



# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

December 2010

[www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org)

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

## President's Message

I hope that you were able to attend some of the Battle of Franklin anniversary events to remember the sacrifice of so many American men and boys on the fields of Franklin 146 years ago. The Commemorative Illumination is always an especially moving event with its field of 10,000 glowing luminaries, stretching out in endless ranks beyond the dead buried at McGavock Confederate Cemetery.

The experience is a sobering reminder not only of the scale of the battle, but also the import of our mission to perpetuate the memory of its human cost through preservation of the Franklin battlefield. We believe that our current efforts to acquire two parcels on the battlefield's eastern flank just south of the Federal trench line will add to our knowledge of the battle and enhance our understanding of the experience of those who fought over this ground. This is a debt we owe not only to the past, but more profoundly to future generations as well.

We thank you for your continued support of STFB through membership, involvement, and donations. Our efforts will succeed only with your continued support. Please consider a year's end gift or pledge towards our current land acquisition projects.

Finally, as we celebrate this holiday season with family and friends in peace and comfort, let us remember the price paid by generations of Americans, continuing today. Happy Holidays.

Mike Walker - President

## New & Renewing Members November 2010

Paul & Nancy Andersen	Franklin, TN
Paul Arch	Coraopolis, PA
David Berry	Jacksonville, FL
Betty Corbitt Callis	Hendersonville, TN
David Cofrin	Gainesville, FL
American CW Charitable Trust	Garnet Valley, PA
Northern Illinois CWRT	Rolling Meadows, IL
Rob Dean	Franklin, TN
Phillip Duer	Nashville, TN
Sam Gant	Franklin, TN
Ohio Dept Ladies of the GAR	Pomeroy, OH
James Hackett	Brentwood, TN
Bobby Hargrove	Franklin, TN
Betsey & Preston Hester	Franklin, TN
Robert Huff	Franklin, TN
Mike & Debbie Jeannette	Franklin, TN
Harold Joerin	Southfield, MI
Nicholas Kaup	Northbrook, IL
Donald Kerns	Garden Grove, CA
Bill Lamb	Franklin, TN
Doug Lewter	Madison, AL
Sherri Miller	Allentown, PA
Joe & Kathy Mizzi	White Lake, MI
Ken & Nancy Noller	Riverside, CA
Mary Pearce	Franklin, TN
Stephanie Phelan	Crystal River, FL
Joel Powers	Elizabeth, NJ
Leonard Riedel	Danville, VA
Peter Schofield	Cleveland, OH
Dick & Anjeannette Staley	Diamond Bar, CA
James & Patricia Swan	Nashville, TN
Thomas Vaughan	Pell City, AL
John Vaughn III	Boca Raton, FL
Gary & Paula Waddey	Nashville, TN
Mark Zimmerman	Nashville, TN

### Board of Directors

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## STFB Annual Membership Meeting



**Heritage Foundation Executive Director Mary Pearce receives the 2010 Tenney Pinkerton Dossier Award from STFB Treasurer Sam Huffman**

On December 2, 2010, Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc., Board members and guests met at Otey Hall, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, for the Annual STFB Dinner and Membership Meeting. STFB President Mike Walker welcomed the guests as he opened the meeting. Sam Gant offered an invocation before the dinner which was served by Puckett's Grocery. Following the meal, Mike called the business meeting to order and recognized the STFB Advisory Board members present, Mike Skinner and Susan Burns. Sam Huffman gave a summary of STFB's activities of 2010 including some detail on the proposed acquisition of two important battlefield sites on the Eastern Flank: Loring's Advance and the Willow Plunge properties. Two Board members were then reelected by acclamation: Sam Huffman and Tommy Burnett.

Sam Huffman officiated the presentation of the *Tenny Pinkerton Dossier Award*. This award is given each year to the Individual who, in the judgment of the STFB Board, made the most notable contribution during the past year to historic preservation. The *2010 Tenny Pinkerton Dossier Award* was presented to Mary Pearce, Director of the Heritage Foundation for her continuing work to preserve Franklin's Battlefields and for her recent project to save and restore the Franklin Theater.

The evening's keynote speaker, Thomas Flagel, Instructor of History, Columbia State Community College, presented, "The Vitality of Historic Preservation." He emphasized the importance of preserving the battlefield sites so that one can better visualize the significance of the conflict when walking the ground where the battle was fought. The meeting closed, after concluding remarks by Mike Walker.

## Battle of Franklin Illumination November 20, 2010

November was the 146<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Franklin. To mark the event, a 10,000 candle Illumination Ceremony was staged on the grounds of Carnton Plantation near the Confederate Cemetery in Franklin. The luminaries represent the nearly 10,000 killed, wounded, captured or missing Americans of the two armies that fought here.

The event was sponsored by the Franklin Battlefield Commission and assisted by several local preservation groups. This was the fifth Illumination in as many years and the second conducted near the Cemetery. A team of 110 community volunteers assembled and placed the luminaries in about an hour. Another hour was needed to light them shortly before dusk. Pictures of the event will be posted at [BofIllumination.org](http://BofIllumination.org)

As the darkness gathered, the four-acre display slowly became a striking testament to the numbers who fell at Franklin. Several speakers and reenactors conducted a solemn commemorative program. A period Honor Guard preceded the band into the cemetery to begin the program that included the reading of soldier's letters to their families. Several musical selections were played by the Eighth Georgia Regimental Band from Rome, Georgia. Among the musical numbers played by the band, the first unofficial national anthem "Hail Columbia", Dixie and concluding with the Stars Spangled Banner.

