



Project Appleseed in Minnesota

★ Liberty ★ Heritage ★ Marksmanship ★

May, 2012 Newsletter

Find more information at appleseedusa.org.

Congratulations to Our New Riflemen!

Two New Riflemen from Hinckley April 21/22:
[Jason/Yuppie Jr](#) and "[Iron Will](#)" Kelli.

Six New Riflemen from Rochester April 21/22:
[Kevin B](#), [Shawn/ColonialIron](#), [Kevin P](#),
[Mike B/birdragon](#), [Carl B](#), [Becca S](#).

We have 115 Riflemen in Minnesota so far. If you are not one of them, 2012 is the time to do it! Our full list is here: <http://appleseedinfo.org/smf/index.php?topic=7383.0>

Upcoming Appleseeds in Minnesota

- Winona, MN: May 5-6
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Wells, MN: May 19-20
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN: May 26-27
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Alexandria, MN: Jun 23-24
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN: July 7-8
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN: August 11-12
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Winona, MN: September 1-2
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Wells, MN: September 15-16
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN: October 20-21
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN: November 24-25
[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.

The 7th Step

At Project Appleseed events we teach the 6 Steps to Firing the Shot, but there is also a 7th Step – sharing Project Appleseed with others!

RWVA does some advertising, participates at trade shows like the national NRA show in St. Louis, and we promote Appleseed locally by having a table or booth at gun shows and other venues. This helps, but experience has shown that the most effective way to get people to come and try a Project Appleseed event is for a friend, family member, or acquaintance to tell them about Project Appleseed and recommend it. It also helps to offer to attend the event with the person and share a hotel room or campsite. Sometimes people just feel uncomfortable driving an hour or more away from home to attend an event with strangers.

We are asking everyone to tell friends, family members, acquaintances, even that soldier you see at the store (he can attend for free!), other families at clubs or activities you attend, and anyone else you think might enjoy learning accurate rifle marksmanship and American heritage at a Project Appleseed event.

Ask Kosciusko, Aftermath, or any Appleseed instructor for some trifold brochures to share or put at gun stores, community bulletin boards, etc. We also have a printable one-page flyer with the Minnesota events listed, and a two-sided insert for the trifold brochures available on the Project Appleseed forum here: <http://appleseedinfo.org/smf/index.php?topic=27769.0> Some people also buy the bifold business card size flyers at the Appleseed store and carry them in their purse and wallet: http://www.appleseedstore.flyingcart.com/?p=detail&pid=2&cat_id=0

Thanks for joining us in 7th Stepping!

After Action Report: Hinckley, MN April 21-22, 2012

Just as the clouds broke the horizon on the 21st morning of April *anno domini*, I awoke with my heart beating to the rhythm of the muster drum! I hastily made my preparations – mentally, physically, and logistically – for the big day of the big weekend!

As I opened the front door and took that first step into the wild I was instantly reminded of what I love best about Minnesota! The frost, gloriously making its last stand, melting as the cold rains poured upon it, a brisk wind its only alliance. Thought to myself – “’Tis the perfect weather for an Appleseed!”

Upon the first encounter, the Red Coats scoffed at us. Noteah and Russellmn got to work – firing up the forge and shaping new Riflemen! The shooters focused so hard on learning to shoot better that they barely realized their shooting mats had become soft-lined swimming pools!

The shooters persisted and groups shrank. Lunch came and went quickly. As they learned of the First Strike of the Match, hearts softened. Upon learning the Second Strike of the Match hearts swelled with pride! The tone was somber as we fired in volley upon the wet, paper redcoats – but a small token to honor the fallen who, a mere 237 years ago, stood up against the blood-lusting treacherous regular Redcoats. Soon after the Third Strike of the Match took flame and initiated a blaze that would set the country side in turmoil for the next eight years!

The shooters, hoping they could measure up, set upon the anvil of the AQT – red, in remembrance of blood shed on April 19th, 1775. Eager for a second chance at the Redcoats, the shooters prepared 13 rounds! Those lobster backs didn’t fare so well this time!

While we were packing up for the evening, after his AQT had sufficient time to dry, it was discovered that we did indeed have a man amongst us who knew very well what he was about! Jason – Yuppiejr had squeezed out a Rifleman's score on the last AQT! Huzza!

Sunday morning the sun came out, and the wind settled down – it was a beautiful day for Appleseed! ‘Iron Will’ Kelli, the definition of Persistence and a seasoned Appleseeder, having endured just about every sort of weather and persevered despite set-backs, decided this was the day to she would become a Riflemwoman! She ended the day with the class high score of 234!

