

PROJECT APPLESEED FLORIDA NEWSLETTER

March 4, 2018



The weekend Appleseed experience: not what you expect.

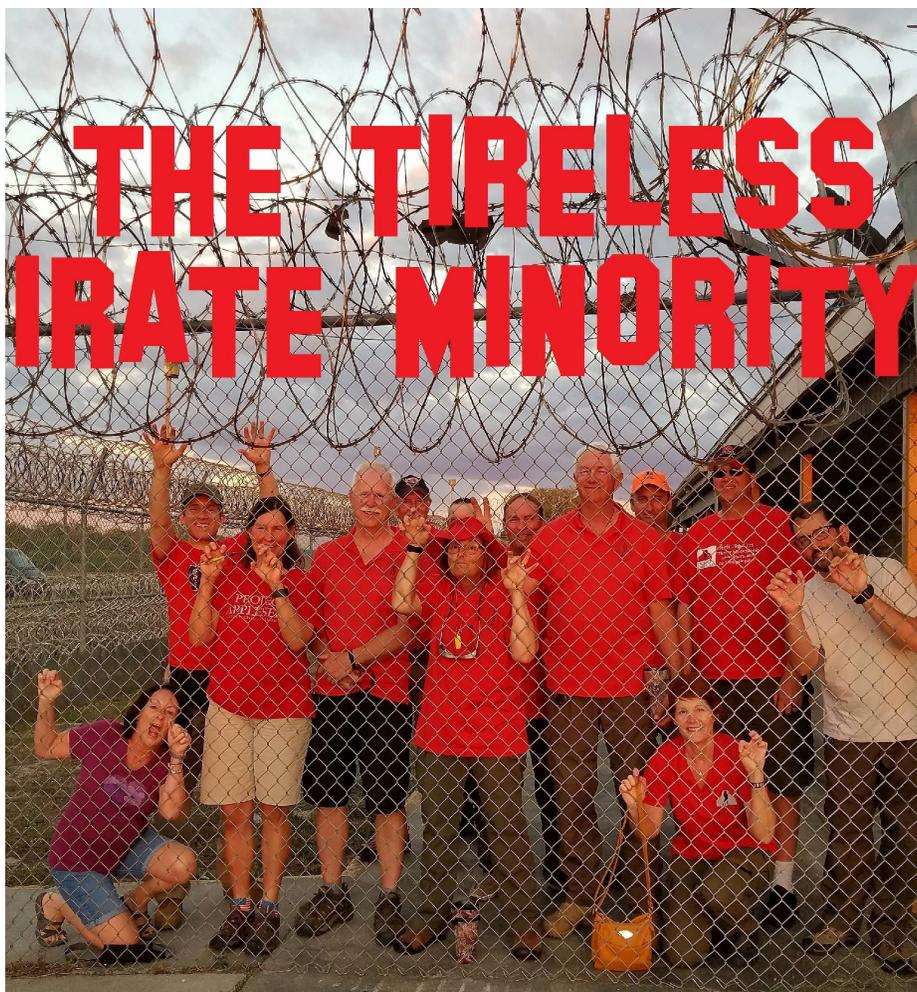
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In today's world of 24-hour news cycles, changing technologies, and push-button gratification, it's a challenge to stay connected to the values that our great country was built on. Ideals like integrity, commitment, and personal responsibility are what our founding fathers relied on to win our independence and to then make America a great nation. At Project Appleseed, we're dedicated to keeping these timeless values alive. We promote civic responsibility through the teaching of colonial history and the American tradition of rifle marksmanship. Even after all of these years, there is much to be learned from our forefathers' examples of perseverance, commitment, and civic virtue. With a full calendar of shooting clinics and events, Project Appleseed is here to make sure these timeless principles live on for generations to come.

What Appleseed is all about:

You can't write the story of America without including several chapters about the skill and bravery of our forefathers'. On April 19, 1775, at Lexington and Concord, American colonists stood with muskets in hand and faced down the British forces that were trying to seize their arms. The colonists did it with grit, determination, and superior marksmanship. They were real marksmen: nobly and ably putting their skills on the line in pursuit of liberty. We are the descendants of those fearless men and women who earned our freedom on the battlefield. We honor their pursuit of liberty by passing along the skills and knowledge that aided them in securing it. Today's Rifleman understands that owning and mastering a rifle is part of his/her American heritage. Whether you're a new shooter or a seasoned marksman, Project Appleseed can help transform you from a person with a rifle into a principled and skilled Rifleman.



