



THE BUGLE CALL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD FOUNDATION

SPRING, 2010

HE WAS A SHE

By Len Eagleburger

It is an accepted convention that the Civil War was a man's fight. Images of women during that conflict center on self-sacrificing nurses, romantic spies, or brave ladies maintaining the home front in the absence of their men. The men, of course, marched off to war, lived in germ-ridden camps, engaged in heinous battle, languished in appalling prison camps, and died horribly, yet heroically. This conventional picture of gender roles during the Civil War does not tell the entire story. Men were not the only ones to fight that war. Women bore arms and charged into battle, too. Like the men, there were women who lived in camp, suffered in prisons, and died for their respective causes.

Alfred J. Luther joined the 1st Kansas Infantry May 30th, 1861 and was a Corporal with Company A when he was wounded at the Battle of Wilson's Creek, August 10, 1861. The 1st Kansas lost 300 of 800 men that day. The 1st Kansas Infantry was organized at Camp Lincoln, Fort Leavenworth, May 20 to June 3, 1861. Moved to Wyandotte, thence to Kansas City and Clinton, Mo., to join General Lyon, June 7-July 13, 1861. Attached to Dietzler's Brigade, Lyon's Army of the West. Advance on Springfield July. Action at Dug Springs August 2. At Springfield, Mo., until August 7. Battle of Wilson's Creek August 10. March to Rolla, Mo., August 11-22, thence to St. Louis, Mo., and duty on the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad until October. Attached to Dept. of Missouri to February, 1862. Dept. of Kansas to June, 1862. District of Columbus, Ky., Dept. Tennessee, to September, 1862. 1st Brigade, 6th Division, District of Corinth, Dept. Tennessee, to November, 1862. 1st Brigade, 6th Division, Left Wing 13th Army Corps, Dept. of the Tennessee, to December, 1862. 1st Brigade, 6th Division, 16th Army Corps, Army Tennessee, to January, 1863. 1st Brigade, 6th Division, 17th Army Corps, to July, 1863. Luther was promoted to sergeant on May 1, 1862 and died of Varioloid (smallpox), Providence, LA, March 22, 1863 at the beginning of Grant's Vicks-

—See *She* on page 3—

MAJOR REENACTMENT PLANNED FOR AUGUST 2011

The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation has begun planning a maximum-effort Civil War reenactment to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek. The reenactment will take place during the weekend of August 12-14, 2011. Excitement is already building for the Civil War sesquicentennial, and as the second major battle of the war, Wilson's Creek compels a great deal of attention in the reenactment community. The Western Division of the Blue-Gray Alliance, a reenactor organization, will help design battle scenarios and handle all military aspects of the reenactment. Due to the high level of interest, the Blue-Gray Alliance anticipates that this will be a well-attended event, with more than 3,000 reenactors and huge crowds of spectators.

A location adjacent to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield has been selected for the event, and a committee of Foundation board members, representatives of several local organizations, and interested individuals has been making preliminary plans and discussing other possible events leading up to the 150th anniversary of the battle. A web site with information and registration details for participants will be

—See *Reenactment* on page 2—



A scene from the reenactment held in June, 2000

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Ken McClure



President's Message

The Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks is observing its fiftieth anniversary this spring. Having met continuously since 1960, the local organization provides a forum where people can meet to explore their common interest in the Civil War. The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation congratulates the Round Table on this milestone. We have been honored work in partnership with the Round Table to support the battlefield, and we are most grateful for its many contributions to Wilson's Creek and assistance with Foundation projects. As a part of the celebration, the full-length documentary recounting the Battle of Wilson's Creek debuted at the Wilson's Creek Visitor Center on Saturday, April 17. This seventy-minute video, produced by Wide Awake Films of Kansas City, expands upon the introductory film that is shown to thousands of battlefield visitors each year. The longer version, entitled August Light, is now on sale at the battlefield's gift shop.