Several hundred visitors attended the ceremony, including local residents and visitors from as far away as California, Illinois and Indiana. The program and the illumination were a moving tribute to all of the casualties of that terrible day in November 1864.

The Illumination each year is a visual statement that the Franklin community, and our visitors, clearly understand our responsibility to forever remember the cost of war and the suffering of those who fell at Franklin.

## News in Review December 2010

**Civil War history comes to life at Nashville celebration: Re-enactors kick off state's celebration — *The Tennessean* — 11/13/10 — Nashville** — More than 100 re-enactors were in the

Bicentennial Mall in downtown Nashville to take part in the living history event at the state park, setting the scene of the beginning of the Civil War in 1860, as it kicked off the state's [sesquicentennial](#) of the war's beginning. The re-enactors were not only being authentic to the Civil War period, but many were true to the moment 150 years ago, in November 1860. Lincoln had been elected, and the nation's fragile compromises over slavery and states' rights were about to unravel. South Carolina would secede on Dec. 20, 1860.

**Williamson County sites tell stories of Civil War's desperate days — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 11/17/10 — FRANKLIN —** Modern-day efforts to mark the battlefield have helped bring new attention to battles. Just a few years ago, Franklin bought a former golf club off Lewisburg Pike that is now a city park dedicated to the Battle of Franklin, though work to make the park into an interpretive center hasn't been completed. Private groups are at work trying to buy more parkland in Spring Hill near Rippavilla Plantation and on Columbia Avenue in Franklin near the Domino's Pizza where a larger park is envisioned to stand one day. As the 150th anniversary of the Civil War approaches, more historic interpretation is being planned.

**Col. William Shy's casket moved as loan to Travellers Rest to mark Civil War's sesquicentennial — *Williamson Herald* — 11/18/10 — FRANKLIN —** The cast-iron casket of Col. William M. Shy was removed Monday afternoon from the Battle of Franklin's Trust's The Carter House Museum as part of a five-year loan to Travellers Rest where it will be on display as the centerpiece of that historic site's Civil War sesquicentennial celebration. “He died at Nashville so this is a tangible connection with the battle and the human cost,” said Brian Allison, interim director at Travellers Rest: “It is a unique piece and has such an interesting story to go with it.”

**\$960,000 grant to help preserve Civil War battleground in Franklin — *The Tennessean* — 11/24/10 — FRANKLIN —** A state grant of \$960,000 was awarded Wednesday to help preserve part of a Civil War battleground upon which a strip mall currently exists. The money, awarded by the Tennessee Department of Transportation as an enhancement grant, is to help purchase the property so that preservationists can install a small park. TDOT received 407 letters of support from citizens

The one-acre site on the corner of Columbia and Cleburne streets is near a former cotton gin and the Carter House. Historians describe it as the epicenter of the Battle of Franklin where Union and Confederate forces met Nov. 30, 1864.

**Tennesseans show off their slice of Civil War — *The Tennessean* — 11/24/10 — NASHVILLE —**

To commemorate Tennessee's Civil War Sesquicentennial, archivists from the library and the Tennessee State Museum have been visiting counties across the state in search of Civil War era artifacts. The archivists took photographs of the items Tennesseans have shared with them. Through Nov. 30, some of the photos of letters, maps, diaries, guns, swords, knives, uniforms and other items from the Civil War era are on display in the lobby of the State Library & Archives building on Seventh Avenue North

**Carter House unveils bullet which killed Tod Carter after donation by family — *Williamson Herald* — 12/2/10 — FRANKLIN —** On the 146th anniversary of his death, an exhibit featuring the bullet believed to have caused the fatal wound to Capt. Tod Carter just 175 yards from his childhood home during the Civil War Battle of Franklin was unveiled in the room where the 24-year-old is believed to have died. Carter descendants Carter Conway, Mary Anne Warren and Betsey Conway Snodgrass, along with Conway's daughter Nan Miller and her daughters Rachel and Madison, were on hand for the unveiling of a display case which features the Williams Cleaner bullet taken from Carter's head on Nov. 30, 1864. He would die two days later in the front parlor room where the ceremony took place.

**Sad anniversary celebrates Reconciliation — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 12/6/10 — FRANKLIN —** Under late-afternoon sunlight, re-enactors and descendants of Confederate and Union veterans of the Civil War made the annual march to the Carter House on Nov. 28 to commemorate the Battle of Franklin. Although the Confederate side outnumbered the Union side, both expressed the belief it is important to remember our history. The Confederate representatives marched from Winstead Hill while their Union counterparts marched from Fort Granger through Pinkerton Park. They met at the Carter House as they did in the 1864 battle. Contrary to their ancestors, they shook hands and embraced one another upon that meeting

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!!**

# Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851  
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## December 2010

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QTY	Item	Price	Total
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donation: <b>Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase</b> (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	
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STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.