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17th Annual Pomme de Terre Rendezvous

Kansas City, MO -- The 17th annual Pomme de Terre Rendezvous will be held May 3rd and 4th, below the dam at Lake Pomme de Terre. Pomme de Terre dam is located 4 miles south of Hermitage, Mo. on Highway 254.

Attractions will include a mountain man and trader encampment; black-powder shooting, knife and tomahawk throwing competition; antique machinery displays and demonstrations; antique craft demonstrations; and handmade craft sales.

Sunday morning church services will be conducted by an authentically attired circuit riding preacher. The event will be officially opened with a parade and flag raising ceremonies at 9 AM on Saturday, May 3rd.

Special Events this year will include:

The French Colonial Artillery, a historically authentic elite troop (of the late 1750's) that served as Grenadiers, bombardiers and cannoneers. A detachment of these troops was assigned to train new artillery crews and traveled from fort to fort to achieve this goal. They will be demonstrating their skills and periodically firing a cannon and mortars.

The Missouri Department of Conservation's Dugout Canoe Crew will bring their conservation message from our past to our present, and into the future using actual department made dugout canoes. The crew will use the Lewis and Clark period of 1803-1806 to look at changes over the past 200 years to our fish, forest and wildlife resources. The crew has completed two 3,000 pound working dugout canoes, one 27 feet long and the other 35 feet long, that have been hewed from cottonwood trees. These dugouts are similar to the canoes used by the explorers and trappers of 200 years ago that passed through what is now Missouri. At the Rendezvous the crew will display one of the completed canoes as well as another that is under construction. The crew will be actively working on this log with period tools to show the public the process of turning a tree into a canoe.

Musical entertainment on two stages, square and line dancing demonstrations, and great food round out the weekend's activities. Admission is \$1 for adults. Ages 12 and under will be admitted free.

Additional information can be obtained by writing the Pomme de Terre Rendezvous, P.O. Box 442, Hermitage, MO 65668 or by E-mailing – james.j.davis@usace.army.mil.

More information is also available at

http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/pommedeterre/pomme_home.htm