



# THE BUGLE CALL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD FOUNDATION

SUMMER, 2013

## SAVING THE LAND TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY

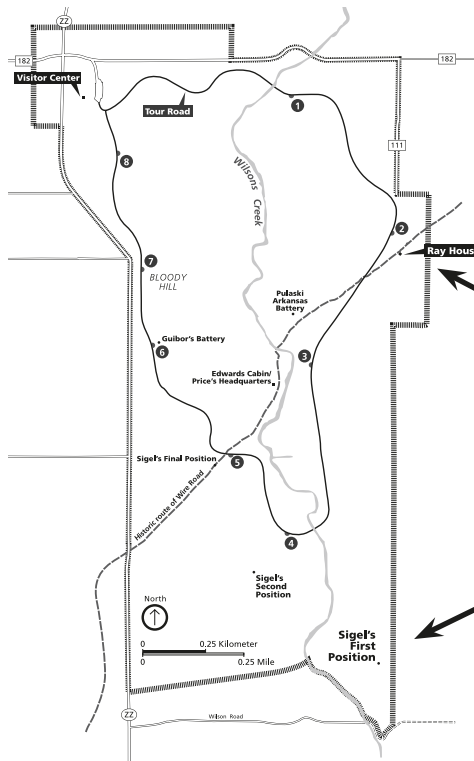
The Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation is continuing to fulfill its mission of "Preserving and Protecting Wilson's Creek National Battlefield" with two current land preservation projects around the battlefield. One involves an outright purchase of property from a willing seller; the other will protect the battlefield's historic view through a conservation easement.

The acquisition of 60 acres on the southeast boundary of the park will preserve the site of Colonel Franz Sigel's first position on the morning of August 10, 1861, as he placed his six artillery pieces on the hill and waited for orders to fire on the Confederate forces camped in farmer Sharp's cornfield below. Although not included in the park's original boundary, the tract has since been recognized by Congress as a historically significant piece of the

Battle of Wilson's Creek story. The Foundation is currently raising funds to purchase this 60-acre parcel and transfer it to the battlefield, using matching funds from the Civil War Trust and the American Battlefield Protection Program. To complete this project the Foundation has set a goal of raising \$110,000.

The Foundation's second project involves an agricultural easement on land directly behind the Ray House. The Ray House is the only Civil War era house remaining on the battlefield, and preserving the view from this historic structure has always been of paramount importance to the Foundation. The home of John Ray and his family, the house also served as a field hospital in the days after the battle. This project is funded in partnership with the USDA's Farmland Protection Program and the Civil War Trust. The Foundation's goal for this project is to raise \$18,000.

The Foundation was able to raise \$35,000 at the Spring Fling at the Ray House to help fund these two projects. With funds in hand and additional fundraising anticipated, we expect to complete these two projects by December 2013.



### Total Costs for Land Purchase/Protection

#### RAY HOUSE PARCEL FUNDING

USDA Farmland Protection Program	\$ 36,000
The Civil War Trust	\$ 18,000
Wilson's Creek NBF	\$ 18,000
<b>TOTAL PROJECT</b>	<b>\$ 72,000</b>

#### SIGEL'S 1<sup>ST</sup> POSITION FUNDING

The Civil War Trust	\$141,000
American Battlefield Protection Program	\$125,000
Wilson's Creek NBF	\$110,000
<b>TOTAL PROJECT</b>	<b>\$376,000</b>

# ANNUAL MEETING!

## WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD FOUNDATION

8:30 A.M. Saturday, August 10, 2013

# PLAN TO ATTEND!

IN THE VISITORS CENTER MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM AT WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD - ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE AT 10:00 AM AT TOUR ROAD STOP 5

# WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Craig Dunn



This is shaping up to be an eventful year for the Foundation and for me as its president, as I look back on recent events and forward to future plans. Our Spring Fling in May was a wonderful success, both for the people who attended and for our fundraising efforts. Many of those who enjoyed the evening

had never visited the battlefield before, and they were impressed by its beauty and the history it represents. I want to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to the event, especially our sponsors, those who attended, and the park staff for working with us to create such a unique experience. The funds raised by the Spring Fling will help us achieve our goal of preserving several significant pieces of battlefield property in the coming months.

