



THE BUGLE CALL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD FOUNDATION

SUMMER, 2012

EARLY CIVIL WAR MEDICINE AT WILSON'S CREEK

The Battle of Wilson's Creek was a pivotal moment for the war in Missouri in 1861. It was also a pivotal moment in the lives of the participants in the battle, especially for those unfortunate enough to be wounded or killed. *"A Scene of Horrors" A Medical and Surgical History of the Battle of Wilson's Creek August 10, 1861* is the first book to cover the care and treatment of the men who engaged in the opening battles of the Civil War in Missouri. Using period accounts, official records, photographs, and post war recollections, Kip Lindberg and Thomas Sweeney, MD, tell the stories of the physicians charged with the care of the soldiers of both sides, and their training, education, and experience. In addition, they tell the stories of the soldiers who were wounded, and investigate how their wounds affected them for the rest of their lives. For those killed or dying of wounds, the measures taken to recover the bodies and their subsequent burial, provides fitting closure to the book.

One such soldier was Corporal James F. Walker, a 34 year-old painter from Garnett, Kansas, who at the start of the war enlisted in Company E, 2nd Kansas Infantry. The story of his wounding, and subsequent surgery, are a painful reminder of the relatively primitive state of surgery in the mid-nineteenth century, especially when viewed from the standpoint of modern medical practice.

On August 10th, 1861, as his regiment was being led into the thick of the fight on "Bloody Hill," Corporal Walker was struck in rapid succession by three bullets: the first tore through his left arm just below the elbow, severing the muscles and tendons, while the second struck the same arm above the elbow. The third ball ripped into his left side, skipped around his ribs, and exited his back near his spine.

Later that day, when the Federal army retreated to

WILSON'S CREEK FEATURED IN TRAVEL MAGAZINE AS BEST BATTLEFIELD IN MIDWEST

In the July / August edition of the AAA Midwest Traveler, a travel magazine for members of the AAA organization, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield was featured as the best Civil War Battlefield in the Midwest. This edition of the magazine lists their picks for Best of the Midwest 2012, including the best attractions, restaurants and favorite getaways in the heartland.

"Wilson's Creek National Battlefield is an enlightening place to learn about the Civil War," Superintendent Ted Hillmer said. "We have the finest Civil War Library in the National Park Service, a pristine battlefield, and the most complete collection of artifacts from the Trans-Mississippi theatre for our visitors to experience. We also have beautiful natural scenes to complement the historic places here. Enjoy the woods and fields—and get some exercise—by walking, jogging, hiking, or horseback riding."

The park offers visitors miles of trails and natural beauty. The tree-lined banks of Wilson's Creek and the tall, buff-colored corn supply soothing vistas. These scenes, in which neutral tones dominate, get accents from the park's wildlife, which includes not only readily-camouflaged creatures like deer and bobcats but also colorful stand-outs like cardinals and Missouri bluebirds. 

Springfield, Walker had his wounds examined by Dr. Eliphalet L. Patee. Dr. Patee was a practitioner of allopathic medicine, having studied it at the Starling Medical College in Columbus, Ohio, where he graduated in 1852. Prior to that, he received a general education at the Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio. In 1853 he continued his medical education at the Cleveland Medical College, and at the Miami Medical College in Cincinnati.

See *Scene of Horrors* on page 3

ANNUAL MEETING!



**WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL
BATTLEFIELD FOUNDATION**

9:00 A.M. Friday, August 10, 2012



PLAN TO ATTEND!

IN THE VISITORS CENTER MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM AT WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD - ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE AT 10:00 AM AT THE VISITOR CENTER

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Steve Ross



I'm glad that the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek happened last year. We thought 2011 was a hot summer, but last year seemed mild compared to the summer of 2012. It is a big relief for many of our Foundation members to have the work of 2011 behind us, although we certainly haven't been idle this year.

We were honored to be chosen by the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau to receive the Ambassador Award at the 2012 Salute to Travel and Tourism in February for our work in hosting the big reenactment. This spring, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield was selected by the Springfield HyVee store to be the focus of the *HyVee Spring Event* during the week of April 23-29. The store was decorated in Civil War and Wilson's Creek themes, and they planned several fund-raising activities to benefit the Foundation. We followed that with a great Arts in the Park season including some great groups and excellent weather. We are also continuing our work to acquire historically significant tracts of land from willing sellers adjacent to the battlefield for preservation, and may have some promising opportunities in the near future.

