



The Stow Minutemen Company

P.O. Box 174
Stow MA 01775

PLEASE JOIN THE STOW MINUTEMEN COMPANY ON OUR ANNUAL PATRIOT'S DAY TRAIL MARCH FROM STOW TO CONCORD

Date: Monday April 16, 2018

Why we do this: **It is a LOT of Fun...** why else would someone get up at 3:30 AM or 4 AM? The Stow Minutemen did this back in 1775; we follow parts of the route that they would have taken. On the night of April 18, 1775, General Gage sent out a force of troops to seize military stores in Concord, some of which had already been moved to Stow and other nearby towns for safety. Forewarned by a local doctor, Samuel Prescott, Stow dispatched at least one company of Minutemen to Concord during the day of April 19, perhaps leaving the rest behind to guard the munitions from Concord. Although not certain, it is believed that men of the Stow militia engaged the British line retreating not far from Meriam's Corner, where local tradition is that Daniel Conant of Stow was wounded. Records indicate that men from Stow were along the historic battle road, harassing the retreating redcoats as far as Cambridge.

Description: The march starts in the predawn, the air is cool and quiet and lanterns light our way. Not for long - the sounds of the fifes and drums and the firing of the muskets awaken the townsfolk along our route and the sun slowly rises as we make our way into Maynard. Through Acton and across the Concord Rotary, we finally arrive at the Old North Bridge in Minuteman National Park a little before 9 am. The Company joins up with the Parade coming out of Concord and marches with it back through Concord Center to the Armory (Hunt's Gym) on Stow St. Everyone who has joined us for the Trail March is welcome to stay and watch the reenactment of the battle at North Bridge and the Concord Parade.

Meet at: Papa Gino's in Stow at 4:15 AM. We depart on the march PROMPTLY at 4:30 AM. You may also join us anywhere along our route. Check stowminutemen.org for the schedule.

Finish:

Old North Bridge in Minuteman National Park. **Length of walk:** The march to North Bridge is approximately 9.5 miles. We take three five minute breaks and a longer breakfast stop during the march and arrive in Concord just before 9:00 AM.

Rest facilities: Porta-potties are provided at the mid-way rest break at Cucurbit Farms in Concord as well as at Rideout Playground where we stop for breakfast. There are restrooms at Minuteman National Park.

Water and Food: Bring water, snacks and food. Breakfast is served at the mid-way rest-break but if there are lots of marchers there might not be enough food for everyone.

Travel back: The Minutemen will take a bus back to Stow from the Armory (Hunt's Gym on Stow St) and others may ride if space allows. Call us by Sunday April 15 to see if there is space on the bus for the return trip: 978-206-1775 or e-mail us at info@stowminutemen.org.

Bus leaves around 11:45. **Parental supervision:** Children **MUST** be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

