

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

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The President's Message

What's Up?

There you are, sipping your morning coffee and thumbing through the morning's mail. Bills, junk mail, store flyers, the normal stuff...but what's this? The Target! It sure looks different. What's going on? Just what are those NDSSA guys up to anyway? Just what has my State Association been doing for me?

These are good questions, so lets see if I can answer them for you. As you can see, the Target is different. After many years of hard work, Ed Jensen has retired as editor of the Target. It's a lot of work putting together this little magazine, and Ed did a really good job. Not only did he have to invest time and money, but he had to keep after guys like me who, well, know how to push a deadline! Ed is continuing as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association. Thanks again, Ed!

Our new editor is Kevin Krogstad from Linton. Kevin volunteered for the job and we all need to give him a hand to make the Target as informational to our membership as we can. I urge the various discipline chairs, match directors and clubs to feel free to send Kevin info on what's happening in your local clubs. I know that there's a lot going on out there in the various disciplines that could be reported in the Target. This little magazine is what links all of the individual members in the various shooting disciplines together and the more we can make of it, the more it will solidify our State Association.

In January, during our annual meeting in Bismarck, we inducted two more members into the NDSSA Hall of Fame. Bill Murrey and Jim Kondelis are now in the member rolls. I recently had the opportunity to stop by the Jamestown Civic Center and looked at the NDSSA Hall of Fame "Shooting Stars". It's an excellent exhibit and I would urge any of you passing through Jamestown to stop in and have a look. The Shooting Stars are in the center hall leading into the arena on the south side of the building.

We have also been working on legislation this session, introducing Senate Bill 2340 in January. This bill limits the liability of a Manufacturer, Distributor or individual who legally sells a properly

working firearm to someone. The seller can't be held liable for the illegal or improper use of the firearm by the person he sold it to; as long as it was sold in good faith and legally. The bill also states that a firearm cannot be deemed defective just because of its potential to cause harm. In other words, a gun is not defective just because it's a gun. We followed the bill through both the Senate and House Judiciary Committees. It was the first time I had testified to a Judiciary Committee. We met with little opposition. The bill came out of both Committees with a "do pass" recommendation and passed both the Senate and House, again with little opposition. It will soon cross the Governors desk, and I don't expect any trouble there. We also had the support of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation and the Casselton Wildlife Club among others at the Judiciary hearings. Hats off to my fellow NDSSA board members and all of their work with this. My part was small compared to theirs.

The NDSSA is partially funding two junior shooters this year who are representing North Dakota in the National JOHC Matches in Colorado Springs. Levi Geurts will be shooting Precision Air Rifle and Christopher Pueppke will be shooting Air Pistol. Good luck to both of you!

The Buffalo Sharpshooters 3-P Air Rifle team will be representing North Dakota at the Tom Lowe shooting facility in Atlanta, Georgia in June at the USA Shooting sponsored 3-P Air Rifle National Match. All but one of the team are shooting the NDSSA's Feinwerkbau P-70 Junior air rifles.

So there is just a bit of what's going on. There are a lot of folks out there putting in lots of time and effort to further the shooting sports. My sincere thanks to each and every one of you. Keep up the good work!

Good Shooting,
Eric

New Editor Takes Over

This is my first issue of *the Target* after taking the reins from Ed Jensen. It's getting out rather later than usual because of the confusion involved in passing the torch. I apologize, and will try to do better in the future.

By way of introducing myself, my name is Kevin Krogstad. I am a member of the Bismarck/Mandan Rifle & Pistol Association, and a Life Member of the NRA and NDSSA. Most of you probably don't know me yet, but I look forward to meeting more of you in the future.

You will probably notice that *the Target* is slimmed down a bit from past issues. Ed has set the bar pretty high; and I have not been

able to accumulate the amount of material he found for each edition. Hopefully between my own research, and the contributions of other members (are you listening, people?) I can continue the tradition of excellence we have come to expect during Ed's tenure. My home mailing address and e-mail are listed on the masthead on page 2. Articles, pictures, schedules and match bulletins are always welcome. Please try to have them to me at least one month before the publication date. I use Microsoft Word 97, but I can convert from nearly any format.

Editorially Speaking

The Care and Feeding of Newbies

The shooters I have met in several states and around the world, courtesy of the internet, have been uniformly the nicest people one could ever hope to meet. Of course, we all knew that already. While that is a great benefit, it is also one of our biggest handicaps. It's all too easy to take it for granted, and get comfortable with the circle of friends and fellow shooters we have built up over the years. The problem with a circle is that it divides everyone "inside" from everyone "outside".