Our next big challenge is the Bloody Hill Run on

October 19, the first run to be held at the battlefield since the 1970s. Many people who survived Bloody Hill back then are eager to try it again, even though they are a few years older! Plans are progressing, with the help of Susan Beine and our Run Committee. Watch for details and registration information on our web site or call the Foundation office for information.

And of course, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the 152nd anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek. At this time of year, it is important to stop and reflect on the significance of the battle, to commemorate the lives lost and the strength of their convictions, and to remind ourselves why we preserve these historic places. We hope to see many of you at our Annual Dinner on August 9 and at the battle commemoration on August 10.

As always, thank you for your support of our efforts.

Craig Dunn, President



"The weather continues hot and sultry, and everything out of doors presents a dry, parched, and dusty appearance. A good thunder shower would be welcomed at this time. In doors one scarcely knows where to

retreat from the close, muggy atmosphere, which seems more like steam than fresh air. Without the least exertion the sweat pours down in streams about a fellow's body, while at night innumerable swarms of mosquitoes torment those unfortunate ones not in possession of a mosquito net".

—A letter from "Charlie" to his hometown newspaper—

## 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.

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](mailto:info@wilsonscreek.com)

Wilson's Creek  
National Battlefield  
Foundation  
**BLOODY HILL RUN**  
October 19, 2013  
**FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HISTORY**

Join us for the first annual Bloody Hill Run at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield featuring an 8K timed run and 1-mile fun run. Visit [Wilsonscreek.com](http://Wilsonscreek.com) for details

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# SPRING FLING IS A REAL BLAST

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A rainy morning turned into a beautiful cool evening, as 180 guests gathered to enjoy a night of good food, music, and entertainment at the Spring Fling at the Ray House on May 16th. A large tent pitched on the Ray House lawn overlooking the apple orchard and farmer Ray's cornfield accommodated the guests. James Clary and the staff of the Tower Club presented a sumptuous feast of Ozark's favorites, featuring Ozark smoked trout appetizers, smoked brisket in sorghum molasses barbeque sauce, and Robert E. Lee's favorite citrus cake and blackberry cobbler for dessert.



The OTC players provided theatrical entertainment, presenting a Civil War period work by Jon Herbert entitled "Beloved Exile." The one-act play centers on a Confederate woman trying to gain a pass through enemy lines from a Union officer to care for her Confederate husband and sons. The plot is made more complicated by the fact that prior to the war she and the Union officer had been romantically involved.



Following the play, guests were treated to a performance by the Loon Rangers, a local band featuring one of our own,

Foundation Treasurer Brian Hickman. Many of us were surprised to see our serious CPA treasurer turn into a guitar-playing songster for the evening. The music from the 70's was great fun, and dancing between the tables even broke out among some of the guests.

Head Park Ranger John Sutton and his staff of volunteers provided the evening's finale, an artillery demonstration that featured a night cannon firing. The roar of cannon and the blaze of fire was a beautiful ending to a great evening. The

Foundation was able to raise about \$35,000 from the event. The funds will be used for two land preservation projects (see land preservation article) to benefit Wilson's Creek National Battlefield.



Special thanks to Susan Beine, chair of the evening's event; Mary McQueary for providing table decorations; Supt. Ted Hillmer and the staff at Wilson's Creek; and to all of the following generous sponsors.

John Nau  
Bob and Susan Beine  
Republic Ford Lincoln  
Mary and Mike Abroe  
BKD Foundation  
Bob and Beth Carter  
James Cox

Jan and Howard Fisk/ Fisk Limousine  
Tom and Linda Fowler/State Bank of Southwest Missouri  
Joe Froehle/Wells Fargo Financial Advisors  
John and Carolyn Gerdes  
Jeff and Julie Gower /Will Fischer Distributors  
Gary and Bridgette Leonard /Steak and Shake  
Randy and Johnelle Little/ PFI Western Store  
Randy and Cindy McGinnis  
Rick and Mary McQueary  
Metropolitan National Bank  
Jerry Redfearn  
Springfield First Community Bank  
Gary and Joan Whittaker/417 Magazine  
Pat Walker  
William Turner/Great Southern Savings and Loan

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## SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM IN FULL SWING


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This is the ninth year for the Wilson's Creek NB summer youth program, employing students from Central High School at the battlefield. The primary purpose of the summer program is to introduce students to the National Park Service and the many opportunities that are available to them as they search for a career. This year the program began on June 17th and will end on July 19th. The six young people participating are Robert Collins, Kyle Williams, Rachel Thomas, Toby Chamberlain, Jacob Daniel, and Elizabeth Padilla (returning student), with Ken Elkins as the crew leader.

