

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

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October, November, December 2005

The President's Message

Willie doesn't like to write messages, so this is by Rick Jorgenson

The three smiling faces you see on this page are explained in a very fine article by Eric Pueppke that you will find on pages 3 & 4 of this newsletter.

The older I get, the more I enjoy the accomplishments of our junior shooters, and these three youngsters sure bring a smile to my face whenever I see them at a match. They each make the best of the day at hand and are a credit to their coach and their parents.

Matt and Soren have quite a few more years to go through as junior shooters, and I look forward to their continued improvement in the sports of Air Rifle and Smallbore.

Levi's skill level continues to improve. He is shooting rifle at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. He recently fired personal best scores of 593 and 592 with his Air Rifle at a match on October 28 & 29. Here is an excerpt from the University's news about the match:

MEN'S/WOMEN'S RIFLE

Oct 29, 2005, 19:30

FAIRBANKS, AK – Marksmen **Levi Geurts (Buffalo, ND)** and **Jamie Beyerle (Lebanon, PA)** led the University of Alaska Fairbanks rifle team to its second victory over visiting Kentucky Saturday at the Patty Center Rifle Range.

Both teams had improved performances all-around, as UAF bettered its scores from Friday's match by 15 points. The Nanooks out shot Kentucky 2,367 to 2,330 in air rifle and 2,351 to 2,335 in the small bore, for a combined team score of 4,718 to 4,665.

Geurts, a freshman, shot a 593 in the air rifle and Beyerle, a senior, a 593 in the small bore tying Kentucky's Ray Geyer and Andrew Roland, who also topped their team efforts by the same scores in the respective events.

It is great to see our young shooters do so well. It makes me reflect on the true value of the shooting sports to everyone who participates. The effort to develop the discipline and focus necessary to shoot well produces the skills every person needs in order to succeed in our school systems and in the world as an adult. Of course, the best part is that shooting is just plain fun.

Incidentally, Jamie Beyerle fired some great scores at the Smallbore National Championships at Camp Perry

this year. There is a good article about her in the most recent edition of the NRA Shooting Sports magazine.



Matt, Levi, and Soren at the Olympic Training Center 2005

See Eric's article on pages 3 and 4 for details of their trip to the OTC in Colorado Springs for the Junior Olympic National Championships.

Editorially Speaking

Since our last issue, I have worked through a very challenging and busy spring, summer and early fall. As you all know, I really like to shoot pistol and black powder cartridge rifle. I have even been known to shoot some high power and small bore rifle. However, this summer didn't cooperate very well. I've not had much time to shoot and have found shooting bulls-eye pistol physically painful. On the plus side, I have acquired a Black Labrador puppy to keep me active and find those few birds that I am fortunate enough to shoot each fall.

I regret that I have not been able to find time for this newsletter either. I hope you all enjoyed a more active summer and took advantage of the shooting matches offered by our local shooting clubs and match directors.

In this issue, we have a very fine article about the experiences of our junior shooters at the Junior Olympic Nationals, and I thank Eric for that article. We have some shooting results for you here in the newsletter and could always use more articles from our members. Again, send your articles by e-mail, if at all possible. I am much more capable of cutting and pasting an article into this newsletter than I am of typing from your hard copy.

Our junior shooters and their coaches enjoyed another great opportunity to take in a Bob Foth clinic in Fargo, ND in October. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Eric and Char Pueppke who were instrumental in arranging for Bob's clinic. Eric & Char even arranged for Bob to stay with them in their home. I understand that Bob's clinic was again very worth while.

Our winter Air Gun Postal competition begins again in November, but there is still time to sign up and shoot with us. See our notice on page 4 for information about the postal and the steps to sign up.

Our North Dakota Shooting Sports annual meeting and banquet will be in Bismarck, ND this year on January 28, 2006. Walt Fairbanks has been able to arrange for Dan Durbin to speak at the banquet. We hope to arrange a short clinic by Dan Durbin as well.

