



The Friends & Neighbors of Putnam Memorial State Park

"Connecticut's Valley Forge"



Bethel/Redding CT

April 2011 NewsLetter

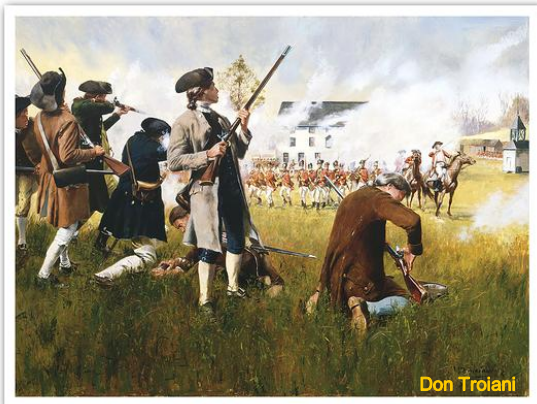
Important Aprils To Our Region

The month of April has had a profound impact on our area over the years. The American Revolution began at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts on April 19th, 1775. Thousands of Connecticut men enlisted immediately to fight against one of the largest armies in the world. In addition, tradesmen like wheelwrights, blacksmiths, and artificers signed up to keep the supplies going. Waggoner's, teamsters, and commissaries kept the supplies moving. Connecticut earned the nickname "Provision State" due to the tons of supplies shipped to the American army.

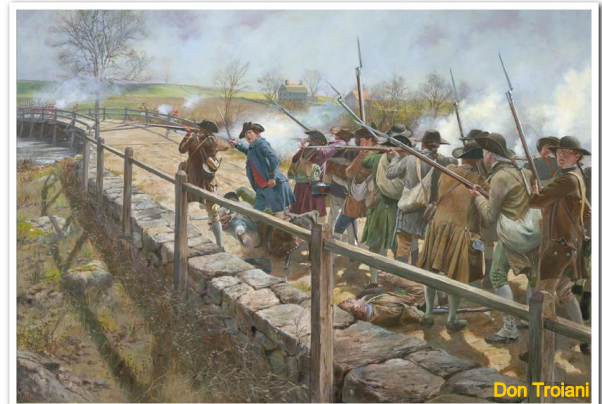
During April of 1777, British Gen. Wm. Tryon landed a 2,000 troop force at Compo Beach in today's Westport, to march to Danbury to destroy the army supply depot. The supplies were destroyed and many homes and barns torched. Tryon had a hatred for the Americans. After destroying Danbury, the redcoats went on to Ridgefield where several heated skirmishes took place. This enemy incursion was a primary reason that troops were stationed in Redding the following year.

Lastly, it was on April 12, 1861 when the Union fort at Charleston, SC was bombarded by a breakaway organization called the Confederate States of American. This started the biggest and bloodiest war in our country's history ... unsurpassed even today.

Lexington & Concord 19 April, 1775



Stand Your Ground - First Face to face with the regulars



Concord Bridge the Nineteenth of April of 1775



Minuteman statue on today's Battle Green



'Battle Road' - Militia battling against the British on their retreat back to Boston