

# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

November 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

**Dear STFB Member,**

Those of you who attended our annual meeting and dinner know we had a glorious evening. We enjoyed touring the grand home, a wonderful dinner, and two marvelous speakers. Our host gave an extremely interesting talk on General Van Dorn, and Eric Jacobson, STFB newsletter editor and historian at Carnton, recounted an absorbing and dramatic account of the early years of the McGavock Confederate Cemetery. The evening was sobering in that our guests had to drive across the much endangered Spring Hill and Thompson's Station battlefields to attend.

With this meeting and our very successful Triune Earthworks tour, our November events are in full swing. We will be participating in this year's Battle of Franklin Anniversary Memorial Illumination—this year on the Eastern flank battlefield park—and we will again need your help in assembling, placing, and lighting 10,000 luminaries, representing the casualties of the battle. Read elsewhere to get the details on volunteering opportunities.

Finally, we will be manning our STFB table and sutlery at the Nashville Civil War Show again this year. Please come out and say hello. We always enjoy visiting with members like you, who are committed to Saving The Franklin Battlefield.

See you later this month!

*Joe Smyth*

**Sam Huffman - 2007 Recipient of the  
Tennie Pinkerton Dozier Award**

*To Sam Huffman in recognition of his dedication to Civil War preservation in Franklin and Williamson County especially exemplified through his role in securing Collins Farm as a Battle of Franklin Civil War Park*

STFB broke tradition in presenting the Dozier Award to one of our own, a most-deserving member of the STFB Board, Sam Huffman.

The Dozier Award is presented in honor of Tennie Pinkerton Dozier who, in the 1890s, was instrumental in getting the statue placed on the Franklin Square and who led efforts to establish a Battle of Franklin battlefield park.

Sam Huffman, an IBM retiree, has been a member of Save The Franklin, Inc., since 1993. The following year, he prepared and filed an application for tax-exempt status allowing STFB to become a 501(c)(3) organization. In 1995, Sam was elected to the STFB Board. A couple of years later, he was made treasurer.

Sam is active in a number of local, state, and national preservation groups. With his contacts with national preservation organizations, Sam had no small part in getting Franklin on the Civil War Preservation Trust's Ten Most Endangered Battlefields list. Over the years he has identified many lesser-known battle sites in Franklin and Williamson County and brought them to the attention of the preservation community.

More recently, Sam Huffman made possible the STFB purchase of what is now the City of Franklin, Collins Farm Battlefield Park. He also engineered the transfer of the site to the City of Franklin. Collins Farm had the highest casualty rate of any part of the Eastern Flank yet preserved.

### **Carter House Visitor Center Kick-Off November 30**

The old Franklin High School gymnasium parcel next door to the Carter House is now officially part of the Carter House property. Current plans are for the existing building to become the Carter House Visitor Center and museum after extensive renovations that will complete sometime in 2009.

The public is invited to a short ceremony and open house at 1:00 p.m. on November 30 to celebrate this important Carter House acquisition. Renderings of the planned renovations and eventual landscape will be on display for your inspection. Light refreshments will be served. For more information call 615-791-1861.

### **Jacobson Addresses 2007 STFB Annual Membership Meeting**

The STFB membership gathered November 8 for the 2007 Annual Meeting. The dinner meeting for 42 members and guests was held at Ferguson Hall in Spring Hill. Host Bill Alsup began the evening by relating the story of the murder of Confederate General Earl Van Dorn who had his headquarters at Ferguson Hall, then known as the Nate Cheairs house. It seems the general reportedly was visited at odd hours by Jessie Peters, vivacious wife of Dr. George B Peters who was out of town for an extended period. After returning home, Dr Peters himself visited Van Dorn at Ferguson Hall on May 7, 1863 and killed him with one pistol shot. Dr Peters fled town and army investigators never brought the matter to trial.

STFB Treasurer Sam Huffman gave a summary of the many public events and tours conducted by this very dedicated band of Board Members and STFB volunteers. Also during the business portion if the

meeting, Greg Wade, Tommy Burnett, and Sam Huffman were elected to three-year Board of Director terms beginning in 2008. The Board will elect STFB officers for 2008 at its next meeting

After dinner, local author Eric A. Jacobson discussed his new book *The McGavock Confederate Cemetery A Revised and Updated Compilation*. The book contains the most accurate record of the Confederate dead buried there as well as the manner in which the cemetery was organized and maintained. It also details the complex story of the funding and establishment of the McGavock Confederate Cemetery in 1866. As is the usual case, Eric did a splendid job of entertaining and educating his audience.

Ferguson Hall is available for meetings and social gatherings by calling 931-486-2274.

