



# The Liberty Pole

May 2026 Edition

## Shooters, Center up!



Welcome Matthew, to the May edition of The Liberty Pole, Project Appleseed's monthly newsletter.

It was a special April 2026 with Patriots' Day falling on a Sunday where we could conduct our events on the anniversary of the day it all began. We honored Prince Estabrook as part of our "We Descended from Dangerous Men" series. We also conducted a coordinated memorial volley with 628 shooters across the country to honor those sacrifices made 251 years ago.

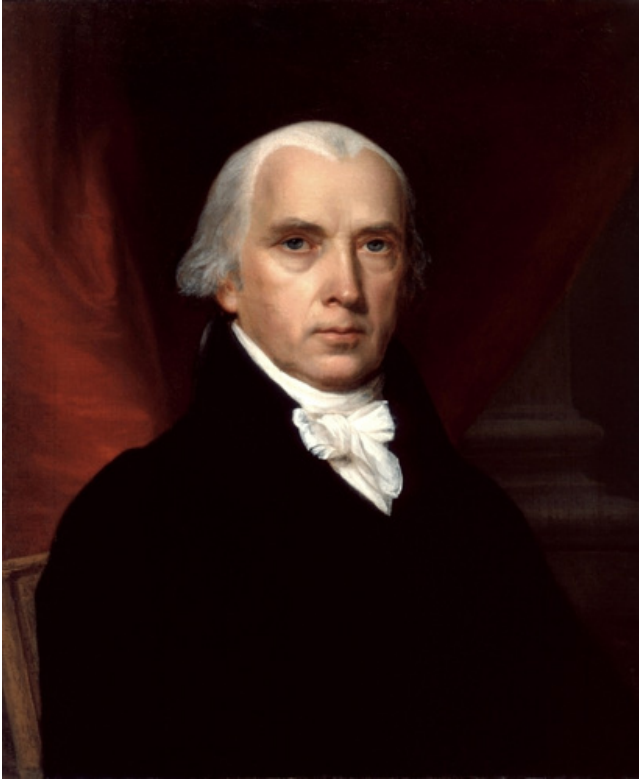


History this month covers the first naval engagement of the Revolutionary War, the Battle of Fairhaven. We have an article on the proper installation of the USGI Web Sling. There is a new range bag in the store and a great deal on a combo offer with our legendary shooting mats. We're highlighting pictures from events across our Nation, our booth at NRAAM in Houston, and more. As always, thank you for reading.



*"Shooters, your preparation period begins now !!!"*

# Words of Wisdom



*"Always stand on principle,  
even if you stand alone"*

– James Madison

By John Vanderlyn - The White House  
Historical Association. The painting is in  
the White House collection, Public  
Domain,

## Patriots' Day Events from across the country

In the month of April, we had a total 1013 Americans on our firing lines at 76 events across 37 states. Specifically on April 19th, we had 628 Americans at 44 events who participated in the memorial volley. The April events were staffed by 407 volunteers with 87 of them working more than one event in the month. Three cheers to these shooters who made the choice to be there and three cheers to the amazing volunteers making the events happen.

**HUZZAH! HUZZAH! HUZZAH!**





Public posts about events

# Marksmanship Challenge



We've had a verified perfect 250 score winner of one of the three rifles available in the "250 for America's 250 Marksmanship Challenge." The next two verified natural 250 scores on the Appleseed Qualification Test (AQT) in 2026 will each win a Tippmann Appleseed Edition M4-22 Elite rifle generously donated by [Waco Tactical Fitness](#).

- No .30 caliber rule
- No artificial support except USGI sling
- Takes place at a scheduled Appleseed 25M Rifle Clinic

[Learn More](#)

## How to Install the USGI Web Sling

Project Appleseed recommends the USGI cotton web sling for shooting because it's lightweight, easy to adjust, and provides excellent stability while shooting. This article by Maximum Ordinate provides instructions for proper installation.

### ***Install your Sling***

*Your sling probably came with installation instructions. If you want to install the sling as originally designed for field shooting, it's likely the instructions are wrong. Below, find simple steps to install the sling and ensure the hardware is oriented properly.*



*Step 1. Prepare the sling.*

*Stretch it out alongside the rifle with the hook-end pointed towards the back of the rifle...*

Keep reading ...

## **What our students say about us ...**

Ralph V. wrote...

