

**2009**  
**MINUTEMAN**  
**MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS SNOWSHOE PATROL**  
(Minuteman Snowshoe Patrol)  
**OPEN TO ALL BSA TROOP, VENTURING CREW, & EXPLORER POST**  
**REGISTERED MEMBERS IN THE NORTHERN RIVERS DISTRICT**



1st Annual

Winter Celebration of the Armed Citizen Militias of the  
American Revolution  
"Join, or Die"

**Date: Early 2009**

Location: TBD

SPONSORED BY CREW 40 AND CREW 3006 OF NORTHERN RIVERS DISTRICT

## **CONTACT:**

If you and/or your BSA / Venturing Group registered in the Northern Rivers District is interested in attending, please contact Nathan Zeliff at: 530-474-3267.

Date: Early 2009 (to be determined)

Location: Near Snow Mobile Park (Highway 44)

## **OVERVIEW:**

This is planned to be an approximate 2 mile course in Wilderness Mountain Terrain with snow conditions. Be prepared for a snow depth of 2 to 3+ feet; and changes in weather during course of event. This event will proceed even with snow falling, as long as safe.

Each participant must be either BSA, Explorer, or Venturing Registered in the Northern Rivers District.. Girls may participate (e.g., by being a member of a Venturing Crew); however, there will not be a separate girls Team for this event.

## **THEME OF THE EVENT:**

Celebrating the American Bill of Rights, Liberty, and the Right and Duty of an Armed American Citizenry, such being the palladium of the liberties of our republic and deterrent to, and defense against, government tyranny and oppression. Course includes (all done on snowshoes carrying rifle): compass course, emergency first aid; emergency medical evacuation; and the battle for freedom (“join or die”) (target shooting and tomahawk throw).

Individual Race format and Teams. You will be part of one of the following Minuteman Mountain Patrol Teams: Green Mountain Boys; Green River Rifles, Virginia Rifles, Morgan's Rifles, Minutemen, or Concord Militia.

## **EVENT SEQUENCE:**

Flag Raising / Star Spangled Banner

Safety Briefing:

Rules include (any violation is grounds for automatic disqualification and calling of parent or guardian to drive out, pick you up, and take you home):

- At base camp, Rifles to be cased and removed from gun cases only upon instruction by RSO, and such shall be done only at SAFE TABLE, under supervision of RSO.

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- Youth carry rifles, muzzle up, with ECI;
- Youth carry required number of rounds in water proof container (to be opened only at Range, and upon instruction by RSO).

Radio Emergency Protocol

Emergency Whistle and flare use.

Militia Teams - each elects a Captain.

Determine your Snow Shoe measurement stride for determining distance traveled

Emergency First Aid Scenario presentation (3 alternatives. Your Team will encounter any one of these three)

Theme of the Event / presentation:

Setting for Event

- Step back in time and Live the American Revolution by joining the fight against government tyranny and oppression (1775 ...).

Phases one and two of event

Timer starts for each team upon start of compass course.

- Phase 1: compass course, emergency first aid; emergency evacuation; then
- Phase 2: the battle for freedom (“join or die”) (target shooting and tomahawk throw).
- Competitions within event: Team and Individual

Timer stops after last member of Militia Team fires final shot at Lexington Range.

Each Militia Team Returns to Minuteman Base Camp upon completion

Liberty Bon Fire

Food

Awards

Flag lowering (Retreat / taps)

Dismissal and take down

## **SETTING FOR EVENT - STEP BACK IN TIME TO OUR AMERICAN REVOLUTION:**

Scenario and setting is the American Revolution - sometime during 1775 and 1776.

British Troops have fired upon an armed citizen militia while on patrol. Casualties were inflicted. A patriot survivor has arrived at our base camp and has advised as to the location of injured Minuteman Capt. Bill O'Rights. He is located in a hide beneath snow covered trees. British Troops remain in the area. Further, Intel advises that the injured Minuteman has vital information as to a pending "Lobsterback" attack on a patriot town. The government troops are taking the action for the purpose of disarming fellow citizens, isolating the entire town, and cutting off its supplies and communications. (Reference write ups herein concerning: April 19, 1775 as government troops attempted to follow orders to confiscate citizen's firearms which resulted in armed combat, and was the spark which ignited the American Revolution; and INSERT BOSTON)

Objectives:

1. Following instructions provided by survivor (using: compass, compass bearings, and distance measurements by stride, with no less than 5 changes of direction and covering a combined distance of no less than 1 mile), locate injured Minuteman Capt. Bill O'Rights. While in route, you will record marker information at designated check points (e.g., a "can" in the snow will contain password information specific to each Minuteman team). Upon locating the injured Minuteman Bill O'Rights; your team will provide emergency medical treatment, construct a sled from available wood and rope, and evacuate the injured patriot to the base camp. You will of course obtain the vital intelligence.
2. Utilizing the intelligence, your Militia Team will proceed on forced march with fellow patriot militias (including: Green Mountain Boys Militia, Green River Rifles Militia, Concord Militia and other volunteer armed citizens) to aid fellow citizens trapped in the town which is being attacked by the Lobsterbacks (citizens being forcibly disarmed, and their town being isolated and cut off from supplies and trade).

Note: The Intel will also disclose that British ships are off the coast, bombarding the town with cannon fire. As expert Armed Citizen Marksman, who are well trained in the use of your personal firearms, you will return accurate rifle fire against sources who are firing the cannons. Your objective will be to cause the naval ships to retreat from the harbor. (Reference write up herein concerning The Battle at Hampton, Virginia, October 1775 - accurate rifle fire from Militia on Land cause British Naval Fleet to depart).

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## **PHASES ONE AND TWO OF EVENT:**

**Phase One:** (MAXIMUM “HIT” POINTS = 4, based upon medical treatment and evacuation)

-Timer Starts at beginning of compass course:

-Compass course (distance and various coordinates) to locate injured Minuteman.

-Each Minuteman will have one of three courses to follow (thus, can't merely follow the tracks in the snow). Along way, at specific distances you Militia Team must pick up identifying items left at specific areas (or identify “box” contents / passwords ) - all are different for each Team).

Adults (handgun): During the 1<sup>st</sup> portion of the compass course, the 2 adults accompanying each Militia Team will each fire 3 shots at a target (distance 15 yards) (using their handguns). There will be no speed draws from the holster (a time of at least 5 seconds must elapse between removing the handgun from the holster and firing the 1<sup>st</sup> shot). Each hit will count for purposes of both the Militia TEAM Competition (i.e., the Team receives Hits); and be counted for the specific adults INDIVIDUAL Minuteman Marksmanship Competition. The adults not accompanying a Militia Team will have an opportunity to earn the handgun “hit” points by snowshoeing to the “Pistol Range” (which will be away from the rifle range).

Upon locating injured Minuteman:

-Perform emergency first aid (one of three emergency situations will be presented). Before event, all participants will be given instruction for all three potential situations).

-Emergency evacuation will be necessary due to a “pretend” pending volcanic eruption. Your Team will construct a sled (from available wood and rope), and then must secure the injured patriot to the sled, and then pull the sled with injured patriot 100+yards (which will loop back to location of start for the emergency first aid).

Next, snow shoe to the rifle range to. When you reach the Lexington Range, you are in Phase two.