We work hard at recruiting new shooters through youth shooting programs. Yet, we can't seem to get our membership up to where we want it. Youth programs are vital to the future of our sport. However, we must take care not to lose sight of other opportunities in our focus on youth programs.

Most youth shooters don't continue shooting past high school. True, they are inclined to be more friendly to the shooting sports, and may get back into shooting eventually, but we lose a lot of them when they discover the opposite sex and get busy with college life. Something has to go, and shooting usually ends up in the closet.

There is another reservoir of potential shooters that I don't believe we are tapping effectively. A large percentage of our youth give up most of their hobbies when they get into college. After college, they get married, raise a family, start a career, establish a home, and find a place in the community. For several years, life keeps them busy. When the children are old enough to become somewhat self-sufficient, the career is no longer new, and weight starts to migrate to the middle, these people start looking for something to do. This phenomenon is what supports bowling leagues, softball leagues, and golf courses. These people are powerful friends, or dangerous enemies. They vote, and they talk politics with their friends. We want them on our side.

We can get these people into shooting. They have the patience to work at it; they can afford the equipment; and they want to be a part of something. They have kids that could be involved in junior programs. The only thing that will keep them playing softball or golf instead of shooting is if they feel like 'outsiders' when they come into contact with us.

Nobody is being rude to them. Shooters are nice people, and try to make new shooters feel welcome. The problem is that many of us have forgotten what it feels like to be a new shooter. A while ago, a well-known highpower competitor posted on one of the internet forums, rather disgusted with his performance for shooting a 198 in "200 conditions". This shooter is certainly capable of shooting perfect scores, and has done so frequently, so perhaps he was justifiably disappointed in his own performance. I wondered, though, "what would that sound like to a new shooter who was proud of his 145, for whom a 180 would be a 'once-in-a-lifetime' score?" Most shooters will never be able to afford world-class equipment. Most will never shoot a "clean". They can all learn from the High Masters, but only if they feel comfortable talking to them.

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is this: this season, shoot a competition in a discipline you have never shot before. If you're a pistol shooter, shoot a Garand match. If you're a highpower shooter, shoot a bullseye pistol match. If you shoot both pistol and rifle, shoot a skeet match, or an archery match. Preferably, go by yourself and compete at a club where you don't know anyone. The point is, shoot a match among people much more familiar with the sport, where your chances of shooting a competitive score are low. Pay attention to the way you feel and the impressions you get of the other competitors. Since you know how competitions work, you won't get the full impact; but you will get a small sample of what new shooters are faced with.

Now, invite a new shooter to a match or league night at your club. Work on making him feel welcome and involved. Offer to line up equipment for him to try, help him with technique, and help him learn. Shooting is fun. Sometimes we lose sight of that. We forget how intimidating it is for a beginner to watch somebody with thousands of dollars worth of equipment shooting impossibly high scores.

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"The great body of our citizens shoot less as time goes on. We should encourage rifle practice among schoolboys, and indeed among all classes, as well as in the military services by every means in our power. Thus, and not otherwise, may we be able to assist in preserving peace in the world... The first step -- in the direction of preparation to avert war if possible, and to be fit for war if it should come -- is to teach men to shoot!"

-- President Theodore Roosevelt's last message to Congress

North Dakota Open Air Rifle State Championship Report

by Rick Jorgenson

This is the second year in a row that our State Champion is a junior shooter. Congratulations, Levi!! We also wish you the best of luck at the Junior Olympic National Air Rifle Championships at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs at the end of this month.

It is great to see the interest in air rifle competition grow to the point where we can have 13 to 14 shooters on the line, shoulder to shoulder. This is the type of competition atmosphere that makes the match both memorable and challenging. It is also good preparation for competition out of state at Colorado Springs or Atlanta.

It is also great to see three new competition air rifles in North Dakota. They served their owners well, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishes in Marksman class.

Thanks to all of you for a great match. Thanks to everyone for all the help with setup and teardown of the range. Finally, THANKS to Tina's mom for the cookies. We all enjoyed them!

Until next time, hold center and shoot one 10 at a time.



Russ Theurer, Stewart Jorgensen, Walt Fairbanks and Tina Thompson setting up.

