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# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

December 2007

[www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org)

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

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## Dear STFB Member,

I hope this finds you well, warm, and ready for the holidays. It's been another busy late fall here, and I hope you had the opportunity to take part on one of the many STFB events over the past month or so.

In the past 30 days we have toured the earthworks at Triune, dined at General Van Dorn's headquarters for our annual meeting, met publicly and privately with the National Parks Service, commemorated the 143<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Franklin, and worked the Nashville civil War Show. To all the members and board members who worked and took part, I send my sincere appreciation for your time, talents, and gifts.

Finally, I come to a moment that I have looked forward to with very mixed emotions. The time has come to announce that I am stepping down as your president.

I joined the organization some twelve years ago, attending a meeting at the old county library and volunteering to keep our driving map stocked at the Carter House, Carnton, and elsewhere. I soon became a board member, and upon arriving late for a meeting one night, found myself an interim vice president.

I have worked as president for eight years now, and I have had the great pleasure to work shoulder to shoulder with some of the most inspiring and passionate battlefield preservationists anywhere. I have learned much about myself as part of the team that is essential to what we do here in Franklin.

I feel that it is time now for new blood and for a new voice to speak for the organization. I will continue on as a board member - enjoying my position as a "high private in the rear ranks."

For the many of you I have enjoyed getting to know during my time as president - I look forward to our next meeting, and to us continuing to pull the load, till the soil, and tend the garden that is Saving The Franklin Battlefield.

*Joe Smyth*

## Dick Simpson Campaigns On.... The Central Delaware CWRT Donates \$350

Our old and good friend Dick Simpson from Lancaster, PA has scored another victory for Franklin battlefield preservation. He presented "The Forgotten Battle of Franklin" to the Central Delaware Civil War Round Table in Dover, Delaware and raised a total of \$350 to save Franklin battlefields. Dick visited all the spots in Franklin with STFB some years ago, and felt compelled to develop a presentation that he carried back to CWRT's and historical groups out east. He has been on a mission ever since. Dick also reports that he has scheduled several additional presentations to CWRT's in 2008. Another big STFB 'thank you' goes to Dick Simpson and the Central Delaware CWRT.

## Triune Earthworks Tour

On a beautiful November 3 morning, a crowd of more than 50 gathered for a tour of the Triune Earthworks. For many, this was their first glimpse of a Civil War site with extensive earthworks that is unknown to most area residents. Fred Prouty, Tennessee Wars Commission Director of Programs, did an outstanding job explaining the history and occupation of the fortifications, as well as describing its significance and need for preservation.

There were many new faces in the crowd, and 8 signed on as new members of STFB. We welcome them and look forward to working together with them to preserve this important site. Photos from the tour can be viewed at [www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org).

## New & Renewing Members November 2007

James Addicott	Rice, MN
Cathy Bickerstaff	Bartlett, TN
John Chaballa	Franklin, TN
Dr David A Cofrin	Gainesville, FL
Rob Dean	Franklin, TN
David R Deatrck Jr	Prospect, KY
Dan W Duggan Jr	Brandon, MS
Lynda N Duke	College Grove, TN
Lisa & Cliff Emfinger	Murfreesboro, TN
Mike Evans	Flagler Beach, FL
James R Francis	Smyrna, TN
Jim Garner	Harvest, AL
James Hackett	Brentwood, TN
Betsey Hester	Franklin, TN
Michael F Johnson	Franklin, TN
Timothy Kelly	Eagleville, TN
Bill Nolan	Niles, OH
Rochelle Ramga	Auburn, AL
Billy & Tammy Rosson	Columbia, TN
Michael & Michele Sanderson	Nashville, TN
Robert G Street Jr	Columbia, TN
James & Patricia Swan	Nashville, TN
J Stephen Taylor	Charlotte, NC
Margie & Mark Thessin	Franklin, TN
Bob & Linda Thorburn	Brentwood, TN
Rick Warwick	Franklin, TN

## Tennessee Valley CWRT Aids Franklin Battlefield

We recently had a note from Brian Hogan of the Tennessee Valley Round Table in Huntsville, Alabama informing us that the group was making a \$200 donation to land preservation in Franklin. "Keep up the good fight" he also added to his note. The gift is greatly appreciated, and the words even more. Many of the members of this CWRT are longtime STFB members. And this CWRT has many members who have helped Franklin groups on several occasions at re-enactments and encampments. Good friends and encouraging friends all.

## Nashville Civil War Show December 1-2

The Civil War Show this year was again a big opportunity to see old friends, STFB members, and pass along the preservation news from Franklin. The event is produced and promoted by Mike Kent and he again located STFB in its usual spot in the main exhibit building at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. The show filled 4 large exhibit venues with hundreds of vendor tables. If you have never attended this show, be sure to reserve the first weekend in December 2008 to make the trek. It is arguably the largest Civil War Show in the country. Mike also produces other Civil War Shows, so google 'Mike Kent' to find a show in your area.

