



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

November 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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As we approach the holidays, it is easy to be caught up in busy preparations for much anticipated gatherings and celebrations with family and friends. But be sure to take some time on November 30th to remember the 148th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin and the brave Americans on both sides who fell here.

This year, the annual Illumination and Ceremony will be held on November 30th at The Carter House and will be a special and memorable event. Volunteers are needed! See the article in this Newsletter for details.

A major discovery of the personal papers of Gen John Bell Hood has been made public and promises to add volumes to our understanding of his war experiences. In the next few years, historians will fit this new information into the tapestry of the war years to provide us all with a new perspective on the General.

Thank you all for your continued support of Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc and our preservation programs. You are making a difference by enabling our present and future generations to remember the sacrifice of so many on this hallowed ground.

I wish you a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Mike Walker – President

New & Renewing Members October 2012

Brian & Laurie Boulden	Franklin, TN
Tommy & Lynn Byrnett	Brentwood, TN
Betty Corbett Callis	Hendersonville, TN
Roseanne Christie	Sumter, SC
North Worchester CWRT	Athol, MA
Thomas Dodson	McDonough, GA
Sara E Edwards	Huntsville, AL
Miles Ezell	Nashville, TN
Wide Awake Films	Kansas City, MO
Sam & Norma Gant	Franklin, TN
Joe Grosson	Brentwood, TN
Tom & Liz Herbert	Nashville, TN
David Hundt	Franklin, TN
Mr & Mrs James Kinnally	Huntsville, AL
Granville H Oury SCV Camp	Mesa, AZ
Mary Ann Peckham	Reliance, TN
Perryville Association	Perryville, KY
Jeff Rector	Columbia, TN
Howard Reich	Thousand Oaks, CA
Mr & Mrs Herschel Smith III	Celebration, FL
Dick Staley	Diamond Bar, CA
The Civil War News	Tunbridge, VT
Dr Van West	Murfreesboro, TN
Mark Zimmerman	Nashville, TN

**Historian Thomas Cartwright to
portray Civil War soldier Sam Watkins
at Franklin Theater
Wednesday Nov 28 at 7:00 PM**

Civil War historian Thomas Cartwright will portray Confederate Civil War soldier Sam Watkins accompanied by musical artist Michael Holloway. Sam Watkins, originally from Maury County, served throughout the entire four year

war despite being wounded several times. Of the 120 men who enlisted in "Company H" in 1861, Watkins was one of the few still in the ranks when the Confederate Army of Tennessee surrendered in April, 1865. After the war ended, Watkins began writing his memoir entitled *Co. Aytch*.

Watkins' work today is recognized around the world and often used for teaching purposes. *Co. Aytch* is called by many historians one of the best Civil War memoirs written by a common soldier in the field.

Thomas Cartwright is known as one of the leading authorities on the Civil War and the Battle of Franklin. He frequently appears on various documentaries for the History Channel, A&E, Travel Channel, CNN, Discovery, and Preservation Channel. For many years, he has lectured throughout most of the United States for Civil War Round Tables, corporations, preservation groups and heritage organizations. In addition, Cartwright authored several published articles and essays. He is currently authoring two books and he conducts battlefield walking tours of the Battle of Franklin from the Lotz House. For more information on the performance and ticket reservations, visit www.franklintheatre.com

2012 Illumination & Candlelight Tour November 30 at Carter House

Volunteers are being sought to participate in Franklin's annual Battle of Franklin illumination ceremony. The annual candle-lighting ceremony commemorates the thousands of casualties that resulted from the battle on November 30, 1864. The public ceremony will take place at 4:45 p.m. on the Carter House grounds.

Preliminary setup: 10 a.m. Thursday Nov. 29
Volunteers are needed to help paint the dot grid where the luminaries will be placed

Luminary setup: 1 p.m. Friday Nov. 30 assemble and setout the luminaries and start lighting the candles at 3 p.m.

Luminary cleanup: 5:45 p.m. Nov. 30. After the ceremony concludes around 5:30 p.m., volunteers extinguish the candles and then pick up and disassemble the luminaries.

To volunteer, contact city Preservation Planner Amanda Hall at Amanda.Hall@FranklinTN.gov or 615-550-6737

STFB Annual Membership Meeting

On November 15, 2012, Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc., Board members and guests met at Otey Hall, St. Paul's Episcopal Church for the Annual STFB Membership Meeting. STFB President Mike Walker welcomed the guests as he opened the meeting. Following dinner, Mike called the business meeting to order and recognized visiting dignitaries. Mike Walker and Sam Huffman gave a summary of STFB's activities of 2012 and some projections of tentative future projects. STFB placed two Board members, Robert Huff and Michael Walker, in nomination for reelection. Chip Huffman was nominated from the floor. The three nominees were then elected by acclamation to the STFB Board of Directors for a 2013-2015 term of office.

