



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

October 2015

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

Board of Directors

Dan Mora
President
Bobby Hargrove
Vice Pres
Sam Gant
Secretary
Sam Huffman
Treasurer

Robert Huff
Chip Huffman
Dave Hundt
Mike Walker

Advisory Board

Suzanne Burns
Ben Nance
Fred Prouty
Mike Skinner

Our Annual Membership Meeting is set for November 19 at 6:30 PM at the Episcopal Church in Franklin. It is open to the public as well. See the article later on for reservation details.

We have been busy doing some much needed clean up at Loring's Advance. The removal of the thick undergrowth will help us better interpret the actions that took place here during the Battle of Franklin. Check out our Facebook page in the next few weeks to see photos of what was done and how it gives a better view on the terrain.

We have also begun to post photo albums of preservation events that STFB has been engaged in over the last few years. Three albums have been posted to date and others will soon be posted for your review. Visit our Facebook page to see if you are in some of the photos.

If you missed it last November, you will again have an opportunity to see the Rob Hodge film, "The Battle of Franklin - Five Hours in the Valley of Death". It will be shown at the Franklin Theater November 1st at 2:30PM. It sold out last year, so hurry.

We thank you for your continued support. Continue to follow us and Like our page on Facebook
(<https://www.facebook.com/Battle.1864>)
and our webpage.

Dan Mora – President

New & Renewing Members September 2015

Wayne Anderson	Raymond, MS
Karen Arnsdorf	Chippewa Falls, WI
Gerald Bartig	Huntsville, AL
Joe Brooks	Brentwood, TN
James Childress	College Grove, TN
Naples, Florida CWRT	Naples, FL
Tom Gilmore CWT	Washington, DC
Laura Hill	Franklin, TN
David Hontz	Ft Wayne, IN
Mike Kent & Assoc	Monroe, GA
Michael Morrow	Athens, AL
Pam @ Herschel Smith III	Celebration, FL
Land Trust for Tennessee	Nashville, TN
Stephen Varner	Franklin, TN
The Watchdog	Warren, MI
Stewart White	Gainesville, FL
Colonel Sam & Pam Whitson	Franklin, TN

STFB Annual Membership Meeting and Dinner – Thursday Nov 19

The 2015 STFB Annual Membership Meeting will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Otey Hall 510 West Main Street, Franklin Thursday, November 19. The doors will open at 6:00 PM

The 6:30 PM dinner will be followed by a brief STFB business meeting and a review of 2015 STFB activities. Our guest historian Brian Allison will speak on "Action at Franklin on the Retreat from Nashville."

Reservations at \$25 per person are sent to: STFB, P.O. Box 851, Franklin, TN 37065-0851 by November 15. For questions call 615-480-9539.

Web Site



Facebook



Civil War Trust Executives Visit Franklin

On October 6, several executives of the Civil War Trust met with Franklin preservation leaders for a tour of the Franklin battlefield. They were here to see the progress on the many purchase projects that the CWT had assisted over the last twelve years. Some parcels have already been transferred to the Franklin City Parks Dept, and the remainder will eventually transfer also. When completed, the assembled Park surrounding the Carter House on both sides of Columbia Pike will include nearly 20 acres.



Fig 1. CWT President Jim Lighthizer, Chairman Emeritus Mike Grainger, Chairman Emeritus Paul Bryant, Franklin Parks Director Lisa Clayton, and CWT Chairman Kirk Bradley discuss possible interpretative plans for the Lovell properties

Julian Bibb, Franklins Charge President, and Battle of Franklin Trust CEO Eric Jacobson served as guides for the tour. They made time to examine the recently excavated cotton gin foundation at the Carter Hill Battlefield Park and discussed how similar relics on other historic sites across America have been interpreted. One effective method, they noted, was to construct a skeletal outline of the building to show the location and size of the structure but not build on the actual foundation relic. But they agreed that much study and thought needs to be done on the cotton gin interpretative plan in order for Franklin to 'get it right'.

The Eastern Flank Battlefield Park loop road and interpretative kiosk was the next stop. Parks Director Lisa Clayton reviewed the improvements and interpretive signage installed by the Parks Dept with grants from the National Heritage Area at MTSU. The Tennessee Dept of Transportation was also cited as a major contributor to the development of the park as

was the City of Franklin. Clayton reviewed the guidance by the Franklin Battlefield Task force started by Mayor Tom Miller that later became the City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission.