Another important event that will take place during the upcoming sesquicentennial of the Civil War is the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek, which will be commemorated on August 10, 2011. Work is already underway to appropriately recognize the battle with a major reenactment scheduled for August 12-14, 1011. The Board's Reenactment Committee, chaired by Foundation Board Member Jim Cox, has begun making initial preparations. We plan to involve many local organizations, businesses, and individuals in focusing attention on this defining time in our nation's history. The Board's objectives include creating public interest in the Civil War and the Battle of Wilson's Creek, as well as recruiting the next generation of caretakers of the battlefield. In addition, it is our hope to honor those on both sides who lost their lives and to encourage a public discussion about the significance of the Civil War for our state and nation.

Thank you for your continued interest in the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation. It is your support that enables the Foundation to be an effective partner and advocate for the battlefield.

Ken McClure, President

—*Reenactment* continued from page 1—

available at www.wilsonscreek150.com in the near future. If you are interested in getting involved in the planning process or volunteering to help with the reenactment, please contact the Foundation office at 417-864-3041 or email info@wilsonscreek.com. Reenactment updates will also be posted on the Foundation web site at www.wilsonscreek.com.

We are always looking for interesting stories about the Civil War in the Ozarks or personalities who lived at the time. If you would like to contribute an article, please send it to:

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation
Attn: Bugle Call Editor
P.O. Box 8163
Springfield, MO 65801
FAX to: 417-864-7428
E-mail: info@wilsonscreek.com

With your help we can keep *The Bugle Call* sounding loud and clear throughout the year.



The Mission of the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation

To work in cooperation with and to support the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, a unit of the National Park Service and its staff. To further, by all proper and legitimate agencies and means, the acquisition of Civil War historical properties and materials especially those related to the Battle of Wilson's Creek, or usable in the interpretation of the Wilson's Creek battle. To be a friend of the park whose primary purpose is to support Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in a partnership through activities which may include fund raising, volunteerism, education, advocacy, and research.

FOUNDATION ASSISTS CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE WITH 50TH ANNIVERSARY

On April 17 the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks celebrated its 50th Anniversary. The event was held at the University Plaza Hotel, with over 170 people in attendance. Several past presidents were present, and proclamations from the City of Springfield and Greene County honored the Round Table's contributions to the community. A number of distinguished speakers presented their congratulations, including Ken McClure, President of the Wilson's Creek Foundation; Dr. Gary Kremer of the State Historical Society of Missouri; John Dougan, Missouri State Archivist; Ted Hillmer, Superintendent of Wilson's Creek NB; and Dr. William Piston of Missouri State University. Special awards were presented to Dr. Tom Sweeney and Mr. John L. Hulston (in honor of John K. Hulston), for their work in keeping history alive in southwest Missouri.

Dr. Steven Woodworth of Texas Christian University, was the featured speaker, with an in-depth presentation on the siege of Vicksburg. Closing remarks were made by John Purtell, Chairman of the Anniversary Committee. More than fifteen sponsors assisted in supporting this important event, including the Wilson's Creek Foundation. It was a group effort that allowed this special evening to be part of the history of the Round Table.

The purpose of the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks is to educate individuals about the history of the Civil War and to support Wilson's Creek National



Past presidents of the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks gather for a photo during the banquet.

Front Row: Tom Sweeney, Jim Scaminaci, Jim Millikin, James Cox, John Purtell, Steve Buffet, Don Garrett

Back Row: Gene Beauchamp, Gordon McCann, Jim O'Brein, Stormy Cox, William Piston, James Sharp, Jeff Patrick

Battlefield. The group's original founders would be very proud of the continued success of this organization. More than 135 individuals are listed on the rolls of the Round Table, with over 95 dues-paying members and an average attendance of 65 at its monthly meetings. 🐉