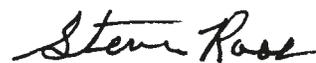
In addition, the Foundation is preparing to commemorate the upcoming sesquicentennial of the Battle of Springfield in 2013. Plans include updating the twelve markers located around downtown Springfield, special living history demonstrations (sorry, no big reenactments this time), and a ceremony to honor the people who fought, suffered and died in the 1863 battle. We have

also partnered with the Springfield-Greene County Library District to work on an interactive website and new informational brochures with the aid of a grant from the Missouri Humanities Council.

Now we prepare to commemorate the 151st anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek, and I find myself writing my last "Words From the President" article. My term is ending on August 10 and my trusty Vice President, Craig Dunn, will be stepping into the role of president. I am honored to have served this Foundation during what must have been the most exciting 2-year periods since the 100th anniversary in 1961. My sincere thanks to our Board of Directors and to all of our members and supporters for your help over the past two years. It is incredible to witness what a dedicated group of people can accomplish when they work together for a common goal.

My best wishes to Craig as he takes the presidential reins and leads our Foundation over the next two years. I will continue my work preparing this newsletter, photographing, and designing for the Foundation. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the annual dinner, at the commemoration ceremonies on August 10, and at future Wilson's Creek events.

Thank you for your continued support of history and the best preserved battlefield in the National Park System!



Steve Ross, President

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.

A strong anti-slavery man, Dr. Patee moved his practice to Kansas in 1855 and quickly became embroiled in the Free State party. In 1861 he had a thriving practice and drug store operation in Manhattan. He mustered in at Lawrence, Kansas on May 22, 1861 as Assistant Surgeon of the 2nd Kansas Infantry. His concern for his men was demonstrated when Major Samuel Sturgis ordered several members of the 1st Kansas Infantry tied to wagon wheels and flogged for thievery. Vehemently protesting the severity of the punishment, Dr. Patee was placed under arrest, and confined until the punishment was administered.

Seeing that the tendons of Walker's left arm had been cut by a bullet, Patee bent Walker's hand inward, bringing the severed ends together in a vain attempt to affect their repair. Walker's hand and arm remained in this unnatural position until the wound healed, with the tendons hopefully rejoined. Left behind at the hospital in Springfield following the Federal's retreat to Rolla, Walker became a prisoner of the Southern forces, who occupied Springfield on August 11th. Within three weeks, however, he had recovered sufficiently to be discharged from the hospital and returned to Federal hands.

Corporal James Walker returned to his home in Garnett, and to a new son born during his absence. He began drawing \$8 a month in pension for his injured arm, which despite the treatment offered by Surgeon Patee, had not resulted in the repair of his severed tendons. A physician examining his arm in 1863 stated that Walker could carry nothing with his left arm and that "intense suffering" was occasioned by the treatment offered by Surgeon Patee. He remained troubled by the three wounds for the remainder of his life. The damage sustained to the muscles, nerves, and tendons of his left arm rendered it useless, it had atrophied and his hand contorted.

Unable to continue his vocation as a painter, or for that matter perform any manual labor, and without the ability to work, the family faced great financial difficulties. With his old company commander, and past governor of Kansas, Samuel Crawford writing a letter of support, Walker was granted a pension increase. His wife, Sarah Ann Walker, divorced him in 1867, stating cruelty and incessant drinking were making life unbearable. James Walker would marry twice more, before dying of a stroke in 1911.

