

SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

November 1997

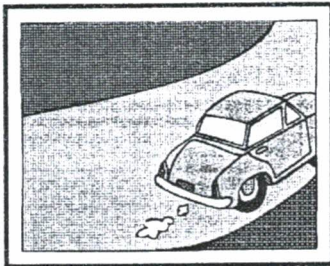
www.franklin-stfb.org

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

RETREAT FROM NASHVILLE BATTLEFIELD TOUR NOV 23

The Retreat From Nashville tour is scheduled for Sunday, Nov 23 from 2pm to 4pm. We will assemble in the parking lot west of The Ramparts office building in Brentwood - corner of Maryland Way & Franklin Road.

After introductory comments, the tour will follow the route of Hood's December 17 retreat after the disastrous Battle of Nashville December 15-16, 1864. Throughout that day, Federal cavalry and infantry units made repeated flanking movements over muddy fields and roads attempting to trap the remnants of Hood's once powerful Army of Tennessee. The Confederates, struggling with broken units and the same terrible roads, made several desperate blocking stands on the way to Franklin, and then on to Spring Hill. Both armies passed over the battlefields where they fought just two weeks earlier.



The tour will be hosted by STFB members and local historians who will lead the discussions and answer all questions. We will travel by auto caravan to several sites in Brentwood and Franklin. We suggest that we double up on rides to reduce the traffic and congestion at the tour stops.

The tour is free to all STFB members. Others are asked to donate \$10 per person, or better yet, become a member - Individuals \$12 - families \$15.

There are two good books on the subject - *Shrouds of Glory : From Atlanta to Nashville : The Last Great Campaign of the Civil War* by Winston Groom and *Death of an Army : The Battle of Nashville and Hood's Retreat* by Paul Stockdale. Both books are available at the **Carter House and Lotz House Museums** - both can also be ordered at the STFB Electronic Book Store at our web site.

STFB ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The STFB Annual Membership Meeting will be held Sunday, Nov 16 at Otey Hall in Saint Paul's Episcopal Church on West Main Street from 2 pm to 4 pm. We will review 1997 activities, discuss plans for 1998 and elect STFB officers for the coming year. Our guest speaker will be long time Franklin resident, and local historian and author, Ridley Wills II, who will discuss his recent book *Old Enough To Die*.

The book details the lineage of his wife's Williamson family - the Bosticks - and features a large collection of letters written by family members during the Civil War years. The book outlines the ebb and flow of the war using the letters home from the Bostick men who served in the Confederate Armies.

Mr. Wills' presentation skillfully uses slides of family portraits, photographs, homes and artifacts to bring life once again to the Bostick family. Time will be reserved so that you can have Mr. Wills sign your copies of his books. A drawing will be held for several nice door prizes.

STFB ON-LINE BOOK STORE EXPANDED

In response to several requests, the STFB Electronic Book Store at the STFB Web Site has added many additional titles to the books we recommend on the Battle of Franklin and the Civil War in Tennessee. By simply following the 'page links', you will be guided to a short review of the book, and then to the **Amazon.com** page where you can order the book.

Amazon.com is the world's largest book store. They actually are the ones who receive, ship and bill your order - and all of your data is encrypted by The Netscape Secure Commerce Server. When you buy from the STFB Book Store, a portion of the purchase price is donated to Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc.

The STFB book store does not yet have reviews for all of the books we list. If you would like to write a review for the STFB Store (350 or fewer words), email it to samhuff@ibm.net Also, use the same email address to recommend other books you feel we should carry.

The News In Review by Peter Schofield

Highlights from print media articles of interest to the battlefield community

Confederate Merchants - The Tennessean - 10/24/97 - Just a few years ago, Dennis Semrau made a living baking bread and muffins for Connecticut grocery store customers. Then one day a couple of guys in Confederate army uniforms stopped by for doughnuts on their way to a battle and changed his life forever. Now Semrau is a member of the 5th Alabama Infantry unit and the proprietor of The Confederate Yankee, where he turns out neat hand-made button holes instead of doughnut holes. His Guilford, Connecticut business sells authentic reproduction uniforms to Civil War reenactors like the thousands that converged recently for the re-creation of the 1864 Battle of Spring Hill, TN. Semrau, and nearly 70 others like him are called "sutlers," a profession nearly as old as armies themselves.

