

# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

June 2008 www. franklin-stfb.org

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

# President's Message

There's an old saying, "change is the only thing that doesn't change." For years we have lamented the type of "change" that destroyed thousands of acres of historical ground in Tennessee. More recently, that "change" has been much more positive. Citizens who care about heritage and honor will not give up. As a result, Franklin and Williamson County now have begun to be known as exceptionally vibrant Civil War destinations. The Eastern Flank project means Franklin will eventually have a Civil War site that rivals some of the best in the United States. That "change" came as the result of hard work and a coalition (Franklin's Charge) of like minded people who put aside minor differences for the betterment of heritage preservation. And it started with grass roots work at places like Carnton, the Carter House and STFB's own Collins Farm.

Yes, there have been recent changes in the directorships at both Carnton and the Carter House. The important thing is while the outgoing leadership will be missed, there is a dedicated cadre of caring individuals in Franklin and elsewhere who will continue to produce positive "change." None of us believe the fight is over but there are exciting times on the horizon. It is my hope STFB members who have not been able to visit Franklin will be able to do so soon. Along with our local members, it is because of your contributions and support that excitement thrives in our work to preserve hallowed ground.

Gregory Wade

### Two Good Friends Move On

It is with great sadness that we report that two longtime friends of STFB, and fixtures on the Franklin historical and preservation scene, are leaving their positions for new pastures. Thomas Cartwright, executive director of The Carter House and Angela Calhoun, executive director of Historic Carnton Plantation, both announced their resignations earlier this month.

Thomas was a founding board member of STFB, and has passionately told the story of the Battle of Franklin at The Carter House and across America on speaking tours and History Channel documentaries for almost 20 years. Whenever his visibly moved listeners would ask, "How can I help?" the answer was always, "Save The Franklin Battlefield."

Angela Calhoun has been a 16-year board member and executive director at Carnton, a board member of Franklin's Charge, and sat on the city of Franklin's Battlefield Taskforce. She has been instrumental in growing Franklin's new battlefield tourism with her publicity and promotional expertise. Angela has always been a great supporter of STFB and our projects.

Thomas relates that he will be working on several book projects and national and international history tours. Angela's future projects are yet to be announced. To these two very special friends of STFB, we wish them heartfelt good luck in their new endeavors and Godspeed.

### Harlinsdale Tour Is Planned

STFB is hosting a tour of bloodied ground that witnessed savage cavalry and infantry fighting during the Army of Tennessee's retreat following the Dec. 1864 Battle of Nashville. Much of that land has for years been occupied as an important farm in the horse industry known as Harlinsdale Farm, just north of Franklin. The farm is now a City Park. Carter House historian, David Fraley, will lead a tour of this property tentatively planned for late September. Details will be in future issues. We hope to see you there.

## New & Renewing Members May 2008

Gene Andrews Suzanne Burns Mary & Dennis Bush Chris Coumo

Rosie Flite Robert & Yvonne Foster Wayne & Dee Hammonds Gary & Barbara Holbrook Bruce & Bonnie Holhler

Frank & Debbie Kendrick Spyros & Mavy Lezemis Archie Lintz Daniel McCarthy Dr & Mrs McGirt William & Cynthia Morelli Lynn & Linda Owens Harold & Mary Jo Pratt Richard Shepler Ed & Paula Snyder Nashville, TN Brentwood, TN Franklin, TN Thompsons Station, TNFranklin, TN Brentwood, TN Franklin, TN Franklin, TN Thompsons Station, TN Santa Barbara, CA Chicago, IL Huntington, IN Western Springs, IL Franklin, TN Brentwood, TN Livermore, CA Franklin, TN Duck River, TN

Franklin, TN

### Franklin Civil War Roundtable

The Franklin Civil War Roundtable meets monthly at the Williamson County Library. This new organization has presentations regarding all aspects of the War. Notable historians and authors lead the sessions. For more information see: <a href="https://www.FCWRT.org">www.FCWRT.org</a> Robert E Lee impersonator and author Thomas Forehand will speak at July's meeting.

### **News in Review**

June 2008

Historic Marker for Gen. William Loring's Division — Historic Carnton Plantation Newsletter—May 2008

FRANKLIN — A bronze marker honoring Maj. Gen. W. W. Loring and his division of Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana troops will be unveiled at Carnton on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 3 p.m. The ceremony will take place immediately following the annual commemoration by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, which is held in the nearby McGavock Confederate Cemetery. The marker will be placed in the open field just southeast of the cemetery, ground over which some of Loring's men marched on November 30, 1864, the date of the Battle of Franklin

Lincoln, soldiers sighted at Fort Granger — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 6/9/08

FRANKLIN — The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Fort Donelson Camp 62 met at Dotson's Restaurant where they heard a keynote address given by "Mr. Lincoln," Dennis Boggs. After the speech and a brief meeting, the group toured Fort Granger where "Mr. Lincoln" briefly addressed Union reenactors encamped there.

# Carnton to display Cleburne artifacts — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 6/13/08

FRANKLIN — Confederate Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne's pistol and military cap will be on a one-week public display at Carnton Plantation, June 15 to June 21. The exhibit also will include several renderings of Cleburne.

# State museum seeks Union flags — *The Tennessean*—6/14/08

NASHVILLE — Greg Biggs, a renowned Civil War historian and lead author of the museum's upcoming book *Volunteer Banners:The Civil War Flags of Tennessee*, said only eight of 60 or 70 Union regimental flags for Tennessee have been found. The Tennessee State Museum curators are asking Tennesseans to look into their famil collections for the flags and pictures of ancestors holding them.

See Historic Franklin by Trolley this Summer — Franklin Life — June 2008 — FRANKLIN — A selection of Franklin's most popular destinations is now included in a recently unveiled "Historic Trolley Route." Now, visitors and residents alike will be able to tour the Factory at Franklin, Downtown Franklin, The Carter House and Carnton Plantation, all without the hassles of parking or getting lost.

# October Plan For STFB Tour of Ropers Knob

The STFB Board has made tentative plans for a Saturday morning tour of Ropers Knob on October 25. We hope to have the tour led by Tennessee State Archeologist Ben Nance who helped with the archeological evaluation of the site.

Ropers Knob is the prominent hill in the north east corner of Mack Hatcher Parkway at Franklin. It was a fortified signal station built and used by the Federal forces as part of the Fort Granger installation. Its signals could be read from Triune and Brentwood. The summit had a blockhouse, rifle pits, and trenches, and remnants of these features still exist.

The State of Tennessee owns the summit, and the south face of the hill is a Franklin City Park. This promises to be one of the premier STFB tours of the year. Watch for details as the plan firms.

### STFB Annual Membership Meeting At Harrison House in November

Plans are in the works for the STFB Annual Membership Meeting to be hosted by Pam Lewis at the Harrison House on Thursday, November 13. The current plans call for a catered dinner followed by a short business meeting and a speaker.

The Harrison House was the site of the November 30, 1864 pre-battle conference of General J B Hood and his commanders.

Watch future STFB newsletters for details and final plans.

## Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851 Franklin, TN 37065-0851

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



June 2008

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	Donation: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover "Battle of Franklin – Five Hours in the Valley of Death" DVD		
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Perryville" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Franklin" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Shiloh" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
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