

THE TARGET

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS ASSOCIATION

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April, May, June 2006

North Dakota's Morgen Dietrich Competes In Palma Team Trials

October 15-22 of this past year I spent a week shooting the Palma Team Trials in Phoenix, Arizona. Through smallbore and living in Michigan, I have shot in quite a few states (14 I believe). I have now added Arizona. From my experience, this will not be the last time that I travel there to compete.

I flew out of Minneapolis Airport on the morning of October 15th, the weather was pretty decent but not as nice as AZ. When I got off the plane, we were in that characteristic dry heat: Temperature middle 80's. It was nice, I was on the same flight as Stacey Tamulinas of MN, and we had planned on sharing a car and a hotel room for the week. This worked out great for both of us. Since I hadn't been down to AZ before, nor had I flown with a gun since 9/11 I wanted to be sure everything went without a hitch. Other than the TSA people loosing one of my rifle's action bolt washers while inspecting my rifle, my equipment and I made the trip just fine.

Stacey and I spent a lazy day getting used to the heat, trying a couple different restaurants, and going grocery shopping for the week. The next day was just practice, so we could get good zero's and a feel for the range.

My Palma rifle is a Barnard action, Mastin Off-set Stock with Aluminum bedding block, Riles 22mm Ladder front Sight, PNW rear sight and 31" Kreiger Barrel. The original barrel was a Tru-flite that had been average. Randy Gregory installed this Kreiger and I cannot blame my gun any longer!

Practice day was fairly mild for wind to start, but really changed throughout the day. Good scores could be had early but later on, 9's were the norm. I hadn't shot for about a month prior to going down and was worried that I was "rusty" in my technique. That got better as the week went on. The course of fire was 308 Palma, using 155 bullets. All shooting was done at 1000 yards, we shot four 15 shot matches a day using 4 relays with convertible sighters, unlimited sighters for the first match of each day. Rifles were NOT weighed, nor were triggers. You could use the bullet brand of your choice. My load was 45.5 grains of N-150 in a Lapua case topped off by a Sierra 155. Primers were Fed 210BR (very old, in a gold box). This load doesn't produce as good statistics as Varget in this barrel, but it shoots better groups. Steve Knutson and I had spent a day at the Minneapolis Gun Club shooting different loads off the bench and over a chronograph at 300 meters. This was the best load, and I will continue to use it until the barrel dies. Since I have been shooting Palma (3 years) I have pretty much only used Sierra Bullets, other people have success with Lapua, Berger, and Nosler. I like the "forgiving" nature of Sierra, and that they promote the sport.

Day one arrived, and we started shooting at 7:30am, after squadding was done randomly starting at about 7:00. For day one, I was paired with shooting legend Tom Whitaker. We were relay 1 & 2 for the day, so we shot together and pulled

together. I got to pick his brain a bit about his time with the AMU and about smallbore ammo in the "old" days. It was an enjoyable day; I just wish my shooting had been better. Tom shot below average for himself and ended with a 579-16. With my scores of 146-3, 140-2, 141-3, and 146-6, I agged a 573-14. Good enough for 55th out of 106; right in the middle of the pack. I shot A LOT of nines that day and had tried to be "cute," making calls on the sights and shooting both sides of zero. Also, we had a HUGE wind/rain storm that came onto the range as I was called to the line for my last match. I didn't even fire a round. The winds were so bad I covered up my sights with towels and hoped the line would be called off. There was over 20 minutes of left wind. Some people shot through it, and got murdered. My waiting paid off. The line was called and we got to re-fire after the wind and rain subsided. I finished with 146-6, for my best match of the day. Dan Simpson was shooting next to me and shot a 150-11, to show me that I should have done better; but at least my equipment was dry and in good shape. High aggregate score for this first day was 593-21 by John Whidden.

Day two was a weather advisory day, and all shooting was called off. Bob Pealsey was the "Tour Guide," Stacey, Randy Gregory and I went to a huge airplane museum east of Phoenix for the day. It was very interesting, and a lot of fun. Thank goodness they did call the shooting off as Phoenix got pummeled with rain and high winds, none of us would have been happy shooters had we shot through that.

