



ZOAR CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT “BATTLE ON THE OHIO-ERIE CANAL” September 19-20, 2009

The 6th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, 51st Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment and the Zoar Community Association are proud to invite your noble unit to the fourth biennial “Battle on the Ohio-Erie Canal” to take place in Zoar, Ohio on September 19-20, 2009. The 6th Ohio has been the host unit for the biennial Reenactment at Mesopotamia since 1992 and brings you the event at Zoar to take place on the opposite years. If you attended “Mespo” in the past, or have heard about it from others, then you know what to expect.

Zoar is right off US Route 77 halfway between Canton and New Philadelphia, Ohio. Zoar is an historic town that sits behind a large levy shielding it from the Tuscarawas River and the Ohio-Erie Canal. There are many bed and breakfasts, restaurants, antique shops and an authentic 19th century tavern.

This is not even the best part. We have access to 3 miles of river frontage just for the battle scenarios and tactical. The possibilities are endless. The Ohio-Erie Canal Tow Path Trail leads right into the battlefield giving us another 13 miles of interesting infantry marches and mounted cavalry rides. There is a 4 foot tall stone levy that runs along one bank of the river and a series of old abandoned locks. There is also a foundation from an old saw mill that sits along the river bank made of cut sandstone. There are woods, hills and valleys, wild overgrown brush (wilderness-like), an artery of cut trails, a 10 acre lake, swamps, open fields, a recently restored period bridge, and a couple of places where you can actually ford the river.

Since the site is located in the Tuscarawas River flood plain, there are no 21st century intrusions. You cannot even see a modern structure. A number of historic movies and documentaries have been filmed here because of its pristine appearance. We are very privileged to have the permission of the Zoar Community Association, Ohio Historical Society, Army Corp of Engineers, Muskingum Watershed, Tuscarawas County, and of course, the local land-owners to use the property. With their cooperation, we have pieced together one of the largest and most authentic sites we have ever seen.

To cap it off (literally), the earthen levy, about 30 feet high on a slight grade fronts the main battlefield and provides the crowd with a stadium-like view. All we have to do is build loges.

If this does not wet your appetite some, remember that reenactors like yourself will be involved in planning and running the event and that **ALL** proceeds will benefit historical preservation. We hope you consider joining us. You may contact Darrell Markijohn at (330) 492-7107 (dmarkijohn@sbcglobal.net), or Mark Gaynor at (330) 874-1817 (mark@indianrivergraphics.com).