



# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

February 2018

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

## President's Message

As reported in the January 28, 2018 Nashville Tennessean, the Carter House Battlefield Park is on the verge of adding a nearly one acre parcel to expand the Park's current 20 acres. Known as the Spivey Property, the price tag is 1.36 million dollars, with nearly half of that amount coming from the National Park Service through the American Battlefield Protection Program grant with the help of the Civil War Trust.

According to Battle of Franklin Trust CEO, Eric Jacobson, "In order to get that grant, the money must come through a government entity, if awarded. The money comes through the city and passes on to Franklin's Charge." Along with the prior Lovell Property purchase and buildings moved or demolished, the proposed purchase of the Spivey Property and removal of the buildings will further open the view that thousands of Confederate Soldiers witnessed as they charged toward the Federal Trench line.

A second grant request of \$630,000 has been approved by the Tennessee Historical Commission.

The article gave credit for the Battlefield Preservation of the last decade to: Franklin's Charge, The Heritage Foundation of Williamson County, The Battle of Franklin Trust, and Save The Franklin Battlefield! Thank you for supporting us all these years.

Chip Huffman – President

## New & Renewing Members January 2018

Ernie & Nell Bacon	Franklin, TN
Dorothy Carter	Nolensville, TN
John Chaballa	Barnagat, NJ
Karen Stein Daniel	Albuquerque, NM
Catherine Dougherty	Ovilla, TX
Don Duncan	Murray, KY
Staley Family Trust	Diamond Bar, CA
Mike Hamilton	Westmoreland, TN
Bobby Hargrove	Franklin, TN
Robert M Hearin	New Orleans, LA
Nicholas Kaup	Northbrook, IL
Sharon Murray	Martinsburg, WV
Nick Romer	Franklin, TN
Richard Rust	Franklin, TN
John, Teresa Rutledge	Franklin, TN
Tom & Nancy Sladek	Franklin, TN
Herschel & Pam Smith III	Americus, GA
Lillian & Boardman Stewart	Franklin, TN
Ernest Wade	Loganville, GA

## History Summer Camp

Tuesday through Thursday, June 19-21

Tuesday through Thursday, July 17-19

9:00 am to 3:30 pm each day

The Battle of Franklin Trust's History Summer Camp offers children two unique opportunities to learn about America's past which still affects us today.

Through activities, demonstrations, and fun, campers can learn everything from the most popular foods, to the Underground Railroad, to Civil War marching drills.

Camps are for ages 8-12

Cost of Camp: \$125.00/per camper

For inquiries, please contact Sarah Falck, Education

### Board of Directors

Chip Huffman  
*President*  
Bobby Hargrove  
*Vice Pres*  
Sam Gant  
*Secretary*  
Sam Huffman  
*Treasurer*

Dean Carr  
Robert Huff  
Mike Walker

### Advisory Board

Suzanne Burns  
Ben Nance  
Mary Pearce  
Fred Prouty  
Mike Skinner

Web site



Facebook



Coordinator at [sarah@boft.org](mailto:sarah@boft.org) or (615) 786-1864

**“Life in the 1800s”  
Tuesday through Thursday,  
June 19 - 21**

Come and learn about life in the 1800s in America from the perspective of all peoples. Find out about Americans’ daily lives and discover how we learn about the past today – through a mock archeology dig. Make and taste the most popular 1800s food, practice cricket, learn the codes used by enslaved people on the Underground Railroad, and play Victorian parlor games.

**“Life During the Civil War”  
Tuesday through Thursday,  
July 17 - 19**

This three-day camp teaches children all about the Civil War. Learn about pre-Civil War America, soldier and civilian life, and battle strategies! March and drill like a real soldier, perform mock amputations at a Civil War field hospital, and eat hardtack. And, this camp is not just for boys – women played a tremendous role in the war. Learn about women who became soldiers, spies, and kept the farms at home.

**Summer Camp Interns needed:**

Internships are available to high school and college students over the age of 16. Internships are either 1 camp session or 2 camp sessions. Interns are required to help out with planning and preparation of camp as well as develop and lead group activities. For further information or to submit a resume please contact Sarah Falck at (615) 786-1864 or [sarah@boft.org](mailto:sarah@boft.org).

*Editor’s note: This camp program is very popular. You need to register early. [Boft.org/summer-camp](http://Boft.org/summer-camp)*

**BGA students recognize members of the  
U.S. 13th Colored Infantry  
By Carole Robinson • Staff Writer Feb 22, 2018  
(Reprinted from the *Williamson Herald*)**

Almost 154 years after the Civil War ended, efforts of students at Battle Ground Academy Middle School in an “Adopt a Veteran” project made it possible for the addition of 13 new brick pavers to Veterans Park. Funds raised for the pavers, which will pay tribute to former Williamson County slaves who served in the U.S. (Union) Army and Navy during the Civil War, were

recently presented to Jeanine Hinckle, Williamson County Veterans Service Officer, and County Mayor Rogers Anderson during an assembly.

“If we don’t remember history, history tends to repeat itself,” said Gary Burke, one of two 13th USCI re-enactors who also attended the assembly. “Because of their sacrifices, we are able to work, play and worship together.”

