



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

May 2017

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

Spring is in the air, flowers are blooming, and schools are starting to let out for the summer! If you haven't seen the preservation progress that has been made in recent years, or even months for that matter, now is the perfect time to plan a day trip or a family vacation to the Civil War Battlefield at Franklin.

If you haven't been here in the last few months, the buildings just south of the Carter House are now gone, revealing the view that the thousands of Confederate Soldiers had as they charged toward the formidable Federal earthworks that ringed the south of Franklin.

Columbia Pike ran just east of the Carter House and west of the Carter Cotton Gin, and was the center point of the battle that November day. If you haven't been to Franklin in a couple of years, you will be amazed at the parkland that has been assembled and is being interpreted around the Cotton Gin. The foundation stones of the Gin have been found and uncovered and the main trench line near the cotton gin has been located and marked.

The main trench line just west of Columbia Pike has just been uncovered and completes the entire main trench line from the cotton gin west to the current Carter House interpretive center. Come see for yourself. You will be pleased.

Chip Huffman - President

New & Renewing Members April 2017

Jerry & Ellen Allen	Cary, IL
Nancy Bassett	Collierville, TN
Julian Bibb	Franklin, TN
Ann Arbor CWRT	Ann Arbor, MI
San Diego CWRT	San Diego, CA
Bill Bivens	Clinton, TN
Rosie Flite	Franklin, TN
James Hackett	Brentwood, TN
Kirk Hinman	Lakewood, OH
Robert D Jenkins	Dalton, GA
Alison & Lawrence Kasten	Cape Girardeau, MO
Mary Kuza	Springvale, ME
Daniel E McCarthy	Western Springs, IL
Patrick McIntyre	Nashville, TN
Thomas Potter	Jamestown, TN
Richard Roberts	Brooklyn, NY
Peter Schwartz	Auburn, AL
Richard Simpson	Lancaster, PA
Amy & Tom Stone	Mt Airy, MD
Ann Stover	Goodyear, AZ
Gary Waddey	Nashville, TN
Greg Wade	Franklin, TN
Phil Walker	Nashville, TN
Barry Wasser	Leesburg, VA
Steven Whitehouse	La Grange, KY
Billy Lou Wright	Franklin, TN

STFB Listed 188th Among Civil War Trust Donors

The Civil War Trust recently notified Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc that the organization is ranked 188th among the approximately 62,200 individuals, organizations and Foundations supporting the Civil War Trust. "We are very

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pleased to receive this recognition,” said STFB President Chip Huffman, “STFB has donated directly to the CWT in the past for Franklin land purchases, and STFB is a continuing member of the CWT Color Bearer Corps. We are very proud to be part of the Civil War Trust family. They and their grant writers were the financial key to saving Franklin.”

CWT Conference June 7-11 –Chattanooga

Get signed up ASAP. The tours will include newly acquired ground around Lookout Mountain and Browns Ferry. See www.civilwar.org for Conference Agenda and Registration forms. See you there

Mary Pearce Retires As Director of the Heritage Foundation

‘Historic preservation has always been my thing, by Carole Robinson’ — from the *Williamson Herald* — 5/4/17 — FRANKLIN —

After 31 years, on May 2, Pearce left her office for the last time. In true Mary Pearce fashion, her office wasn’t any ordinary office. Located in the Old, Old Jail, often called the Big House for Historic Preservation, it was the former turnkey office located on the second floor next to the old jail cells.



Executive Director Mary Pearce led the Heritage Foundation for 31 years.

Mary Pearce came to Williamson County with her then-husband and two young children in 1979. “We were very deliberate in selecting a place we both liked,” she said. “I ended up in a place I love.” She almost immediately became

involved as a volunteer. Eventually she met other like-minded historic preservationists. “We all shared a vision of what Franklin could be,” she said. “Historic preservation has always been my thing – who knows why?”

In Franklin she found a place to channel that historic preservation gene. Franklin’s Main Street needed a vision. “It needed Streetscape,” she said. By the end of 1980, Pearce was the director of the Heritage Foundation, and her first project was Streetscape. Streetscape took about 12 years to complete.

Since then Pearce has tackled a variety of challenges from historic zoning to fighting the building of State Route 840 through the southwest area of the county, saving the Franklin Theatre and numerous other historic or old buildings. The Foundation went on to save Roper’s Knob and the Old, Old Jail, which became the organization’s first permanent home.

Saving historic places isn’t just a job for Pearce. She and her husband, Harris, have personally saved six historic buildings, she admitted.

Although Mary Pearce is looking forward to retirement and time to organize family photos, travel a bit and do some gardening, she’ll be back, and everyone knows it.