"Basically, sutlers were people who traveled with an army and supplied what the army did not - things like tobacco, writing paper, matches, playing cards," says Andy Fulks, owner of Fall Creek Suttlers in Whitestown, IN, and coordinator of the recent sutler "mall" at the two-day battle. "You've got to remember that everyone in the Civil War didn't fight all the time. It wasn't all blood and guts and killing. There was lots of down time and even leisure." Sutlers were so indispensable to a soldier's life that they were officially sanctioned by a regiment's hierarchy, Fulks said. Sutlers generally allowed soldiers to charge items against their next paychecks and were permitted to collect overdue debts from the company paymaster.

Preserving Franklin's heritage - The Tennessean - 10/27/97 - Historic preservationists say the city's first design guidelines, unanimously approved by the Franklin Planning Commission recently, are a long overdue but still welcome giant step toward the protection of Franklin's heritage. Until now virtually unprotected from develop-

ment, properties on the National Register of Historic Places in Franklin may no longer be torn down, moved or lost in a sea of vinyl-siding and cul de sacs if a new ordinance is approved by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Development around historic properties will instead be governed by a comprehensive set of history-sensitive guidelines that are already working well in other communities. "I'm delighted the commission has done this and I hope now the Board of Mayor and Aldermen will approve the guidelines," says Mary Pearce of the Heritage Foundation, which commissioned the two studies on which the guidelines are based.

Our area has special birthday - Commentary by E. J. Neeley - The Williamson Leader - 10/30/97 - Late in 1789 North Carolina relinquished all of the lands west of the Appalachians to the government of the United States, called the "Territory of the United States South of the Ohio River." By January 1796 a convention had met in Knoxville and on June 1, 1796 Tennessee was made a state. Three years later, formed by an act of the Tennessee legislature, both Franklin and Williamson County were created. Sunday, October 26, was Franklin and Williamson County's 198th birthday. In 1999, we will celebrate our 200th birthday. The city was named for Benjamin Franklin and the county was named for Dr. Hugh Williamson (who, among other things, was) a member of the Continental Congress and signer of the North Carolina Constitution.

Pearce champions historic preservation - The Williamson Leader - 10/30/97 - As executive director of the Heritage Foundation (of Franklin and Williamson County), Mary Pearce has zealously worked along with dedicated volunteers on the Foundation's board of directors to preserve historic edifices throughout Williamson

County. Pearce was appointed to her position in 1986 after serving as a volunteer board member for several years, chairing such events as the annual Carter House Candlelight Tour and the Heritage Ball. "It was a good fit for me," said Pearce, the culmination of a historic preservation journey that began in Somerset, KY, where she spent much of her childhood in a historic home on that community's Main Street. Under her guidance, the Heritage Foundation has become more proactive, purchasing Roper's Knob, Franklin's highest point, and the historic cotton gin property; battling to preserve small, depression-era houses, sponsoring grants to produce a video history of the Black community and helping purchase and restore the historic McLemore House as an African American museum, (among others ventures). Reflecting, Pearce said, the victories during her years with the Heritage Foundation have outpaced the defeats. It is what keeps her involved and upbeat. Driving by the Harrison House on Columbia Pike, saved from being leveled for a subdivision and now owned and restored by one of Franklin's strongest advocates for historic preservation, Pam Lewis, or looking up at nearby Winstead Hill and its surrounding acres purchased by Franklin for a passive park, reassures Pearce she is where she needs to be. (Ed. note - You're wonderful, Mary!)

Smith diary offers insight into Civil War - The Tennessean - 10/30/97 - Local history buffs will welcome the republication of *The Confederate Diary of Robert D. Smith*, originally published in 1975 and long out of print. Well-educated and articulate, Smith captured in his writing compelling images of the countryside in Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and Kentucky, and the battle of Shiloh, Richmond, Perryville, KY, and

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Letters from Franklin

Seven months before the of Franklin, Captain Pleasant M. Hope wrote this letter to his infant daughter whom he had never seen. He told his baby girl that this is "... the first letter you ever received." The letter truly is a voice from Franklin.

*Camp Cummings near
Mobile, Ala.
Apr. 25, 1864*

Dear Child,

It is with pleasure and delight that I write you a few lines, which will be the first letter you ever received, and one too which I hope you will preserve until you can read it.

