



February 2009
Volume XVII, Issue I

Inside this issue:

<i>ABPP Interpretive Grant</i>	2
<i>147th Anniversary</i>	2
<i>Dr. Bill Baas honored at Museum</i>	2
<i>The Zollicoffer Tree</i> by Gloria Redmon Faught	3
<i>President's Message</i>	3
<i>News & Notes</i>	3

Meet Mr. Lincoln

The Mill Springs Battlefield Association hosted Dennis Boggs, a Lincoln presenter from Nashville, Tennessee on January 20, 21 and 22. Mr. Boggs presented to about 400 school children and 100 adults during his stay. He told Lincoln's life story: from his birth in Kentucky, to his childhood in Indiana, to his life in Illinois from a clerk to lawyer. Boggs told about Lincoln's courtship of Mary Todd and his political career. He described Lincoln's years in the White House and his assassination; shortly after the end of the Civil War. Following a question and answer session, Boggs concluded his program by stressing the im-

portance of education, because with the education our children receive they will plan the future.

Though many of our school bookings were cancelled due to the weather, Mr. Boggs instead visited the Pulaski County Court House and The Neighborhood, a local assisted living facility in Somerset, Ky. He also spoke to the local Lincoln Club (Republican Club) and interested adults in the evening on January 21.

Although President Lincoln never visited the Mill Springs



Lincoln presenter Dennis Boggs and perhaps a future President.

Battlefield, the outcome of the battle still would have impacted him greatly. By being the first Union victory, the success at the Battle of Mill Springs would have lifted the US Army's spirits and recharged the, perhaps, discouraged leaders.

2009 Upcoming Events

- **OSHER Lifelong Learning Program** for Seniors; May and June
- **Cornbread Festival**-May 23 Mill Springs Mill
- **Memorial Day Celebration**-May 25, 9am Zollcoffer Park; 11am National Cemetery
- **Living History Weekend**-June 27 & 28 Zollcoffer Park; \$3 per person
- **Ghostwalk**-Nov. 7, 6-9pm Zollcoffer Park; \$3 per person
- **Christmas Open House**-Dec. 12, 5-8pm Brown-Lanier House

MSBA to team with OSHER Lifelong Learning Program

Gilbert Wilson, the new Executive Director of the Association, will teach a class on the Civil War and Reconstruction in the months of May and June as part of the OSHER Lifelong Learning 2009 Spring Program. This program is a adult continuing education program for seniors, sponsored in part by the University of Kentucky.

The course will cover the causes, major campaigns and battles, political decisions, home front and out comes of the Civil War. The course will also cover the North's attempt to reconstruct the South after the war and the South's reaction. The tuition is only \$10.00 plus expenses for paper, etc. The course will be taught in

the Community Room at the Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor Center in Nancy. For more information or to sign-up for this course please contact:

Diana Lockridge
Program Director Morehead & Somerset,
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UK
1-866-602-5862.



Norrie receiving his plaque.

147th Anniversary Observance

The Mill Springs Battlefield Association held its annual observance of the Battle on January 17, 2009 at 1:00 PM. Some 30 re-enactors participated in the observance lead by the Association's President, Bill Neikirk. Mr. Eddie Schoolcraft gave the invocation. The welcome was given by Gilbert

Wilson, the new Executive Director, and the opening remarks were given by Bill Neikirk. A plaque made from part of the Zollie Tree was given to Norrie Wake for his tireless service to the Association. Gilbert Wilson gave the keynote speech, followed by the flag ceremony. The flag

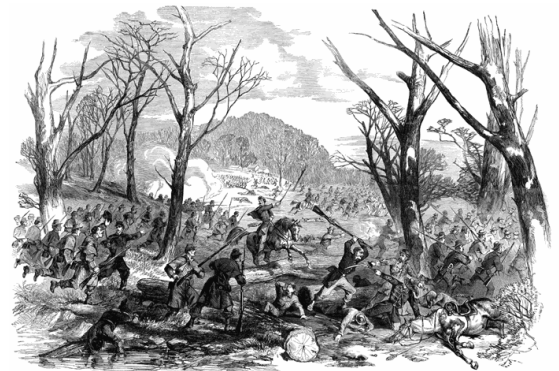
was presented to the Pulaski County Fiscal Court and County Judge Executive Barty Bullock for their continued support to the Association. Lastly, the 4th Kentucky CS Infantry, the 7th Kentucky US Infantry and 5th Indiana Artillery gave a rifle and cannon salute.

