

SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

July 2007

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

Dear STFB Member,

We have received great news out of the state capitol at Nashville. Three weeks ago the state's Heritage Conservation Trust Fund approved a grant request from Franklin's Charge to the tune of \$900,000. You can read more about this exciting development in this newsletter.

Along with the recent announcement that the Tennessee Historical Commission has earmarked \$1.25 million for the new Carter House visitors' center, the State of Tennessee is weighing in heavily on the importance of saving the Franklin Battlefield.

In the past, the state has purchased land on top of Roper's Knob, a Federal signal station and artillery emplacement, and property adjoining the McGavock Confederate Cemetery and Carnton Plantation.

With Governor Bredesen's creation and funding of the Tennessee Civil War Trails program, and his empowering of a Tennessee Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, the stage is being set for great growth in Civil War interest and tourism here in Franklin and across the state.

As always, we will keep you informed as more good news comes to pass!

Joe Smyth

New & Renewing Members

June 2007

Dan Andrews	Nashville, TN
Dave & Kassie Berry	Jacksonville, FL
Robert Brandt	Nashville, TN
David B Dale	Nashville, TN
Philip W Duer	Nashville, TN
Howard Foshee	Spanish Fort, AL
Kathleen & Fred Fratar	Franklin, TN
Joseph L Hart	Anaheim Hills, CA
Robert Humphrey	Franklin, TN
Jim McCanless	Brentwood, TN
Dr & Mrs R Martin McGirt	Franklin, TN
James H Padfield	Springfield, TN
Robert & Karen Pease	Franklin, TN
Mark & Karen Perreault	Norfolk, VA
John & Carol Petty	Wartrace, TN
Paul Timmerman	Issaquah, WA
Peter F Wolfung	Centennial, CO

Tennessee Promises Nearly \$1 Million to Eastern Flank

Late last month, Tennessee's Heritage Conservation Trust Fund approved a \$900,000 grant for the Eastern Flank acquisition at Franklin. Franklin's Charge wrote the application, with STFB listed as a partnering organization supporting the request. The fund is administered by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. The group's executive committee

unanimously approved the grant request, the first funding ever for a historic property.

“With this, every level of government and the private sector are now financially committed and united in our efforts to preserve this historically-important open-space,” said Robert Hicks, co-chairman of Franklin’s Charge. “Franklin’s Charge didn’t win today. I think all of Tennessee is a winner today.”

North Worchester County CWRT Aids Franklin Preservation

We just received a letter from Thomas R Bailey, Secretary-Treasure of the North Worchester County Civil War Round Table of Loeminster, Massachusetts. He reports that on June 12 their membership voted to award \$200 to STFB for the ongoing efforts to preserve the Franklin Battlefield. He further added the group’s best wishes, congratulations, and encouragement for all of the local preservation efforts here in Franklin. A big STFB thank-you goes to our new friends of the North Worchester County CWRT, and we are mighty proud to have them as part of the preservation team working to save the Franklin battlefield.

Michigan College Group Tours Battle of Franklin Sites

On June 21, a group from Great Lakes Christian College, Lansing, Michigan, toured Battle of Franklin sites. The group, led by Dr. Larry Carter, the GLCC president, came to Franklin on the last day of a one-week tour of Western Theatre Civil War battlefields. Sam Gant of STFB served as their guide as they visited Winstead Hill, The Carter House, the Gin Site, Fort Granger, Collins’ Farm, Carnton Plantation, and other sites on the Battle of Franklin Driving Tour. Several among the group purchased Eric Jacobson’s, *For Cause & For Country*.

Following the tour, Dr. Carter stated that coming from visiting the great battlefields of Vicksburg and Shiloh, that the group had remarked that they expected Franklin to be a letdown - but it was not! In a note following the tour, Jim Pahl, a GLCC faculty member who is the current Commander in Chief of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War stated, “The whole group feels this was one of the major highlights of our entire tour.” Pahl had

an ancestral relative who served with the 2nd Michigan Cavalry in the Battle of Franklin engagement with Gen. Forrest on Lewisburg Pike.

As they viewed the preserved sites, looked at the preservation work now underway, heard about the endeavors by the preservation groups in cooperation with the City administration as well as the City’s own preservation efforts, and learned of the obstacles to preservation in the past, the group was quite pleased to see the progress that Franklin is making.