**Phase Two:** (Maximum Score: open)

**Individual Race Format** - Marksmanship Segment - Individual Shooters:

1<sup>ST</sup> - snow shoe on marked path / (and along way one tomahawk throw (½ hit value) then at range - standing shoot (5 shots)

(After Scoring, Metal Targets w/b resent by pull line)

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2<sup>ND</sup> snow shoe on marked path / (and along way one tomahawk throw (½ hit value) then at range - kneeling shoot 5 shots

(After Scoring, Metal Targets w/b resent by pull line)

3<sup>rd</sup> Snow shoe on marked path (and along way one tomahawk throw (½ hit value) then at range - squatting shoot 5 shots

(After Scoring, Metal Targets w/b resent by pull line)

4<sup>th</sup> Snow shoe on marked path (and along way one tomahawk throw (½ hit value) then at range - prone shoot 5 shots

(After Scoring, Metal Targets w/b resent by pull line)

**Plus: OPTIONAL 100 Yard SHOT:** After last shot (after 4<sup>th</sup> snowshoe ), you may fire 1 round at the 100 yard target (standing or prone-your choice). A hit will count as two (2) hits.

Timer stops.

Militia Team Returns to Minuteman Base Camp.

### **ADULTS REQUIRED FOR EVENT:**

The Following BSA / Venturing Adults will be required (assuming there are two teams or more):

1. NRA -certified Rifle Instructor - who will Supervise the Event.
2. NRA -certified Rifle Instructor - At Range during Shooting.
3. NRA-certified Range Safety Officer - At Range during Shooting.
4. For Each Militia Team, two (2) adults to accompany each Team at all times during the exercises while youth are in field. At least one adult (upon proof of NRA Pistol First Steps or NRA Basic Pistol Course) with each Militia Team is to carry a properly holstered handgun worn outside of clothing for accessibility.
5. One adult with Certified Medical for the event (it could be any of the other adults).
6. Two (2) adults to evaluate and score the emergency Medical treatment scenario and evacuation.
7. Adult maintaining base camp.
8. Adults or youth at range to score for each shooter.

\*Other BSA / Venturing Adults may carry properly holstered handgun worn outside of clothing for accessibility, upon proof of NRA Pistol First Steps or NRA Basic Pistol Course

### **COMPETITIONS: TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL:**

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**There will be two competitions being concurrently conducted during this Mountain Patrol:**

- 1. Militia TEAM Competition; and**
- 2. INDIVIDUAL Minuteman Marksmanship Competition.**

The Competition will be conducted by competitors being grouped into “4 person Militia Teams” OR “3 person Militia Teams” (depending upon number of participants).

Thus Each Militia Team will be composed of:

- 4 (four) youth. The youth will elect a “Captain” for their Team; and
- 2 (two) Adults to accompany the Team at all times during the exercises. The Adults will be assigned the “rank” of Colonel.

A Team does NOT have to be all from the same Venturing Crew Unit or BSA Troop unit. You can combine members (“Minutemen”) from other units. However, all teams must have the same number of members. Each such Team will be designated with name of a Militia from the American Revolution . Each Militia Team will compete as a unit, and will perform all aspects of the course as a unit and staying in close proximity to each other at all times (i.e., visible to each other at all times).

For the marksmanship portion, each Minuteman will shoot only his/her ammunition, and throw only his/her number of tomahawk throws. Thus, you can’t shoot for another Minuteman or throw the tomahawk for another Minuteman.

If a complete team can’t be formed (e.g., **there are only 2 youth, and not the Standard (3 or 4, yet to be determined), available to form a complete Militia Team**), **then such under-manned Militia Team” must** still perform as a Militia Team in the competition, but will not be eligible for a “Militia Team” Award. However, the Individual’s on such under-manned Militia Team will still be eligible for the Individual Minuteman Marksmanship Awards. Such is necessary so that all individuals are undergoing the same rigors of the patrol.

For the **Militia TEAM Competition**, Militia Teams will be scored and ranked based on total points earned by each Militia Team as a group (e.g., including all aspects of the Patrol, including: compass course; emergency first aid; medical evacuation; marksmanship, tomahawk throws, and overall Patrol completion time). Ribbons will be awarded for the Militia Teams achieving 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their respective BSA or Venturing category (scope or Iron).

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For the **INDIVIDUAL Minuteman Marksmanship Competition**, individual scores and ranking for each Individual Minutemen will be based upon his or her individual marksmanship skills achieved during the competition (i.e., shooting and tomahawk portions only). Ribbons will be awarded for the individual Minutemen achieving 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their respective BSA or Venturing category (scope or Iron).

The **ADULTS** will participate only in the Individual Minuteman Marksmanship Competition. This is due to the logistics of running the entire event, advance knowledge as to the tests being administered, designing the compass course, administering the medical first aid scenario, and monitoring wilderness safety (e.g., watch as youth progress through the exercises). Except, however: Adults (handgun): During the 1<sup>st</sup> portion of the compass course, the 2 adults accompanying each Militia Team will each fire 3 shots at a target (distance 15 yards) (using their handguns). There will be no speed draws from the holster (a time of at least 5 seconds must elapse between removing the handgun from the holster and firing the 1<sup>st</sup> shot). Each hit will count for purposes of both the Militia TEAM Competition (i.e., the Team receives Hits); and be counted for the specific adults INDIVIDUAL Minuteman Marksmanship Competition. The adults not accompanying a Militia Team will have an opportunity to earn the handgun “hit” points by snowshoeing to the “Pistol Range” (which will be away from the rifle range).

### **AWARDS:**

The following ribbons will be awarded.

#### BSA Militia Teams:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Militia Team- Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Militia Team - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Militia Team - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

#### BSA Individual Minuteman: (Iron and Scop categories)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol
- 2<sup>st</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

#### VENTURING Militia Teams:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Militia Team- Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Militia Team - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Militia Team - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

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VENTURING Individual Minuteman: (Iron and Scop categories):

1<sup>st</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

2<sup>st</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

VENTURING ADULT - Individual Minuteman (Iron and Scope categories):

1<sup>st</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

2<sup>st</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Rifle - Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snow Shoe Patrol

Certificates will be awarded to youth and adults who participate:

Certificates suitable for framing will be awarded for each Minuteman who successfully completes the Patrol.

**EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:**

**Minuteman Base Camp will include (LIST IN PROCESS):**

Fire pit and wood supply for heat;

food

radio

medical supplies

Medical certified adult

Snow Mobile

Militia Flags for Militia Teams

Computer for scoring - pre loaded with programs and participants

**EACH YOUTH MINUTEMAN PARTICIPANT WILL CARRY (LIST IN PROCESS):**

His / Her own Rifle (empty / muzzle up/ ECI / sling for shoulder carry)

Rifle (scope or iron) (recommend cover for scope to avoid snow fall hitting glass)

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Muzzle cover to keep snow and water out of barrel  
Ammo carry rules  
22 (# rounds open) rounds of .22 LR ammo in accessible water proof container  
Sling - rifle carry  
Ear protection and eye protection  
Snow shoes (provided by event)  
Winter clothing (including gators, head protection, cold weather gloves etc...)  
Compass  
Snow poles (optional)  
Day Pack containing:  
    First aid kit  
    Fixed blade knife and sharpening stone  
    Matches  
    Flint  
    Canteen ( Quarts)  
    Snack bar  
    Toilet paper, soap  
    Other items to be added — open

**Each Militia Team (youth) to carry and distribute among Team members (list in process):**

Topographical map (plastic covering)  
Small shovel

**Adults assigned to a Militia Team - to carry (list in process):**

Adults (handgun): During the 1<sup>st</sup> portion of the compass course, the 2 adults accompanying each Militia Team will each fire 3 shots at a target (distance 15 yards) (using their handguns). There will be no speed draws from the holster (a time of at least 5 seconds must elapse between removing the handgun from the holster and firing the 1<sup>st</sup> shot). Each hit will count for purposes of both the Militia TEAM Competition (i.e., the Team receives Hits); and be counted for the specific adults INDIVIDUAL Minuteman Marksmanship Competition. The adults not accompanying a Militia Team will have an opportunity to earn the handgun “hit” points by snowshoeing to the “Pistol Range” (which will be away from the rifle range).

