



Project Appleseed in Minnesota

★ Liberty ★ Heritage ★ Marksmanship ★

June, 2011 Newsletter

Find more information at appleseedusa.org.

Save the Date: 2nd Annual Project Appleseed in Minnesota Picnic

We will be having our 2nd annual potluck picnic on Sunday, August 7th from 1pm to 5pm at Brookview Park in Golden Valley.

<http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov/parks/brookview/index.php>

Come out and enjoy food, fun and camaraderie with your fellow Appleseeders. Bring your friends, your family and your kids. There is a nice playground, plus lots of space for camp chairs. More details to come.



Upcoming Appleseeds in Minnesota

- Marshall, MN - June 11-12, 2011
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN - June 18-19, 2011
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN - Jul 16-17, 2011
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Project Appleseed in Minnesota Picnic
Sunday, August 7th from 1pm to 5pm
Brookview Park, Golden Valley, MN
- Hinckley, MN - Aug 13-14, 2011
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Winona, MN - Sep 3-4, 2011
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Marshall, MN - Sep 10-11, 2011
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN - Sep 17-18, 2011
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Wells, MN - Sep 17-18, 2011
[Information](#) or [Register](#)

The complete, national schedule is available at <http://www.appleseedusa.org/search-states.html>. Check there often since new events are added throughout the year.

Hinckley Conservation Club

Nestled in the tall pines a few miles east of I-35, with a bald eagle sometimes seen soaring overhead, is the Hinckley Conservation Club rifle range. On May 15th we completed our 12th Appleseed event at this range, which has been our staunchest supporter in Minnesota. We appreciate their support ! Events are offered here monthly from March through November.

Along with the 100 yard rifle range and 25 yard pistol range, there is a covered shelter with a concrete floor and benches, also table space for cook stoves and water containers during Appleseed events. Inexpensive camping is available nearby, also a Days Inn and America's Best Value hotel, along with the Grand Casino which offers an extensive Saturday evening buffet.

See the range's page on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=102779143104067> One-year memberships are also available for \$15 through Bargain Buys at 1-320-384-7850.



**After Action Report:
Winona, May 7-8**

What an AWESOME crew of shooters and of instructors!!

Mom4rmhell's Drill Instructor voice only had to come out once the entire weekend, and that was because the shooters were conversing so excitedly about their last course of fire that they weren't listening to the explanation of their next course of fire!!

And y'all jumped right in chanting the 4 safety rules and safe rifle with gusto and synchrony for Blue Five!! I knew immediately that we had a GREAT group of shooters to work with! HUZZAH!!

Megan, Anna, dear Charlotte and Ethan! you are a great inspiration to us over-the-hill folk with your dedication and attentive attitudes. Maybe America is not yet lost, if there are more youth such as you that will step to save our heritage. Ethan, you were cheated of a Rifleman's score by your loosening scope; try again it I am confident that you will impress everyone at your next Appleseed. Charlotte, you are too cute. (Our designated marksman, she would run up with every target shouting "Cooper! Cooper! Look at this!") When she insisted on shooting stage one of the AQT offhand, I knelt close by her for safety...when she landed a round in the "V" she could have walked on air...

Grant and AlexZ, you showed such great improvements! DRY FIRE, DRY FIRE and DRY FIRE some more and you will succeed! Terry, Bob and Tammy - so great to work with you, and come back for a full weekend soon... Doug, your reenactment garb is the envy of the upper midwest, or at least our instructor corps; THANKS SO MUCH for lending such a touch of class to our event! Oh, and by the way, with a 50 point improvement between Sat and Sun you are well on your way to earning your patch...

Josh, you're getting there... dry fire and take advantage of your Rifleman Opportunity Card.

Alan, with a 208 you are guaranteed to make the breakthrough with some home practice and another 'seed-- that was my score the Appleseed shoot just before I blasted through my barriers-put the 6 steps of firing the shot together, find your Rifleman's bubble and it will happen.

Steve, I salute you and your service to our Nation! You will always be a welcome guest at ANY Appleseed event, and an honored guest at any event I am running. Be safe in your future deployments as well as your current civil service. HOOAH!

Cooper

**After Action Report:
Hinckley, May 14-15**

Crack – Crack-cra-cra-crack-crack-BOOM-cra-crack-BOOM-c-c-c-cra-crack-cr-crBOOM...The sweet sound of riflery broke nature's unending silence on a most spectacular Saturday morning.

Eleven Americans gathered at the range that morning – most completely unaware that they were about to partake in an adventure that would lead them to become AMERICANS!

The weather? Well the weather was terrible, but perfect weather for Appleseeding! The ice cold rain washed the ticks, and prevented our barrels from overheating. The wind blew the mosquitoes asunder. I believe I even saw a bit of sleet/snow.

First lesson of the day for shooter and instructor alike – Perseverance! The second – Persistence! These were followed by many other lessons in marksmanship and heritage. Lessons a shoot boss can only lead, plant the seeds, and hope they take root.

Another lesson, perhaps more subtle – there is value in allowing children to play with fire. Children grow up to be IIT's – IIT's grow up to be Shoot Bosses – Shoot Bosses just may need to know how to start a literal fire with saturated tinder and wood, to warm the body while the stories of our forefathers warmed the soul.

Sunday's weather turned like night into day. Was the perfect weather for Appleseeding.

The rain of the prior day provided the water to help grow the seeds, and that they did. We found great improvements throughout the weekend. And our two youths, having shown quite the quality of persistence left that evening with Patriots' patch for posterity. With young men such as Davaun and Jacob, there is hope for our future yet!

