



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

August 2014

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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The Sesquicentennial events in Franklin continue from now through the end of the year. Visit <http://www.visitwilliamson.com/sesquicentennial> for a list of events scheduled to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Franklin. New banners have been put up on within Franklin's downtown area commemorating personalities and events of the Battle of Franklin.

Progress continues on the creation of the Civil War Park on the land where Dominos Pizza is located. It appears that the Blue House has been moved, while the strip mall demolition has been delayed for reasons not know to us. However, it should move forward shortly and we should have an open park area soon.

The City of Franklin has begun to construct an entrance to Fort Granger thus providing access to the park via Eddy Lane. Look for work to continue in preparation for the anniversary of the Battle of Franklin. Further information is provided within this newsletter.

Progress continues as the gun carriages for the cannon located in the town square have been ordered and as soon as they are received, they will mount the cannon currently on display in the city square. Thanks for your continued support and continue to follow us via our newsletter, web page and on Facebook.

Dan Mora – President

New & Renewing Members July 2014

Jim Campi	Burke, VA
George W Lee CWRT	Brighton, MI
Greater Lima Area CWRT	Lima, OH
South Bay CWRT	Mountain View, CA
Janice Heyd	Franklin, TN
James & J Joslin	Atlanta, TX
Dot Kelly	Knoxville, TN
Drs Dahk & Jan Knox	Mosheim, TN
Martin McGirt	Franklin, TN
Ben Nance	Nashville, TN
Billie Ruth Nanney	Clarksville, TN
Fort Negley Visitors Center	Nashville, TN
Curtis L Older	Gastonia, NC
Samuel A Smith & Family	Brentwood, TN
19 th Virginia Vol. Inf. Co K	Monroe Twp, NJ

Fort Granger Improvements Underway

The Franklin City Parks Dept is busy at work on a new entrance and new walkways at Fort Granger Park just north of Pinkerton Park. This unique Civil War earthwork has been owned by the City of Franklin since 1971 and was opened to the public in the early 1990's. The fort, in its natural state without restoration, had walking trails and an overlook added at that time but had a hard-to-find street entrance with insufficient parking.

In a 2007 land swap with Williamson County, the city acquired the adjacent 3.43-acre 4-H show barn property on Eddy Lane and, as time permitted, has been removing structures and improving the grounds and landscaping. A new park entrance is now being opened from Eddy Lane that will lead

Web Site



Facebook



to a parking area near the fort. A new walkway will then bridge over the actual earthworks to the fort's interior.



Stonework sign will mark the new Fort Granger entrance

The new entrance currently has the cedar rail fence that marks all of the City's Civil War Parks. New and revised interpretive signage is also in the works.



New walkways will be added to Fort Granger's interior



Work continues on the new walkways

Hopefully, the new walkways will dissuade park visitors from walking on the actual earthworks. **NOTE:** the interior of Fort Granger had been farmed over the years with row crops but the owners were farsighted and careful to not destroy the earthworks or trenches. This park is a one-of-a-kind treasure.

Work Continues on Carter Hill Park

The blue house on Cleburne Street, purchased by the Heritage Foundation in 1997, is now gone. The house was divided in two parts for moving but complications arose before the second section was moved. It is now gone as is the brown stone house just east (right) of it.



The blue house on the cotton gin site has been removed

The next step is to demolish the Dominos strip mall but the March 31 move-out target date has been pushed farther out for now. The general goal is to assemble roughly 20 acres around the Carter House and Cotton Gin as the Carter Hill Park. All of the required properties have been purchased except for the Flower Shop property just south of the Carter House that is now under purchase contract by the Battle of Franklin Trust and Franklins Charge.

Franklins Charge has received a \$20,000 grant to fund an archeological study to locate the trench line and the foundation of the original cotton gin. Then the combined parcels will be landscaped and seeded – all by November 30 hopefully.

Plans are being discussed to one day rebuild the Carter Cotton Gin on its original site. No date set yet. Big dreams, big plans, big job – watch this space.