Day three I was squadded with Mike Mauer of Washington State. Mike has a different style of shooting, and I am very thankful that I had this opportunity to be squadded with him. Mike uses the "Grip it and Rip it" Style. Get zeroed up, shoot in the same condition as much as possible, wait when it isn't there, and shoot quickly when the condition returns. He shot very consistent scores with a lot of tens and an occasional 8 when conditions changed while he was on the gun. Mike shot a 583-19 for the day, his lowest score being a 145-3. I shot a 148-6 to start, but got killed the second match. Switching conditions caused me to shoot both sides of zero and I was consistently behind the wind. I finished with a 138-1. OUCH. After spending some time with Mike in the pit, I decided that I needed a change. For the rest of the week I was Mr. "Grip it and Rip it." I shot quickly, gave up X's for tens and allowed sloppy 10's instead of working too long on a X. The change really worked! I finished with a 146-3 and a 145-3 to agg out at 577-13 (38th for the day). Kent Reeve shot a screamer of a score with a 596-28 for 1st agg.

(Continued on page 3)

Editorially Speaking

Our 2006 North Dakota Shooting Sports Association annual meeting and banquet were very worthwhile events. We thank Dan Durbin for his very informative clinic and for his entertaining and equally informative banquet presentation. Over the last few years, we've had opportunities in North Dakota to attend clinics presented by Olympic Gold Medalist Lonnie Meili, Olympic Silver Medalist Bob Foth and now Olympic Rifle Team head coach Dan Durbin. Our shooters and coaches have already seen improvement by applying the principals and methods taught in these clinics. I look for even more great results down the road.

It was a pleasure to recognize Dean Hildebrand's contributions and support at the banquet, and we thank Dean for his willingness to attend and allowing us the opportunity to thank him personally for his efforts to strengthen 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. Again, we wish Dean the very best in his retirement.

President's Message

Thank you for your confidence in electing me as your president. It is an honor. I will do my best to serve you as I juggle my family, work, NDSSA, and BMRPA responsibilities. One of my goals is to increase the membership of clubs and individuals in our organization. We have good participation by clubs in the major cities, but there are many small sportsman's clubs throughout the state that I would like to see become members and thereby strengthen our association. We should all make a new effort to get the members of our local clubs to become members of NDSSA. With new members we can strengthen and coordinate our legislative agenda, expand the opportunities to support and establish youth shooting programs, and get individuals from smaller communities involved in the shooting sports.

I am excited about the big push to get new ranges constructed in this state, we are lucky to have such a good working relationship among clubs and the financial assistance of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. The formation of the Dakota Marksmanship Foundation is a great idea that will help clubs throughout the state fund range development and operations. Another vision I have, which I would like to see happen after we get the ranges built in Fargo and Bismarck, are high school shooting teams across the state.

This is an outstanding organization, we do a great job at youth development and organizing shooting opportunities but Rick Jorgenson has been a one-man show at completing our legislative responsibilities. He is very good at it, but he is also busy doing many other things for our Association and his local club. I would like to see a couple of people volunteer to help Rick this year. It is a legislative year and we are planning to introduce legislation to correct the law concerning the need to retreat when placed in a life-threatening situation. We will also need to track and testify on other bills that may affect us. Like always, we have a busy outdoor shooting season coming up fast. You are running out of time to get your ammo reloaded. I hope to see you on the range this summer.

Sincerely,
Walt Fairbanks

NDSSA Officers and Chair people

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The 1911 Corner

Many times I have considered doing a series of short articles on the 1911 pistol and after hearing, again, at our State NDSSA meeting, that our editor needs us members to submit articles, I am now finally motivated to give this a try. When I see how much work our officers get done and how professionally they do their job, I am compelled to help. This is my attempt to help our editor and our members who own 1911 pistols.

These articles will be written with the intent to help all those who own 1911's with some articles geared more for those with match grade 1911's. I am not sure how long I will be able to continue these articles without running out of information that I deem worthy of the printed page, but as of now I have several topics in mind.

Every gun scribe that has ever written about the 1911 seems to have an opinion about a shortcoming or a weak link of John M. Browning's design. Many seem to think the extractor is the weak link and several companies now have a new extractor design. I am very grateful to John for his design and really don't have any dislikes or declare any flaws in his great invention. I believe, however, that there are some things that we need to know about certain features of this great pistol that will help us take better care of it, make it last longer and avoid some problems that tend to give us gray hair.

This article will deal with the stocks (also called grips), stock screws (grip screws) and stock screw bushings (grip screw bushings). The bushings are screwed into the frame (receiver) and are designed to stay there. The stocks are then placed on the frame and held in place with the screws which screw into the bushings. Typical problem here is that the bushings tend to come out with the screws when the 1911 owner attempts to remove the grips. Then we have all three pieces together. It is then vice grip time to hold the bushings and unscrew the screws to free the stocks. The vice grip damages the threads on the bushings so that any attempt to install the bushing with the damaged thread can result in damage to the mating threads in the frame, if the bushing is made of harder metal than the frame.

