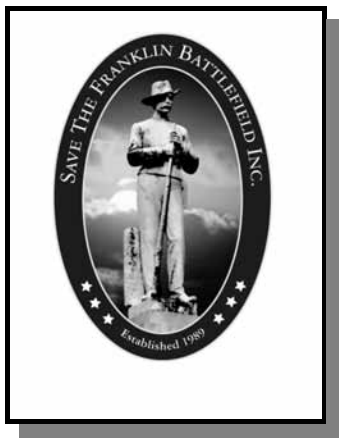




SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

June 2007

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

Dear STFB Member,

Thompson's Station Battlefield News

You've probably met many of our STFB board members at various events, such as our battlefield tours or our annual membership meetings, or the like. We don't put many "action" photos of them in our newsletter, but I can guarantee they work overtime, much of it "behind-the-scenes," to represent your interests here in Franklin and Williamson County.

Just this month, here are some of the things they have been working on: the Collins' Farm sales agreement with the City; moving the grass at Collins' Farm; meeting with the City's Battlefield Taskforce on interpretive plans for Collins' Farm; providing technical assistance to the consultant drawing up the Thompson's Station battlefield plan; providing public input at the same study's public unveiling; helping organize and execute Franklin's Charge's "Why Franklin Matters" Symposium; and organizing and providing reenactors for the living history at Carnton Plantation, as past of that same event.

The STFB board of directors is perhaps the hardest working group of people I've ever had the privilege to work with - and all of this working as unpaid volunteers. Their passion and work ethic, when matched with your concern and your donations of membership and monies, work together to accomplish great things here in Franklin.

It's a strong and effective team, and my thanks go out to all of you - both local and long distance, board and membership - for this.

Joe Smyth

Although much of the Thompson's Station battlefield has changed little since the March 4-5, 1863 battle, surging growth threatens to engulf the southern Williamson County hamlet with subdivisions and strip malls. However, initial efforts exploring the possibility of a battlefield park have begun. Several key parcels have been or are in the process of being placed under conservation easements, protecting them from development.

Recently consultants working on a Battlefield Preservation Plan presented the key findings of their background study, discussed potential tools for battlefield preservation, and solicited public input regarding preferences for battlefield preservation and interpretation. The establishment of a 501(c)(3) organization to facilitate funding and grant solicitations was announced. Stay tuned for more news and ways you can help save the Thompson's Station Battlefield.

County schools' central office won't be relocating to old BGA campus

From the Tennessean - Tuesday, 03/20/07
By JILL CECIL WIERSMA - Staff Writer

FRANKLIN - As it turns out, a new central office for Williamson County Schools won't be going inside old buildings at the former Battle Ground Academy campus.

School officials have ruled it out as an option after some study with assistance from the firm Everton Oglesby

Architects and Land Design. The school district has looked at possibly using Fleming Hall on the campus after the success a few years ago in remodeling space inside Peoples Hall for a new home for Middle College High School.

The school district is looking for a new home for its central office because of crowding inside the county administrative complex, which the county government allows the school district to use. The school district's five-year plan includes a new home along with nine new schools. In the plan, an estimated \$8 million would be needed for a new central office.

Schools Director Becky Sharber told county school board members at their work session this month that the old BGA is no longer an option. In a report from the facilities department, the study was used to determine if 45,000-50,000 of square feet could be used for office and storage space inside Fleming Hall's footprint. The study also looked at whether or not property could be configured for 350 parking spaces to serve the central office staff and the high school.

The site has enough space for the school district's needs, but every bit of land would be needed for building, parking and storm water detention. It would also mean using space that's now an athletic field west of Cloverdale Hall and property southwest of the site at the corner of Everbright Avenue and Academy Street.

Also a problem, the central office building would need to be three stories high in order to accommodate the district's needs. The city's height restrictions would necessitate using basement space, which isn't desirable, the study notes.

There would be no room for further expansion and the cost of restoring Fleming Hall would far exceed what the school district anticipated spending. The building has been empty for years and is infested with mold and mildew. There's water damage and apparent cracks in the foundation.

Simpson Strikes Again & Enlists Ron Young

Long time STFB friend Dick Simpson was busy again in May raising funds for the Franklin Battlefield. This time he teamed with the Delaware Valley CWRT from the

Philadelphia area to raise \$300 by presenting his slide program "The Forgotten Battle of Franklin, Tennessee". Dick also reports that his good friend and author, Ron Young, presented a program for the CWRT of York, Pennsylvania and raised \$100. He then asked Dick to pass along those funds to the battlefield preservation efforts at Franklin. Ron is the author of two excellent books on Lancaster, Pennsylvania in the Civil War. We greatly appreciate the efforts and dedication of STFB supporters like Dick and Ron who are determined to help save Franklin's battlefields.

