

THE BUGLE CALL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD FOUNDATION

SPRING 2014



YELLOW SCHOOL BUS FEVER

by Superintendent Ted Hillmer

As I walk to the desk and look out the front multi-framed glass windows, I can see the red buds in bloom, green grass with several dandelions, the American flag with the blue sky in the background, and four yellow school buses lined up in the Visitor Center drop off zone. Yes, you guessed it, we have young people from all over southwest Missouri visiting the park at this time of the year. Over a three-month period in the spring, we will have more than 6,500 students and teachers visiting the battlefield.

Our staff is very busy with the organizing, directing, and answering questions from the students; however, without the hundreds of hours that our volunteers devote to the battlefield at this time of the year, our programs would be not as interesting and educational. Each morning I observe several of the volunteers talking, looking over the schedule white board, and preparing their outfits and equipment before the students arrive. What a great job—watching our volunteers preparing for the youth each morning!

The school groups who visit each spring are from all over the greater Springfield area and even as far away Tulsa and West Plains. Billie Aschwege, our Volunteer Coordinator, and Dave Huston, our Educational Specialist, have done a wonderful job of working with our

generous volunteers. This is one important reason the park is here—to create these special memories for the next generation of visitors and our employees. 

UPDATE ON NEW WILSON'S CREEK MUSEUM EXHIBITS

Wilson's Creek and Harpers Ferry's staff members have been working on the final edits for the nine exhibit panels. As of this publication, they have completed five of the nine panels. It has been a slow process, but it is very important to give the text the same voice and use the same reading level throughout the exhibits. The editing is taking place at the same time as the electrical contractor's work on the electrical rewiring and the installation of a new ceiling. The electrical work is progressing according to the contract and should be completed during the first part of May. As soon as the electrical components are completed and the exhibit fabrication is finished, the Harper's Ferry Center can begin installation of the new exhibits. No official date has been established to begin the installation; however, we are anticipating that it will start around the middle of June. The contractor will then have approximately six to seven weeks to complete the installation. The new exhibits are projected to be ready for the public to view by late summer. 

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Craig Dunn



Spring has finally arrived in the Ozarks after a long, hard winter, and with that excitement comes equal excitement about the events our WCNB Foundation board and our national park are planning for this spring and summer. But before we tell you about those events, I first want to thank you for your support and encouragement during the shut-down of our beloved battlefield late

last year. During that difficult time, our park staff kept their chins up high and continued to make plans for the coming year, and the Foundation board and staff never ceased in their efforts to support the Wilson's Creek Battlefield. I can tell you that everybody is working as hard as ever with the same level of passion that they have always had on this year's events.

First, I am excited to tell you about the Foundation's spring event, which is the Ray House Jamboree Spring Fling on June 7, 2014. Last year's Spring Fling was a great success for both the Foundation and the attendees, and this year's Spring Fling creates an opportunity for even more people to come out and enjoy what Wilson's Creek has to

offer. This year's Spring Fling will include Civil War and Ozarks music performed live, historic Ray House tours, a BBQ dinner served from 5-7, and an evening cannon firing. Our goal is to engage families and give young people an opportunity to experience Civil War period music, crafts, and history in the beautiful Ray House setting. All entertainment and tours will be free and open to the public with admission to the battlefield, and there will be a nominal cost for the BBQ dinner. I encourage you to come out and be a part of an afternoon of music, history and family fun at our beloved Wilson's Creek National Battlefield.

And don't forget about the Arts in the Park, a series of free concerts in front of the Visitor Center. Grab your lawn chairs and your family and friends and enjoy free music each Saturday evening in May. As always, I want to thank you, our members, for your faithful and constant support as we continue to fight to preserve this battlefield. It is only with the support of members like you that we are able to accomplish the important preservation goals of the Foundation.

Craig Dunn, President



Conflicting beliefs led Northerners and Southerners to use different names for the war, which, despite the passage of 150 years, are often still used today. In the South, the Civil War was called the "War Between the States" or the "War of Northern Aggression." More obscure or regional names

for the war included "The War of Southern Independence," "The Second American Revolution," and the "War in Defense of Virginia." African Americans frequently referred to it as "The Freedom War." Northerners often called the conflict the "War of the Rebellion" or "The War for the Union." In a more jocular vein the war has been known as "The Late Unpleasantness" or "The Uncivil War."



