



# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

August 2012

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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This past month, STFB and the Franklin Battlefield lost a good friend. David R. Logsdon, a decorated Army veteran and longtime Nashville newspaperman among numerous other roles and accomplishments in life, passed away at the age of 67.

Many of us will most remember him for the 'Eyewitnesses' series of books covering the battles of Franklin, Stones River, Shiloh, Nashville, Fort Donelson, and Perryville. STFB has sold these books for many years, and David, in a special effort to help us, signed every one of them. Sadly, we only have about three dozen of the signed books left.

David used his talents as an editor to compile personal accounts from soldiers and civilian eyewitnesses, telling the story of the battles in a very personal and compelling fashion that benefited novices and longtime Civil War scholars alike.

David was always willing to help us at STFB with ongoing research including our current investigations of action across the Loring's Advance parcel. In fact, sharing his knowledge and research was so important to David that he recently posted the source material for all of his books plus much more at [www.midtneyewitnesses.com](http://www.midtneyewitnesses.com). Take a look. You'll be amazed at the wealth of knowledge he has left us. So long, David.

Mike Walker – President

## New & Renewing Members July 2012

Tommy & Lynn Burnett	Brentwood, TN
Dennis & Nancy Buttacavoli	Hasbrouck Heights, NJ
The Carter House	Franklin, TN
Firelands CWRT	Norwalk, OH
Col Robert Dennison	Franklin, TN
Howard Foshee	Spanish Fort, AL
Ft Negley Visitors Center	Nashville, TN
Dot Kelly	Knoxville, TN
Lisa & William Morgan	Franklin, TN
Ben Nance	Nashville, TN
Billie Ruth Nanney	Clarksville, TN
Curtis Older	Gastonia, NC
Samuel A Smith MD	Brentwood, TN
19 <sup>th</sup> Virginia Vol Inf	Monroe Twp, NJ

## Franklin Parks Dept Improving Fort Granger Addition

As time permits, Franklin Parks staff is working to clear and improve the old 4-H show barn parcel east of Fort Granger.



Workmen demolish buildings on Ft Granger parcel. Looking west, Ft Granger can be seen in the tree line

Franklin City Parks acquired this parcel in a 2008 land swap with the County. The overall plan is to clear and landscape this ground as a new Eddy Lane entrance and parking area for the Fort Granger Park. The existing woven wire fence at Ft Granger has been removed and new fences will be installed on the north and south boundaries. A cedar rail fence will be added along Eddy Lane (at the power pole) to identify this as a Franklin Civil War Park. Grants will be then sought to improve and replace the interpretative signage that was installed nearly 20 years ago.



Looking east from Ft Granger presents a beautiful sight. The buildings are gone revealing open battlefield land.

This cleared area is the approximate location of the four 3” ordnance rifles of 1<sup>st</sup> Ohio Batt D that fired 163 rounds into the right flank of Hood’s formations during the battle. A 15th Indiana Battery with six 3” ordnance rifles was positioned just beyond Battery D but we have no after action reports of their activity.

A future dream would be to have 4 replica ordnance rifles unlimbered here and aiming to the right. The April 2012 STFB newsletter has a photo showing the target area and ranges these gunners would have seen as they fired into the Eastern Battlefield Park, Collins Farm, Lorings Advance, and the railroad embankment.

The picture also shows the high point on the ridge about 700 yards to the east (Ralston Lane) where another fort was built. With a commanding view of the battlefield, it served as General Schofield’s Hq during the Battle of Franklin. Relic hunters report that this entire ridge and slopes had large Federal encampments at various times. The north (left) slope down to Liberty Pike, now the Liberty Elementary School, was a huge encampment that has produced a large quantity of relics over the years.

The next picture is a partial scan of a November 30, 1949 photo that Rick Warwick found in the county

archives. In 1949, the farmland is still agricultural and probably very similar to its appearance during the war years. Fort Granger is at the left and Old Liberty Pike (east-west) along the top. The Harpeth River makes a sharp bend in front of the fort and the CSX railroad curves southwest out of the picture. The center vertical line is Eddy Lane and the near vertical line on the right is Ralston Lane. At mid-picture just left of Ralston Lane, is a ‘smallpox scar’ that is the most likely location of the Hq fort. More later.



A Nov 30, 1949 aerial view of Fort Granger, the ground north to Old Liberty Pike and east to Ralston Lane

## Special Announcement Civil War License Plate



Our good friends at TCWPA are working diligently to collect the 1,000 checks needed for the State of Tennessee to put the Civil War Sesquicentennial license plate into production.