In 2012, it is easy to second guess the decision of Dr. Patee; perhaps if the arm had been amputated, James Walker might have lived a better, less painful life. As we can now never be sure of the factors that determined Dr. Patee's course of action, we can only guess he made the right choice. But what is certain is that the few hours James Walker spent on "Bloody Hill" on the morning of August 10th, 1861, were a pivotal moment in his life, and he would carry the wounds he received, both obvious and invisible, for his remaining fifty years. 📣

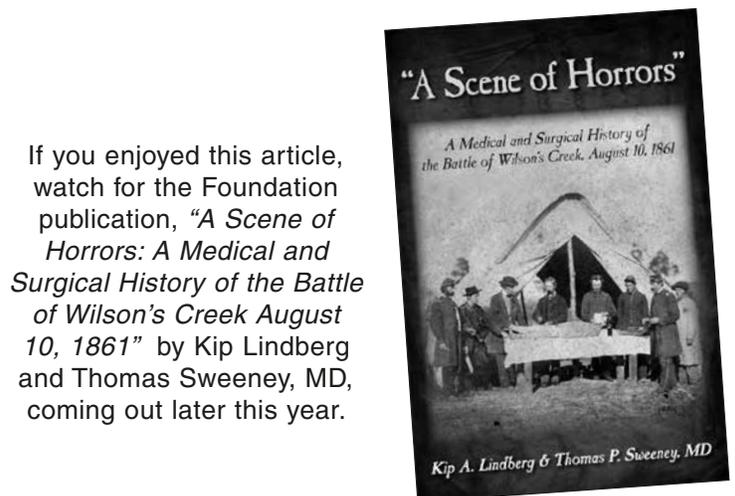
TEMPORARY EXHIBITS BEING PLANNED

A team of representatives from Harper's Ferry Center, the NPS Midwest Regional Office, Wilson's Creek Foundation, and the staff at the battlefield are developing a design for temporary museum exhibits and preparing it for final approval. The selected alternative for the overall theme and exhibits has generally been accepted by the group. The Foundation has been a participant from the beginning of the planning process through the development of alternative themes and schematics.

One major change being considered for the museum exhibit area is replacement of the electric three-dimensional battle map with a flat screen table monitor. This will allow the battlefield to showcase the battle map and provide different layers that can explain other aspects of the battle, although the specific details have not yet been determined. The potential for downloading the map into a smart phone is also being reviewed. A person out on the battlefield would then be able to bring up the map to identify a location or recollect the position of the troops shown on the electric table top monitor.



Construction of the new museum exhibits should begin in 2013, once the design has been approved. Although the installation schedule is currently behind three to four months, it is anticipated that the vast majority of Civil War artifacts at Wilson's Creek will be on display for visitors to see by the fall of 2013. 📣



If you enjoyed this article, watch for the Foundation publication, "A Scene of Horrors: A Medical and Surgical History of the Battle of Wilson's Creek August 10, 1861" by Kip Lindberg and Thomas P. Sweeney, MD, coming out later this year.



Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Annual Moonlight Tour

Saturday, September 8, 2012

Don't miss the annual re-creation of evening and night time battlefield scenes at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. The tour will depict scenes at various locations along the tour road, showing events that occurred before, and after the 1861 battle. The Wilson's Creek Foundation will be providing refreshments in the Visitor Center.

The first tour starts at 7:00 p.m. and the final one at 10:00 p.m. Tours leave every 15 minutes and each lasts 75-90 minutes. Tour leaders will provide an overview of the events of August 10, 1861, and background for each of the scenes. Visitors may ask questions and interact with tour leaders, but they will only be observers of the historic dramas presented at each stop.

Tickets for the Moonlight Tour are on sale at the visitor center. Tickets are \$6 each, and may be purchased by mail or in person (no internet sales). Tickets are limited and usually sell out early. Call the Wilson's Creek Visitor Center at (417) 732-2662 for information.

Tickets on sale at the Visitor Center now.

Only \$6.00 per person!

Contact the Battlefield Visitor's Center at (417) 732-2662

OZARKS GREENWAYS, INC. RECEIVES AWARD

The National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office, located in Omaha, Nebraska, awarded Ozarks Greenways, Inc., their 2012 Midwest Region Outstanding Trail Partnership Merit Award. This award was for a section of the Trail of Tears trail that was completed last year in the Town of Battlefield, south of the intersection of Golden Avenue and Republic Road. The project began in 2009. The concepts of a trail were coordinated and discussed with the City of Springfield, the Town of Battlefield, Greene County, Springfield Historical Society, Drury University, the National Park Service Trails Office, located in Santa Fe, NM, Missouri State University Archaeology Department, local Native American groups, SR Graphics, and Wilson's Creek NB.

