

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Why are there not more bullet casters?

As a very few of you know, I have been casting bullets since 1978. I find bullet casting and reloading to be great hobbies. I find that I am able to relax and enjoy the process of producing great bullets and loaded ammunition. The ammunition that I produce is most often quite a bit better than what is available on the shelves of our sporting goods stores. Certainly, it is no worse. My ammunition is also a lot less expensive than what is commercially available.

So, why are there not more bullet casters? The process does not require a rocket scientist.

In the community of Devils Lake, I know less than 10 people who cast and load their own ammunition. Actually, I could not name 10 people, but let's assume that there are 10. I know that there are a much larger number who cast fishing lures and sinkers. We do have a rather large number of people who enjoy shooting handguns, but only a minuscule percentage of them cast their own bullets. Now, I know very well that the process of casting good bullets requires time and equipment. But I cannot think of any other hobby that doesn't also require time and equipment. The time spent casting bullets is every bit as enjoyable as the time spent by any other hobbyist. The cost of the equipment is very quickly amortized.

From 1978 until about 2004, I cast and loaded between 500 and 750 rounds of 44 magnum bullets each year. Even at 500 rounds per year, that amounts to far more than 10,000 quality bullets. I still cast for the 44 magnum, but not in that quantity. The cost of loaded ammunition was quite a bit cheaper back then, but I saved a pile of money by casting my own bullets. The quality of those cast bullets and my loaded ammunition was second to none (I have trophies and old match results as documentation). Of course, I take quite a bit of pride in that quality, and have enjoyed the process of casting quality 44 magnum and many other bullet calibers for over 40 years now.

Today, I was thinking again about how few people shoot the 44 magnum anymore. I am convinced that the cost of commercial ammunition is part of the reason, but there are probably many reasons.

I have been hunting with a 44 magnum pistol and my own cast bullets since about 1980, and I have used a 44 magnum with cast bullets on gophers, rabbits, fox, deer and elk with great results. A very large number of metallic silhouette targets have fallen to this combination as well. I should also mention the great job cast bullets from the 44 magnum do on bowling pins, water filled milk cartons, and dead trees. All in all, a very enjoyable and rewarding hobby. I have included a chart detailing the relative cost of cast 44 magnum bullets and ammunition compared to commercial jacketed and commercial cast bullets as well as those cast by myself. That chart is on the fifth page of this issue. If you compare the cost of 10,000 rounds of 44 magnum at the current retail cost of \$2.00/round (\$20,000) against the cost of my self-cast at \$.27/round (\$2,700), you see a difference of \$17,300. I consider that very significant.

So, are other people just lazy or am I one of those very few odd people who find the activity of casting and loading bullets for my 44 magnum and many other handguns and rifles enjoyable, rewarding and relaxing?

I don't read much about hunting with a handgun anymore, and handgun silhouette with the 44 magnum is a sport with few competitors. I wish that were not the case, as these are very enjoyable and rewarding activities. It seems that there must be many 44 magnum revolvers gathering dust in gunsafes around the nation. I sure do not see them at our outdoor range anymore. I do see an uptick in the use of 44 magnum rifles for deer hunting in those states that restrict rifle ammunition for deer hunting to straight-wall cases.

I chose to hunt moose this year with my 45-90 black powder cartridge rifle and a bullet that I cast and loaded over black powder. This involves quite a bit more care and attention to detail than casting and loading pistol bullets. Without the confidence and skill that I have developed over the past years casting bullets and loading them for accuracy, this would have been an exercise in futility. As it turned out though, I was successful.

I know one thing. I plan to enjoy bullet casting and the loading and firing of cast bullets in my handguns and many of my rifles for as long as I am physically able to do so. I still see it as a great lifetime hobby after more than 40 years. I hope that a few of you choose to join me in the fun.
Rick Jorgenson

"The most dangerous myth is the demagoguery that business can be made to pay a larger share, thus relieving the individual. Politicians preaching this are either deliberately dishonest, or economically illiterate, and either one should scare us. Business doesn't pay taxes, and who better than business to make this message known? Only people pay taxes, and people pay as consumers every tax that is assessed against a business. Begin with the food and fiber raised in the farm, to the ore drilled in a mine, to the oil and gas from out of the ground, whatever it may be -- through the processing, through the manufacturing, on out to the retailer's license. If the tax cannot be included in the price of the product, no one along that line can stay in business."

— Ronald Reagan

"Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first."

