Grand Forks, ND. Jim is being honored for his contribution to the Shooting Sports in North Dakota.

Jim has been actively involved in the Shooting Sports since 1977. At that time, Jim, along with a lot of other hunters and shooting sports enthusiasts answered the call from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department to become volunteers for the new Hunter Education Program. Jim is an avid hunter and shooting athlete with a passion for trap, skeet and sporting clays. For years Jim has been involved in the Grand Forks Park District trap shooting program, where he has been responsible for organizing and introducing thousands of young athletes to the shotgun sports in Grand Forks. With the growth of High School Clay Target League in North Dakota, Jim was there to take on another challenge. Jim is now the coach for the Grand Forks Central High School trap shooting program. He has taken the Central High School team to the Grand American National Championships in Sparta, Illinois, where the Grand Forks team placed first in their division in 2016. Then returning in 2017, the Grand Forks team placed 2nd overall. One young athlete earns the distinction of Overall Junior National Champion, and in 2017 that top junior shooter was a student athlete member of Jim's team.

"Shooting Stars" the inductees into the Hall of Fame are recognized for their individual contributions to the shooting sports from stalwart support of junior shooting programs, local clubs, range development, legislative intervention, mentoring of other shooters, and are the backbone of the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association. The North Dakota Sports Hall of Fame is located at the Jamestown, ND Civic Center. There, you will find these "Shooting Stars" enshrined as outstanding sportsmen and sportswomen. They are North Dakota's finest competitive shooters, coaches and facilitators of the shooting sports.

We hope that you can join us at our NDSSA annual meeting and banquet for Jim's induction. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find a registration form for attendance at the banquet. Again, we hope to see you there.

Our North Dakota Junior's Accomplishments in 2017 were exceptional

As you all know, our North Dakota Shooting Sports Association has dedicated its efforts over many years now to the promotion and development of juniors in the competitive shooting sports. In many cases, the accomplishments of our junior competitors is not celebrated or recognized by all of our members, as it is often poorly reported.

After our last issue, I asked many of you to look back on your experiences at shooting matches across the nation in 2017. I was hoping to compile a report on not only the scores and final results of our juniors. I was looking for some insight into the actual match competition as it is normally reported for football, basketball and hockey in the newspapers and on television.

I did receive some feedback, but I believe that there is much that I am missing. Still, you will find reports on some the accomplishments that I have now to the best of my ability with the information that I have at hand.

You will find articles and photos that I believe will give you a sampling of our junior's accomplishments, and if any of you would like to expand on this theme, feel free to send me your articles. We can include more in the next issue of the Target.

As some of you are aware, Katie Zahn enjoyed exceptional success with her air rifle and her smallbore rifle in competition here in North Dakota and across the nation in 2017. So, we will start off with her accomplishments beginning on Page 3.

Editorially Speaking

Once hunting season and the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year Holidays come around, it is real hard to find the time and the inclination to get another issue of the Target completed. Thank you all for your patience. We are now deeply into the indoor shooting season with matches every weekend and postal competition targets due every month. Man, how time flies, when you are having fun indoors. The Junior Olympic competitions are upon us, and our NDSSA Annual Meeting and Banquet are at the end of this month.

I had hoped to have more complete and detailed information about National records set, National championships won, etc., but I am reporting what I have received and what I understand to be correct in this issue. If any of you find an error, let me know. I challenge you to put that information into an email and send it to me ASAP.

Our 2018 winter schedule of events is updated in this issue. Get your guns out and plan to attend as many matches as your schedule will allow. I hope to see you at a match soon.

With this electronic format for the Target, we can offer you far more content. While we will not always offer more content, we will sure try to do so. This issue contains some photos, and I hope that we can include more photos in the future. Thanks to everyone for the information I have received for the articles in this issue. It is not necessary that the match director be the only person who writes an article about a match result. Anyone of our members who has some insight into the match competition can send me an article. So, take a few minutes and write a summary of the match, maybe I can get it into our next issue.

