



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

December 2011

www.franklin-stfb.org

Dedicated to the Preservation, Protection, and Promotion of
Civil War sites in Williamson County, Tennessee

President's Message

For me, some of the most memorable Civil War battlefield sites were those that retained a real sense of what they must have looked like when our grandfathers struggled there. Such sites provide today's visitor the solitude and minimal modern intrusions for deeper reflection on the great and desperate acts that transpired on that ground.

The Loring's Advance parcel in Franklin retains that "feeling of battlefield", having natural terrain features that the soldiers of both sides would recognize if they could visit once again. STFB identified the Loring's Advance parcel as a high priority for preservation since it is core battlefield and the site is very close to the Federal trench line. It also was witness to tremendous casualties from artillery and repeating rifle fire from the trench line.

But just as significantly, the site is in a near natural state and has no buildings that would increase the purchase and maintenance costs. We believe that buying "dirt" - core battlefield with no or minimal structures - is the best way to maximize the effect of your dollars. This has been and will continue to be the focus of our efforts. So, now we need your help to raise \$50k that we have committed to the Civil War Trust for the Loring's Advance purchase.

Now is the time to act. Together, we can save even more Franklin Battlefield dirt.

Mike Walker - President

New & Renewing Members November 2011

Amer CW Charitable Trust	Garnet Valley, PA
Northern Illinois CWRT	Rolling Meadows, IL
Jay & Marsha Franks	Franklin, TN
Ohio Ladies of the GAR	Pomeroy, OH
Betsey & Preston Hestor	Franklin, TN
Nick Kaup	Northbrook, IL
Doug Lewter	Madison, AL
Patrick Miller	Madison, AL
Kathy & Joe Mizzi	White Lake, MI
Mary Pearce	Franklin, TN
Gloria Ramsaur	St Simons Island, GA
Mike & Michelle Sanderson	Nashville, TN
Kathleen Serotek	Canton, OH
Carol Signett	Ferndale, WA
Tom & Nancy Sladek	Brentwood, TN
Stanley, Elizabeth Spicer	Old Hickory, TN
Dick Staley	Diamond Bar, CA
Mark Zimmerman	Nashville, TN

STFB Annual Meeting Held at St Paul's Otey Hall

Twenty nine STFB members and their guests met at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Franklin on November 17 for the STFB Annual Meeting and dinner. After dinner, STFB President Mike Walker called the business meeting to order and quickly stepped through the program which reviewed the STFB activities for the year and then elected Sam Gant, Bobby Hargrove and Dan Mora to three-year terms on the STFB Board.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the STFB annual Tenny Pinkerton Dossier award to Franklin Alderman Mike Skinner for his

Board of Directors

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ongoing advocacy and shepherding of the loop road project for the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park. The project is complicated and expensive and for many good reasons could have easily morphed into a less-than-a-loop road project. Mike worked with the Streets and Parks Departments as well as the Franklin Planning Department to find ways to fund the loop road as originally envisioned.



STFB Secretary Sam Gant (left) presents the 2011 Tenny Pinkerton Dossier Award to Alderman Mike Skinner

Lee Ann Newton of Murfreesboro was our program speaker and presented the memoirs of Erastus Winters, 50th OVI that she had found in her hometown of Liberty, Indiana. Erastus had survived the battles at Perryville, the Atlanta campaign, and was overrun and captured on the south side of the Carter farm office on November 30, 1864. He then survived the Cahaba prison and the April 1865 Sultana steamboat explosion that killed ¾ of the released Federal prisoners on board. Using his many war-time letters home to his family and friends, Erastus wrote and self-published the book in small quantities for his buddies and their families, but the book was doomed to obscurity. Lee Ann recognized the book's importance and republished it so that Erastus' story will not be lost. Lee Ann signed ten books for guests.

As her first passion, Lee Ann has organized a non-profit Operation Christmas Care group that from 2006 through 2010 has sent 46,000 Christmas cards to our

Wounded Warriors in military hospitals. See her web site at www.unclesamsheroes.com for additional details on her veteran support projects. The Erastus Winters book can be ordered at the web site or at amazon.com



STFB Treasurer Sam Huffman presents a *Coming Back Home* DVD and an embossing stamp to Lee Ann Newton for her excellent talk at the Annual Meeting

Fund Raising for Lorings Advance Underway

Our campaign to raise \$50,000 for the Lorings Advance 5-acre parcel will begin in early 2012. It's not scheduled yet, but we plan a kick-off tour of the property in late February or early March while the leaves are still off. The tour will be an opportunity for our members and guests to walk the ground and to see what the soldiers who fought there saw.

In all of our fund raising efforts, we have always been mindful of our donors intentions when they wrote checks, especially those who wrote checks with commas. Most wanted their money to buy 'dirt', others would sometimes direct their support for a planned marker, or repair to the roof at Collins Farm, etc. i.e. some specific purpose. We always followed the intentions of our donors.

