

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

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Get Over It

Over the last few decades, our nation has progressively adopted political correctness in all things and at all costs. It seems that there is always an excuse for failure and almost no excuse for success.

As Mark Knopfler of Dire Straits wrote it, we want our "Money for Nothing". Those of you who are familiar with the lyrics to that song may also be aware of what a stir they caused back in 1985. For those of you who have not heard the song or may not be familiar with the lyrics, I recommend that you get a copy and listen to it a few times.

The ideas put forth in that song are in strong contrast to the ideals of our nation's founders. 250 years ago, our nation was made up of people who were intimately familiar with the terms apprentice, journeyman and master of any given skill. Today, we are hard pressed to find anyone who is willing to dedicate themselves to incremental effort over time to develop and master any skill.

Instant gratification seems to be the goal of many.

Against this mindset that many in our nation have adopted, it is increasingly difficult to find someone who is willing to undertake the incremental, and often long-term, effort necessary to master our sport of competitive shooting. While we see and recognize those who have mastered the skills necessary to be strongly competitive in our sport, most refer to those people as talented rather than skilled. I have personally observed many people tiptoe into this sport and then step back rapidly when they find that they cannot perform at a high level after only a session or two of casual effort to learn the very fundamentals of the sport of competitive shooting.

I do take some encouragement from the fact that the Knopfler song was followed by the Eagles in 1994 with their song "Get Over It". For those of you who are unfamiliar with the lyrics, the song is about Don Henley's frustration with those who place blame for their failures, mental breakdowns, and financial problems on those who don't deserve it and then believing that the world owes them a favor (a free lunch anyone???).

Over the past few years, I have become more and more involved in the 4-H Shooting Sports. The 4-H Shooting Sports Program has a mission that parallels our own. The National 4H Shooting Sports website states that: "*The focus of all 4-H programs is the development of youth as individuals and as responsible and productive citizens. The National 4-H Shooting Sports Program stands out as an example. Youth learn*

marksmanship, the safe and responsible use of firearms, the principles of hunting and archery, and much more. The activities of the program and the support of caring adult leaders provide young people with opportunities to develop life skills, self-worth, and conservation ethics."

I have often said that it is the parents' job to raise responsible, self-reliant and productive adults. I don't see how this can be accomplished easily while our nation continues to focus on the politically correct principle that there is always an excuse for failure and further that there is no such thing as failure in the classroom or in many of our schoolchildren's endeavors. Ask any successful person how much they learned from failure. Again, Teddy Roosevelt's statement about the man in the arena says it very well.

As a parent who wants to raise a responsible, self-reliant and productive adult, there are very few activities that will help them along that road. I'll say it again. The road well-traveled is the road toward mediocrity. Unfortunately, many travel that road because they were simply never guided to the other path that they could've taken.

The shooting sports offer young people and their parents an enjoyable road to adulthood. They will enjoy their effort almost as much as their success along the way. The 4-H Shooting Sports Program in North Dakota is administered by North Dakota State University through county extension agents and volunteers. Those of you who have developed a skill in the shooting sports and who would like to pass that skill on to a young person should consider volunteering in the 4-H Shooting Sports Program in your county of residence. Give someone a chance to earn a good self-image.

Do a young person a real favor. Introduce them to the competitive shooting sports and support them in their development of the skills necessary to succeed at whatever level their talent will allow. Along the way, they will learn skills that they can apply in almost any effort that their daily life might require of them.

I did not begin to shoot competitively until I was over 25 years old. I regret that I did not get involved in the shooting sports at a far earlier age. Join me and our other volunteers to give a young person the chance to get involved in the shooting sports early in their life.

Rick Jorgenson

Editorially Speaking

I am again late with this issue of our newsletter.

If you have not visited our website, I again invite you to do so. James continues to do a great job with the site. It is the best place to keep up-to-date with the activities of our association. You will find information there about past champions, North Dakota state records, match results, upcoming matches and who to contact with questions about any shooting discipline.

Thanks again to Tom Thompson for his efforts to compile the North Dakota state shooting opportunities schedule. I appreciate everyone who makes the effort to send an article or bit of information that our members might enjoy. I'll edit as necessary; so write what you can and get it to me soon.

My son, Travis, James Ladwig, and I just returned from the Conventional Pistol Championships in Camp Perry. The trip was again worthwhile. I recommend it to anyone who enjoys the competitive shooting sports. In other circumstances, we would have shot as a team, but we may be better able to do that next year. Plan to go with us next year.