Have any stories of local or historical interest relating to the Civil War? We're always on the lookout for new stories and unique images for *The Bugle Call*. Please send your newsletter contributions 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

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.

Free Arts in the Park Concerts for 2014!

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield presents its annual FREE concert series on the lawn in front of the Visitor Center.

May 3, Saturday, 7:00 p.m. – **College of the Ozarks Orchestra** – This group of 50+ members will be performing at the battlefield for the first time, playing patriotic selections in front of the Visitor Center.

May 10, Saturday, 7:00 p.m. – **The Missouri State University Community Band** – This 45 member, all volunteer community band, is a fan favorite. They will return this summer to perform a patriotic concert in front of the Visitor Center.

May 17, Saturday, 7:00 p.m. - **The Missouri State University Civil War Army Band** – Also playing at the battlefield for the first time, this group will be performing period music from the 1860's.

May 24, Saturday, 7:00 p.m. – **High Strung** – Welcome back this bluegrass group from the Springfield-Branson area, who started performing regularly at bluegrass festivals in 2004.

May 31, Saturday, 7:00 p.m. – **The Wings of Swing Big Band** – A special treat this year is a versatile group that performs in the traditional big band style from the 30's & 40's to the rock era of the 70's. A group of 9-17 musicians from military missions, music educators, and other instrumentalists, who have performed professionally.

June 7, Saturday, 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – **Ray House Jamboree** – Our annual bluegrass music festival, on the front porch of the historic Ray House (Tour Stop Two), includes Civil War period music, demonstrations, and activities, along with a BBQ this year.

Ray House Jamboree Barbeque – The WICR Foundation will be sponsoring a barbeque dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Proceeds from the BBQ will support the Foundation's proposed activities.*

June 14, Saturday, 7:00 p.m. – **The 135th Army Band** – is returning this year to perform at the battlefield with their smaller group, called the *Country Band, Show Me Country*.

*ALL concerts are FREE and open to the public, except the June 7th program, at the Ray House, where regular admission (\$5.00 per person or \$10.00 per carload) will apply.

Please bring blankets and lawn chairs for all the programs.

For further information, please call 417-732-2662 or find us on the web at www.nps.gov/wicr

Arts in the Park is sponsored by Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation and Eastern National.



College of the Ozarks Orchestra



The Missouri State University Community Band



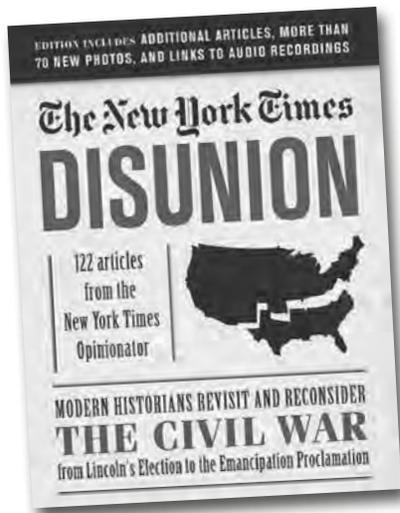
High Strung



Ray House Jamboree

A VOLUME TO REMEMBER!

Review by Dr. John Gerdes



Occasionally a book comes to a reader's attention that nearly completely satisfies wants and expectations. In this case the book is a compilation of over one hundred articles derived from the outstanding blog based on the civil war. This New York Times Blog came on the scene in November of 2010 and has since received numerous awards.

Ted Widmer, an historian of considerable repute at Brown University, has organized this outstanding work in one volume. He begins with Abraham Lincoln's quest for the presidency and continues through the complex political trials of the Emancipation Proclamation. The catalogue of topics includes major battles, social/political aspects of slavery and the role of women in the civil war. He discusses numerous anecdotes that are of exceeding interest to this reviewer, who thought he himself was more than casually erudite about the Civil War.

The volume's format lends itself to a place on a bedside table, though this proximity could raise the ire of a sleeping spouse. Numerous outbursts of "wow, I didn't know that!" have been tempered to pacify other members of the household.