*I REALLY enjoyed my time this past weekend alongside you, the rest of the instructors, and fellow shooters. I appreciate all the effort you guys put into making that a successful event for everyone.*

*I learned so much not just about marksmanship fundamentals but also about April 19 1775. You guys did an awesome job in drilling in the importance of these days' events and what they should mean to us today.*

*I have to say I left wanting more, and will most likely join you guys again in June for the pistol clinic, and again in August for the traditional Applesed (I really wanna get rifleman on my 10/22 with tech sights).*

## **May's History: The Battle off Fairhaven**

This month, AH1Tom tells the story of the The Battle off Fairhaven. This was the first naval battle of the Revolutionary War and took place in Buzzards Bay off the coast of Fairhaven, Massachusetts.

*"On the morning of May 14, 1775, a British vessel entered the waters off Fairhaven, intent on raiding local ships and supplies. News of the intrusion reached the townspeople quickly. A*

*group of militia, led by Captain Nathaniel Pope and Captain Daniel Egery, assembled in haste, armed with whatever weapons they could find. They boarded local vessels and set out to confront the British forces. The ensuing conflict was brief but intense."*

Keep reading ...

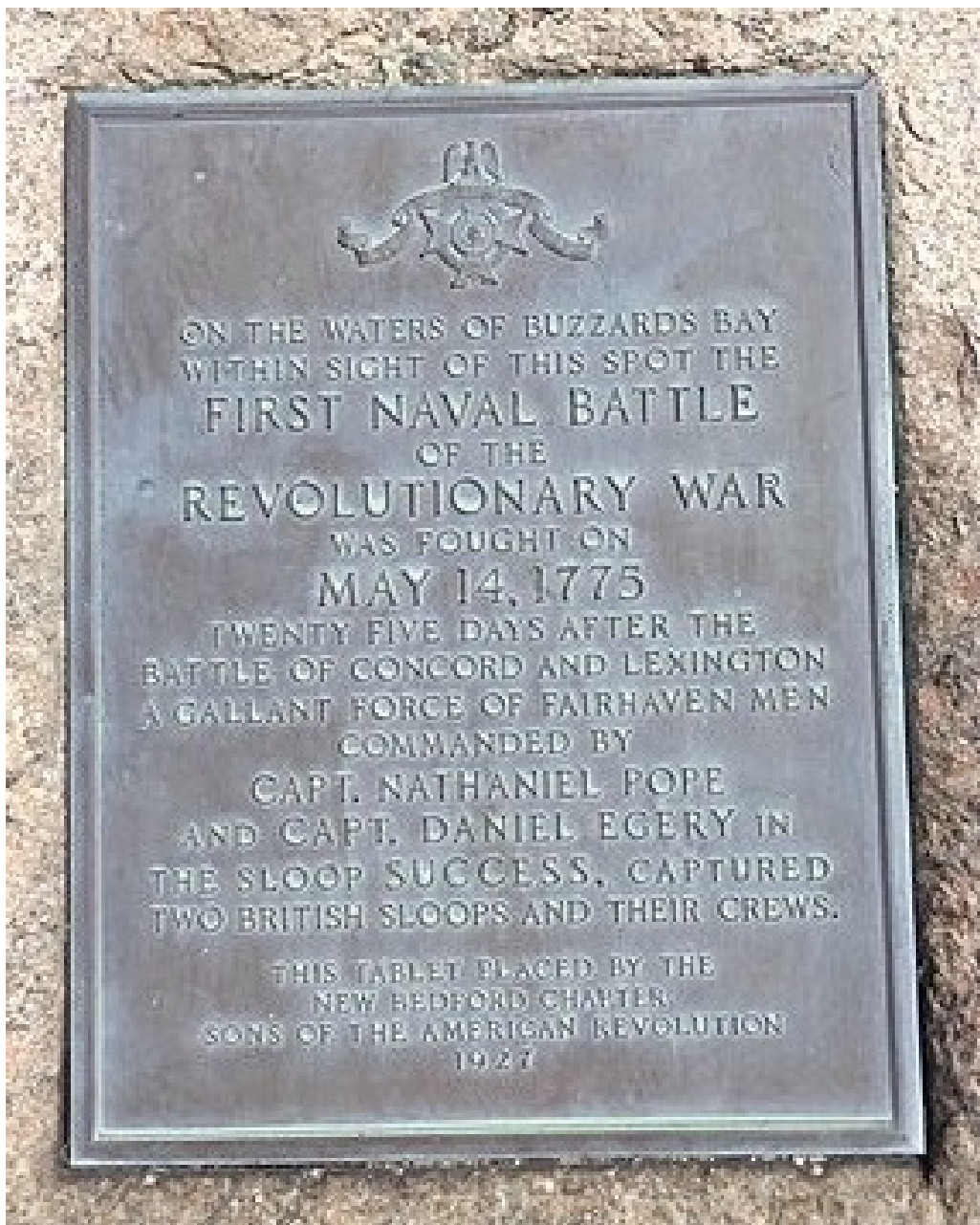


Image by: Hantsheroes (own work)

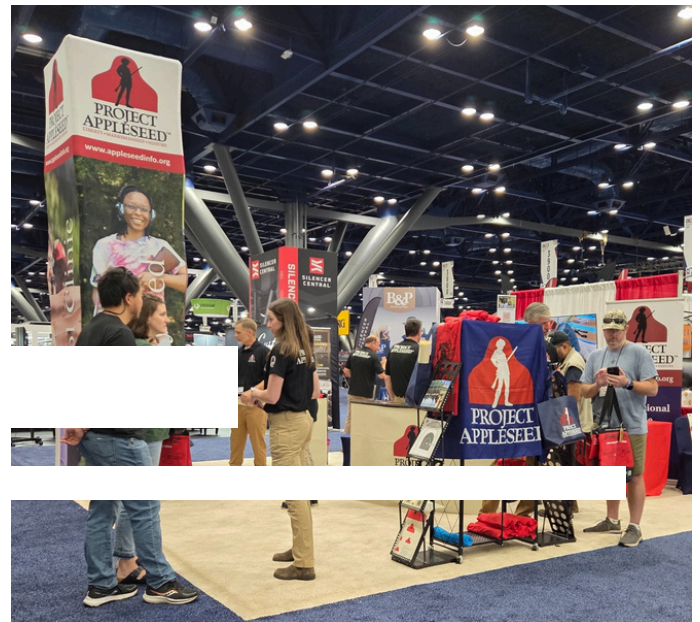
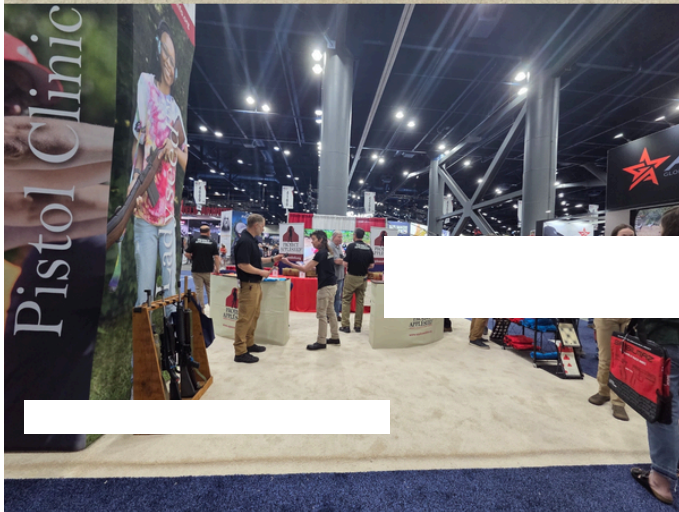
# Project Appleseed at NRAAM





Project Appleseed presented a booth at the NRAAM trade show in Houston. This firearms industry show brings vendors from all over and is quite the impressive sight. We had a tremendous amount of traffic to our booth and engaged with visitors from all over the county. We met with some industry professionals, participated in some media interviews, and developed leads for new ranges in some underserved areas.

The brown bess was a big draw into the booth and many folks were excited to hold it and take a few pictures as well. The professionalism of our volunteers was top notch and events like this expand and foster our reputation across the industry.



# Media Highlight

Appleseed had a few media interactions as well. Tom Kehoe, Chairman of the Board for Project Appleseed sits down with Alex Ooley with *The Forge of Freedom*. In episode 204, they discuss how Project Appleseed bridges the gap between traditional marksmanship and American civic history, focusing on the events of April 19, 1775.