Travis and James shot solid with their .22 pistols. They both shot centerfire pistol at a level below normal. Travis was able to pick himself up and fire a respectable .45 match to break 2600 at Perry for the first time. Some of you may have followed the NRA Blog about Camp Perry and saw the many photos of the match winner, Brian Zins, firing on point 472. Travis is featured shooting alongside Zins on point 473 in a few of those blog photos.

As I write this, the High Power Rifle matches are starting at Camp Perry. I hope that they have weather as nice as we enjoyed for the pistol matches.

For those of you who have not ever attended the National Championships, make plans to do so next year. Life is short and it is not a scheduled event. It makes no difference whether you are a marksman or high master. You can enjoy competition at the National Championships no matter how well or poorly you shoot.

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**.

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."
— [Theodore Roosevelt](#)

NDSSA Officers and Chairpersons

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

President: Kevin M. Fire, Grand Forks, ND 58201
 Email: kfire@hearingnd.com Home 701-775-2863.
 Vice Pres.: Rich Butler, 411 Cottonwood Dr., Casselton, ND 58012
 Email: rbutler@far.midco.net Home 701-347-5089.
 Exec Off: Eric Pueppke, 14926 25th St. SE, Amenia, ND 58004
<mailto:cpueppke@polarcomm.com> Home & Bus 967-8450
 Sec.: Tom Thompson, 2708 Stevens St, Bismarck, ND 58503-1051
<mailto:tnt@bis.midco.net> Home 255-4601
 Email: sfaught@rushridge.com Home & Bus: 347-5903.
 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 Bus 662-5301.
 Director 1/14: Jimmy W. Barner, 1713 22nd St. NE, Emerado, ND 58228
<mailto:barner@qfwireless.com> Home & Bus 967-8450
 Director 1/18: Dennis Coulter, 3306 Walnut St. Grand Forks, ND 58201-7667
 Email: denny.brenda@gra.midco.net H 701-746-6959
 Director 1/16: Mitchell Godbout, 401 9th Ave. N, Casselton, ND 58012
 Email: mdgodbout@hotmail.com Home & Bus 701-347-5593.
 Past Pres.: James Ladwig, 17321 27th St SE, Argusville, ND 58005
<mailto:james@curtslock.com> Home 701-484-5236
 Light Rifle: Gary Sivertson, 10476 1st Ave NE, Souris, ND 58783.
cgs@utma.com Home : 243-6413, Cell: 263-5266
 Web Mgr.: James Ladwig, 17321 27th St SE, Argusville, ND 58005
<mailto:james@curtslock.com> Home 701-484-5236
 HG Silhouette: Ray Utter, 5962 137th Ave NW. **Williston, ND 58801**
rutter@nccray.net Home & Bus: 701-770-0546
 Junior Programs:
 Tom Thompson, 2708 Stevens St, Bismarck, ND 58503-1051
<mailto:tnt@bis.midco.net> Home 255-4601, Bus 701-221-1220
 Highpower Rifle & Property Custodian:
 Dennis Coulter, 3306 Walnut St. Grand Forks, ND 58201-7667
 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: Tim Frank, 10 Div. St., Mandan, ND 58554-1925
bsupp1@bis.midco.net Home: 663-3856
 NRA Field Rep: Clay Pederson, P. O. Box 8, Morristown, SD 57645
 Email: cpederson@nrahq.org Home & Bus: (701) 522-9622.

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

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Pump out the crap?

No matter what side of the political isle you might find most appealing, you have to give some strong thought to the following economic illustration:

John Stossel did this on Fox News.

This rather brilliantly cuts thru all the political doublespeak we get.....

Food for thought.... This puts it into a much better perspective and is the same for many countries in Europe...

Why the U.S. credit rating was downgraded:

- * U.S. Tax revenue: \$2,170,000,000,000
- * Fed budget: \$3,820,000,000,000
- * New debt: \$ 1,650,000,000,000
- * National debt: \$14,271,000,000,000
- * Recent budget cuts: \$ 38,500,000,000

Let's now remove 8 zeros and pretend it's a household budget:

- * Annual family income: \$21,700
- * Money the family spent: \$38,200
- * New debt on the credit card: \$16,500
- * Outstanding balance on the credit card: \$142,710
- * Total budget cuts: \$385

Got It?????

OK now Lesson # 2:

Here's another way to look at the Debt Ceiling:

Let's say, you come home from work and find there has been a sewer backup in your neighborhood....and your home has sewage all the way up to your ceilings.

What do you think you should do.....?

Raise the ceilings, or pump out the crap?