—She continued from page 1—

burg Campaign while serving in McPherson's Corps and during the canal project. (More men died of sickness and disease during the Vicksburg Campaign than battle wounds). According to research by David Long of Springfield, and posted on his website "Controversies, Myth's and Fascinating Facts about the Battle (of Wilson's Creek)", a Lt. Frederick Haywood, 1st Minnesota Artillery (brigaded with the 1st Kansas Infantry), who was also a war correspondent for the Poughkeepsie (NY) Telegraph Newspaper, reported in 1863:

"The 1st Kansas regiment, of which I have spoken before, is encamped near us. One of that regiment, a sergeant, died in the hospital two weeks ago. After death his comrades discovered that their companion, by the side of whom they had marched and fought for almost two years, was a woman. You may imagine their surprise at the discovery. I went to the hospital and saw the body after it was prepared for burial, and made some inquiries about her. She was of rather more than average size for a woman, with rather strongly marked features, so that with the aid of a man's attire she had quite a masculine look. She enlisted in the regiment after they went to Missouri and consequently they knew nothing of her early history. She probably served under an assumed name. She was in the battle of Springfield, where Gen. Lyon was killed, and has fought in a dozen battles and skirmishes. She always sustained an excellent reputation, both as a man and a soldier, and the men all speak of her in terms of respect and admiration. She was as brave as a lion in battle and never flinched from any duty or hardships that fell to her lot. She must have been very shrewd to have lived in the regiment so long and preserved her secret so well. Poor girl! She was worthy of a better fate. Who knows what grief, trouble or persecution induced her to embrace such a life?"

Sgt. Alfred J. Luther's alias is unknown to this day and of course it is impossible to find a photo. No one ever filed for pension or survivor's rights. She was 24 years of age when she died and is buried at the Vicksburg National Cemetery along with her fallen comrades in Section K, grave #5971. 🐉

SECOND CAMPAIGN FUNDED MANY PROJECTS

The first campaign for Wilson's Creek took place on August 10, 1861, and earned its place in history as the first major battle after Bull Run and the first Civil War battle in which a Union general was killed. The Second Campaign for Wilson's Creek began in 1987, with the goal of raising \$800,000 to accomplish a variety of projects at the battlefield. Early projects completed using Second Campaign funds included construction of a picnic pavilion, purchase of furnishings for the Ray House, purchase of cannon carriages, and installation of a video system for the Visitor Center.

Unfortunately, ten years later one of the major priorities of the Second Campaign, a library addition for the Visitor Center, had not been completed or even started. Although the battlefield owned a substantial collection of Civil War publications, many of them donated by John K. and Ruth L. Hulston, the library was housed in one small room, with conditions that did not allow access by researchers or facilities for preservation of rare books. In the fall of 1997, a major donation from John K. Hulston reinvigorated the efforts to construct a library facility that would provide room for future expansion of the collection, as well as educational space for school and community groups and offices for park personnel. In April 2003 the Civil War Research Library and Education Center was completed and dedicated, funded through donations to the Foundation and a \$500,000 matching grant from Congress.



The official ground-breaking ceremony for the Visitor Center expansion was held on August 10, 2001.

In the years since this major accomplishment, donations to the Second Campaign have also funded many other projects, including restoration of the historic Edwards Cabin, purchase of granite timeline markers for Visitor Center sidewalk, assistance with a permanent conservation easement on property adjacent to the battlefield through the Farmland Protection Program, purchase of additional furnishings for the Ray House, cataloging and relocation of logs from a Civil War era barn, refurbishing of the fiber optic battle map program

at the Visitor Center, purchase of Civil War Unit Histories for the library, and initial planning and design phases of a new Civil War Museum building and exhibits.



The Edward's family cabin was restored from a crumbling shell (inset) to a close approximation of the cabin used as Price's headquarters during the battle.

