



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

February 2011

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

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The 2011 calendar is rapidly filling with many upcoming Civil War related events with appeal to all ages. You will read about several in this Newsletter with many more posted at the www.franklin-stfb.org Upcoming Events page. We will keep the website up to date as event information is published, so check often for updates.

A great opportunity to “roll up your sleeves” and help is the April 2nd Civil War “Park Day”, promoted by the Civil War Trust as a day for volunteers to pitch in and help with clean up and maintenance of Civil War sites in their area. In Franklin, the Carter House and Carnton Plantation are in need of volunteers to help with various tasks. The STFB website Upcoming Events page has a link which provides details of times and tasks.

Finally, be sure to read the exciting news on our Land acquisition efforts in this Newsletter. We are getting closer to saving more open Franklin battlefield land! The two parcels are near Collins Farm and have terrain features that offer new details about Loring's attack across the railroad tracks and into the east end of the Federal trench line.

When the purchase deals are signed, we will be mounting a fundraising campaign for 2011 and 2012. Your help will be very important to our eventual success

Mike Walker - President

New & Renewing Members January 2011

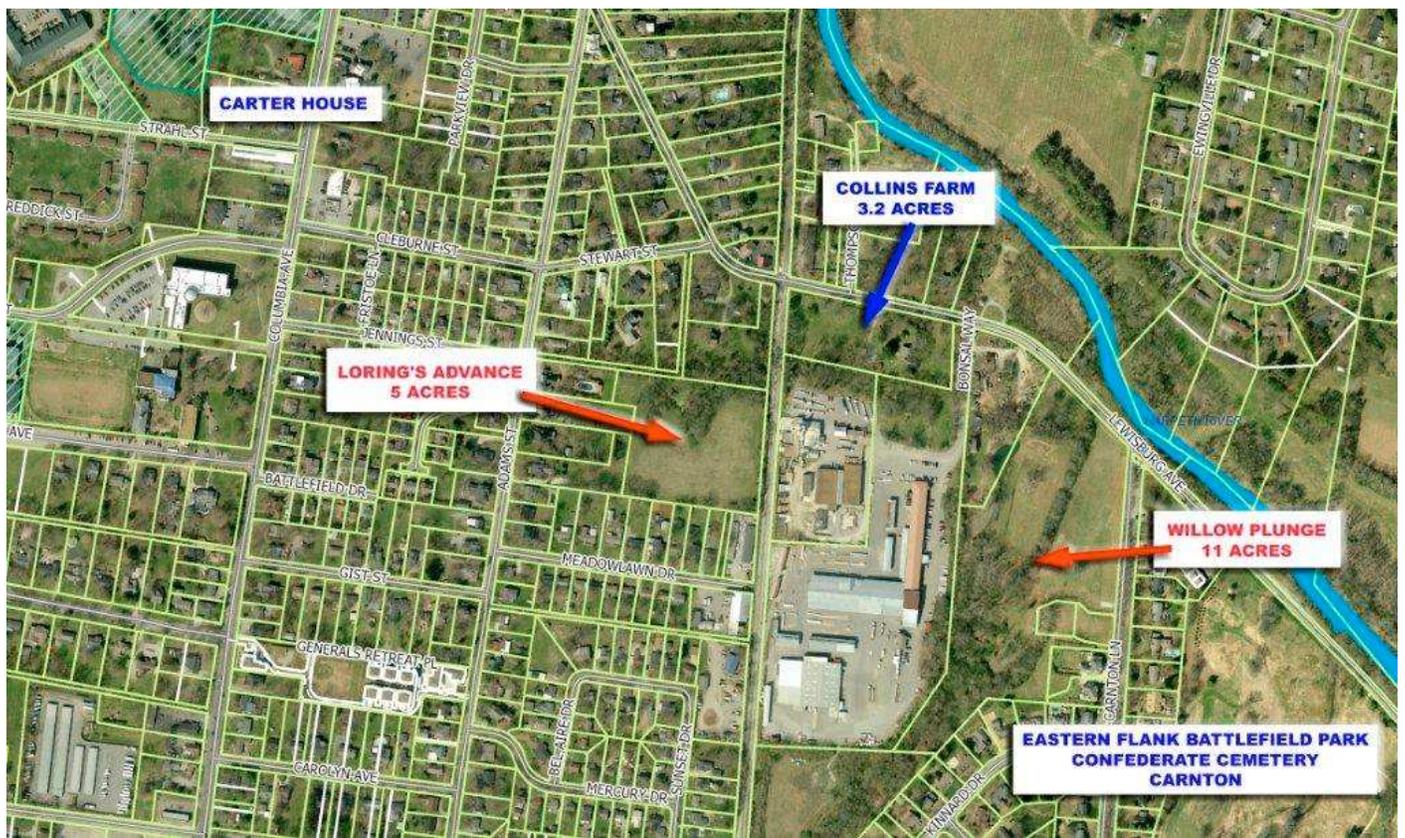
James T Addicott	Rice, MN
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Cathy Bickerstaff	Bartlett, TN
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Bill & Sandra Mahaney	Xenia, OH
Daniel McCarthy	Western Springs, IL
Sharon Murray	Martinsburg, WV
Neal Pulley	Columbia, TN
Andrew & Nancy Ramsay	Ashburn, VA
Patrick Reardon	London, England
John, Teresa, William Rutledge	Franklin, TN
Len Rydell	Danville, VA
Thomas & Martha Tarpy	Brentwood, TN
Mark & Margie Thessin	Franklin, TN
Mike & Barb Walker	Franklin, TN

