

# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

October 2010 www. franklin-stfb.org

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

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# President's Message

This past Saturday, STFB board members staffed a booth at the Thompson's Station Fall Festival. It was an unseasonably warm day but very pleasant as we enjoyed meeting area residents and making new friends.

One major goal for the day was to share the story of the Battle of Thompson's Station with our visitors. Besides an overview of the battle, we pointed out the ongoing efforts to establish a Battle of Thompson's Station battlefield park. Visitors were pleased to learn of the conservation easements placed by property owners Jay and Marcia Franks on the Homestead Manor grounds and by Leon Heron on another nearby parcel.

Many booth visitors were aware of the battle but did not realize its significance. Residents enjoyed viewing an aerial photograph of the battlefield showing troop movements and positions, familiarizing themselves with the extent of the battlefield, and recognizing familiar features significant in the action.

We were very pleased to find great interest and support for a Thompson's Station battlefield park. As development pressures continue to grow, we are hopeful that the residents' wishes and hopes for a battlefield park can be realized, thus preserving their unique heritage and providing green space for their families and future generations to enjoy.

To learn more about the Battle of Thompson's Station, visit our website.

Mike Walker - President

#### New & Renewing Members September 2010

Brentwood, TN James Childress Bill Cristen Warren, MI Florida CWRT Naples, FL May Dean Eberling Nashville, TN Sam Huffman Brentwood, TN Mike Kent & Assoc Monroe, GA M/M James Kinnally Huntsville, AL Pam Lewis Franklin, TN William D Morgan Franklin, TN Jean Nelson – Land Trust Nashville, TN Carol Signett Ferndale, WA John Thomsen Franklin, TN Raymond & Paula Uhlir Brentwood, TN

## STFB Annual Meeting & Dinner Thursday, December 2, 2010

The Annual Meeting of Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc will be held Thursday, December 2, 2010 at St Pauls Episcopal Church in Franklin.

We plan to gather in Otey Hall at 6:00 PM with a full dinner buffet at 6:30 PM. A short business meeting will begin right after dinner followed by our speaker, Thomas Flagel. Mr Flagel is a history instructor at Columbia State Community College in Franklin and will speak on "The validity of historic preservation".

The business meeting will include the election of new Board Members to replace the outgoing class, and a review of STFB 2010 activities. The status of the project to acquire two battlefield parcels near Collins Farm will also be discussed.

The cost of the dinner is \$25.00 per person with payment in advance no later than Monday November 25<sup>th</sup>. Our seating is limited to 50 so please get your check in early to:

STFB PO Box 851 Franklin, TN 37065

If you have questions, call Sam Huffman at 615-480-9539 See you there.

## 2010 Franklin Civil War Days & 146<sup>th</sup> Anniversaty Reenactment A Huge Success

At 1:30 p.m., Saturday, October 16, the roar of cannon fire echoing across the hills surrounding Harlinsdale Farm Park opened the first reenactment of the Battle of Franklin as part of Franklin's two-day Civil War Days event. On the open fields at Harlinsdale, onlookers watched the battle from the hillsides where they could get a sense of the scope of the combat, with Confederates making repeated frontal assaults against the well-fortified Federal lines. Live cannon fire and the cavalry's display of horsemanship helped illustrate the drama of the horrific battle.

Each day, nearly three thousand residents and visitors to Franklin got a glimpse into the life of a soldier during the 1864 Battle of Franklin. Federal and Confederate reenactment units camped throughout the weekend on the grounds of Harlinsdale Farm with the public visiting the encampments to learn more about what life was like for ordinary soldiers. Rifle and cannon displays, as well as artillery, cavalry and infantry demonstrations gave visitors an up-close look at the implements of 19th century warfare and the order and execution of battle plans.

The 2010 Franklin Civil War Days is the first of these annual events which will lead up to the Sesquicentennial re-enactment of the Battle of Franklin in 2014.

#### Blue & Gray Days Set for November 19-21, 2010

The Battle of Franklin Trust is sponsoring Blue & Gray Days at Carnton Plantation November 19-21. The event is a festival celebrating the arts, crafts, and people of the Civil War era. Hundreds of school children are scheduled at the event on Friday November 19 with school field trips. Re-enactors and historic artisans will demonstrate the chores and activities of daily life during the Civil War era.

For a detailed schedule of events, hours of operation, and ticket prices, see *battleoffranklintrust.org* or call the Carnton Plantation office at 615-794-0903

#### Battle of Franklin Illumination Saturday, November 20 Volunteers Needed



In conjunction with Blue & Gray Days, the city's Battlefield Commission is sponsoring the Battle of Franklin Illumination near the Confederate Cemetery. This is the fifth year the Illumination has been staged, and the second time in the large 4-acre open field near the Confederate Cemetery.