Sam Huffman presided over the presentation of the Tenny Pinkerton Dozier Award. This preservation award and plaque are given by the STFB Board to someone who has made significant and notable contribution during the past year to battlefield preservation. The 2012 Tenny Pinkerton Dozier Award was presented to Franklin resident, Mike Grainger, Vice Chairman of the Civil War Trust (CWT) for his continuing support of battlefield acquisitions in Franklin.



Mike Grainger (left) receives the STFB Tenny Pinkerton Dozier Preservation Award presented by STFB Treasurer Sam Huffman

The evening's keynote speaker was Carter House staff member, James Knight, author of a number of Civil War books including, **The Battle of Franklin-When the Devil Had Full Possession of the Earth** and **Fort Donelson-No Terms But Unconditional Surrender**. Mr. Knight's subject was "Fort Donelson-

Conflict in Command.” He discussed the differences in command structure in the Federal forces and in the Confederate forces and how those differences played out in the attacks and surrenders of Fort Henry and of Fort Donelson. The meeting closed, after concluding remarks by Mike Walker.

Mike Kent Civil War Show Sat/Sun December 1-2

The Nation's largest Civil War show will run Dec 1-2 at the Williamson County Ag center at 4215 Long Lane Franklin TN. From I-65, take Peytonsville Road exit 61 to the east, and follow the signs. Hours are Saturday 9-5 & Sunday 9-3 The Ag Center accommodates over 1,000 tables under one roof with 15 acres of free parking. There are several top line hotels and restaurants nearby. STFB will have our regular booth at the show and we invite all members and prospective members to stop by and say hello and get the latest preservation news from Franklin.



The **TCWPA sponsor** of the Sesquicentennial License plate will have a booth at the show so you can stop by there and check the status of your order, or place an order if you haven't already done so.

John Bell Hood Papers Discovery Announced

On October 19, The Battle of Franklin Trust Chief Operating Officer Eric A. Jacobson announced at Carnton Plantation the discovery of several hundred documents, letters and orders of Confederate General John Bell Hood. While conducting research for an upcoming book on the general, West Virginia's Sam Hood, a collateral descendent and student of the career of Hood, was invited to inspect a collection of the general's papers, held by a descendent in Pennsylvania.

This never-seen-before cache of Hood's personal papers — including handwritten notes, letters and field orders written by Hood and other Civil War luminaries — is now being pored over by historians who say they paint a fuller, more sympathetic picture

of Hood. Jacobson, who has viewed a portion of the collection said, “This is one of the most significant Civil War discoveries in recent history.

“I have been fighting to right some of the misperceptions and vicious myths of General Hood for years,” added Sam Hood. “These documents will shed a lot of light that will change some of those views. There's more than one letter from eyewitnesses (identifying) who it was on the Confederate side who was responsible for Schofield's escape at Spring Hill,” Hood is set for a spring release of his detailed point-by-point defense of General Hood's career, entitled, *John Bell Hood: The Rise, Fall and Resurrection of a Confederate General*.

News In Review November 2012

Carter House fence returns after 148 years — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 10/12/12 — FRANKLIN — A new picket fence will surround much of the historic Carter House on Columbia Avenue to bring the property more in line with what it would have looked like pre-Civil War. “This has been a very, very deliberate process,” said Eric Jacobson, chief operating officer and historian, who has combed through more than 20 documents and photos to make the fencing as accurate as possible. “We had to be cautious, because it would change the appearance. We have to make it accurate.”

Local author and tour operator introduces children's book — *Williamson Herald*— 10/18/12 — FRANKLIN — On Tuesday, Oct. 23, the public was invited to celebrate the release of “Lizzie's War,” a new historical novel by Franklin on Foot Owner ,Margie Thessin, that focuses on local children's lives during the Civil War. In a moving tale based on true stories, “Lizzie's War” explores life under Union occupation through one young girl's perspective. Many of the names—the Carters, McGavocks, Lotzes, McEwens and Courtneys—will be familiar to locals.

Battle of Franklin Trust blasted by heritage group — *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 10/28/12 — FRANKLIN — The Battle of Franklin Trust, the nonprofit that oversees Franklin's two Civil War house museums, is fending off a barrage from the Columbia, Tenn.-based Sons of Confederate Veterans who want state investigators to examine the Trust's finances and operation. At the center of the controversy is a plan to build a new Civil War museum which would be either inside or replace the former Optimist Gym adjacent to the Carter House.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

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November 2012

Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

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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	
	“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	
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