Very Short Notice

**“The Role of Flags in the Civil War”
Thursday Feb 24, 6:00 PM**

A lecture by Greg Biggs and Eric Jacobson at
Carnton Fleming Center Thursday Feb 24 at 6 PM

For questions and to RSVP, contact Leigh
Bawcom at leigh@battleoffranklintrust.org or
615-786-1864



The 5-acre Loring's Advance & 11-acre Willow Plunge parcels are being studied for possible purchase by STFB

STFB Land Acquisition Update

Save The Franklin Battlefield officers and Civil War Trust principals have been in discussions with the owners of a 5-acre parcel of the Franklin Battlefield called Lornings Advance, and an 11-acre parcel called Willow Plunge. Both are for sale. Loran's Advance is just west of the 3.22 acre Collins Farm that STFB purchased in 2001 and transferred to the City of Franklin Parks Department in 2007. The Willow Plunge parcel fronts Lewisburg Pike just east of Collins Farm.

For reference, the Carter House is at the northwest corner of the map and the extreme lower right corner shows the very northwest corner of the City's Eastern Flank Battlefield Park (golf course). The distance between Carter House and Collins Farm is about 800 yards. The Federal trench line runs along the north side of Cleburne and Stewart streets, then slants north to the RR tracks at the top of the picture.

All four parcels are ground that Loring's division traversed under fire during the November 30, 1864 battle. As Loring's three brigades came north over the golf course to the river, the 4 ordnance rifles of the 1st

Ohio Battery D at Ft Granger fired continuously into the crowded ranks. The four rifled guns fired 166 rounds and their post-war historian wrote that of all their actions during the war, their gunnery at Franklin that day was by far their most effective.

As Loring's formations got stymied and jumbled at the river, they turned nearly 90 degrees left to cross Willow Plunge and Collins Farm. While realigning, they were additionally exposed to the 12 pounders behind the east end of the Federal line. Two of those Federal guns were then moved onto the RR tracks, probably near the Murfreesboro Road crossing, and fired double canister along the crescent curved track-bed and along the embankment on Collins Farm below the tracks where the Confederates took shelter.

There is a ravine that slants southwest across Collins Farm to its corner boundary and continues along the north boundary of Lornings Advance. Today that ravine is blocked by a railroad fill and culvert. STFB Treasurer Sam Huffman postulates that as built and at the time of the battle, the railroad crossed that ravine on an open trestle. When Adams brigade was blocked by the human wreckage of the first two brigades to smash into the Federal line, he led his brigade west

under the RR trestle and up the ravine. As they crossed under the RR, his men were temporarily sheltered in defilade from the Federal fires. As they reached the higher ground just beyond Adams Street, they were again exposed to savage converging fires from the entrenched Federal center. Adams then led a desperate, all-out assault into the main trench line east of the gin house where he was killed. The net result of this tragic day is that Loring's Division has more dead buried at the Confederate Cemetery than any of Hood's divisions - including Cleburne's.