[Watch on YouTube](#)

# New Appleseed Range Bag !!!



The all **NEW** Project Appleseed branded range bag is compact while still being able to hold a lot of gear. The heavy duty carry handles and zippered top opening provides easy access. The metal zippers have loops for attaching a small pad lock (not included) making it convenient to secure your gear when local rules require a locked container when traveling to the range. The main compartment is 12"L X 7"H X 5"W with several internal pockets. There are two mesh pockets on one side and three pockets on the opposite side. These are great for holding eye protection and other smaller items. There is a sturdy elastic band designed for storing pens and tools along with four slotted pockets sized for a flashlight, pocket knife, pens, or tools. On the exterior, the 7.5"L X 6"H X 1.5"W zippered compartment has the Appleseed logo and a loop fastener area for your Rifleman patch, name tape, unit, or moral patches. The other side has standard webbing for attaching MOLLE compatible gear and pouches. The zippered end compartment is ideal for holding your hearing protection, while the opposite end features a water bottle pouch big enough for a 32 oz bottle, and has an elastic cord retention strap. The bag includes a fully adjustable padded shoulder strap with spring loaded hooks for easy detachment.



**Back in stock !!!** Our custom-designed shooting mat, with embroidered Appleseed logo, is perfect for our rifle events, competitions, long-range shooting, varmint hunting, padding under a sleeping bag or lounging on the beach. Measuring 70"x35", the top surface is easy to clean and the mat has a waterproof bottom coating. The thickness is just-right at 1/2" with elbow and knee pads for extra protection. There is a built in carry handle and it comes with a detachable, adjustable shoulder strap for easy transport. Grommets at each end permit securing to the ground (stakes not included).

**Combo deal !!!** Save money for ammo when you purchase the new Appleseed range bag with our best selling shooting mat. As always, check out our center fire and rimfire scope packages, slings and swivels, the Rifleman's cheek rest, cleaning kits, and so much more. And while supplies last, get your very own vintage Appleseed mystery t-shirts for just \$2 each !!!

[Visit the store](#)

As always, ALL proceeds go to support Project Appleseed

## Upcoming Events



- **25M Rifle Clinics:**
  - Check YOUR State
- **Known Distance (KD):**
  - IN, CO, FL, AR, MT, MI
- **Rimfire KD:**
  - MD, GA, CA, NH, MO, AR, IL
- **Pistol Clinics:**
  - ID, NM, MI, CA, IL, IA, AL, TX, FL
- **Ladyseed:**
  - MT, VA, WI, FL, NY
- **Rifleman Boot Camp (RBC):**
  - WY



[Join a 25M Rifle Clinic](#)

[Join a KD Event](#)

[Join a Rimfire KD](#)

[Join a Pistol Clinic](#)

[Join a Ladyseed](#)

[Join a RBC](#)

## What is a Rimfire Known Distance?

A Rimfire Known Distance class is a challenging course of fire at Project Appleseed, applying all the fundamentals that are learned in our classic 25M Rifle Clinics. This fun and challenging class is for rimfire-only rifles. During this intermediate-level class, students focus on the skills required to effectively hit targets up to 200 yards using a .22LR. This class covers topics of the *Three Challenges of a Rifleman*:

Target Detection  
Range Estimation  
Making the Shot

---

Topics also include applied trajectory, battlesight zero, and managing environmental factors. Students will also learn how to get the most out of their own sight systems (MOA or mils) and much more. Prerequisite: Attendance at a 25m Project Appleseed clinic. Marksmanship fundamentals such as position, NPOA, and firing the shot are reviewed but are not covered in detail at a RKD event.

# One Minute to Help Preserve

## Our Nation



If you'd like to support Project Appleseed, there are plenty of ways to do so. You can buy tickets, buy store items, or make a 100% tax-deductible donation. We accept and are appreciative of all donations. Of course, the thing valued above all is TIME. Volunteers; those that can give up their time and help us out, in whatever capacity it may be, are what this program runs on.

Contact us

Donate now

Become a member

## Rave Reviews

Check out our reviews on Facebook. If you have a minute, we'd love to hear from you. What did you learn? What impact did Appleseed have on your life? And most importantly, did you have fun? We certainly hope so! Let us know and help spread the word.

Spread the word

## Thank you!

Follow us on social media. Keep an eye on our schedule for future events.  
You can reach the editor at [newsletter@appleseedinfo.org](mailto:newsletter@appleseedinfo.org).