



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

February 2012

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

We sincerely thank you for your support over the years as we work to preserve more of the Franklin Battlefield. Our oft-stated preservation philosophy is simple and time proven. First, we work behind the scenes to acquire and preserve open battlefield land at minimal cost. Secondly, through our preservation efforts, we work to open new areas of research which will add new knowledge and understanding of the action and sacrifice of the American soldiers who fell here.

While the concepts sound simple, building the resources to accomplish these goals has taken considerable time and effort. Our board combines sound business knowledge and experience, along with the expertise to build partnerships with preservation partners including the Civil War Trust while forging relationships with landowners in a cooperative manner rather than a "bidding war" in the public forum which would increase costs.

At the upcoming Loring's Advance tour, you will have the opportunity to see firsthand how we are working to bring new knowledge and understanding to the action in this portion of the battlefield. See the article in this newsletter for details. When you set foot on this property, I am convinced you will appreciate its significance and importance to telling a fuller story of the Battle of Franklin.

With your steady help and the help of the entire STFB membership, we are making

progress on our commitment to the Civil War Trust to raise \$50K for the purchase of the 5-acre Loring's Advance parcel. Your continued support will enable us to move ahead with preserving this important battlefield land as a public park, while keeping our eye on additional parcels which can be preserved.

Thank you for your support.

Mike Walker – President

Board of Directors

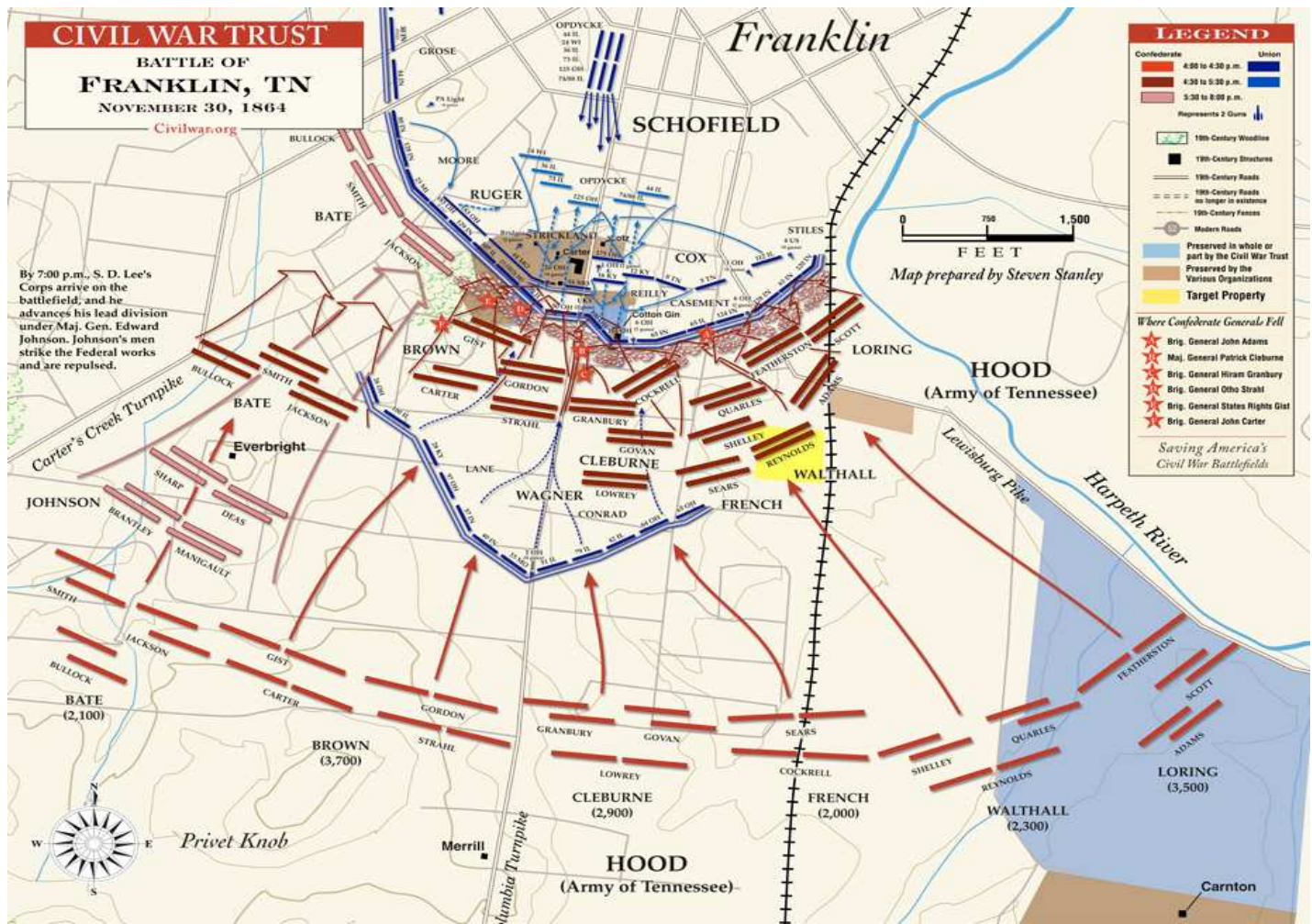
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New & Renewing Members January 2012

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David Logsdon	Nashville, TN
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CWT Battle of Franklin map showing Walthall's Division and parts of Loring's Division crossing the Loring's Advance parcel. By the time they reached the trench line, four divisions – Cleburne, French, Walthall, and Loring - totaling nearly 11,000 men, were funneled into a 700 yard front between Columbia Pike and the railroad

Loring's Advance Tour Saturday, March 17 – 10 AM

STFB will sponsor a public tour of Loring's Advance, the newly-acquired battlefield parcel on Saturday, March 17 at 10:00 AM. Save The Franklin Battlefield members and the general public are invited. There is no charge for the tour.