Your choice is coming Nov. 2012

After reading and digesting the above, I cannot help but wonder how stupid we can be to allow this to continue. In light of that, I offer the following that came to me in an email of uncertain origin. Please consider this and the above carefully, when you exercise your right to vote in the next national election.

QUOTE OF THE CENTURY, MAYBE EVEN THE MILLENIUM

(Paraphrased to make it a bit less brutal
but hopefully no less clear)

Some people have the vocabulary to sum things up for us in a way that they can be most easily understood.

This quote is alleged to originate from the Czech Republic. Someone over there has it figured out, and we have a lot of work to do.

"The danger to America is not the Obama administration but a citizenry capable of entrusting them with the powers and duty of the Presidency and their allies with the powers and duty of Congress. It will be far easier to limit and undo the follies this Presidency and Congress than to restore the necessary common sense and good judgment to an electorate willing to have such men and women act as our nation's management.

The problem is much deeper and far more serious than the current administration and congress. They are a mere symptom of what ails America. Blaming them should not blind anyone to the fact that our nation's citizens elected them to manage our nation's best interests.

The United States of America can survive the actions of this Presidency and Congress. It is less likely to survive the apathetic and economically challenged multitude of our citizens who elected them as management."

I would like to keep this newsletter strictly in the shooting sports arena, but I have had it with our management who thinks that annual budget cuts of \$385 will balance an annual excess spending of \$16,500. Again, Robert Heinlein was perfectly correct, when he wrote that **there is no such thing as a free lunch**. We have been handing out "Money for Nothing" for far too long. Our fellow citizens do not owe us a free or even a discounted meal.

You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life.

Winston Churchill

Outstanding Shooting Results Are Not Accidental

Last year, Bill Brackin decided that he would retire from the sport of competitive pistol shooting. I found that hard to accept because I really enjoyed shooting pistol matches with Bill. James Ladwig and I talked about Bill's decision on our way back and forth to Camp Perry this year, and among other things, we reviewed some of Bill's accomplishments. I thought that you might like to see what dedicated effort over time can accomplish. Here is a partial summary of some of Bill's achievements over the last 35 years or more:

Bill won 39 North State Championships and currently holds or co-holds 14 North Dakota State pistol records. The North Dakota State Championships are as follows:

Outdoor Conventional Pistol

1980	William Brackin			
1995	William Brackin	1706 / 1800	51x	
1996	William Brackin	1718 / 1800	54x	
1997	William Brackin	1741 / 1800	80x	
1999	William Brackin	2605 / 2700	95x	
2000	William Brackin	2615 / 2700	99x	
2003	William Brackin	2587 / 2700	105x	
2005	William Brackin	2605 / 2700	108x	
2006	William Brackin	2603 / 2700	94x	
2007	William Brackin	2561 / 2700	88x	
2008	William Brackin	2551 / 2700	79x	
2010	William Brackin	2585 / 2700	86x	

Indoor Gallery Pistol

1996	William Brackin	865	23	900
1997	William Brackin	873	32	900
1998	William Brackin	875	34	900
1999	William Brackin	876	34	900
2000	William Brackin	885	29	900
2001	William Brackin	876	31	900
2003	William Brackin	872	22	900
2004	William Brackin	875	25	900
2005	William Brackin	873	22	900
2007	William Brackin	859		900

Air Pistol

1998	William Brackin	567	/	600	8x
1999	William Brackin	564	/	600	10x
2000	William Brackin	563	/	600	
2001	William Brackin	556	/	600	11x
2003	William Brackin	568	/	600	15x
2004	William Brackin	556	/	600	6x
2005	William Brackin	568	/	600	8x
2008	William Brackin	563	/	600	9x

Standard Pistol

1994	William Brackin	558	/	600
1995	William Brackin	544	/	600
1996	William Brackin	558	/	600
1997	William Brackin	549	/	600
1998	William Brackin	556	/	600
2004	William Brackin	552	/	600
2008	William Brackin	549	/	600
2009	William Brackin	549	/	600

Free Pistol

2009	William Brackin	513	/	600
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I have not listed the many NRA Regional and Sectional championship medals that Bill won during the years from 1995 until he elected to stop competing last year. That list is even lengthier than the list of his North Dakota State Championships. As far back as 1978 (34 years ago for those of you who don't want to do the math), Bill fired as a member of a North Dakota Sectional National Conventional Pistol Championship team (civilian sharpshooter). That was way before my time as a conventional pistol competitor.

He earned the Distinguished Pistol Badge # 1070 in 1995. You can find him on the CMP's list of Distinguished Pistol shooters under the incorrect (but somehow almost appropriate) spelling as William Blackin.