Due to the wilderness area, snow conditions, terrain, unpredictable weather and potential for rapid weather deteriorations, the ADULTs assigned to each Militia Team will carry at all times the following (gear may be split up):

1. Emergency radio set to Chanel \_\_\_\_;
2. Whistle (5 blasts will signal need for help);
3. Emergency first aid kit; flare gun.
4. Small shovel, fixed blade knife, emergency shelter, rope,
4. Water; snack bars; \_\_\_\_\_ ;
5. Holstered and loaded handgun(s) (for Adult Pistol Competition) in accordance with applicable laws. Minimum Requirement - proof of First Steps Certification for handgun.

Note: Adults Handgun Competition: Adults (handgun): During the 1<sup>st</sup> portion of the compass course, the 2 adults accompanying each Militia Team will each fire 3 shots at a target (distance 15 yards) (using their handguns). There will be no speed draws from the holster (a time of at least 5 seconds must elapse between removing the handgun from the holster and firing the 1<sup>st</sup> shot). Each hit will count for purposes of both the Militia TEAM Competition (i.e., the Militia Team receives Hits); and be counted for the specific adults INDIVIDUAL Minuteman Marksmanship Competition. The Adults will want to perform well since the Youth's Team receives points for your "hits". The adults not accompanying a Militia Team will have an opportunity to earn the handgun "hit" points by snowshoeing to the "Pistol Range" (which will be away from the rifle range).

Note: This event doesn't not involve any type of hunting activity (thus, no hunting of any kind); and

6. GPS Unit.

# The Individual Right to Keep and Bear Arms

"A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed". **Amendment II - U.S. Constitution.**

## On the subject of - what is the militia?

"I ask, sir, what is the militia? It is the whole people, except for a few public officials."

— George Mason, in *Debates in Virginia Convention on Ratification of the Constitution*

§ 1890. The importance of this article will scarcely be doubted by any persons, who have duly reflected upon the subject. The militia is the natural defence of a free country against sudden foreign invasions, domestic insurrections, and domestic usurpations of power by rulers. It is against sound policy for a free people to keep up large military establishments and standing armies in time of peace, both from the enormous expenses, with which they are attended, and the facile means, which they afford to ambitious and unprincipled rulers, to subvert the government, or trample upon the rights of the people. The right of the citizens to keep and bear arms has justly been considered, as the palladium of the liberties of a republic; since it offers a strong moral check against the usurpation and arbitrary power of rulers; and will generally, even if these are successful in the first instance, enable the people to resist and triumph over them.<sup>2</sup> And yet, though this truth would seem so clear, and the importance of a well regulated militia would seem so undeniable, it cannot be disguised, that among the American people there is a growing indifference to any system of militia discipline, and a strong disposition, from a sense of its burthens, to be rid of all regulations. How it is practicable to keep the people duly armed without some organization, it is difficult to see. There is certainly no small danger, that indifference may lead to disgust, and disgust to contempt; and thus gradually undermine all the protection intended by this clause of our national bill of rights. (COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES; WITH A PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF THE COLONIES AND STATES, BEFORE THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION. BY JOSEPH STORY, LL. D., DANE PROFESSOR OF LAW IN HARVARD UNIVERSITY.)

## Examples of the Right to Keep and Bear Arms in Action

### Founding of our country:

April 19, 1775 - Patriot's Day

October, 1775 - The Battle at Hampton Virginia

### Recent:

1946 - The Battle of Athens, Tennessee



### *American Minuteman Pledge*

*On my honor, as an American Minuteman, Venturer  
/ Scout, I promise:*

***T***o always follow the rules of safe firearm handling and shooting;

***T***o seek to master those physical and mental factors essential to the firing of an accurate shot;

***T***o treasure my American heritage, the Bill of Rights, and do all I can to protect and preserve the Unalienable Individual Right to Keep and Bear Arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment;

***T***o recognize such individual right as being justly considered as the palladium of the liberties of our republic and deterrent to, and defense against, government tyranny and oppression.

\*\* Pledge adapted from the Lassen Sharpshooter's Pledge (Green Mountain Boys - Crew 40 / Troop 40)

## **The Meaning of the American Minuteman Pledge**

(Version: 8/14/2008)

Before you pledge yourself to any oath or promise, you must know what it means. The paragraphs that follow will help you understand the meaning of the American Minuteman Pledge.

### **On my honor, as an American Minuteman, Venturer / Scout, I promise:**

By giving your word, you are promising to be guided by the ideals of the American Minuteman Pledge. You, as an American Citizen, are part of the militia as set forth in the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights (Note: 1).

***T***o always follow the rules of safe firearm handling and shooting;

In your firearms safety course, you learned the rules of safe firearm handling and shooting. These rules must always be followed, and you should teach others to follow them both by your good example, and instruction.

***T***o seek to master those physical and mental factors essential to the firing of an accurate shot;

Take care of your body so that it will serve you well for an entire lifetime. That means eating nutritious foods, getting enough sleep, and exercising regularly to build strength and endurance. To remain in good health, and be a good shot, you must avoid harmful drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and anything else that can harm your health.

Develop your mind, and your power of focused concentration. These attributes will not only assist you in becoming a good marksman, but will further help you in school, work, and during your entire lifetime.

***T***o treasure my American heritage, the Bill of Rights, and do all I can to protect and preserve the Unalienable Individual Right to Keep and Bear Arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment;

As an American Citizen we must learn about our American heritage and our rights. We recognize that those who are not educated about their rights and history, will not recognize when their rights and liberties are being threatened, or taken from them.

The Bill of rights sets forth human rights that predate the establishment of any government. These are your God given rights. As such, they were not given to you by any

government, or public official. On the other hand, the Constitution grants limited powers to the government, for it is the government which is to be bound by the chains of the Constitution. The Individual Right to Keep and Bear Arms is fundamental, and is your God given right of self defense, whether exercised against a criminal about to take your life, or a government which has become tyrannical and oppressive.

*To recognize such individual right as being justly considered as the palladium of the liberties of our republic and deterrent to, and defense against, government tyranny and oppression.*

Our American forefathers rose up in armed rebellion against their own government which was tyrannical and oppressive. It was a last resort. It was out of that armed revolution that our Constitutional Republic was formed. It was armed citizens that had the courage to take a stand against their own government's tyranny and oppression. The American Revolution was ignited on April 19, 1775 when government troops marched on Lexington and Concord to confiscate firearms and ammunition of its citizens. The Individual Right to keep and Bear Arms is the palladium (i.e., providing protection, safety, safeguard) of the liberties of our republic (Note: 2 ). The people have the right to alter or abolish tyrannical government (Note: 3 ).

**Notes:**

(1) "I ask, sir, what is the militia? It is the whole people, except for a few public officials."  
— George Mason, in Debates in Virginia Convention on Ratification of the Constitution.

"The militia, when properly formed, are in fact the people themselves, ... all men capable of bearing arms;..." — "Letters from the Federal Farmer to the Republic", 1788 (either Richard Henry Lee or Melancton Smith).

"Who are the militia? Are they not ourselves? Is it feared, then, that we shall turn our arms each man against his own bosom? Congress shall have no power to disarm the militia. Their swords, and every other terrible implement of the soldier, are the birth-right of an American ... The unlimited power of the sword is not in the hands of either the federal or state governments, but where I trust in God it will ever remain, in the hands of the People."— Tench Coxe, 1788.