The section of trail was dedicated and opened for public enjoyment in 2011 and wayside signs (education information) were installed in early 2012. The Cherokees, on the Trail of Tears had to cross parts of five states: Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, and Arkansas before arriving in Oklahoma. The trip from the southeastern homelands to what is now called Oklahoma, was almost a thousand miles. It was a bad time of the year, from late fall through winter. For weeks, most had been shut up in a crowded government stockade. In the stockades, they had seen friends and relatives sicken and died as they waited to begin on the trip west. Records kept by the government are incomplete and hard to find, but Cherokee historians estimate that more than four thousand died, about one-fourth of those that began the trip in the East. Sadly, the forced removal also divided the Cherokee people, destroying the unity of purpose and spirit.

The Ozarks Greenways, Inc. is planning the second phase of the Trail of Tears. This will be located just north of the existing trace, totaling approximately one mile. 

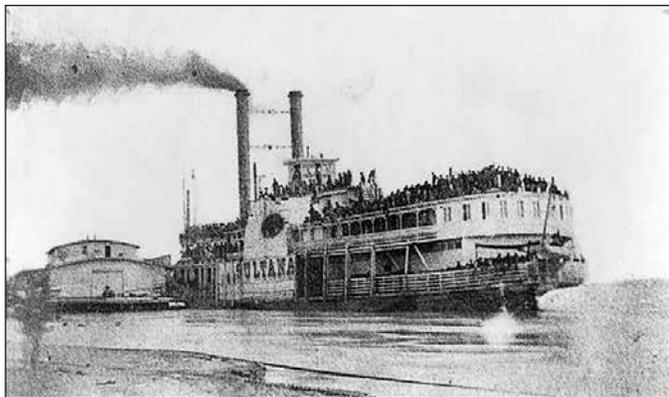


J.D. Slaughter, President of Ozarks Greenways, and Ted Hillmer, Jr., Supt. of Wilson's Creek NB



The SS Sultana, a Mississippi River steamboat paddle wheeler, exploded on April 27, 1865 in the greatest maritime disaster in United States history. An

estimated 1,600 of Sultana's 2,400 passengers were killed (a loss greater than that of the RMS Titanic) when three of the ship's four boilers exploded and Sultana sank near Memphis, Tennessee. The disaster was overshadowed in the press by other events including the killing of John Wilkes Booth, President Lincoln's assassin, and the ending of the Civil War during the previous week.



Battle of Wilson's Creek 151st Anniversary Activities

- Membership Dinner**
Thursday, August 9, 2012 **6:00 p.m.**
White River Conference Center
- Foundation Annual Meeting**
Friday, August 10, 2012 **9:00 a.m.**
Visitor Center
- Anniversary Program**
Friday, August 10, 2012 **10:00 a.m.**
Visitor Center
- Reception**
Friday, August 10, 2012 **11:00 a.m.**
Visitor Center

Please join us to commemorate the 151st anniversary of Battle of Wilson's Creek. This year's events will feature guest speakers Miss Missouri, Tippe Emmonst, and Retired Air Force Lt. General Marc E. Rogers, former Inspector General of the Air Force. Don't miss any of the fun and history! For more information, contact the Foundation of- fice at 417-864-3041.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER TO BE HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

The annual Foundation membership dinner will be held White River Conference Center, 600 W. Sunshine (just west of Wonders of Wildlife), Springfield, Missouri. The evening will begin with a social hour from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. with a cash bar. From 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. we will enjoy a buffet dinner followed by a program with an update on the Civil War Sesquicentennial. We hope that many of our members and supporters will be able to join us for an evening of entertainment, great food, and friendship. Come out and meet our great Foundation board and loyal supporters!

A reservation form is included below. If you need driving directions to the event or more information, please call the Foundation office at 417-864-3041 or e-mail amcdonough@wilsonscreek.com. ✂

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation 2012 Membership Dinner Reservation Form

Thursday, August 9, 2012

at the White River Conference Center - 600 West Sunshine

Social Hour: 6:00 p.m. (cash bar) – Dinner: 7:00 p.m. – Program: 8:00 p.m.

