



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

July 2016

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

There is never a dull day when it comes to preservation. There are always new opportunities that present themselves and we must continue to evaluate them and determine what we can do about them and where they fit into the grand scheme of showing off the history that is present within our community. We do not want to impede growth and progress as one usually complements the other. We will continue to be good stewards of your contributions toward our preservation cause.

It is imperative that we work hand in hand with local, state and national government and preservation organizations as they are the key that allow us to be judicious with our spending and getting the best benefit for each dollar spent on acquisition of new properties. We have been very fortunate here in Franklin to have forged an excellent working relationship with the city and county government who see the advantage of Heritage Tourism to the economy of both the city and county. It is imperative that this type of relationship exist to succeed in accomplishing Civil War Preservation goals.

As we are more than half way through the year we are looking forward toward the continuing activities in this area as you will note from the articles in this newsletter. We are also looking forward to our annual meeting which will be held in November. Please follow us in the months to come as we continue to plan for this event.

Thank you for your continued support of our organization. If you are not a member of STFB we urge you to visit our web page (www.franklin-stfb.org) and join our preservation efforts with a new Pay Pal link for your ease. Visit us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Battle.1864>)

Dan Mora – President

New & Renewing Members June 2016

Charles & Nancy Brantley	Greenville, TN
Dr Michael Brown	Chattanooga, TN
Tommy & Lynn Burnett	Brentwood, TN
Dennis & Nancy Buttacavoli	Hasbrouck Hgts,NJ
Terry Coats	Goodlettsville, TN
Andy & Mike Cullison	Celina, TN
Chicago CWRT	Wilmette, IL
Tri-Valley CWRT	Dublin, CA
David B Dale	Nashville, TN
Mark Day	Lynchburg, VA
Christine Gosey	Franklin, TN
Gary L Holbrook	Franklin, TN
Sam Hood	Huntington, WV
Sam Huffman	Brentwood, TN
Melissa McGrath & Jim Kinnally	Huntsville, AL
Bryan Mitchell	Washington, DC
Tom Kleinschmidt	Franklin, TN
Jan Knox	Mosheim, TN
Jonathan Land	Dunlap, TN
Bill & Cindy Morelli	Franklin, TN
Pat Parker	Lincolnton, GA
Robert Spahr	Franklin, TN
Ben Stein	Beverly Hills, CA

Trench Line Marker Update

The Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission has an active project underway to place markers on city streets where the Federal trench line crossed. The purpose of the markers is to present a daily reminder to our locals and to our visitors that they are on a Civil War Battlefield, and to mark exactly where the battle actually happened.

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The general idea is to have four-foot concrete obelisks on either side of the streets where the Federal trench line crossed. The plan is to install the markers in the public right-of-way but the affected landowners have also been contacted to get their comments.

A City funding request is in the works and approval is expected by September. Eleven pairs of markers will be ordered – nine for City streets and two for state highways. City Preservation Planner Amanda Rose has successfully worked with TDOT to find a way to place markers on the state right of way. The City Streets Dept will install the markers. Project leaders think the undertaking will complete before 2016 year-end.

New Information Markers Added at Fort Granger

On July 14, Franklin Parks Manager Brian Walker reported to the Battlefield Preservation Commission that 16 new information signs were installed at Fort Granger where damage has occurred due to dirt bike and pedestrian traffic on the actual earthworks.



One of the new information signs added at Fort Granger

Walker noted that in the few weeks after the signs went up, the damage noticeably decreased and vegetation is growing back. It seems today's kids were just doing what older kids had always done with no thought given that it might be harmful to the earthworks. The new

signs gently enlist kids to help save the earthworks, and they seem to be joining the ranks to do just that.

Fort Granger was built in early 1863 by occupying Federal troops commanded by Gordon Granger. The earthworks and outer ditches that you see today are original and have not been restored. Local experts believe that Fort Granger is the very best example anywhere of an original Civil War earthen fort.

Update On Carter Hill Battlefield Park

Work continues at the site of the Old Franklin High School Gym on the north side of the Carter House. Several large trees and stumps have been removed and several more will also go, and all utilities are being removed. This ground is part of the Carter House State Historic site and an outside contractor is doing the work. Heavy equipment is onsite to return the new open space to its original battlefield terrain profile as much as practicable.



Utilities and trees are being removed from the Old Franklin High School Gym site.

Across Columbia Avenue near the cotton gin, the Franklin Parks Dept staff is doing much of the work. Cedar rail fence has been installed on each side of the park. Openings will be cut in the fence for walking trails once the asphalt is laid. This is busy season for asphalt contractors and no firm date has been contracted.

This type of cedar rail fence was used on the Carter Farm, but today's cedar fence is not meant to show where Carter's fence once stood. Rather, the iconic fence serves as an identifying trait so our visitors are able to immediately spot our Civil War Parks.



The new cedar fencing looking north from Cleburne to the Cotton Gin site



Looking west along Cleburne Street



Looking south-west from the Cotton Gin Foundation in foreground

Four large trees have been removed from inside and nearby the cotton gin foundation. Parks Manager Brian Walker said that dressing the landscape will continue over time, and that the eastern side of Carter Hill Battlefield Park should be complete, with

signage, by yearend. The two houses south of the Carter House should be removed by year-end as well. More later.

So now, 152 years after the battle, a Franklin Battlefield Park is coming into being. It has been a long march. See the STFB web site document archive for a summary of past preservation efforts in [Franklin Battlefield Preservation General Timeline](#)

News in Review July 2016

Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association honors Rep. Charles Sargent — *Williamson Herald* — 6/6/16 — FRANKLIN — The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA) has named Rep. Charles Sargent, R-Franklin, as the recipient of the organization's 2016 President's Partnership Award. The President's Partnership Award recognizes an individual in public service who advances the cause of Civil War battlefield preservation on both the local and state levels.

Ceremony launches demolition of old Franklin High gym — *Williamson Herald* — 6/9/16 — FRANKLIN — Franklin and state officials came together with historic preservationists and other onlookers for the demolition of the old Franklin High School gymnasium on the corner of Columbia Avenue and West Fowlkes Street. The building, which had been vacant since August 2007, was the last remnant of the old Franklin High School. The land will become green space to fall in line with the Carter House Master Plan unveiled last fall, which serves to restore the topography and buildings on the historic Carter House property as well as build a visitors center on the property.

Lotz House receives TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence for 6th consecutive year — *Williamson Herald* — 7/13/16 — FRANKLIN — The historic Lotz House, located in downtown Franklin, has received a 2016 Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence for the sixth year in a row. The Certificate of Excellence is awarded to attractions with consistently high visitor ratings, and the Lotz House has maintained a 5-star rating on the site since opening to the public in 2008. The Lotz House has been on the National Historic Register since 1976 and is located in the heart of downtown historic Franklin at the "epicenter" of the pivotal Civil War battle, the Battle of Franklin.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

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July 2016

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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	
	"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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