Again, if any of you have what you think is an important thought about the shooting sports in North Dakota, write it down and email it to me.

During the next year, volunteer to help our match directors and coaches who make the matches possible. Almost all of our match directors would welcome your help, and you will learn more about what it takes to put on a good match. I think you will enjoy yourselves while you help.

"A strong body makes the mind strong. As to the species of exercises, I advise the gun. While this gives moderate exercise to the body, it gives boldness, enterprise and independence to the mind. Games played with the ball, and others of that nature, are too violent for the body and stamp no character on the mind. Let your gun therefore be your constant companion of your walks." - Thomas Jefferson, letter to Peter Carr, August 19, 1785

NDSSA is a small organization that gets a lot of good things done. We are always searching for people to [join us](#) as members or officers. If any of you have a prospective member, share your copy of our newsletter or help them fill out the membership application that is on page 5 and send it in to **P O Box 228, BISMARCK ND 58502-0228**.

"The Constitution shall never be construed to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms." Samuel Adams, Massachusetts Ratifying Convention, 1788

NDSSA Officers and Chairpersons

Web site <http://www.ndssa.org>

President: Rand McLeod, 700 Main Ave, Erie, ND 58029
Home 668-2214
Vice Pres.: Mitchell Godbout, 401 9th Ave. N, Casselton, ND 58012
Email: mdgodbout@hotmail.com. Home & Bus 701-347-5593.
Exec Off: Eric Pueppke, 14926 25th St. SE, Amenia, ND 58004
Email: epueppke@gmail.com Home & Bus 967-8450
Sec.: Tom Thompson, 2708 Stevens St, Bismarck, ND 58503-1051
Email: tt@bis.midco.net Home 255-4601
Mbr. Sec/Treas.: Walt Fairbanks, 4600 Boulder Ridge Rd., Bismarck, ND 58503; Email: walt@midco.net Home 701-751-0690
Newsletter Editor: Rick Jorgenson, 4931 81st Ave NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301 Email: rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net . Home: 662-4760
Director 1/20: James Ladwig, 17321 27th St SE, Argusville, ND 58005
Email: james@curtslock.com Home 701-484-5236
Director 1/18: Dennis Coulter, 4576 Belmont RD. Grand Forks, ND 58201-7667 Email: denny.brenda@gra.midco.net H 701-746-6959
Director 1/22: William (Bill) Langer, 201 2nd Street, Perth, ND 58363
Email: bslanger@utma.com Home 701-656-3415 Cell: 701-340-1358.
Past Pres.: Rich Butler, 411 Cottonwood Dr., Casselton, ND 58012
Email: rcbutler@far.midco.net Home 701-347-5089.
Light Rifle: Gary Sivertson, 10476 1st Ave NE, Souris, ND 58783.
Email: cqs@utma.com Home: 243-6413, Cell: 263-5266
Web Mgr.: James Ladwig, 17321 27th St SE, Argusville, ND 58005
Email: james@curtslock.com Home 701-484-5236
HG Silhouette: Ray Utter, 3061 Sand Hill Road, Bismarck, ND 58503-6467 Email: rayutter@netscape.net Home & Bus: 701-595-1136
Junior Programs:
Tom Thompson, 2708 Stevens St, Bismarck, ND 58503-1051
Email: tt@bis.midco.net Home 255-4601, Bus 701-221-1220
Highpower Rifle & Property Custodian:
Dennis Coulter, 4576 Belmont Rd., Grand Forks, ND 58201
Email: denny.brenda@gra.midco.net H 701-746-6959, Fax 772-7932.
Pistol: Rick Jorgenson, 4931-81st Ave NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301
Email: rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net. Home 662-4760 Bus 662-5301
SB Rifle Programs: See Junior Program Chair. Tom Thompson above
Rifle Silhouette: Dave Tokach, 1602 Monte Dr., Mandan, ND 58554
Email: dtokach@bis.midco.net Home: 663-8626
NRA Field Rep: Clay Pederson, P. O. Box 8, Morristown, SD 57645
Email: cpederson@nrahq.org Home & Bus: (701) 522-9622.

