

# THE TARGET

## THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Volume 19, Number 2

ISSN: 1086-4172

October, November, December 2012

### **Good (maybe essential) Hobbies**

As many of you know, I enjoy casting bullets and reloading rifle and pistol ammunition. Over the past few years, I have not been able to devote nearly enough time to these hobbies. Just lately, I've been able to devote a fair amount of time to casting bullets and reloading pistol ammunition, and I find that I enjoy it even more now than I used to. Possibly this is because I don't feel quite as guilty about spending time at these hobbies because I am not stealing time late at night, as I used to when I was more busy at work.

While casting bullets and reloading ammunition is time-consuming, it gives you a great deal of time to think. I've been wondering how a newcomer to these hobbies might find it difficult to start up. We are faced with daily reminders to be careful about almost everything we undertake now, and bullet casting and reloading ammunition are certainly advertised as the type of activity in which extreme care is required. While this is true, it seems that almost every person who takes up reloading as a hobby is a reasonably safe, cautious, and sensible person. That type of person is not likely to have any trouble with the tasks associated with basic reloading.

Still, unless that newcomer is introduced to reloading by someone who has already developed some skill in the reloading process, he will have a lot of questions about what equipment and components to purchase in order to accomplish the reloading task in which he is most interested.

We would all hope that the newcomer's first purchase would be a current reloading manual from one of our larger bullet manufacturers. Nosler Bullet Company has just published a new manual that I had an opportunity to browse through with pleasure this past weekend. I have to admit I have quite a collection of reloading manuals and find that each one of them has anywhere from 50 to 75 pages of extremely good information about the step-by-step process a reloader should follow in order to produce safe and useful ammunition.

There are a number of DVDs providing a step-by-step guide for the new reloader. However it is hard for me to believe that anyone getting involved in this hobby would find all of his answers from a book or video. I have a strong feeling that the newcomer might seek advice from the Internet, and he would certainly find some advice there which may or may not be fundamentally sound. While there is some very good information on the Internet, it is hard for me to believe that a newcomer would be able to sort out the good information from the other often less than useful information, he would find in his search of any reloading topic on the Internet.

Bullet casting is a reasonably straightforward hobby. However, it is certainly not common to find anyone at a sporting goods store who is actually knowledgeable enough to guide a

newcomer successfully. In general, it is more common for our sporting goods to be sold by salespeople who would much rather sell any customer commercially loaded ammunition than educate that customer to successfully produce his own. In fact, it is becoming more and more difficult to even find all of the many essential reloading components that a newcomer might need at a retail sporting goods store. Most all of the stores would be happy to order the components for this newcomer to the hobby of reloading. No matter how well intended he may be, the salesman likely does not have the fundamental background in either reloading or bullet casting necessary to provide the newcomer with good advice.

I recently did something that you find fewer and fewer people willing to do. I agreed to reload .38 special and .357 Magnum ammunition for a friend using components that he supplied and had actually purchased without asking my advice. His purchase included cast bullets produced by two different cast bullet manufacturers. One of these was a swaged and the other was a hard cast. Both bullets weighed 158 grains. The swaged bullet was lubricated with a thin coating of lubricant over the entire body of the bullet, and the hard cast bullet was lubricated with a very hard commercial lubricant. My friend asked that I produce very light recoiling ammunition. He provided me with Magnum primers for ignition. His powder selection was a one pound can of Unique.

Those of you who are familiar with reloading .38 special and .357 Magnum ammunition will immediately see that I had to make a number of choices and even some changes in the components in order to produce the ammunition within the guidelines that my friend requested. For those of you who are not familiar with reloading .38 special and .357 Magnum ammunition, the choices and changes that I made would be far from obvious. Even those reloading manuals I referred to earlier might provide you with some inadequate guidance. I really wonder what someone new to reloading might have assembled with these components. My friend was advised to purchase these components by reputable sporting goods sales people. He did not just pick these items up off the shelf.

I think that you can all see how easily a newcomer could be turned away from these hobbies by simply assembling ammunition from less than compatible components.

Continued on page 3  
Rick Jorgenson

## Editorially Speaking

I am again late with this issue of our newsletter. That is beginning to be the theme, and I hope that you will forgive me once again.

Thanks to Tom Thompson for his efforts to compile the North Dakota state shooting opportunities schedule. I received a nice article from Coby for this issue. I can sure use contributions from others who have information to report about the shooting sports. 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 sooner than later.

Our association's annual meeting and banquet is coming up and will be held in Fargo on February 2, 2013.

