



Appleseed™ Ledger

Sponsored by the Revolutionary War Veterans Association, a 501(c)(3) organization

Tampa Bay Area, Fall 2014

Invitation, Shoot Schedule, Maps & Stories

PROJECT APPLESEED™

WINTERSEED IS COMING!

What is Project Appleseed?

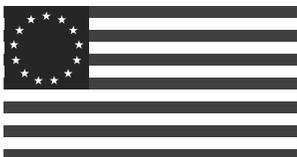
Project Appleseed is an activity of The Revolutionary War Veterans Association, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, dedicated to teaching every American our shared heritage and history as well as traditional rifle marksmanship skills. Our volunteer instructors travel across the country teaching those who attend about the difficult choices, the heroic actions, and the sacrifices that the Founders made on behalf of modern Americans, all of whom are their posterity.

When the temperature drops below zero, those who attend an Appleseed and shoot a score of 210 or better on the "AQT," qualify for a special blue "Winterseed" RIFLEMAN patch. While it's not likely to happen here in Florida this year, winter is a great time to be outdoors. This gives us a wonderful opportunity to fill the firing lines, make new friends and practice the traditions of the Founding Fathers. It's also a good time to reflect on the winter of 1777, one of the most challenging seasons in our Nation's history. It was a time that, without a strong community, we might never have enjoyed the Liberty we take so much for granted in the 21st century.

It is in that spirit that I would like to welcome you to a new, community-based effort to reinforce the lessons we teach at Project Appleseed, introduce new people to their heritage, make friendships, practice marksmanship and find ways we can build an active local community. The goal is to invite friends, family and neighbors for a fun-filled practice and social night held every other month, beginning November 6, 2014. We will pick a local shooting range, give a brief demo and spend an hour or so practicing marksmanship.

Afterward, we'll meet nearby for dinner and conversation. There will be cool swag as door prizes and even a short story or two about brave men and women of the American Revolution. Bring a friend, learn tips for success and hone your skills. For those new to Appleseed, we will have a drawing for a free gift certificate for one full weekend at Project Appleseed. Always remember, this is YOUR community. I hope you will make good use of it.

"Our own Country's Honor, all call upon us for a vigorous and manly exertion, and if we now shamefully fail, we shall become infamous to the whole world. Let us therefore rely upon the goodness of the Cause, and the aid of the supreme Being, in whose hands Victory is, to animate and encourage us to great and noble Actions -- The Eyes of all our Countrymen are now upon us, and we shall have their blessings, and praises, if happily we are the instruments of saving them from the Tyranny mediated against them. Let us therefore animate and encourage each other, and show the whole world, that a free man contending for Liberty on his own ground is superior to any slavish mercenary on earth." -- George Washington, 1776



Learn More, View the National Schedule and Register at:

www.appleseedusa.org
or www.libertyseed.org



History • Heritage • Marksmanship



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Valley Forge, 1777

"...And here, in this place of sacrifice, in this vale of humiliation, in this valley of the Shadow of Death out of which the Life of America rose, regenerate and free, let us believe with an abiding faith that to them Union will seem as dear, and Liberty as sweet, and Progress as glorious as they were to our fathers, and are to you and me, and that the institutions which have made us happy, preserved by the virtue of our children, shall bless the remotest generations of the time to come."

-- Henry Armit Brown, commemorating the 100th anniversary of Valley Forge

The darkest hour is just before the dawn. While the Spirit of the American Revolution had been strong in '75-'76, by the winter of '77, it had all but diminished. After a series of lost battles, General George Washington wintered his sick and weary troops at Valley Forge while the British army spent their time in relative luxury, having recently taken Philadelphia.

In December, 1777, General Washington began with 12,000 soldiers which diminished to 8,000 by February. Many left for home, but thousands more would die from starvation, smallpox, pneumonia and dysentery. Even though the outlook for America seemed bleak, the Spirit of '76 held fast in the brave souls who remained.