Although the Second Campaign Fund has now been depleted, Second Campaign expenditures on projects to benefit Wilson's Creek National Battlefield since 1997 totaled over \$720,000. The Foundation listed 110 major contributors to the library project on the Second Campaign Donor Board and 182 names on the Roll of Honor. Countless other Foundation members and supporters also made gifts that assisted with these projects, and many people made anonymous dona-



The refurbished battle map was installed in June, 2006.



Historical sidewalk markers were dedicated in March, 2005.

tions when they visited the park. The Foundation is very grateful to everyone who helped make these important efforts for the preservation and improvement of the battlefield possible. 📣

CIVIL WAR MUSEUM PLANNING CONTINUES

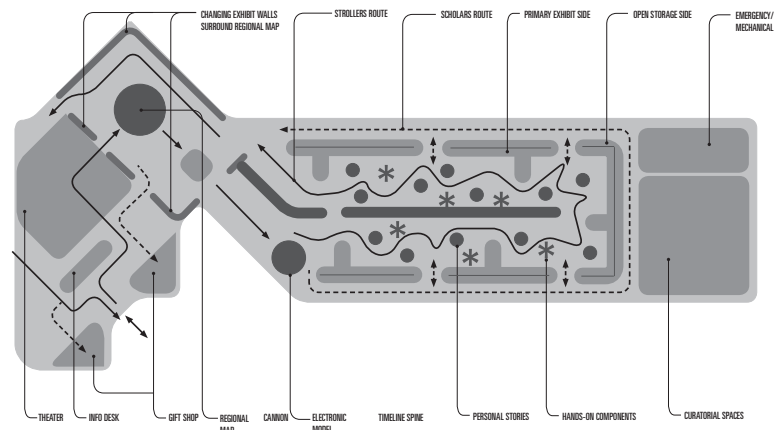
The Museum Committee composed of Foundation Board members, battlefield staff, and interested individuals has been meeting for several years to consider options and make decisions about an addition to the Visitor Center with new exhibits for the Wilson's Creek Civil War Museum. Thousands of valuable artifacts are now housed at the site of the original General Sweeney's Museum, which was purchased by the National Park Service in 2005.

In 2007 the Foundation hired Allen Johnson of General Design, an architecture firm in Branson, to design a new museum building so that the collection can be moved to a more secure and accessible location attached to the Visitor Center. The design development phase for the building has been completed, and the construction documents are now 70% complete. An artist's rendering of the Visitor Center exterior with the museum annex is on display at the battlefield.

For more than a year another group has also been working on updated exhibits to display the collection. After considering several museum exhibit design firms from across the country, the Foundation hired Vincent Ciulla Design in May of 2009 to create a schematic design for the museum exhibits. This design level will provide the basic arrangement and organization of the museum, as well as the structure and appearance of the exhibits. The design schematic for the new Civil War Museum exhibits is now 90% complete. As soon as the Museum Work Group provides comments on the schematic, this phase of the exhibit design will be finalized. The next phase, design development, will be coordinated with the National Park Service.

The Foundation is very pleased to work in partnership with the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield on this important project that will preserve a valuable

Civil War collection and make it more available to the thousands of people who visit the park each year. For more information or to help with this project, please contact the Foundation office at 417-864-3041 or email info@wilsonscreek.com. 📣



A preliminary exhibit floor plan by Ciulla Design.



Architect's renderings of the planned museum addition as viewed from above and from the front.



Arts in the Park 2010!

During May and June, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield is presenting its annual Arts in the Park events including several free Saturday concerts on the lawn in front of the Visitor Center.

May 8, 7:00 P.M. – **The Missouri State**

University Community Band is a 45-member, all volunteer community band that performs a variety of band music favorites.

May 22, 6:00 P.M. – **The Missouri Boatrike**

Bluegrass Band performs in Branson and Silver Dollar City regularly. Dean, the mandolin player, appeared on the Andy Griffith Show as one of the Darling Family.

May 22, 7:00 P.M. – **Crazy Mule** consists of five talented musicians who formed a bluegrass band steeped in Ozark Mountain tradition, humor, and culture.