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.

I wrote to Congressman Pomeroy about the current Status of the H.R. 800 and just received his reply. Congressman Earl Pomeroy co-sponsored H.R. 800, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act to limit liability for manufacturers or sellers of firearms and ammunition. However, before H.R. 800 could be brought before the House of Representatives, the Senate passed a similar bill, S. 397. The House adopted the Senate bill and passed it by a vote of 283-144 on October 20, 2005. Congressman Pomeroy voted in favor of this bill. The bill was signed into law by the President on October 26, 2005.

This is great news for all of us who have worked for this legislation and for the manufacturers who have been hard pressed to defend themselves over the last few years.

The following quote clearly speaks to this issue:

If guns cause crime, then pencils cause misspelled words, and guns kill people just like spoons have made Rosie O'Donnell fat.

NDSSA Officers and Chair people

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- HG Silhouette: Cathy Logosz, 9211 62 Ave NE., Dickinson, ND 58601-8534 <mailto:cdlogosz@ctctel.com> Home & Bus: 225-9461.
- Junior Programs: See Past Pres. Tom Thompson above.
- HiPwr Rifle: See Director Dennis Coulter above.
- Pistol: Steve Faught, 2581-149th Ave SE, Amenia, ND 58004 Email: rushridge@email.msm.com. Home & Bus: 347-5903.
- SB Rifle Programs: See past Pres. Tom Thompson above.
- Rifle Silhouette: Tim Frank, 10 Div. St., Mandan, ND 58554-1925 Home & Bus: 663-3856,
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TALES FROM COLORADO SPRINGS
AND
VARIOUS OTHER PONDERINGS

Having been a competitive shooter for more than a couple of decades, I thought that I had "been around the horn" a few times, experienced a lot of things, and seen much of what there is to see. Then my youngest son started competing in junior rifle shooting and I suddenly realized that there was a whole new shooting world out there. If someone would have told me 5 years ago that what's going on in Junior shooting today was going to take place, well, I'd of thought they were plumb crazy! Let's take for example Junior Olympic Shooting. From its humble beginnings a few years ago, our local club has blossomed from one or two to 10 Precision Air Rifle shooters. This spring, out of 82 Air Rifle shooters from across the nation who were invited to the JOSOC in Colorado Springs, 3 came from our little club. That's right, 3 of our 10 were invited! Who is responsible for this feat?

One must give credit where credit is due. In this case, a lot of the credit goes to my old ice cream eatin' buddy, Dan Geurts. Dan is a good shooting coach and has the uncanny ability to teach his crew to shoot the standing position well. His juniors always excel at standing. Now, lay them on their bellies with a sling or put them on one knee and sometimes things don't go so well. But let 'em shoot offhand and they can just plain shoot. One must also give credit to the parents. Parents have to buy stuff. They have to drive places. They have to be coaches, and pack mules, and parents. And we should save a little credit for the shooters. All they have to do is be organized, motivated, calm and collected, and shoot lots of perfect shots under match conditions. Yeah, I suppose they deserve a little credit. In fact, maybe I should introduce them to you.

First there's Levi Geurts. Now if you follow rifle shooting in this state at all, you have heard of Levi. If you are an adult rifle shooter trying to win a match, you've heard of Levi. If you are a junior shooter trying to win a match, you've heard of Levi. Levi is on the US National Team. He's an inspiration to every shooter in this state. He's not afraid to pass on the knowledge he has to other shooters. Levi finished 3rd overall in Air Rifle at the JOSOC going into the finals, and ended up 5th. This is the best a North Dakota shooter has ever placed at the JOSOC! He also placed a very respectable 17th in Smallbore.

Now if you see Levi, chances are that he will have a short kid with glasses with him. Levi tells me that most people in the shooting world think that this short kid is his brother and constantly ask him where his brother is and how is his brother doing. Levi tells them that, no, he doesn't have a brother. It's his buddy, Matthew Pueppke.