Held on Saturday, November 20, volunteers will place and light 10,000 luminaries to call attention to the memory and sacrifice of nearly 10,000 American soldiers, both Blue and Gray, who were casualties during the five-hour Battle of Franklin on November 30, 1864.

Family groups, school groups, and Boy/Girl Scout groups are encouraged to take part. Some schools allow service credit for student participants

After the set-up and lighting is completed at dusk, a commemorative ceremony will be held, including period band music and speakers. The display will remain for a period of reflection and photographs.

The volunteers will then gather the luminaries, disassemble them, and pack the candle blocks in preparation for next year's event.

If you can't come Saturday, **volunteers are also needed** on Friday at 9:00 AM to paint the dot grid for the display. This grid is crucial to the spectacular rank-and-file appearance of the Illumination field. A volunteer crew with surveying gear will layout the grid so that volunteers with a

paint-can-on-a-stick can quickly make the dots.

For event information, and to register as a volunteer for either/both days, call Amanda Hall at 615-550-6737 Or email *Amanda.Hall@FranklinTN.gov* 

Email links for volunteer sign-up, and links to the City's Illumination page can also be found at : **BOFILLUMINATION.ORG** 

# Civil War Show December 4-5 at Williamson County Ag Center

Mike Kent's <u>Civil War Show has moved</u> from the State Fairgrounds in Nashville to the Williamson County Ag center in historic Franklin at Peytonsville Road Exit 61 on I-65. Hours Saturday 9-5 & Sunday 9-3

The new location holds over 1,000 tables under one roof with 15 acres of free parking. There are several top line hotels and restaurants in the neighborhood and all are near interstate I-65. STFB will have our regular booth at the show and we invite all members and prospective members to stop by and say hello and get the latest news. Contact MLKShows@yahoo.com or 770-630-7296

#### **News In Review**

'Battle' to help save Fort Negley — The Tennessean — 9/19/10 — Nashville — A century and a half after the guns fell silent over Fort Negley, they roared to life again as the Confederate troops led one last desperate charge ... to save the old Union fortress. The Battle for Fort Negley kicks off the regional countdown to April 12, 2011, the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War. Fort Negley's supporters hope it also will draw attention to preservation efforts at the fort, which has been reduced to tumbled stone foundations and overgrown trees, despite ongoing preservation efforts.

Lotz House receives first APTA historic marker in Franklin — Williamson Herald — 9/20/10 — FRANKLIN — The Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) announced today they are placing Williamson County's first APTA historic marker at the Lotz House in Franklin. In making the announcement, APTA Executive Director Elliott W. McNiel said, "While this is our first marker for Williamson County, we look forward to marking additional homes in the future." The dedication of the marker at the Lotz House will take place on Sunday, Oct. 23 at 2 p.m

Land sale will save Civil War battlefield in Spring Hill — The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." — 9/26/10 — Spring Hill — After years of fruitless negotiations to buy key Battle of Spring Hill sites, Washington-based nonprofit Civil War Preservation Trust now has a \$2 million contract to buy 84 acres adjacent to Rippavilla Plantation from its owners at General Motors. A \$1.9 million federal grant through the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program got the contract in place earlier this summer. The formal announcement was made at the plantation.

Oakview Estates developer sues again — The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." — 10/4/10 — SPRING HILL — Developer Taylor Golden is suing the city again after it shot down — for a fourth time — his plans for a subdivision off Denning Lane. The suit comes after the Board of Mayor and Aldermen in June voted 6-2 against the plan, saying it feels out of place, considering that the 30 homes proposed for Oakview Estates are across the street from Oaklawn Mansion. The home, on a former plantation, is where Confederate Gen. John Bell Hood slept on Nov. 29, 1864, while Union forces slipped by, marching north on their way to the Battle of Franklin.

Leadership Brentwood walks historic road — The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." — 10/5/10 —BRENTWOOD— Seeing the original Granny White Pike roadbed was a revelation to at least one member of the Leadership Brentwood program. "Having walked the path around Granny White Park many, many times, I was astounded to discover that the original roadbed, where Civil War soldiers had traveled on foot, was literally right behind the fence, some 50 feet away," said Doug Brooks, a real estate investor and Brentwood resident.

Hatch Show Print posters commemorate Civil War — The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." — 10/5/10 —FRANKLIN — The Lotz House has released limited-edition Hatch Show posters commemorating the upcoming sesquicentennial anniversary of the Civil War. There are a series of four limited-edition prints: one for the state of Tennessee, one for the Battle of Franklin and the other two prints depict Confederate leaders Robert E. Lee and Nathan Bedford Forrest.

# Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851 Franklin, TN 37065-0851

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



October 2010

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 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 - or -	\$3.95	
	\$25.00 and up	\$4.95	
	ORDER TOTAL		

Mail To: Save The Franklin Battlefield  $\sim$  P.O. Box 851  $\sim$  Franklin, TN 37065-0851 STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.