He shot his way into the 2600 Club in 1996 and earned the High Master classification in Conventional Pistol that year as well.

Bill has been a member of many strong teams firing in the NRA Sectionals. The Gateway Norskiis air pistol team earned 1st place in Master class in the 2003 NRA Sectional. Then, most notably in 2007, Bill together with Eric Pueppke and Steve Faught won:

NRA OPEN INTERNATIONAL AIR PISTOL 2007 Indoor National Championships Team Award Winners Total Teams: 28

National Champions

3 Gold Medals in Lucite

GATEWAY NORSKIIS W FARGO, ND 1678

BRACKIN, WILLIAM 564

FAUGHT, STEVEN 561

PUEPPKE, ERIC 553

I recall a very enjoyable first trip to Camp Perry for the NRA Conventional Pistol Championships with Bill and my son, Travis, back in 1995. Hard to believe it has been 17 years.

2012 Summer Schedule of Opportunities

Date	Event	Location	Contact	Phone
Aug 4	ND Outdoor Pistol State Championship	Valley City	James Ladwig	701-484-5236
Aug 4	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Dave Shaffer	701-255-4947
Aug 11, 12	ND Smallbore & Bigbore Silhouette State	Bismarck	Dave Tokach	701-663-8626
Aug 18	Action Pistol Match	Bismarck	Bruce Magstadt	701-426-5927
Aug 18	CMP John C. Garand Match	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Aug 25	BPCR – Mid-Range Target State Champ	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Sep 1	Hall of Fame nomination deadline		NDSSA Board	
Sep 2	Lever Action and Military Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Dave Tokach	701-663-8626
Sep 8, 9	Highpower Long Range Regional	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Sep 15	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Dave Reiswig	701-250-0673
Sep 15, 16	BPCR - Silhouette State Champ	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675
Sep 22	Action Pistol Match	Bismarck	Bruce Magstadt	701-426-5927
Sep 29	Mid-Range State Champ (convention and F-Class)	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Sep 29, 30	Bruce Alexander Memorial Highpower and Garand Match	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Oct 6	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Dave Reiswig	701-250-0673
Oct 6, 7	Bismarck 12th Annual Sighting Inn Days	Bismarck	Sam May	701-258-2360
Oct 20	Indoor Action Pistol Match	Bismarck	Bruce Magstadt	701-426-5927
	Check our NDSSA website for events not yet listed - http://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: _____	Interests
		___ Legislation ___ Jr. 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-(Effective July 1, 2006)		
Life.....\$200.00	One Year\$15.00	Clubs One Yr.....\$15.00
5 Year.....\$60.00	Junior.....\$5.00	Club 5 Yr..... \$60.00
		___ Rifle Silhouette
		___ Pistol Silhouette
		___ Hunter Safety

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

(July 2006)

North Dakota State Records & Other Records of Note

Congratulations to every one of you who has set a new record so far this year. Good Shooting! Thanks again to Denny Coulter for all of his work in maintaining our state records over the last many years. He sent me the following for your consideration:

Several great records that were set on the NRA A-36 target which is now retired since the NRA adopted the replacement NRA/USA 50 target. Those records date back to 1961 and were unsuccessfully challenged for over 50 years. Now they will never be broken. Many of these open records are held by NDSSA Hall of Fame members Ed Jensen, Denny Coulter, Bill Murrey and Tom Thompson. Sandy Kraus won the National Junior Four Position Championship on the NRA A-36 target with 396. (Fortunately, our North Dakota state records are easily accessed and available on our association's website: <http://ndssa.org/> Check them out)

The 2012 Three Position Metric Sectional and State Championships fired on March 17, 18, & 19 were again dominated by our Junior shooters.

Soren Butler repeated as Sectional Champion with a score of 1133. On the way he shot a new National Junior Standing Record score of 382. Taking the Silver and Bronze were Joe Martin with 1134 and Tom Thompson with 1098. The Buffalo Sharpshooters, a junior team, won the team match.

Joe Martin is the new State Champion shooting a score of 850. On the way Joe fired a new National Open, Civilian, and Junior Record Score of 197, beating the old open record by 6 points. He was followed by Soren with 839 and then by Joe's sister, Becky Martin with 818. Becky's kneeling score of 187 is a new National Collegiate Record. The Buffalo Sharpshooters won the team match with a Junior National Team Record score of 1080.

Get your shooting equipment out and get yourself and it ready for the next match.

"If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month."
— [Theodore Roosevelt](#)

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