As my son, Matthew has inherited some of my traits. One of these is a slight tendency towards disorganization. This genetic glitch showed up at the JOSOC Air Rifle matches on day one. We had purchased a new shooting coat the day before and somehow Matthew's equipment checklist ended up in the pocket of this new coat and not in the pocket of his old coat that he would be shooting in. One hour before match time this was discovered and I had to make a fast trip back to the hotel to retrieve the checklist. Upon returning 10 minutes later, I found Matthew in an excited state. He was sure that he was short on time even though they hadn't even let his relay on the range yet to start setting up. Things went from bad to worse when with only minutes to go before the prep period; the range officer decided that Matthew's blinders on his glasses were too large. They had been OK'ed in equipment check the day before but what do you do? I had no choice but to trim them back a little bit more. This only got poor Matthew more excited. We told him to clear his mind and shoot one shot at a time and then we sat down and waited for the disaster.

Matthew sat down behind his firing point. I can't tell you what went thru his mind. We had often talked of all the folks back home who were pulling for him, and about all those who had helped get him to where he was sitting now. We'd talked about a similar situation I'd been in, and how you can't give up and that it isn't over till its over. He sat there and then he got up and started the match. Char read a book, unable to watch. I watched in my scope. 95, 94...hey, he's not doing so badly. 98,98,99,95! It was over and he turned and gave little thumbs up and a subdued smile. He'd just shot a new J3 National Record!

Matthew went on the next day to shoot a 574. Added to the National Record of 579, it gave him the Gold Medal in Men's Air Rifle, J3 category. He also earned a Silver Medal in 3p Smallbore, J3. He missed setting a National Record in that event by 4 points.

One of the reasons I wanted to share the previous experience with you is for you parents out there. Don't ever let anyone tell you that watching a shooting match is like watching paint dry. If you don't believe me just ask Rich and Carrie Butler. Soren is their son and is the third member of the trio to travel to Colorado to shoot Men's Air Rifle.

Soren is new to the sport and has been shooting Precision Air Rifle for only about a year now. At 10 years old he was one of, if not the, youngest shooter there. Soren likes to shoot. Not unlike many young shooters, he doesn't much care what's going on around him. Just give him a target and he'll have at it.

Unfortunately things don't always work. And so in Match One, Soren was shooting his sighters getting honed in when disaster struck. Suddenly his target machine went haywire and fell apart. What happens then is that the range officials will help you move all your equipment down to the end of the line where they have extra firing points available. Now this is enough to shake anybody, but not Soren. He once again had a target to shoot at and he started shooting again. He shot a 563, a personal best. He followed that up the next day with a 564, another personal best. Those two scores combined to earn him the Bronze Medal in the J3 category!

I could tell you of disasters that happened to me in my shooting career that just didn't work out as well as it did for these young men. I, for one, am in awe of their performances at the JOSOC. Perhaps they learned from watching Levi, who had his air rifle malfunction at a match in Devils Lake this past winter. Levi didn't get excited or upset. He just swapped out his barreled action with one that Tom Thompson removed from one of his guns. With Tom's barreled action in Levi's stock, he started to shoot. Another part fell out! He continued to shoot and went on to win the match with an excellent score!

The Junior Olympic Selection Matches are well worth your time and effort to attend. They are held in beautiful Colorado Springs under the shadow of Pikes Peak. It's a scenic drive...if you avoid the western Nebraska route! We have made many, many good friends there. We've met many of the members of the National Team. It's a trip worth working towards.

I attended the JOSOC during Men's Rifle and so I can't pass on any first hand experiences from Women's Rifle or Men's Air Pistol. I can tell you that Kelsey Hanson of Minot and Kaylee Kuntz of Bismarck participated in Women's Air Rifle and shot well. I can also report that Kyle Faught represented the State well in Men's Air Pistol.