The list of contributions is outstanding and peaked my curiosity from the initial perusal.

As you might guess, I heartily suggest adding this outstanding historical volume to any Civil War reading list. A further value is the volume's ability to settle arguments at dinner parties. This is a not so insignificant contribution to smugness. 🗨️

The New York Times: Disunion: Modern Historians Revisit and Reconsider the Civil War from Lincoln's Election to the Emancipation Proclamation
A major new collection of modern commentary— from scholars, historians, and Civil War buffs—on the significant events of the Civil War, culled from The New York Times' popular Disunion on-line journal
by The New York Times (Author) , Ted Widmer (Editor) , Clay Risen (Contributor) , George Kalogerakis (Contributor)

Hardcover: 464 pages

Publisher: Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers (May 14, 2013)

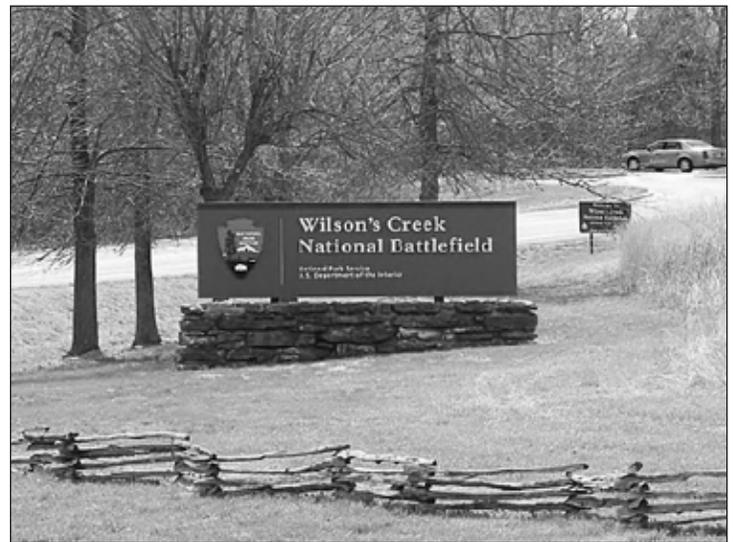
A NEW ENTRANCE SIGN GREET'S VISITORS TO WILSON'S CREEK NB

After a couple of decades Wilson's Creek NB has installed a new entrance sign to the battlefield. Over the past several years the National Park Service has modified the signage for park units and requested that Wilson's Creek National Battlefield use the approved NPS Graphic Guidelines that build on NPS traditions for the design of the new sign.

According to Superintendent Hillmer, "Our new sign meets our NPS Graphic Guidelines that were established in 2001." In addition, Hillmer stated that "Our new sign replaced our existing sign that has been utilized for over two decades."

The sign is located as you approach the front entrance gate to the main parking area for the Visitor's Center. The park used the original stone base for the new sign.

The design follows principals of the Unigrid program. The Unigrid program is considered one of the most significant and recognizable examples of public-sector graphic design in recent years. It uses formulas to determine the most economical dimensions for design and print projects. The NPS Standards, which apply to all NPS communication materials, have been designed to complement the Unigrid standards, and feature more frequent use of the NPS Arrowhead logo. 🗨️



This new sign is located next to the entrance of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield along Farm Road 182 just east of ZZ Highway.



Superintendent's Corner

By Ted Hillmer

Dear Foundation Members,

A prescription for our health care system! Did I grab your attention? According to Mark Fenton, guest speaker at the annual meeting of Ozark Greenways, graphs of (1) yearly vehicle miles traveled per licensed driver and (2) the looming chronic disease apocalypse could be placed on top of each other and you could not tell any difference. In spite of these negative trends, though, if more people would get outdoors and become active, we could cure the health care issues in the United States. Be a health geek! Change the conversation: It's not just an obesity epidemic. At the core, our most dangerous epidemics are physical inactivity and poor nutrition.