May 29, 7:00 P.M. – **Back Porch Players** This family band returns to Wilson's Creek to perform 1800's favorites.

June 5, 7:00 P.M. – **High Strung**, from the Springfield-Branson area returns to perform their popular mix of bluegrass music.

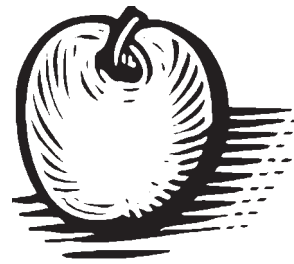
June 12, 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. – **"The Ray House Jamboree"** An old time music festival on the lawn in front of the historic Ray House (Tour Stop Number 2), featuring several local groups performing traditional Ozark music.

*All concerts are FREE, open to the public, and held on the lawn in front of the Visitor Center, except the Ray House Jamboree (June 12 at the Ray House—regular admission fees of \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 per vehicle apply). Please bring blankets or lawn chairs for all programs.



Wilson's Creek was named after James Wilson who settled in the area near what would become Springfield in the early 1800's. Mr Wilson was best known for

having a habit of marrying Delaware Indian women, only to live with them for a while, and replace them with a new one. After doing this with three different Indian women, he finally settled down with a white woman from St Louis around 1830 at the mouth of a small creek that would soon bear his name.



RAY HOUSE ORCHARD

There is an orchard at the Ray House!! On April 26, eleven boys from the Datema House, a Division of Youth Services facility in Springfield, came to the park to assist Master Gardener Andy Busch and park staff in planting thirty apple trees. The partnership with Datema House provides benefits for both sides. The park gets much-needed assistance in a variety of areas, and the boys in the facility not only learn about giving back to their community, but also discover something about their history.

The trees represent the historic orchard that John Ray and his family had during the Civil War. The location for the orchard and tree varieties chosen were based on the park's Cultural Landscape Report, Part II Implementation. While it is not feasible to have a large orchard, this small section can be used to help the public understand another aspect of life at the Ray House during the 1860s.

Metal posts and wire cages, although not historically accurate, will protect the trees for the first few years from damage by wildlife. The trees may start producing apples in their second or third year and will probably bear generous crops after seven years. There are no plans to harvest the apples at this point. The fruit will most likely become a treat for the Ray House visitors, deer, and other wildlife in the park. 🍏



An apple orchard has been planted near the Ray House. Records indicate that the Ray family tended an orchard near the house in the 1860s.



Superintendent's Corner

By Ted Hillmer

Dear Foundation Members,

What an exciting time of year, with yellow school buses at the park and energized students rushing through the Visitor Center, watching the film by Wide Awake and learning about the importance of this special area. Our volunteers and staff are busy and always come away with interesting stories about the students every year. We are so thankful for the dedicated volunteers who spend time preparing and presenting their talks for the students. They do an excellent job, and they enjoy the time interacting with students, as they share in-depth knowledge about our valuable resources. Based on the number of school reservations to date, we should meet or exceed the number that visited the battlefield last year—over 7000 students. Our overall visitation is up from last year, and our book store receipts have also increased.

With rain and mild weather during the past few weeks, the park is bursting with the growth of several species of wild flowers, and the trees are coming to life. Spring is a great time of the year to visit the battlefield, as the ground cover turns to green. So yes, when you visit the park you will hear the familiar sound that is

occurring throughout the Ozarks—the sound of lawn mowers.

Just a short update about the activities occurring at the park this summer:

- several new seasonal interpretive staff will be working at different stops on the tour road (in period clothing);
- a seasonal landscape architect student will be hired;
- five high school students and a work leader will participate in the summer youth program;
- Arts in the Park events are scheduled during May and June;
- an apple orchard has been planted near the Ray House;
- native plants have been planted next to the Facility Management/Inventory Monitoring parking area;
- the first hybrid bus (twelve-passenger) in the Midwest Region has been purchased for use at the battlefield.

