



# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

August 2011

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

## President's Message

In these times of tight budgets and uncertain financial future, many of our Civil War sites across the nation are challenged with reduced funding even as attendance grows with increased awareness and focus on the Sesquicentennial. You can help by volunteering your time to help with various tasks which otherwise may go undone. Ask how you can help at a site near you.

With the final weeks of summer here, we are looking forward to the cooler temperatures of fall and as always a full slate of Civil War related events in the region. I hope that you are making plans to attend some of these exciting upcoming events, several of which are highlighted in this newsletter. You can get more detail and late updates on the [Upcoming Events](#) page of our web site.

Two events are close in – the dedication of the new STFB marker at the Harpeth River Bridge embuttment this Saturday, August 27 and the two-day “Civil War in the Borderland” event at Tennessee Tech in Cookeville September 6-7. That program promises to be a wonderful educational kick-off to the Sesquicentennial observance.

Also, don't forget the September 11 Franklin Civil War Roundtable which will feature author Christopher Kolakowski speaking on the Battle of Perryville.

Thanks,

Mike Walker - President

## New & Renewing Members July 2011

Brian Bethard	Franklin, TN
Tommy & Lynn Burnett	Brentwood, TN
Dennis Faught	Columbia, MO
Jim Campi	North Springfield, VA
Clarksville CWRT	Clarksville, TN
United Kingdom CWRT	London, England
Howard Foshee	Spanish Fort, AL
William F Heyd	Franklin, TN
Del Horton	Michie, TN
Richard & Julia Moe	Santa Fe, NM
Curtis Older	Gastonia, NC
Jeffrey M Plummer	Rehoboth Beach, DE
Howard & Kathy Reich	Thousand Oaks, CA
Dr Samuel A Smith M.D.	Brentwood, TN
Jody & Patrica Thompson	Franklin, TN

## SESQUICENTENNIAL SIGNATURE EVENT

**"Civil War in the Borderland"**  
**Tuesday – Wednesday, Sept 6-7, 2011**  
**Cookeville, Tennessee**

This two-day event will be held at Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville - September 6-7-2011. It is Tennessee's Sesquicentennial Signature Event and will be jointly sponsored by the Tennessee Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, the Tennessee Historical Society, and Tennessee Tech University. The two days are packed with top-notch speakers and events.

All events are free and open to the public.

### Board of Directors

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Mike Skinner

For more event information, the schedule of individual sessions, and lodging information, visit [tncivilwar150.com](http://tncivilwar150.com). Registrations can be emailed to Vionne Williams, Tennessee Department of Tourist Development at [vionne.williams@tn.gov](mailto:vionne.williams@tn.gov). For more information, call (615) 741-2159.

## **Battle of Franklin 147<sup>th</sup> Re-enactment Saturday & Sunday -- October 15-16 Reminder to Register**

You can access the registration web page for the October 15-16 Re-enactment of the 147<sup>th</sup> Battle of Franklin event from the STFB web site [www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org) For questions and manual registration, email [bthargrove123@aol.com](mailto:bthargrove123@aol.com) or [rg Huff123@aol.com](mailto:rg Huff123@aol.com) or [joseph.grosson@comcast.net](mailto:joseph.grosson@comcast.net)

Eighteen pieces of artillery and 100+ reenactors have signed up thus far. Several hundred more are expected as groups and singles who have committed to attend get registered. Now is the time to register so we can get a good count for planning purposes.

The schedule for the two days is firming and hopefully we can publish it soon. Saturday's schedule will include an **Appreciation Dinner** for the reenactors and their families at 5:30 pm just like last year, followed by a Reenactors Ball at 7:00 pm. Mark your calendars.

### **Bill Heyd Joins the STFB Board**



Bill Heyd as artilleryman at Gettysburg in 2008

Bill was born in Grosse Pointe, Michigan and thanks to his parents' interest in history and their visits to

several battlefields, he developed a fascination with the American Civil War at a very early age. He followed in his parents' footsteps and attended The University of Michigan where he earned a Masters degree in Healthcare Architecture. Bill and his wife Janice spent the initial 10 years of their 35-year marriage in Los Angeles where their two children Jeffrey and Lauren were born. In 1987 a job move brought them to Atlanta where Bill was finally able to appreciate Civil War history on a first-hand basis. He attended several battle reenactments and eventually joined an artillery unit in 1998. Another job move brought the family to Franklin in 2000 and they have immersed themselves in the history of the area ever since. Since then in addition to remaining active in his reenacting hobby, Bill is a member of the Civil War Trust, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Sons of Veterans Reserve. The Board of Save the Franklin Battlefield is pleased to have Bill join in with us to work on preserving some of the Franklin Battlefield.

### **STFB Annual Meeting Set for November 17, 2011**

Mark your calendar for the STFB Annual Meeting at St Pauls Episcopal Church in Franklin on November 17, 2011. This will be a dinner program with a speaker. Details will follow in the October newsletter and you will receive an invitation to remind you to make a reservation. See you there.