Continued on Pg 4

TALES Continued.

So where do we go from here? Levi and Matthew competed in the USA Shooting Nationals at Ft. Benning in June. Soren joined them in July in Bloomington, Illinois along with our Air Pistol Team to compete in the 2005 NRA National Junior Air Matches. Then in August, Levi and Matthew were back to Colorado Springs for the American Legion Nationals, having qualified in 5th and 6th place respectively. (Only the top 15 shooters get to go to Colorado for this one!) Finally, on the 21st-23rd of October, Bob Foth was once again in Fargo for a pair's clinic. After that is the beginning of the winter shooting schedule including, among a lot of other matches, the 2006 Junior Olympic Selection Match. (This JOSM match will be held early this next year on January 7 & 8, 2006 in Minot, ND) Let's see if we can break last year's record of 5 North Dakota shooters at the Junior Olympics!

Good shooting,
Eric Puepke

Silhouette Rifle State Championship Results

Bismarck/Mandan Rifle & Pistol Association ND State Smallbore Rifle Silhouette Championship August 20, 2005 Smallbore Hunting Rifle

Name	Class	C	P	T	R	Tot	Place
Tim Frank	AAA	<u>8</u>	6	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	26	State Champ
Sam May	AAA	5	6	5	4	20	1 st AAA
James Ladwig	AAA	6	6	2	5	19	
John Dannenberg	AAA	3	<u>7</u>	2	1	13	
Lee Dannenberg	AAA	0	1	3	2	6	
Kelly Landis	AA	6	5	5	5	21	1 st AA
Steve Berndt	AA	5	5	2	4	16	
David Tokach	AA	2	4	2	3	11	
Curt Ladwig	A	4	6	3	5	18	
Walt Fairbanks	A	0	4	1	3	8	
Tom Thompson	B	6	5	2	5	18	1 st A/B
Kevin Hertz	B	3	6	2	0	11	

Smallbore Heavy Rifle

Name	Class	C	P	T	R	Tot	Place
Tim Frank	AAA	6	<u>6</u>	3	<u>5</u>	20	State Champ
James Ladwig	AAA	5	5	3	2	15	1 st AAA/AA
Sam May	AAA	4	5	3	2	14	
Steve Berndt	AA	3	3	<u>4</u>	4	14	
Walt Fairbanks	A	2	6	4	5	17	1 st A/B
Kelly Landis	A	<u>7</u>	4	1	4	16	2ndA/B
Curt Ladwig	A	1	6	3	4	14	
Dave Tokach	A	2	1	1	4	8	
Tom Thompson	B	4	4	3	4	15	
Ben Henke		3	1	0	3	7	

Ties were broken by a shoot off

Congratulations to **Tim Frank** for winning the state championship in smallbore heavy and hunting rifle.

You couldn't have asked for better weather to shoot smallbore. What a great day.

Bismarck/Mandan Rifle & Pistol Association ND State Rifle Silhouette Championship August 21, 2005 Highpower Hunting Rifle

Name	Class	C	P	T	R	T	Place
James Ladwig	AA	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	2	4	20	State Champ
Carl Winterberg	A	7	6	4	2	19	1 st A
Kelly Landis	A	4	2	3	4	13	2 nd A
Tim Frank	A	2	1	1	<u>5</u>	9	
Steve Berndt	A	4	1	3	1	9	
Doug Keller	A	4	1	2	0	7	
Walt Fairbanks	B	3	6	3	2	14	1 st B
Dave Tokach	B	4	5	0	4	13	
Tom Thompson	B	0	4	<u>4</u>	2	10	
Curt Ladwig	B	0	3	2	2	7	

Highpower Heavy Rifle

Name	Class	C	P	T	R	T	Place
James Ladwig	AA	8	<u>6</u>	5	3	22	State Champ
Carl Winterberg	AA	<u>8</u>	0	5	<u>8</u>	21	
Kelly Landis	A	5	4	4	6	19	1 st A
Tim Frank	A	3	5	<u>6</u>	3	17	2 nd A
Doug Keller	A	3	5	3	4	15	
Steve Berndt	A	4	6	4	1	15	
Dave Tokach	A	4	5	3	1	13	
Tom Thompson	B	5	5	4	2	16	1 st B
Walt Fairbanks	B	2	4	0	3	9	
Curt Ladwig	B	1	4	1	2	8	

All ties were broken by shoot off.