### **New & Renewing Members October, 2007**

Herschel & Pam Smith III	Celebration, FL
Robert Boyda	Lyndhurst, OH
Jeff Rector	Columbia, TN
Mary Ann Peckham	Reliance, TN
Stephanie Phelan	Ocala, FL
Don & Annie Miller	New Castle, IN
Elizabeth Coker	Rockvale, TN
Jim & Ellen Coulter	Pittsfield, MA
Harold Joerin	Southfield, MI
Don Nall	Little Rock, AR
Sam & Norma Gant	Franklin, TN
Jerry Wildenhaus	Dayton, OH
Jon & Nancy Schwartz	Nashville, TN
Mark Zimmerman	Nashville, TN
Ken & Nancy Noller	Riverside, CA
Dean & Rita Carr	Brentwood, TN
John & Teresa Rutledge	Franklin, TN
Joel J Powers	Elizabeth, NJ
Jeffrey Plummer	Rehoboth Beach, DE
Patrick Reardon	London, England
Terry Coats	Goodlettsville, TN
Betty Corbitt Callis	Hendersonville, TN
Nick Kaup	Northbrook, IL
Gloria Ramsaur	St Simons Island, GA
Joseph & Kathleen Mizzi	White Lake, MI

## 143<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of The Battle of Franklin

Make plans now to attend the 2007 Battle of Franklin Commemorative Illumination which will be held on Friday November 30th, the 143rd anniversary of the battle. The event will begin at 5:00 p.m. at the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park and is free to the public.

Beginning at dusk as did the Battle of Franklin, this event will be especially moving as the first ever Illumination on the Franklin battlefield and in view of the McGavock Confederate Cemetery where many of the Confederate dead rest. 10,000 luminaries representing the casualties of the battle will be lit.

Volunteers are needed during the week to help with the following tasks:

1. Assemble luminaries at the City parking garage on 2nd Ave S (across from the Masonic Lodge) on Tuesday November 27th (after 4 PM) or anytime on November 28th and 29th.
2. Place and light luminaries during the afternoon of November 30th at the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park.
3. Pick up luminaries at the conclusion of the Illumination on November 30th.

This event cannot happen without volunteers and we need your help!

Call STFB at (615) 500-6612 with any questions.

### An Evening with Mort Kunstler

On Friday, November 30, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA) will hold "An Evening with Mort Kunstler" at Wilson Hall on the Tennessee State Fairgrounds.

Mort Kunstler is America's pre-eminent Civil War artist, with hundreds of best-selling paintings and prints to his credit, in addition to authoring and co-authoring numerous books on his paintings and the war. He has been the subject of a documentary, and he has served as technical advisor to several popular films. This will be Mr. Kunstler's first appearance in Nashville at the annual Civil War Show.

The evening will include a cocktail reception, a presentation by the artist, and the opportunity to purchase his newly unveiled print, "*Order Out of Chaos: Nathan Bedford Forrest at Nashville, Tenn., February 22, 1862.*" TCWPA President Steve McDaniel notes, "This is a wonderful opportunity to meet Mr. Kunstler and learn about his work and his support for battlefield preservation."

The event is open to both TCWPA members and the general public. Admission is \$50 per person, tickets are available in advance only and seating is limited. Checks are payable to "TCWPA" and can be sent to PO Box 148535, Nashville, TN 37214-8535. The proceeds will help fund TCWPA's "Sites on Shiloh," a campaign to purchase and preserve two tracts of battlefield land contiguous to the Shiloh Military Park.

The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association TCWPA is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving, protecting, and interpreting Tennessee's Civil War battlefields for the benefit of present and future generations. For more information contact: [tcwpacontact@aol.com](mailto:tcwpacontact@aol.com).

### Incident at Fort Granger

"Incident at Fort Granger," an original play by Bob Holladay, will be presented as part of the weekend events commemorating the 143rd anniversary of the Battle of Franklin. The first performance is at 1:00 PM Saturday, December 1 on the lawn of Carnton Plantation, and again at 7:30 PM that evening at Pull-Tight Theater located at 112 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

"Incident at Fort Granger" tells of a true event that occurred in June of 1863 at Franklin's Fort Granger, when two Confederate soldiers visited the Union fort, dressed as Union soldiers. When their true identities and intentions were discovered, a trial was held and the two were condemned to die by hanging the next morning.

For information, call Katie Tate at (615) 794-0903, or Peggy MacPherson at (615) 794-8518.

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

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

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

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

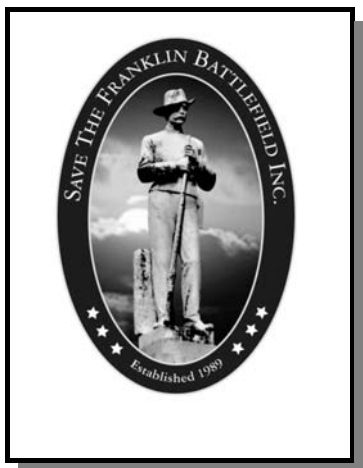
QTY	ITEM	PRICE	TOTAL
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donation: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	Battle of Franklin – Five Hours in the Valley of Death”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



**November 2007**