Dinner – buffet, drinks, desserts

Cost: \$35.00/person - Attire: Business Casual

Please mail reservation and check by August 6, 2012.

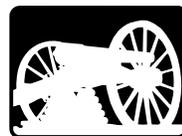
Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Number for Dinner _____

E-mail Address _____



Wilson's Creek
National Battlefield
Foundation

Yes, I plan to attend. Please reserve _____ seats at \$35.00 Per Person.

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable and return to:

**Wilson's Creek National
Battlefield Foundation
P.O. Box 8163
Springfield, MO 65801**

or call the Foundation office at: 417-864-3041

SONS OF UNION VETERANS DONATE RARE ARTIFACTS TO WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Phelps Camp No. 66, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War recently donated a collection of rare Civil War artifacts to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. A tintype photograph, two discharges, and family genealogical information, relating to Union soldier Thomas Jefferson O'Neal, were presented to battlefield Superintendent Hillmer by Greg Wait, President, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Thomas O'Neal, a native of Marshall County, Tennessee, moved to Springfield, Missouri, in 1858 and became a blacksmith. He enlisted in Capt. Holland's Company, Missouri Home Guard in June 1861. After his discharge that October, he enlisted in Phelps' Regiment, Missouri Infantry. After his service in Phelps' Regiment, O'Neal served in a third unit, the 6th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia. According to family information, he also participated in the Battle of Springfield on January 8, 1863, and was wounded in the battle. Following the Civil War, O'Neal married and engaged in "mercantile pursuits." He died in 1901 and is buried in the Springfield National Cemetery.

"We are very grateful to the members of Phelps Camp for purchasing and donating these precious artifacts. Material relating to members of Phelps' Regiment is extremely scarce, and these items will be added to our museum collection, preserved in our climate-controlled storage area, and made available to researchers," said Superintendent Hillmer.

Phelps Camp, the local chapter of the national Sons of Union Veterans organization, was formed in 1994. The Sons of Union Veterans is a patriotic and educational organization, founded on November 12, 1881 and incorporated by Act of Congress August 20, 1954. One of the purposes of the organization is to preserve the memory of those who saved the Union from 1861 and 1865. Phelps Camp has donated a number of Civil War documents and artifacts to public collections where they can be enjoyed by visitors and studied by scholars. 



Sons of Union Veterans President, Greg Wait, Superintendent Ted Hillmer and Librarian, Jeff Patrick with artifacts donated by Phelps Camp No. 66, Sons of Union Veterans

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM ALIVE AT THE BATTLEFIELD

With the assistance of Bob and Susan Biene of Republic Ford and Eastern National Bookstore, the battlefield has again hired five young people and one crew leader to continue our summer youth program. The students have been working inside this year, assisting with rehabilitation of the exhibit space in the Visitor Center. The existing battle map room is being renovated to accommodate new temporary exhibits that will be installed in 2013. Book shelves, exhibit cases, and wall murals are being removed. Sheet rock is being installed, and the walls will be taped, primed and painted.

In addition, the students are painting at the former Civil War Museum, where platforms and one wall are being removed to make room for Inventory and Monitoring employees that will eventually move into this space. The museum cases and information counter have been donated to the Greene County Historical Society and Central High School.

Each Friday is an educational day that allows the students to explore other facilities with similar missions of protecting our environment. This has been our seventh year to provide summer employment for students at Wilson's Creek NB, and we hope to continue this worthwhile program in the future. 





Superintendent's Corner

By Ted Hillmer

Dear Foundation Members,

I believe it is true for most people that time is racing by. Last summer we were closely involved in the most historic event the Foundation has ever planned – the 150th anniversary reenactment of the Battle of Wilson's Creek. It was a very demanding event and it will never be forgotten. But where has the time gone? As I drive to work in the mornings, I pass the service entrance on Farm Road No. 182. The field has been hayed and the bales are scattered in the field next to Wilson's Creek. This time last year the field was full of tents, stages, vendors, parking, baseball games, beer drinking, and all the many activities and elements of the weekend. Thank you for all your hard work last year and thank you for allowing me to have a small part in this historical event to educate our visitors about the most important event in the life of our young nation.