(2 ) "The right of the citizens to keep and bear arms has justly been considered, as the palladium of the liberties of a republic; since it offers a strong moral check against the usurpation and arbitrary power of rulers; and will generally, even if these are successful in the first instance, enable the people to resist and triumph over them".[Quoted from Joseph Story Former Associate Justice of U.S. Supreme Court in, "Commentaries on the Constitution" (1833)].

(3) *Silveira v. Lockyer* - Dissent by Kozinski, states in part:

" ...a core value protected by the Second Amendment for "the people" was "the Right of the people to alter or abolish"48 tyrannical government, as they had done a decade before. ...

As Blackstone describes the "natural right" of an Englishman to keep and bear arms, the arms are for personal defense as well as resistance to tyranny. The two are not always separable. After the Civil War, southern states began passing "Black Codes," designed to limit the freedom of blacks as much as possible . 50 The "Black Codes" often contained restrictions on firearm ownership and possession. 51 The codes sometimes made it a crime for whites even to loan guns to blacks. 52 A substantial part of the debate in Congress on the Fourteenth Amendment was its necessity to enable blacks to protect themselves from White terrorism and tyranny in the South. 53 Private terrorist organizations, such as the Ku Klux Klan, were abetted by southern state governments' refusal to protect black citizens, and the violence of such groups could only be realistically resisted with private firearms. When the state itself abets organized terrorism, the right of the people to keep and bear arms against a tyrant becomes inseparable from the right to self-defense....

the law establishes with the utmost clarity that the militia is precisely what the panel says it is not, an "amorphous body of the people as a whole."

Among the acts of the crown seen as oppressions to be prevented from ever happening again were the Militia Acts of 1757 through 1763 authorizing British officials "to seize and remove the arms" of colonial militias when they thought it necessary to the peace of the kingdom. 69 The American Revolution was triggered when General Gage ordered troops to march from Boston to Lexington and Concord to do just that. 70

...The one thing that is absolute is that the Second Amendment guarantees a personal and individual right to keep and bear arms, and prohibits government from disarming the people...."

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# The Bill of Rights

(with explanation)

## THE PREAMBLE TO THE BILL OF RIGHTS

Congress of the United States begun and held at the City of New York, on Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine.

THE Conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added: And as extending the ground of public confidence in the Government, will best ensure the beneficent ends of its institution.

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following Articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all, or any of which Articles, when ratified by three fourths of the said Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution; viz.

ARTICLES in addition to, and Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth Article of the original Constitution.

**Amendment I** - Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

*Government can neither impose a state religion upon you nor punish you for exercising the religion of your choice. You may express your opinions, write and publish what you wish, gather peacefully with others, and formally ask government to correct injustices.*

**Amendment II** - A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

*Individuals ("the people") have the right to own and use weapons without interference from the government.*

**Amendment III** - No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house,

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without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

*The government cannot force you to house its agents.*

**Amendment IV** - The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

*You may not be arrested or "detained" arbitrarily. No agency of government may inspect or seize your property or possessions without first obtaining a warrant. To obtain a warrant, they must show specific cause for the search or seizure and swear under oath that they are telling the truth about these reasons. Furthermore, the warrant itself must state specifically and in detail the place, things, or people it covers. Warrants that are too general or vague are not valid; searches or seizures that exceed the terms of the warrant are not valid.*

**Amendment V** - No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

*No one outside the military may be tried for a serious crime without first being indicted by a grand jury (of citizens). Once found not guilty, a person may not be tried again for the same deed. You can't be forced to be a witness or provide evidence against yourself in a criminal case. You can't be sent to prison or have your assets seized without due process. The government can't take your property without paying market value for it.*

**Amendment VI** - In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

*Trials cannot be unreasonably postponed or held in secret. In any criminal case against you, you have a right to public trial by a jury of unbiased citizens (thus ensuring that the state can't use a "party-line" judge to railroad you). The trial must be held in the state or region where the crime was committed. You cannot be held without charges. You cannot be held on charges that are kept secret from you. You have a right to know who is making accusations against you and to confront those witnesses in court. You have the right to subpoena witnesses to testify in your favor and a right to the services of an attorney.*

**Amendment VII** - In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

*The right to trial by jury extends to civil, as well as criminal, cases. Once a jury has made its decision, no court can overturn or otherwise change that decision except via accepted legal processes (for instance, granting of a new trial when an appeals court determines that your rights were violated in the original proceeding).*

**Amendment VIII** - Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

*Bail, fines, and punishments must all fit the crime and punishments must not be designed for cruelty.*

**Amendment IX** - The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

*You have more rights than are specifically listed in the Bill of Rights.*

**Amendment X** - The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

*The U.S. federal government has only those specific powers granted to it by the Constitution. All other powers belong either to the states or to individuals.*

The Ninth and Tenth Amendments, taken together, mean that the federal government has only the authority granted to it, while the people are presumed to have any right or power not specifically forbidden to them. The Bill of Rights as a

whole is dedicated to describing certain key rights of the people that the government is categorically forbidden to remove, abridge, or infringe. The Bill of Rights clearly places the people in charge of their own lives, and the government within strict limits - the very opposite of the situation we have allowed to develop today.

Source of above: JPFO



## **Green Mountain Boys Militia** (FLAG ABOVE)

American militia unit formed in Vermont in 1770 named after the Green Mountains, the section of the Alleghenies that runs through modern Vermont. Before the American War of Independence, the area had been disputed between New Hampshire and New York. New Hampshire had moved first, issuing land grants from 1749. By 1764 New Hampshire had chartered 131 townships in the territory. The following year New York also started to issue grants, including some that conflicted with earlier New Hampshire grants. The issue quickly led to conflict between groups of settlers.

The Green Mountain Boys were founded at Bennington (now in Vermont) in 1770 to resist a sheriff's party sent out from New York to expel settlers who had received grants from New Hampshire. The New Yorkers were successfully expelled. When conflict with Britain broke out in 1775 the leader of the Green Mountain Boys, Ethen Allen, decided to attack Fort Ticonderoga, a British stronghold that had been allowed to decay after 1763. Joined by Benedict Arnold the Green Mountain Boys attacked Ticonderoga on 10 May 1775, easily taking it from the small British garrison. The victory gave the rebels valuable artillery pieces which were taken to Boston to help in the siege. The Green Mountain Boys were also involved in the campaign that led to the surrender at Saratoga in 1777. On 4 August 1777 they contributed a sizable part of the militia force that defeated a British detachment attempting to raid the American arsenal at Bennington, and helped weaken Burgoyne's already under-strength force.

In the same year Vermont was declared an independent republic, a status it retained despite the claims from New York until 1791 when Vermont joined the United States as the 14th state.

