

Middle Tennessee Civil War Round Table



MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER

OUR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Middle Tennessee CWRT will be at 7 PM on Tuesday May 19, 2009. We will meet at the Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County (225 West College Street in Murfreesboro).

This month's featured speaker is Jeff Patrick, Librarian at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. Mr. Patrick will present *A Mean Fowl Fight: The Campaign and Battle of Wilson's Creek*.



The Battle of Wilson's Creek (called Oak Hills by the Confederates) was fought ten miles southwest of Springfield, Missouri on August 10, 1861. Named for the stream that crosses the area where the battle took place, it was a bitter struggle between Union and Confederate forces for control of Missouri in the first year of the Civil War. Wilson's Creek was the first major Civil War battle fought west of the Mississippi River, and the scene of the death of Nathaniel Lyon, the first Union general killed in combat. Although a Southern victory, the Southerners failed to capitalize on their success.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 16, 2009

Mike Bradley – *Nathan Bedford Forrest's Escort and Staff*

July 21, 2009

Earl Hess – Lincoln Memorial University – *The Rifle Musket in Civil War Combat: Reality and Myth*

August 18, 2009

Derek Frisby – Middle Tennessee State University - TBD

If you would like to do a program for the Middle Tennessee CWRT, or if you have a suggestion for a group discussion topic, please get in touch with Jim Lewis at mtcwrt@comcast.net or 615-890-1926.

JUNIOR RANGER DAY A BIG SUCCESS

Superintendent Stuart K. Johnson wishes to thank the members of the MTCWRT for joining Wal-Mart in supplying lunch in support of Junior Ranger Day. On April 25, 2009, more than 270 students from Paragon Mills Elementary School and their families in Nashville made their first visit to a national park and participated in special Junior Ranger Day programs. Mr. Johnson stated that the success of this program was due in large part to the support of partners like the MTCWRT.

CIVIL WAR NEWS

MURFREESBORO, TN – On Friday, April 10, 2009, an EF-4 tornado struck Rutherford County and Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The tornado passed through Stones River National Battlefield damaging thousands of trees, destroying fences, and scattering debris throughout the battlefield.



Over the past several weeks, National Park Service personnel and equipment from Big South Fork NRA, Fort Donelson NB, Great Smoky Mountains NP, Mammoth Cave NP, and the Natchez Trace Parkway have managed to open all of the park except for a few trails to visitors.

Recovery work will continue using contractors, employees, and volunteers for many years to come. Several CWRT have already contributed funds to support battlefield restoration projects. **If MTCWRT wish to contribute to a donation from our group, please bring your checks or cash to the next meeting.**