Congratulations to **James Ladwig** for winning the state highpower silhouette championship in heavy and hunting rifle. He may have also set a new state record with 8 chickens in hunting rifle.

LAKE REGION SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION
presents...

The Winter 2005-2006 Air Gun Postal League Match

Match Schedule We offer six monthly matches during the months of November through April. Upon receiving your registration, we will mail you your match targets.

Course of Fire: NRA Air Rifle & Pistol rules apply, and all firing is to be done from the standing position at targets positioned 33 feet distant from the shooter.

Fired targets are then returned to **Rick & Connie Jorgenson, 4931 81st Ave. NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301-9634** by the last day of each month for which they are shot. We produce a monthly match report, and chart your monthly match scores to produce an aggregate match report at the end of the six month match period.

For more information or answers to questions, please give Rick or Connie a call at 701-662-5301 (day) or 701-662-4760 (evening) or e-mail us at rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net

2006 Winter Schedule of Opportunities

Date	Event	Location	Contact	Phone
Dec 10, 2005	Open 4P Winter warm up match	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Dec 11	Open Air Rifle and Pistol Matches	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
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

-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)

Spring High Power Rifle Championship April 30, 2005 at the Bis/Man Rifle & Pistol Club Range

RESULTS of the Spring High Power rifle match held April 30, 2005 at the Bismarck/Mandan Rifle & Pistol Association's range. Twenty-three shooters participated.

Match Winner:	Tom Thompson, Bismarck, ND	774-21X
First Master:	Coby Dalglish, Sarles, ND	730-11X
First Expert/Sharpshooter:	Russ Theurer, Menoken, ND	731-10X
First Marksman:	Nick Berndt, Herreid, SD	676-6X
High Junior:	Tyler Gregor, Black Hawk, SD	713-11X

RESULTS of the Spring Long Range match held May 1, 2005 at the Bismarck/Mandan Rifle and Pistol Association's range. Fourteen shooters participated.

Match Winner:	Russ Theurer, Menoken, ND	376-5X
First, Combined Classes:	Eric Hermans, Aberdeen, SD	366-5X
First, F-Class:	Donovan Moran, LaMoure, ND	393-20X
Second, F-Class:	Steve Berndt, Herreid, SD	389-9X
Third, F-Class:	Tom Thompson, Bismarck, ND	385-17X

Only the 600-yard and one 1,000-yard matches were fired. The third match, at 1,000 yards, was canceled due to the very poor weather.

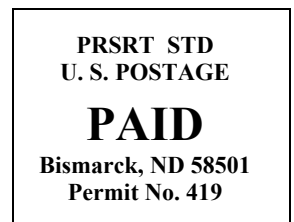
New Mailing Address for our Association

The new North Dakota Shooting Sports Association address is: **PO BOX 228 BISMARCK ND 58502-0228** effective 11/1/05

Our membership Secretary, John Hoflen reports that he has new life membership cards and a new laminating machine. If the life members would send him their issue date, he could put it on a new laminated card and record the date in the membership database. He also plans to stamp "JUNIOR" on the junior member's cards only and will no longer use "SENIOR" on the others. The new cards are smaller than the old and it gets pretty crowded with the stamp.

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc.
PO BOX 228
BISMARCK ND 58502-0228

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED.



**The Official NRA State
 Association Newsletter**

