

SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

June 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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I hope you received our email notice regarding the need for you to contact your Franklin Aldermen to voice support for a loop access road at the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park. At present, a new project ranking process by the Franklin Aldermen is underway as well as discussions on funding. While some question the expense in this time of tight budgets and decreased tax revenue, the loop road would in fact be a wise investment and benefit our local citizens for many years to come. The Civil War Trust study "Blue, Gray and Green: Why Saving Civil War Battlefields makes Money and Sense" found that Civil War Tourists generate business for the local economy, support jobs for local residents, and generate State and Local Tax Revenue. See www.franklin-stfb.org and click on Preservation for the full CWT report. Currently, use of the Battlefield Park is limited due to access only by a narrow neighborhood street. A loop road would provide full visitor access, permitting expanded events and programs leading to increased visitation especially during the Civil War Sesquicentennial and leading up to the Battle of Franklin 150th anniversary in 2014, resulting in increased local business and tax revenue.

You still have time to contact your Franklin Aldermen and voice your support for the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park Loop Road. Contact information is on our website. Thank you. Mike Walker - President

New & Renewing Members May 2011

Dan Andrews Nancy Bassett Suzanne Burns Andy & Mike Cullison Austin CWRT South Bay CWRT David Dale Will & Katy Dodson Jeff & Alisyn Friederich Rob Hodge Carlton Houghton Vann & Melody Martin Karen McPeak Arthur Mellor William & Cynthia Morelli Brentwood, TN John & Carol Petty John Riopelle Don Sawyer Michael Skinner Kathleen Seroteck Henry Simpson Greg Wade

Nashville, TN Collierville, TN Brentwood, TN Oklahoma City, OK Austin, TX Mountain View, CA Nashville, TN Franklin, TN Duluth, MN Sterling, VA Essex Junction, VT Franklin, TN College Grove, TN Franklin, TN Wartrace, TN Delmar, NY Rochester, NY Franklin, TN Canton, OH Birmingham, AL Franklin, TN

"Lee and the Retreat from Gettysburg" **Civil War Roundtable** July 10, 3:00 PM

Author Kent Masterson Brown of Lexington, Kentucky will be the featured guest at the July edition of the Franklin Civil War Round Table. Much has been written about the Battle of Gettysburg but very little about those dramatic days that followed as General Robert E Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia escaped back to

the relative safety of Virginia. Mark your calendars for **3PM Sunday July 10th** at the Williamson County Library. Read more at <u>www.franklin-stfb.org</u>

STFB Advisory Board Tours Lorings Advance

On June 9, three members of the STFB Advisory Board joined several STFB Board members for a tour of the Lorings Advance battlefield parcel. STFB is studying the possibility of buying this 5 acres of the Franklin Battlefield with participation of the Civil War Trust. The grant approval process is moving forward and we hope to have encouraging news this summer.

Fred Prouty, Ben Nance and Mike Skinner joined STFB Board members for a shade-tree meeting to discuss map panels, and then walk the property to understand the terrain. The tour also provided an opportunity to discuss fund raising ideas and a general interpretation plan if/when the purchase is finalized.

Bobby Hargrove Recognized with Robert Ragland Preservation Award

At its Annual Meeting on May 13, the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association <u>www.tcwpa.org</u> tapped Bobby Hargrove to receive its prestigious 2011 Robert A. Ragland Preservation Award.



TCWPA President Jim Danley (*left*) presents the Robert Ragland Award to Bobby Hargrove - Photo by Chris Cuomo

Named in honor of a devoted Civil War battlefield preservation activist, the Award is given each year to someone who has demonstrated outstanding community leadership in battlefield preservation. In making the award, TCWPA President Jim Danley cited Bobby's leadership in the 1970's and 80's when he was instrumental in the City of Franklin's purchase and preservation of Fort Granger, then privately held, as a City Park. Bobby has also helped organize and manage countless reenactment and public education events over the years. He is a volunteer and staff member at the Carter House and Carnton Plantation, and served on the Franklin Battlefield Task Force for several years. Bobby has also served on the STFB Board for many years and directed that the \$500 Ragland Award go to STFB for land purchase.

147th Battle of Franklin October 15 – 16, 2011 Reminder to Register

The Battle of Franklin 147th Anniversary Reenactment, formerly known as Civil War Days, is set for Saturday and Sunday, **October 15-16** at the Park at Harlinsdale Farm where visitors will get a glimpse into the life of a soldier during the Battle of Franklin, which was fought on November 30, 1864. This year's event will be twice the size of last year with a battlefield twice as large and double the number of reenactors, which is estimated at approximately 700.

