

# Montana Rifle & Pistol Association

January 2016

## Message from the President By Jamey Williams

2016 is now upon us and I hope that many are not only developing healthy resolutions for the coming year, but they are also making shooting resolutions – including plans to work on marksmanship weaknesses. Just wanting to shoot “better” is not what typically gains you improvement, but rather identifying skill deficits and making a training plan. The training plan should include a list of exercises that you will work on with each live fire session and dryfire session.

2016 unfortunately brings us another year of political shenanigans and there is not any let off from the liberals and their desire to take our firearms. WE all know how important the Second Amendment is, but WE have to reach out to the fence sitters and take them to a range and foster firearm ownership. The youth we get involved and the fence sitters we convert are the key for sustaining our Second amendment over the next generation(s). Also, I encourage everyone to be ahead of the game in terms of components and firearms. Anticipate a run on high demand items as the greatest gun sales party ever renews their quest to retain control of the White House.

Lastly, every junior program, pistol league, high power tournament can always use help. Be sure to do your part by committing to help with the various programs. Have you stepped back from competitive shooting? Consider stepping back into the realm with helping from an administrative standpoint.

## 2016 Annual Meeting

The 2016 MRPA Annual Meeting will be held this Spring at a date and location to be disclosed in the near future.

## Secretary's Notes By Zona Mowrer

**Memberships:** My email address is [silverbow3@gmail.com](mailto:silverbow3@gmail.com) for anyone needing to change an address or contact me for any reason or renew your membership. **Memberships were due Dec. 31, 2015.** There is a renewal form on the last page of the newsletter or on the [mtrpa.org](http://mtrpa.org) website.

**Match fees for Juniors:** MRPA will pay national match fees for any junior member of MRPA going to a National Championship Match. You will need prior approval from the Executive Committee before attending any match that you want reimbursement of entry fees. Matches included are any National Matches in Air Rifle, 3 Position Smallbore Rifle, Pistol Matches, High Power, Black Powder, NRA National Matches and CMP National Matches, USA Shooting Junior Olympics, etc. Get your information to Jamey Williams to get approval.

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**Match Results:** If you have any match results you want shared, please get them to me at silverbow3@gmail.com. You may do this through email or snail mail. I can't put the results of your matches in the Newsletter if I do not have the results from your matches.

## Vietnam Voices: Dale Lacher Billings Gazette

Billings high power shooter Dale Lacher talks about his experiences in Vietnam; from the Billings Gazette:

*Dale Lacher was in the U.S. Army and served as a dustoff (medevac helicopter) medic. He graduated from Billings West High in 1968 and was inducted into the Army in July 1968. This is part of his Vietnam story.*

*Lacher: "I joined the Army six days after my 18th birthday. I wanted to go in earlier, but my parents wouldn't sign the papers. The last two years of high school, every afternoon, I'd watch the news and I'd see the war. I felt like I needed to do something. I wanted to go in, and my parents didn't want me to, but after you're 18, you can do whatever you want, so there I was."*

Take a moment to read the entire article here:

[http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/vietnam-voices-i-learned-to-let-go-real-easy-over/article\\_5cae03b7-6f0b-5973-9d97-dfea8c9dda1d.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/vietnam-voices-i-learned-to-let-go-real-easy-over/article_5cae03b7-6f0b-5973-9d97-dfea8c9dda1d.html)

## Thoughts of a Junior Shooter

I Joined the MRPA in January of 2014, since then I have competed in many matches with a lot of great guys with a much higher skill level than my own. I had an interest in joining MRPA because I like to hunt and wanted to learn to shoot more proficiently. All the members of MRPA have helped me numerous times and I have really enjoyed the camaraderie between me and the much more experienced shooters who have helped in every match with my shooting. I have had some amazing experiences with all of them. However, one of my favorite shooting adventures so far was a trip to Camp Perry for National Matches in July 2014.

I went to Perry with 3 other juniors, our shooting coach, Mark Skeels, and his Assistant coach, Scott Lindgren. The drive to Ohio was a hard two-day drive. I had never been on the eastern side of the US, so this was my first experience with Ohio humidity, especially since our vehicle had no air conditioning☺. We arrived, checked in and went to our assigned huts. The huts were 15-foot by 15-foot rooms with a bed in each of the



four corners. We juniors stayed in one of the huts, the coaches in the other. The next day we spent in "Commercial Row". Commercial Row is a row of 10 barracks that are rented out to businesses, such as Springfield Armory, Rock River Arms and others, to sell shooting equipment to the competitors that were there. I learned an important lesson when I was in Commercial Row; always bring more than 75 dollars of spending money! ☺

The following three days we went to a training seminar run by the USMC. The Marines who were there would walk up and down the firing line helping all the shooters with their form, follow through, trigger pull, etc. One of the juniors I was with jumped up a rank after attending this seminar. I appreciate the investment that these Marines made in helping us improve our shooting! For the remainder of the two weeks, we went to shooting matches nearly every day. At one of these matches our coach, Mark Skeels, placed 1<sup>st</sup> out of 438 other shooters. One of MRPA's juniors, Samuel Lindgren, placed 21<sup>st</sup> out of 1,076 other shooters during the MI-Garand match.