The Chevalier de Pontgibaud, a French volunteer, made the following observations at Valley Forge:

"Soon I came in sight of the camp. My imagination had pictured an army with uniforms, the glitter of arms, standards, etc., in short, military pomp of all sorts; Instead of the imposing spectacle I expected, I saw, grouped together or standing alone, a few militiamen, poorly clad, and for the most part without shoes..."

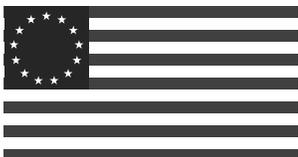
...In passing through the camp I also noticed soldiers wearing cotton nightcaps under their hats, and some having for cloaks or greatcoats coarse woolen blankets, exactly like those provided for the patients in our French hospitals. I learned afterwards that these were the officers and generals.

Such, in strict truth, was, at the time I came amongst them, the appearance of this armed mob, the leader of whom was the man who has rendered the name of Washington famous; such were the colonists - unskilled warriors who learned in a few years how to conquer the finest troops that England could send against them."

Unexpected help came in the form of Prussian born, Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, who arrived in February 1778 and was appalled by the state of the Army. With his help, Washington was able to improve living conditions in the camp and created an effective training program for the troops. Although von Steuben's training style seemed to rely heavily on swearing at the troops in 3 languages, he focused his attention on training a "model company" who then set out to train the remainder of the army. George Washington may have left Valley Forge with a smaller force, but those who persisted through the dark days emerged stronger and more suited to the challenges ahead.

Valley Forge was a major turning point in the War for Independence. Later on, John Adams would remark, "People and nations are forged in the fires of adversity." George Washington proved, time and again, that even the coldest winter could not defeat those fires of Liberty once set in the hearts and minds of those who value Freedom.

"THESE are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated." -- The Crisis, Thomas Paine, 1776



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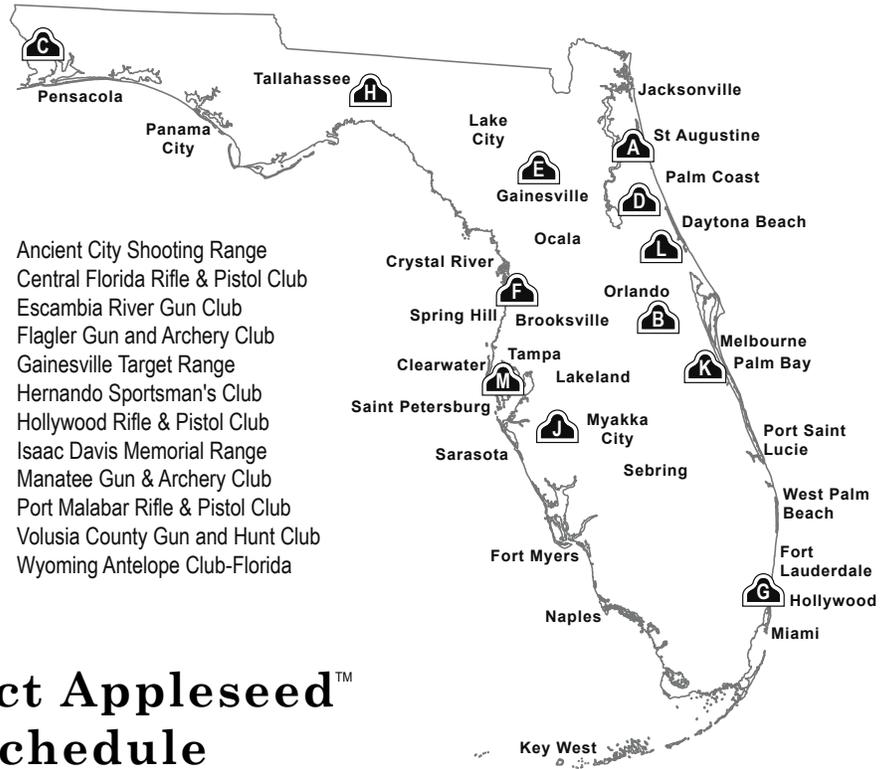


