

### SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

March 2013

www. franklin-stfb.org

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

### President's Message

It is my great honor and privilege to serve as President for this coming year. I have been on the STFB Board off and on for the past ten years but outside commitments have prevented me from accepting this position in the past. I look forward to a very productive year. Thanks to Mike Walker for his great leadership these past several years.

I hope that many of you had an opportunity to visit the Thompson Station 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event this past weekend. The event was well attended and is a positive indication of the interest for Civil War history and preservation. There are plans for other 150<sup>th</sup> commemoration events in the coming months so watch for notices.

Also be aware of Park Day at Fort Granger on April 6<sup>th</sup>, a great opportunity for you join with other volunteers to improve this important Franklin site, one of the best preserved Civil War earthen forts in the country. Then April 6 Arbor Day event will be held at Pinkerton Park with other Civil War exhibits at nearby Fort Granger.

Finally, a special thanks to our loyal supporters across America who keep spreading the word about the Battle of Franklin and the continuing preservation efforts by several local preservation groups.

Visit the Upcoming Events web page for details on these and other events. We appreciate your continued support.

Dan Mora - President

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Arbor Day Announced for April 20 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Saturday, April 20 will be the perfect time for a family outing to Pinkerton Park. The City of Franklin has announced that day as Arbor Day. The northern parking area will be reserved for several conservation and preservation groups who will have booths at the event to explain their programs and efforts to the visiting public.

STFB will have a booth at the event and will staff a tour of Fort Granger at 11:00 AM. The reenactors will remain at the fort all day and available to visitors for the entire event. This will give you an opportunity to learn about Fort Granger and see how the Parks Dept has incorporated the 4-H property into Fort Granger Park. See you there.

#### Civil War Trust & Franklin Parks Dept Set Park Day - April 6 8:30AM - Noon

The City of Franklin has joined in support of the Civil War Trust's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Park Day, the national effort to clean up and raise community awareness of Civil War related historic sites. Saturday, April is set as the nationwide Park Day for communities to rally their volunteers to improve their local parks. Franklin Parks Dept is joining the effort by asking for volunteers at Fort Granger Park on Saturday, April 6. The parks staff has been making improvements to the park and will direct the volunteer teams

This year, we will clear undergrowth and plant shrubbery to "dress up" the park, so you will need to bring gloves, safety glasses, rakes, and pruning shears (no chain saws please). Parking areas can be accessed from Granger Drive and from Eddy Lane.

Much work has been done at the park since Park Day 2012. The 4-H buildings and woven wire fencing have been removed and a cedar rail fence has been added along Eddy Lane. This signature fence is installed at all city Civil War Parks so that our visitors can easily find our Civil War sites.

Later Park Department improvements will include an entrance gateway from Eddy Lane plus improvements to the drive and parking area.

# TENNESSEE CIVIL WAR 150th LICENSE PLATE NOW FREE Sign Up Online Now

The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association has

STFB to announce that the Official Tennessee Civil War Sesquicentennial license plate specialty fee of \$35 has been waived. The plate is now FREE to those who sign up for the remaining 125 needed orders. The state requires 1,000 people to pre-order and pay the fees for new specialty plates before production begins. The TCWPA, a non-profit partnering organization with the Tennessee Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, is the plate sponsor to honor the memory of the 230,000 Tennesseans who fought in the Civil War. The proceeds will support Civil War battlefield preservation in Tennessee and the Tennessee Civil War Trails Program.



"This 'sign-up-for-free' opportunity will help us put this plate on the road," said Joe Smyth, TCWPA president. "Our June deadline is fast approaching. We hope Tennesseans will sign up for the plate and help promote Tennessee's rich Civil War heritage and the preservation of our state's endangered battlefields." To sign up for the plate, please visit <a href="http://www.tcwpa.org/license-plate">http://www.tcwpa.org/license-plate</a> or for more information contact <a href="mailto:info@tcwpa.org">info@tcwpa.org</a>.

#### Veteran Campaigner Dick Simpson Has Broken Camp

Dick and Deborah Simpson share their time between Essex Junction, Vermont and Lancaster, Pennsylvania. But no matter where they are, Dick can be found presenting to CWRTs and other historical groups from Delaware to Maine. He visited Franklin ten years ago and re-visited at least once since then. He developed a slide program "The Forgotten Battle of Franklin" that is one of 6 programs that he has in his repetoire. Dick is scheduled for 15 lectures in 2013 and says he will increase the number of Franklin programs for the 2014 sesquicentennial year.

