



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

May 2012

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

With school almost out and vacations starting, we are hearing from many of our members that you are making plans to visit Franklin and tour our Civil War Sites. The prize for traveling the farthest to visit Franklin will probably go to our friends with the United Kingdom Civil War Roundtable who visited this month and enjoyed a personal tour.

Wherever your travels take you, I hope you'll show your support for our national and local Civil War Parks and sites in the most direct way possible – stop and visit.

Also in Franklin, there are a number of upcoming Civil War events you won't want to miss. You can get more details on these and more at www.franklin-stfb.org/upcoming.htm

- On Thursday June 7, Jim Hoobler, Senior Curator of Art and Architecture at the Tennessee State Museum, will give his lecture, "Occupied Nashville," at The Carter House.
- On Sunday, June 10th, the Franklin Civil War Round Table will present author *Ruth Hill McCallister* who will speak about her great grandfather, Sam Watkins.

Hope you enjoy your summer!

Mike Walker - President

New & Renewing Members April 2012

Gary Battistoni	Ocean City, NJ
Julian Bibb	Franklin, TN
Mitch Campbell	Franklin, TN
Walter Corey	Lenoir City, TN
Ann Arbor CWRT	Ann Arbor, MI
San Diego CWRT	San Diego, CA
Fred Ehlert	Riverdale, IL
Leigh Franklin	Glendale Heights, IL
Janice Heyd	Franklin, TN
Kirk Hinman	Lakewood, OH
Susan James	Brentwood, TN
Robert D Jenkins Sr	Dalton, GA
Bob Lessel	Bartlett, TN
Emily Magid	Franklin, TN
Patrick McIntyre	Nashville, TN
Kevin & Kelle McLemore	Clarksville, TN
Gale & Lyn Pewitt	Naperville, IL
Brian Ruxton	Elmhurst, IL
Don Sawyer	Rochester, NY
Dick Simpson	Lancaster, PA
Patrick Small	San Antonio, TX
Amy & Tom Stone	Mt Airy, MD
Ann Stover	Glendale, AZ
Gilbert M Sullivan Jr	Birmingham, AL
Doug & Marilyn Thompson	Tallahassee, FL
Craig & Patricia Young	Franklin, TN

United Kingdom CWRT Visits Franklin

STFB member Peter Lockwood from London, England led an intrepid troupe of members of their CWRT on a two week tour of American Civil War battlefields and sites, including Franklin on May 1. Peter has led tours to Franklin in 2006 and 2002 before that. STFB Board members Dan

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Mora, Sam Gant and Sam Huffman met and greeted the group briefly before starting the tour. They didn't have time to do the tours of Carnton and Carter House, but they did visit the Lotz House briefly. Over the years, the United Kingdom CWRT has raised money for the purchase of Collins Farm and Lorings Advance – also for the Carter House and the purchase of the cotton gin site – and they were interested in visiting those sites. They were very impressed with the serene appearance of Collins Farm and the Confederate Cemetery.



Franklin Mayor Ken Moore welcomes the UK CWRT tour group to Franklin at the Confederate Monument. (front row l-r) Peter Lockwood, John Murray, Mayor Ken Moore, Marjorie Ward (rear l-r) Sam Huffman STFB, Keith Bright, Niger Butler, and Paul Sims

In the mid 90's, Peter lived in central Virginia for two years and developed a deep interest in the American Civil War. He visited the major battlefields of the eastern theater, and many of the not-so-major. When he returned to England, he founded the UK CWRT and soon found others who had a similar interest.

In Franklin, they were most interested in the recent battlefield preservation successes here that they have supported from afar. After a late lunch at Dodsons, the group was met and welcomed by Franklin Mayor Ken Moore at the Confederate Monument for a group picture. The group then headed for Nashville to tour Fort Negley and Travelers Rest. Other destinations for this trip included Stones River, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Chickamauga, Chattanooga and the many battles of the Atlanta campaign.

STFB has several members in England and Ireland. Several have promised to be here for the 2014 events. My guess is that Peter will once again be at the head of the column. It is always good to see old friends.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT !!! Send Your Check In - Right Now



Our friends at the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association have asked us to make an important announcement about their Sesquicentennial license plate project.

They have mailed out notices to everyone who signed up for the plate telling them to send in their check. But not everyone has.

If you received a send-in-the-check notice in the mail, please dig it up and mail it today. They also say that they are running out of time because the deadline is June 30th to have all 1,000 signups and checks collected.

Now, if you haven't registered for the new plate, you can be a big help to the project by doing so now. Print a license plate form at TCWPA.ORG and mail it in with your \$35 check. That will help make up for the dawdlers among us.

When you do pick up your new Sesquicentennial Civil War plate later on this summer, this \$35 and the unused portion of your current registration will be credited against the cost of your new plate. Don't wait. Do it. We're counting on you.