2018 FLORIDA PROJECT APPLESEED EVENT SCHEDULE			
MARCH			
St. Augustine	FL	March 10, 2018 - March 11, 2018	Appleseed
Bunnell	FL	March 17, 2018 - March 18, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	FL	March 17, 2018 - March 18, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	FL	March 17, 2018 - March 18, 2018	Appleseed
Hurlburt Field	FL	March 24, 2018 - March 25, 2018	LadySeed
APRIL			
Pensacola	FL	April 07, 2018 - April 08, 2018	Appleseed
Bunnell	FL	April 14, 2018 - April 15, 2018	Appleseed
Clearwater	FL	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
Hernando	FL	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	FL	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
St. Augustine	FL	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	FL	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
Myakka City	FL	April 22, 2018 (One Day Event)	Appleseed - 1 Day
Hurlburt Field	FL	April 28, 2018 - April 29, 2018	Appleseed
MAY			
Palm Bay	FL	May 19, 2018 - May 20, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	FL	May 19, 2018 - May 20, 2018	Appleseed
JUNE			
Myakka City	FL	June 16, 2018 - June 17, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	FL	June 16, 2018 - June 17, 2018	Appleseed
Hernando	FL	June 23, 2018 - June 24, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	FL	June 23, 2018 (One Day Event)	Appleseed - 1 Day
Gainesville	FL	June 30, 2018 - July 01, 2018	Appleseed
JULY			
Tallahassee	FL	July 21, 2018 (One Day Event)	Appleseed - 1 Day
AUGUST			
Tallahassee	FL	August 18, 2018 (One Day Event)	Appleseed - 1 Day
SEPTEMBER			
Myakka City	FL	September 15, 2018 - September 16, 2018	Appleseed
Hernando	FL	September 22, 2018 - September 23, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	FL	September 22, 2018 - September 23, 2018	Appleseed
Gainesville	FL	September 29, 2018 - September 30, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	FL	September 29, 2018 - September 30, 2018	Appleseed
OCTOBER			
Pensacola	FL	October 06, 2018 - October 07, 2018	Appleseed
Clearwater	FL	October 20, 2018 - October 21, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	FL	October 20, 2018 - October 21, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	FL	October 20, 2018 - October 21, 2018	Appleseed
NOVEMBER			
Bunnell	FL	November 03, 2018 - November 04, 2018	Appleseed
Hurlburt Field	FL	November 03, 2018 - November 04, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	FL	November 10, 2018 - November 11, 2018	Appleseed
Clearwater	FL	November 17, 2018 - November 18, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	FL	November 17, 2018 - November 18, 2018	Appleseed
DECEMBER			
Hurlburt Field	FL	December 01, 2018 - December 02, 2018	Appleseed
Pensacola	FL	December 01, 2018 - December 02, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	FL	December 08, 2018 - December 09, 2018	Appleseed
Myakka City	FL	December 15, 2018 - December 16, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	FL	December 15, 2018 - December 16, 2018	Appleseed
Gainesville	FL	December 29, 2018 - December 30, 2018	Appleseed

What Should You Bring

** Very important things

Personal items

- A teachable attitude (most important thing) **
- Ear protection Muffs and plugs **
- Eye protection **
- Elbow pads or shooting Jacket
- Ground cover (Rug remnant will work)
- A hat
- Little notebook (those little 2.5 X 3.5 work well)
- Pen – Used for taking notes and also for marking your targets; a sharpie marker is handy as well
- Sun Screen
- Lots of water (Must stay hydrated)
- Light Lunch
- Snacks
- Folding Chair (not necessary but nice)
- Wet wipes
- Bug spray
- Necessary clothing for any kind of weather

Rifle specific preparations

- Rifle preferably zeroed for 25 meters
- At least 500 rounds of ammo for a two day event
- At least 250 rounds of ammo for a one day event
- At least 250 rounds of ammo for a Known Distance event
- Sight adjustment tools
- Two mags. 10 rds. each. Bring extra mags. if you have them. 20rds works well if State law allows
- Gun cleaning supplies and lube
- Instructions for your rifle (if you have them)
- Know your rifle
- GI Web Sling
- Something to cover your rifle to keep blowing sand or rain off it.
- Staple gun, or thumb tacks, or push-pins.
- Staples
- Know the laws of the State you are going to and only bring that which is within the law