He recently gave his talk to the North Shore CWRT in Huntington, New York and they raised \$100 for Dick to forward to the Franklin preservation efforts. Also, William Vosseler of the Union Library CWRT in Hatboro, PA sent another \$25 in recognition of Dick's efforts to aid the Franklin battlefield. The Union Library CWRT hosted Dick some time ago and has donated to Franklin preservation projects several times over the years.

A big STFB thank you goes to Dick Simpson and the two CWRTs for standing with Franklin preservation efforts. Their steadfast help is a big morale boost for the local troops and is greatly appreciated.

#### Carnton to host Civil War cavalry event March 23

Approximately 40 Civil War re-enactors, historians, and their horses will gather for an annual event at Carnton Plantation on March 23. This "Camp of Instruction," hosted by Company D, 7th Tennessee Cavalry, will provide guests an opportunity to learn the ways of the Civil War cavalry.

Cavalrymen will be geared up for various demonstrations on Saturday, March 23 at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:45 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Visitors will be able to view a realistic portrayal of Civil War cavalrymen, including sessions covering mounted drill, period firearms, blacksmithing and several other living history opportunities. The "Camp of Instruction" is open to the public. The demonstrations are included in the regular tour admission prices of \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors 65-plus, and \$8 for children ages 6-12.

## **Battle of Thompson's Station** 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration

On March 9, the Battle of Thompson's Station was commemorated with a reenactment and Living History Day on the grounds of Homestead Manor, where much of the battle was fought on March 5, 1863.

The roar of a cannon drew the attention of the crowd to the site for the reenactment of the Battle of Thompson's Station. A thin line of blue-clad reenactors marched into the field while an equally thin line of butternut-clad cavalry took their place, and the battle was on.

These men, representing Col. Coburn's Federal troops and Generals Van Dorn and Forrest's Confederate cavalry, commemorated the Battle of Thompson's Station where the Federal Army, surrounded by the Confederates, suffered the loss of some 1,400 men, with most being captured.

Near the house, living history demonstrations with men in military uniforms and other men and women in period clothing went about doing the day-to-day chores of a military camp, building fires, cooking, and sewing. Inside Homestead Manor was a military hospital with nurses caring for the wounded.

Throughout the day, historians presented information on the battle and related Civil War topics. It was estimated that more than 5000 people attended the event.

### News In Review March 2013

Bill would preserve Civil War tributes — The Tennessean — 2/25/13 — NASHVILLE — State lawmakers are considering a bill that would make it much harder to rename or move memorials to the state's war heroes—including those associated with the Civil War. The bill would raise state and local governments that want to move or rename a memorial to apply first to the Tennessee Historical Commission for a waiver. The bill also would bar measures to end maintenance of existing monuments.

Big projects coming along — *The Tennessean*-Franklin Review Appeal — 2/27/13 —

FRANKLIN — New development, increased infrastructure, historic preservation have been Franklin's biggest focal points during the past decade during the city's rise as one of Tennessee's fastest-growing cities. A resurgent economy will mean residents, drivers and preservationists will be seeing more construction and development in the months and years ahead. Among those is the Carter Cotton Gin Park. History lovers bought seven acres on Columbia Avenue, where the heaviest fighting in the Battle of Franklin occurred on Nov. 30, 1864. The Domino's restaurant will be torn down and a replica of the cotton gin that stood on the site will be rebuilt as part of a larger seven-acre park. Cost: More than \$2.2 million

### BFT offers walking tour of Franklin battlefield — *Williamson Herald*— 3/14/13 — FRANKLIN —

The Battle of Franklin Trust will offer comprehensive walking tours of the Franklin battlefield beginning March 19. Tour guides will focus on many elements of the Battle of Franklin, explaining why it occurred, the arrival of Federal and Confederate armies, and the details of what became known as one of the greatest single assaults of the entire Civil War. Tickets may be purchased at The Carter House visitor center. Each tour will last approximately 90 minutes.

#### Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851 Franklin, TN 37065-0851

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



March 2013

Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form		
Name (s)		
Address	_ City	
State	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		
	"Heading Back Home" DVD the story of Franklin's Unknown Soldier Burial		
	"Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Perryville" ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	"Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Franklin" ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	"Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Shiloh" ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
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Mail To: Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc ~ P.O. Box 851 ~ Franklin, TN 37065-0851 STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.