If you have not planned your visit yet, maybe you should mark it on your Wilson's Creek NB calendars - now. Come out and be a part of history, as you enjoy the only national battlefield in Missouri.

T. John Hillmer, Jr.
Superintendent

NEW MEMBERS & CONTRIBUTORS

The following people and organizations have recently contributed to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation. Our sincere thanks to everyone for your generous support!

Mary Munsell Abroe
 Claude Alber
 Mike Ball
 Bob and Susan Beine
 Brian Beirne
 Mary Burns
 Virginia Bussey
 David Callahan
 A. Scott Cauger
 John M. Christensen
 Bill and Virginia Darr
 Daughters of Union Veterans Tent #22
 Ron Dirickson
 Thomas Doneker
 Craig Dunn
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 John and Patricia Ferguson
 Hadley and Jacqueline Ford
 Floyd Freiden
 Richard Freihofer
 Hal and Kathy Funk
 John and Carolyn Gerdes
 David and Robin Goebel

Donley and Patricia Granstra
 Leslie Griffen
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 John Houlehan
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 Jack Lilley
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 Dan Mallett
 Maurice Martinez
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 Fred and Ramona McQueary
 Raymond Meyer
 Barbara Morgan
 Mount Olive Middle School
 John L. Nau
 Deloris Newton
 Robert Nichols

Brian Noggle
 Timothy Noonan
 Ozarks Coca-Cola/Dr. Pepper
 Mark and Karen Perreault
 John Plank
 John and Pat Purtell
 Martha Railey
 Ralph Foster Museum
 Steve Ross
 Silver Dollar City
 Richard Simpson
 Richard and Rose Ann Splitter
 State Bank of Southwest Missouri
 Tom Sweeney
 J. Thomas Telle
 Ralph Thaemlitz
 Timothy Vaught
 Kathy Vickers
 Morris Westfall
 David White
 Helen Murray White
 Stewart White
 Joe Ann Yocom

Upcoming Events: at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

- May**
- 8 Free Arts in the Park Concert - *Missouri State University Community Band*, 7:00 pm at the Visitor Center
 - 22 Free Arts in the Park Concert - *Missouri Boatribe Bluegrass Band* and *Crazy Mule*, 6:00 pm at the Visitor Center
 - 29 Change to Summer Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Visitor Center, 8:00 am - 9:00 pm Tour Road
 - 29 Free Arts in the Park Concert - *The Back Porch Players*, 7:00 pm at the Visitor Center
- June**
- 5 Free Arts in the Park Concert - *High Strung*, 7:00 pm at the Visitor Center
 - 12 "Ray House Jamboree" old time music program, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Ray House (stop 2 on the tour road)
 - 19-20 "Sigel's Germans" Living History Weekend—Artillery Firing Demonstrations, 1:00 - 4:00 pm at stop 5 on the Tour Road
 - 26 Artillery Firing Demonstrations, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at stop number 5 on the Tour Road.
- July**
- 3 Artillery Firing Demonstrations, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at stop number 5 on the Tour Road.
 - 17 Artillery Firing Demonstrations, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at stop number 5 on the Tour Road.
- August**
- 7-8 "1st Iowa" Living History Weekend—Artillery Firing Demonstrations, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at stop 5 on the Tour Road
 - 10 149th Battle Anniversary Observance, 10-11 a.m. – No Entrance Fee

Note: All Small Arms and Artillery Firing Demonstrations are located at Tour Road Stop Number 5 (Sigel's Final Position).
All programs are weather dependent and subject to availability of volunteer assistance. For more information, call (417) 732-2662 or visit the National Park Service Web Site at www.nps.gov/wicr



Wilson's Creek
National Battlefield
Foundation

**P.O. Box 8163
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**Visit our website!
www.wilsonscreek.com**

Address Correction Requested