



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

November 2011

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

What an exciting time for those of us like you who care about preserving the battlefield in Franklin! In the past few weeks we have seen five more acres of Franklin Battlefield saved with the closing on the Loring's Advance parcel, followed a few days later by the first ever public tour of this property led by Thomas Cartwright and Eric Jacobson. Read all about it in this Newsletter. Now begins the next phase of our work on this property even as we look ahead and plan our next steps in saving additional parcels.

Be sure to take some time on November 30th to remember the 147th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin and the brave Americans on both sides who fell here. The 4:00 PM Illumination and Ceremony at Rest Haven Cemetery, burial site of Franklin's Unknown Soldier, will be a special and memorable event. See our website for this and other events around the battle anniversary.

Thank you for being a partner with us in preserving the Franklin battlefield. Without your steadfast and continuing support, the success of saving Loring's Advance would never have happened. You are making a difference by enabling our present and future generations to remember the sacrifice of so many on this hallowed ground.

Mike Walker – President

New & Renewing Members October 2011

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Wayne Anderson | Raymond, MS |
| Betty Callis | Hendersonville, TN |
| Civil War News | Tunbridge, VT |
| North Worcester CWRT | Athol, MA |
| Judith & Barbara Deignan | Seattle, WA |
| Thomas Dodson | McDonough, GA |
| Sara E Edwards | Huntsville, AL |
| Sam Gant | Franklin, TN |
| Charles Huff | Nashville, TN |
| David & Diane Hundt | Franklin, TN |
| Palmetto Soldier Relief | Sumter, SC |
| Richard Pelych | Nashville, TN |
| Perryville Association | Perryville, KY |
| Jeff Rector | Columbia, TN |
| Carol Signett | Ferndale, WA |
| Cullen Smith | Franklin, TN |
| James & Patricia Swan | Nashville, TN |
| Sean Von Loh | Greeley, CO |
| Dr Van West | Murfreesboro, TN |
| Col(ret) Sam Whitson | Franklin, TN |
| Billy Lou Wright | Nolensville, TN |

Civil War Trust Signs Purchase Deal on Lorings Advance Parcel

It's official – the 5 acre Lorings Advance parcel of the Franklin battlefield is now protected forever. In a November 3rd meeting at the law offices of Stites and Harbinson in Franklin, Civil War Trust officials, Lorings Advance principals, and STFB officers met to close the purchase of the Lorings Advance property. Five neighbors bought the parcel ten years ago to prevent it being developed. They preserved the property without

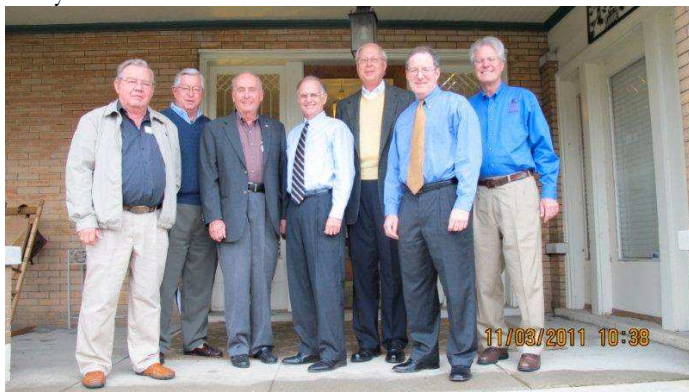
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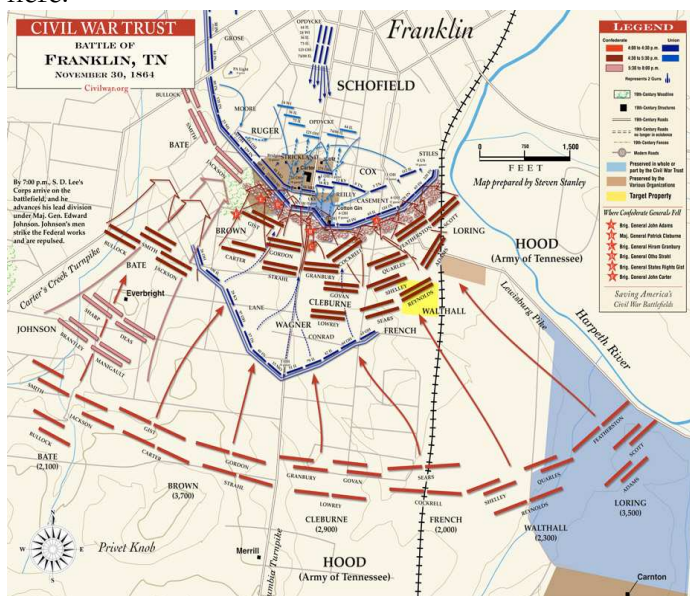
fully realizing its significance in the Battle of Franklin story.



STFB officers Bobby Hargrove, Sam Huffman, & Sam Gant pose with Julian Bibb, Stites & Harbinson, Jim Roberts of Lorings Advance, along with Tom Gilmore and Mike Grainger of the Civil War Trust after the closing.

STFB officers met with the owners many times during those ten years to see how we could assist their goal to protect the property. About two years ago, the owners decided among themselves that the best way to preserve this open space well into the future was to sell it to STFB and the Civil War Trust.

Now that the purchase is complete, the CWT will place a conservation easement on the property to protect it forever. The parcel is not open to the public yet and no public access exists. We will continue to study other possible acquisitions that could provide public access. In the meantime, STFB will clear undergrowth to make it easier for our visitors to understand the terrain and battle actions that occurred here.