Kelli returned from our April shoot with her sister Gerri – the best two southpaws on the line! Ross was hoping to get his patch on Sunday – however it wasn't in the cards this time. But now that he's got his new Rifleman Opportunity Card, I see it in his near future. Ryan and Garret, working hard to improve their skills, did and with practice and refinement will have no issue in slaying the next QDAQT they stand against! Mike who was right in there, all of Sunday, struggling to bring it all together came in with a highscore of 208 on his last AQT of the weekend! Had his one target not leaped to intercept the bullet for the other, he'd have nailed! Next time, Mike, next time!

If we had an award to be given, of which the sole qualification was persistence, that award would have gone to Jack. Jack, added the unmistakable BOOM of his M1, which pieced the bitterness of the howling wind all through Saturday. A Vietnam Vet, who proved himself Sunday as a dangerous old man, could have probably lived up to good ol' Sam Whittemore. With undeniable determination he continued to improve and kept pace better than the scope on his rifle. Which quit on him halfway through Sunday.

No, he doesn't pack his bags and go – he takes the scope off and goes straight to his irons. Unfortunately, the scope mount itself proved to be detrimental. It could not be removed, and almost fully obstructed his rear sight! Did he quit then? No! He continued, using only his Ruger's front sight, and shot better than many I've seen with both factory sights on a 10/22.

All and all, another fine weekend on the Appleseed Trail!

Aftermath



**After Action Report:
Wells, May 14-15**

What can I say? Another in a series of spring Appleseeds here in the Upper Midwest to test the mettle of any Rifleman.

Saturday was pretty much a constant rain with windy conditions and a high for the day topping out at about 41°. The rain continued all night but by Sunday morning the sun started to shine through and all we had to deal with were 30+ MPH winds. (I think some gusts were probably well over 40.)

Not only did the weather man not scare off the pre-registered shooters, but we had 5 walk-ons join us to drink from the fire hose. Mark and Alex even made a surprise appearance to show us how things are done in Iowa.

The conditions were terrible but this was a tough crew and I never heard a complaint from anyone. I'm sure the weather had a lot to do with keeping scores down but we still had many that were shooting in the high 180s, 190s, and low 200s. I'm confident we would have had 40%-50% rifleman without the wind.

Dan, Jon and Steven all made huge improvements. Jim who could only make it for Saturday was shooting some mighty fine groups. Shawn and Jason who were veterans of last years Rochester AS, brought along their buddy Nick and if they make good use of their new Rifleman Opportunity Cards (ROCs),

I expect there will be a trio of Rifleman patches hitting the road at their next event.

And Randy decided that a nice windy day like Sunday was a good excuse to break out the AR and throw some centerfire into the wind. With several AQTs scoring in the low 200s and an ROC in his pocket, I can't wait to see him on the line again. (And bring your daughter, Randy.) Maybe she can show us a thing or two about how it's done in 4H.

My fellow instructors were great and I don't even remember them whining much at all.

And finally, I want to thank the Well's Rifle and Pistol Club for a great facility and for providing HOT pizzas for the gang on Saturday and topping that off with brats and kraut on Sunday. We can't wait to come back in September.

VMT193

**After Action Report:
Redwood Falls May 21-22**

Despite the several inches of rain during the weekend, it was a great shoot!

There are hard and brave people near Redwood Falls, especially the ones who showed up for this shoot at the brand new location.

We had 13 shooters on Saturday, and 10 on Sunday. Congrats to Brian, our Rifleman of the weekend!

Thanks Eric for setting it up, and The Redwood Falls Sportsman's Club for hosting!

The word from Haberman is that the 4-H kids had a good time, and the parents thought we did a good job. I think we can expect higher attendance at Marshall this June, as well as getting some shoots at other ranges in the area.

Thanks to Whisker and Kosciusko for their time and support. A big "THANK YOU" to the 4-H for lunch on Saturday!!!! Thanks for the good weekend everyone.

Heroes of Early America

Doctor Joseph Warren received intelligence that General Gage was going to attempt to disarm the colonists at Concord. He organized Paul Revere's ride on April 18, 1775, and personally slipped out of Boston, too, to lead troops in Concord on April 19, 1775, and fought the Redcoats during their retreat to Boston that day. He was hit in the wig during the battle, and is reported to have told his concerned mother, "Where danger is, dear mother, there must your son be. Now is no time for any of America's children to shrink from any hazard. I will set her free or die."



Dr. Joseph Warren shown on the right, volunteering to fight as a private in the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Courtesy of <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:WarrenPutnam.jpg>

Doctor Joseph Warren was one of the most influential Whig leaders in Massachusetts, and a part of the Sons of Liberty movement. He wrote articles and letters with the pen name "True Patriot," gave speeches at the Old South Church commemorating the Boston Massacre, drafted the *Suffolk Resolves* urging forcible opposition to England if necessary, was elected President of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress, and in June of 1775 was commissioned second Major-General for the Massachusetts troops.

When the battle of Bunker Hill came up a few days later, Dr. Warren volunteered to serve as a private under General Israel Putnam and Colonel William Prescott, despite his rank, because they had more battlefield experience. During the battle he was shot and killed by a Redcoat officer who recognized him. He was 34 years old, leaving behind four children, now orphaned since his wife had died in 1772. His fiancé, Mercy Scollay, continued to look after them and was helped to finance their education.

Dr. Warren's death was looked upon as an act of martyrdom, which reinforced the resolve of Americans to resist British tyranny and spurred on the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

Come to Appleseed and hear more about the day marksmanship met history and the heritage began!

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