

THE MESSENGER

The Newsletter of the Fifth Missouri Infantry (CSA), Inc.

Vol. 6, No.4

April 1995

BULLETIN! URGENT NEWS FROM THE FRONT! THUNDER OF WAR IN THE OZARKS!

It has been reported that Union forces have been closing in on our army in the Ozarks. It has come to the attention of the editor that the Lincolnite horde has been unleashed to again run lose in the hills and plains of Southwestern Missouri and Northwestern Arkansas. Did the Battle of Tall Oaks also referred to as Wilson's Creek, mean nothing to our misguided brethren in blue? Was not a sound defeat south of Springfield and the death of their General Lyon lesson enough? Apparently not.

Patriotic individuals have reported that the Union Army of the West is on the march towards the forces of General Price. If nothing changes it appears that there will soon be a clash somewhere in northwestern Arkansas.

Our loyal forces call upon all who are either home on leave or who have yet not answered the roll of the drum and the cries for liberty to join with the army in the field. Forces from Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, the Indian Territories and Missouri are gathering to again inflict the pain of defeat upon the enemies of our liberty.

Leave your hearths, fields and families to fight these who will take what is rightfully ours. If your freedom as Missourians is important to you, if the future of your family is important, then come join as we are again forced to take up arms to protect our freedom and liberty as free men of the soil, free men of the great state of Missouri!



EVENT REPORT: FT. BLAKELEY, ALABAMA

A disappointingly small turnout of registered members (less than half) answered the long roll April 8th & 9th to do honor to the men we purport to represent. Those who participated experienced a little of the good, the bad, and the ugly during this first event of the new campaign season.

First the good. Not often in this hobby will you enjoy the opportunity to recreate events involving our adopted unit on the very same spot and on the precise anniversary of those events.

Upon first look at the preserved remains of Redoubt #4, it's easy to see why one officer in the 1st-3rd Cavalry (dismounted) called it "the best works we ever fought behind." We were able to camp in and behind these impressive fortifications, and were assigned to defend a stretch of trench within yards of where the 3rd-5th was stationed 130 years ago. The weather was delightful, and the crowds large and eager to learn about the true role of Missourians during the conflict. Other highlights for this writer were the "almost like being there" experiences associated with the Saturday morning tactical. It proved to be an eye-opening experience for those not familiar with the command ability of Col. W.G. Rambo, who's battalion galvanized as federals and whipped Col. Beck at every turn.

Now the bad. It was somewhat of a disappointment to have only ten military and one civilian attend this rare event — especially in light of the fact that more than twice that many committed to go. As a result of the unexpected shortfall in numbers (only three notified the 1st SGT. they could not make it) we often found ourselves so understrength that all we could do was hold the trenches while the battalion sortied. Even with the addition of 4 men from the 32nd Alabama we were the smallest company on the field. For the grand assault on Sunday afternoon, we counted one officer and six men among us. We were also somewhat dismayed to see the published campaign-style camping requirement universally ignored.

Finally, the ugly. We have seen an alarming increase in unsafe behavior in the field over the past year. In the past we've often placed the blame on others. After this event we must look at ourselves. Both the MCWRA and our unit have maximum load restrictions for revolvers. Elephant loads serve no purpose but to gratify the ego of the person discharging his "hand cannon", and at Blakeley may have contributed to the escalation of an incident that might otherwise have been overlooked. The fixing of bayonets, the use of other edged weapons, and the ramming of charges during opposing fire are other acts universally considered to be unsafe except in specific, controlled circumstances. We must see to it that those who know better — and those who don't — do not besmirch the good name of this company by violating published safety standards. Before participating in the field this year, all will be required to sign a statement attesting to their familiarity with 5th Missouri and MCWRA safety guidelines.

Songs of Our Second Revolution

This begins a new ongoing column courtesy of member John Crammer. Music was an important aspect of life for the men and women who lived through the great conflict of the War Between the States. The following song was sung to the air "Red White & Blue" (also the tune of the song "Land of King Cotton").

