



Project Appleseed in Minnesota

★ Liberty ★ Heritage ★ Marksmanship ★

March, 2012 Newsletter

Find more information at appleseedusa.org.

Patriots Day Weekend, April 21-22

We are offering events at both Hinckley and Rochester to commemorate April 19, 1775, “the day marksmanship met history and the heritage began.” Come on out and join us!

Upcoming Appleseeds in Minnesota

- Winona, MN: **Instructor Boot Camp**
March 24-25, [Information](#)
- Hinckley, MN: April 21-22
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Rochester, MN: April 21-22
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Winona, MN: May 5-6
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Wells, MN: May 19-20
[Information](#) or [Register](#)
- Hinckley, MN: May 26-27
[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: Sep 15-16, 2012
[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.

Wells Gun Show March 10th-11th

Come out and see us at our Appleseed table March 10th and 11th at the Wells Gun Show. <http://mankatofreepress.com/local/x1511866515/Cross-Wells-Gun-Show-more-than-just-guns>

MWCA Gun Show March 17th-18th

We need some folks to come out and help run the Appleseed table at the MWCA gun show. This is our largest promotional opportunity of the year. You don't have to be an instructor; if you enjoy Project Appleseed and want to share it with others, you can help! We plan to have 2-3 people at the table the entire time, so if you are not yet an expert on all things Appleseed, someone else there will be.

This gun show will be at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds Coliseum:

- Saturday, March 17th: 8am to 5pm
- Sunday, March 18th: 9am to 3pm.

If you can take a morning or afternoon shift, or a whole day, please reply on the Appleseed forum thread:

<http://appleseedinfo.org/smf/index.php?topic=27569.0>, or email aftermath.mn@gmail.com.

More information about the show is at <http://www.mwca.org/>.

Smartphone-Ready

We have added this icon to our 2012 literature for Minnesota. When scanned it will take the person to the Project Appleseed web site and show all available events in Minnesota. Try it!



Instructor Boot Camp March 24th-25th at Winona Sportsmens Club

Time to knock that rust off! Sound off on the Appleseed forum if you're in!

<http://appleseedinfo.org/smf/index.php?topic=28075.0>

I'm still working on the POI – so if anyone has a special module they'd like to see included, let me know. I'll see if I can squeeze it in.

For those who haven't been to an Instructor Boot Camp (IBC) before, it's a great opportunity to freshen up on those instructing skills, learn new ones, get a jump-start on the Progress Checks (PC's), and meet your fellow Appleseed instructors.

The best option is to stay in the club house, or camp out at the range. The days run long and you don't want to miss a minute of it! Plus, lodging is included!

Meals will be potluck. Plan on arriving Friday evening, if possible.

This event is for IIT's, RI's, SB's, SI's, MI's. If you're a Rifleman who's interested in attending, with the intent to become an instructor, contact me before signing up. Others by invite/request. If you're not otherwise qualified the Shoot Boss (that's me) can grant exemptions.

Information and registration is available at: <http://appleseedinfo.org/smf/index.php?topic=27983.0>. Please note that you will not be able to access this thread unless you are already signed up for some official status as an Appleseed volunteer.

Alex, "Aftermath" on the Appleseed forum, 763-742-5391, aftermath.mn@gmail.com



Portrait by George Bagby Matthews c. 1891, after an original by Thomas Sully

Image Source: Public Domain Image

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Patrick_henry.JPG

Heroes of Early America: Patrick Henry, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

About a month before April 19, 1775 at Lexington, Concord and Battle Road there was Patrick Henry's famous speech, given March 23, 1775 at the Second Virginia Convention. The Boston Massacre had happened five years before, on March 5, 1770, the Boston Tea Party took place December 16, 1773, the Powder Alarm where the British confiscated the powder store at Charlestown, MA happened on September 1, 1774, and the effort to disarm the American colonies was well under way in 1775. After the Powder Alarm, colonists in New England began to prepare in earnest to repel further efforts to disarm them.

The American colonies had been managing defense of their own communities for about 150 years, and the bloody and brutal French and Indian War had taken place about 25 years before 1775. Many communities had cannons and well-stocked armories for the common defense.

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Now that tensions with England were reaching a fever pitch, British Regulars were being sent out to confiscate gunpowder, cannons, muskets – all the things the colonists relied on for their communities' defense.