— Mark Twain

Editorially Speaking

Inflation has hit the firearms industry hard over the past few years. While it may be possible that you can purchase ammunition cheaper than I have it shown in the worksheet on page 5, I am sure that I am not far off.

Covid-19 and its variants continue to disrupt access to many of our competitive venues, and USA Shooting is having a rough time scheduling events at the Olympic Training Center. The CMP seems to be one of the only shooting organization able to provide consistent venues.

The 2022 National Junior Olympic matches are going to be held, but USA Shooting has not said exactly how, when or where the Pistol matches will be held. Rifle will be held at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan. I understand that the rifle matches will be fired at Hillsdale with the cooperation and assistance of the CMP again.

We are fortunate to be able to run matches at nearly all of our club venues here in North Dakota. Remember that these clubs and their match directors are essential to the strong competitive shooting programs that we enjoy here in North Dakota. Support them any way that you are able.

Maybe the best support that you can offer is to register and compete at a match, so get out your rifle or pistol and do that. Also, consider offering to help with the match setup and operation.

Once again, the vast majority of this issue is based on my writing. Remember, I greatly appreciate articles for this newsletter from members. I sure look forward to receiving more for our next issue. **MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

This is another reminder that the NDSSA has a Facebook page. We encourage members and match directors to forward/post their bulletins and results to that page. Here is the link: <https://www.facebook.com/North-Dakota-Shooting-Sports-Association-757181884660730>

"Firearms stand next in importance to the constitution itself. They are the American people's liberty teeth and keystone under independence ... from the hour the Pilgrims landed to the present day, events, occurrences and tendencies prove that to ensure peace, security and happiness, the rifle and pistol are equally indispensable ... the very atmosphere of firearms anywhere restrains evil interference — they deserve a place of honor with all that's good."
George Washington
First President of the United States

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 4 and send it in to **P O Box 228, BISMARCK ND 58502-0228.**

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

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4931 81st Ave. NE
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Von Bismarck History

Kevin Hertz has compiled this history of one of the longest running pistol competitions in North Dakota. I thought that many of you would enjoy reviewing.

1966	Bernard Huss	1667 (Dr. from Minot according to Ted Stockert)
1967	Arthur White	1708 (from Minot)
1968	John Vennes	1689
1969	Dave Kringlie	1701
1970	Dave Kringlie	1702 x42
1971	Dave Kringlie	1711 x51
1972	Dave Kringlie	1694 x32
1973	Dave Kringlie	1707x44
1974	Dave Kringlie	1724x49
1975	Tom Peterson	1706x35
1976	Daune Ihli	1679x39
1977	Dave Kringlie	1698x38
1978	John Vennes	1660x35
1979	Dave Kringlie	1712x43
1980	Leon Pytlik	1692x46
1981	Dave Kringlie	1702x41
1982	Jim Kondelis	1701x44
1983	Bill Brackin	1707x48
1984	Dave Kringlie	1709x49
1985	Duane Ihli	1738x57 25 yds.
1986	Duane Ihli	1762x54 25 yds.
1987	Jim Kondelis	1760x68 25 yds.
1988	Jim Kondelis	1728x46
1989	John Hoflen	1665x30
1990	Norm Nitschke	1685x26
1991	Norm Nitschke	1683x42
1992	Terry Nitschke	1680x38
1993	Terry Nitschke	1666x37
1994	Bill Brackin	1708x39
1995	Bill Brackin	1695x37
1996	Bill Brackin	1720x36
1997	Bill Brackin	1722x43
1998	Bill Brackin	1709x47
1999	Bill Brackin	1730x45
2000	Bill Brackin	1742x43
2001	Travis Jorgenson	1721x41
2002	Bill Brackin	1729x47
2003	Bill Brackin	1711 x39
2004	Bill Brackin	1715 x46
2005	Bill Brackin	1703 x37
2006	Rob Sailer	1723 x50
2007	Bill Brackin	1692 x39
2008	Bill Brackin	1698 x40
2009	Dan Marquart	1737 x47
2010	James Ladwig	1697 x49
2011	James Ladwig	1713 x55
2012	James Ladwig	1697 x41
2013	James Ladwig	1713 x52
2014	Travis Jorgenson	1718 x 46 50 th
2015	Doug Baker	1665 x31
2016	Rob Sailer	1720 x52
2017	Travis Jorgenson	1723 x59
2018	Travis Jorgenson	1735 x50
2019	Travis Jorgenson	1721 x53
2020	Travis Jorgenson	1746 x64
2021	Travis Jorgenson	1744 x64

Another National Champion from Ramsey County 4H

Our North Dakota 4H team for Smallbore Rifle at the 2021 4H National Championships held in Grand Island, NE over the week of the 21st thru the 25th of June was made up of Jacob Vaagen, Hannah Vaagen, Casia Steinhaus and Cassandra Christensen all of Devils Lake, ND. They fired 3 events at Grand Island; Silhouette Rifle, CMP Rimfire Sporter Rifle and NRA 3 Position Smallbore Rifle.

