

# SHOOTING THE BREEZE Factory ammunition

Obviously I'm a do-it-yourself-er when it comes to rifle ammunition. I love to make my own. There are times when doing so is not affordable nor practical. And contemporary factory ammunition is better than ever before.

Not so long ago, I'm told, if your rifle could keep the store bought stuff inside of a two inch circle at 100 yards, you really had a shooter! Handloaders with premium bullets even in those days could easily outdo that. These days, even the poorest factory ammo will likely not shoot a group as large as two inches. I've used many different brands in my time, all of which have given more than acceptable results on targets as well as game animals. Here are some standouts in various price points:

Hunting Shack Munitions (HSM) got started in someone's backyard shop some years back, and today they are a serious contender. Just like judicious handloaders, these folks gather range brass, inspect and reload it (they call it remanufactured ammo). The packaging is basic, but the price is too good to be true. My friend Matt Frame and I basically kept a sporting store in Bend completely bereft of HSM .40 S&W and .223 Rem ammo years ago. It was cheap, and it always went bang!

Recently they have expanded their rifle ammo lineup to include Sierra Gameking and Berger VLD selections.

The timeless Remington Core-Lokt has been with us since 1939. There are basically two camps here, one loves them, the other wouldn't be caught dead with them. They are cheap enough that if your rifle doesn't care for them or if you find the terminal performance dismal, you'll usually not be out more than a twenty spot. As for game performance they are nearly perfect for deer but see annual use on elk, bear and moose as well.

Another economical choice is the



Dale Valade

Federal Fusion. These bullets are easily a notch or two above entry level with quite a variety of different loads in an eye-catching blaze orange and gold box. And they're usually the same price

or only slightly more than the Remingtons. These feature a boattail softpoint bullet similar in design to the Sierra Gameking and perform admirably on similar quarry.

While we are on the subject of Federal, their Premium line has always been a favorite. If you wish to use the latest wonder bullets that the handloaders fling, buy these. They run approximately twice, or sometimes more, than the price of the cheap stuff, but with a premium bullet you'll be ready for anything in North America and some other places too. These premium loads use many different offerings from Barnes, Sierra and Nosler to name a few.

Finally, the Nosler Trophy Grade and Hornady Precision Hunter are the Cadillacs of factory ammo. For them you'll pay luxury prices, but who can put a price tag on making the shot when it matters most? Using both traditional and bonded core designs, these are two of the most accurate styles of factory ammo available.

Money can be tight, especially in these times of uncertainty. If you rely upon factory production ammunition be sure to stock up a decent supply — your favorites may be tough to come by for a while. Choose wisely and shoot straight, and you'll come home with venison for the pot. It doesn't get any better!

What's your favorite factory stuff? Write us at shootingthebreezebme@gmail.com!

*Dale Valade is a local country gent with a love for the outdoors, handloading, hunting and shooting.*



Contributed photo  
**Columnist Dale Valade prefers handloading but recommends these factory brands.**

# Hermiston's Dallas Bolen claims three championship ribbons at Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show

By Annie Fowler  
For EO Media Group

Presentation is everything, from the grooming of the horse to the length of the rider's pants. The smallest detail could mean the difference between a world championship and a long ride home.

Hermiston's Dallas Bolen was on point at the Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show from Oct. 10-17 at State Fair Park in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, bringing home three championship ribbons.

"It was so exciting," said Bolen, a 1999 Hermiston graduate. "I've been going for about 25 years. I've won qualifying rounds before, but this is the first time I have won a championship."

While Bolen, 39, owns her own Morgan horses, the two horses she rode and drove to victory in Oklahoma belong to Louis and Liz Goldmann of Benton City, Washington.

"Liz is a longtime client of mine," Bolen said. "She is 74, so she doesn't ride anymore."

Goldmann still likes to drive the carriages. She owns the two that were used at nationals, and drove in qualifying rounds of the National Champion Double Jeopardy Carriage Obstacle, but Bolen drove in the finals.

Pulling the carriage was 13-year-old bay gelding Sutton Remembrance GCH.

"We have been trying to win this since he was 6 years old," Bolen said. "Sometimes, it's the year or the judge. This is the highest ribbon you can win. It's the creme de la creme for him."

Remembrance also pulled the carriage for Bolen when she won the Morgan World Champion Carriage Driving.

"There is a lot of tradition," Bolen said. "Depending on the carriage, certain items are required, and there are requirements of what you have to wear. The devil is in the details. You are judged on equitation and how well the horse performs. It



Contributed photo/Dallas Bolen

**Sutton Remembrance GCH, driven by Dallas Bolen of Hermiston, won the Morgan World Champion Carriage Driving in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Sibbea Browning, seated at rear, is the groom.**

was all horse. He was awesome."

In the Carriage Driving, Bolen had a seat on the back of her carriage, which required a passenger. Bolen's was groom Sibbea Browning of Hermiston.

