



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

November 2006

www.franklin-stfb.org

Dedicated to the preservation, protection, and promotion of
Civil War sites in Williamson County, Tennessee

Dear STFB Member:

We're always busy during the month of November here in Franklin, and this year is no exception. This past week we held our Annual Meeting and dinner at historic White Hall in Spring Hill. Some forty folks enjoyed food, fellowship, and a wonderful program on the Battle of Spring Hill by Eric A. Jacobson. We definitely "raised the bar" this year for next year's event!

On November 30, STFB will help sponsor the Battle of Franklin Anniversary Memorial. We need members to come forward and volunteer to help us execute the event. Read on to get information on these opportunities and the event itself.

Finally, on December 2 and 3, we will be running our STFB table at the annual Nashville Civil War Show at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. Please stop by and visit. We'll have the new Battle of Franklin Driving Tour map available and the price is right - free!

Have a safe beginning to your holiday season and I hope to see you at one of these upcoming events.

All my best,

Joe Smyth

New & Renewing Members October 2006

Donna Amacher	Greer, SC
Robert B Boyda	Lyndhurst, OH
Dennis & Mary Bush	Franklin, TN
John Chaballa	Franklin, TN
Terry Coats	Goodlettsville, TN
Chad Comer	Gamaliel, KY
Jim & Ellen Coulter	Pittsfield, MA
David R Deatrck, Jr.	Prospect, KY
Sam Gant	Franklin, TN
Rob Haley	Ardmore, PA
Betsy Hester	Franklin, TN
Dee Hooker	Madison, WI
Sam Huffman	Brentwood, TN
Hal Joerin	Southfield, MI
Don & Annie Miller	New Castle, IN
Ken & Nancy Noller	Riverside, CA
Mary Ann Peckham	Reliance, TN
Joel Powers	Elizabeth, NJ
Jeff Rector	Columbia, TN
Joe Red	Antioch, TN
John & Teresa Rutledge	Franklin, TN
Jon & Nancy Schwartz	Nashville, TN
John & Carolyn Williams	Greenbrier, TN
Greg Yackel W	Saint Paul, WI
Mark Zimmerman	Nashville, TN

STFB Annual Meeting November 14, 2006

Forty-one intrepid souls braved a cold drizzle the evening of November 14 to assemble at White Hall in Spring Hill for the STFB Annual Meeting. This historic home was the headquarters of General Earl Van Dorn the spring of 1863. As is well known, Van Dorn was requested to move his offices elsewhere after he was visited in his quarters by Jessie Peters, wife of then absent Dr. Peters, who later returned to town to confront and murder Van Dorn. But that's another story, more later.

After a wonderful dinner in this beautiful historic setting, STFB President Joe Smyth welcomed the crowd and previewed the short business meeting that preceded our guest speaker. STFB Treasurer Sam Huffman briefly reviewed our 2006 activities that included formal tours of the Truine Earthworks (50 guests) on April 1, and a Tour of the Eastern Flank Battlefield in Franklin (185 guests) on August 19. Other activities included booths at Franklin's Arbor Day event at Pinkerton Park, where we did informal tours of Fort Granger next door, and a booth at the Thompson Station festival where we did informal tours of the Thompson Station battlefield.

STFB had an information booth at Mike Kent's two-day Civil War Show in Nashville in December. STFB officers volunteered many hours for Franklins Charge projects, and helped, along with others, the Heritage Foundation write and edit the new Battle of Franklin driving tour map.

The Tinnie Pinkerton Dozier 2006 preservation award and plaque went to Heritage Foundation historian Rick Warwick. In making the award, STFB Board Member Greg Wade noted the outstanding research materials compiled by Rick regarding the Eastern Flank, and the many books and publications that Rick has produced in the last few years.

STFB Secretary Sam Gant then presided over the election of three STFB Board members for three year terms: Chris Cuomo, Sam Gant, Bobby Hargrove.

Joe introduced our guest speaker Eric A. Jacobson, who is the historian at Carnton Plantation. Eric spoke from his new book, *For Cause & For Country: A Study of the Affair at Spring Hill and the Battle of Franklin*. This book is a new examination of the events and battles at Spring Hill and Franklin. It is a thorough review of the subject and a major addition to the literature.

In his energetic and knowledgeable manner, Eric spoke on "The Affair at Spring Hill" and included the battle actions in the vicinity of White Hall. The entire crowd agreed that Eric was an outstanding speaker, and several insisted on buying his book on the spot for Eric to sign. You may purchase Eric's book at Historic Carnton Plantation in Franklin by calling 615-794-0903 and also at The Carter House by phoning 615-791-1861.

The evening concluded with a brief talk by our hosts, Joe Ed and Jean Gaddes, which covered the history of White Hall, and the events leading to Van Dorn's demise. The house is not open to the visiting public, but your group can sponsor a dinner event at White Hall by calling 615-371-0697. It was a grand meeting, and a grand evening. Many thanks to all involved.

Battle of Franklin Anniversary Memorial

Thursday, November 30 will be the 142nd anniversary of the Battle of Franklin. At 4:00 p.m. a first-ever Battle of Franklin Anniversary Memorial will be held on the Franklin City Square, sponsored by the Franklin Battlefield Task Force, the City of Franklin, and associated organizations, including STFB.