Mudpuppy & Waterdog to begin New Interpretive Plan

The Association has been awarded a grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program to form a new interpretation of the Mill Springs Battlefield. After receiving three proposals for the interpretive plan, the Association chose Mudpuppy & Waterdog, Inc. of Versailles, Kentucky owned and operated by Joseph and Maria Brent. The grant will help with identifying, preserving, understanding and interpreting the Battle of Mill

Springs. (The last interpretive plan of the battlefield was done by Grey & Pape in 1992.) Joseph and Maria Brent will begin by researching and analyzing all existing information about the Mill Springs Battlefield. The plan will cover management considerations, market analysis, facilities, thematic guidelines, media analysis and recommendations, personal interpretation, maps, the visitor experience, action plan and cost estimates. Mudpuppy

& Waterdog, Inc. will begin preliminary work this spring. We are looking forward to working with Joe and Maria in this endeavor.



Dr. Baas with his look-a-like.

Dr. Bill Baas Honored at the Museum

The Association honored a long time re-enactor and friend after the Battle Anniversary Ceremony at the Zollicoffer Park and National Cemetery. A likeness of Dr. Bill Baas is displayed in the Mill Springs Battlefield Museum; a Federal surgeon helping a Confederate soldier after the Battle of Mill

Springs. Dr. Baas' family was on hand for the unveiling of the mannequin. Dr. Baas has helped the Museum with authentic medical equipment and advice. Thank you Dr. Baas!

President's Message:

The Zollie Tree has a new look in 2009 & so does the Battlefield Association. Here is what the New Year has in store for us: a new executive director, new expanded hours of operation, expanded tours, new museum exhibits, new trails, and a new "Passport."

We are excited to welcome Gilbert Wilson as our new executive director. He comes to us after 35 years in the Pulaski County School System. Using his background as a history teacher, we are now offer-

ing additional guided tours, particularly to school, church, and civic groups.

Gilbert & his assistant Karyn Branham are expanding the museum exhibits to include newly discovered artifacts and more information on the soldiers who fought in the Battle of Mill Springs. Look for new extended hours at the Museum & Visitors Center this summer. We also plan on adding another mile of trails this summer to our self-guided tours.

I want to thank Norrie Wake,

who retired January 1st, for his 7 years of service as administrator. Norrie is retiring to spend more time visiting his grandchildren in California & Michigan, as well as to devote more time to his TeamLeadership Center in Wayne County. Even though he has retired as administrator, he is going to remain on the Board of Directors.

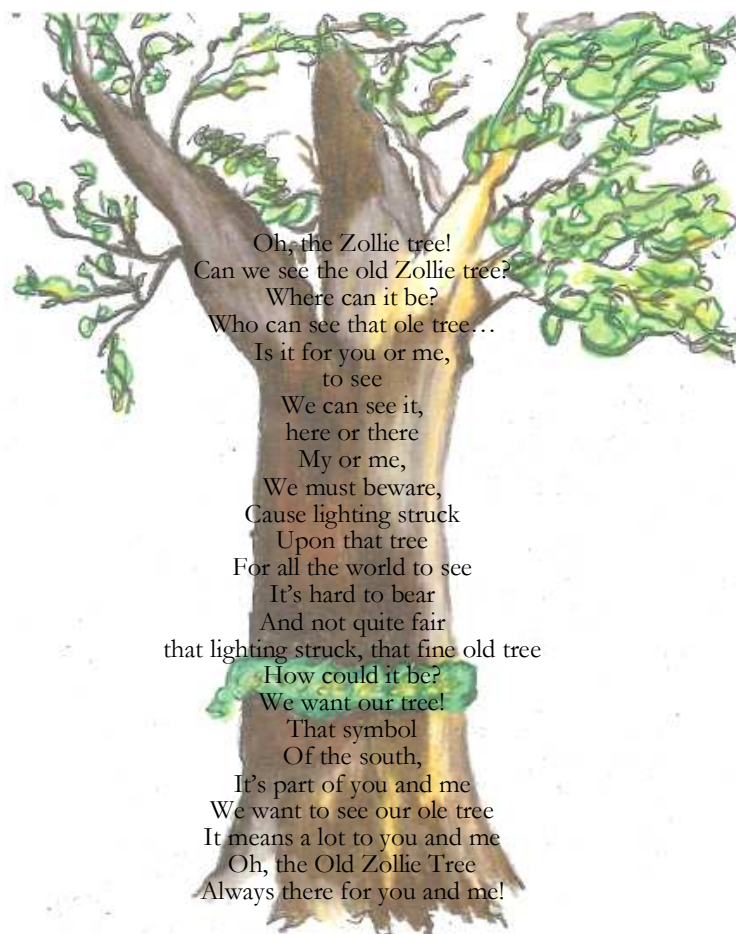
Under his leadership, the Battlefield purchased another 325 acres of battleground and he was instrumental in overseeing