Ready your equipment

- Be prepared for blowing sand and dust, rain, mud all those weather conditions a rifleman would have to generally put up with.
- In event of blowing sand and dust, you'll need to totally degrease your rifle. Any lube should be a dry lube, like graphite. Be ready to protect your rifle with a plastic rifle bag or a simple waterproof wrap for the action.
- Be ready to protect ammo and mags from the same weather. Ziploc bags are great for this.
- Again, be prepared. You should function-test your rifle and, if possible, have it zeroed for 25 meters. Doing so will leave you properly sighted for the 25m AQT.
- It's a good idea to get down into the prone position and dry-fire ten shots "by the numbers." If you will do this three times a week, you'll be way ahead of everyone else. Hey, while you're at it, put a GI web sling on your rifle, and get it adjusted so it supports the rifle in prone, too.
- Practice at home is a GREAT way to prep for arriving at the range. By doing so your range time will be FAR more productive.

**** Due to a gun industry safety bulletin, .17HMR semi-autos are not recommended.**

**** Effective immediately the use of Smith and Wesson M&P 15/22'S at and Appleseed are hereby temporarily prohibited due to recent safety issues.**



Project Appleseed Florida is now on YouTube! Ever wondered what it's like to attend a weekend Appleseed event? Take a look at some of the videos we have posted on You tube.

Here is a link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj3Rip_IKHaWhb1rUDUugg

Florida would like to thank Altair Training in Immokalee for hosting Appleseed and the Fraternus Catholic youth group boys and staff. We had a wonderful event and all went home with huge smiles. This was one of the largest events we have had in recent memory. We look forward to going back to Altair again soon and our ongoing relationship with Fraternus both here in Florida and perhaps on the national level as well. Special thanks to all who made it happen! See a video of the event here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tc5oMDZDCEM>

Last weekend approximately 40 miles separated two groups of Florida teenagers.

One group wailed in terror over the dead bodies of their classmates, gunned down by another teen. The other stretched out on a firing line cradling a semi-automatic rifle firing round after round hurting no one. Guns were at both scenes, teenagers were at both. The big differences: parents at one place cried and rushed to TV to broadcast their grief and demand government action to ban guns. The other: parents worried about kids getting fed, paying attention to talks on history, fretting over sunscreen and thanking others for lending rifles to their children. The first group called in reporters to blame state officials and the President of the United States along with the five million members of the NRA. The other group called in a Catholic Priest to thank God for their blessings. The first group is getting 24/7 coverage on TV. The second group only a self-produced video on You Tube.

This comparison of one week's events highlight what lack of decent human value, belief in a Higher Power, involvement of committed men in raising teens, and media priority on what stories to saturate America with. I am humbly grateful that by the Grace of God I am able to be with the second group.

Salt Water Shooter





December 23, 1776

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; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated. Britain, with an army to enforce her tyranny, has declared that she has a right (not only to TAX) but "to BIND us in ALL CASES WHATSOEVER" and if being bound in that manner, is not slavery, then is there not such a thing as slavery upon earth. Even the expression is impious; for so unlimited a power can belong only to God. Whether the independence of the continent was declared too soon, or delayed too long, I will not now enter into as an argument; my own simple opinion is, that had it been eight months earlier, it would have been much better. We did not make a proper use of last winter, neither could we, while we were in a dependent state. However, the fault, if it were one, was all our own; we have none to blame but ourselves. But no great deal is lost yet. All that Howe has been doing for this month past, is rather a ravage than a conquest, which the spirit of the Jerseys, a year ago, would have quickly repulsed, and which time and a little resolution will soon recover.

I have as little superstition in me as any man living, but my secret opinion has ever been, and still is, that God Almighty will not give up a people to military destruction, or leave them unsupported to perish, who have so earnestly and so repeatedly sought to avoid the calamities of war, by every decent method which wisdom could invent. Neither have I so much of the infidel in me, as to suppose that He has relinquished the government of the world, and given us up to the care of devils; and as I do not, I cannot see on what grounds the king of Britain can look up to heaven for help against us: a common murderer, a highwayman, or a house-breaker, has as good a pretense as he.