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 via electronic media, email, etc. 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 Editor of The Target at the following address:

Rick Jorgenson
4931 81st Ave. NE
Devils Lake, ND 58301
Email: rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net

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Katie Zaun will turn 15 in 2018, and this is a look back on her many great experiences and accomplishments as a J3 junior competitor during 2017. By any measure, she can call it a success.



Here is a picture of her at the Olympic Training Center competing next to our reigning Olympic Air Rifle Champion, Virginia Thrasher during the Winter Air in early December 2017. Annie Alexander submitted this photo of the first day of competition. Katie fired one of her best matches on the first day of competition ending with a 413.9 for forty shots and ended up in the finals for Junior Women. In the Junior Women's finals, Katie narrowly missed 3rd place by what I recall was 2 tenths of a point in her final shot of the finals. Here is a link to the match results at the USA Shooting website: http://www.usashooting.org/library/Competitions/0_2017/WAG/Results/17_WAG_Results_Day_1.pdf

I have the following as Katie's 2017 accomplishments:
- 2017 NRA Junior Conventional Smallbore National Champion (399-24X)

2017 NRA Junior Metric Smallbore National Champion (582)

USAS 50 Meter Smallbore J3 National Record (575)

USAS 50 Foot Smallbore J3 National Record (572)

USAS 10 Meter Air Rifle J3 Decimal National Record (414.3)

2017 USAS/CMP 3P Air Rifle National Champion (1388.7-94X)

CMP 3P Air Rifle J3 Aggregate + Final National Record (697.9)

2017 USAS 50 Meter Smallbore J3 Junior Olympic National Champion

2017 USAS 10 Meter Air Rifle J3 Junior Olympic National Champion

Here is another great photo of Katie from the USA Shooting/CMP 3P air rifle competition:



Here is a link to the full article on the CMP website: <http://thecmp.org/eighth-grade-competitor-wins-overall-during-cmp-national-three-position-air-rifle-event/>

Katie earned/set a number of NRA National Records as a Sub-Junior in 2017, and fortunately, the NRA sent her National Record certificates to her before I wrote this article. Here they are:

Indoor Conventional 3-P Aggregate, Any Sights - 1191-77X

Indoor Conventional 4-P Aggregate, Metallic Sights - 399

Indoor Metric 20 Shots Standing, Metallic Sights - Sub-Junior - 193

Indoor Metric 20 Shots Standing, Any Sights - 193

Indoor Metric 40 Shots Standing, Any Sights - 383

Indoor Metric 3-P Aggregate, Metallic Sights - 582

Indoor Conventional 20 Shots Standing, Any Sights - 200 + 10 Additional 10s

Indoor Conventional 4-P Aggregate, Any Sights - Sub-Junior - 396

Really fun Stuff!!

Congratulations to our North Dakota Air Rifle team and to our Air Pistol girls for their excellent performance at the 4H National Shooting Sports 2017 Championships held in Grand Island, NE June 27th thru June 29th.

Our North Dakota 4H Air Rifle Team earned first in 3-Position on Day 1, 4th in the 40 shot standing match on Day 2 and first place in Silhouettes on Day 3. Their team aggregate over all 3 matches earned them **First Place Overall in the 26 team competition!!!**

Jacob Vaagen, Christopher Morstad, Maria Rosa-Nieves and Brandon Alexander each contributed to our first place finish, and they should all be very proud of this accomplishment in head-to-head competition with all of the other state teams from across the United States. For the 3-position match, our team score was built by Maria, Brandon and Jacob as the top 3 finishers in our team. For the 40 shot standing match and in the silhouette match, our team score was built by Brandon, Maria, and Christopher. This team championship is also a credit to the quality of our Ramsey County's 4H Shooting Sports Program in partnership with our Lake Region Shooting Sports Association.