For the first match on Tuesday, they competed with their Silhouette rifles in a very strong wind that made the match extremely challenging for everyone. Jacob fired our top team score of 19 out of 40, only 2 points behind the leading score fired. Our team score made up of our top 3 individual scores was good for second place in the Silhouette team standings.

They fired the CMP Rimfire Sporter match on Wednesday, and Cassandra's 584 out of 600 was good for 3rd place overall and led our team. Jacob ended up in 7th place and Casia in 10th place. Our team placed 3rd in this event.

On Thursday, we fired the 3 Position Smallbore Rifle event on the 4th and final relay during a warm and threatening rain. We were just barely able to complete the match before we had to stop because of lightning. We placed second as a team with a fine team score of 1631 out of a possible 1800. Casia fired the best individual score of the day, 552/600, followed by Hannah in 4th place and Jacob in 6th place.

On Friday, the overall individual winners and teams were announced. Jacob Vaagen is the Overall Individual 2021 4H National Smallbore Rifle Champion. Casia earned 5th place, Hannah was 8th and Cassandra was 18th overall. The team earned 2nd place overall (just .0556 behind the 3 match aggregate of the winning team).

North Dakota has a very small group of 4H smallbore rifle competitors. In fact, the group consists of only these four young people from Ramsey County. They competed against the best four young people from each of the other states represented; some of these states have hundreds and even thousands of young people competing to be the top four individuals from each state that are allowed to compete at the 4H Nationals.

Clearly, Jacob, Hannah, Casia and Cassandra represented North Dakota and Ramsey County 4H very well. If you see them on the street, congratulate them.

They and Ramsey County 4H really appreciate the support provided by Lake Region Shooting Sports Association and our community at large in their efforts to compete at this high level. If you donated or purchased a ticket in our raffle raising money earlier this year for this trip, we hope that you consider it money well spent.

Complete Results and Photos are available at the Nebraska University website: <https://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports/national-results-images>

Rick Jorgenson

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and starting on the first one."

— [Mark Twain](#)

In case of panic, sometimes it's often best to just aim at the damn bullseye!

2022 Winter Schedule of Opportunities

2022	Find More Events on the NDSSA Website	Location	Contact	Phone
Jan 2	Rimfire .22 BPCR Silhouette (Indoor)	Bismarck	John Horner	701-426-9305
Jan 8	Precision Pistol and International Pistol Matches	West Fargo	Rob Sailer	701-541-6427
Jan 8	ND CMP Junior 3P Air Rifle State Championship	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Jan 8, 9	Light Rifle Match	Bismarck	Walt Fairbanks	701-400-8421
Jan 8, 9	Bullseye Pistol Match - 1800	Bismarck	Rick Pfenning	701-426-7661
Jan 15	Junior Olympics (Air Pistol, Sport Pistol)	Devils Lake	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Jan 15, 16	ND Junior 3P State Champ and Jr 3P NRA Sec	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Jan 15, 16	Open Air Rifle Sectional and Open 3P Metric Smallbore	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Jan 22, 23	Junior Olympics (Air, 3P Smallbore Rifle)	Minot	Rick Jorgenson	701-662-4760
Jan 22	Indoor Cowboy Action Shooting	Bismarck	Mike Ripplinger	701-223-3085
Jan 29	NDSSA State Convention	Valley City	Garth Weber	701-330-3284
Jan 30	Rimfire .22 BPCR Silhouette (Indoor)	Bismarck	John Horner	701-426-9305
Feb	Collegiate Sectional, Rifle and Pistol	West Fargo	Eric Pueppke	701-967-8450
Feb 5, 6	Light Rifle Sectional Match	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-213-0238
Feb 6	58th Annual Von Bismarck Pistol Match	Bismarck	Rick Pfenning	701-426-7661
Feb 12	Precision Pistol and International Pistol Matches	West Fargo	Rob Sailer	701-541-6427
Feb 13	Rimfire .22 BPCR Silhouette (Indoor)	Bismarck	John Horner	701-426-9305
Feb 19	USPSA Match	Bismarck	Brian Stonecipher	218-779-7802
Feb 19, 20	Open 3P Smallbore State Champ and Sectional	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-213-0238
Feb 19	Bison Open (air rifle and air pistol)	Ayr	Scott Tichy	701-840-8561
Feb 20	Air Pistol Sectional	Ayr	Scott Tichy	701-840-8561
Feb 26, 27	NRA 50 Yard Smallbore Regional Champ, Indoor	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601