New and Renewing Members May 2007

Gene Andrews	Nashville, TN
Thomas Benner	Horsham, PA
Oscar N Bird III	Mountain Park, GA
Robert Brandt	Nashville, TN
Suzanne Burns	Brentwood, TN
C Pat Cates	Woodstock, GA
Chris Cuomo	Thompson's Station, TN
John M Duffer	Nashville, TN
Rosie Flite	Franklin, TN
Robert & Yvonne Foster	Brentwood, TN
Bryan & Aimee Hansen	Thompson's Station, TN
Gary & Barbara Holbrook	Franklin, TN
Bill Kennedy	Columbia, TN
Archie & Lu Ann Lintz	Huntington, IN
Arthur Mellor	Franklin, TN
William & Cynthia Morelli	Brentwood, TN
Don Sargent Jr	Upper Arlington, OH
Joseph M Williamson Jr	Castalian Springs, TN

K Co 19th Virginia Vol Inf Donates to Franklin

In April, we received a short note from Nick Dorrell of Monroe Township, New Jersey stating that K Company, 19th Virginia Volunteer Infantry was donating \$250 to help save Franklin's battlefields – the check was attached. Last October, this same Confederate Reenacting unit made a similar donation of \$500 for our land purchase projects. We greatly appreciate the dedication of this group in raising funds to help us. Several local preservation groups are teamed to preserve battlefield land here in Williamson County, and this help from good friends like Nick and his unit keeps the process moving forward. A big STFB thanks to all of you.

News In Review

New marker discusses Fairview Confederates

The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." 5/22/07

A historical marker explaining the recruitment and service of Fairview-area Confederate soldiers has been placed in front of city hall and will be dedicated June 3, the Confederate Decoration Day. The ceremony will feature remarks by Rick Warwick of the Williamson County Historical Society, Fairview Mayor Kenneth Brison, and Dr. Neil Rice, chairman of the Fairview Historical Preservation Commission.

Harlinsdale Farm opens as a park on Sept. 22

Franklin Review Appeal 5/23/07

Three years after spending \$8 million to buy Harlinsdale Farm for an equestrian park, the city now has a deadline - of sorts - for opening the 200-acre horse farm to the public. That date is Sept. 22.

Grave marking planned for Saturday

The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." 5/31/07

The Roderick, Forrest's War Horse, Camp #2072 Sons of Confederate Veterans of Spring Hill will be marking two Confederate soldiers' graves, Samuel Henderson Smithson and his brother, Charles Thomas Smithson, who served in the Tennessee Volunteer Infantry.

Carter House camps make history come to life for kids

The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." 6/7/07

The Carter House offers two different summer activity camps that turn back the clock on modern-day life. The first experience is a two-day session, June 15-16, known as Civilian Camp where youth learn how the average Franklin child lived. In July, another two-day session meets for budding young historians during Summer Military Camp. The dates for military camp are July 13 and 14.

New tourism bureau wants more money

The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." 6/11/07

Kellye Murphy, interim director, Williamson County Convention and Visitors Bureau, says tourism is big business in Williamson County. "There are significant factors shaping the future of Williamson County tourism." The positive aspects include the opening of the battlefield park, which Murphy said is expected to bring hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

Quick Notes

The 150th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin is fast approaching. Slowly and steadily the importance of what happened here in Middle Tennessee, especially in November and December 1864, is again being remembered. The next few years will be exciting to say the very least!!!

Did you know that both John Bell Hood and John Schofield, the commanders of the armies which fought at Franklin on November 30, 1864, each came within four demerits of expulsion from West Point. Many have heard this about Hood, but Schofield's problems are usually overlooked. One of the young soldiers had problems with long hair and showing up late for morning roll and the other liked to drink and play poker after lights out. I'll let you guess who is who. Careful.....your guess might be the exact opposite of what you think is correct.

Thomas Ruger, a Federal general who commanded a division at Franklin, and who had fought at places like Gettysburg, said in his official report that "this battle of Franklin is one of the most remarkable of the war..."

The Franklin Symposium being held from June 21-24 is going to be a truly historic event. By the time you are reading this we will likely be in the midst of telling this incredible story to a large group from across the country. We will be sure to let you know how things unfolded.

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)		
	"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	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Stones River" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Nashville" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	ORDER SUBTOTAL		
	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 and donations are tax deductible.

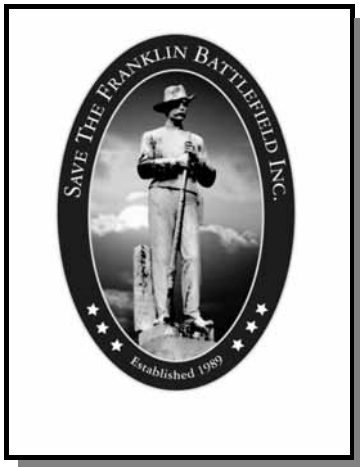
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