Federal and Confederate reenactment units will camp throughout the weekend at the Park at Harlinsdale Farm, and the public is encouraged to visit the encampments and learn more about what life was like for ordinary Civil War soldiers. Rifle and cannon displays, as well as artillery, cavalry and infantry demonstrations, will give visitors an up-close look at the implements of 19th century warfare and the order and execution of battle plans. Period sutlers will be on hand offering food and provisions of the era.

Large-scale reenactments of the battle will be held on Saturday and Sunday beginning at 1:30 p.m., and spectators can view the action from the hillside surrounding the battlefield. Visitors will 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 will help illustrate the drama of the battle.

Other special elements will offer something for everyone – children to adults, Civil War scholars to families enjoying a beautiful October weekend among the rolling hills of Harlinsdale Farm. The Factory at Franklin is the presenting sponsor of the event.

Registration is now open for the Re-enactment participants. You can access the registration web page from the STFB web site <u>www.franklin-stfb.org</u> For questions and manual registration, email <u>bthargrove123@aol.com</u> or <u>rghuff123@aol.com</u> or <u>joseph.grosson@comcast.net</u> Eighteen pieces of artillery and 100+ reenactors have registered thus far. Several hundred more have committed to attend. Now is the time to register your group so we can get a good count for planning purposes.

News In Review June 2011

Robert Hicks on CBS Sunday Morning — Battle of Franklin Trust *Battlefield Dispatch* — May 2011 — FRANKLIN — On April 17, Robert Hicks, the author of the *Widow of the South* and *A Separate Country*, was featured on a CBS Sunday Morning segment entitled Why the Civil War Matters. National coverage about Franklin means a great deal to the Trust. Hicks' books have brought national attention to Franklin and led to many new visitors at both The Carter House and Carnton Plantation.

Camps reflect Civil War experience — The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." — 5/17/11 — FRANKLIN — On July 14-16, Carnton Plantation and the Carter House will offer the Calicos and Cadets summer camp, a hands-on Civil War experience for ages 8-12. The camp will run 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., daily. Campers will learn to drill like a soldier and get a glimpse into plantation life and the hardships endured. Reenactors will demonstrate weaponry, crafts and clothing.

Deadline haunts Battlefield Park — *The Tennessean*, "Franklin Review Appeal" —

5/25/11—**FRANKLIN** — Can Franklin come up with the money needed to build a road into its Civil War Park in time for the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin? For Franklin leaders, having a road to the city's Civil War battlefield park in time for the battle's 150th anniversary is critical to their plan to cater to Civil War-minded tourists. Mayor Ken Moore says he hopes to tap historic preservationists to help raise the little more than \$1.2 million that would help build the road off Lewisburg Pike and into the park.

U.S. Colored Troops are source of pride — The Tennessean — 5/30/11 — NASHVILLE — On Memorial Day, members of the 13th United States Colored Troops Living History Association of Murfreesboro gathered at the Nashville National Cemetery. Some 2,000 black Union soldiers are buried here, gathered from hospitals and battlefields across Middle Tennessee. Every year, the members of the 13th come to the cemetery to thank them for their service, and try to breathe life back into their stories. In all, more than 200,000 black soldiers served in the Union army and navy. Additionally, an estimated 36,000 blacks received Confederate military pensions after the war. The 13th draws its name from a unit of black soldiers who guarded the railroad lines in and out of Nashville — a vital supply line for the federal troops in the Western theater.

Flag Day Ceremony at Rest Haven Cemetery — *Williamson Herald*— 6/2/11 — FRANKLIN— The Fort Donelson Camp #62, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), of Franklin and Middle Tennessee held a Flag Day ceremony at Rest Haven Cemetery in Franklin, Saturday, June 11 at 10 a.m. The ceremony took place at the grave of the Unknown Soldier and honored those who served in all wars. The 10th Tennessee Infantry Sons of Veterans Reserve acted as uniformed color guards.

Civil War Trust honors Bibb — *The Tennessean,* **"Williamson A.M."** — 6/7/11 — FRANKLIN — Franklin resident Julian Bibb, an attorney at Stites & Harbison PLLC, has been awarded the Shelby Foote Preservation Legacy Award from the Civil War Trust for exceptional merit in Civil War battlefield preservation. For the past seven years, Bibb has led a team of attorneys and staff at the firm to acquire and preserve battlefield acreage in Franklin and Middle Tennessee. During that time, the firm has donated more than \$1 million in *pro bono* services.

Aldermen debate money for Battle Park projects — *The Tennessean,* "Williamson A.M." — 6/17/11 — FRANKLIN — The Board of Mayor and Aldermen are looking at two issues in the Eastern Flank of the Battle of Franklin Park. Building an access road from Lewisburg Pike into the park, and private management of the former golf clubhouse are being considered by BOMA. The city has already allocated \$369,000 to the battlefield road project and may be willing to consider another \$463,000 to build the entire road.

Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851 Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



June 2011

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