Editor’s note: Mary was a founding Board Member of STFB in 1989. The group’s first mission was to organize and sponsor the 125th Battle Anniversary re-enactment. Her first Heritage Foundation office in the tiny Dr McPhail office at 209 E Main Street was so small, her assistant’s desk was upstairs. Mary led the 1996/97 effort to buy the Carter cotton site at 109 Cleburne Street as the “great leap of faith” first step to reassembling a battlefield park. At the time, the second step was yet to be planned. See the [June 1997](#) STFB newsletter. And now twenty years later, the Battlefield Park is emerging.

The Battle of Franklin Trust Presents Calicos & Cadets Day Camp June 20-22 and July 11-13

Each summer, The Battle of Franklin Trust hosts **Calicos & Cadets** day camps at Historic Carnton Plantation. Boys and girls ages 8 - 12 are invited to

come explore 19th century soldier and civilian life through activities, games, and re-enactor demonstrations.

June 20-22 and July 11-13, 2017

9:00 am - 4:30 pm each day

\$125.00 per camper

The programs for the two dates are different

June Camp: "Life in the 1800s"

Come take a step back in time and encounter life in the 1800s! Students will have the opportunity to churn butter and snack on treats from the past, dig for artifacts, play period games, and engage in other Victorian activities to discover nineteenth century America. This camp provides a fun, hands-on experience for kids to dive into history.

July Camp: "Soldier Life"

Learn what life was like for both Union and Confederate soldiers during the Civil War. Through activities like marching, drilling, and enlisting, the Civil War becomes alive. Women also played a vital role for both sides – learn about the home front and nurses, as students participate in an authentic field hospital. The camp provides an engaging learning experience for boys and girls ages 8-12

Visit www.boft.org/calicos-cadets for more information and to register

For questions or more information, please contact Sarah Falck at (615) 794-0903 or sarah@boft.org

News In Review May 2017

Cannon dedicated at Lotz House in memory of Marine — *Williamson Herald* — 4/21/17 — FRANKLIN — The Lotz House dedicated an authentic Civil War cannon in memory of fallen Franklin Marine John A. Hundt, a LCPL veteran in the United States Marine Corps Reserve who passed away last year. In his honor, his father, Victor Hundt, completely restored the cannon used in the Battle of Chickamauga.

Harvey McLemore House is open for regular hours; descendents tell rich history — *Williamson Herald* — 4/27/17 — FRANKLIN — The African American Heritage Society of Williamson County partnered with The Heritage

Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County in 1997 to purchase the Harvey McLemore House with intent to create a museum. Harvey McLemore was a former slave and successful farmer. The home, built in 1880, is the oldest remaining African American-owned home in Franklin, dating back 117 years. . Since April 29, every Friday and Saturday, the museum will be open for regular hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Protected: Historic Rippavilla Plantation in Spring Hill — *The Land Trust for Tennessee* — 4/27/17 — Spring Hill — In April 2017, Rippavilla donated a conservation easement on the property to The Land Trust for Tennessee, which limits future development to preserve its historical, cultural and conservation values but leaves the property in Rippavilla's ownership. The conservation easement also protects the expansive views of the property and historic home from Highway 31.

Governor budgets \$3.2 million to construct new Carter House Visitor's Center — *Williamson Herald* — 5/11/17 — FRANKLIN — The Tennessee General Assembly passed funding in the amount of \$3.1 million to construct a new Carter House visitor center as part of The Carter House Master Plan. The Master Plan unveiled in 2015, includes the new construction of the visitor's center, over 4,000 square-feet, to be surrounded by landscaping throughout the property to reflect the Carter family's green space living with an orchard and garden.

Legislators explore unearthed Civil War relics discovered at Federal Line site in Franklin — *Williamson Herald* — 5/11/17 — FRANKLIN — Reps. Charles Sargent and Sam Whitson, both R-Franklin, and Steve McDaniel, R-Parkers Crossroads, peered down inquisitively at an unearthed metal belt buckle labeled U.S., most likely once belonging to a Union soldier, who fought in the Battle of Franklin, Nov. 30, 1864, during the Civil War just discovered at an excavation site at the historic Carter House. Next to the belt buckle lay a buckle strap, Williams cleaner bullets and a crushed canteen.. The relics were found during an archaeological dig as part of a \$25,000 grant Battle of Franklin Trust (BOFT) project to excavate the Federal Line in order to find Civil War artifacts for preservation, discovering clues that would tell more about the day of the brutal battle for historical record.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851

Franklin, TN 37065-0851

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May 2017

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	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
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	"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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