Of the 95 individuals from across the United States who fired these air rifle matches, Maria took first place in the 3P match and also in the 40 shot standing match. She had to work hard each day in order to preserve her first place rank in thrilling finals competition. After the main match, the top 8 competitors from the main match fire another 10 shots from the standing position to determine the winner in each of the 3-position and the 40 shot standing matches. These 10 extra shots are added to the 8 competitor's main match scores. So, the final ranking of these top 8 shooters is determined in front of a cheering crowd one shot at a time over the 10 shot Finals course of fire. Maria was able to preserve her first place finish over Brandon with a 636 against his 635.6 on Day 1 to win the 3-position match by .4 points. On Day 2, her aggregate with Finals score of 452.2 barely edged A. Dawson Kissik from Alabama who fired a 452.1 for second place. That is right, the winner on Day 1 was determined by 4 tenths of a point and on Day 2 it was determined by 1 tenth of a point. As you can clearly see, these matches on the first two days involved some extremely tough competition.

Then, Brandon stepped up and fired an outstanding match on Day 3 in the Silhouette competition with a high score of 32 out of 40 to win that event by a wide margin over the other 94 competitors.

Overall, Brandon earned first place in the aggregate of the three matches, and **Brandon is the 4H Air Rifle Individual National Champion for 2017.**

Maria earned 7th place overall. While she performed well in the Silhouette match, her score was not high enough to keep her at the top of the heap. Her performance to win the first two events was outstanding. It is tough to fire 3 outstanding matches in a row.

Hannah Morstad and Addisyn Meyer fired very competitive scores in all three of their air pistol events. There were 16 teams (most teams were comprised of 4 and their 3 highest individual scores in each event determined their team score just as it did in air rifle). Of course, Hannah and Addisyn could post only 2 scores for their team aggregate. Still, on Day one, Hannah fired a 277, and Addisyn fired a 244 to earn 14th place out of the 16 teams entered.

On Day 2, for the silhouette match consisting of 40 shots from the standing position, Hannah fired a 22 and Addisyn a 19. This earned them 14th place again out of the 16 teams in the competition.

On Day 3, for the 40 shot standing match, Hannah fired a 336 and Addisyn a 313 which was just good enough for 15th place in the team competition. If this 40 shot standing team competition would have been made of the best 2 scores out of a team of 4, Hannah and Addisyn would have placed 6th in the 16 teams that fired the match. Clearly, they performed very well. Had they been able to team up with even one other team member, they would have been very competitive in the team events.

At the end of the three days, Hannah earned 23rd place overall and Addisyn 33rd place overall among the 57 competitors who fired the matches.

Also, our Ramsey County 4H Shotgun team of Dylan Durbin, Bryer Erickson, Spencer Frith, and Mason Hanson also represented North Dakota at the 4H Nationals. They fired the sporting clays match on the first day, and Dylan Durbin earned 6th place of the 116 individual competitors while the team score was good for 7th of the 28 teams.

On Day 2, they competed in the Skeet match where they were unable to break into the top 10 individually, but they were successful as a team to earn 8th place in Skeet.

On Day 3, they shot Trap where their team placed 9th.

Their overall aggregate of the 3 matches placed them 5th among the 28 teams. This is a great accomplishment in this National competition. Many of the state shotgun teams are comprised of the top 4 individuals out of 10,000 or more young people who compete in their state 4H championships to earn their way to the 4H Nationals each year.

