



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

June 2015

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

As you know, battlefield preservation is a journey, not a destination. Our work is never done. We continue to monitor all activities within the preservation community and stand ready to act when an opportunity presents itself. Meantime, acquisitions on the part of other preservations continue with news of a finalized acquisition expected in the coming months.

We recently had an Eagle Scout project completed at our Loring's Advance access property. Look for details in this newsletter. Our sincere thanks to William Rutledge for his efforts to help us secure and enhance this property.

For those wanting to track the history of preservation in the Franklin area, Save the Franklin Battlefield has begun to post archival copies of our newsletter 1996 onward to our web page. We will get this done over time, so check our web site regularly in the coming months.

Our Facebook page will soon have more photo albums as we make an effort to provide you with information about present and past events memorialized in photos. <https://www.facebook.com/Battle.1864> Check it out.

As vacation season is upon us, be sure to visit Franklin again. It is worth seeing. Thanks for your continued support.

Dan Mora – President

New & Renewing Members May 2015

Sandra Abramson	Antioch, TN
Ellen & Jerry Allen	Cary, IL
Gary Battistoni	Ocean City, NJ
Dave & Kassie Berry	Jacksonville, FL
William Bivens	Clinton, TN
Suzanne Burns	Brentwood, TN
C Pat Cates	Dunedin, FL
Austin CWRT	Austin, TX
Will & Katy Dodson	Franklin, TN
Dan W Duggan Jr	Brandon, MS
Daniel Fell	Burlington, IA
Rosie Flite	Franklin, TN
Robert M Hearin Jr	New Orleans, LA
Shawn Henry	Nashville, TN
Janice Heyd	Franklin, TN
Rob Hodge	Nashville, TN
Gary & Barbara Holbrook	Franklin, TN
Carlton Houghton	Essex Junction, VT
Bill Kennedy	Columbia, TN
Spyros & Mavy Lezimis	Chicago, IL
Mel Maurer	Westlake, OH
William Morelli	Franklin, TN
John & Carol Petty	Wartrace, TN
Stephanie Phelan	Crystal River, FL
Michael Skinner	Franklin, TN
Ann Stover	Goodyear, AZ
Margie Thessin	Franklin, TN
Gregory Wade	Franklin, TN
Phillip Walker	Nashville, TN

Lovell Property Purchase Update

Julian Bibb at Franklins Charge reports encouraging news concerning the purchase deal on

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the Lovell properties. These two houses are immediately south of the Carter House and now stand on the Carter garden where desperate trench fighting continued in the darkness after the Confederate charge into the Federal line.



The Lovell purchase (center) will add the Carter garden to the Carter Hill Battlefield Park

The purchase is a joint effort of the City, the National Parks Service, the Civil War Trust and Franklins Charge, a non-profit entity formed by all of the local and state preservation groups. The original closing date was May 27, but the buyer and seller have agreed to delay that date until the NPS American Battlefield Protection Program Grant is received. The City of Franklin is the pass-through agent for the grant, and has budgeted its portion of the funding in its July 1 budget.

The City has been notified by letter that its proposed ABPP Land Acquisition Grant has been selected for funding in the current year. No revised closing date has been set but it should occur in July or August, Bibb estimates. The two houses will be removed and the Lovell parcel then transferred to the City along with other adjoining parcels purchased by the Civil War Trust and local preservation groups over the last 18 years. The aggregated 20 acres will be known as the Carter Hill Battlefield Park and will be improved by the Franklins City Parks Department.

Heritage Foundation Makes Community Enhancement Award to Cannons On The Square Committee

It was SRO at Franklin Theater on May 19 for the Heritage Foundation Annual Preservation Awards. This event publicly recognizes the homeowners, businesses and organizations that make significant

contributions to preserving, restoring and improving Franklin's historic appearance. It is always a packed house with much joyous celebration as the slides show the before & after changes.

In 2014, the Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission formed the Cannons On The Square Committee to acquire reproduction carriages for the four 6-pounders displayed on the Public Square. The Committee asked STFB to act as agent to raise public funds, to apply for City and State grants and to buy the carriages. The Franklin Streets Dept prepared the site and installed the carriages. The new carriages completely change the appearance of the Square and the audience actually cheered when the 'after' pictures were shown.