Civil War Trust map showing Lorings Advance parcel

tracks where Walthall's name appears. It is just south of Collins Farm across the tracks and almost connects with it. This full color map is available on the CWT web site at www.civilwar.org and the STFB web site also has a link to it. STFB conducted a public tour of the property on November 5, and plans another tour early next year.

When we set up the tour registration tent that Saturday morning, it was impossible to see 100 yards due to very heavy fog. Everything was dripping wet with super-heavy dew. Just as the crowd of about 60 arrived and the tour stepped-off, the fog suddenly lifted to reveal clear blue skies as if He thought the first-ever tour of this important part of Franklin's Battlefield should begin with a curtain raising.

Eric and Thomas pointed out that the Federal line from Columbia Pike east to the river is only 700 yards long. The river forced those attacking formations east of the RR tracks to shift over the tracks to get to the Federal line. This resulted in four Confederate divisions – Cleburne, French, Walthall & Lorings – all crashing into this 700 yard long line of entrenched Federal troops. The concentrated Federal fire into these compact Confederate formations was devastating.



Eric Jacobson (pointing) and Thomas Cartwright (at left of easel) present the first-ever public tour of Lorings Advance

Eric also noted that there were 10 guns behind the east end of the Federal trench line. Those guns fired 1,150 rounds into the Confederates as they advanced and then retreated across the general area of Collins Farm and Lorings Advance. During the battle, two Napoleons of the ten guns were moved onto the RR tracks probably near the Murfreesboro Pike crossing where they could pour double canister along the track bed and into the river bank below the RR embankment. Plus, four rifled guns of Battery D 1st

Ohio near Fort Granger poured another 166 rounds into the attacking formations. After the war, their historian noted that of all their battery actions during four years of war, their gunnery at Franklin was by far their most effective.

For now, interpretative signage will come once we have a plan for public access. We will work on new materials for signage right away. The very first thing we must do is raise the \$50,000 we committed to CWT. Some of the pre-purchase pledges we received last spring are being paid as promised. We will crank up that effort in coming newsletters and mailings.

Mike Kent Civil War Show December 3-4

The Civil War Show will be held at the Williamson County Ag Center on Peytonsville Road at I-65 exit 61. The hours are 9-5 Saturday and 9-4 Sunday

Purportedly the largest Civil War show in the country with 800 display tables, we expect large crowds again this year. The STFB booth will have displays and hand-out maps that show the Loring's Advance property. Stop by to get the latest news and to make a pledge to help us pay for the parcel. We're counting on you.

Franklin Illumination Set For 4 PM - November 30, 2011

The Franklin Battlefield Commission has set the battle anniversary, November 30, as the date for the commemorative Illumination. The event will be held at 4PM at the Rest Haven Cemetery on north 4th street rather than the Confederate Cemetery. Rest Haven is a much smaller venue so the size of the Illumination will be smaller. The event will be centered around the Unknown Soldier monument at Rest Haven. For details and to volunteer, visit www.bofillumination.org The website also has photos of the 2010 event, the 100+ volunteers, and a time-lapse video of assembly.

News In Review November 2011

Tourists plop down \$295M in Williamson — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 11/1/11 — FRANKLIN — Tourism here has grown steadily in recent years, and in 2010 guests spent more than

\$295 million in Williamson County, according to a new report from the state Department of Tourist Development. Mark Shore, executive director of the visitors' bureau, What is most important with a statistic such as this is it demonstrates to residents and business owners the value of having a strong tourism industry. Without it, Shore said, every household in the county would pay an additional \$359 a year in state and local taxes.

Battle of Franklin candlelight ceremony will illuminate cemetery — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 11/4/11 — FRANKLIN — One of the city's oldest cemeteries will be the scene of this year's candle-lighting ceremony to mark the anniversary of the Battle of Franklin. Dozens of volunteers and Civil War re-enactors are expected to be at Franklin's Rest Haven Cemetery on Nov. 30 to commemorate the 147th anniversary of the battle. Hundreds of luminaries will be lighted by volunteers to mark the more than 8,000 estimated casualties from the Nov. 30, 1864, clash between Union and Confederate forces. Some of the soldiers killed in the battle were later buried in Rest Haven.

Franklin's Unknown Soldier documentary gets screenings on battle's anniversary — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 11/8/11 — FRANKLIN — The Franklin Theatre will hold three encore showings of the film "Heading Back Home: Franklin's Unknown Soldier and the Civil War's Five Bloodiest Hours" on Wednesday, Nov. 30 – the 147th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin. The film will be shown at 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Nov. 30, with the evening showing to include a panel discussion with Battle of Franklin Trust Director of Operations Eric Jacobson, Lotz House Foundation President J.T. Thompson, and Columbia State History Professor Thomas Flagel. Brian Speciale, who wrote, directed and produced the film with his wife, Jodi Jones-Speciale, will moderate the discussion.

Loring's Advance saved as battlefield park — *Williamson Herald*— 11/9/11 — FRANKLIN — A pristine five-acre parcel of Franklin Battlefield has been preserved for posterity thanks to the forward thinking of neighbors more than 10 years ago. No firm plans have been established to convert the land to a public park immediately; however, the land will eventually be among the Battle of Franklin sites that will be open to the public. During a tour of the property on Nov. 5, members of Save The Franklin Battlefield, Civil War enthusiasts and interested locals were treated to a history lesson by two leading Battle of Franklin authorities, Thomas Cartwright and Eric

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

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November 2011

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| | 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 | |
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