In the Morgan World Champion Dressage Training Level Open, Bolen rode 4-year-old chestnut gelding Sutton Terra Cotta to victory.

"We rode in a couple of small shows when he was a 3-year-old," Bolen said. "He hadn't shown in a year and a half. He was super happy to do something."

Terra Cotta won two of three qualifying rounds, and tied for first in the third.

"Liz bred both horses, so this is even more special for her," Bolen said.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Bolen said the numbers at nationals were down about 10%. Competitors from Canada were unable to make the trip, as were some European riders. There still were more than 1,000 entrants at the event.

While nationals presents championship ribbons, there are no monetary awards.

"You can't put a price on memories," Bolen said.

**The appeal of Morgan horses**  
Known for their versatility, Mor-

gans are one of the first breeds to be developed in the United States.

According to history, every Morgan today can trace its lineage back to a horse named Figure, a hardy stallion who was born in West Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1789.

Morgans are family horses, show horses and once were used to work in the fields.

As show horses, they are used in several different disciplines, from jumping to dressage to endurance riding. They also make good rodeo partners in barrel racing, tie-down roping and team roping.

Bolen trains Goldmann's five Morgans, and has several of her own, including a 4-month-old she recently bought.

"I've been competing since I was about 9 years old," Bolen said. "It's in your blood. My mom thought I'd grow out of it. I never did. She's still waiting."

Training horses is a side job for Bolen, who works at Wheatland Insurance in Pendleton.

"I train for Liz, but I also have other clients," Bolen said. "I have a super supportive husband (Kai). He came down to nationals and helped us set up, then flew back home to go to work. When it was over, he flew down, helped us pack up and drove home with us."

## HARVEST THE SAVINGS ON A NEW KUBOTA!

**BX23S**

- 21.6 Gross HP,† 3-Cylinder Kubota Diesel Engine
- Fully Integrated Tractor/Loader/Backhoe
- Swift-Tach Loader System
- Swift-Connect Backhoe • Foldable ROPS

**L2501HST**

- 24.8 Gross HP,† 3-Cylinder Kubota Diesel Engine
- 4WD
- Hydrostatic Transmission (HST)
- Performance-Matched Implements Available

**M4-071**

- 73.2 Gross HP,† 4-Cylinder Kubota Diesel Engine
- Electronic 4WD Engagement
- Standard Wide Cab • Halogen Lights
- Standard Operator Seat

**MX5400HST**

- 55.5 Gross HP,† 4-Cylinder Kubota Diesel Engine
- 4WD • Hydrostatic Transmission
- Climate-Controlled, Factory-Installed Cab or ROPS
- Performance-Matched Implements Available

**SSV65**

- 64 Gross HP,† 4-Cylinder Kubota Diesel Engine
- Roomy, Fatigue- and Stress-Reducing Cabin Encourages All-Day Alertness
- Open or Closed Cab with Sliding Front Door

**KX040-4**

- 40.4 Gross HP,† Kubota Diesel Engine
- Spacious Cab with Wider Entrance, Fully Flat Floor & Deluxe Suspension Seat
- Hydraulic 6-in-1 Blade

**RTV-X900**

- 21.6 Gross HP,† 3-Cylinder Kubota Diesel Engine
- Variable Hydro Transmission (VHT-X)
- Standard 4-Wheel Drive
- Split Bench Seats Provide Hours of Riding Comfort

**M5-091HDC**

- 92.5 Rated Engine HP,† 4-Cylinder Turbocharged Kubota Diesel Engine
- 2WD or 4WD • ROPS or Ultra Grand Cab II
- Category II, 3-Point Hitch

## \$0 DOWN, 0% A.P.R. FINANCING FOR UP TO 60\* MONTHS ON SELECT NEW KUBOTAS!

5629 SOUTH SIXTH ST.  
KLAMATH FALLS, OR  
541-882-8809

3290 S HIGHWAY 97  
REDMOND, OR  
541-548-6744

211 HIGHWAY 20 S  
HINES, OR 97738  
541-573-1322  
541-589-3877

www.plattequipment.com

\*0% Down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 60 months on purchases of select new Kubota All BX, B, L, MX, M60 and M4 (Except M5, M5N, M5L, M6, M6S, M6H and M6L) equipment from participating dealers' in stock inventory is available to qualified purchasers through Kubota Credit Corporation, U.S.A.; subject to credit approval. Example: 60 monthly payments of \$16.67 per \$1,000 financed. Contract term begins from the date of first payment which is due 90 days from the contract date. Example: Purchase made on 9/1/20, first monthly payment is due 12/1/20. Some exceptions apply. Terms subject to change. Offers expire 12/31/20. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For more information, see Dealer or go to KubotaUSA.com. † For complete warranty, safety and product information, consult your local Kubota dealer and the product operator's manual. Power (HP/KW) and other specifications are based on various standards or recommended practices.

5214402-1