



Project Appleseed in Minnesota

☆ Liberty ☆ Heritage ☆ Marksmanship ☆

April, 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." These two events are part of about 100 Appleseed events being held nationwide that same weekend. Come on out and join us!

Upcoming Appleseeds in Minnesota

- 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: 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.

What is Patriot's Day?

Patriot's Day is a state holiday in Massachusetts and Maine, marking the anniversary of the battles of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775. This is when the "shot heard round the world" was fired, and is the day the American Revolution officially began. Patriot's Day is celebrated on the third Monday in April, which is April 16th this year.

In Concord, Massachusetts, they take Patriot's Day very seriously and celebrate it on the actual date – April 19th. Minuteman reenactor groups assemble at dawn and march to the Old North Bridge where they face off in a gun battle with a troop of Redcoat reenactors. The entire weekend is filled with parades, reenactments and commemorative ceremonies. See maps of the troop and militia movements of the day, photographs of some of the reenactors, as well as historical information at the Minute Man National Historical Park web page located at: <http://www.nps.gov/mima/index.htm>.

Project Appleseed Peeps

Jennifer ("Puma Mami" on the Appleseed forum) created *Project Appleseed Peeps* and entered it into the Pioneer Press Peeps Diorama Contest to promote awareness of Project Appleseed.

You can view it online here:

<http://twincities.upickem.net/engine/Details.aspx?p=A&c=52696&s=18604950&i=1#SD>



After Action Report: Instructor Boot Camp at Winona, March 24-25

Minnesota instructors and volunteers were working hard at the Instructor Boot Camp – getting ready to hammer out Riflemen this year.

Our Instructors In Training who were “drinking from the firehose” on how best to teach at Appleseed events were: Warhog, Cully, Woody35, FreedomV, and WoodyandCandy. As always, we are seeing that future Appleseeders will be in good hands with our upcoming instructors. Thanks to everyone who came out to teach and to learn!

For those who missed out but would like to attend an Instructor Boot Camp; watch for another Minnesota Instructor Boot Camp toward the end of the summer or early fall. We are also looking at making our Minnesota picnic part of this upcoming event. Stay tuned.



To subscribe to this newsletter, email us at MN@appleseedinfo.org.

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Heroes of Early America: Captain Isaac Davis

Isaac Davis' descendants were the models for *The Minute Man* statue at Minute Man National Historical Park. The statue represents the typical Minuteman in 1775 – a farmer, leaving his plow in the field and answering a muster call at a moment's notice with musket in hand.

In the pre-dawn hours of April 19, 1775 the alarm that the British Regulars were marching on Concord reached Acton, where Isaac Davis was captain of his town's militia. As the alarm message spread, his men began to muster at his home. The first to arrive spent their time putting together paper cartridges to prepare for battle. These pre-measured gunpowder and musket ball packets allowed them to reload much more quickly.

Captain Davis was a gunsmith, and he had made sure his men were outfitted well. Most had bayonets like the Regulars did, and all had cartridge boxes. They had practiced marksmanship regularly on a range set up behind Davis' house, and they were ready.

By seven o'clock they were ready to leave Acton and march to Concord. Isaac's wife, Hannah, was tending to their four children, all sick at the time. Isaac started to leave, then came back to his front door and told his wife, "Take good care of the children."

When the time came for the colonial militia to advance toward the Old North Bridge and toward Concord, Davis' group was asked to take the lead. He famously replied, "I have not a man who is afraid to go."

Their orders were not to fire unless fired upon. As they advanced, the British fired warning shots, then a disorganized volley. Isaac Davis was shot through the heart.



National Park Service photograph of "The Minute Man," a statue by Daniel Chester French erected in 1875. Public domain. Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Minute_Man.JPG

Major John Buttrick shouted, "Fire, fellow soldiers, for God's sake fire!" and the battle began. Within two minutes an army unit of the foremost world superpower, Britain, turned and ran from farmers, merchants and mechanics. Marksmanship had won the day as that British unit lost half its officers in its first encounter with colonial musket fire.

Isaac Davis became a symbol of the brave fighting spirit of the Minutemen. His image is seen on logos such as the National Guard's and our Project Appleseed logo, along with being featured on the Massachusetts state quarter.

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

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