10,000 luminary candles will be lit to represent the soldiers who became casualties (killed, wounded, or missing) during the five hours of fighting on November 30, 1864. After brief comments from Mayor Tom Miller, two period military bands will march into the town square, the Federal from the north and the Confederate from the south. They will alternate playing songs popular with their respective army before joining together to play songs dear to the men of both sides. The memorial will conclude with reflective silence and the sound of church bells tolling from the steeples of downtown Franklin churches for 30 minutes.

This will be the largest anniversary memorial ever held for the brave Americans, both North and South, who fought, bled, and died at Franklin. Please come and be a part of this very special and meaningful event.

Volunteers Needed !!!

On Tuesday, November 28 and Wednesday, November 29, we are looking for volunteers to help assemble the luminaries for the Battle of Franklin Anniversary Memorial. We will meet in the ground floor of the City Parking Garage on 2nd Avenue in Franklin (beside the Franklin Police Department) at 6 p.m. both nights. Also, materials (bags, candles, cups, and sand) will be on hand all day Wednesday if you'd prefer to work then. STFB is charged with assembling 2,500 of the 10,000 luminaries and I think we can meet the challenge.

On Thursday, November 30 we need volunteers to be on the Square at 1 p.m. to help move the luminaries into place and light them. After the ceremony, we can use volunteers to help clean up.

Please come out and help be a part of this historic event. For more information please call the STFB office at 615-500-6612. Your efforts will be much appreciated. Hope to see you there!

Eastern Flank Battlefield Park Planning

The planning process continues for the Franklin Eastern Flank Battlefield Park, a 110 acre tract located along Lewisburg Pike purchased with funds from Franklin's Charge, the City of Franklin, and our own STFB membership. Local historians including Rick Warwick, Eric Jacobson, Thomas Cartwright, and Joe Smyth have provided historic maps, photographs, eyewitness accounts, and letters which are proving to be an invaluable resource for envisioning the site as it appeared at the time of the Battle of Franklin. Consultants hired to create a master plan for the property recently conducted the second of three stakeholder workshops at the property's former clubhouse. The presentation

included an overview of site history, current conditions, future options, and possible interpretive themes for a visitor's center. The presentation was followed by a period of questions and comments. The final stakeholder workshop is scheduled for January, followed by presentation of the draft master plan in March, and the final master plan in April.

News in Review

Battlefield visitors center would serve all sites

The Tennessean 10/19/06

Peter Benton, a historic architect at John Milner Associates, Inc., the West Chester, Pa., firm designing the plan for the Civil War park for the city, and other park planners held their second public form Monday at the former clubhouse of the Country Club of Franklin, where they outlined their preliminary findings and outlined a plan for going forward into next year. The consultants propose that a new visitors center for the Civil War park be managed by Historic Carnton Plantation officials. Guides at this new center would work in unison with Franklin's other Civil War sites to guide visitors through the experience of the Battle of Franklin, including such sites as Winsted Hill and the Carter House.

Decoration costs cut at 'Cotton Gin' park

The Tennessean, Williamson A.M. 10/30/06

An authentic split-rail cedar fence, thousands of daffodil bulbs and a 900-pound replica cannonball display will cost little more than \$11,000 out of \$30,000 earmarked for adding the historic touches to commemorate the Battle of Franklin.

Battlefield task force sets four meetings

The Tennessean, Williamson A.M. 10/31/06

Members of the city's Battlefield Task Force will meet at 5 p.m. every Tuesday in November to discuss planning for the upcoming Battle of Franklin commemoration event. The ceremony will take place Nov. 30 in the Town Square.

State's Civil War trails get a boost

The Tennessean 11/10/06

The state is getting a \$537,240 grant to enhance its Civil War trails program, Gov. Phil Bredesen's office announced Thursday. Part of the project will be mapping Civil War trails, which are found throughout the state, and creating a network of historical and directional signs for them.

Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

Name(s) _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

QTY	ITEM	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donation: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	1999 & 2000 Day By Day Civil War Calendar Set	\$5.00	
	'Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville' ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	Commemorative Belt Buckle	\$10.00	
	NEW!! ~ Battle of Franklin Map ~ laminated & in full color	\$6.00	
	NEW!! ~ "Battle of Franklin - Five Hours in the Valley of Death" DVD	\$25.00	
	'Eyewitness to the Battle of Franklin' ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	'Eyewitness to the Battle of Shiloh' ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	'Eyewitness to the Battle of Ft. Donelson' ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	'Eyewitness to the Battle of Stones River' ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	NEW!! ~ "Eyewitness to the Battle of Nashville" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	<i>Cleburne</i> or <i>Forrest</i> Prints, signed by the artist (circle one ~ or both for \$30)	\$20.00	
	SHIPPING & HANDLING (items only) ~ under 10.00	\$1.00	
	\$10 to 24.99	\$2.95	
	\$25 and up	\$4.50	
	ORDER TOTAL		

Mail to: Save The Franklin Battlefield ~ P.O. Box 851 ~ Franklin, TN 37065-0851
 STFB Membership is annual, donations are tax deductible.

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