Source of Above Information:

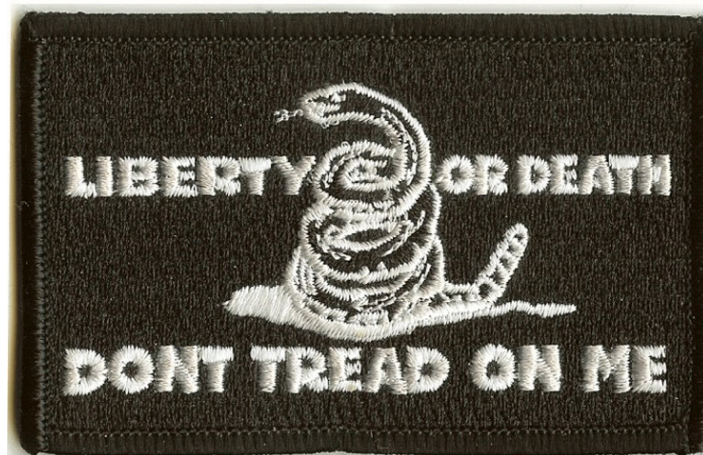
***How to cite this article:*** Rickard, J. (4 September 2003), *Green Mountain Boys*, [http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/weapons\\_greenmountain.html](http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/weapons_greenmountain.html)

# American Patriot Sharpshooter Award Series

- Summer - Minuteman Cross Country Biathlon
- Minuteman Mountain Wilderness Snowshoe Patrol <<< **-THIS EVENT**
- The Green River Rifles Mountain Sharpshooters Award (Battle of Cowpens)
- Saratoga Rifleman Award (Sure Shot Tim)
- Minuteman Muster Call Award
- Minuteman / Militia Patch Award - "Don't Tread on Me"



Above pictured: **Summer - Minuteman Cross Country Biathlon Award**; The Green River Rifles Mountain Sharpshooters Award (Battle of Cowpens); and Saratoga Rifleman Award (Sure Shot Tim). Pictured below: Minuteman / Militia Patch Award.



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**BATTLES FOR FREEDOM WERE WAGED BY ARMED CITIZENS  
AGAINST TYRANNICAL AND OPPRESSIVE GOVERNMENT.  
THIS MINUTEMAN MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS SNOWSHOE PATROL, AS A  
LIVING HISTORY SCENARIO, MAKES REFERENCE TO SUCH BATTLES FOR  
EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.  
CHALLENGE YOURSELF. EXPERIENCE AMERICAN HISTORY BY LIVING IT.**

=====

**IN THE SPIRIT OF PATRIOT'S DAY  
The Shot Heard Around the World  
APRIL 19, 1775**



According to one source, the Bedford Minutemen Flag became the first flag to be taken into an American battle. The Latin inscription "Vince Aut Morire" means "Conquer or Die". The arm emerging from the clouds represents the arm of God.

On April 19, 1775, our government's military troops (we were British subjects at the time) went door to door confiscating citizen's firearms. Gun fire resulted between government troops and the militia (i.e., armed citizens --, farmboys, drovers, carpenters, laborers, etc...). The American Revolution was ignited!

As the wayward children of King George, we (as British subjects), were commanded by our government (at that time) to surrender our guns and powder.

**The actual British order to seize and destroy the American's guns and supplies, for that day, reads as follows:**

"Having received Intelligence, that a Quantity of Ammunition, Provision, Artillery, Tents and small Arms, have been collected at Concord, for the Avowed Purpose of raising and supporting a Rebellion against His Majesty, you will March with the Corps of Grenadiers and Light Infantry, put under your Command, with utmost expedition and Secrecy to Concord, where you will seize and destroy all Artillery, Ammunition, Provisions, Tents, Small Arms, and all Military Stores whatever ..." (Per Order of General Gage to Lt. Colonel F. Smith, of the Kings Troops. The Minute Men The First Fight: Myths and Realities of the American Revolution, by John R. Galvin, at page 100).

**At Concord, house to house searches were conducted by the British to carry out the above order. Remember, the possession of powder, cannon, and other supplies of war might have meant arrest for revolutionary activities. The supplies of arms were substantial:**

"Within the town, scattered through the cellars and attics and outbuildings of at least twenty-five

houses, the provincials had concealed ten tons of musket balls and cartridges, thirty-five half barrels of powder, 350 tents, fourteen medicine chests, eighty barrels of beef, eight and a half tons of salt fish, seventeen and a half tons of rye, 318 barrels of flour, 100 barrels of salt, ... hundreds of axes, canteens, reams of cartridge paper ... and ... a substantial number of cannon and gun carriages of varying sizes... ." (emphasis added). *The Minute Men the First Fight: Myths and Realities of the American Revolution*, by John R. Galvin, at page 140).

On April 19, 1775, the Americans were prepared to, and did, fight for their liberty and freedom. What would you have done?

---



The Gadsden Flag · Est. 1775

## THE BATTLE AT HAMPTON, VIRGINIA, OCTOBER 1775

Overview: British Naval Fleet Bombarding Town with Cannon Fire was outgunned by accurate rifle fire from militias (i.e., armed citizens) reinforced by the Culpeper Minutemen firing from land. The fire from the riflemen was so effective that they were bringing down every British sailor in sight

More Detail: October 24, 25 (or 26, 27), 1775 at Hampton, Virginia -

“The conflict between Gov. Lord Dunmore [the British Governor of Virginia] and the Americans reached the shooting stage when Dunmore became frustrated with them and sent a British naval fleet to destroy Norfolk. On October 24, 6 British tenders, commanded by Capt. ?? Squire, sailed into Hampton Creek. They began to bombard the town. Next, he sent several landing parties to set fire to the town, too. When the parties entered Hampton, riflemen drove them off. On October 25, at dawn, 100 Culpeper militiamen, commanded Col. William Woodford, moved into the town to defend it against a second British attack. At sunrise, the British ships moved in, sprung their cables, and opened fire on the town. These militia picked off the sailors on deck and in the riggings on Squire's ships offshore. This forced the British to begin a disorderly withdrawal. While leaving the area, 2 sloops ran aground and were captured. The British suffered several casualties but the militia did not have a single one (emphasis added). Conclusion: American Victory.”

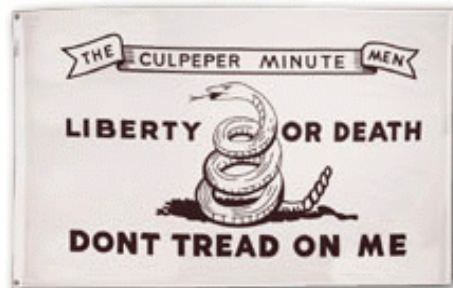
Source: <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/1775s.htm>

A further explanation of the Battle at Hampton, Virginia (October, 1775) is from this source, <http://www.militaryhistoryonline.com/18thcentury/articles/battleofgreatbridge.aspx> , and reads as follows:

“On that same night of October 26, 1775, news of the British attacked reached Williamsburg around 2000 and 2100. The Committee of Safety ordered Colonel Woodford to Hampton with Captain Abraham Buford and his Culpeper Riflemen using horses that were borrowed from the citizens of Williamsburg. They rode all night through heavy rain, covering about 36 miles in less than 12 hours, arriving around 0800 and 0900 on the morning of 27 October 1775. While Colonel Woodford was riding to Hampton, Captain Squire's men had been cutting through the sunken vessels and his flotilla was now broadside to Hampton and initiated their bombardment.[16]

Now that Colonel Woodford was on the scene, he began stationing troops inside some of the abandoned houses, along the banks of the creek hidden by fences, trees and rocks. While Captain Squire had his barrage underway, he thought that once he started raking the houses and streets with his cannon the patriots would run. Instead, the militia already present was being reinforced with Culpeper Minutemen, famed for their accuracy in shooting. The largest cannon that Captain Squire had were 4-pounders and they proved to be useless against the well-built brick homes that housed the riflemen, who were now shooting rifles at his vessels. The fire from the riflemen was so effective that they were bringing down every British sailor in sight. Aboard the schooner that Captain Squire commanded, his sailors were unable to man their 4-pounders.[17]

Due to the accurate rifle fire of the Americans, Captain Squire's situation was becoming untenable. For his men attempting to serve the ship's cannon meant certain death or injury. As he began to realize, Captain Squire's flotilla was now being outgunned by rifle fire from the shore and his guns were gradually becoming silent and he was forced to withdraw. As he began the withdrawal, one of his tenders, the Hawke, began drifting towards the shore. Once again due to precise rifle fire, the British sailors were not able to man the tender properly and ran aground. The Hawke was captured along with its crew and armament, ending the Battle of Hampton and the first shooting engagement between Governor Dunmore and the American patriots.[18]" (emphasis added).