**Lake Region Rifle & Pistol Club
North Dakota Open Air Rifle State Championship
March 4, 2001**

Air Rifle

Competitor	Class	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Levi Geurts	EX	94	94	96	96	96	93	569
Cody Schonert	EX	91	90	91	91	92	92	547
Stewart Jorgensen	EX	85	90	89	85	92	91	532
Russ Theurer	SS	93	92	95	95	92	94	561
Thomas Thompson	SS	87	92	95	93	93	90	550
Walt Fairbanks	MK	82	86	81	84	79	81	493
Mary Kay Tokach	MK	70	77	77	78	76	86	464
Tina Thompson	MK	73	78	77	73	80	80	461
Richard Jorgenson	MK	72	73	72	81	79	77	454
Dan Geurts	MK	70	74	78	72	74	78	446
Paul Hovland	MK	78	67	68	75	77	75	440
Tyson C. Schneider	MK	81	62	74	75	56	70	418
Darin M. Carlsrud	MK	54	67	62	73	68	73	397
Ryan Carlsrud	MK	70	65	68	52	60	67	382
Luke Schafer	MK	68	56	55	56	55	63	353

For Sale

- .45 ACP Bullseye wadcutter pistol
 - Colt Series 70 Giles Custom
 - Full length rib with Giles iron sights
 - Cal-Grip Himount
 - BSA BZ-30 electronic red dot sight
 - Three magazines
 - Spare sight battery
 - Price: \$1000.00
- Contact: John Hoflen (701)277-1043
e-mail jthoflen@qwest.net

Note- the ads that occupy this space in the printed edition were not yet digitized so they couldn't be included. I will update this issue when I get them done.

Words of wisdom from P. J. O'Rourke:

"A politician who claims he's going to cut the size of government is saying that he's going to creep up on himself and steal his own wallet."
 "To grasp the true meaning of socialism, imagine a world where everything is designed by the post office, even the sleaze."
 "There is only one basic right, the right to do as you damn well please. And with it comes the only basic human duty, the duty to take the consequences."
 "This country was founded by religious nuts with guns."
 "When buying and selling are controlled by legislation, the first things to be bought and sold are legislators."

Shooters Advance To Junior Olympic Championship

by Eric Pueppke

The 2001 North Dakota State Junior Olympic Air Rifle, Air Pistol, and Smallbore Championships were held in Devils Lake January 28th. Junior shooters competed individually in this competition sponsored by USA Shooting. Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded to the top individual girls and the top individual boys in all three competitions. If a shooter wins with a qualifying score, he is invited to advance to the 2002 Junior Olympic National Championships at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO in April, 2001.

The smallbore rifle winners for girls were gold - Kelly Coons, Thompson; silver - Brandi Chmielewski, Bismarck; and bronze - Kyla Noon, Bismarck. The boy's smallbore rifle winners were gold - Cody Schonert, Bismarck; silver - Josh Deschene, Bismarck; and bronze - Cannon Kroh, Mandan.

The air pistol winners were gold - Christopher Pueppke, Erie; silver - Canon Kroh, Mandan; and bronze - Matthew Langer, Perth.

The air rifle winners for girls were gold - Kelly Coons, Thompson; silver - Brandi Chmielewski, Bismarck; and bronze - Kyla Noon, Bismarck. The boy's air rifle winners were gold - Levi Geurts, Buffalo; silver - Cody Schonert, Bismarck; and bronze - Josh Deschene, Bismarck.

Christopher Pueppke and Levi Geurts will be advancing to the Junior Olympic Championships in Colorado. Christopher Pueppke had a qualifying score of 478 in air pistol. Levi Geurts had a qualifying score of 557 in air rifle.

Light Rifle Postal Match Results

by Gary Sivertson

The Bottineau Gun Club held its annual Light Rifle postal match from January 1 through March 19, 2001. 54 shooters entered, and 40 got their targets turned in on time. The winner of the special edition shotgun drawing was Steve Lange of Rolla. Congratulations Steve!