'Tis surprising to see how rapidly a panic will sometimes run through a country. All nations and ages have been subject to them. Britain has trembled like an ague at the report of a French fleet of flat-bottomed boats; and in the fourteenth [fifteenth] century the whole English army, after ravaging the kingdom of France, was driven back like men petrified with fear; and this brave exploit was performed by a few broken forces collected and headed by a woman, Joan of Arc. Would that heaven might inspire some Jersey maid to spirit up her countrymen, and save her fair fellow sufferers from ravage and ravishment! Yet panics, in some cases, have their uses; they produce as much good as hurt. Their duration is always short; the mind soon grows through them, and acquires a firmer habit than before. But their peculiar advantage is, that they are the touchstones of sincerity and hypocrisy, and bring things and men to light, which might otherwise have lain forever undiscovered. In fact, they have the same effect on secret traitors, which an imaginary apparition would have upon a private murderer. They sift out the hidden thoughts of man, and hold them up in public to the world. Many a disguised Tory has lately shown his head, that shall penitentially solemnize with curses the day on which Howe arrived upon the Delaware.

As I was with the troops at Fort Lee, and marched with them to the edge of Pennsylvania, I am well acquainted with many circumstances, which those who live at a distance know but little or nothing of. Our situation there was exceedingly cramped, the place being a narrow neck of land between the North River and the Hackensack. Our force was inconceivable, being not one-fourth so great as Howe could bring against us. We had no army at hand to have relieved the garrison, had we shut ourselves up and stood on our defense. Our ammunition, light artillery, and the best part of our stores, had been removed, on the apprehension that Howe would endeavor to penetrate the Jerseys, in which case Fort Lee could be of no use to us; for it must occur to every thinking man, whether in the army or not, that these kind of field forts are only for temporary purposes, and last in use no longer than the enemy directs his force against the particular object which such forts are raised to defend. Such was our situation and condition at Fort Lee on the morning of the 20th of November, when an officer arrived with information that the enemy with 200 boats had landed about seven miles above; Major General [Nathaniel] Green, who commanded the garrison, immediately ordered them under arms, and sent express to General Washington at the town of Hackensack, distant by the way of the ferry = six miles. Our first object was to secure the bridge over the Hackensack, which laid up the river between the enemy and us, about six miles from us, and three from them. General Washington arrived in about three-quarters of an hour, and marched at the head of the troops towards the bridge, which place I expected we should have a brush for; however, they did not choose to dispute it with us, and the greatest part of our troops went over the bridge, the rest over the ferry, except some which passed at a mill on a small creek, between the bridge and the ferry, and made their way through some marshy grounds up to the town of Hackensack, and there passed the river. We brought off as much baggage as the wagons could contain, the rest was lost. The simple object was to bring off the garrison, and march them on till they could be strengthened by the Jersey or Pennsylvania militia, so as to be enabled to make a stand. We staid four days at Newark, collected our outposts with some of the Jersey militia, and marched out twice to meet the enemy, on being informed that they were advancing, though our numbers were greatly inferior to theirs. Howe, in my little opinion, committed a great error in generalship in not throwing a body of forces off from Staten Island through Amboy, by which means he might have seized all our stores at Brunswick, and intercepted our march into Pennsylvania; but if we believe the power of hell to be limited, we must likewise believe that their agents are under some providential control. I shall not now attempt to give all the particulars of our retreat to the Delaware; suffice it for the present to say, that both officers and men, though greatly harassed and fatigued, frequently without rest, covering, or provision, the inevitable consequences of a long retreat, bore it with a manly and martial spirit. All their wishes centered in one, which was, that the country would turn out and help them to drive the enemy back. Voltaire has remarked that King William never appeared to full advantage but in difficulties and in action; the same remark may be made on General Washington, for the character fits him. There is a natural firmness in some minds which cannot be unlocked by trifles, but which, when unlocked, discovers a cabinet of fortitude; and I reckon it among those kind of public blessings, which we do not immediately see, that God hath blessed him with uninterrupted health, and given him a mind that can even flourish upon care. I shall conclude this paper with some miscellaneous remarks on the state of our affairs; and shall begin with asking the following question, Why is it that the enemy have left the New England provinces, and made these middle ones the seat of war? The answer is easy: New England is not infested with Tories, and we are. I