### **The Old Harpeth River Bridge Historical Marker Dedication 10:00 a.m., Saturday, August 27, 2011 First Avenue, North Franklin, Tennessee**

The Williamson County Historical Society and Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc. will conduct a short ceremony Saturday, August 27 to dedicate the Historical Marker that STFB recently placed at the surviving abutment of the Old Harpeth River Bridge.

After its construction in 1819, the Old Harpeth River Bridge was an important link to northern Williamson County and Nashville. Before its destruction early in the Civil War, the bridge played an important role in the movements of both Confederate and Federal troops. On November 30, 1864, the Federal Army was forced into a defensive position at Franklin while temporary bridges were built across the Harpeth River.

## **The Willow Plunge Property Has Been Sold**

For the past year, we have told you of a battlefield parcel that was for sale and perhaps an opportunity for STFB to acquire. The 11-acre property fronts on Lewisburg Pike between Collins Farm and the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park, both of which are now City of Franklin Parks. (See February issue)

We had many conversations with the owner and the Civil War Trust to formulate a plan to buy this important acreage. The property went into foreclosure in March and we then had talks with Green Bank who said they would notify us when it went up for auction. The auction was never announced and the 11 acres of Franklin's battlefield was sold for \$100,000.

## **The Eighth Battle of Franklin Descendants' Reunion Sept 30- Oct 2, 2011**

The Eighth Battle of Franklin Descendants' Reunion will be held from Friday, September 30 through Sunday, October 2, 2011. This first Descendants Reunion to be held by the Battle of Franklin Trust will provide the opportunity for descendants of the McGavock and Carter families as well as descendants of soldiers who fought at the Battle of Franklin to gather together and experience the shared heritage of the events of November 30, 1864.

This Descendants Reunion will feature both new and old elements. Battlefield tours will be personalized to individuals attending, allowing descendants to walk the same ground as their ancestors. Participants are encouraged to bring stories, artifacts, and documents to both the Trust Curator and the Military Curator from the Tennessee State Museum who will be on site to help record ancestors' legacies. The registration date is September 1. Further information may be found at [battleoffranklintrust.org](http://battleoffranklintrust.org)

## **News in Review August 2011**

**New road, new interest and new challenges ahead — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 7/31/11 — SPRING HILL** — With a new \$500,000 commitment from the state, supporters of Franklin's Civil War park finally have renewed

momentum to launch a project that's seen its share of delays, costs and questions since the land was first purchased in 2005. Eventually, Franklin will pair its recent state Department of Transportation \$500,000 enhancement grant with about \$369,000 of its own money for completion of the road, though changes in its design must still be finished.

**Civil War anniversary flavors Nature Fest — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 8/5/11 — SPRING HILL** — The 150th anniversary of the Civil War will play a role in the 27th annual Fairview Nature Fest, coming to Bowie Nature Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 10. The family-oriented festival celebrates the important role that nature plays in our lives, and has throughout history. In a nod to the Civil War anniversary, the opening ceremony will feature a demonstration by the Sons of Confederate Veterans re-enactors and will also kick off the opening of the 1861 Civil War exhibit in Bowie Nature Center, on loan from the Tennessee State Library.

**Two Franklin cemeteries touted for National Register — *The Tennessean* — 8/7/11** — Two of Franklin's oldest cemeteries—Rest Haven and City—may one day be included on the National Register of Historic Places. Franklin recently was awarded a \$3,000 federal grant in preparation for nomination. Founded in 1811, City Cemetery contains graves of Franklin's earliest settlers and Revolutionary War soldiers. Rest Haven Cemetery was founded in 1855 and includes numerous Confederate soldiers. (Editors' Note: Rest Haven also contains graves of three Federal officers.)

**Battle of Franklin re-enactment to draw thousands of spectators — *The Tennessean* — 8/16/11 — FRANKLIN** — The second-ever large-scale re-enactment of the Battle of Franklin is slated for Oct. 15-16 at the city's Park at Harlinsdale Farm on Franklin Road. Organizers expect at least 700 re-enactors – twice the number from last year's reenactment - to participate and even more visitors to attend. Last year, the two-day event drew more than 4,000 people. Federal and Confederate re-enactment units will camp throughout the weekend at the park.

**'Ronnaroo' raises \$8,000 to save flag — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 8/16/11 — FRANKLIN** — About 500 people came out for a day and night of music and food to raise money to help preserve a Civil War flag on the endangered list at the Tennessee State Museum. The sixth annual "Ronnaroo" at a farm in Peytonsville raised about \$8,000 that will go to the museum to help preserve the 1st/6th Tennessee Cavalry's battle flag.

# Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851  
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## August 2011

### 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: <b>Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase</b> (circle one)		
	“Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville” ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	“Eyewitness to the Battle of Perryville” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitness to the Battle of Franklin” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitness to the Battle of Shiloh” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitness to the Battle of Ft. Donelson” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitness to the Battle of Stones River” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitness to the Battle of Nashville” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	<b>SHIPPING &amp; HANDLING (Items only) ~ Under \$25.00 - or -</b>	<b>\$4.95</b>	
	<b>\$25.00 and up</b>	<b>\$5.95</b>	
	ORDER TOTAL		

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