

# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

March 2008 www.franklin-stfb.org

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

## **Roderick** honored

On the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Thompson's Station, an unusual monument was unveiled. Roderick, known as one of General Nathan Bedford Forrest's favorite mounts, was killed at this battle. As legend has it, the black stallion was led to the rear suffering from wounds, but broke away searching for his master only to be mortally wounded.

The statue is located on part of the Thompson's Station battlefield now known as Roderick's Farm and owned by local mayor Leon Herron. It is thought the statue is near the actual burial site of the horse. At the event Heron announced the creation of the Roderick Award of Courage, to be presented each year on the anniversary to an individual selected for "courage in the face of adversity." About 150 people attended the unveiling.

### Fort Granger Tour Reminder

On April 19, STFB will conduct tours of Fort Granger, as part of the city's Arbor Day event at Pinkerton Park in Franklin.

The tour, running twice at 11:00 a.m. and again at 2:00 p.m., will assemble and begin from the overlook at the fort. STFB will also have a table at the Arbor Day event, signing up new members and distributing literature. Please come out, enjoy the park and the fort, and say hello at our table. For more information, call the STFB office at (615) 500-6612.

## LAST CHANCE

### Sultana Descendants & Friends Meet In Franklin April 25-26

The Association of Sultana Descendants and Friends will hold their 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Reunion Saturday and Sunday, April 25 & 26, 2008 here in Franklin. Local history guides Thomas Cartwright from the Carter House and Eric A. Jacobson from Carnton Plantation will lead the Saturday bus tours of local sites. The event will begin with a short welcome and orientation meeting Friday evening at one of the Reunion hotels.

If enough attendees are interested, there will be an optional excursion to Athens, Alabama at 9:00 AM Friday to the sites where Forrest's cavalry captured most of the 9<sup>th</sup> Indiana Cavalry and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tennessee Cavalry in the months prior to the Battle of Franklin. Many of the Federal prisoners aboard the *Sultana* when she exploded and burned above Memphis were captured at these sites.

A Registration Form for the event can be printed from the STFB events page at www.franklin-stfb.org.

The very reasonable fees for the event are mostly just the tour bus costs. Additionally, special rates are available at local hotels. All questions should be directed to Norm Shaw at <u>shawclan4@bellsouth.net</u>. All fees must be pre-paid. There are a limited number of seats available so you need to act right away.

### Robert E. Lee CWRT Makes Gift for Dick Simpson's Efforts

We just received another note and check from Dick Simpson, our Eastern Emissary for the Franklin Battlefield. When Dick visited Franklin a few years ago, he developed a presentation "The Forgotten Battle of Franklin" that he carried back to Pennsylvania and regularly does for Round Tables and other historic groups. Last year, he presented his Franklin program to the Robert E. Lee CWRT in Woodbridge, NJ.

He returned to Woodbridge a few days ago to present his "Missouri 1861 and the Battle of Wison's Creek" to the group. CWRT President Jay Jorgensen informed Dick that the group had conducted several raffles and book sales at its recent meetings, and had raised \$300 check for STFB to use for preserving the Franklin Battlefield.

The Robert E. Lee CWRT and several of its individual members have been regular financial supporters of past STFB fund-raising projects - including the purchase of Collins Farm and the city's purchase of the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park. Both are now paid off and our sights are shifting elsewhere. Much remains to be done in Franklin, and we are very thankful for our friends like the Robert E. Lee CWRT and Dick Simpson.

## Local Discussion Group

Did you know there is a recently released book on little known aspects of the Battle of Nashville? What structures existed in Franklin and the surrounding areas during the War and what became of them? What did the ladies of Franklin prepare to feed their families during the darkest days of the War? If you came to the Civil War discussion group at Landmark Bookstore you could learn about these topics and more from our expert speakers and authors.

On Sunday, April 13 come hear Clarksville's Greg Biggs speak to us about his flag preservation work at the Tennessee State Museum. In May our speaker will be former Brentwood mayor Tom Bain.

For more info go to <u>www.LandmarkBooksellers.com</u> or contact <u>Greglwade@yahoo.com</u>.