I appreciate everyone who helped us be able to go and get this great experience. Not only was the trip a lot of fun, but also our shooting technique was significantly improved after working for so many days with our coaches and the Marine's experience. The MRPA helped sponsor us, as did many local businesses and even the L&C Sheriff's Dept. I was grateful for Mark and Scott's willingness to take the time off work, drive us, and coach us. I had a great time there, and would highly recommend for anyone to go.

Zach Walker

Age: 15

Rank: Expert

## **Don Strom Retires – Again!**

While sorting through some of the MRPA archives looking for info for another aspect of the MRPA business dealings, I came across a secretary by name "Don Strom" as early as 1977 (there may have been sightings earlier than 1977, but I was not able to confirm). Strom just passed the reigns of treasurer to Martin Bourque starting in 2016. That is 35+ years of service – think about that! The MRPA wishes to thank Don Strom for his many years of service to the MRPA, running NRA and CMP matches, coaching Biathletes at the MT ARNG and running the MT Guard's marksmanship training. I hope others follow his example and choose to lead and help competitive shooting in Montana.

## **Smallbore and Highpower Postal League**

The Red River Valley Rifle League runs two postal matches each year, one for a summer high power league and the other is a winter smallbore league match. The RRVL is looking for more teams to participate in both postals, and we are sending out this information to encourage you to form up a team to participate. The smallbore league requires 4 to participate, gets underway soon and you can contact Paul Thurmond at: [thurmond@vikingcable.net](mailto:thurmond@vikingcable.net) or Dennis Coulter at: [denny.brenda@gra.midco.net](mailto:denny.brenda@gra.midco.net) for rules/info.

The highpower Summer postal league gets started in May and consists of matches fired at either 200yds or 100yds on reduced targets. The teams will consist of four shooters, but they can be in different geographic areas and can fire the matches independent of the other team members. The matches consist of 20 shots standing and 20 shots sitting rapid fire, with all NRA rules still applying. This is a great way for high power shooters to get in some practice, try out new techniques, or with all the service rifle changes, tryout and evaluate new gear! For information contact Jamey Williams at [jameydan@gmail.com](mailto:jameydan@gmail.com)

## 2016 CMP Service Rifle Changes!

The CMP has released their 2016 Service Rifle and Pistol Rule Book. There are many significant changes from equipment allowed (particularly the AR15/M16 rifles), use of electronic targets and to alibis/malfunctions. Some of the significant changes are highlighted below, but do refer to the CMP rule book available here: <http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/Rulebook.pdf> for additional information. The CMP rule book has underlined the changes throughout the rule book to spot the changes easier.

These changes will serve the competitive marksmanship programs in many ways. With the inclusion of optics being allowed, this will allow many to either continue to participate as their eyesight changes, and it also is really keeping up with modern times. While some branches of the US military continue to utilize irons in training and in different competitions, the frequency of this has diminished since the GWOT began. Optics are much more prevalent in use throughout the military, and the CMP wishes to have the service rifle reflect more closely what is issued.

Many need to be mindful that the numerous forms of marksmanship competitions are really training in proficiency in arms, whether it is manipulation for reloads and dealing with malfunctions in a IDPA match or elevating the core fundamentals of marksmanship that is the hallmark of many NRA and CMP bullseye sports. To paraphrase a tactical shooting instructor, "there are no elevated forms of marksmanship techniques, only efficient application of the basics." The CMP is now moving its rifle matches away from being iron sighted marksmanship competitions to marksmanship competitions with the current firearms in use.

This coming competitive season will involve a learning curve for many with changing equipment and rules. It is the competitor's responsibility to review the rules and understand them!!!

Highlights of rule changes:

- AR15 gas piston systems will be allowed
- Optics are allowed on the AR15 Service rifle, with maximum power of 4.5 and objective size no larger than 34mm.
- AR15 buttstocks can be collapsible
- AR15 Service rifle barrels must be *no more* than 20" (This means M4's are allowed.)
- Left-handed receivers that reverse the operational design features of M16/AR-type rifles are permitted.
- An extended bolt release is permitted.
- No additional time shall be authorized for malfunctions or malfunction repairs during slow-fire stages.
- No refires shall be authorized for malfunctions during rapid-fire series. If a malfunction occurs, a competitor may attempt to clear the malfunction and continue firing, if he/she can do so safely. If a competitor is unable to fire the prescribed number of shots within the time limit, the unfired shots (saved rounds) must be scored as misses
- Rapid fire scoring changes – see chapter 8 for all the changes.

## Notes from the Editor

Discipline directors, please, get the articles you wish to have in the newsletter to myself or Jamey Williams as soon as you can. You can email them to me: [chasbales@rocketmail.com](mailto:chasbales@rocketmail.com)

Also, the 3 gun club in Great Falls is looking for help in running training and better leadership and participants in order to get the club off its feet. If anyone is interested or has resources of where to help please email Maxwell Kern: [mkern1977@yahoo.com](mailto:mkern1977@yahoo.com).

