



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

February 2009

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

New & Renewing Members January 2009

Jerry & Ellen Allen	Cary, IL
James B Atkinson M.D.	Brentwood, TN
Ed Butler	Cookeville, TN
Scott Campbell	Harvest, AL
Jim Creecy	Nashville, TN
Dan W Duggan Jr	Brandon, MS
Scott Felix	Alum Bank, PA
Dennis L Garoutte	Bloomington, MN
Jackie Hardy	Brentwood, TN
Marva Hartman	Rose City, MI
George Hodak	Pacific, MO
Bruce Johnson	Riverwoods, TN
Lee Krompart	Chicago, IL
Calvin Lehew Company	Franklin, TN
Michael Loftin	Brentwood, TN
Neal Pulley	Columbia, TN
Andrew & Nancy Ramsay	Ashburn, VA
John & Teresa Rutledge	Franklin, TN
Lillian & Bo Stewart	Franklin, TN
John Summers	Nashville, TN
Thomas S Tarp Jr	Brentwood, TN
Margie & Mark Thessin	Franklin, TN
Doug & Marilyn Thompson	Tallahassee, FL
Ernest Wade	Loganville, GA
Col Sam Whitson	Franklin, TN

Dick Simpson Re-visits Franklin

In mid-January on their way to visit family in Texas, Dick and Deborah Simpson of Lancaster, PA stopped for a day in Franklin. It was a blustery day and they had but a few hours to learn of Franklin's new preservation projects since his last visit.

Dick had visited Franklin the first time in May, 2003 and was immediately captivated by the Franklin story. He visited Carter House and Carnton Plantation for their full guided tours and then spent several hours with STFB guides to see Winstead Hill, Fort Granger, and Collins Farm. Like many of our visitors to Franklin, he bought many books and took many photos during his visit.

When he returned home, he developed a slide presentation on the "Forgotten Battle of Franklin, Tennessee" for his local Civil War Round Table. His program was an immediate smash hit. He was invited to many other CWRTs in Pennsylvania and Maryland where his topic was quite often a new story to many of his listeners.

Dick & Deborah spend their summers in northern Vermont, and while there his campaign to spread the Franklin story continued into New Jersey, Virginia, eastern Pennsylvania, and Maine and points in between.

STFB keeps Dick well supplied with books, calendars, and membership cards that he uses for door prizes and raffles. During the six years since his first visit, he has done his program for dozens of CWRTs and historical groups, and raised several thousand dollars for Franklin preservation projects.



Dick Simpson catches up on the new signage at Collins Farm and it's park-like appearance

Dick is a longtime STFB member since 2003 and keeps abreast of all the preservation successes of Franklin groups. But he was astonished and jubilant to actually see the new city Eastern Flank Battlefield Park and the park-like condition of Collins Farm. He also said he was especially glad to **not see** the Pizza Hut near the cotton gin site. That site is now a Franklin City Park.

At the time of his 2003 visit, only Collins Farm was in the preservation 'win' column. It was still badly overgrown and a real challenge for STFB volunteers to keep mowed and repaired. He had seen the pictures of the damage to the house done by the February 2005 windstorm and the fallen pecan tree that crushed much of the house. Since then, STFB volunteers and the Franklin Parks Department have made many improvements to the remaining buildings, and Parks replaced the old surrounding palisade fence with a new cedar rail fence that vastly opens up the appearance of the property. Collins Farm is now a Franklin City park with a conservation easement to protect it forever.

In the short time they had, Dick and Deborah visited the Carter House and took many 'now' pictures to add to the 'then' slides in his presentations. He also now has photos of the preservation successes here in Franklin. They plan to visit Franklin again in the next year or two and hopes to see even more preservation successes in the 'win' column then.

A review of *Williamson County: The Civil War As Seen Through The Female Experience* Rick Warwick, Editor.

Williamson County: The Civil War As Seen Through The Female Experience, the Williamson County Historical Society 2008 journal edited by Rick Warwick, publications chairman for the Society, focuses on local women's perspective of the Civil War. This perspective came from their experiences with the hardships of Federal occupation, the loneliness and anxiety of having loved ones away in war and the fear as battle raged around them. For some, however, their perspective came from their loyalty to the Union or their desire for freedom.