Bill Neikirk, President of the MSBA.

the development of our Museum & Visitors Center. Norrie is leaving a solid foundation for Gilbert to build on.

The Zollicoffer Tree Poem and Art by Gloria Redmon Faught



Oh, the Zollie tree!
 Can we see the old Zollie tree?
 Where can it be?
 Who can see that ole tree...
 Is it for you or me,
 to see
 We can see it,
 here or there
 My or me,
 We must beware,
 Cause lighting struck
 Upon that tree
 For all the world to see
 It's hard to bear
 And not quite fair
 that lighting struck, that fine old tree
 How could it be?
 We want our tree!
 That symbol
 Of the south,
 It's part of you and me
 We want to see our ole tree
 It means a lot to you and me
 Oh, the Old Zollie Tree
 Always there for you and me!

Dedicated to Hunter Austin McDowell

News & Notes

It was an honor for me to give the keynote speech at the 147th Anniversary at Zollicoffer Park. Yes, it was very cold, and all of us were wrapped up in warm clothes and the ceremony only lasted about 30 minutes, but what of the young men that fought in the battle at a time when the weather was much worse.

It was snowing, raining and sleeting at the same time. They had to be hungry, tired, afraid, confused and wet. Yet most of them stood up to the fight and did their duty. It was with great humility for me to stand on the same ground that those men struggled on that January day in 1862.

Written by Gilbert Wilson

Mill Springs Passport- Your Ticket to History

After a trial run in 2008, Mill Springs is offering an expanded season pass, the Mill Springs "Passport." The Passport gives you unlimited free access to our visitor's center, all exhibits, all tours, and the following events: Cornbread Festival, Memorial Day Services, Living History weekend, the Ghostwalk, and our Christmas Open House at the Brown-Lanier House.

Passports are available for \$5 for Adults and are good for 2009. They can be purchased at the visitor's center or at any Mill Springs event.



Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Inc.

PO Box 282
Nancy, Kentucky 42544
606-636-4045
www.millsprings.net
info@millsprings.net



Visitor Center & Museum • Zolllicoffer Park • Mill Springs Info Center • Historic Brown-Lanier House & B&B • West-Metcalf House

Joining or Renewing is Easy!

It's time to renew your membership for 2009. For \$25, you get unlimited free access to our visitor's center, all exhibits, all tours, and the following events: Cornbread Festival, Memorial Day Services, Living History weekend, the Ghostwalk, and our Christmas Open House at the Brown-Lanier House. Members also receive 15% off all merchandise in our gift shop, some that has been recently discounted. You will also receive a complimentary Passport.

Simply Complete this form and mail it to the Mill Springs Battlefield Association,
PO Box 282, Nancy, KY 42544 along with your annual dues:

Name

Address

Phone

E-mail

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership | \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Membership | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership | \$140.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Membership | \$480.00 |

Make check or money order payable to MSBA.

Memberships are due annually from the date of last payment. We will remind you of your renewal date.