These young people will be working on several deferred cyclic projects at the park, including cleaning the cemetery markers at both cemeteries within the park, installing new regulatory highway signs, stabilizing posts along the tour road, stabilizing bridge abutments with gravel to prevent further erosion, re-staining the main wooden gates at the park entrance, painting bridge railings, and installing split rail fencing, as well as other tasks.

Each Friday an environmental day is planned to inform the students of other types of environmental projects and resources in the greater Springfield area. Some examples of these activities are exploring the Ozark Greenways trails, touring Fantastic Caverns, visiting the Newtonia Battlefield, visiting George Washington Carver National Monument, touring the Springfield Water treatment system, and visiting the Springfield landfill.

Funding for the this year's summer youth program is provided through a partnership with Republic Community Foundation and Bass Pro Inc. Thanks to these generous sponsors for their support. 

# BATTLEFIELD CELEBRATES 10TH ANNUAL ARTS IN THE PARKS

The Battlefield once again played host to a wide variety of musical groups during the spring Arts in the Parks series. Four different groups performed on Saturday evenings in May, culminating with the Ray House Jamboree on June 1.

On May 4, the day of the infamous May snow storm, the Holmes Brigade Minstrels performed period Civil War music. A small hardy group enjoyed the evening, in spite of the weather. The May 11 program saw a much larger crowd of about 140 as Potter's Wheel played a variety of gospel and southern gospel music. The Missouri State University Community Band was at the park for their annual performance on May 18, with a crowd of about 175, and 250 guests enjoyed the bluegrass music of High Strung on May 25.



An indoor performance by the Holmes Brigade



The Ozark Mountain Dulcimer Troop at the Ray House

The Arts in the Park series concluded with the Ray House Jamboree on June 1. During the day-long event approximately 200 people enjoyed the music of several local groups, including Civil War tunes by the Stickley family's Back Porch Players, Irish folk music by James and Jennifer Bennett of Rowan's Crossing, David Greathouse on the guitar, and the Ozark Mountain Dulcimer Troop led by Dennis Norwood. Guests sat in the shade of the Ray House lawn with its cool breezes, munching on popcorn and sipping cold drinks, while other visitors watched Janet Caudillo's spinning wheel demonstrations or took informative tours of the Ray House with park volunteers.

The Arts in the Park series is hosted by the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, with support from the WCNB Foundation. 🐾

## JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER ON AUGUST 9

The annual Foundation membership dinner will be held **Friday, August 9, 2013 at the Tower Club, 901 E. St. Louis, 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 by Dr. Larry Toll, Professor of History at Evangel University titled *Battling Confederates and Indians; Minnesota in 1863.*

We look forward to your company 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](mailto:amcdonough@wilsonscreek.com). 🐾

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

**Friday, August 9, 2013**

at the Tower Club - 901 East St. Louis Street

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

Dinner – buffet, drinks, desserts

Cost: \$30.00/person - Attire: Business Casual

**Please mail reservation and check by August 5, 2013.**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_



Wilson's Creek  
National Battlefield  
Foundation

Yes, I plan to attend. Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats at \$30.00 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



# Superintendent's Corner

By Ted Hillmer

Dear Foundation Members,

It has been my honor to represent the park as its Superintendent over the past ten years. During these years I have gained much knowledge of the history of this great resource - Wilson's Creek National Battlefield - and the satisfaction of sharing this information with the greater Springfield area. Although several projects, issues, and events have occurred over the years, the relationships that I have developed have been the most important in preserving the history of Wilson's Creek NB. These relationships have been with various organizations, committees, state, county, and city officials, but the organization with the biggest heart is the Wilson's Creek Foundation, represented by its board members and general membership.

Each of you continues to provide strategic planning and direction to this organization in making our city, state, and world a better place to live. The Foundation, as well as other organizations, is driven to succeed because people that care are generous to give of their most precious life resource: time. This resource is given through their hearts.

We have a limited amount of time in our lives, and no amount of wealth, fame, or work can add one minute extra to what our creator has allotted to us. I strongly believe when we give the gift of time, we plant seeds in fertile ground, and the harvest will be a blessing in our daily walk. A simple example is when we plant a tree, for the most part we will never see the fruits of our labor; however, the next generation will be the beneficiaries.