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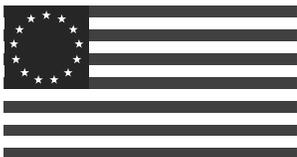
"Liberty must at all hazards be supported. We have a right to it, derived from our Maker. But if we had not, our fathers have earned and bought it for us, at the expense of their ease, their estates, their pleasure, and their blood."
 -- John Adams, 1765



- A Ancient City Shooting Range
- B Central Florida Rifle & Pistol Club
- C Escambia River Gun Club
- D Flagler Gun and Archery Club
- E Gainesville Target Range
- F Hernando Sportsman's Club
- G Hollywood Rifle & Pistol Club
- H Isaac Davis Memorial Range
- J Manatee Gun & Archery Club
- K Port Malabar Rifle & Pistol Club
- L Volusia County Gun and Hunt Club
- M Wyoming Antelope Club-Florida

Fall, 2014 Project Appleseed™ FL State Schedule

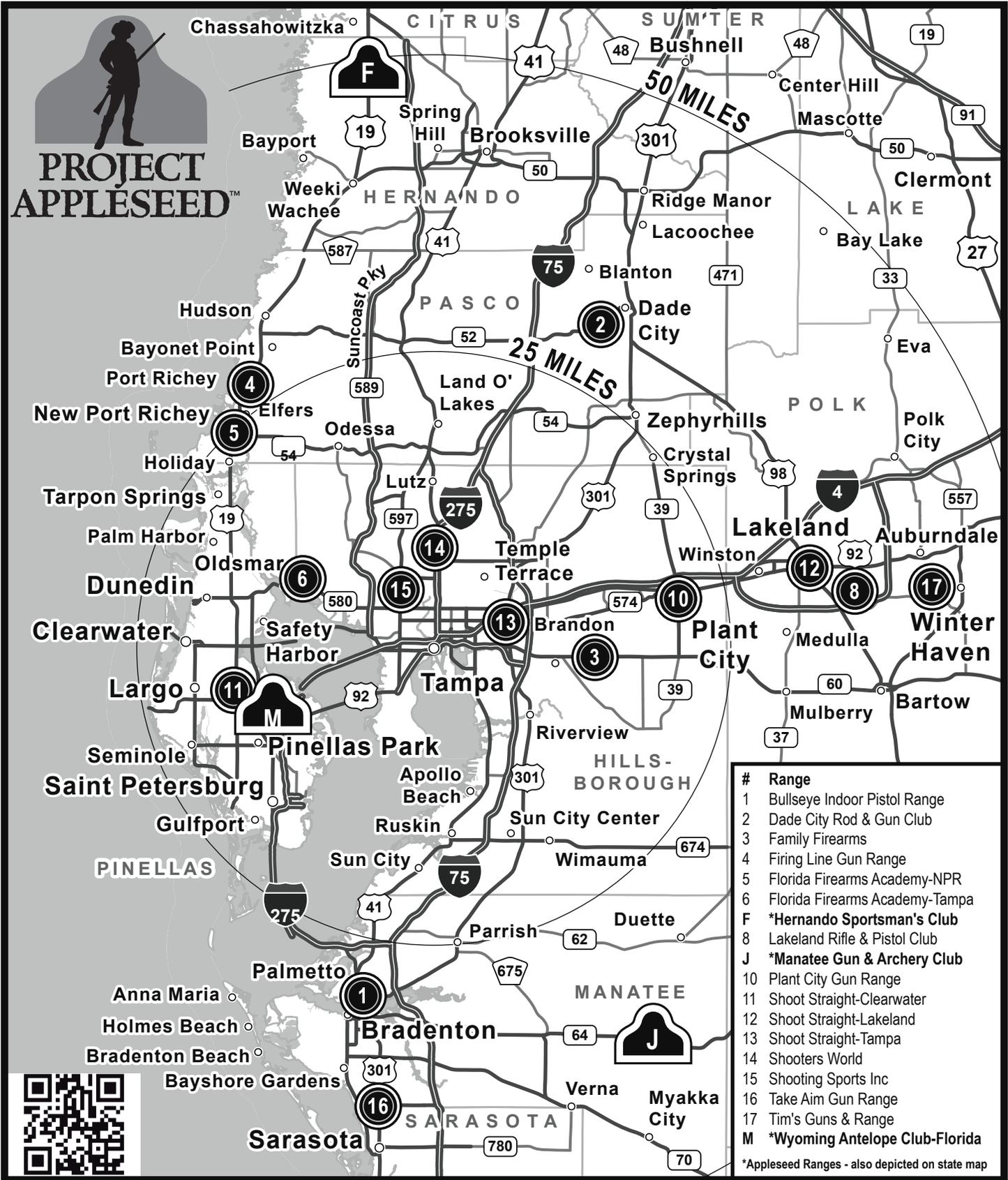
MAP #	EVENT	DATE	VENUE	ADDRESS	CITY
November:					
H	APPLESEED	Nov 01 - Nov 02	Isaac Davis Memorial Range	Upper Cody Road	Wacissa, FL (Tallahassee)
	PRACTICE	Nov 06	Florida Firearms Academy	13317 W Hillsborough Ave	Tampa, FL
B	APPLESEED	Nov 08 - Nov 09	Central FL Rifle and Pistol Club	14646 Weewahootee Rd	Orlando, FL
A	APPLESEED	Nov 08 - Nov 09	Ancient City Shooting Range	3021 Agricultural Center Dr	Saint Augustine
J	APPLESEED	Nov 15 - Nov 16	Manatee Gun and Archery Club	1805 Logue Rd	Myakka City
E	APPLESEED	Nov 29 - Nov 30	Gainesville Target Range	1610 NW 65TH PI	Gainesville
F	APPLESEED	Nov 29 - Nov 30	Hernando Sportsman's Club	16121 Commercial Way	Brooksville
December:					
K	APPLESEED	Dec 06 - Dec 07	Port Malabar Rifle & Pistol Club	610 Hurley Blvd. SW	Palm Bay
