

FEB 1996

SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

An Open Letter to the members of Save the Franklin Battlefield, Inc.

I am sorry that a large number of our membership was unable to attend our annual membership meeting on Sunday, November 12, 1995.

You missed reports given by your 1995 Board. We have come a long way in a year. New members have joined us. New members were elected to your Board of Directors and your Executive Board for 1996 was elected. As Vice-President, I would like to issue you a challenge to become involved with the organization.

Your membership dues are important but so are you. We have things planned for 1996 and we want to see you all take an active part.

We have an answering machine, with recorded message as to what is happening. Our Board meetings are open to hear from you. Call the STFB office at 615-591-1774 to get information.

Remember, the Franklin Battlefield has not been saved!

E.J. Neeley

1996 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President — Tom Van Dyke

Vice-President — E.J. Neeley

Director — Lynne Pope

Treasurer — Colon Pope

Secretary — Mary Pearce

Board Member — Herbert Harper

Board Member — Ronny Mangrum

Board Member — Sam Gant

Board Member — Sam Huffman

1996 Advisor — Thomas Cartwright

AND THE WINNERS ARE . . .

We think all our members are winners - but the following people won door prizes at our annual membership meeting in November.

The signed and numbered limited edition prints were won by Vincent Anderson of Union, Michigan and Patricia Jarusinsky of Nashville.

Gene Bates-Renaud of Millwood, New York, Michael and Janie Cunningham of Tullahoma, TN, Rosie Dete of Franklin, and Sam and Carol Hufman of Brentwood, TN all won books dealing with the Civil War and the Battle of Franklin.

Hats, tee shirts or paperweights were won by Linda Gentry of Franklin, Johnnie Johnson of Nashville, Peter Schofield of Brentwood, Sharon Thach of Franklin and Barry Thomason of Antioch, TN.

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1996 MEMBERSHIP / UPDATE FORM

NAME(S) : _____

ADDRESS : _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ HIS PHONE: _____ HER PHONE _____

(check one) Individual \$12/ year Family \$15/ year Corporate \$25/ year

Membership is annual, donations are tax deductible

Make checks payable to: SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

GOOD NEWS

----- The 1864 Tennessee Campaign Re-enactment of the Battles of Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville at Spring Hill in October was quite a success. Sam Huffman was responsible for the SFB table near the spectator entrance. With the help of volunteers Rosie Dete, Susan Doughty, Johnny Johnson and Sam's 8 year old granddaughter Karine, we raised \$317 in new members and hat , tee shirt and belt buckle sales.

----- Money made from the re-enactment goes to various historic groups in the area. Save the Franklin Battlefield is the thankful and appreciative recipient of \$2000 from this group. Tentative plans are to put up another historic marker.

---- Speaking of historic markers. Thanks to the generous donation of Pam Lewis we now have the marker ready to be placed on Highway 96 West at the sight of the last remaining Union Breastworks. The date and time of the dedication will be in the March newsletter.

-----The next Board meeting will be Monday, March 11, at the Williamson County Public Library from 6:30 - 8:00. Everyone is welcome to attend.

----- The map for the self-guided driving tour of the Battle of Franklin has been reprinted and we are including a copy with this newsletter.

WHO HEARD THE SOUNDS OF THE BATTLE OF FRANKLIN FROM INSIDE THE BASEMENT OF THE CARTER HOUSE?

As darkness came on Wednesday evening, November 30, 1864 the Lotz family went across the road to the home of their neighbor, Fountain Branch Carter.

They took shelter in the basement of the well built brick house with its strong limestone foundation. Here they would be safe.

Into its three rooms, as Alice Nichol wrote, "negroes crouched down in the cellar dining room, children, grandchildren and neighbors in the hall cellar."

Fountain Branch Carter, age 67; his son Moscow Branch, 39, formerly a Lt. Colonel in the 20th Tennessee, a prisoner of war on parole, a widower. Moscow's 4 children, Mary Orlena 11; Walter Fountain 10, Annie Josephine,6, and Hugh Ewing age 4.

Moscow's sister, Mary Alice Carter McPhail age 29, her children Orlando age 1. Alice Adelaide 8 and Marcus age 7.

Three other sisters, Sarah Holcomb 27, Annie Vick Carter McKinney 28 widow , and Frances Hodge Carter 20. Fountain Branch's daughter-in-law Sallie Dobbins McKinney Carter 28, widow of James Fountain Carter and her two children Fountain McKinney Carter 11 and Ruth James age 6.

Also two colored servants and a small boy Oscar about age 3.

Albert and Margarette Lotz their children, Paul 9, Matilda who had her sixth birthday on November 29, 1864, Augustus 2 and Amelia age 17.

Of the 25 there were 12 children under the age of 12.

From their place of safty they could hear, above them, footsteps of the Union officers and soldiers who had taken the house as their headquarters, the plans for the battle, gunfire, cannonshells exploding and the voices of the North and South.

It had to have been these sounds that woke those children from their sleep in the years to come.

E.J. Neeley
Historian