In response to the recommendations that the Virginia Convention wait patiently for a response to their latest request to the crown for reconciliation, Patrick Henry had this to say:

“No man thinks more highly than I do of the patriotism, as well as abilities, of the very worthy gentlemen who have just addressed the House. But different men often see the same subject in different lights; and, therefore, I hope it will not be thought disrespectful to those gentlemen if, entertaining as I do, opinions of a character very opposite to theirs, I shall speak forth my sentiments freely, and without reserve. This is no time for ceremony. The question before the House is one of awful moment to this country. For my own part, I consider it as nothing less than a question of freedom or slavery; and in proportion to the magnitude of the subject ought to be the freedom of the debate. It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at truth, and fulfill the great responsibility which we hold to God and our country. Should I keep back my opinions at such a time, through fear of giving offence, I should consider myself as guilty of treason towards my country, and of an act of disloyalty toward the majesty of heaven, which I revere above all earthly kings.

“Mr. President, it is natural to man to indulge in the illusions of hope. We are apt to shut our eyes against a painful truth, and listen to the song of that siren till she transforms us into beasts. Is this the part of wise men, engaged in a great and arduous struggle for liberty? Are we disposed to be of the number of those who, having eyes, see not, and, having ears, hear not, the things which so nearly concern their temporal salvation? For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it may cost, I am willing to

know the whole truth; to know the worst, and to provide for it.

“I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided; and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past. And judging by the past, I wish to know what there has been in the conduct of the British ministry for the last ten years, to justify those hopes with which gentlemen have been pleased to solace themselves, and the House? Is it that insidious smile with which our petition has been lately received? Trust it not, sir; it will prove a snare to your feet. Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed with a kiss. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with these war-like preparations which cover our waters and darken our land. Are fleets and armies necessary to a work of love and reconciliation? Have we shown ourselves so unwilling to be reconciled, that force must be called in to win back our love? Let us not deceive ourselves, sir. These are the implements of war and subjugation; the last arguments to which kings resort. I ask, gentlemen, sir, what means this martial array, if its purpose be not to force us to submission? Can gentlemen assign any other possible motive for it? Has Great Britain any enemy, in this quarter of the world, to call for all this accumulation of navies and armies? No, sir, she has none. They are meant for us; they can be meant for no other. They are sent over to bind and rivet upon us those chains which the British ministry have been so long forging. And what have we to oppose to them? Shall we try argument? Sir, we have been trying that for the last ten years. Have we anything new to offer upon the subject? Nothing. We have held the subject up in every light of which it is capable; but it has been all in vain. Shall we resort to entreaty and humble supplication? What terms shall we find which have not been already exhausted? Let us not, I beseech you, sir, deceive ourselves. Sir, we have done everything that could be done, to avert the storm which is now coming on. We have

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petitioned; we have remonstrated; we have supplicated; we have prostrated ourselves before the throne, and have implored its interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and Parliament. Our petitions have been slighted; our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been disregarded; and we have been spurned, with contempt, from the foot of the throne. In vain, after these things, may we indulge the fond hope of peace and reconciliation. There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free² if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending² if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained, we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us!

“They tell us, sir, that we are weak; unable to cope with so formidable an adversary. But when shall we be stronger? Will it be the next week, or the next year? Will it be when we are totally disarmed, and when a British guard shall be stationed in every house? Shall we gather strength by irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance, by lying supinely on our backs, and hugging the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot? Sir, we are not weak if we make a proper use of those means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the holy cause of liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible by any force which our enemy can send against us. Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations; and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Besides, sir, we have no

election. If we were base enough to desire it, it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat but in submission and slavery! Our chains are forged! Their clanking may be heard on the plains of Boston! The war is inevitable and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come.

“It is in vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry, Peace, Peace but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!”

On April 20, 1775, the day after the Battles of Lexington and Concord took place (and before the news was received in Virginia), Lord Dunmore, the colonial governor, ordered the removal of the gunpowder from the magazine in Williamsburg to a naval ship. Patrick Henry led a force at arms to retrieve the powder. The conflict ended without a fight when £330 was paid to Henry. However, Lord Dunmore was afraid for his life and retreated to a navy ship. This was to be the end of royal control of the colony of Virginia forever. Patrick Henry went on to become the first governor of American Virginia, and served five terms in all.

You can learn more about Patrick Henry and hear an audio file of an actor reciting his famous speech at The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, <http://www.history.org/Almanack/people/bios/biohen.cfm>.

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