First solution here is to only tighten the screws to "snug". "Snug" might be what is comfortable holding a small screwdriver with only the thumb and forefinger. When you have a chance, please look closely at the arrangement of these three parts. Then envision what happens when the screw is tightened into the bushing. Notice that as the screw is tightened it will only take a small amount of tightening (snug) to compress the grip in that area and then the bottom of the screw head is against the top of the bushing. Any further tightening just serves to tighten the bottom of the screw head against the top of the bushing and lock the two together. If the bushing is not extremely tight in the frame it will then screw out of the frame as the grip screw is loosened.

Second solution here is to install the bushing into the frame very securely. Problem here is that the screw slot will likely be damaged, if this is done with a regular screwdriver. Brownells markets a couple of versions of their 1911 auto bushing driver. This is a correctly sized screwdriver blade inside a tube which has an inside diameter that corresponds to the outside diameter of the bushing so the screw slot in the bushing is not damaged when you tighten the bushing securely.

Third solution here is to stake the bushing in place after tightening securely. Brownells also sells a tool to do that but warns that this needs to be used in conjunction with an anvil

support block. My shop-built support block consists of a 1 ½" square hardened steel block in which a hole has been drilled the same size as the top of the bushing. This hole is strategically located in the block so as to not interfere or damage the plunger tube. After tightening the bushing in the frame, the frame is positioned so that the top of the bushing is inside the hole in the support block. While the bushing is staked in place, the support block bears against the shoulder of the bushing. A punch is positioned through the bushing on the opposite side of the frame and into the staking tool. Four or five blows with a hammer seem to do the job. After all four bushings are staked, a tap is run through all the bushings to repair the minor damage that may have been done to the threads as a result of the punch being inside of the threads.

So, what do you do if the threads in the frame are damaged or stripped out so the bushing doesn't tighten? Brownells comes to the rescue again with an "oversized stock bushings and tap" set. This is a very costly little kit but it sure saves the day when a frame has a stripped bushing thread. This little kit will make things good as new but they do not make a 2X oversized kit, so be sure to not damage the oversized threads in the frame as this repair can only be done once.

So, make sure your bushings are tight in the frame and better yet also staked in place. Then always only tighten the screws to "snug" so they do not lock onto the bushing.

Here is wishing you only 10's & X's and if I can be of any help with your 1911, don't hesitate to call me at 258-2360 or e-mail at snmmay@bis.midco.net. **Sam May**

Morgan at the Palma Trials (from pg. 1)

Day four I was squadded with Tricia Brooks of Washington. Tricia is more of a "picker" than a "runner" when she shoots. She got behind the wind, and never could get in front of it all day. This was my day! I finally understood the wind. Shot with the wind from the left when possible, as the new berms on the right changed the wind value from what the flags showed. Shot quickly, when my condition was present. I started off with a 149-6, then a 147-6, 147-3 and finished with a 147-10! I felt great and after looking at the "Wailing Wall" I felt even better. My agg of 590-25 was 6th for the day. Now I was in the hunt! My confidence was high and the gun was shooting great. I was ready for the final day. I was right around 18th place after day three. No train wrecks, good scores above 145 and I was in! High agg for the day was Tom Whitaker with a 595-29.

For the final selection day, I was squadded with Dan Gleeson a deaf shooter from down South. Dan had started shooting smallbore and it really showed; he has a great position and technique. He started out really hot earlier in the week, but had faded as the matches went on. Dan is a really great guy! Throughout the day's shooting we knew that we could drop our lowest match from the weekly aggregate. So far my 138 was my lowest score, and I was hoping it would stay my lowest. Just shoot 145 and above and I would be in the top 28. I started the day with a pair of 149's; the first with 5X's the second with 6. I was happy but knew there was more shooting to go. On the second 149, I actually converted my first sighter (a nine) for record and ended with a 149. Could have been a 150, but a 149 on the card is better than a 140 with a Crossfire or missed condition, so no regrets for taking that nine. Third match 147-8. Now I knew I was in, and I didn't really focus as well for the last match. Shot a 144-6 when a 148 was certainly attainable. I finished with a 589-25x, high score was John Widden with a smoking 598-30x.

(Continued on Page 4)

Morgan at the Palma Trials (from pg. 3)

I threw out my 138 from earlier in the week and walked around with a smile on my face, I was also really excited for Randy Gregory. He and I had been going back and forth most of the week, I knew before the last match that he was on the team too. He also blew the last match off with a 139, and got the last spot. We had a couple beers that night to celebrate!