A New Red, White and Blue

Written for a Lady by Jeff Thompson

Missouri is the pride of the Nation,	The stars shall shine bright in the heaven,
The hope of the brave and the free;	But the stripes should be trailed in the dust;
The Confederacy will supply the rations,	For they are no longer the sign of the haven,
But the fighting is trusted to thee;	Of the brave, of the free, or the just;
For, brave boys, your soil has been noted,	The Bars now in triumph shall wave,
And your flag has been trusted to you;	O'er the land of the faithful and true;
For freedom you have not voted,	O'er the home of the Southern brave,
But you fight for the Red White and Blue.	Shall float the new Red, White and Blue.

Chorus - Three cheers for our army so true,
Three cheers for Price, Johnson and Lee;
Beauregard and our Davis forever,
The pride of the brave and the free!

Chorus - Three cheers for our army so true,
Three cheers for Price, Johnson and Lee;
Beauregard and our Davis forever,
The pride of the brave and the free!

John said that for those who wish, he has a tape of these songs sung accapella. He will make a copy just send him a blank cassette tape.

THE TRUE ACCOUNT OF AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE FIFTH

From the Diary of William Ruyle

The Battle of Corinth (Oct. 3rd) cont.....

At last General Green was reinforced and drove the enemy back. It was here Gen. Green's Brigade suffered their greatest loss, they were in an open field with a shower of shell, cannister and musketry all the time. In the meanwhile we were lying on their left in an open field and it seemed that all the balls just passed over us. The weed's were about four feet high and when I would look up I could see the bullets cutting the tops of the weeds over us constantly. This time I think I got closer to the ground than I ever did before and I think the others can say the same. If we had been 10 feet forward on the top of the hill I don't think any of us would have escaped. Some of the Companies, in the Regiment who were higher up, suffered greatly. We were again ordered forward to the Mobile and Ohio railroad. Here we lay on our arms all night, without blankets and coats and almost without rations, occasionally shooting at the Feds and getting water out of the mud holes on the otherside of the railroad. This was the only water we had to drink, just then.

About an hour before day the Feds opened their batteries upon us, some were large pieces, and the continued roar of cannonading was kept up until the charge was made about 9:00. The Feds had a line of skirmishers in our front in a good position, who would shoot our men whenever they would poke their heads above the railroad. In this way they killed and wounded some of our best Officers and soldiers who were anxious to get a shot at them. Samuel Lane, a Sgt. of our company was hit, by a spent ball, in the forehead but the wound proved to be slight and he was well soon.

At about 9:00 we were ordered to charge their inside fortifications near Corinth about a quarter mile from the railroad. This we promptly did, driving back a strong line between us and the breastwork, yelling and hollering. We charged their breastwork and drove them admist a shower of Cannon balls, and musketry which was poured upon us from the front, right and left. This was because our forces on the right and left didn't come up promptly on time. We remained in their breastworks, fighting to hold our position and receiving the crossfire of the Feds for more than a half hour.

We had possession of a large number of cannons which they had deserted. This was one of the bloodiest places I ever saw. On all sides of me I could see both the enemy and our own men lying killed and wounded, shot in almost every way you could think of, groaning and dying in the bleaching sun in the dust which was about six inches deep. Every second it seemed I could see some comrade fall dead or wounded.

At last giving up all hope of getting reinforcements, meantime the enemy had received reinforcements and had rallied again, we were bound to fall back and give up all we had gained, this we did in considerable disorder in spite of our officers. This was Oct. 4th, 1862. The battle of Corinth, Mississippi was one of the bloodiest affairs of the war.



DETAILS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

PEA RIDGE: 5TH MO MAX EFFORT. (5/5-7)

We registered a total of 35 Military & 11 Civilians. Some have yet to pay the \$5 fee. (See the commitment list in the last issue). The Site is four miles northeast of Pea Ridge National Military Park. Two possible routes are by U.S. 71 South to Bentonville/Rogers then east on U.S. 62 or MO 37 South from Monett then west on U.S. 62. There will be both tented and campaign-style camping. Bring your "A" tent if you'd like. We'll set up a fixed camp and then follow the Battalion's lead once the event begins. At this point we're still assuming we'll have to galvanize for one scenario. Otherwise, your required impression is Missouri State Guard. Those who wish will be able to march 4 miles to the Park, camp on the actual battlefield Friday night, then march back to the site for Saturday's battle. There are three battle scenarios scheduled: Cross Timbers Friday at 5pm, Leetown Saturday at Noon, and Elkhorn Sunday at Noon. There is also a full slate of civilian activities, including a seminar on life in the civilian camp Saturday morning, a tea with a talk on fabrics & another talk on etiquette Saturday evening, and a barn dance Saturday night. Northwest Arkansas is literally CRAWLING with ticks, so dowse yourself liberally with a DEET-containing repellent.

