## NEWS RELEASE

## "Daniel Boone: American's First Frontier Hero", theme of the 24th Annual Kalamazoo Antique Arms and Pioneer Crafts Showтм

## March 20-21, 1999

**Ted Franklin Belue**, nationally known Boone historian and author, will be the keynote speaker at the 24th Annual Kalamazoo Antique Arms and Pioneer Crafts ShowTM, March 20-21 1999, Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, Kalamazoo MI. Belue will present two programs each day on "*Daniel Boone: America's First Frontier Hero*". He will also be available at the show to sign copies of his newest book, Lyman C. Draper's "Life of Daniel Boone", as well as his other books; "The Long Hunt: Death of the Buffalo East of the Mississippi" and "Sketch in the Life and Character of Daniel Boone".

Belue is a history instructor at Murray State University, in Murray, Kentucky. He has written seventy essays for magazines, journals and encyclopedias, is a Special Features Writer for <u>Muzzleloader</u>, a speaker for the Kentucky Humanities Council, and serves on the Filson Club Historical Society's editorial board.

**Gary Foreman**, who directed **"Frontier: Legends of the Old Northwest"** that aired on the History Channel last August, is now directing a new series, **"Frontier: The Decisive Battles"** (a series of one-hour episodes focusing on the 18th and early 19th Century, a time when the American territory ended at the Mississippi). Foreman will be presenting two programs each day including sneak previews of his newest productions.

Foreman has performed on both sides of the camera on many historical and educational projects. He was recruited as a private historical consultant, actor and stunt man for the 1991 feature film **"The Last of the Mohicans"**. He worked as a scholar on the A&E Biography series, as well as producer and historical advisor for The History Channel's presentation of **"The American Revolution"**. He also produced and directed a documentary special on Custer, **"Betrayal at Little Big Horn"**.

Over the years, the Kalamazoo Antique Arms ShowTM has grown to be the largest juried event of its kind in the Midwest devoted to Pre-1890 original or reproduction firearms, accouterments and related crafts. Each year the focus of the show changes, allowing various historical reenactment groups and organizations the opportunity to host the show and share their knowledge and enthusiasm of history with all of us. Of special interest to the whole family, craftspersons dressed in period clothing will be demonstrating various 18th and 19th Century crafts. Turn back the clock and relive America's days gone by. Visit with people that make history come alive! Historical re-enactors in period fashions from Pre-Revolutionary thru the Civil War, history buffs and the general public come together for a very festive weekend. Anyone attending the show dressed in Pre-1890 garb will be eligible for a drawing on a 4 point Witney Blanket at the close of the show each day.

A dinner and dance, **open to all who attend the show**, will be held Saturday night hosted by the *1st Michigan Light Artillery, 3rd Battery*. For information and reservations contact Pam Boudreau, 3330 S Rose St., Kalamazoo, MI 49001 or telephone (616) 349-6195.

The **24th ANNUAL KALAMAZOO ANTIQUE ARMS & PIONEER CRAFTS SHOW**TM is open to the general public Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$4.00. Children under 12 years of age admitted free when accompanied by a parent.