An Obscure Battle: Wheeler's Raid on the Nashville & Decatur Railroad

In the months before the November 30, 1864 battle of Franklin, another battle flared south of Franklin on September 2, 1864, which took the life of Confederate Brig. Gen. John H. Kelley and severely wounded U.S. Col. James P. Brownlow (who is buried in Franklin's Rest Haven Cemetery). This action has been largely overlooked in interpreting the Civil War in Franklin.

In late August and early September of 1864, Gen. Joe

Wheeler led a raid into Tennessee with the purpose of disrupting Gen Sherman's Atlanta Campaign supply and communication lines. After destroying some Nashville & Chattanooga RR tracks near LaVergne, roughly 3,000 Confederate cavalry troops led by Gen. Kelly swung south of Franklin and destroyed several miles of track and bridges on the Nashville and Decatur RR (today's CSX RR).

About mid-day, they were confronted at Winstead Hill by an estimated 900 Federal cavalry of Coxton's Brigade with Col. James Brownlow's 1st Tennessee U.S. Cavalry leading the charge. These greatly outnumbered troops dismounted and fought from behind trees and stumps. Their artillery was fired from the Columbia turnpike.

Early in the battle, Gen. Kelly was mortally wounded, struck down by a Federal sharpshooter. About the same time, Col. Brownlow was severely wounded and nearly bled to death before receiving medical aid.

After several hours of fighting, during which the Confederates flanked and drove back the Federal left line, the Confederates withdrew, marching to Columbia.

This battle at Franklin is listed as part of the Atlanta Campaign and was fought on the very day that Atlanta fell to Sherman's army: September 2, 1864.

News In Review May 2012

Incident at Fort Granger — *Williamson Herald*— 5/1/12 — FRANKLIN — "Incident at Fort Granger," a play about a true event that happened at Franklin's Fort Granger in June of 1863, will be performed at the Pull-Tight Theatre, 112 Second Avenue South, Franklin, Sunday, June 24, at 2:30 p.m. Tickets for this one-time-only performance are \$15. This production is a fundraiser; proceeds to be used for theatre renovation this summer. The play, written by former Franklin resident Bob Holladay, has been performed many times since its first major production on the Public Square in 1998 as part of Franklin's Bicentennial. Tickets go on sale June 11, and may be purchased at www.pull-tight.com.

Battle of Franklin Trust to host lecture on Civil War — *Williamson Herald*— 5/1/12 — FRANKLIN — The Battle of Franklin Trust

announces an upcoming lecture to be held in Franklin, Tenn. to compliment the current exhibits being housed at Carnton Plantation and The Carter House. The lecture is free and open to the public, and will begin at 6 p.m. On June 7, Jim Hoobler, Senior Curator of Art and Architecture at the Tennessee State Museum, will give his lecture, "Occupied Nashville," at The Carter House. The lecture will cover life in Nashville under Union Army control. Hoobler is a published author, having written books such as, *Cities Under the Gun: Images of Occupied Nashville and Chattanooga*

\$200,000 given for Domino's purchase — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 5/4/12 — FRANKLIN — Franklin businessman Calvin LeHew wrote a \$200,000 check last week to help complete the seven acres on Columbia Avenue where some of the bloodiest fighting in the Battle of Franklin occurred in 1864 and where a Domino's Pizza restaurant retail strip mall now stand. LeHew's is the single largest donation made by a private individual to any of the recent battlefield reclamation efforts, which have drawn state and national attention from Civil War preservationists. That money is a much-needed shot in the arm toward snaring by a May 30 deadline what will be a crucial \$500,000 matching grant from the Washington, D.C.-based Civil War Trust. His donation continues the momentum in recent years toward buying houses and land around the former cotton gin in the hopes of creating a Civil War park with a replica cotton gin that might bring tourists and commemorate the dead who fell during the battle. Earlier purchases by the city of Franklin, the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County, and nonprofit Franklin's Charge have slowly erased the commercial development. So far, three houses and a former Pizza Hut restaurant, which was once next door to the Domino's, have been bought.

Encyclopedia Details Battle of Franklin — *Franklin Life* — Mid-May – Mid-June 2012 — FRANKLIN — The *Encyclopedia of the Battle of Franklin* is the ultimate guidebook for all those interested in this truly momentous conflict. With nearly 1,000 entries on subjects ranging from Confederate and Union regiments to biographies of important figures associated with the battle, the work also includes hundreds of illustrations, maps, and photos, eyewitness descriptions of the fight, a full list of the Rebel dead at the McGavock Confederate Cemetery, and a complete record of both the Confederate and Federal forces present on the Franklin Battlefield November 30, 1864

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

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May 2012

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