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# The Minute Battalion of Culpeper County, Virginia 1775 - 1776



Source of the following (below) is: <http://gen.culpepper.com/archives/va/culpeper/minutemen.htm>

Left to Right: Private Man, Officer in Captain Taliaferro's Company, Private Man, Officer in Captain Wm. Pickett's Company

Military Uniforms in America Plate No. 259  
Copyright 1973 by Company of Military Historians

Provided to Culpepper Connections! by Chip Culpepper who received it from Gene Norris Culpepper.

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## **The Battle of Athens, Tennessee**

**As Recently As 1946, American Citizens Were  
Forced To Take Up Arms As A Last Resort  
Against Corrupt Government Officials.**

Published in Guns & Ammo October 1995, pp. 50-51

On August 1-2, 1946, some Americans, brutalized by their county government, used armed force as a last resort to overturn it. These Americans wanted honest open elections. For years they had asked for state or federal election monitors to prevent vote fraud (forged ballots, secret ballot counts and intimidation by armed sheriff's deputies) by the local political boss. They got no help.

These Americans' absolute refusal to knuckle under had been hardened by service in World War II. Having fought to free other countries from murderous regimes, they rejected vicious abuse by their county government.

These Americans had a choice. Their state's Constitution -- Article 1, Section 26 -- recorded their right to keep and bear arms for the common defense. Few "gun control" laws had been enacted.

These Americans were residents of McMinn County, which is located between Chattanooga and Knoxville in Eastern Tennessee. The two main towns were Athens and Etowah. McMinn County residents had long been independent political thinkers. For a long time they also had: accepted bribe-taking by politicians and/or the sheriff to overlook illicit whiskey-making and gambling; financed the sheriff's department from fines-usually for speeding or public drunkenness which promoted false arrests; and put up with voting fraud by both Democrats and Republicans.

The wealthy Cantrell family, of Etowah, backed Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the 1932 election, hoping New Deal programs would revive the local economy and help Democrats to replace Republicans in the county government. So it proved.

Paul Cantrell was elected sheriff in the 1936, 1938 and 1940 elections, but by slim margins. The sheriff was the key county official. Cantrell was elected to the state senate in 1942 and 1944; his chief deputy, Pat Mansfield, was elected sheriff. In 1946 Paul Cantrell again sought the sheriff's office.

At the end of 1945, some 3,000 battle-hardened veterans returned to McMinn County; the GIs held Cantrell politically responsible for Mansfield's doings. Early in 1946, some newly returned ex-GIs decided to challenge Cantrell politically by offering an all-ex-GI, non-partisan ticket. They promised a fraud-free election, stating in ads and speeches that there would be an honest ballot count and reform of county government.

At a rally, a GI speaker said, "The principles that we fought for in this past war do not exist in McMinn County. We fought for democracy because we believe in democracy but not the form we live under in this county" (Daily Post-Athenian, 17 June 1946, p.1 ). At the end of July 1946, 159 McMinn County GIs petitioned the FBI to send election monitors. There was no response. The

Department of Justice had not responded to McMinn County residents' complaints of election fraud in 1940, 1942 and 1944.

## FROM BALLOTS TO BULLETS

The primary election was held on August 1. To intimidate voters, Mansfield brought in some 200 armed "deputies." GI poll-watchers were beaten almost at once. At about 3 p.m., Tom Gillespie, an African- American voter was told by a sheriff's deputy that he could not vote. Despite being beaten, Gillespie persisted. The enraged deputy shot him. The gunshot drew a crowd. Rumors spread that Gillespie had been shot in the back; he later recovered (C. Stephen Byrum, *The Battle of Athens*, Paidia Productions, Chattanooga, TN, 1987; pp. 155-57).

Other deputies detained ex-GI poll-watchers in a polling place, as that made the ballot counting "Public" A crowd gathered. Sheriff Mansfield told his deputies to disperse the crowd. When the two ex-GIs smashed a big window and escaped, the crowd surged forward. The deputies, with guns drawn, formed a tight half-circle around the front of the polling place. One deputy, "his gun raised high...shouted: 'If you sons of bitches cross this street I'll kill you!'" (Byrum, p.165).

Mansfield took the ballot boxes to the jail for counting. The deputies seemed to fear immediate attack by the "people who had just liberated Europe and the South Pacific from two of the most powerful war machines in human history" (Byrum, pp. 168-69).

Short of firearms and ammunition, the GIs scoured the county to find them. By borrowing keys to the National Guard and State Guard armories, they got three M-1 rifles, five .45 semi-automatic pistols and 24 British Enfield rifles. The armories were nearly empty after the war's end. By 8 p.m. a group of GIs and "local boys" headed for the jail but left the back door unguarded to give the jail's defenders an easy way out.

Three GIs alerting passersby to danger were fired on from the jail. Two GIs were wounded. Other GIs returned fire.

Firing subsided after 30 minutes; ammunition ran low and night had fallen. Thick brick walls shielded those inside the jail. Absent radios, the GIs' rifle fire was uncoordinated. "From the hillside fire rose and fell in disorganized cascades. More than anything else, people were simply shooting at the jail" (Byrum, p.189).

Several who ventured into the street in front of the jail were wounded. One man inside the jail was badly hurt; he recovered. Most sheriff's deputies wanted to hunker down and await rescue. Governor McCord mobilized the State Guard, perhaps to scare the GIs into withdrawing. The State Guard never went to Athens. McCord may have feared that Guard units filled with ex-GIs might not fire on other ex-GIs.

At about 2 a.m. on August 2, the GIs forced the issue. Men from Meigs County threw dynamite sticks and damaged the jail's porch. The panicked deputies surrendered. GIs quickly secured the building. Paul Cantrell faded into the night, having almost been shot by a GI who knew him, but whose .45 pistol had jammed. Mansfield's deputies were kept overnight in jail for their own safety. Calm soon returned. The GIs posted guards. The rifles borrowed from the armory were cleaned and returned before sunup.

## THE AFTERMATH: RESTORING DEMOCRACY

In five precincts free of vote fraud, the GI candidate for sheriff, Knox Henry, won 1,168 votes to Cantrell's 789. Other GI candidates won by similar margins.

The GI's did not hate Cantrell. They only wanted honest government. On August 2, a town meeting set up a three-man governing committee. The regular police having fled, six men were chosen to police Etowah. In addition, "Individual citizens were called upon to form patrols or guard groups, often led by a GI... To their credit, however, there is not a single mention of an abuse of power on their behalf" (Byrum, p. 220).

Once the GI candidates' victory had been certified, they cleaned up county government, the jail was fixed, newly elected officials accepted a \$5,000 pay limit and Mansfield supporters who resigned were replaced.

The general election on November 5 passed quietly. McMinn County residents, having restored the rule of law, returned to their daily lives. Pat Mansfield moved back to Georgia. Paul Cantrell set up an auto dealership in Etowah. "Almost everyone who knew Cantrell in the years after the Battle' agree that he was not bitter about what had happened" (Byrum pp. 232-33; see also New York Times, 9 August 1946, p. 8).