An 1878 Williamson County map seems to support the trestle idea. It shows that Lewisburg Pike did not bend left to cross the RR as it does today, but instead continues straight on southeast **to the RR** and then crosses (under??) the RR where the postulated trestle would be. More study of old land deeds is needed to confirm this idea. If found to be so, the trestle and the ravine on Collins Farm and Lorings Advance parcels become important terrain features to tell the heroic story of Adams Brigade.

As with Collins Farm, our long-term goal would be to place this hallowed ground under conservation easement ensuring its perpetual preservation.

Our rough estimate is that, with participation of the national preservation groups, and state and local groups, STFB would have to raise roughly \$100,000 during 2011 and 2012 to do both deals.

Current thinking is that, if this all happens, the Lorings Advance purchase would go first – and then the Willow Plunge purchase sometime next year.

We need your Pledge of help -- To date, we have handshake pledges for \$20,000 of the needed \$100,000. We are continuing to identify those supporters and groups **who will be able to help us financially** when the time comes. We need a measure of possible financial support now so that we can include pledged funds as part of our purchase plan to the national preservation groups. To make a pledge, simply send an email to treasurer@franklin-stfb.org or a postal note to:

STFB Treasurer - Box 851 - Franklin, TN 37065

If you would like to see and walk the properties, contact us and we will be glad to arrange it. We look forward to working with all of you to bring these two important Franklin Battlefield parcels into the 'saved' column before the 150th anniversary in 2014.

Reenactment – 147th Franklin – Oct 14-16, 2011 Registration Is Up & Live

Military and civilians alike can now register at www.franklin-stfb.org The registration fee is \$5 per person and you can register multiple participants at one time. Re-enactment events are set for Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 PM and we expect twice the number of reenactors this year. The event will again be held at the City of Franklin Harlinsdale Park just north of downtown Franklin. Food vendors and period sutlers will be on site. Check the STFB web site for the latest information as events are added to the schedule for that weekend. For questions, email bthargrove123@aol.com or rghuff123@aol.com

News in Review February 2011

Civil War still has scholars talking — The Tennessean, “Williamson A.M.” — 1/27/11 — FRANKLIN — On January 27, the Battle of Franklin Trust launched a lecture series at Carnton Plantation in Franklin. Also, in Nashville, scholars from throughout the nation began a public lecture series at Vanderbilt University. The talks correspond with the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War and the presidential inauguration of Abraham Lincoln. Historians and authors Eric A. Jacobson and Thomas Fligel presented Lincoln's Election and the Secession Drama. Jacobson will be back at Carnton Mansion, along with Greg Biggs, for a Civil War flags presentation at 6 p.m. Feb. 24.

Franklin seeks grant for cell phone tour of Civil War sites — The Tennessean , “Franklin Review Appeal”— 2/16/11 — FRANKLIN— Franklin City and Williamson County Convention and Visitors Bureau officials are pursuing a \$72,500 federal grant that would help pay to create a self-guided cell phone-based tour of the city's Civil War sites. With the cell phone tour, visitors would be able to get a 30-second history lesson on a particular site by calling the number on one of the signs outside the attraction.

Civil War Days at Harlinsdale again — The Tennessean , “Franklin Review Appeal”— 1/12/11 — FRANKLIN— The second Battle of Franklin Civil War Days is scheduled for Oct. 15-16 at Harlinsdale Farm. The event is expected to draw hundreds of reenactors staging the Battle of Franklin at the park, which will again include tents, horses and cannon fire.

Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



February 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	
	“Battle of Franklin – Five Hours in the Valley of Death” DVD	\$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	
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	SHIPPING & HANDLING (Items only) ~ Under \$25.00 - or -	\$4.95	
		\$25.00 and up	\$5.95
	ORDER TOTAL		

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STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.