Cannons on the Square Update

The fundraising campaign for the new carriages for our four cannons on the Franklin Square is now complete. Donors provided \$8,625 and generous grants from the City of Franklin and Tennessee Wars Commission provided the remaining required funds. The carriages have been ordered and we expect an October ship date. The Committee plans to have the cannons installed on the new carriages by November 30.

Lima, Ohio CWRT Joins the Cannons on the Square Campaign

Thomas Bowman of the Greater Lima Area CWRT recently wrote to inform us of the group's \$50 donation for the purchase of new carriages for our four Model 1841 6-Pdr cannons on the Public Square.

He relates that Bob Boyda of the Cleveland, Ohio CWRT (and long-time STFB member) recently spoke to the Lima CWRT and asked that his honorarium be sent to STFB for the carriages. A big STFB Thank You goes out to Bob and to our new friends in Lima (pronounced like the bean). Tom also mentioned that he has a son living in Columbia and that he and his wife, Sandi, have visited our Franklin Civil War sites many times. Tom needs to give us a heads-up on his next visit and we will give him a tour of the battlefield parcels in our collective preservation cross-hairs.

News In Review August 2014

Franklin battle flag losing fight with time — The Tennessean — 7/21/14 — FRANKLIN —

Members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are seeking \$6,500 to restore and conserve a 2-by-3-foot flag last flown by Confederate Gen. John Adams during the Battle of Franklin. Adams and five other Confederate generals were killed during the battle on Nov. 30, 1864. Its preservation would be the latest under the SCV's "Save Our Flags" initiative.

National Park Service chief historian emeritus one of seven tapped for Sesquicentennial "Historian's Dinner"— Williamson Herald — 7/28/14 — FRANKLIN —

Lotz House Foundation Executive Director J.T. Thompson and Tennessee State Museum board member Pam Lewis jointly announced today the two organizations will host American icon Ed Bearss and seven other historians for a "Historian's Dinner" Nov. 29 and 30 to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Franklin held November 30, 1864. Other historians joining Bearss include Thomas Cartwright, Thomas Flagel, Jamie Gillum, Robert Hicks, Stephen M. "Sam" Hood, Eric A. Jacobson and Gregory Wade.

Battle Scarred opens at Carnton, exhibit captures ultimate cost of war — Williamson Herald

7/31/14 — FRANKLIN — The Battle of Franklin Trust's exhibit, Battle Scarred will open to the public on Saturday, Aug 2 in the Fleming Center at Carnton Plantation. Items for the exhibit, which chronologically demonstrates how Franklin fits into the story of the Civil War, are on loan from various institutions, private collections and the Battle of Franklin Trust collection, said Joanna Stephens, curator for the BFT. "The exhibit starts in 1860 and goes through 1864, then skips to the reunion in 1914 – the 50th anniversary."

Congress allocates \$8.9 million for battlefield preservation in Interior Appropriations Bill — The Civil War Trust — 8/1/14 — WASHINGTON —

The U.S. House Appropriations Committee included \$8.9 million for the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program in its Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. Since first authorized in 2002, the program is considered a model for cooperative partnerships between the National Park Service (NPS), state and local governments, and the private sector. Its matching grants formula encourages nonprofit groups to invest in acquisition of battlefield lands from willing sellers. Grants for the program are awarded by the American Battlefield Protection Program, an arm of NPS.

Limited-edition knife commemorates Battle of Spring Hill — The Tennessean — 8/1/14 — SPRING HILL —

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Spring Hill, Rippavilla Plantation commissioned Smoky Mountain Knife Works to create a limited-edition Case XX pocket knife. The commemorative knife features a jugged red-bone handle with three surgical steel blades displayed in a wooden, felt-lined box bearing the 150th logo. The knife measures 3 ⁵/₈ inches when closed. The keepsake sells for \$79.50, plus tax, and orders are being accepted through Sept. 15. Proceeds will support the preservation and interpretation of historic Rippavilla, an antebellum mansion in Spring Hill built in 1855 that includes a museum.

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Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851
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August 2014

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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 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	
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STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.