We will have a good program and will induct Bill Brackin into the North Dakota Marksmanship Hall of Fame. Our last issue detailed many of Bill's accomplishments, and I am very happy that we will have Bill in the Hall of Fame. We will also celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of our shooters over the past year. I hope that you can join us; I look forward to seeing many of you there.

The Valley City indoor range is currently closed, so the North Dakota State Indoor Pistol Championship will likely have to be held either in Fargo or Bismarck. Unfortunately, we have no information about when or if the Valley City range will be reopened.

It is certainly a good thing that Bismarck, West Fargo, and Grand Forks stepped up the plate over the last few years to build quality indoor shooting facilities. The people involved in the development and construction of those new shooting facilities should be congratulated for their foresight and significant efforts. Those efforts are continuing, as these facilities are not yet paid for and continue to be in need of your support.

If you do nothing else, get your guns and equipment ready and attend the matches held at these ranges as often as possible. Join their clubs and offer your services in support of their club's efforts. Many of you have a skill that they need, and they will greatly appreciate your involvement.

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](mailto:kfire@hearingnd.com) Home 701-775-2863.  
 Vice Pres.: Rich Butler, 411 Cottonwood Dr., Casselton, ND 58012  
 Email: [rcbutler@far.midco.net](mailto:rcbutler@far.midco.net) Home 701-347-5089.  
 Exec Off: Eric Pueppke, 14926 25th St. SE, Armeria, 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](mailto:sfaught@rushridge.com) Home & Bus: 347-5903.  
 Mbr. Sec/Treas.: Walt Fairbanks, 4600 Boulder Ridge Rd., Bismarck, ND 58503; Email: [walt@midco.net](mailto:walt@midco.net) Home 701-751-0690  
 Newsletter Editor: Rick Jorgenson, 4931 81<sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301  
 Email: [rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net](mailto:rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net) Home: 662-4760 Bus 662-5301.  
 Director 1/14: Jimmy W. Barner, 1713 22<sup>nd</sup> St. NE, Emerado, ND 58228  
<mailto:barner@gfwireless.com> Home & Bus 967-8450  
 Director 1/18: Dennis Coulter, 3306 Walnut St. Grand Forks, ND 58201-7667  
 Email: [denny.brenda@gra.midco.net](mailto:denny.brenda@gra.midco.net) H 701-746-6959 Director 1/16:  
 Director 1/16: Mitchell Godbout, 401 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. N, Casselton, ND 58012  
 Email: [mdgodbout@hotmail.com](mailto:mdgodbout@hotmail.com) Home & Bus 701-347-5593.  
 Past Pres.: James Ladwig, 17321 27<sup>th</sup> St SE, Argusville, ND 58005  
<mailto:james@curtslock.com> Home 701-484-5236  
 Light Rifle: Gary Sivertson, 10476 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Souris, ND 58783.  
[cgs@utma.com](mailto:cgs@utma.com) Home : 243-6413, Cell: 263-5266  
 Web Mgr.: James Ladwig, 17321 27<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:denny.brenda@gra.midco.net) H 701-746-6959, Fax 772-7932.  
 Pistol: Rick Jorgenson, 4931-81<sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301  
 Email: [rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net](mailto: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](mailto:bsupp1@bis.midco.net) Home: 663-3856  
 NRA Field Rep: Clay Pederson, P. O. Box 8, Morristown, SD 57645  
 Email: [cpederson@nrahq.org](mailto: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. Individual subscriptions are \$10.00 a year and club subscriptions are \$20.00 a year. The editorials and articles appearing in the publication reflect the differing views present among sportsmen and gun owners, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.

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

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

Rick Jorgenson  
 Editor, The Target  
 4931 81<sup>st</sup> Ave. NE  
 Devils Lake, ND 58301  
 Email: [rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net](mailto:rcjorgenson@dvl.midco.net)

The publication of material will be subject to the discretion of the editor. Due to limitations, the NDSSA cannot verify, nor be responsible for accuracy of statements made in articles or advertisements submitted.

**REPRINTS:** Reprints are permitted; however, if the article is identified as "Copyright" material, you must obtain the permission of the author. Further, reprints must provide written credit to "The Target, North Dakota Shooting Sports Assoc., Inc., and by-line author, if any." Entire contents copyrighted, all rights reserved.