As we look forward, the best is yet to come. The real story this summer has been the heat; however, our

visitation numbers are still up and our book store sales figures continue to break records. The staff is working on the installation of our temporary exhibits that will be placed in the Visitor Center where the electric map is located. The apple orchard is doing fine in the heat and apples are plentiful. We might even get to have an apple butter and apple press event at the Ray House this fall with crafts and music--First Apple Days at WICR!

The Foundation continues to provide a great service to the battlefield because of the dedication of our members and board members. Each of you can't be thanked enough; you do so much for the organization in cooperation with and to support the battlefield through activities that include fund raising, volunteerism, education, advocacy, and research. Thank you; it is a pleasure to serve with you to accomplish this task of preserving our past for future generations.

Ted Hillmer,
Superintendent

NEW MEMBERS & CONTRIBUTORS

These generous people and organizations have recently joined or contributed to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation. Our sincere thanks to everyone for your support of historical preservation!

Kenneth Ackley
Claude L. Alber
John & Connie Alexander
Larry & Sundhild Barrett
David Brigman
Kenneth & Charlotte Buckingham
David and Stacey Burton
David & Jean Callihan
Owen Case
John P. Cassullo
Bill Charles
David & Mary Christiano
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Clarke
Jason Coffman
Gary Conwell
Courtney Cook
John Coryell
Mark Costin
Chris & Isabel Coulter
Bill & Virginia Darr
Kathleen A. Dean
Ron Dirickson
Randall Doennig
Craig Dunn
Gregory Dust
Ron Elkins, Jr.
Empire Bank
Tom Fowler
Richard Freihofer
Hal & Kathy Funk

John & Carolyn Gerdes
Charles Goodwin
Ray & Betty Greenlee
Leslie G. Griffen
Carol & Joe Grimes
Kevin Hageman
William Hahn
Fred & Fuki Hall
June & Sam Hamra
Rita Hawkins
Hiland Dairy Co.
Ronald Himstedt
John Houlehan
Hy-Vee Spring Party
John C. & Laura Johnson
Roy & Charlene Johnson
Christopher Jones
Tracy Kimberlin
Richard & Mary Jo Kirkey
Kevin Lange
Edwin Magnusson
Maurice Martinez
Mark Maurice
Larry & Linda Maxey
Teresa May
Gordon & Mona McCann
Ken McClure
Fred & Ramona McQueary
Michael D. Mitchell
Robert Nichols

Larry Niederschulte
Litney Oistad
Charlie & Mary Beth O'Reilly
Ozarks Coca-Cola/Dr. Pepper
Dale L. Pilant
Bill & Nancy Piston
J. Edward Power
Martha Railey
Jim Ridenour
Steve & Corine Ross
Gerald Roth
Michael Russ
Ken Rutherford
Holmes Semken
Silver Dollar City
Lyle Sparkman
Richard & Rose Ann Splitter
Tom Strong
Tom Sweeney
Naomi Tate
Ralph & Geri Thaemlitz
Florence Thompson
Timothy Vaught
WBCCI Region 8 Airstream
Robert & Barbara Weber
Jackie Williams
Scott & Traci Williams
John Williamson
Roger & Jackie Willmann



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

August

- 10 151st Battle Anniversary Observance, 10-11 a.m. – No Entrance Fee
- 11-12 "The Southern Soldier at Wilson's Creek" Living History Weekend—Infantry and Artillery Firing Demonstrations, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm Saturday and 12:00 - 2:30 pm Sunday at stop 5 on the Tour Road

September

- 4 Change to Fall Hours, 8 am - 5 pm Visitor Center, 8 am - 7 pm Tour Road.
- 8 Special Event: "Moonlight Tour": Evening living history program highlighting events before and after the Battle of Wilson's Creek, 7:00 - 10:00 pm – Tickets required: \$6.00 each.
- 29 National Public Lands Day – No Entrance Fee

October

- 28 Change to Winter Hours, 8 am - 5 pm Visitor Center and Tour Road.

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