The 79th Congress adjourned on August 2, 1946, when the Battle of Athens ended. However, Representative John Jennings Jr. from Tennessee decried McMinn County's sorry situation under Cantrell and Mansfield and the Justice Department's repeated failures to help the McMinn County residents. Jennings was delighted that "...at long last, decency and honesty, liberty and law have returned to the fine county of McMinn.. " (Congressional Record, House; U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1946; Appendix, Volume 92, Part 13, p. A4870).

## THE LESSONS OF ATHENS

Those who took up arms in Athens, Tennessee, wanted honest elections, a cornerstone of our constitutional order. They had repeatedly tried to get federal or state election monitors and had used armed force so as to minimize harm to the law-breakers, showing little malice to the defeated law-breakers. They restored lawful government.

The Battle of Athens clearly shows how Americans can and should lawfully use armed force and also shows why the rule of law requires unrestricted access to firearms and how civilians with military-type firearms can beat the forces of government gone bad.

Dictators believe that public order is more important than the rule of law. However, Americans reject this idea. Brutal political repression is lethal to many. An individual criminal can harm a handful of people. Governments alone can brutalize thousands, or millions.

Law-abiding McMinn County residents won the Battle of Athens because they were not hamstrung by "gun control " They showed us when citizens can and should use armed force to support the rule of law.

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# GUIDE TO SAFE SCOUTING REFERENCE MATERIALS.

## REFERENCE MATERIALS NOTE 1:

The Guide to Safe Scouting - Guns and Firearms Section VIII, provides, in part:

“2. All rifle shooting activities must be supervised by a currently NRA -certified Rifle Instructor and when on the range, must be supervised by a currently NRA-certified Range Safety Officer. 3. Shooting safety glasses and ear protection must be worn on rifle ranges.”

Application: Accordingly, since this rifle marksmanship event is a “shooting activity”, it will be supervised by a currently NRA-Certified Rifle Instructor. Further, the shooting range will be supervised by a currently NRA-Certified Range Safety Officer and a NRA-Certified Rifle Instructor will also be at the range.

## REFERENCE MATERIALS NOTE 2:

The Guide to Safe Scouting - Youth Protection and Leadership, Section I, provides, in part:

“3. Safety rule of four: No fewer than four individuals (always with the minimum of two adults) go on any backcountry expedition or campout. If an accident occurs, one person stays with the injured, and two go for help. Additional adult leadership requirements must reflect an awareness of such factors as size and skill level of the group, anticipated environmental conditions, and overall degree of challenge.”

Moreover, The Guide to Safe Scouting - Winter Activities, Section XIII, provides, in part:

“1. All winter activities must be supervised by mature and conscientious adults (at least one of whom must be age 21 or older) who understand and knowingly accept responsibility for the well-being and safety of the youth in their care, who are experienced and qualified in the particular skills and equipment involved in the activity, and who are committed to compliance with the seven points of BSA Winter Sports Safety. **Direct supervision should be maintained at all times by two or more adults when Scouts are "in the field."** The appropriate number of supervisors will increase depending on the number of participants, the type of activity, and environmental conditions.”(emphasis added).

Application: Accordingly, since this is a “backcountry expedition” and participants will be “in the field”, all Militia Teams will be accompanied by two adults, and each Militia team will

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have at least two youth participants. Most likely, due to logistics and the marksmanship range configuration (eight - 50 yard target sets), each Militia Teams will each have 4 youth participants, and will be accompanied by two adults throughout all aspects of this event.

### **REFERENCE MATERIALS NOTE 3:**

The Guide to Safe Scouting - Guns and Firearms Section VIII, provides, in part:

“Except for law enforcement officers required to carry firearms within their jurisdiction, firearms shall not be brought on camping, hiking, backpacking, or other Scouting activities except those specifically planned for target shooting under the supervision of a currently certified BSA or National Rifle Association firearms instructor.”

Application: Since this is an activity specifically planned for target shooting, under the supervision of a currently certified National Rifle Association firearms instructor, the general prohibition as to firearms doesn't apply to this event.

### **REFERENCE MATERIALS NOTE 4:**

Further, the Guide to Save Scouting - Winter Sports Safety, Section XIII provides, in part:

“Beyond camping, a number of cold-weather activities present challenges to the Scout and leader, such as cross-country skiing, ice skating, sledding, snowmobiling, ice fishing, and snowshoeing. Essential ingredients for fun include skill training and an awareness of the hazards unique to these activities. Snow conditions, hazardous terrain, special clothing needs, and emergency survival are important issues for a safe and successful experience.

Be sure your winter outdoor activity always follows these guidelines:

1. All winter activities must be supervised by mature and conscientious adults (at least one of whom must be age 21 or older) who understand and knowingly accept responsibility for the well-being and safety of the youth in their care, who are experienced and qualified in the particular skills and equipment involved in the activity, and who are committed to compliance with the seven points of BSA Winter Sports Safety. Direct supervision should be maintained at all times by two or more adults when Scouts are "in the field." The appropriate number of supervisors will increase depending on the number of participants, the type of activity, and environmental conditions.
2. Winter sports activities embody intrinsic hazards that vary from sport to sport.

Participants should be aware of the potential hazards of any winter sport before engaging in it. Leaders should emphasize preventing accidents through adherence to safety measures and proper technique.

3. Suitable clothing for the activity and environment should be worn at all times, and equipment should include gloves and helmets when appropriate.

4. Winter sports activities often place greater demands on a participant's cardiopulmonary system, and people with underlying medical conditions (especially if the heart or lungs are involved) should not participate without medical consultation and direction. For participants without underlying medical conditions, the annual health history and physical examination by a licensed health-care practitioner every three years are sufficient. The adult leader should be familiar with the physical circumstances of each youth participant and make appropriate adjustments in the activity or protection as warranted by individual health or physical conditions. Adults participating in strenuous outdoor winter activity should have an annual physical examination. It is recommended that the medical assessment be performed by a licensed health-care practitioner knowledgeable of the sport and the particular physical demands the activity will place on the individual.

5. For winter sports such as skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling, etc. that utilize specialized equipment, it is essential that all equipment fit and function properly.

6. When youth are engaging in downhill activities such as sledding or tobogganing, minimize the likelihood of collision with immobile obstacles. Use only designated areas where rocks, tree stumps, and other potential obstacles have been identified and marked, cleared away, shielded, or buffered in some way.

7. All participants should know, understand, and respect the rules and procedures for safe winter activity. The applicable rules should be presented and learned before the outing, and all participants should review them just before the activity begins. When Scouts know and understand the reasons for the rules, they will observe them. When fairly and impartially applied, rules do not interfere with fun. Rules for safety, plus common sense and good judgment, keep the fun from being interrupted by tragedy.” - END.

**END OF GUIDE TO SAFE SCOUTING REFERENCE MATERIALS.**

## Revolutionary War Flags



“This image is of a curving snake cut into pieces, each of which bears the abbreviated name of one of the 13 original colonies. The title, Join, or Die, and its alternate caption, Unite or Die, is an admonition to join together in order to survive, first, a foreign power on the frontier, but, later, Britain’s tyrannical behavior toward her colonies. This image was published in the May 9, 1754 issue of Franklin’s paper, The Pennsylvania Gazette.” (source of image and explanation: <http://www.gadsdenandculpeper.com/joinordieflag.html> )



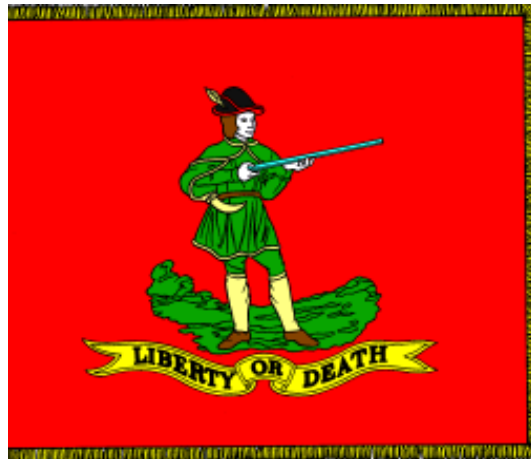
### **Revolutionary Battle Flag**

Like this one, many battle flags of the American Revolution carried religious inscriptions. "Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God". Gostelowe Standard No. 10, c. 1776

Watercolor once in possession of Edward W. Richardson. Copyprint

Courtesy of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution and Its Color Guard (91)

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**Hanover Associators**

They resolved: 'that in the event of Great Britain attempting to force unjust laws upon us by strength of arms, our cause we leave to Heaven and our rifles.'