have been tender in raising the cry against these men, and used numberless arguments to show them their danger, but it will not do to sacrifice a world either to their folly or their baseness. The period is now arrived, in which either they or we must change our sentiments, or one or both must fall. And what is a Tory? Good God! What is he? I should not be afraid to go with a hundred Whigs against a thousand Tories, were they to attempt to get into arms. Every Tory is a coward; for servile, slavish, self-interested fear is the foundation of Toryism; and a man under such influence, though he may be cruel, never can be brave. But, before the line of irrevocable separation be drawn between us, let us reason the matter together: Your conduct is an invitation to the enemy, yet not one in a thousand of you has heart enough to join him. Howe is as much deceived by you as the American cause is injured by you. He expects you will all take up arms, and flock to his standard, with muskets on your shoulders. Your opinions are of no use to him, unless you support him personally, for 'tis soldiers, and not Tories, that he wants. I once felt all that kind of anger, which a man ought to feel, against the mean principles that are held by the Tories: a noted one, who kept a tavern at Amboy, was standing at his door, with as pretty a child in his hand, about eight or nine years old, as I ever saw, and after speaking his mind as freely as he thought was prudent, finished with this unfatherly expression, "Well! give me peace in my day." Not a man lives on the continent but fully believes that a separation must some time or other finally take place, and a generous parent should have said, "If there must be trouble, let it be in my day, that my child may have peace;" and this single reflection, well applied, is sufficient to awaken every man to duty. Not a place upon earth might be so happy as America. Her situation is remote from all the wrangling world, and she has nothing to do but to trade with them. A man can distinguish himself between temper and principle, and I am as confident, as I am that God governs the world, that America will never be happy till she gets clear of foreign dominion. Wars, without ceasing, will break out till that period arrives, and the continent must in the end be conqueror; for though the flame of liberty may sometimes cease to shine, the coal can never expire. America did not, nor does not want force; but she wanted a proper application of that force. Wisdom is not the purchase of a day, and it is no wonder that we should err at the first setting off. From an excess of tenderness, we were unwilling to raise an army, and trusted our cause to the temporary defense of a well-meaning militia. A summer's experience has now taught us better; yet with those troops, while they were collected, we were able to set bounds to the progress of the enemy, and, thank God! they are again assembling. I always considered militia as the best troops in the world for a sudden exertion, but they will not do for a long campaign. Howe, it is probable, will make an attempt on this city [Philadelphia]; should he fail on this side the Delaware, he is ruined. If he succeeds, our cause is not ruined. He stakes all on his side against a part on ours; admitting he succeeds, the consequence will be, that armies from both ends of the continent will march to assist their suffering friends in the middle states; for he cannot go everywhere, it is impossible. I consider Howe as the greatest enemy the Tories have; he is bringing a war into their country, which, had it not been for him and partly for themselves, they had been clear of. Should he now be expelled, I wish with all the devotion of a Christian, that the names of Whig and Tory may never more be mentioned; but should the Tories give him encouragement to come, or assistance if he come, I as sincerely wish that our next year's arms may expel them from the continent, and the Congress appropriate their possessions to the relief of those who have suffered in well-doing. A single successful battle next year will settle the whole. America could carry on a two years' war by the confiscation of the property of disaffected persons, and be made happy by their expulsion. Say not that this is revenge, call it rather the soft resentment of a suffering people, who, having no object in view but the good of all, have staked their own all upon a seemingly doubtful event. Yet it is folly to argue against determined hardness; eloquence may strike the ear, and the language of sorrow draw forth the tear of compassion, but nothing can reach the heart that is steeled with prejudice. Quitting this class of men, I turn with the warm ardor of a friend to those who have nobly stood, and are yet determined to stand the matter out: I call not upon a few, but upon all: not on this state or that state, but on every state: up and help us; lay your shoulders to the wheel; better have too much force than too little, when so great an object is at stake. Let it be told to the future world, that in the depth of winter, when nothing but hope and virtue could survive, that the city and the country, alarmed at one common danger, came forth to meet and to repulse it. Say not that thousands are gone, turn out your tens of thousands; throw not the burden of the day upon Providence, but "show your faith by your works," that God may bless you. It matters not where you live, or what rank of life you hold, the evil or the blessing will