MAYSVILLE: (5/27-28) This will be a fun little event to commemorate DeKalb County Sesquicentennial. Activities include a secession rally, parade, skirmishes, and possibly a tactical in a wooded area. Response from yanks has been characteristically light, so bring the Blue Suit. Sponsored by the 3rd MO. They are hoping for support from the 5th, 6th & 2nd MO. Maysville is on MO 33, northwest of Cameron. Site is west and south of town. Watch for signs. Get commitments to 1st Sgt. NOW.

COLUMBIA: (6/10-11) This is our annual Living History at the Maplewood Mansion in Nifong Park. It's located on U.S. 63 just south of town, adjacent to the Boone County Historical Society museum. Take the AC exit. Parks & Rec plans on a skirmish each

day, a period church service, and entertainment Saturday evening. Food for 4 meals is provided. The 1st Sgt. will register you through the company, if you'll get your commitment to him PRIOR TO JUNE 1ST.

THE LAST SURRENDER (Watie's Retreat):

(6/23-25) Anyone serious about experiencing a real campaign-style event should contact the 1st Sergeant as soon as possible for a registration form/release. There is a \$25 fee to offset the costs of this unique event, which will include two days of marching/fighting 6 miles each day, and a third day of 2 1/2 miles. A 12-mile train ride back to the surrender ceremony on Sunday will conclude the event. Authentic rations provided (3 days marching rations issued on Friday morning).

COLE YOUNGER DAYS: (6/23-25)

(Optional — new addition to schedule on same date as Watie's Retreat) A Guerrilla affair at the Lees Summit ATT Building. Includes Saturday morning parade. Jerry & Cindy Lee have details — overview at Spring Drill.

JEFFERSON CITY CEMETERY WALK: (7/2)

Second annual event at Woodland and Old City Cemetery beginning at 1pm. Living history and recruiting booth. Contact Sgt. Faught if you can participate.

FULTON: 5TH MO MAX EFFORT. (7/15-16)

Preregistration must be in by JUNE 1. Site is a 71 acre wooded area 7 miles east of Fulton, near Calwood, Mo. Saturday's scenario is a "what if" battle between Confederate and Federal forces based on the "Kingdom of Callaway" treaty legend. Sunday's action is the Battle of Moore's Mill. Uniform guidelines are regular Confederate for Saturday and Civilian or Guerrilla for Sunday. Be prepared to galvanize. Complete schedule and details in June Messenger. Sponsored by the 6th Missouri.



Profiles of Our Commanders

General Earl Van Dorn (1820 - 1863)

Earl Van Dorn was one of the Confederacy's most promising general officers early in the Civil War. A native of Mississippi and a West Point graduate he had all of the likely skills to become one of the South's finest, but his interests in another man's wife spelled his doom, dying at the hands of a jealous husband. Following his graduation from West Point, he was posted to the infantry where he won two brevets in the Mexican War for bravery, wounded in the assaults on Mexico City. Transferring to the cavalry in 1855, he was wounded fighting Indians near Wichita Village, Indian Territory.

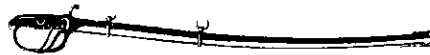
Resigning his commission from the second cavalry on January 31, 1861, he offered his sword to his home state of Mississippi. He was made a Brigadier General on the same day he left the old army. Perhaps few other generals served in a greater variety of regional postings as did Van Dorn. In 1861 alone he served in Mississippi, the Department of Texas, and the Potomac District - Army of Northern Virginia. His last command was over a division of the Army of Tennessee (February 25 - May 7, 1863).

Early in the war while he commanded in Texas, he seized U.S. property and received the surrender of regular army forces. Following this he was promoted to brigadier and major general CSA and was ordered east to command a division near Manassas, Virginia. Early in 1862 he was ordered back west to command in Arkansas in order to smooth things out between Price and McCulloch. This cooperation was crucial in launching an attack against the Union forces at Pea Ridge/Elk Horn Tavern. The confederate forces were repulsed after two days of fighting.