Source: "Flags to Color from the American Revolution."

This flag belongs to the Hanover Associators, and is on page 17. The colors are listed as "Red field and trim on cap; yellow fringe and scroll; black lettering and cap; green ground and uniform with cream legs, trim, feather and powder horn; brown belt and light blue rifle barrel."

"The Hanover Association of volunteers was formed on June 4, 1774, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. They resolved 'that in the event of Great Britain attempting to force unjust laws upon us by strength of arms, our cause we leave to Heaven and our rifles.' The rifleman on the flag shows this point. This flag no longer exists, and the authority for it is an ancient engraving in the Pennsylvania State Archives." Randy Young, 1 February 2001 (Source of above: <http://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/us-pa%5Er.html#lthorse> ).

**WINTER 2009**

**MINUTEMAN MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS SNOWSHOE PATROL**

**Parental / Legal Guardian Firearm Authorization Form**

**(For Youth under 18 years Old) TO REVISE THIS FORM**

Youth Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

As the Parent of, or Legal Guardian of, the above name Youth, I hereby give my written consent and permission for said Youth, while he/she is attending the 2008 Minuteman Cross Country Biathlon on August 30, 2008, and under the supervision of the Event Advisor, Crew Advisor, Scoutmaster, NRA Instructor(s), Range Safety Officer(s), and/or Consultant(s) to:

- 1. use firearms (including, but not limited to: rifles, shotguns, muzzleloaders, handguns, pistols, and revolvers), including those provided by the Event Advisor, Crew Advisor, NRA Instructor(s), Range Safety Officer(s), and /or Consultant(s); and to
- 2. possess live ammunition.

I further agree that the above named Youth is to comply with the following rules concerning transportation of firearms to and from authorized shooting activities; check in procedures; check out procedures; and removal of firearms from containers while at such shooting activities:

- 1. Firearms must be unloaded while being transported.
- 2. Rifles, shotguns and muzzleloaders must be transported to and from shooting activities in a gun case, and must be secured by a lock within the gun case in the event such case is not capable of being locked from the outside.
- 3. Handguns, pistols, and revolvers must be transported to and from shooting activities in a locked container.
- 4. Ammunition must be transported in a separate container from the firearm.
- 5. Upon arrival at a shooting activity, any youth bringing a firearm, must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult who is over the age of 18, and both must check in with the NRA Instructor or Range Safety Officer upon arrival. Upon leaving a shooting activity with a firearm brought by the youth, any youth must first check out with the NRA Instructor or Range Safety Officer, and must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult over the age of 18 before leaving with any firearm.
- 6. No firearms are to be removed from their cases and/or locked containers without prior instruction from the NRA Instructor or Range Safety Officer.

Parent / Legal Guardian Youth Crew Member / Troop Member

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print) (Please print)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Version: 8/14/08

*Your Unalienable Individual Right to Keep and Bear Arms  
is the safeguard against government tyranny and oppression*

# WINTER 2009 REGISTRATION FORM **TO REVISE THIS FORM**

## MINUTEMAN MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS SNOWSHOE PATROL

Instructions: Complete all Information Requested / Return Registration Form with Fees to address below / Each Unit Must File a Local Tour Permit

Crew # / Troop # \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Unit Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

List Names of All Participants. . Make a Duplicate Copy for Unit's Records Registration. Fees are Nonrefundable, but are Transferable within the Unit.

1)	Youth Names	Age	Gender	2)	Youth Names	Age	Gender
			M-F				M - F
1)	_____	_____	_____	5)	_____	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____	_____	6)	_____	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____	_____	7)	_____	_____	_____
4)	_____	_____	_____	8)	_____	_____	_____

### LIST ADDITIONAL NAMES ON REVERSE SIDE OR USE EXTRA SHEET

ADULTS: BSA National Health & Safety Standards require a minimum of two adults to be present at all Times.

1)	Adult Names	Day Telephone #	Gender (M - F)
1)	_____	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____	_____

*All Participants must provide a copy of your NRA Certificate for participation in an NRA Rifle First Steps or NRA Basic Rifle Course. NO EXCEPTIONS.. The NRA Rifle First Steps course will NOT be provided at this event.*

# Youths Registration Fee Mountain Patrol \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 6.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

#### Adult Registration

# Adults Registration Fee Mountain Patrol \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 6.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
=====

### TIME: Mountain Patrol Check in **OPEN** . No refunds unless event is cancelled

Registration and fees must be received by **OPEN** (5:00 P.M.), unless other arrangements have been made. Drop off Registration and payment: Mail to P.O. Box 120, Shingletown, CA 96088- Attention: Crew 40. \*Adults will shoot only if space is available. Priority is given to youth participants. \*\*\*Registration must be received by **OPEN, 2009\*\*\* Make checks payable to: Crew 40. Please call Nathan Zeliff 530-474-3267.**

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Media Release and Waiver **TO REVISE THIS FORM**

I. I hereby consent to being photographed/videotaped while taking part in or being present at the 2008 Minuteman Cross Country Biathlon and all related events , and grant BSA Troop 40, Venturing Crew 40, and Lassen Sharpshooters the right to use, publish, distribute, exhibit, advertise and copyright my name, picture, portrait, likeness, voice, on and off camera interviews, and any other material provided by me in all audio and/or visual media, now known or hereafter devised, throughout the universe in perpetuity, concerning my participation in the Summer 2008 Minuteman Cross Country Run and related events taking place on August 30, 2008.

I am appearing at no charge, and agree that BSA Troop 40, Venturing Crew 40, and Lassen Sharpshooters and subcontractors are under no obligation to compensate me in any way for my appearance. I represent and warrant that any statements made by me while being photographed/videotaped are true and to the best of my knowledge.

II. I agree that no material need be submitted to me for any further approval and BSA Troop 40, Venturing Crew 40, and Lassen Sharpshooters shall be without liability or obligation whatsoever to me for any creative use of the publication or exhibition of my picture, voice, statements, portrait or likeness.

III. I warrant and represent that this license does not in any way conflict with any existing commitment on my part.

IV. Nothing herein will constitute any obligation on BSA Troop 40, Venturing Crew 40, and Lassen Sharpshooters to make any use of any of the rights set forth herein.

This consent and grant of rights is irrevocable so that BSA Troop 40, Venturing Crew 40, and Lassen Sharpshooters may proceed in reliance thereon.

_____	_____
Name	Address
_____	_____
Phone	City, State, Zip
	_____
	Location

CONSENT OF PARENT OF GUARDIAN

I, the undersigned, hereby warrant that I am the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ a minor, and have full authority to authorize the above Release which I have read and approved. I hereby release and agree to indemnify BSA Troop 40, Venturing Crew 40, and Lassen Sharpshooters from and against any and all liability arising out to the exercise of the rights granted by the above Release.

_____	_____
Signature	Name (Print)

END

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