## New & Renewing Members February 2008

Ellen & Jerry Allen Phillip L. Allen Bob Beaver Ed Butler Henry Chase Tony Chichantk Wood Tracy Cosyn Thomas Dodson John Fraser Dennis Garoutte John & Tracey Guimelli Robert Jenkins Jim Lesch Richard & Carolyn Lindsey Vernon A. McDannald Brian Ruxton Patrick H Small Scott & Kathy Speedy Bonnie Steadman **Betty Stephens** Thomas Tarpy Mildred P Taylor Doug & Marilyn Thompson James K Turner Ernest Wade Kathy & Mark Wells Col. (ret) Samuel A. Whitson

Buffalo Grove, IL South Bend, IN Nashville, TN Cookeville, TN Huntsvile, AL Dale, IL Franklin, TN McDonough, GA Franklin, TN Bloomington, MN Australia Dalton, GA Brentwood, TN Thompson's Stn., TN Humboldt, AZ Elmhurst, IL San Antonio, TX Franklin, TN Alpharetta, GA Pryor, OK Brentwood, TN Vian, OK Tallahassee, FL Franklin, TN Loganville, GA Franklin, TN Franklin, TN

## SCV Camp #59 Donates To Franklin Preservation

Treasurer Carleton Wilkes of the George W Littlefield Camp #59 in Austin, TX sent a short note and check to STFB last month. On the spur of the moment impulse at a recent meeting they decided to pass the hat for preservation projects in Franklin - and collected \$42 dollars to be sent on to STFB. We have learned from our past preservation efforts that every dollar is just as important as every other dollar, and we are greatly pleased that Franklin is on the minds of our friends in Austin. This gift from Camp #59 will be combined with funds from other sources to help save some part of the Franklin Battlefield as a Civil War park. We thank you all.

### News In Review

### Civil War memorial dedicated near club The Tennessean - Feb. 29, 2008

Richland Country Club and The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society dedicated a Nashville historical monument outside the gates of the club on Granny White Pike on Thursday. The Nashville marker commemorates the Assault on the Confederate Barricade by United States cavalry under the command of General James H. Wilson on the night of December 16, 1864.

#### Confederate soldiers' cemeteries receive signage Williamson A.M. - Mar. 2, 2008

Members of Capt. Ed Baxter Camp 2034 Sons of Confederate Veterans in Fairview have purchased and are placing signs at area family cemeteries where Confederate soldiers are buried. Members of the Camp try to clean up a few area cemeteries each year and welcome community support for this project

### County wants to demolish old BGA campus hall Williamson A.M. - Mar. 10, 2008

County leaders plan to tear down Fleming Hall, an historic Battle Ground Academy educational building built in 1911. Fleming Hall doesn't fit any present-day uses, according to county officials, who said they'd like to replace it with a new structure.

### Program examines Civil War-era buildings Williamson A.M. - Mar. 13, 2008

The Williamson County Historical Society will present a lecture on Civil War-ear buildings March 15 at one of the buildings, Hiram Masonic Lodge No. 7. Rick Warwick will present "Civil War Era Buildings in Franklin—Past and Present," with photographs of 107 public and private buildings, including those "gone but not forgotten" and those still standing.

#### Historic sites get visit, no money this time from TV's Ben Stein Williamson *Herald* - Mar. 13, 2008

During his Monday visit, Stein assisted Carter House director Thomas Cartwright in the ceremonial burning of a \$135,000 bank note that was paid in full on Dec. 19, 2007, a loan that was used to purchase a half-acre piece of land adjacent to the Carter House. Once a part of the Carter family's personal garden that November day in 1864, the land became the main and inner trenches of the Federal army, described by David Hines as "the closest we will ever come to the vortex of hell." After about an hour at the Carter House, Stein visited the Carnton Mansion and the adjacent Eastern Flank Battlefield Park.

#### Preservationists save old BGA hall for the time being Williamson A.M. - Mar. 14, 2008

County commissioners were set to vote Monday night on a resolution to demolish the building. Five people stood up to ask commissioners not to tear down 97year-old Fleming Hall. Members of the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County were given 60 days to study the former schoolhouse and come up with a plan to restore it along with an estimated cost. Dan Brown, executive director of the Tennessee Preservation Trust, said that Fleming Hall is structurally sound and, although it would cost a lot, it would be worth repairing.



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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 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	
	"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	
	SHIPPING & HANDLING (items only) ~ under \$25.00	\$3.95	
	\$25.00 and up	\$4.95	

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

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