**CAUTION:** All technical data in this publication, especially for hand loading, reflects the limited experience of individuals using specific tools, products, equipment and components under specific conditions and circumstances not necessarily reported in the article. The North Dakota Shooting Sports Association has no control or oversight in this data development. Reloading data has not been tested or verified by the NDSSA. The NDSSA cannot be responsible for the results obtained by persons using such data and we disclaim all liability for any injuries or damages that might result from its use.

## Hobbies (continued from Pg. 1)

He would very likely be unsatisfied with the results of his efforts in reloading, and would have a lot of questions to ask someone with a good background in hope of getting better results. He might be left with a bad taste in his mouth for cast bullets and never even consider getting involved in the hobby of casting his own. I wonder how often this happens.

I'm not aware of any college course providing instruction in the hobbies of reloading or casting bullets. These hobbies are most often taught by one friend to another. About 10 years ago I gave a one-day seminar on the basics of reloading and was amazed at some of the questions posed by those in the seminar who were already reloading their own ammunition. Less than 10% of these people who were already reloading their own ammunition owned any reloading manual. Only about 25% of them carefully cleaned and checked the fired brass casings that they were using to assemble their ammunition. One of them was reloading for the 220 Swift and had some of his brass casings along for me to look at. Two of the five cases that he brought to the seminar were cases that had stretched beyond the maximum case length, and he was very surprised, when I told him that he needed to purchase a trimmer and trim his brass in order to make his reloaded ammunition safe.

I have been reloading ammunition and casting bullets now for over 30 years, and I am still learning new techniques. I like the many variables over which the reloader can exercise control in assembly of and customization of ammunition for individual firearms. On the other hand, with the rise in the cost of ammunition newly manufactured by commercial companies, there has probably never been a better time to save a rather substantial amount of money by embracing the hobby of building your own ammunition and casting your own bullets.

Purchasing 500 rounds of newly manufactured .38 special ammunition would cost over \$200. Another 500 rounds of .357 Magnum ammunition would add another \$250 or more for a total of at least \$450. On the other hand the thousand cast bullets, the can of powder and 1000 primers would run only a little more than \$120 (I know that I am ignoring the value of the fired brass). A new reloader can purchase some real good reloading equipment with the money saved, and many people get started in the hobby of reloading in order to save money.

My point is that reloading ammunition, and for many people casting their own bullets, is the only economic method by which many of our competitive shooters can continue in their sport of competitive shooting. Many of us have worked a long time to introduce people to the sport of competitive shooting only to see them intimidated by the retail cost of ammunition necessary to the sport. I suggest that we not only introduce a new shooter to the sport of shooting but also introduce that new shooter to the hobbies of reloading ammunition and casting bullets. I think this sport of shooting and the hobbies of reloading and bullet casting are even more closely related now than

they used to be. The cost of competitive shooting cannot be ignored. Many of those who remain active in America's shooting sports have forgotten that competition is about skill not equipment. Winning a match with a bullet you have cast yourself and successfully hunting with the same equipment is extremely satisfying. I enjoy competitive shooting as much or more than most. I enjoy hunting as well, and I consider myself fortunate to have successfully developed the skills of bullet casting and reloading to complement and support my shooting and hunting skills. I think that the simplicity of all of this is masked by today's advertising that attempts to sell us all the latest in equipment.

A great example of the minimalist approach is that the current Bullseye pistol record of 2680-159x, was set on 07/24/1974 (yes, that is 38 years ago) by Hershel Anderson. He fired an open iron sighted pistol in each of the three 90 round matches that make up the 270 shot aggregate. The 10-ring on the 25 and the 50 yard target in an NRA bullseye competition is 3.36" in diameter, and as most of you know, the shooter fires from the standing position with the gun held in one hand. Although his equipment (ammunition and guns) was certainly excellent, Hershel's skill produced the record score.

Another example is the record Bullseye pistol aggregate at Camp Perry which is still held by Don Hamilton--a 2668-140x in 1968 with iron sights. I read somewhere that Don did not expect to shoot that well because he had been swinging a hammer for days residing his house before the championships, and his hand was swollen. I also read that he cast his own bullets and even sold them to other shooters.

That is not to say that equipment advances are not good. Those who wish to use the latest and best equipment should certainly do so, but we should remember that many of our greatest competitors cast their own bullets and won with minimal equipment. We need to enlist more of those who take the minimalist approach into the shooting sports. Equipment is only a small part of winning a shooting match.

Consider offering a seminar to introduce new shooters to the hobbies of reloading and bullet casting. I believe that you will find many interested people both those new to the shooting sports and those who have been reloading for quite some time. You'll be doing them a great favor. I feel very fortunate to have been introduced to these hobbies by someone who had already developed some knowledge and skill.