High Master			
Terry Moe	1956	97.80	Match Winner
Roger Sebesta	1954	97.70	1 st HM
Steve White	1949	97.45	2 nd HM
Jim Budeau	1947	97.35	3 rd HM
Steve Lange	1944	97.20	
Tom Spriggs	1933	96.65	
Master			
Gary Sivertson	1897	94.85	1 st MA
Mark Charlebois	1892	94.60	2 nd MA
Andrew Johnson	1890	94.50	3 rd MA
Tom Thompson	1873	93.65	
Cleo Charlebois	1803	90.15	
Expert			
Bill Langer	1917	95.85	1 st EX
Marty Espe	1891	94.55	2 nd EX
Darrell Wintermute	1869	93.45	3 rd EX
Chad Starr	1818	90.90	
Pat McCoy	1816	90.80	
Randy Martz	1791	89.55	
Chet Reich	1770	88.50	

Postal Match Results, continued

Sharpshooter			
Ron Pieracini	1839	91.95	1 st SS
Kathie White	1837	91.85	2 nd SS
Coby Dagliesh	1830	91.50	3 rd SS
Walt Fairbanks	1826	91.30	
Ryan Mitchell	1824	91.20	
Dudley Irvine	1817	90.85	
Terry Steward	1811	90.55	
Paul Henderson	1805	90.25	
Lynn Lawler	1802	90.10	
Curt Hahn	1801	90.05	
Mike Cruff	1795	89.75	
Richard Leshousley	1781	89.05	
Shane Clevsen	1773	88.65	
Norman Mell	1771	88.55	
Fred Tammany	1770	88.50	
Joseph Thorman	1755	87.75	
Joseph Heiser	1754	87.70	
Marksman			
Paul Grann	1753	87.65	1 st MK
Matt Langer	1680	84.00	2 nd MK
Erin Thorman	1670	83.50	3 rd MK
Colleen Thorman	1648	82.40	
Tom Kelsh	1647	82.35	

Buffalo Sharpshooters Host NRA Sectional And First Ever JOHC 3-Position Matches

by Eric Pueppke

The 2001 NRA International 3-Position Air Rifle Sectional was held Sunday, February 25th in Buffalo ND. Levi Geurts won the gold medallion (583-38x), Cody Schonert won the silver medallion (556-24x), Brandi Chmielewski won the 1st Intermediate Junior (514-12x), and Matthew Pueppke won the 1st Sub Junior (501-6x). The team gold medal was won by the Bismarck/Mandan Rifle & Pistol team. The Junior team of Cody Schonert, Jarrod Breuer, Brandi Chmielewski, and Tyson Schneider shot a score of 1914-45x.

Also on this day, the very first ND State USA Shooting JOHC 3-Position Precision Air Rifle competition was held in Buffalo. The first place team was the Buffalo Sharpshooters. The team members are Levi Geurts, Darin Carlsrud, Ryan Carlsrud, and Matthew Pueppke. Individually, Levi Geurts placed first, Matthew Pueppke placed second, and Ryan Carlsrud placed third overall. This team will advance to the JOHC Championship at the Tom Lowe Shooting Complex in Atlanta, Georgia in June.

"If I knew what you've made during the year, if I know what your withholding is, if I know what your spending pattern is, I should be able to generate for you a tax return. I am an excellent advocate of return-free filing. We know everything about you that we need to know. Your employer tells us everything about you that we need to know. Your activity records on your credit cards tell us everything about you that we need to know. Through interface with Social Security, with the DMV, with your banking institutions, we really have a lot of information ... We could literally file a return for you. This is the future we'd like to go to."

-- US Internal Revenue Service Document Processing System project manager
Coleta Brueck

