



The Lexington Minute Men, Inc.

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Media Release

Reenactment of the Battle of Lexington

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Lexington, MA (March 1, 2024) --- To commemorate the 249th Anniversary of the first day of the American Revolutionary War, the Lexington Minute Men and local British Revolutionary War re-enactors, depict the skirmish that took place on Lexington Common, early on the morning of April 19, 1775. Witness the tensions mount, as the local militia company from Lexington confronts the King's Regulars, and the ensuing skirmish that follows; the "shot heard 'round the world." The re-enactment of the "Battle of Lexington" is on Patriots' Day – April 15, 2024 starting at 5:30 am on the Lexington Common.

New this year, starting at 5:15 am, the Lexington Minute Men have partnered with the Ladies Association of Revolutionary America (LARA) to bring to light the impact of April 19th on the whole community with a dramatic reenactment of the Civilian Evacuation. On hearing that a patrol of the British Regular Army was approaching the town, the women and children as well as some men of Lexington left their homes seeking safer places to wait when the British column marched through town.

"This is a great opportunity to witness our common heritage as Americans" says Jamie Lee, Captain Commanding of the Lexington Minute Men. "Spectators begin to arrive at Lexington Common as early as 3:30 in the morning in order to get a prime spot for the events that begin with the alarm bell sounding in the Old Belfry at 5:30 am. According to Henry Liu, Past Captain Commanding, "There are usually 8–10,000 spectators lining the Lexington Common to watch the Lexington Minute Men and their families portray the colonists, and more than 100 British portray His Majesty's Regulars (known to many as the "Red Coats") of 1775.

The Battle of Lexington is re-enacted each year on the Massachusetts holiday known as Patriots' Day. Commemorating April 19, 1775, the day in American history when the smoldering discontent in the colonies under Parliament's rule, flared into open hostilities. The battle began with a quick skirmish at Lexington Common and expanded into a day long series of fights along a stretch of country road involving over 3,500 provincial militia men, and over 2,100 of His Majesty's Regulars. This was the beginning day of the American Revolutionary War. The initial fighting in the war was a local action between Britain and her recalcitrant colony of Massachusetts. This skirmish led to fighting throughout the original 13 colonies, expanded into Canada, and ultimately into an international war, culminating in American Independence. "The 'Shot that was heard around the world' and the road to American Independence started on the Lexington Common" according to

Henry Liu.

The re-enactment of the “Battle of Lexington” is just one event in which the Lexington Minute Men will participate on Patriots’ Day – April 15, 2024. The Battle at Lexington starts at 5:30 am. The Minute Men also participate in the Lexington Sunrise Youth Parade at 7:30 am, additional ceremonies near the Common at 8:15 am and 10:15 am and the Lexington Patriots’ Day Parade at 2 pm.

The Lexington Minute Men is a civic reenactment organization dedicated to honoring all the brave Patriots who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our Nation's freedom. The Lexington Minute Men have a long and proud history, from the militia that fought on the Common in 1775, to providing men to fight throughout the American Revolution. The Lexington Minute Men gained attention again during the Centennial Celebration of 1875, when President Ulysses S. Grant saluted the 77 men who stood on the Common. In the past 125 years, the Lexington Minute Men have been involved in a number of ceremonial, educational, and civic functions. During the Bicentennial, the Lexington Minute Men served as honor guards for President Gerald Ford and Queen Elizabeth. The Lexington Minute Men are under the command of Captain Jamie Lee.

For more information about the Lexington Minute Men, please visit <https://www.lexingtonminutemen.com/>.

Press Notes: Media access to the reenactment of the Battle of Lexington is coordinated by Lexington Minute Men. Advanced Credentialing deadline is April 1, 2024 at Noon. Details can be found at <https://www.lexingtonminutemen.com>. Inquiries should be made to media@lexingtonminutemen.com. The rain date for events is Saturday, April 20, 2024.

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