By the misfortunes of war, I have been separated from your Mamma, but by the blessings of God, I hope to soon return to you, never more to leave you, until death shall separate us. My dear and only child, be a good girl, ever love and obey your affectionate Mamma, and don't forget your first letter writer, who has not nor never will forget you, who daily prays to God, in his infinite mercy, to spare, bless and protect you amid the troubles of this world, and should you live to become old, may God bless you and prepare your soul in this life to go to that happy world after death.

Your Father,

P.M. Hope

Captain Pleasant M. Hope, Company Commander of Co. D, 46th Tennessee Inf. Regt., CSA, was killed in the Confederate charge at the Battle of Franklin, Tennessee on November 30, 1864. He is buried at the McGavock Confederate Cemetery, Tennessee Section, Grave #33. His only child, "Annie", never forgot her "first letter writer".

**SPECIAL MUSEUM EXHIBITS
CONTINUE**

The **General John Adams and the Battle of Franklin Exhibit** will be on display at the Lotz House Museum until December 18. The Carter House Museum will continue the showing of its special **19th Century Bibles and Mourning Pieces Exhibit** until December 31.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8**

The next monthly STFB Board meeting will be held on December 8 at the Williamson County Library meeting room at 6:30 pm. Board meetings are open to all members, prospective members and everyone interested in protecting and preserving the Civil War Sites in Williamson County. We hope to see you there!

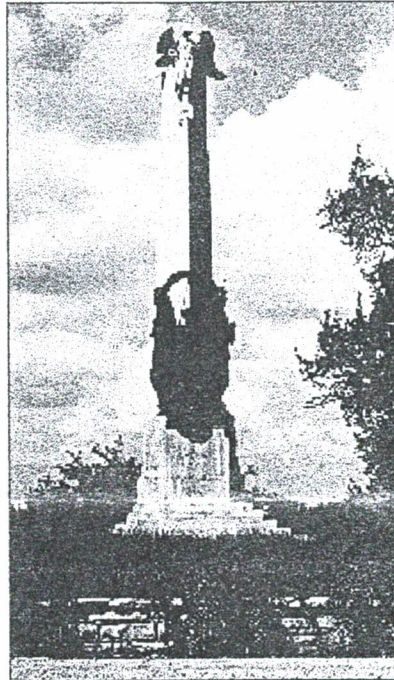
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Murfreesboro. "Little escaped his eye and pen... (and) the diary contains information not available elsewhere," says Virginia Alexander, who indexed the book and added additional notes for the reprinting. The 172 page, softbound diary is available from the Capt. James Madison Sparkman chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Send \$10 per copy plus \$2 for postage to Elaine W. Davidson, Box 702, Columbia, TN 38402-0702

Achievements - The Tennessean - 11/4/97 - (Obvious from the picture that accompanied this news item) Rick Warwick, (sometimes known as *Mr. History* around Franklin and Williamson County) was **shocked** to learn he had just won the Heritage Foundation's Patron's Award recently. The award, announced at the Heritage Ball at the Vanderbilt Plaza ballroom, has been given annually since 1976 to honor-outstanding contributions to historic preservation efforts. (Ed. note - **Hearty congratulations, Rick!**)

BATTLE OF NASHVILLE GROUND BREAKING DEC 13

The Tennessee Historical Commission will break ground at 11am Saturday, December 13 for the relocation of the Battle of Nashville Monument at its new 3-acre site on the southwest corner of Battlefield Drive and Granny White Pike just south of I-440 in Nashville. The restoration of the monument, using white granite for the base, obelisk and angel, will be completed sometime mid-1998. A color picture of the original monument, before it was severely damaged by a 1974 tornado, can be seen at the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society web site www.bonps.org



Save The Franklin Battlefield Membership/Renewal/Order Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

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

Quantity	Description Annual Membership (Choose One)	Price Each	Total
	-Individual	\$12.00	
	-Family	\$15.00	
	-Corporate	\$25.00	
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" Book Reprint	\$20.00	
	1989 Commerative Belt Buckle	\$5.00	
	1997 Self-Guided Driving Tour Map	\$2.00	
	Save The Franklin Battlefield Bumpersticker	\$1.50	
		Order Total	