C	APPLESEED	Dec 06 - Dec 07	Escambia River Gun Club	4020 Rocky Branch Rd	Cantonment (Pensacola)
J	APPLESEED	Dec 13 - Dec 14	Manatee Gun and Archery Club	1805 Logue Rd	Myakka City
L	APPLESEED	Dec 13 - Dec 14	Volusia County Gun Club	4645 E. SR 44	New Smyrna Beach
H	APPLESEED	Dec 20 - Dec 21	Isaac Davis Memorial Range	Upper Cody Road	Wacissa, FL (Tallahassee)
January:					
G	APPLESEED	Jan 10 - Jan 11	Hollywood Rifle and Pistol Club	2989 Stirling Road	Dania Beach
B	APPLESEED	Jan 10 - Jan 11	Central FL Rifle and Pistol Club	14646 Weewahootee Rd	Orlando, FL
M	APPLESEED	Jan 17 - Jan 18	Wyoming Antelope Club	3700 126th. Ave. N.	Clearwater, FL
F	APPLESEED	Jan 31 - Feb 01	Hernando Sportsman's Club	16121 Commercial Way	Brooksville
	PRACTICE	TBD	Location to be determined - Call 813-843-8896 for details		Tampa Bay



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RIFLE & PISTOL RANGES IN THE TAMPA REGION



#	Range
1	Bullseye Indoor Pistol Range
2	Dade City Rod & Gun Club
3	Family Firearms
4	Firing Line Gun Range
5	Florida Firearms Academy-NPR
6	Florida Firearms Academy-Tampa
F	*Hernando Sportsman's Club
8	Lakeland Rifle & Pistol Club
J	*Manatee Gun & Archery Club
10	Plant City Gun Range
11	Shoot Straight-Clearwater
12	Shoot Straight-Lakeland
13	Shoot Straight-Tampa
14	Shooters World
15	Shooting Sports Inc
16	Take Aim Gun Range
17	Tim's Guns & Range
M	*Wyoming Antelope Club-Florida

*Appleseed Ranges - also depicted on state map

Posterity! You will never know, how much it cost the present Generation, to preserve your Freedom! I hope you will make a good Use of it. If you do not, I shall repent in Heaven, that I ever took half the Pains to preserve it.