When we volunteer, we experience the liberating feeling of the knowledge of producing well, assisting others, and making a difference in our society. Thank each of you for your time spent preserving the history of this wonderful resource - Wilson Creek National Battlefield.

Ted Hillmer,  
Superintendent

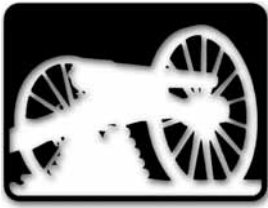
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## NEW MEMBERS & CONTRIBUTORS

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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                     | Ron Dirickson              | John & Laura Johnson         | David & Chris Rauch     |
| Jodie Adams                        | Randall Doennig            | Roy & Charlene Johnson       | Janet C. Reppert        |
| Stephen Adams                      | Thomas Doneker             | Christopher Jones            | Don & Sally Richardson  |
| Claude Alber                       | Craig Dunn                 | Marcus Jones                 | Steve & Corine Ross     |
| John & Connie Alexander            | Linda Dunn                 | Bill & Sue Kelly             | Ken Rutherford          |
| Donald and Nancy Back              | Sharon Dunn                | Steve Kintz                  | Jake Ryan               |
| Brent & Linda Barnett              | Denna Emerson              | Alan Kloehn                  | Jim & Dori Scaminaci    |
| BNSF Railways                      | Empire Bank                | Maurice Joe Martinez         | Patricia Sharp          |
| Daniel Brigman                     | Tom Finnie                 | Diane May                    | Harold Sites            |
| David Brigman                      | Robert Flanders            | Sally McAlear                | Mary & Jack Steinle     |
| Matt & Melanie Blunt               | Ron Fosdyck                | Ken McClure                  | Tom Strong              |
| Annie Busch                        | Christopher Foulk          | William Melville             | Ralph & Geri Thaemlitz  |
| Don Chaney                         | Tom Fowler, III            | M.D.Mihlfeld                 | Thompson Communications |
| J.P. Morgan Chase                  | Don Garrett                | Suzanne Modlinski            | Florence Thompson       |
| Civil War Roundtable of the Ozarks | Donley & Patricia Granstra | John and Barbara Nau         | Bruce Throckmorton      |
| Judi Clement                       | Walter & Kay Green         | Robert Nichols               | John M. Vaughn          |
| Thomas Coay                        | Ray & Betty Greenlee       | Timothy Noonan               | Kathy Vickers           |
| Mark Costin                        | Jack Hadsall               | Lawrence Nothdurft           | E. Jack Webster         |
| John S. Coryell                    | Fred & Fuki Hall           | Litney Oistad                | Morris Westfall         |
| Kenneth Craig                      | Brian & Brandy Hickman     | Lawrence Ollis               | David White             |
| Daughters of Union Vet. #22        | Hiland Dairy               | Charles & Mary Beth O'Reilly | Helen Murray White      |
| Kathleen Dean                      | Ronald E. Himstedt         | Ozarks Coca-Cola/Dr. Pepper  | Stewart White           |
| Donald DeHaven                     | James P. Houghton          | Mark & Karen Perreault       | Mike & Carol Williamson |
| Cindy DeLong                       | John Houlehan              | Michael Pierce               |                         |
| William DeSmet                     | Hulston Family Foundation  | Bill & Nancy Piston          |                         |
|                                    | James Jeffries             | Martha Railey                |                         |



# 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](http://www.wilsonscreek.com)**

## **Upcoming Events: at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield**

### **August**

- 10 152nd Battle Anniversary Observance, 10-11 a.m. – No Entrance Fee
- 10-11 The Southern Soldier at Wilson's Creek (Firing Demonstrations), 11:00 am - 4:00 PM at stop number 5 on the Tour Road
- 25 National Park Service Birthday – No Entrance Fee

### **September**

- 3 Change to Fall Hours, 8 am - 5 pm Visitor Center, 8 am - 7 pm Tour Road.
- 14 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.
- 28 National Public Lands Day – No Entrance Fee

### **October**

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

### **November**

- 9-11 Veterans Day Weekend – No Entrance Fee
- 28 Thanksgiving Day – Battlefield Closed

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](http://www.nps.gov/wicr)