Ordered east of the Mississippi, he arrived too late to take part in Shiloh, but he participated in the unsuccessful defense of Corinth, Mississippi. In the summer of 1862 he successfully defended Vicksburg but failed in his designs on Baton Rouge when the attack failed under John C. Breckinridge. Another failure occurred when he attempted to retake Corinth in October 1862. By this time many Southerners were disenchanted with General Van Dorn, but he was still seen as an important military leader and therefore he was given command of the mounted troops under Pemberton.

His raid on Holly Springs, Mississippi, was a major factor in ending Grant's campaign in central Mississippi. Moving his division into middle Tennessee, he was killed on May 7, 1863, by Dr. George B. Peters for attentions paid by the general upon the physician's wife in Spring Hill.

(Hartje, Robert G., Van Dorn, The Life and Times of a Confederate General)



A New Member Joins Our Ranks

Our New Recruit is Michael Heidgerken, I have been told that he is Jerry's brother. Some of us are wondering if Michael will be as fun as Jerry in camp? Here is Michael's Address and Phone number:

HC I, Box 549 A
Lampe, MO 65681
(417) 779-5076



Paid Membership of The Fifth Missouri

as of 4/13/95



COMBATANTS	SPONSOR	RANK	MEMB	ADDRESS	PHONE
7 Ballman, George		PVT	IND	105 Fairview Dr. Warrensburg, MO 64093	(816) 747-9510
134 Biggs, Everett	Durrill	recruit	FAM		
55 Block, Neil		CPL	IND	400 N. Main, Huntsville, MO 65259	(816) 277-3111
136 Brown, Richard	Lee	recruit	FAM	P.O. Box 2082 Sedalia, MO 65302	(816) 826-4912
37 Chastain, Kent		PVT	FAM	11448 W. Dixie Ln, Republic, MO 65738	(417) 732-8831
143 Cramer, John	Faught	recruit	IND	2128-B Clara Dr. Jefferson City, MO 65101	(314) 761-3558
133 Crane, Chris	Robertson	recruit	FAM	1742 S. Sonora Dr. Columbia, MO 65201	(314) 443-3423
132 Crane, Clinton		PVT	IND	2008 Arlene Dr. Columbia, MO 65203	(314) 446-2621
24 Daleen, Keith		PVT	IND	Rt. 2 Box 54C Sedalia, MO 65301	(816) 826-1549
47 Davis, Nick		1LT	IND	2300 Hollyhock Ct. Columbia, MO 65202	(314) 445-1229
138 Dietzel, Larry		PVT	FAM	920 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO 65203	(314) 449-6443
65 Dressel, Gene		PVT	IND	RT. 1 Box 48R, Jonesburg, MO 63351	(314) 488-3344
52 Durrill, John		CPL	IND	619 W. 7th, Sedalia, MO 65301	(816) 826-5819
46 Faught, Dennis		1SGT	IND	P.O. Box 1265 Jefferson City, MO 65102	(314) 636-8336
75 Ford, Kent		PVT	IND	3205 Bray Ave. Columbia, MO 65203	(314) 445-0632
128 Frank, Doug		PVT	IND	RR2, Box 114B Linn, MO 65051	(314) 744-5282
64 Gilger, John		PVT	FAM	Box 422AB Warsaw, MO 65355	(816) 438-3398
56 Hafley, Sam		2SGT	FAM	HCR 2, Box 150 Belle, MO 65013	(314) 859-6948
137 Hamilton, Mike		PVT	IND	608 E. Valley, Cole Camp, MO 65325	(816) 668-4524
88 Heidgerken, Jerry	Yoakum	recruit	IND	768 Olympic Circle, Ocoee, FL 34761	(407) 299-6410
131 Herring, James	Davis	recruit	IND	1701 State Road T, Glasgow, MO 65254	(816) 481-2221