STFB, in partnership with the Civil War Trust and the American Battlefield Protection Program, acquired this 5-acre parcel that lies near the main Federal trench line. This open land had been owned for ten years by a coalition of surrounding neighbors who wished for it to remain as open space and not be developed. The owners had maintained contact with STFB who had early-on expressed an interest in the property. When the time came for the owners to make other arrangements for protecting the land, they worked with STFB and the Civil War Trust to arrange for it to

be preserved as a possible battlefield park.

Historian Eric Jacobson will lead the tour telling the horrific story of the troops under Confederate Generals Loring and Walthall advancing across this land. These Confederate formations were under withering fire from the Federal entrenchment a short distance away while receiving a murderous bombardment from the cannons at Fort Granger and other guns just behind the left end of the Federal line. Eric will show how the battlefield terrain with a stream and gullies gave temporary protection for the attackers, but also herded them into a fully exposed attack formation.

David Logsdon, author of the *Eyewitnesses* series of books on pg 4, has provided his research materials for our use. An excerpt from Sgt. Maj. Robert W Banks, 29th Alabama, Shelley's brigade, Walthall's Division:

... (I) was at Captain Gardner's side, ... a few paces in advance of the charging line. The men were advancing..., although not

preserving anything like a dress-parade alignment. ...

“The convergent fire ... became terrific, and there was little order in the charging line. ... (My) direction ... carried (me) ... to the pike, at a point southwardly from the gin-house, which was near the pike and near the enemy’s interior fortified line. Striking the pike then, and finding the traveling along it so much better than the rough ground ..., (I) stuck to it until ... (I) passed through, and beyond the abatis, which did not obstruct the pike. ...

When ... (I) reached the ditch ... found a few men already entering it. These and those that came with and after ... (me) filled it. The men who got into the ditch ... belonged to various regiments of different brigades and divisions.

You will hear many more first person accounts at the tour.

Directions: From downtown Franklin, go south on US 31 – Columbia Avenue. Just past Carter House, turn left on Cleburne street, right on Adams street, then left on Meadowlawn Drive. Entrance to Loring’s Advance is on the left beside a white concrete block building at the end of the street. Park in the lot on the right

Special Recognition Of Sam Gant and Richard Simpson

William Vosseler of the American Civil War Charitable Trust sent us a \$100 donation from the Union Liberty CWRT of Hatboro, PA. The gift for Lorings Advance is in honor and appreciation of **Richard Simpson** who has passionately carried the Battle of Franklin story (and of STFB) to many CWRTs and history groups out east. Richard’s efforts, begun after a visit to Franklin in 2003, have inspired dozens of his audiences to collectively donate over \$6,000 for STFB land purchase projects over the years.

And more good news. Scott Holmes, Secretary of Ft Donelson Camp #62 Sons of Union Veterans, sent us a \$50 donation for the purchase of Lorings Advance. The gift from the Camp is in recognition and honor of **Sam Gant** who has been instrumental in the group’s collective efforts to reenergize the Camp’s programs. Sam serves as Camp Commander and also as its Chaplain. You may also recall that Sam is the long-time Secretary of STFB.

A big STFB thank-you to both groups for recognizing Dick Simpson and Sam Gant, two old war-horses of Franklin preservation.

Fort Granger “Park Day” Saturday March 31, 2012 -- 8AM - 12 Noon

The City of Franklin Parks Dept has joined with the CWT by encouraging volunteers to help clean up Fort Granger vegetation on Saturday March 31, 2012 --- **8 AM to 12 Noon** The Civil War Trust’s 16th Annual Park Day is a national effort to clean up and raise community awareness of Civil War related sites.

This project assists the Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission’s intentions to prepare Fort Granger Park for the 150th battle anniversary. The Parks Dept plans to improve the interpretation of Fort Granger to show the Fort’s role in the Battle of Franklin. The old county 4-H show barn property between the fort and Eddy Lane is now included in the Fort Granger Park and is part of the cleanup project.

The Parks Dept **needs individuals and groups to sign up** – to do so, email parksinfo@franklintn.gov to request a simple registration/release form OR see www.franklintn.gov to the Parks page to download the form. Links to the forms are also on the STFB web site. Please bring gloves and pruners and lots of enthusiasm. Parks will supply water and drinks. For more information please call Deanna at 794-2103.

News in Review February 2012

Columbia State’s Professor Flagel, WAKM nominated for Peabody Award — *Williamson Herald*— 2/7/12 — FRANKLIN — With more than 100 segments aired, Franklin’s WAKM radio station has been nominated for a 2012 George Foster Peabody Award for Excellence in broadcast journalism for its series on the Civil War. The daily series honors the Sesquicentennial of the War in Williamson County. In easy-going format, WAKM’s Tom Lawrence is producing the series, which is written and narrated by historian Thomas Flagel.

Local photographer’s image to raise funds for Franklin’s Charge — *Williamson Herald*— 2/16/12 — FRANKLIN — Mark Lucas, local Williamson County photographer, has released for sale “The Monument on the Square at Sunset,” to raise funds to support Franklin’s Charge. Franklin’s Charge will receive 20 percent of the proceeds from the sale of each \$175 print. Those proceeds will be utilized for the establishment of the Carter Cotton Gin Battlefield Park.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851

Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



February 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: 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	
	“Eyewitnesses at the Battle of Perryville” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses at the Battle of Franklin” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses at the Battle of Shiloh” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses at the Battle of Ft. Donelson” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses at the Battle of Stones River” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses at 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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STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.