-Application-

North Dakota Shooting Sports Association

P O Box 228, BISMARCK ND 58502-0228

Also join via the web: <http://www.ndssa.org>

Yes, to protect my right to keep and bear arms; I would like to join the NDSSA and support the legislative efforts of the NDSSA. My dues for a membership as noted are enclosed.

Please return this form. Print name and address as you wish it to appear in our records.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail Address _____

Rifle City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

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

Membership Dues Schedule-(Effective May 1, 2015)

Silhouette

Life.....\$500.00 One Year\$25.00 Clubs One Yr.....\$25.00
 5 Year....\$100.00 Junior - Under 21...\$10.00 Club 5 Yr..... \$100.00

___ Pistol Silhouette
 ___ Hunter Safety

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

(May 1, 2015)

How much does it cost to shoot a 44 magnum?

	2021				
	cost per round retail	cost per round reload with 240 gr jacketed loaded ammo	cost per round reload with 240 cast PB Purchased	cost per round reload with 240 gr cast GC self-cast	cost per round reload with 240 gr cast PB self-cast
44 magnum bullet	\$2.00	\$0.50	\$0.20	\$0.02	\$0.02
powder - 24 grains		\$0.13	\$0.13	\$0.13	\$0.13
Primer		\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08
Lube & size case assume 10 loads		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.01	\$0.01
Gas Check & lead		\$0.03	\$0.03	\$0.03	\$0.03
total	\$2.00	\$0.74	\$0.44	\$0.33	\$0.27
cost per 50	\$100.00	\$37.00	\$22.00	\$16.50	\$13.50

How much does it cost to shoot a 45 ACP?

	2021			
	cost per round retail	cost per round reload with 230 gr jacketed loaded ammo	cost per round reload with 230 cast PB Purchased	cost per round reload with 230 gr cast PB self-cast
45 acp 230 gr bullet	\$0.75	\$0.25	\$0.18	\$0.01
powder - 6 grains		\$0.03	\$0.03	\$0.03
Primer		\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08
Lube & size case assume 10 loads		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.01
total	\$0.75	\$0.38	\$0.31	\$0.15
cost per 50	\$37.50	\$18.75	\$15.25	\$7.25

Membership Status Change

The NDSSA Board of Directors voted at the September board meeting to change the timing of memberships from yearly to annual. This change was made to simplify the membership expiration and renewal process to match many other organizations and clubs. Renewal notices will be sent out only in January to all annual members, instead of monthly to members whose membership expires in that month.

All memberships will now become annual; running from January 1st to December 31st of the membership year. New junior, annual, and 5-year members that join after June 30th of a current membership year will not expire until December 31st of the following year (example – membership application received November 2021 would have an expiration date of December 31st, 2022). Current junior, yearly and 5-year members membership expiration dates will be moved to December 31st of the year their current membership will expire. If you have any questions about your current membership or membership status, contact the membership secretary at membership@ndssa.org.

There is no change to Life memberships. If you are a current life member, I challenge you to help your organization by donating to the NDSSA's Midway Foundation account and encourage anyone you know to join NDSSA as a member.
Membership Secretary - Melissa Carson

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The Official NRA State
Association Newsletter



Junior World Championships Lima, Peru - Final 50m Rifle 3 Positions Team Women Junior, 07.10.2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvuspNc02Nk>

Some of you may have viewed this YouTube video, but for those of you who have not, I suggest that you take the time to do so. You will see Katie Zaun, Molly McGhin, and Mary Tucker compete as a team against the Junior Team from India in an extremely close fought finals match. Their finals match begins about half way through the YouTube video. I recommend that you watch it from shot to shot in order to understand how hard fought it really was. The announcer will be a bit distracting, but otherwise, this is really good stuff. Katie has enjoyed a great deal of success this year. You might want to congratulate her next time you have the opportunity.