reach you all. The far and the near, the home counties and the back, the rich and the poor, will suffer or rejoice alike. The heart that feels not now is dead; the blood of his children will curse his cowardice, who shrinks back at a time when a little might have saved the whole, and made them happy. I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink; but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death. My own line of reasoning is to myself as straight and clear as a ray of light. Not all the treasures of the world, so far as I believe, could have induced me to support an offensive war, for I think it murder; but if a thief breaks into my house, burns and destroys my property, and kills or threatens to kill me, or those that are in it, and to "bind me in all cases whatsoever" to his absolute will, am I to suffer it? What signifies it to me, whether he who does it is a king or a common man; my countryman or not my countryman; whether it be done by an individual villain, or an army of them? If we reason to the root of things we shall find no difference; neither can any just cause be assigned why we should punish in the one case and pardon in the other. Let them call me rebel and welcome, I feel no concern from it; but I should suffer the misery of devils, were I to make a whore of my soul by swearing allegiance to one whose character is that of a sottish, stupid, stubborn, worthless, brutish man. I conceive likewise a horrid idea in receiving mercy from a being, who at the last day shall be shrieking to the rocks and mountains to cover him, and fleeing with terror from the orphan, the widow, and the slain of America. There are cases which cannot be overdone by language, and this is one. There are persons, too, who see not the full extent of the evil which threatens them; they solace themselves with hopes that the enemy, if he succeed, will be merciful. It is the madness of folly, to expect mercy from those who have refused to do justice; and even mercy, where conquest is the object, is only a trick of war; the cunning of the fox is as murderous as the violence of the wolf, and we ought to guard equally against both. Howe's first object is, partly by threats and partly by promises, to terrify or seduce the people to deliver up their arms and receive mercy. The ministry recommended the same plan to Gage, and this is what the Tories call making their peace, "a peace which passeth all understanding" indeed! A peace which would be the immediate forerunner of a worse ruin than any we have yet thought of. Ye men of Pennsylvania, do reason upon these things! Were the back counties to give up their arms, they would fall an easy prey to the Indians, who are all armed: this perhaps is what some Tories would not be sorry for. Were the home counties to deliver up their arms, they would be exposed to the resentment of the back counties who would then have it in their power to chastise their defection at pleasure. And were any one state to give up its arms, that state must be garrisoned by all Howe's army of Britons and Hessians to preserve it from the anger of the rest. Mutual fear is the principal link in the chain of mutual love, and woe be to that state that breaks the compact. Howe is mercifully inviting you to barbarous destruction, and men must be either rogues or fools that will not see it. I dwell not upon the vapors of imagination; I bring reason to your ears, and, in language as plain as A, B, C, hold up truth to your eyes. I thank God, that I fear not. I see no real cause for fear. I know our situation well, and can see the way out of it. While our army was collected, Howe dared not risk a battle; and it is no credit to him that he decamped from the White Plains, and waited a mean opportunity to ravage the defenseless Jerseys; but it is great credit to us, that, with a handful of men, we sustained an orderly retreat for near an hundred miles, brought off our ammunition, all our field pieces, the greatest part of our stores, and had four rivers to pass. None can say that our retreat was precipitate, for we were near three weeks in performing it, that the country might have time to come in. Twice we marched back to meet the enemy, and remained out till dark. The sign of fear was not seen in our camp, and had not some of the cowardly and disaffected inhabitants spread false alarms through the country, the Jerseys had never been ravaged. Once more we are again collected and collecting; our new army at both ends of the continent is recruiting fast, and we shall be able to open the next campaign with sixty thousand men, well armed and clothed. This is our situation, and who will may know it. By perseverance and fortitude we have the prospect of a glorious issue; by cowardice and submission, the sad choice of a variety of evils - a ravaged country - a depopulated city - habitations without safety, and slavery without hope - our homes turned into barracks and bawdy-houses for Hessians, and a future race to provide for, whose fathers we shall doubt of. Look on this picture and weep over it! and if there yet remains one thoughtless wretch who believes it not, let him suffer it unlamented.



**THINK YOU'RE A GOOD
SHOT WITH A RIFLE?
COME ON OUT AND
PROVE IT.
PROJECT APPLESEED
NOT WHAT YOU
EXPECT**

<https://appleseedinfo.org/>

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Contact your local State Coordinator Chris Heffron with any needs or questions at:
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