106 Hodge, Jim		PVT	IND	2 Gridley Loop, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO 65473	(314) 329-3772
150 Holmes, Dan	Yoakum	recruit	IND	646 Norfolk Dr. Kirkwood, MO 63122	(314) 984-0106
107 Jordan, Mark		PVT	IND	306 Linda Ln. Wentzville, MO 63385	(314) 327-6973
12 Keown, Jim		PVT	IND	2000 Robin Terrace, Columbia, MO 65203	(314) 874-0594
50 Kerksiek, D.E.		PVT	FAM	P.O. Box 231 Stover, MO 65078	(314) 377-4133
3 Koffman, Bob		MAJ	IND	2809 Jerome, Sedalia, MO 65301	(816) 827-5338
49 Lee, Jerry		CPN	FAM	RT 3, Box 194-B, Cole Camp, MO 65325	(816) 668-3635
59 Loesch, Justin		PVT	IND	2203 E. Irwin, #5 Pierre, SD 57501	(605) 224-1231
86 Massey, Mike		PVT	IND	RR2, Box 26, Huntsville, MO 65259	(816) 277-4549
91 Meoli, Mike		CPL	IND	Rt 4, Box 26A, Salisbury, MO 65281	(816) 388-5971
104 Moeller, Mark		PVT	IND	Rt 1, Box 104, Bland, MO 65014	(314) 646-3143
73 Olson, Larry		PVT	FAM	41 N.W. OO Hwy, Warrensburg, MO 64093	(816) 747-8004
140 Pickering, David	Yoakum	recruit	IND	2 Club Ct., Columbia, MO 65201	(314) 442-5513
129 Plowman, Dave		CPL	IND	3211 S. Missouri, Sedalia, MO 65301	(816) 827-0815
125 Price, Marcus	Gilger	recruit	IND	2208 E. 58 Hwy, Raymore, MO 64083	(816) 322-2966
126 Price, Robert	Gilger	recruit	IND	P.O. Box 507 Cassville, MO 65625	
142 Reed, Keith	Block	recruit	FAM	424 Oak St. Huntsville, MO 65259	(816) 277-3376
2 Riggs, Charlie		PVT	FAM	518 S.E. 601 Warrensburg, MO 64093	(816) 429-1448
36 Roberts, Bob		PVT	IND	400 S. Ruby, Sturgeon, MO 65284	(314) 687-3240
23 Robertson, Jim		PVT	FAM	2418 Lynnwood Dr. Columbia, MO 65203	(314) 874-5711
30 Roush, Loren		PVT	FAM	497 N.W. 1500 Rd. Lawrence, KS 66049	(913) 887-6008
146 Springer, Mark	Robertson	recruit	IND	204 Pershing, Columbia, MO 65203	(314) 443-4245
67 Thomas, Chuck		PVT	FAM	7905 Kevin Ln. Belton, MO 64012	(816) 331-8664
40 Tucker, Jeff		PVT	IND	602 E. Mary St. Independence, MO 64052	(816) 254-5413
147 Wassman, Jerry	Ford	recruit	IND	106 E. ElCortez, Columbia, MO 65203	(314) 449-8376
1 Wayne, Bill		PVT	IND	431 S.E. "Y" Hwy. Warrensburg, MO 64093	(816) 747-5728
144 White, Mike	Hafley	recruit	IND	5113 Shady Ln. Jefferson City, MO 65109	(314) 893-4134
149 Witt, Ken Jr.	Gilger	recruit	FAM	(see Beth Gilger below)	
13 Yoakum, Steve		PVT	IND	3348 S. Old Ridge Rd. Columbia, MO 65203	(314) 446-6308
51 Zimmerschied, Kevin		PVT	IND	2000 S. Kentucky, Sedalia, MO 65301	(816) 826-1249



CIVILIANS

	Biggs, Amanda	CIV	
	Biggs, Jessica	CIV	
	Brown, Connie	CIV	
	Caviness, Jennifer	CIV	
	Chastain, Michelle	CIV	
	Dietzel, Nora	CIV	
	Dietzel, Charles	CIV	
	Dietzel, Evan	CIV	
	Gilger, Alex	recruit	
149	Gilger, Beth	CIV	FAM P.O. Box 41 Stover, MO 65078
	Gilger, Flora	CIV	
	Gilger, Jeannie	CIV	
	Hafley, Joe	recruit	
	Kersiek, Lorraine	CIV	
	Lee, Cindy	CIV	
	Meoli, Nick	recruit	
145	Moulton, Cherice	CIV	IND 207 W. State, Malta Bend, MO 65339
	O'Daniel, Julie	CIV	
	Reed, Karen	CIV	
	Riggs, Judy	CIV	
	Robertson, Deborah	CIV	
	Roush, Martha	CIV	
	Thomas, Rebecca	CIV	