2001 Schedule of Opportunities, May-July

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	POINT OF CONTACT	PHONE
May 5, 6	N. D. State Championship Cowboy Shoot	Center	Mark Montgomery	701-794-3391
May 6	800 Agg Approved Highpower	Billings, MT	Dusty Frimodig	406-633-2486
May 12	800 Agg Approved Highpower & Garand Match	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
May 19	800 Agg Approved Highpower	Circle, MT	Tim Sowa	406-365-4141
May 19	IDPA	E. Grand Forks	Jim Stoudt	701-746-5514
May 19	Approved 2700 Pistol	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
May 20	800 Agg Approved Highpower	Glendive, MT	Terry Pederson	406-365-6836
May 20	Cowboy Action	E. Grand Forks	Jim Stoudt	701-746-5514
May 20	Pistol Regional and State Championship- 2700	Brookings, SD	Dave Dotson	605-692-2849
May 20	Cowboy Action Shooting	E. Grand Forks	Jim Stout	701-746-5514
Jun 2	Approved Silhouette Matches (Highpower and smallbore)	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-663-3856
Jun 2, 3	ND Smallbore State Champs (4P, Long Range, Prone)	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
May 7	Cowboy Action Shoot	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Jun 9, 10	Long Range Rifle (Sat) and 80 Shot Approved Match (Sun)	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jun 9, 10	Pistol Regional- 2700	Oakdale, MN	Tom O'Donnell	651-455-1529
Jun 16	800 Agg Approved Highpower	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Jun 16	IDPA	E. Grand Forks	Jim Stout	701-746-5514
Jun 17	Cowboy Action Shooting	E. Grand Forks	Jim Stout	701-746-5514
Jun 23, 24	Highpower Regional - Individual, Team, Leg Match	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jun 24	Cowboy Action Shoot	Center	Mark Montgomery	701-794-3391
Jun 30, Jul 1	Upper Midwest Palma Extravaganza	Harris, MN	Don Sjoblom	(FAX)763-577-1964
Jul 1	Approved 2700 Pistol	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Jul 11-17	National Matches - Pistol	Camp Perry		703-267-1450
Jul 14, 15	Garand match, 600 yd matches (Sat) 800 Agg Highpower (Sun)	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Jul 21	IDPA	E. Grand Forks	Jim Stout	701-746-5514
Jul 21, 22	ND Highpower State Champion - Individual, Team, Leg Match	Grand Forks	William O'Connell	701-772-4109
Jul 22	Cowboy Action Shooting	E. Grand Forks	Jim Stout	701-746-5514
Jul 22	Cowboy Action Shoot	Center	Mark Montgomery	701-794-3391
Jul 22	Approved 2700 Pistol	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Jul 29	N. D. State Silhouette Matches (Highpower and smallbore)	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-663-3856
Jul 29	N. D. Outdoor Pistol State Championship	Valley City	Bill Brackin	701-282-7158
Jul 31-Aug 4	National Matches - Service Rifle	Camp Perry		703-267-1450

-Application-

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association

P O Box 9242., Fargo, ND 58106-9242

Also join via the web: 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 on 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

Membership Dues Schedule-

Life.....\$150.00 One Year..\$10.00 Two Year.....\$18.00 Clubs One Yr.....\$20.00
 5 Year.....\$40.00 Junior.....\$5.00

Make check payable to: North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, and mail to above address. (April 2001)

Guns Not the Cause Of School Violence, Says Education Secretary...

Appearing on several news programs on Sunday, March 11, U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige addressed the recent shootings at a suburban San Diego high school and stressed that "Probably the biggest problem we have is the amount of alienation and rage in our young people." Confronting that situation rather than passing more gun laws should be the country's focus, Paige told CBS's Face the Nation. Paige told CNN's Late Edition that "focusing on guns is much too narrow, it's beyond guns...they're not the cause of the violence." Paige highlighted the Bush administration's approach for more after-school programs, more parental involvement and expanded character education in the nation's schools. "Character education offers an opportunity to teach kids things like empathy, compassion, tolerance...all values that we all know are wonderful," Paige said. In his address to Congress last month, President Bush spoke of tripling the funding for character education "to teach our children not only reading and writing, but right from wrong."

Want to shoot Service Rifle competition? Here's your chance!

The North Dakota Shooting Sports Association presently has several Civilian Marksmanship Program M-14 service rifles, and possibly an AR-15, in storage. Youth shooters get first chance at the AR-15. These are match quality rifles, intended for use by beginning High Power shooters. If you have an interest in being able to use one of these rifles, contact Denny Coulter for details at 701-746-6959 evenings.

Dorgan & Conrad Earn a Cautious "Attaboy"

by Kevin Krogstad

In the face of determined opposition from the left, John Ashcroft was recently approved as Attorney General of the United States. 42 Democrat Senators (including both of South Dakota's) voted against his confirmation, basically because he had vowed to fairly enforce the laws of our nation without preference. Our own usually leftist Senators were among the very few Democrats courageous enough to cast a vote for decency and fairness.

Since I have always been willing to point out the numerous times Conrad and Dorgan have voted against us, I thought it was only fair to congratulate them on a job well done in this case. Whether Mr. Ashcroft lives up to his promises remains to be seen, but we are all aware of the blemish left on our nation's history by his predecessor. He can hardly do worse.

I don't suppose there is any hope that this vote signals a new era of our Senators voting in accordance with the people of North Dakota, but maybe if they get positive feedback every time it happens...

The Target- Online!

Starting with this issue, *The Target* will be available on the NDSSA website (<http://www.ndssa.org/>) in PDF format. For now, the online version will be simply an electronic copy of the print newsletter, as this issue is late enough already.

In the near future, I hope to move from PDF format to a fully interactive online publication with e-mail links and more photos than can be accommodated in the print version.

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc.
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