The next day we had a small team meeting before getting our team squadding and began to train as a team. There were 6 coaches trying for 4 spots, we have one more training session to decide who the final coaches will be. In training, we shot all distances 800, 900 & a couple of matches at 1000. Shooters were scored by elevation and their shot calling ability, coaches were scored on the windage. It was a fun day, but not easy by any means. I had more elevation in my shooting than I would like, but I placed 6th for score. Elevation is how shooters are evaluated, there I placed 22nd. We have another training session at Fort Benning in April, 2006. If I don't do better there, I might not make the final 18 shooters. Randy shot very good elevation 7th and 3rd for score (1 point better than my score). Peasley, Tamulinas, Andres, Gregory and I went out to dinner and just sat around talking that night. Mostly reflecting on the good and bad shots we had during the week. We all got on planes the next day and left the 100 degree heat for the Upper Midwest.

The final team will be decided after a September training session in Ottawa, Canada. I feel proud to be one to the top 28 and will work very hard to make the final 18. This is a different game. Leave your egos at the door. It will take a strong team to win the gold in Canada in 2007; not 18 great shooters. We have the shooters, gear, and coaches. We just need to work together and see what we can do as a team. Please support the US Palma team in any way you can!

The 6 Palma Coaches are: Robert Mead, Bob Jones, Billy Meek, Gary Rasmussen, Richard Vedvick, and Ray Gross. Emil Praslick & Mid Tompkins will be back coaches.

The 28 current possible team members are:

John Widden, Kent Reeve, Tom Whitaker, Michele Gallagher, Dennis Flaharty, Eddie Newman, David Huskins, Nancy Tompkins, Tyrel Cooper, Carl Kovalchik, Ron Sekellick, Dan Simpson, Lane Buxton, Jon Rhynard, Wayne Daniel, Trevor Hengehold, Noma Mayo, Morgan Dietrich, Jon Howell, Justin Skaret, Mike Schreier, Mike Maurer, Gary Henry, Robert Gamboa, Gerald Tierney, Norm Anderson, Mike Dunia, and Randy Gregory.

Morgan Dietrich

Highpower Clinic - Friday May 5, 2006

You can find out everything you ever wanted to know about shooting High Power Rifle across the course, long range and F-Class shooting, but were afraid to ask. The Bismarck/Mandan Rifle and Pistol Association will again host a clinic on High Power Rifle shooting the evening of Friday, May 5th, 2006, starting at 7:00 pm at the North Dakota Game and Fish Department headquarters building auditorium at 100 North Bismarck Expressway in Bismarck, ND. The clinic covers courses of fire, range operations and procedures, equipment requirements, safety tips, sources for equipment, and a lot of other information helpful to the new shooter and

pro alike. So if you want to get started, or if you are an old pro and would like to share your expertise, please join us.

The following day, Saturday, May 6th, we will shoot a long range match. We will have the range open on Saturday morning before the match in order for shooters to zero rifles at 600 and 1000 yards. An across the course match will follow on Sunday, May 7th, so you can put what you learned in the clinic into practice.

For more information, call Leon Nesja at (701) 663-8818, or Tom Thompson at (701) 255-4601.

NDSSA Sporting Arms

The North Dakota Shooting Sports Association (NDSSA) has a limited number of match grade service rifles available for lease to NDSSA members interested in High Power Rifle competition. If firearms are available, NDSSA members will be able lease a rifle at the High Power Clinic in Bismarck on May 5, 2006. If interested in leasing a firearm, call Dennis Coulter at (701) 746-6959, in advance of the clinic.

In addition, firearms that are currently being leased, must to be brought to the clinic for annual inspection and lease renewal. If you are currently leasing an NDSSA rifle and cannot attend the clinic or the matches on the weekend of May 6 and 7, 2006, call Dennis Coulter to arrange for a time and place to have the rifle inspected. **All rifles must be inspected and leases renewed before June 1, 2006, or they must be returned so that they can be made available to other NDSSA members.**

2005 NDSSA Records

We had a good year in 2005 in the NDSSA State Record department. We had a few Highpower, Junior and Silhouette Rifle records broken. A bit about NDSSA records – in order for a new record to be obtained or established, the match must be sanctioned under the governing body of the shooting sport discipline and also sanctioned by NDSSA. In the case of NRA matches, the match must be a registered match. Scores fired under NRA approved matches are not eligible for state records. State Championships, Regional, and Sectional matches are registered matches and therefore, are eligible for state record status. Scores fired at these matches are also eligible for National Records. Individuals must also be a resident of North Dakota.

Denny Coulter of Grand Forks keeps our state record book. However, it is not up to Denny to track down all the records. If you know of a new state record, please send the match report to Denny (and mark the record) so he can update our record list.