Due to their changing interests or financial situation, 200 or so folks who pledged to buy a plate didn’t send their check. However, a very good friend of Tennessee’s Battlefields, **Insurers of Tennessee**, has offered to pay the \$35 fee for enough plates to put the campaign over the top and into production. To do this, they need your immediate help.

TCWPA needs for you to apply for **one or more** Donated Plates using a form at their web site [www.tcwpa.org](http://www.tcwpa.org) Print the application, fill it out and

send it in. The Application has a field in the upper right corner asking for your Sponsor – use **STFB** as your Sponsor. This is a first come, first served program so don't delay. You will be notified **if you are selected** to receive a Donated Plate.

When the Civil War plate goes into production, you don't have to wait until your current tag expires. You can turn in your current tag at your county office, pay your standard 1 year registration fee **minus** the unused portion of your current tag. The \$35 fee will be paid for you. A year from now if you keep your Civil War tag, you will pay your standard registration fee plus \$35.

### **Battle of Franklin Postage Stamp Campaign Continues**

The Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area and Franklin's Charge, Inc are continuing their Petition effort to obtain the issuance of a U.S. Postage Stamp commemorating the 1864 Battle of Franklin. We thank all of you who printed and mailed in signatures, but we need more. STFB is directly supporting this petition drive and asks your immediate assistance. You can print copies of the PETITION at [www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org) We suggest you have family and friends sign the petition as well as the members of historical groups you may know. Also, forward copies to your email list with a request to join the effort to have a Battle of Franklin Postage Stamp.

**Anyone, anywhere is welcome to sign.** Return the signed PETITIONS to STFB as you gather signatures with however many signatures you have. Don't wait until you fill all your sheets. We greatly appreciate your help with this project.

### **News In Review August 2012**

**New cellphone tour highlights Battle of Franklin, other sites — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 7/26/12 — FRANKLIN** — The historic graves, greenspaces and former battlefields of Franklin's Civil War past now have a direct connection to the 21st century's pastime of choice: the cell phone. Franklin has begun a free, self-guided audio cell phone tour of its historic parks and cemeteries. Dial an overview of the Battle of Franklin or select segments on Winstead Hill, the Assault on the Cotton Gin, Rest Haven Cemetery,

the City Cemetery, Fort Granger/Roper's Knob, and Collins Farm. There are two separate audio tours each at the Park at Harlinsdale Farm and the Eastern Flank Battle Park. To participate, visitors can call 615-216-1597 and follow the prompts. A "QR Code" is available to use with smart phones at the calling sites. The tour also is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Normal usage rates apply. For more information and to hear the tour, go to [www.franklintn.gov/parks](http://www.franklintn.gov/parks).

**Courthouse auction set for Longview office and retail park — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 8/3/12 — FRANKLIN** — Once envisioned as a commercial, retail and office park, the proposed Longview Commercial Park development along Columbia Avenue now faces foreclosure and a public auction later this month to the highest bidder. The property has ties to the city's Civil War history. Confederate soldiers marched across the Longview property on their way to the Carter House, where they eventually clashed with Union forces in the devastating Battle of Franklin on Nov. 30, 1864. Magli had planned to leave a nearly one-acre site in the development as a small Civil War park to commemorate the battle.

**'Lincoln: the Constitution and the Civil War' at Williamson County Main Library — *Williamson Herald* — 8/3/12 — FRANKLIN** — "Lincoln: the Constitution and the Civil War" traveling exhibition is being hosted by the Williamson County Main library through Sept. 12. Exhibit hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 2-4 p.m. The National Constitution Center, the American Library Association, and the National Endowment for the Humanities are sponsoring the exhibit. The Library is at 1314 Columbia Ave. in Franklin.

**Confederate Flag benefit to conserve Tennessee State Museum's battle flag — *Williamson Herald* — 8/7/12 — FRANKLIN** — History buffs interested in preserving Confederate flags, proud Southerners, bikers, music fans, and even Yankees attended the seventh annual Confederate Flag benefit at the Mangrum farm on Peytonsville Road near Franklin. The benefits have made some great strides in conserving the fragile battle flags. In 2010 they completed the \$48,000 to protect the 20th Tenn. Infantry's huge silk flag, in 2011 they helped raise the \$22,000 to save the 1st/6th Tenn. Cavalry's bullet riddled flag, now the 2012 benefit is expected to complete the \$24,000 needed to conserve the 24th Tenn. Infantry's flag.

# Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851  
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## August 2012

### 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	
	<b>“Heading Back Home” DVD</b> 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	
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	<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>
	<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>		

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