Rick Jorgenson

I still like this quote.

No possible rapidity of fire can atone for habitual carelessness of aim with the first shot. — Theodore Roosevelt, (26th President of the United States) - The Wilderness Hunter, 1893

**INVITATION
TO THE
2022 NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
&
AWARDS BANQUET**

**Saturday, January 29, 2022
Eagles Club, Valley City, ND**

Please attend the annual membership meeting at 2:00 pm. Topics of discussion will include our junior shooting sports programs and other shooting sports programs around North Dakota and the USA. **The Eagles Club is located at 345 12th AVE NE, Valley City, ND.**

Schedule of Events Saturday, January 29, 2022

Annual Membership Meeting (Eagles)	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Social Hour (Eagles) – cash bar	5:30 pm
Dinner (Roast Beef & chicken breast, mashed potatoes, salad, & ice cream)	6:30 pm
Annual Awards Presentations, Guest Speaker, HOF Ceremony	7:30 pm

Guest Speakers –Dr. Drew Rutherford

NDSSA HALL OF FAME INDUCTION – Jerry Obrigewitsch

Rooms: AmericInn at 280 Winter Show Rd SW in Valley City, ND has a small block of rooms available for NDSSA Banquet attendants. The block reservation is good thru December 29th. The rate is \$109.90+ tax for a 2 queen bed room. They do offer free breakfast, indoor pool, fitness center and they are pet friendly. Call 701-845-5551 for reservation and listed under NDSSA.

Contacts: For additional details on the membership meeting, dinner, awards banquet, contact Garth Weber 701-330-3284 or garth.weber@gmail.com

TICKET ORDER FORM - NDSSA BANQUET AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Adult(s) \$30 each ____ (\$35 at the door) Junior (s) \$20 each ____

Please order tickets in advance before January 20th. Make checks payable to NDSSA and mail to: **Garth Weber 714 11th Street NW #6, Valley City ND 58072**

Guest Speaker**Dr. Drew Rutherford**

Dr. Drew Rutherford was born in Illinois to parents from the East Coast and, despite moving around a number of times, grew up in the Midwest. He graduated high school from Worthington, MN, and went on to attend the University of Minnesota-Morris, earning a BA with majors in Biology and Chemistry. He moved to North Dakota to attend graduate school at North Dakota State University, where he earned his master's (organic chemistry) and Ph.D. (inorganic chemistry). He and his wife, Julie, then moved to Salt Lake City, UT, for their postdoctoral training at the University of Utah. After nearly two years away, they returned to the Fargo area to teach at Concordia College, where they have been happily teaching in their respective fields for more than 20 years. As a life-long learner, each summer for those 20+ years, Drew has turned his attention to learning a new hobby/skill to the best of his ability. The only commonality to these adventures is that he knew little to nothing about them before he started. In 2013, he turned his attention to learning how to shoot a rifle. Since that first trigger pull, he has been fortunate to find a lot of experienced shooters willing to share their knowledge and used his training in science to hone his skill on perfecting his reloading techniques. This, combined with A LOT of practice, has helped him win multiple state, regional, and national F-Class matches throughout the country, and earned him a spot on the current United States F-Class National team that will represent the United States at the World Championships in 2023 in Bloemfontein, South Africa. He is the current US F-Class Midrange National Champion and a shooting member of this year's gold-medal-winning national midrange team.

Hall of Fame Inductee**Jerry Obrigewitsch**

We will induct Jerry Obrigewitsch into the North Dakota's Marksmanship Hall of Fame and hope that you can join us.

We will recognize Jerry's efforts and commitment to improve the shooting sports in North Dakota from his home in Dickinson, ND.

- Jerry has sustained membership in the NRA and NDSSA for over 40 years.
- Jerry has served as an officer in a local club.
- Jerry has assisted with local youth marksmanship programs.
- Jerry is a NRA certified instructor and range safety officer.
- Jerry has been an active competitor in rifle and pistol shooting for over 20 years.

Jerry has been very big part of the Slope Area Rifle and Pistol Club for over 40 years, and helped with the land acquisition for the outdoor range. He has been very dedicated to the shooting sports from starting Adopt-A-Library program with Friends of NRA grants to have books on hunting, shooting and the second amendment, to helping start the Theodore Roosevelt Friends of the NRA. He has spent his life promoting the shooting sports, firearms safety, and the second amendment. To quote Jerry, "To simply participate is not enough."