I would like to add a special note for our two youth shooters – Andy and Rayne – both of you proved to be exceptional examples of our posterity! Keep on firing by the numbers!

Eric and Michael, thanks for coming and making up the center-fire section of the line! Practice the steady hold factors and dry-fire by the six steps! Come back and score Rifleman!

Congratulations again to Jason and Kelli!

Thank you Russell and Scott for making this shoot easy on an old shoot boss!



See you on the line!
AFTERMATH

After Action Report: Rochester, MN April 21-22, 2012

Thank you to everyone for your enthusiasm and persistence! You guys made a few sore muscles well worth it. Great weather, just a half full line of shooters and a great crew of instructors managed to force me dig quite deep into my reserve supply of Rifleman patches by turning in a 40% Rifleman rate!

Shooters included a few veteran 'seeders making use of their Rifleman Opportunity Cards, and even a pair of young ladies shooting side by side with *Mom*.

At lunch on Saturday, Charlotte (10) treated us to 1st person history presentation of Sybil Luddington who, in 1777, at the age of 16, made a midnight ride twice as long as Paul Revere's to warn colonial militia of approaching enemy troops.

Kevin B. started things out on Saturday afternoon by turning in a 220 on the 2nd AQT of day with his bolt gun.

Back on Sunday with sore bodies but fresh eyes, the shooters picked up where they left off. Shawn quickly set the bar high with a 221 followed by Kevin P. with a 212 that he followed up later with a 226.

Next came Bird, Becca and Carl. All clearing the 210 minimum and thus depriving us of a truly enjoyable celebration of their skill and accomplishments.

Rebecca (6?) stuck it out and remained on the line with her pink Cricket right up until mid-Sunday afternoon. When she took a break, big sister Charlotte/Sybil decided to ditch her 10/22 and try her hand at the bolt also.

Meanwhile Judy, aka: Mom, continued to hammer away by consistently turning in multiple 196s and several more in the 205-208 range. I fully expect her next AQT will be "the one."



Marta was just plain fun to watch as she slammed those magazines home in her AR like a combat veteran with multiple tours under her belt. When her mags went in, it was 'nuthin but net!

There were many more consistently in the high 100s and with one more day we would have probably doubled our percentage of Riflemen to 80%.

Did someone say "7th step"? Shawn R. stepped up and accepted his Orange Hat.

Any individual who walks too close (100yds) behind the range, or even hesitates anywhere to steal a look at the goings on at the firing line, should be aware that FreedomV has noted your presence and will be in touch. All I'd see was the orange blur of his cap as he zeroed in like a laser guided smart-bomb with tri-folds in hand.

Great weekend everybody, thanks again!

Mike/vmt193



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Heroes of Early America: The Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775

We know from hearing the Three Strikes of the Match told at Project Appleseed that the American Revolution began on April 19, 1775. But what happened after that? The Siege of Boston started immediately, but the next major battle was two months away.

The American forces surrounded Boston to prevent British troops from leaving the peninsula by land. This siege went on for almost a year, and the British were eventually forced to withdraw by sea.

Almost two months into the siege news arrived that British forces planned to occupy the hills surrounding Boston in an attempt to break the siege. 1,200 American troops immediately occupied the hills and built a redoubt (fortification) on Breed's Hill.

The British assaulted the hilltop position three times. Twice they were pushed back, but the third time they took the high ground. This battle proved that American forces had what it takes to stand up to the superpower of their day. The British had not expected mere "colonials" to stand up against lines of British Regulars running at them shooting, with bayonets affixed for the close combat to follow.

After running out of ammunition in the redoubt American forces retreated in an orderly fashion, carrying away most of their wounded. Burgoyne described it as, "no flight; it was even covered with bravery and military skill." The British were forced to reconsider their views about what the Americans were capable of.



The Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775, by John Trumbull, 1786. Public domain image.
Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:The_death_of_general_warren_at_the_battle_of_bunker_hill.jpg

After the Battle of Bunker Hill the British had 226 dead and 828 wounded. The Americans had 140 dead and 310 wounded. This battle was considered a win for the British, since they did succeed in taking the hills, but they lost about 1/3 of their forces, many of whom were their officers selected as targets by American forces.

This battle is considered a "Pyrrhic victory" — a victory where losses are heavy and gains are few. This battle caused the largest British losses in any single battle of the entire American Revolution. They could not afford another "victory" of this kind. General Gage, the British commander and military governor in the area, was dismissed from office three days after his report of the battle reached the court in London. His successor, General Howe, would arrive in October, 1775. Nevertheless, the Siege of Boston continued until March of 1776 when the British were finally forced to withdraw from the city.

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

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