(l-r) Julian Bibb, President & Mary Pearce, Exec Dir Heritage Foundation; Sam Huffman, Treasurer STFB; Pam Lewis, President PLA Media; Sam Gant, Secretary STFB; Mike Skinner, Franklin Alderman

Eagle Scout Donates New Gate at Lorings Advance Access



(l-r) James Neville, B.S.A. Advisor, Charlie Neville, William Rutledge Eagle Scout Candidate, John Rutledge

Eagle Scout Candidate William Rutledge, with the help of his Scout advisor, friends and family, has completed the Lorings Advance access gate as his Eagle Scout project. Several months ago, after learning of the need for a Lorings Advance access gate, Rutledge presented STFB with a plan for a swing-gate in the maintenance entrance from Meadowlawn Drive to the 5-acre Lorings Advance parcel, owned by the Civil War Trust.

Following the preliminary acceptance by STFB and after consulting with officials at Franklin City Parks for gate specifications, he presented the plan to the B.S.A. Eagle Scout Committee. Following the B.S.A. approval, Rutledge began the task of acquiring materials, having the timbers cut, the hardware fabricated, and lining up the necessary construction equipment for installation. The project was completed at the end of May.

Preservation Volunteers Open A Second Front at Winstead Hill

Another important preservation campaign is underway in Franklin. City Arborist Todd Snackenburg recently teamed with volunteers from the Tennessee Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation (www.acf.org) to reintroduce American chestnut trees at Winstead Hill Park. The Tennessee Chapter worked with Todd, the Franklin Tree Commission, and the Franklin Parks Department to establish a demonstration planting of seven Restoration Chestnuts in the park on April 7, 2015.



(l-r) Todd Snackenburg, City of Franklin Arborist; Jim Phelps, Tennessee Chapter Member and Forester in the Tennessee Division of Forestry; Michael Johnson, Franklin Tree Commission; Greg Weaver, Tennessee Chapter Past President; Vicki Turner, Tennessee Chapter President; Justin Stetler, Franklin Tree Commission.

At the time of the Civil War, the American chestnut was a dominant tree in the original Appalachian forests and common on Civil War Battlefields, including middle Tennessee. It was a major food source for wildlife and for the settlers themselves. In 1904, an imported blight struck the species, and by 1950 nearly all mature American chestnut trees were killed.

The American Chestnut Foundation was formed in 1983, and after 30 years of selective ‘backcrossing’ with the blight-resistant Chinese chestnut, the trees planted here are 15/16 American chestnut, and are predicted to be highly blight resistant. The City of Franklin plans to erect descriptive signage at the Winstead Hill grove.

The Tennessee Chapter of ACF also planted a large grove of Restoration Chestnuts last fall at the Oppenheimer Orchard out west of Franklin. Large-scale plantings of the Restoration Chestnut will continue and will be a huge step toward restoring one more important native tree to America’s Battlefields.

News In Review June 2015

Base of Franklin Cotton Gin Found — The Tennessean — 5/24/15 — FRANKLIN — Following efforts in 2009 and, again, earlier this year, in mid-May, a crew with the engineering firm TRC located the foundation of the Carter Cotton Gin. It was “good, Middle Tennessee limestone,” as Larry McKee, the lead archeologist stated. The archaeological work is part of a broad effort to reclaim battlefield land for what will ultimately become a 20-acre park next to the Carter House.

Harpeth River Walk study moves forward — The Tennessean 5/26/15 — FRANKLIN — The city's Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved a \$102,930 agreement with the firm Civil Infrastructure Associates to study the best route to connect Bicentennial Park and Eastern Flank Battlefield Park..

TripAdvisor inducts Lotz House into Hall of Fame — Williamson Herald 6/9/15 — FRANKLIN — The historic Lotz House, located in downtown Franklin, has been inducted into the Hall of Fame and received a 2015 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence for its consistently high ratings by visitors for the fifth year in a row. Since its opening in October, 2008, Lotz House has had a 5-star rating on the TripAdvisor website. These ratings rank Lotz House the No. 1 attraction in Franklin.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



June 2015

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 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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