Dick Simpson Campaigns Out East

Our good STFB friend Dick Simpson of Orleans, Vermont reports another successful campaign to help save the Franklin battlefield. Recently, he presented his program “The Forgotten Battle of Franklin, Tennessee” to the Rockland CWRT of Pearl River, New York and raised \$300 for the preservation efforts here in Franklin. Dick has done this program for many historical groups “out east”, and reports that he has upcoming events planned for Dover, Delaware; Gettysburg and Letitz, Pennsylvania; and Wayne, New Jersey. Dick developed his original slide show after an extended visit to Franklin in May 2003. He now hopes to visit again this summer to update his material and to catch up on all the new preservation projects that he and his friends have helped fund.



Artillerymen hard at work during the recent Franklin Symposium

News In Review

Symposium studies history Franklin Review Appeal - 6/20/07

The four-day "Why Franklin Matters" symposium features tours of city historic landmarks, expert roundtable discussions and a re-enactment as well as meals with state officials and best-selling author Robert Hicks. The event will recount the details of the Nov. 30, 1864, Battle of Franklin and more recent work by city officials and preservationists to purchase land used during the battle and turn it into a battlefield park.

State grants nearly \$1M to battlefield park project The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." - 6/27/07

The state of Tennessee is now poised to become one the largest investors in Franklin's Civil War battlefield park. More than a year after Franklin officials bought the 110-acre Country Club of Franklin, the state's Heritage Conservation Trust Fund today approved a \$900,000 grant for the project. This grant nearly equals the \$1 million combined in grant money from both the Washington, D.C. based Civil War Preservation Trust and the American Battlefield Protection Program.

Gordon honored for battlefield preservation The Murfreesboro Post - 6/27/07

In honor of U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon's stalwart support of Civil War battlefield preservation, the Civil War Preservation Trust awarded him its National Preservation Leadership Award. Gordon, a founding member of the Congressional Battlefield Caucus, has long been an advocate of the federal Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program. Gordon also was instrumental in the creation of the statewide Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. Through a proposal written by the Middle Tennessee State University Center for Historic Preservation, Gordon introduced legislation to form the heritage area, designed to promote tourism and economic development in all 95 counties.

Goose Creek preservation attempt called premature

The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." - 7/1/07

Pam Lewis, an at-large alderman and planning commissioner, asked the commission to consider preserving land flanking Columbia Avenue in order to keep it from becoming a subdivision or commercial center. The move, she said, could allow property owners to eventually sell development credits in order to keep their land "green." Lewis is in favor of a transfer of development rights (TDR) program, which would preserve land in some areas while allowing greater development in others. The measure failed.

Franklin aldermen to vote on Harlinsdale land trust plan

The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." - 7/10/07

Aldermen will vote on initial approval of a conservation easement agreement between the city and the Land Trust for Tennessee to protect the nearly 200 acres of the Park at Harlinsdale Farm project along Franklin Road. Aldermen also can approve the park's overall design plans as well as to construct new restrooms and to conduct a traffic study at the farm's entrance along Franklin Road.

History Under Siege: CWPT's Annual Report on Endangered Battlefields – Top Ten Hallowed Ground – Summer 2007 Spring Hill, Tennessee, November 29, 1864

Expansion of the Nashville and Franklin suburbs is eating away at large portions of the Spring Hill Battlefield. In the mid-1990s, CWPT and Maury County were able to preserve 110 acres, but the remainder is quickly and irreversibly being lost to booming residential and commercial development. You can read the full report online at <http://mebr.civilwar.org>

Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

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State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

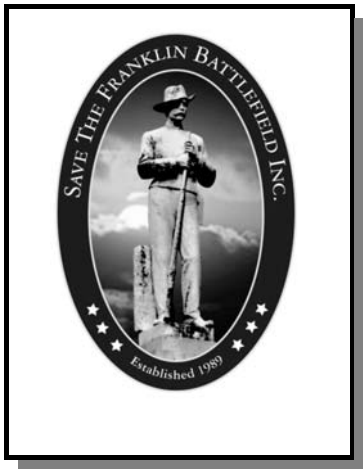
QTY	ITEM	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donation: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	Battle of Franklin Map ~ laminated & in full color	\$6.00	
	"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	
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STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.

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