

# Wilson's Creek National Battlefield



## Volunteer Wire



March 5, 2009

### Personal Thoughts

*Spring is just around the corner and that means change is in the air. April 1<sup>st</sup> marks the **re-opening of the Civil War Museum** and the beginning of our busiest time of the year! Area schools have been making reservations for several weeks now and it looks like a banner year for educational visitors. Our **Annual Park Day** is April 4<sup>th</sup> and **late closing** (7pm) for the tour road begins April 5<sup>th</sup>. In late April (25<sup>th</sup>) we will once again recognize **National Junior Ranger Day** and this year we will be unveiling our brand new Jr. Ranger book. A lot of time, energy and talent has been invested in this new publication and we're excited to finally have it available.*

*It has been an unusually busy year, but an exciting one. As we look to the future I would like to once again say "Thank You" for all the hard work you've all done and I look forward to working together in the months ahead. Our **Annual Volunteer kick-off mtg.** is scheduled for Saturday March 28 at 9:00 am in the Visitor Center Multi-Purpose room. Training options will be a bit more extensive this year, which will require additional commitment of time so please schedule your time to allow for these changes. We'll be spending a little more time discussing the different audiences we serve and explore a variety of ways to better engage them (particularly school groups).*

*Over the winter we have been conducting a 100% inventory of living history clothing and equipment. If you have any items checked out to you, please bring them with you on March 28 to the Volunteer meeting so they can be inventoried and returned to you.*

*Trail Patrol volunteers: The vacancy announcement for the new Law Enforcement ranger is finally out and we hope to have a selection made in the next few weeks. We will NOT be recruiting for new Trail patrol until our new Law Enforcement Ranger is here and available to oversee the program. We are counting on our current Trail Patrol volunteers to continue helping us through this transition. Please remember that new NPS policy (servicewide) requires ALL Volunteer Agreements be renewed annually and this requires a new signature. If you are not planning on being at the March 28 meeting, please stop by my office to sign a new Volunteer Agreement form.*

*REMINDER: All volunteers are required to stop by the visitor center and sign in (and out) each time you visit the park. This lets us know who is here and where you will be during your visit. It also allows us to track hours for our annual report (as well as for awards). Thanks*

### March 28 – Annual Volunteer Kick-off Meeting

(Sat)	9:00 am – noon	Recruitment & Orientation
	1pm – 4pm	Orientation & Tour for New Volunteers

*This meeting is for all current volunteers and individuals who have an interest in becoming a volunteer in 2009 (excluding trail patrol).*

## Volunteer Training

- March 30**      **Customer Service vs. Customer Disservice** (Donnelly)  
(Mon)      9am – noon      Customer Service vs. Customer Disservice  
                 1pm – 4pm      *VC info desk, EN bookstore ops, CW Museum desk, etc.*
- March 31**      **Interpretainment, Interpredata, Interpreganda or Interpretation?** (Hutson)  
(Tue)      *Applications for researching and developing Curriculum Based Programs*
- 9am – noon      Curricula vs Status Quo  
                 1pm – 4pm      Resource Information and Updates  
                              Talking the Walk vs. Walking the Talk
- April 1:**      **Practice Makes Perfect** (Hutson)  
                 *Presenting your program – coaching and evaluation*
- (Wed)      9am – noon      Puttin' it All Together  
                 1pm – 4pm      Puttin' On the Ritz
- April 2:**      **Stop 5 and Musket Demos** (Sutton)  
(Thu)      9am – 4pm      Common Soldier Talk; Musket Safety; Dressing out, etc...

*All of these are CRITICAL sessions for NEW and CURRENT VOLUNTEERS working with school groups in April/May. Those unable to attend need to contact me ASAP and if necessary we will set up additional sessions at a later date.*

## Volunteer Opportunities for 2009

- Museum information desk (3-4 people)
- Research library (1-2 people)
- Visitor Center information desk (1-2 people)
- Eastern National Bookstore (1-2 people)
- Interpretive assistance “walks, talks, tours and demos” (15 – 20 people)

### KEY Dates to remember

visit [www.nps.gov/wicr](http://www.nps.gov/wicr) for complete calendar)

PARK DAY (Volunteer Work Day)	April 4
JUNIOR RANGER DAY	April 25
ARTS IN PARKS	May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June 6
ARTILLERY at Wilson's Creek (11 – 4)	June 20
US Soldier Living History Weekend	June 27-28
ARTILLERY at Wilson's Creek (11-4)	July 5
ARTILLERY at Wilson's Creek (11-4)	July 18
Moonlight Tour TICKETS on Sale	July 25
148th Battle Anniversary	August 10
Missouri State Guard Living History weekend.	August 8 -9
ARTILLERY at Wilson's Creek (11 -4)	Sept. 7
MOONLIGHT TOUR	Sept. 12
LUMINARY Driving Tour	Dec. 12