While the names of many of the ladies whose memoirs and reminiscences are recorded in this journal may recognized by those familiar with the history of Franklin, a number of others are less familiar or appear for the first time. To mention some of the ladies, we find Sallie McEwen, Adelia German, Fannie Courtney, Sallie McNutt, Mary Pearre, Pamela Carothers, Martha Perkins, Sally Royce, Mary Scruggs, Anna Toon, Martha Harrison, Alice Thompson, America Carter, Sarah Gaut, and Elizabeth Clouston.

The Female Experience presents a perspective of the Civil War different from those found in better known books on the Battle of Franklin. In drawing from the memoirs and reminiscences of these ladies and without distracting from their individual points of view, Rick Warwick does a masterful job of allowing the reader to empathize with those suffering under the Federal occupation. However, with material from and about the ladies who remained loyal to the Union and those who were slaves or who opposed slavery, the reader may see the "rest of the story."

The Civil War As Seen Through The Female Experience may be purchased for \$20.00 from The Heritage Foundation, 510 Columbia Ave., Franklin, TN 37064, Tel.: 615-591-8500. New members of the Williamson County Historical Society will receive a WCHS journal at no additional charge.

James Lee McDonough to Address Franklin Civil War Round Table

We are proud to announce that Prof. James McDonough, most recently a member of the history faculty at Auburn University (and previously David Lipscomb University) will be speaking about the Battle of Franklin to the Franklin Civil War Round Table. His book about Franklin co-authored with Thomas L. Connelly, *Five Tragic Hours: The Battle of Franklin*, was published in 1983 by the University of Tennessee Press.

After the talk, Landmark Booksellers will sponsor a book signing for attendees to meet and speak with Prof. McDonough. Both events will be held at the Williamson County Library, Sunday, March 8th at 3:00 and last about 90 minutes. For further information contact: Greg L. Wade 473 3034
GregLWade@yahoo.com - There is no admission but donations are greatly appreciated.

Civil War Cavalry Seminar at Belle Meade Plantation in Nashville March 27th and 28th, 2009

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 27th and Saturday, March 28th, 2009 for the **“The Cavalry: A Conference On Mounted Warfare”** to be held at Belle Meade Plantation in Nashville. Hosted by Belle Meade, the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area and the Tennessee State Museum, the event will feature lectures and tours related to cavalry operations in Middle Tennessee. It is being held in conjunction with the **“Hoofbeats In The Heartland”** touring exhibit from the Tennessee State Museum.

The event begins on Friday evening, March 27th with a program by Dr. Richard McMurry, **“Uncompromising Secessionist: James Knox Miller and the 8th Confederate Cavalry.”** On Saturday, March 28th, the luncheon program features Dr. Brian McKnight of Angelo State University in Texas with **“Champ Ferguson: Tennessee Terror.”**

News in Review

Property Owners and Land Trust Partner for the Future— *Franklin Life* — January 2009 — FRANKLIN — A group of Williamson County landowners and a small Nashville based non-profit have been working hard to indefinitely preserve local wilderness and historic sites. The Land Trust for Tennessee works primarily through conservation easements, a legal document that restricts future use of a property but allows it to be occupied, owned, bought, sold, or inherited as usual. One of the most prominent projects the Land Trust has worked on in Williamson County has been helping to insure the preservation of the Franklin Battlefield. The Land Trust feels the property has historic, recreational, and natural assets that could not be replaced if lost.

Downturn hurts effort to preserve state land — *The Tennessean* —1/19/09 — NASHVILLE — Over the past three years, Tennessee has distributed \$30 million in conservation grants to non-profits like the Parks and Greenways Foundation, the Nature Conservancy and the Land Trust of Tennessee. These groups, in turn, have used the grants to conserve \$120 million worth of land. But last summer, the flow of conservation funding abruptly cut off. By 2008, there was more than \$28 million in land acquisition funds. But as the state faced a looming \$1 billion budget shortfall, most of that money was diverted into the general fund.

The Road To Emancipation — *Williamson Herald* — 2/5/09 — FRANKLIN — In honor of Black History Month, Carnton Plantation and The McLemore House will offer tours to educate visitors about the role of African Americans in Williamson County during the Civil War and the Reconstruction period. Eric Jacobson, Carnton historian and noted Civil War speaker and Tom Murdic from the McLemore House will lead the hour-long tours and answer questions.

Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851
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February 2009

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	"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	
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