Winter Schedule of Opportunities

Jan 13	Junior Olympics – Air Pistol and Sport Pistol	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Jan 20, 21	Junior Olympics – Air Rifle and Smallbore 3P	Minot	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Jan 27	NDSSA Annual Meeting and Banquet	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jan 27, 28	Light Rifle Sectional Championship	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Feb 3 & 4	Collegiate Sectional, Rifle and Pistol	West Fargo	Eric Pueppke	701-967-8450
Feb 3	Indoor Cowboy Action Shooting	Bismarck	Mike Ripplinger	701-223-3085
Feb 10, 11	Junior 3P State and Sectional	Minot	Paul Oster	701-240-2815
Feb 10, 11	54th Annual Von Bismarck Pistol Match	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Feb 17	USPSA Match	Bismarck	Del Ray Bergan	701-220-6986
Feb 17, 18	Open 3P State and Sectional	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Feb 24	Air Pistol Sectional Championship	Ayr, ND	Rand McLeod	701-219-3657
Mar 3	Indoor Cowboy Action Shooting	Bismarck	Mike Ripplinger	701-223-3085
Mar 3, 4	Junior Air Sectional (Standing)	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Mar 3, 4	Open Air Rifle State Championship	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Mar 10, 11	Junior 4P State and Sectional	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
16, 17, 18	Open 4P State and Sectional	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Mar 17	USPSA Match	Bismarck	Del Ray Bergan	701-220-6986
Mar 18	4- Gun Indoor Silhouette Matches - Smallbore Silhouette (22 - Conventional), Lever (22, Pistol)	Bismarck	Dave Tokach	701-663-8626
Mar 24	Bismarck/Mandan Junior Club Championship	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Mar 24	Air Pistol State Championship	Ayr, ND	Rand McLeod	701-219-3657
	Some of these match dates are still tentative.			
	Always check and reserve shooting times with the match director before traveling to the match.			
	Up to date information is available at the NDSSA	http://www.ndssa.org		

-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: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail Address _____

Rifle _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

- Interests
- ___ Legislation ___ Jr. Program
 - ___ Hunting ___ Conservation
 - ___ Collecting
 - ___ Bullseye Pistol
 - ___ Air Rifle ___ Hi-Power
 - ___ Air Pistol ___ Smallbore
 - ___ Police PPC ___ Other
 - ___ Rifle Silhouette
 - ___ Pistol Silhouette
 - ___ Hunter Safety

Membership Dues Schedule-(Effective May 1, 2015)

Life.....\$500.00 One Year\$25.00 Clubs One Yr.....\$25.00
 5 Year.....\$100.00 Junior.....\$10.00 Club 5 Yr..... \$100.00

Make check payable to: North Dakota Shooting Sports Association and mail to above address.

(May 1, 2015)

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**The Official NRA State
Association Newsletter**



Wolford High School Shooting Club - Update

The Wolford High School Shooting Club is fired up for its tenth year of fun and competition. Still the only school supported shooting club with an air rifle and air pistol program.

Last year was a good one, adding seven new shooting athletes to the club roster after losing a couple of six-year veteran to the collegiate ranks. Kaitlin Slaubaugh followed Hannah Walsh's example by qualifying her first year as a competitive air pistol athlete to attend the National Junior Olympic Pistol Championship at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs last April.

This year's membership is holding strong with 11 students signed up for the shooting club. That is close to 50% of the Wolford 7-12 grade student population of twenty three. Contrast that with the eight students participating in both girl's and boys' basketball combined and you can see that the shooting sports are an important part of Wolford High School's athletic program, and for Wolford High School the only team that still carries the Wolford Wolves name.

Most of last year's athletes have returned to this year's roster, and the team will be anchored by junior veteran rifle athletes Koby Marchus and Kyle Yoder, with Cole Martodam, Kaylee Schell, and Kyle Schell completing the rifle team. The pistol team members are Kaitlin Slaubaugh, Zach Morrow, Emily Yoder and Kiara Slaubaugh, all returning from their rookie season last year. While this year's rookie squad includes Kyla Slaubaugh and Kasey Martodam. Both young athletes trying out the rifle and pistol disciplines, but are trending toward the air rifle.

So, if you see a bright orange or green wolf logo shirt at an air match this year, the Wolves are there. Come say "Hi" and meet a member of a high school team supported by the use of NDSSA leased equipment.