The CWT leaders credited Franklin's success to the long-term commitment of preservation volunteers, the ability to enlist support by city and state government agencies, the financial support of local donors, and the local management of the complex purchase deals by Julian Bibb at Stites & Harbison law firm.

A pressing schedule allowed just a few minutes to see the Collins Farm City Park and the Lorings Advance property owned by the CWT.

Lorings Advance Undergrowth Gets Whacked

In early October, a contractor began to clear the undergrowth on Lorings Advance. "Privet hedge and honeysuckle had nearly taken over the fence lines and the all-important terrain features of the ravine," said STFB President Dan Mora. "And several fallen and dead trees in the ravine completely blocked it to foot traffic." he added.



Fig 2. The contractor made short work of briar thickets, privet hedge, and general undergrowth. It was all ground to mulch. Nothing was hauled away.

"The job only took a day and a-half to complete and the ravine is now clearly visible to visitors. Hopefully, when the leaves are off in January or February, we can schedule a public tour for our membership and others," said STFB Treasurer Sam Huffman. "We had earlier enlisted volunteers to clear this brush," he added, "but the job was much too big to do by hand. This young fellow had just the machine for the job".



Fig 3 - Looking west up the Lorings Advance ravine toward Adams Street. This now-open view is where Gen Adams led his Brigade to the west before turning right to attack the Federal trench line near the cotton gin.

At the time of the battle (no trees) Fig 4 below would show the cotton gin above the white fence section near the center of the picture. The viewer would also clearly see the trench line from Columbia Pike along the low rise running to the east to the river, and see the 10 guns on McNutt Hill and the 4 ordnance rifles at Ft Granger. Just as importantly, all of those Federal troops would clearly see the viewer as well. "These terrain features of Lorings Advance are crucial to understanding the Battle of Franklin," Huffman added.



Fig 4 – Viewer is looking from Lorings Advance Meadowlawn entrance northwest toward the cotton gin.

Sparkman Grave to be Marked Sunday, October 25, 2015

The Lt. Andrew Crockett Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will commemorate a grave marking for Revolutionary War Soldier William Sparkman. The public is invited to attend the

ceremony on Sunday Oct. 25, 2015 at 2:30 PM at the: Sparkman Cemetery
5555 Leipers Creek Road (in the Boston Community)
Franklin, TN 37064

The Battle of Franklin Documentary Returns to Franklin Theater

The Emmy award winning film "The Battle of Franklin" will be shown at the Franklin Theatre on Sunday, November 1st at 2:30pm, which will include a brief introduction, and later a 20-minute panel discussion with the film's producer/director, local historians and preservationists.

Tickets for the film just went on sale and are \$15.00, with one third of the proceeds going to the very successful preservation group "Franklin's Charge", to help reclaim more of the Franklin battlefield around the Carter House – a key area of the fighting in 1864.

The film's director and producer Robert Lee Hodge, of East Nashville, said that it is only the second time the film has been shown in Franklin on the big screen.

Reserve tickets are suggested and are on sale at the Franklin Theater website www.franklintheatre.com or call (615) 538-2075. For more information contact Robert Hodge at rlh@robertleehodge.com, or The Franklin Theatre.

Franklin on Foot Partners with Lotz House Ghost Tours

This year, Franklin on Foot's guides will share stories in detail during the Ghosts of the Battlefield tours every Friday through October. The Lotz House, an 1858 home dubbed, "The Second-most Terrifying Place in America" by the Travel Channel, boasts a rich history and a colorful past, along with quite a bit of unexplained phenomena.

Executive Director, J.T. Thompson, has seen too much at the Lotz House to deny the presence of spirits, many of which he believes remain from those who suffered unspeakable horrors on the night of Nov. 30, 1864, during the Battle of Franklin.

These tragic tales will chill visitors as they view the house filled with period furnishings and decoration, along with the blood stains and scars from that awful night which has been called the five bloodiest hours of the American Civil War.

Reservations required | Tours start at 6 p.m. | \$20 adults & \$10 children. See www.lotzhouse.com to make a reservation or for more information - or call Margie Thessin at (615) 400-3808.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



October 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	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Shiloh” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Ft. Donelson” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Stones River” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Nashville” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	SHIPPING & HANDLING (Items only) ~ Under \$25.00 - or -	\$5.00	
	\$25.00 and up	\$6.00	
	ORDER TOTAL		

Mail To: Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc ~ P.O. Box 851 ~ Franklin, TN 37065-0851
STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.