Thanks go out to Jim Ladwig. Jim went through his records of past Silhouette matches and found several new state records. These records have now been added to the state record list. We also encourage match sponsors to contact Denny and get a copy of the state records. Its kind of nice to have these records present at a match so individuals can see how they're doing compared to past and present shooters. Jim Ladwig is also keeping the list of the state records on the NDSSA web site. Go to ndssa.org to view the entire list. The records set or tied in 2005 are displayed on page 6.

2006 Spring & Summer Schedule of Opportunities

Date	Event	Location	Contact	Phone
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
Apr 29	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
May 5	Highpower Clinic – issue NDSSA Rifles	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
May 6, 7	Highpower, Std. and 1000 yd matches	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
May 13	Bullseye Pistol	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-663-8818
May 20	Blackpowder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675
May 21	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Jun 3, 4	ND Smallbore State Champs, Prone	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jun 3	Cowboy Rifle Silhouette, IHMSA Pistol	Bismarck	Brent Cusey	701-667-2990
Jun 4	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Jun 10, 11	Highpower, X-course and Palma	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Jun 17	Silhouette Rifle Match	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-663-3856
Jun 18	Pistol Regional w/Leg	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Jun 24, 25	Highpower Regional w/Leg, Team	Grand Forks	Denny Coulter	701-746-6959
Jul 8, 9	Highpower, X-course and Garand Match	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Jul 15, 16	State Games , Rifle Silhouette, Cowboy, HP Rifle	Bismarck	Tom Thompson	701-255-4601
Jul 22, 23	ND Highpower State Champ w/Leg, Team	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Jul 30	Pistol State Championship	Valley City	Bill Brackin	701-282-7158
Aug 5	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Aug 12	State 4H Shooting Championship	Bismarck	Al Ulmer	701-883-5301
Aug 19, 20	ND Silhouette State Champs	Bismarck	Tim Frank	701-6633856
Aug 26	BPCR – Target State Champ	Grand Forks	Tom Reiten	701-775-0008
Aug 26	Bullseye Pistol	Bismarck	Kevin Hertz	701-223-4225
Aug 27	IHMSA Pistol	Bismarck	Brent Cusey	701-667-2990
Sep 9	Cowboy Action	Bismarck	Vern Hoggarth	701-663-2454
Sep 16, 17	Highpower Long Range Regional	Bismarck	Leon Nesja	701-663-8818
Sep 23, 24	Bruce Alexander Memorial Highpower Match	Rolla	Andy Johnson	701-477-6687
Sep 23, 24	BPCR - Silhouette State Champ	Bismarck	Ken Heier	701-255-0675

-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
 Program _____ Legislation _____ Junior
 _____ Hunting
 _____ Conservation
 Address: _____ E-Mail Address _____
 _____ Bullseye Pistol
 _____ Air Rifle _____ Hi-
 Power Rifle
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 _____ Smallbore
 _____ Air Pistol
 _____ 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)

The following records were equaled or established during the 2005 shooting season.

Course of Fire	Individual	Score	Place	Date
Junior Smallbore				
4-Position Gallery, 10 shots Prone	*Levi Geurts	100-10x	Bismarck	3/13/05
4-Position Gallery, 10 shots Prone	*Darren Dyk	100-10x	Bismarck	3/13/05
International Air Rifle, 10 shots Standing	*Kaylee Kuntz	99/100	Minot	1/16/05
Highpower Rifle, 300 Yards Rapid Fire	Duane Holien	200-11x	Grand Forks	6/25/05
Highpower Rifle, Rapid Fire Aggregate	Dan Marquart	400-18x	Grand Forks	6/25/05
1000 Yards, Iron Sights, 20 shots	Russ Theurer	197-7x	Bismarck	9/17/05
1000 Yards, 1000 Point Aggregate	Russ Theurer	980-37x	Bismarck	9/17/05
High Power Heavy Silhouette Rifle				
200 Meter Chickens	Jim Ladwig	8/10	Bismarck	8/21/05
385 Meter Turkeys	*Tim Frank	6/10	Bismarck	8/21/05
High Power Hunting Silhouette Rifle				
500 Meter Rams	*Tim Frank	5/10	Bismarck	8/21/05

* Indicates record Co-Holder

Tom Thompson

Congratulations to Soren Butler winner of the Gold Medal in the J-3 age group and to Matthew Pueppke who won the Bronze Medal in the J-2 age group at the Junior Olympic National Air Rifle Championships. The match is in progress as we send this issue to press. We will have more results and a report about the match in our next issue.

**North Dakota Shooting Sports Association, Inc.
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BISMARCK ND 58502-0228**

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