STFB members from California, Florida, and Tennessee's surrounding states stopped by to say hello. Four new members signed up, and we sold 40 of David Logsdon's Eyewitnesses book series. In fact, we had to have David re-supply us at the show with additional Franklin and Perryville books. Come see us next year at tables 260 & 261. We'll be there.

## Valley Corps Confederate Volunteers Makes Gift to STFB

Valley Corps Confederate Volunteers treasurer, James Schnieder, reports from Durand, Illinois that his group has raised \$200 for battlefield preservation in Franklin. James is new to the treasurer's job, and while squaring away the books discovered that the approved gift had

not been made. We greatly thank James for his attention to details, and send a big 'Thank you' to the Valley Corps for their generous willingness to help STFB. The Valley Corps has raised funds for STFB on several earlier occasions, and several of their members have visited Franklin. They are true friends of the Franklin Battlefield.

## News In Review

### Preservation March to Benefit Battlefields

*Hallowed Ground - Winter 2007*

From November 1-2, 2008, authentic-minded re-enactors will march across the Virginia countryside for endangered battlefields. The March-of-Dimes-style event held near Middleburg, VA will ask participants to find a minimum of \$100 in sponsorship from friends, family-members, and co-workers. All funds raised will benefit battlefield acquisition at Fredericksburg, Va., Franklin, Tenn., and Wilson's Creek, MO. CWPT has agreed to facilitate distribution of the funds. Forty percent will go to Fredericksburg's Slaughter Pen Farm, 30 percent will go to Franklin, 20 percent will go to Wilson's Creek, and the remaining 10 percent will help protect Loudoun County's Civil War sites. For more information on the preservation march contact Robert Lee Hodge at [hodge@wideawakefilms.com](mailto:hodge@wideawakefilms.com).

### Park Service gauges battlefield sites

*The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." - 11/16/07*

National Park Service officials are giving residents two chances to give their opinions as they conduct a study about the Battle of Franklin. The National Park Service is completing a study that could lead to recommending the creation of a new national park focusing on historic sites and Civil War battlefields in Williamson County. Representatives have planned two meetings to solicit information. Nov. 30 is the anniversary of the Battle of Franklin, which was fought in 1864. For More information, visit [www.parkplanning.nps.gov](http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov).

### Re-enactor keeps Civil War history alive

*The Tennessean - 11/26/07*

Bill Radcliffe, a Nashville firefighter, has been telling the story of the Civil War for almost 20 years. He was used as the model for the bronze sculpture of an African-

American Civil War soldier that stands in Nashville National Cemetery, having been tapped to model after serving for years as a Civil War re-enactor. Radcliffe appeared in the film *Glory*, which told the story of the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Company of the Union Army.

### Blue and Gray day

*The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." - 12/3/07*

One hundred forty-three years after the Battle of Franklin raged on Nov. 30, 1864, re-enactors and historians marked the anniversary with a number of events. A proposed \$4.5 million visitors center and museum for the Carter House was unveiled. Later re-enactors made their annual march down Columbia Avenue to the Carter House and 10,000 luminarias were set out at the city's Battle of Franklin eastern flank park to mark the casualties incurred in the bloody fighting that long-ago day.

### Defining moment remembered

*The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." - 12/3/07*

Friday marked one of the first occasions the former 110-acre golf course off Carnton Lane has been used in its new role - as a site to commemorate the Battle of Franklin as a Civil War park. Volunteers and city workers spent the week assembling 10,000 luminarias for the event, which drew several hundred people. Each luminaria represented a soldier who was wounded or killed at the battle.

### Carter House gets grant for new center

*Franklin Review Appeal - 12/12/07*

Carter House officials announced the plans for a \$4.5 million interpretative center — and a \$1.2 million state grant to jump-start the project — at the house museum on Nov. 30, the 143<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Franklin. First, a new visitors center will be created inside the old Optimist Club gymnasium, which was part of the original Franklin High School. While work on the new building's exterior begins, museum consultant Troy McCormick will oversee creating an up-to-date interpretive center that immerses visitors in what life in Franklin in 1864 was like, and specifically what the fighting was like.

## Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

QTY	ITEM	PRICE	TOTAL
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donation: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	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	
	Eyewitness to the Battle of Perryville ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	Eyewitness to the Battle of Nashville ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	<b>SHIPPING &amp; HANDLING (items only) ~ under 10.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	
	\$10 to 24.99	<b>\$3.95</b>	
	\$25 and up	<b>\$4.50</b>	
	<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>		

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

## Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851  
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

[www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**December 2007**