Also, as a point of interest to Marines and former Marines please read the article following this link: <http://nypost.com/2016/01/16/the-rape-of-the-us-marine-corps-a-lunatic-drive-for-fairness/>

## Results of Shooting Events

<i>Hall of Fame Match</i>	<i>Missoula, MT</i>	<i>December 19, 2015</i>	
Match Winner—Robert Scott	1106	1 <sup>st</sup> Master—Trace Weisenburger	1099
1 <sup>st</sup> Sharpshooter—Brian Hinthner	1052	1 <sup>st</sup> Marksman – Chris Lorentz	979
1 <sup>st</sup> Junior—Maranda Nelson	1100	2 <sup>nd</sup> Junior-Ibby Lorentz	1072
3 <sup>rd</sup> Junior – Justin Thomas	1057		
<b><u>Air Rifle</u></b> MW - Ibby Lorentz	201.9	1 <sup>st</sup> Jr- Colin Scott	195.8

### ***USA Shooting Winter Air Gun Colorado Springs, CO Dec. 4-6, 2015***

Air Rifle – Men Ivan Roe won 1<sup>st</sup> on the 1<sup>st</sup> Day, 3<sup>rd</sup> on 2<sup>nd</sup> Day and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and he receives a invite to Camp Perry Ohio for the second part of Olympic Trials in June 2016. Montana was very well represented at this match and all participants did real well. Placings were 73<sup>th</sup> Colin Scott, 77<sup>th</sup> Jarhet Reed, 78<sup>th</sup> Justin Thomas, 93<sup>rd</sup> Fallon Strauch, 115<sup>th</sup> Sam Weisenburger You should all be very proud of the progress you have made and with 120 shooters from all over the U.S. it is an honor to be at a match like that. Good Job and keep up the good work. Air Rifle –Women Alison Weisz placed 9<sup>th</sup> overall and receives an invite to Camp Perry Ohio for the second part of

Olympic Trials in June 2016. Others competing in this match in 88<sup>th</sup>-Rachel Yager,101<sup>st</sup>-Tempe Regan, 112<sup>th</sup>-Maddison Korthas, 117<sup>th</sup>-Ibby Lorentz, 120<sup>th</sup>-Sarah Donald, 132<sup>nd</sup>-Mackenzie Strauch, 137<sup>th</sup>-Alexandra Weisenburger and 151<sup>st</sup>-Abigail Donald.

All of you also should be very proud of your progress and the experience you have gained from being in a match with 157 other women. Good Job and keep up the practices and hard work. It will pay off. If I missed anyone I am truly sorry.

Air Pistol--Men W. Brown 1757, J. Henderson 1740, J. Shi 1736, N.Mowrer 1730, B. Beaman 1730.

The 1<sup>st</sup> place will represent the U.S. at the 2016 Olympics.

Air Pistol –Women Alana Townsend finished 16<sup>th</sup> and will be shooting in the Collegiate Championships in March.

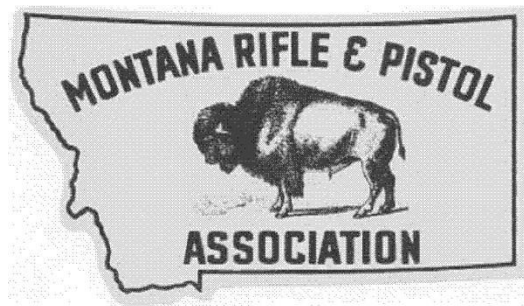
## Classifieds

Nothing at this time....

This listing is provided as a courtesy to MRPA members; MRPA assumes no responsibility for the listed items or your satisfaction with them. Items for sale can be submitted to the newsletter editor for possible submission in the next newsletter.

<b><u>Montana Rifle and Pistol Association 2015-2016</u></b>		
President: Jamey Williams		
Vice President: Scott Wehrmann		
Treasurer: Martin Bourque		
Secretary: Zona Mowrer		
<b><u>Board Members:</u></b>		
Scott Wehrmann (2016)	Dick Miller (2016)	Matt Waite* (2016)
Jake Taverna* (2017)	Bob Scott	Steffen Bunde (2017)
Matt Egloff (2018)	Mark Griffis* (2018)	Paul Thurmond (2018)
*Member, Executive Committee		
The MTRPA Newsletter is published four times per year (January, April, July, and October) and is available on the MTRPA.org website or by US mail (by request). News submissions may be made prior to the last day of the month prior to publication.		

Montana Rifle and Pistol Association  
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Ramsay, MT 59748



Membership Application       New       Renewal  
NRA Member Number      \_\_\_\_\_       Send NRA application  
Receive MRPA Newsletter by:       email      or       US Mail

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Individual:       Annual \$15       Five-Year \$60       Junior \$5 (birth date \_\_\_\_\_)  
                          Associate \$3 (spouse)       Need card ASAP       Life Member \$150  
Clubs \$15 Annual       Senior       Junior

The quarterly newsletter will be posted on the MTRPA.org website in January, April, July, and October. A notice will be emailed to you to notify you that it is available. If you do not have internet access and want a newsletter mailed to you check the box above.

Make checks payable to: Montana Rifle and Pistol Association