ASSOCIATES

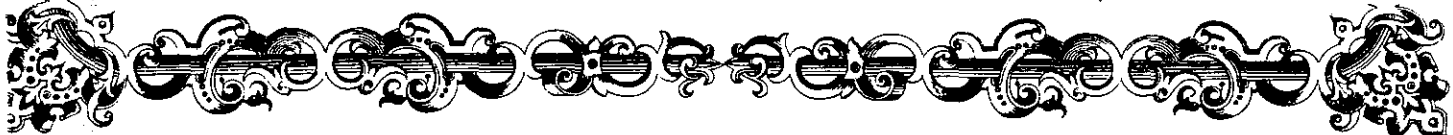
A98 Gooden, David
A19 Kinsey, John
A148 Kyle, Susan

RANK

PVT Assoc 15768 Nathan, Macomb, MI 48044
PVT Assoc 106 Julian Ave. Honolulu, HI 96818
Assoc P.O. Box 57 Cole Camp, MO 65325

(810) 247-1604

(816) 668-4416



Update on Book Orders for Westerners in Gray A Book on Fifth MO

As of the 17th of April I have recieved money in the amount of \$26.70 from the following individuals:
Steve Yoakum John Durrill John Crammer Mike Massey Jerry Heidergerken Nick Davis

Since the response remains slow, I will wait until after Spring Drill to order the books. If you s till want a copy of Phillip T. Tucker's Westerners in Gray, The Men and Missions of the Elite Fifth Missouri Infantry Regiment please let me know ASAP, my home number is (314) 445-1229.

Your cost, if we still have order a minimum of 10 copies, will be \$25.20 + 1.50 (S&H) for a total of \$26.70. You will have to make the check out to Nick Davis as the publisher wants one check for all the books. If you don't want a copy please let me know as this can affect the price per book for those of us who do.

Again this will cover the cost of shipping the books to the editor of the Messenger. Getting them to you can be handled in a couple of other ways. I can either hold them and get them to you over the course of our next few events. It appears unlikely that I will be able to give them to you at Pea Ridge since the books have not been ordered yet. I can mail them to you and you can reimburse me for the expense. Simply let me know what you would prefer.

Send in those checks or money orders as soon as possible. Thanks

From the Editor's Desk.....

Sgt. Faught has already given his report on the engagement in Alabama, but he neglected to mention that the Butcher (yours truly) had again taken the field at the event. We had so few men and virtually every one either had stripes or bars on their collar so I played as a private. Blasting away at Yankees from the original rifle pits and trench lines was a unique experience. I have a little problem with moving silently at night.

A couple of interesting points of trivia about Blakeley: (1) every member of the 400 man force of the Missouri Brigade from commander to drummer boy had been wounded at one time or another during their service. (2) When General Cockrell surrendered the flag he surrendered it to an officer of an Illinois regiment who was from Marion County Missouri.

To those of you who told me that they wanted a copy of the book on the Fifth, please send me a check! Come on gang over 14 of you wanted a copy and so far only six have requested a copy. If we don't get enough interested individuals I'll either refund the monies I have already received or let you know of the new cost.

Look forward to seeing you at Pea Ridge.

Editor

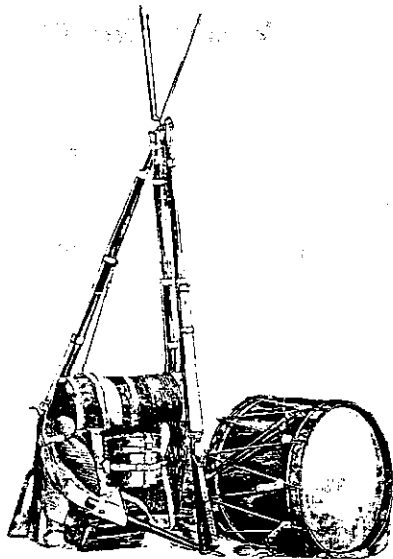
1st Lt., 5th Missouri Inf. CSA, aka the BUTCHER!

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 5-7 Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern) Arkansas COMPANY MAX EFFORT
May 27-28 Maysville, MO (possible tactical) - East of St. Joe
June 10-11 Columbia, MO (Our own small local event, good recruiting possible)

THE MESSENGER

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