In a like manner, past STFB fund raising for other group's projects was also for clearly stated specific purposes. Even while we were paying off the debt on Collins Farm in 2004-5, we asked our membership to donate to the purchase of the Eastern Flank (golf course) park. In response, we received \$27,500 in new money that we transferred to Franklins Charge for that purpose. Later, we canvassed our membership for the purchase of the Holt House (cotton gin site) and our membership gave \$10,000 that we transferred to

Franklins Charge for that purpose. Similarly with the purchase of the acre of the Carter garden that came on the market two years ago. At our urging, STFB members gave \$10,000 for that important purchase.

To date, we have received \$2,300 in donations to purchase the Lorings Advance 'dirt'. Plus, we have informal pledges for another \$20,000. To raise the \$50,000, we will we will all of our past supporters and our major donors to come to our aid. In these economic times, it will be difficult – but we can do it.

Watch future newsletters and mailings for details.

Civil War Show Dec 4-5 Well Attended

STFB manned its regular booth at the Mike Kent Civil War Show in Franklin again this year. The emphasis of the display and presentations was to highlight the purchase of the 5-acre Lorings Advance parcel near the Federal trench line and Collins Farm AND the need to raise \$50,000. We had many members stop by the booth to catch up on the preservation news from Franklin. The photo shows STFB President Mike Walker explaining the battle actions and strategic location of the Lorings Advance parcel to a booth visitor.



News in Review December 2011

Dam removal, battlefield park road contracts come to city aldermen — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 11/21/11 — FRANKLIN — Franklin aldermen discussed details of a new contract between the city and the state Department of Transportation to build an access road off Lewisburg Pike and into Franklin’s 110-acre Civil War park off Carnton Lane. The project would cost around \$869,000, with

the city committing \$369,000. This summer, the state approved a \$500,000 grant for the city to build an access road. In May, the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area will give Franklin a \$240,000 grant to buy the kiosks, signs and brochures needed to help bring more visitors to the city’s Civil War sites.

Schedule tight for Civil War anniversary — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 11/25/11 —

FRANKLIN — City officials are looking forward to big crowds for the 150th anniversary of The Battle of Franklin in late 2014, but there’s concern that a planned roadway providing access to a former battlefield won’t be ready. The most optimistic start date offered by state transportation officials is the fall of 2013. City officials expressed concern with the state’s timeline. They also voted to approve a contract with the Tennessee Department of Transportation in the hope of speeding things along

Battle of Franklin Illumination Ceremony Franklin — *Williamson Herald*— 11/30/11 — FRANKLIN —

The City of Franklin’s Battlefield Preservation Commission has announced the annual Illumination Ceremony, which commemorates the nearly 10,000 casualties that resulted from the Battle of Franklin on Nov. 30, 1864. The 147th Anniversary ceremony is held in the Historic Rest Haven Cemetery. The City is working to get its two historic cemeteries, Rest Haven and the City Cemetery placed on the National Register for Historic Places.

Brentwood Library to present 5-part series on Civil War history — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 12/1/11 — BRENTWOOD —

The Brentwood Library staff is focusing on Civil War history after receiving a \$3,000 grant from the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The program, which will host Let’s Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War, will be a five-part reading and discussion series. The discussion series will begin at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 17 with a discussion of *Marzb*, by Geraldine Brooks

Preservationists expect surge in battle interest — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 12/2/11 — FRANKLIN

— A candlelight ceremony marked by songs, a handful of Civil War re-enactors and little more than 150 attendees quietly commemorated the 147th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin this year. With millions already spent to stoke interest in the Battle of Franklin, Franklin’s Civil War supporters will see more spent in the years ahead to create a new Columbia Avenue battlefield park, a new access road into the city’s existing Battle of Franklin park off Lewisburg Pike, as well as interactive kiosks and material at the site. After years of lying fallow, state and national interest in the battle just three years before its 150th anniversary might be at an all-time high.

Tours address Confederate defeats — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 12/14/11 — FRANKLIN —

The Carter House and Carnton Plantation will offer tours at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17 commemorating “The Night the Confederacy Died in Tennessee.” The night remembers the march of the Confederate army through Franklin on December 17 following the Battle of Nashville. Author and Battle of Franklin Trust Chief Operating Officer Eric Jacobson, along with Rob Cross, John Marler, and Derek Peck, will conduct the tours. The tours will explain what happened that night in Franklin and how it impacted both the town and the Carter and McGavock families.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



December 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: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	“Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville” ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	“Heading Back Home” DVD the story of Franklin’s Unknown Soldier Burial	\$25.00	
	“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	
	SHIPPING & HANDLING (Items only) ~ Under \$25.00 - or -	\$4.95	
		\$25.00 and up	\$5.95
	ORDER TOTAL		

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