The students’ projects, which were displayed on tri-fold posters set up behind the guests, emerged three years ago when Tina Jones, a member of a group from St. Paul’s Episcopal Church who have been helping members of the African-American community research their history, stumbled on information about three Williamson County black men who served in the U.S. Army (Union) and five who served in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War.

According to Jones, whose two children attend BGA, the numbers didn’t seem correct considering both Nashville and Williamson County had been under federal control since 1862. Her genealogical search took a turn.

“I started digging into this issue of how many African-American men from Williamson County really escaped slavery and enlisted,” Jones wrote in an email.

Williamson County slaves joined the Union Army or Navy after the Proclamation Emancipation went into effect on Jan. 1, 1863. There was a provision in the proclamation that allowed African on Nov. 4 -5 and Nashville on Dec. 15-16, 1864.

Lucy Childs, Sophia Donoghue and Erin Jones’ class was assigned Pvt. Alexander Brown. He was a Williamson County farmer before he joined the 13th USCI in 1863 at the age of 19. He was in the Battles of Johnsonville and Nashville and mustered out of the Army in 1866.

Ella McLay and Avery Cloud’s class researched Williamson County-born Cpl. Walter Simms. He was a musician and joined the 13th USCI in 1863 at age of 17. He was 5 feet, 4 inches tall and was injured or got sick during the Battle of Nashville, Ella said.

Harper Noblitt and Sophie Bruff’s class was assigned Cpl. Elijah Friarson. He was 18 years old when he enlisted on Aug. 12, 1863. Cpl. Friarson was born in

Virginia and brought to Williamson County as a child. He was wounded during the Battle of Nashville and mustered out on Jan. 10, 1866. "He died soon after he mustered out," said Harper.

Isabella Medley's class researched Pvt. Thomas Grear, who enlisted on Sept. 29, 1863, and was wounded in the Battle of Nashville. He mustered out of the Army on Jan. 10, 1866.

Hillary Drinkard represented her class research on Pvt. Nick Crutchelow, who was born in Williamson County and taken as a slave to Stevenson, Ala., where he later enlisted in the Army as a laborer. "He built railroads, forts and cleaned guns," Drinkard said. "He died of an unknown disease at Camp Thomas in Ohio on May 6, 1864.

Bill Radcliffe, the re-enactor who accompanied Burke, called the students' project 'cool.' Both men are descendants of members of the 13th USCI.

Radcliffe's relative, 1st Sgt. Edward Ratcliff – the spelling changed over the years – was a farm slave from Virginia awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry in 1864 for taking command of his unit and leading the attack after his commanding officer was killed during the Battle of New Market Heights.

"This is a piece of history that has long been covered up and forgotten," Radcliffe said. "African-Americans at that time were determined to free themselves. More than 20,000 Tennesseans fought to free themselves and a total of more than 180,000 nationally joined the Army and the Navy with the determination he could fight now or never fight. They left their families still in bondage knowing the ramifications were horrendous if they were caught or they lost the war."

The students' posters will be on display until March 2 at the Williamson County Archives & Museum located at 510 Columbia Ave. in Franklin.

Jones created a website [SlavesToSoldiers.com](http://SlavesToSoldiers.com) where names of the Williamson County former slaves who enlisted in the U.S. Army and Navy during the Civil War can be found. It also provides an opportunity for anyone to sponsor a brick paver for a veteran to be installed in Veterans Park. Pavers are \$65 – the same price if purchased from the Veterans Service Office. Pavers must have been purchased by Feb. 1 for installation and unveiling at the 2018

Memorial Day Ceremony. All pavers purchased after Feb. 1 will be unveiled during next year's ceremony.

## News in Review February 2018

### County loses 'a treasure' with death of Virginia Bowman — Williamson Herald — 2/8/18 —

**Franklin** — As the hearse carrying Virginia Bowman leads the funeral procession around Franklin's Public Square, Franklin police Officers Brad Brandon and Bryan Frazier stand at attention by the U.S. Six-Pounder Field Gun cannon named "Virginia" in honor of the Williamson county's former historian and much loved matriarch. Virginia Colley McDaniel Bowman, 94, of Franklin, passed away Feb. 3, 2018. She served as the County's second historian, starting in 1972. She retired from her post in 2016. "She's one of those ladies in our community that you constantly relied on for the historical perspective of things," County Mayor Rogers Anderson said, "She was instrumental in so many of the things we did that dealt with history, from the cannons on the square to the Williamson County seal."

### Franklin may expand battlefield open space — Williamson-The Tennessean — 1/28/18 — Franklin

Franklin's Charge and the Battle of Franklin Trust could receive national funding to expand open space of the battlefield. The Spivey tract—less than an acre of commercial property off Columbia Avenue—would add to the 20 acres of Carter Hill Battlefield Park. The two groups have entered into a contract agreement with the property owners.



**The Spivey house is directly across Columbia Avenue from the Carter Hill Battlefield Park. Currently the Battle of Franklin Trust and Franklins Charge hold a purchase contract on this commercial property of approx .94 acres.**

# Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851

Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## February 2018

### 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: <b>Marker Fund</b> ~ <b>Land Purchase</b> (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	
	“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	
	<b>SHIPPING &amp; HANDLING (Items only) ~ Under \$25.00 - or -</b>	<b>\$4.95</b>	
	<b>\$25.00 and up</b>	<b>\$5.95</b>	
	<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>		

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