Wilson's Creek can help you with the physical activity aspect of these health issues. Maybe we could begin with a question: "In the past week, how many times have you skipped a stone, smelled a flower, chased a butterfly, or watched a sunset?" Wilson's Creek NB can make **Coming Alive Outside** easy for everyone. Spring is a wonderful time to be outdoors at the battlefield, with the flowers blooming, grasses turning green, trees budding, and apple trees blooming. Join the school groups, out of state guests, and annual pass holders visiting the park this spring. If you have not been to the battlefield for some time, this is your chance to be outdoors and get healthy!

There is always something interesting and educational going on at your battlefield. Other activities that you can enjoy in the spring and summer are the Arts in the Park concerts and Living History Demonstrations at Stop Number 5. Come on and get out and enjoy your park; in fact, come out to Wilson's Creek or any National Park Service sites and Find Your Park.

Ted Hillmer,
Superintendent

1. U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of HPI, Highway Statics(1970-2006).
2. Obesity Epidemic (JAMA 288,14: Oct. 2002) (1960 to 2010)

NEW MEMBERS & CONTRIBUTORS

These generous people and organizations have recently joined or contributed to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation. Please join us in thanking them for their support of historical preservation!

Kenneth Ackley
Don Akers
Claude Alber
Mike Ball
Blue and Gray Education Society
David Brigman
Annie Busch
Judi Clement
James Corbridge
Mark Costin
Daughters of Union Vets #22
Kathleen Dean
Ron Dirickson
Craig Dunn
James M. England
Arthur and Karen Foley
Hal and Kathy Funk
Fred and Fuki Hall
Don Garrett

John and Carolyn Gerdes
Carol and Joe Grimes
Brian Hickman
Karen Horny
Albert Kazelis
Edward V. Loughran
Maurice Martinez
Gary Matthews
Teresa May
Bill Melville
Tim and Roberta Montgomery
Jack and Cyndy Muench
Brian and Heather Noggle
Timothy and Mary Noonan
Charlie and Mary Beth O'Reilly
Ozarks Coca-Cola/Dr. Pepper
Mark and Karen Perreault
John Plank
Martha Railey

Ralph Foster Museum
Jerry Redfearn
Alice Richardson
Jim Ridenour
Bill and Judy Robinett
Steve Ross
Bill and Toni Roush
James and Dori Scaminaci
Tom Strong
Dr. Thomas Telle
Ralph and Geri Thaemlitz
Bruce Throckmorton
Dr. Michael Trapasso
John M. Vaughn, III
Morris Westfall
David White
Helen Murray White
Stewart B. White
Thomas Worms



Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation

**P.O. Box 8163
Springfield, MO 65801**

Return Service Requested



Be sure to like Wilson's
Creek National Battlefield
Foundation on Facebook!

**Visit our website!
www.wilsonscreek.com**

Upcoming Events: at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

May

- 3 Free Arts in the Park Concert – *College of the Ozarks Orchestra*, 7:00 PM at the Visitor Center
- 10 Free Arts in the Park Concert – *The Missouri State University Community Band*, 7:00 PM at the Visitor Center
- 17 Free Arts in the Park Concert – *The Missouri State University Civil War Army Band*, 7:00 PM at the Visitor Center
- 24 Free Arts in the Park Concert – *High Strung*, 7:00 PM at the Visitor Center
- 24 Change to Summer Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 PM Visitor Center, 8:00 am - 9:00 PM Tour Road
- 31 Free Arts in the Park Concert – *The Wings of Swing Big Band*, 7:00 PM at the Visitor Center

June

- 7 "Ray House Jamboree/Spring Fling" old time music program and dinner, 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM at the Ray House (stop 2 on the tour road)
- 14 Free Arts in the Park Concert – *The 135th Army Band*, 7:00 PM at the Visitor Center
- 21-22 The U.S. Soldier at Wilson's Creek (Firing Demonstrations), 11:00 am - 4:00 PM at stop number 5 on the Tour Road
- 28 Artillery at Wilson's Creek (Firing Demonstrations), 11:00 am - 4:00 PM at stop number 5 on the Tour Road

July

- 5 Artillery at Wilson's Creek (Firing Demonstrations), 11:00 am - 4:00 PM at stop number 5 on the Tour Road
- 19 Artillery at Wilson's Creek (Firing Demonstrations), 11:00 am - 4:00 PM at stop number 5 on the Tour Road

August

- 10 153rd 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