



# Project Appleseed in Minnesota

★ Liberty ★ Heritage ★ Marksmanship ★

December, 2011 Newsletter

Find more information at [appleseedusa.org](http://appleseedusa.org).

## LibertySeeds – “The Seeds of Liberty from the Roots of History”

Now that our 2011 season of Appleseed events is over until about March, we are working on launching the LibertySeed program in Minnesota. This is a great way to introduce friends and family to Appleseed and our heritage, without the commitment of a weekend at the rifle range.

If you would like to help with these events or learn how to tell this exciting story, please send a message to either KOSCIUSKO or AFTERMATH on the Appleseed Forum, or email to [mn@appleseedinfo.org](mailto:mn@appleseedinfo.org).

These evening events will be held at libraries or other locations. The exciting story of April 19, 1775 and the “Three Strikes of the Match” will be told.

It will not be the story you think you know, or the story you heard in school. Along the way, the story will answer questions you didn't even know existed, like:

- Who fired the famous “Shot Heard Round the World”?
- Why did it take “three strikes of the match” before the American Revolution began?
- Why were some local peasants (as they were viewed by the British army) able to break the British line at Concord's North Bridge – in less than two minutes?

You'll be surprised to find how relevant that first day is to your life today, and that some of the stories of that day, stories you never heard, are unexpectedly inspiring, unexpectedly rouse an echo in your heart.

We will let you know as soon as we have some LibertySeeds on the calendar in Minnesota. Come and bring some friends!

## Appleseed News

2012 promises to be a record-busting year in Appleseed! Stay tuned for more! There are things under way with great promise for the future! We'll probably have the official “rollout” at the end of December. Check [www.appleseedusa.org](http://www.appleseedusa.org), or watch for information in our January newsletter.

## Rifleman Opportunity Card offer has been extended

The Rifleman Opportunity Card (ROC) offer has been extended to November of 2012. What is the ROC? It is a card that allows you to participate in the Appleseed program free until your membership card expires or until you shoot a Rifleman's score. This is an excellent cost-saving program, since it takes the average person three Appleseed weekends to achieve that elusive Rifleman score. Complete information about the program is available here: <http://www.appleseedusa.org/roc.html>.

## Downrange.tv: Appleseed and being a Rifleman

Kilopaparomeo from Michigan posted about his experience with Appleseed. He reports that we have produced a generation of shooters who do well from a bench or bipod with a scope, but “can't hit squat” otherwise. Appleseed is working to return America to a nation of Riflemen, and to wake sleeping Americans up to their heritage. Read about his experience with Appleseed here, and then come try a weekend event with us next season: <http://www.downrange.tv/forum/index.php?topic=17756.0>

**After Action Report:  
Hinckley, November 26-27, 2011**

Thanks to everyone who made time on a busy Thanksgiving holiday weekend and joined us at Hinckley Conservation Club. We were privileged to spend a great weekend honoring our Forefathers with such a fine group of Americans.

Continue on that Rifleman journey...practice your marksmanship skills and persist on the path to becoming a better American. Return to Appleseed and bring more people with you. Engaged, educated, responsible Citizens can and will make the difference in saving our Nation.

Congratulations new Rifleman Landon who scored a 217 at his first Appleseed with his AR.

Congratulations to repeating Rifleman Dave who did it with iron sights this time with scores of 228 and 234.

And further congratulations to Dave who stepped up and took an Orange Hat. Thank you Dave.

We were observing continuing progress by all the shooters on Sunday but ran out of daylight before anyone else was able to shoot Rifleman. Everyone on the line showed the ability and can do it. Practice and persistence will get you there so keep at it. Riflemen don't quit.

My personal thanks to our fine Instructors and IITs. This rookie Shoot Boss rode on the coattails of their dedication and professionalism.

*Taylor*



---

To subscribe to this newsletter, email us at [MN@appleseedinfo.org](mailto:MN@appleseedinfo.org).  
Visit us on Facebook under "Minnesota- Land of 10,000 Appleseeds!"

## **Heroes of Early America: Washington's Crossing**

The War for Independence was not going very well in 1776. The Continental Army had suffered many anguishing defeats. Morale was low, and many soldiers' enlistments were about to expire. Washington needed to take decisive action, achieve a substantial victory, and show that the Continental Army could win this revolution. A failure at this crucial time, just before the army retired to winter quarters, could mean the end of the American Revolution.

Things were so bad in December of 1776 that Thomas Paine published "The American Crisis" which included these well-known lines: "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."

While the painting is accurate in portraying the heroic determination of the crossing, it wasn't quite like that. The army crossed on a dark night during a nor'easter storm which pelted the troops with sleet and freezing rain. Clouds blocked out the nearly full moon and wide, flat ice floes on the flooding river battered the sides of the large

Durham boats. 2,400 soldiers had to cross, along with horses and a large number of cannons. While the soldiers stood in these cargo boats because they had no seats, the sides would have come up to their waists or chests.

Due to bad weather, bad roads, and bad conditions on the river, the crossing and march to Trenton took much longer than expected. The attack occurred in the early morning rather than at night. While it was the morning after Christmas, the Hessian troops were on high alert and had been for some time. They were worn out from false alarms, and from sleeping fully clothed and armed, but they were certainly not asleep or drunk when the Americans arrived.

In the fierce two-prong attack that ensued, the Continental Army defeated the Hessians and took 900 of them back to Philadelphia as prisoners. The British leadership would never again look at the Continental Army as merely "rebellious farmers."

For the rest of the story, check out David Hackett Fischer's book entitled "Washington's Crossing," ISBN: 0195170342. It is available in Minnesota through interlibrary loan in both book and audiobook formats.



Washington Crossing the Delaware, by Emanuel Leutze

Image source: Wikimedia Commons

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Washington\\_Crossing\\_the\\_Delaware\\_by\\_Emanuel\\_Leutze,\\_MMA-NYC,\\_1851.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Washington_Crossing_the_Delaware_by_Emanuel_Leutze,_MMA-NYC,_1851.jpg)

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

To subscribe to this newsletter, email us at [MN@appleseedinfo.org](mailto:MN@appleseedinfo.org).  
Visit us on Facebook under "Minnesota- Land of 10,000 Appleseeds!"