Rick Jorgenson

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

**Winston Churchill**

"If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month."

— **Theodore Roosevelt**

## No BS!!!

I had a great experience this summer with one of our reloading equipment manufacturers. Some of you may be familiar with Dillon Precision and their no BS warranty. I have a couple of Dillon 550B reloading presses. I have used them both extensively and with great satisfaction. Just before leaving for Camp Perry this year, I was loading some 45 ACP and broke a part of the press.

I called Dillon and they offered to either send me the broken part or they advised that they would replace the part for me, if I would send them the press. I talked to them a little bit more about my other press and asked if I could send that second press to them for a tune-up. I fully expected them to replace the broken part at no cost; however, I did expect and actually told him that I expected them to bill me for their labor to go through the two presses and perform any maintenance or upgrading that they found necessary.

Less than two weeks after I sent the presses to them, I received what looked like two completely new Dillon 550B reloading presses packaged in two separate Dillon packing boxes. I actually thought for a while that they had replaced both presses. However, that appears not to be the case. They cleaned the two presses so well that they look new and replaced all parts that they felt were in need of maintenance or replacement. They upgraded the powder measures with their new style powder measure, and they included an invoice showing their services at a cost of a little over \$350 not including the shipping expense. At the bottom of the invoice, the amount due was listed as zero dollars. They performed all of the work at no charge.

Of course, I wrote them a note thanking them for their generosity. However, the note hardly seems adequate. I am still smiling, and I'm using the presses to load excellent ammunition. If you have been thinking about buying a progressive reloading press, I certainly recommend that you consider Dillon.

Rick Jorgenson

## Airgun Postal match update

Our air gun postal match this winter is the largest match that we've ever held. We are getting ready to produce our November preliminary match report. I find that we have over 125 registered to shoot the match, and we have received and scored many of those 125 November targets. If everyone shoots their targets each month, that will amount to 7500 shots that will have to be scored each month. That will be above and beyond the target scoring that Connie and I perform at airgun training sessions and other matches that we run.

We started this postal match about 15 years ago as a vehicle for our competitive shooters to gain experience and improve their skills in a match atmosphere. If I

remember correctly, we had fewer than 30 shooters competing in our first postal matches. Certainly, firing in a postal match is not the same as firing shoulder to shoulder with other shooters. However, it does offer significant competition and is a step above simple practice. Indeed, I believe that it is very close to perfect practice.

Earlier in this newsletter I outlined the cost of reloading 1000 rounds of centerfire pistol ammunition at a cost of roughly \$120. For a bit less than that, you can purchase and fire 5000 rounds of air rifle or pistol pellets. As I've said before, most of you can fire these air rifle and pistol pellets in your own home without any need to start your car and drive to and from the range. The air rifle and pistol represent our best equipment for perfect practice in development of our shooting skills. I have repeated this many times over the last 15 years or so, and I offer no apologies for saying it yet again.

If you don't already own a quality air rifle or pistol, you are greatly limiting your opportunities for perfect practice in development of your shooting skills. This is one place where equipment advances in the quality airgun now available is a great advantage to the competitive shooter as well as the shooter who just enjoys shooting informally.

With a quality airgun, no matter what skill level you have attained so far, you can commonly advance your skills in your own home without much noise, almost no recoil, and no powder smoke. You do not even have to learn how to cast bullets or reload ammunition.

In our first airgun match of the winter held on December 9, 2012, we had 35 air rifle and pistol shooters fire the match. 15 years ago, we were lucky to get half that many competitors to any match.

Our Junior Olympic, NRA Sectional and State Championship matches are now very well attended with our shooters exhibiting great national class skill.

Rick Jorgenson

### Dakota Marksmanship Foundation, Inc.

P O Box 518  
Bismarck, ND 58502-0518

501 © 3 Public Charity

**Provides support for North Dakota shooting programs through distribution of donated funds entirely within North Dakota.**

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of the Foundation's effort to benefit shooting marksmanship and safety programs within North Dakota, please send us a note or contact:

Thomas Thompson – 701-255-4601

Eric Puepke – 701-967-8450

## Winter Schedule of Opportunities

Date	Event	Location	Contact	Phone
Jan 5, 6	Light Rifle Match	Bismarck	Walt Fairbanks	701-751-0609
Jan 5, 6	Bullseye Pistol Match	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Jan 12	Light Rifle Sectional Champ	Grand Forks		
Jan 12, 13	Open Inter Rifle Sec (Air, 3P)	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Jan 19, 20	Junior Olympics (Air, 3p, Air Pistol, Sport Pistol)	Minot	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
	Light Rifle Match	Williston	David Hartsoch	701-568-3851
Jan 19	Action Pistol Match	Bismarck	Bruce Magstadt	701-426-5927
Jan 26, 27	Collegiate Sectional (rifle and pistol)	West Fargo	Eric Pueppke	701-967-8450
Jan 26	100 Shot Offhand Match	Halstad, MN	Todd Westcott	218-456-2507
Feb 2	NDSSA State Convention	Fargo	Rich Butler	701-347-5089
Feb 2	Indoor Cowboy Action Shooting	Bismarck	Dave Shaffer	701-255-4947
	Light Rifle Match	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Feb 9	Action Pistol Match	Bismarck	Bruce Magstadt	701-426-5927
Feb 9, 10	Junior 3P State and Sectional	Minot	Wes Thomas	701-839-6075
Feb 9, 10	Collegiate Sectional	West Fargo	Eric Pueppke	701-967-8450
Feb 16, 17	Open 3P State and Sectional	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Feb 16, 17	Von Bismarck Pistol Match	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Feb 23	50 Yard Smallbore Match, 3-Position (any sight)	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Mar 2, 3	Junior Air Sectional (Standing)	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Mar 2,3	Open Air Rifle State Championship	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Mar 9, 10	Junior 4P State and Sectional	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Mar 9	Pistol Sectional (Conv, Air, Standard)	West Fargo	James Ladwig	701-484-5236
	Check our NDSSA website for events not yet listed and more details- <a href="http://ndssa.org/">http://ndssa.org/</a>			

### -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 \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Interests

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

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

(July 2006)

**2012 North Dakota Mid-Range State Championship  
Turtle Mountain Rifle and Pistol Club**

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 2012 North Dakota Mid-Range State Championships held September 29 and 30, 2012. What a great weekend for weather –perfect weather and wind all around. The Rolla range continues (at least in my humble opinion) to be one of the nicest ranges to fire on. We had a record turnout, and had to run 5 relays to accommodate everyone. Five full lines on the range is definitely a problem we really enjoy having. I am planning to expand the range for next year. Hope it all works out.

In addition to the fine weather and attendance, we had some really great shooting. Starting at 8am Saturday, we fired a registered Garand Match. Travis Carico, shooting a silver medal score of 279-3x was the match winner. Don Granlie fired a 277-1x for 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tom Reiten fired 266-4x for the bronze medal and 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were 13 competitors in all, with one from as far away as France.

Immediately after that we held the North Dakota Mid-Range Championship. Three 20-shot matches in three categories: Conventional High Power, F-Class open and F-Target Rifle or FTR. Duane Holien was the Conventional match winner, by out Xing Tom Thompson. Duane with 31, Tom with 25 and a tie score of 596. Ryan Holien from Ipswich, South Dakota, posted the next highest score of 584-18x for 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 13 Conventional shooters. F-Class Open had 5 competitors, with Brian Suhr besting his brother Craig Suhr for the North Dakota State F-Open Championship. Brian had an excellent score of 597-32x. FTR had 7 competitors, with Brian Suhr taking the FTR Trophy. Jeff Kunze fired a very excellent 197-11x in the 3<sup>rd</sup> match, which is a new FTR 600 yard state record. Good Job, Guys!

That brings us to Sunday. Sunday brought 23 competitors to the firing line, for the 2012 Bruce Alexander Memorial High Power Match. Once again, Duane Holien was our match winner posting a score of 785-20x. Tom Reiten with 764-27x placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall, besting Tom Thompson who placed 3<sup>rd</sup> with a score of 763-33x, including a weapons nightmare in the 300 yard rapid fire stage. Ryan Holien placed 4th with a score of 761-13x. Denny Coulter out pointed Coby by only 1 point for 5<sup>th</sup> place. Tom Thompson's sitting rapid fire score of 200-15x ties the state record. Don Granlie of Underwood, ND, posted high score in the Marksman class. Kevin Fire of Grand Forks won the combined Expert/Sharpshooter class.

I really thank all the guys who helped run the line. Your help is really appreciated. And you know who you are. Thanks also to Gary Varberg for bringing out the National Guard guys, and everyone else for participating in our match and making it such a success. Thanks for coming and we hope to see you again next year. Coby

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

PRSR STD  
U. S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Bismarck, ND 58501  
Permit No. 419

**The Official NRA State  
Association Newsletter**

