



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

July 1999

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 15-17, 1999

SPRING HILL, TENNESSEE

NOVEMBER 29, 1864

DESTINY OR DISASTER?

HOSTED BY THE CARTER HOUSE
AND RIPPAVILLA

NOVEMBER 14, 1999

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

NOVEMBER 27

ILLUMINATION TOUR OF

MCGAVOCK CEMETERY

5 - 8:30 PM

From Your President

First, I must apologize for not including in the last monthly newsletter a review of our First Battle of Franklin tour held on Sunday, May 23, 1999.

Bobby Hargrove of your Board was Chairman, and did a great job. Bobby, Sam Huffman, and myself spoke at the tour stops. It is rewarding to those who put in the extra time to do research for these tours when the public show their support. Remember each time these tours are held new information is brought out.

Thanks again Bobby for chairing this tour.

On Saturday, June 26, 1999, the Battle of Nashville Monument's Rededication was held. I was unable to attend, but did see news coverage that evening. It was good to see the Black Troops that fought at The Battle of Nashville represented by the black reenactors for this rededication.

For "three regiments of colored troops were in a brigade commanded by Colonel Thomas J. Morgan; four colored regiments were in Colonel Charles R. Thompson's brigade; and two regiments and a battalion of white troops were brigaded under Colonel Charles H. Grosvenor, acting under Colonel Morgan. Nine regiments of infantry and two batteries of artillery launch the opening attack in the two day battle.

Thus these "colored troops" in Union Blue took the first shots of that December day. The 14th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 44th, 12th, 13th, 100th, of the U.S. Colored Troops, according to Stanley Horn in his book "The Decisive Battle of Nashville" fought that first day, December 15, 1864.

E. J. Neeley

Franklin Special School District Young Scholars Program

Lynne Pope, Executive Director of STFB is also an instructor at the Young Scholars Program. She teaches Civil War history to 7-14 year olds. She gave each of her students one of the STFB calendars. When asked how the children liked the calendars, here is what Mrs. Pope had to say -

"Yeah!!!! The kids last week loved the calendar. I'll be giving them out today or tomorrow and will let you know how they respond. A couple of kids already have told me that they have one at home. If the kids I've had this year are any indication, the preservation effort will have some terrific leaders in about 15 to 20 years.....think you can hold on that long?"

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The Battle of Franklin, Tennessee, November 30th, 1864

Respectfully submitted by the Lotz House Museum

"These men were unlike any I have ever nursed. It seemed as if they were yet revengeful and unsatisfied; their countenances not yet relaxed from the tension of the fierce struggle, their eyes yet gleaming with fires of battle. The tales they told made me shudder: Of men, maddened by the horrible butchery going on around them, mounting the horrible barricade (trampling out in many instances the little sparks of life which might have been rekindled), only to add their own bodies to the horrid pike, and to be trampled in their turn by comrades who sought to revenge them; of soldiers on both sides, grappling hand to hand, tearing open each others wounds, drenched with each other's blood, dying locked in a

fierce embrace. It turns me sick even now when I remember the terrible things I then heard, the awful wounds I then saw. During the whole period of my service, I never had a harder task than when striving to pour oil upon those troubled waters, to soothe and reconcile these men who talked incessantly of 'sacrifice' and useless butchery. This was particularly the case of General Clebourne's <sic> men, who so loved this gallant leader that, at his death, revenge had almost replaced patriotism in their hearts."

(Memories: A Record of Personal Experiences and Adventures During Four Years of War, by Fannie A. Beers)

STFB Board Approves New Marker

by Sam Huffman

At its regular July Board meeting, STFB took action to place a historical marker at the site of the old Franklin High School on Columbia Pike across the street from the Lotz House Museum.

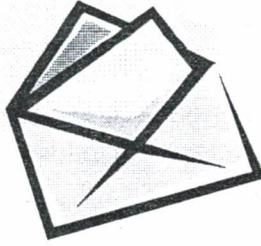
In 1998, the Carter House and Williamson County Commission reconfigured their shared property boundaries to include this 4 acre plot as part of the Carter House grounds. This historically important site is just north of, and immediately adjacent to, the Carter House on Columbia Avenue. During the Battle of Franklin November 30, 1864 it was the site of Opdycke's countercharge and savage hand-to-hand fighting as the Federal reserves blunted and contained the Confederate breakthrough of the Union main trench line.

From 1927 until it burned in 1956, this location was the used for the county's Franklin High School. After the fire, a new High School was built on Hillsboro Road and the old surviving

gymnasium on this site was used as a much needed community center. A new, much larger community center is now under construction on Fowlkes Avenue behind the old gymnasium on land that previously was part of the Carter House complex.

This important marker project will be funded by donations and gifts from members and friends of STFB. The design and text of the marker has not been completed but will conform to the standards used by the Williamson County Historical Society and the signs that the Carter House is currently using to mark important parts of the battlefield. The marker will cost roughly \$1,500 and is planned to be dedicated during the bicentennial celebrations this fall.

From the STFB Mailbag



Dear STFB,

What a wonderful project! I did find it a little odd that I have not heard anything about this when I've been in Franklin visiting family and friends. I just happen to stumble across your website while searching Civil War sites. I think this is a really great idea and hope support continues to grow!

*Most Sincerely,
Kimberly Harrison Skoda
Euless, TX*

STFB 2000 Calendar Is Underway

by Sam Huffman

At the same board meeting, the final approval was given to publish **The Civil War in Middle Tennessee Day by Day 2000 Calendar**. Before approving the project, the Board reviewed the financial outcome of the 1999 calendar and the cost estimates for publishing the 2000 calendar.

Almost everyone who saw the 1999 STFB calendar commented on the high print quality and research scholarship of the piece. Sales and donations to the 1999 calendar project slightly exceeded the \$17,000 cost of designing and printing the calendar by a few hundred dollars. Unfortunately, the 1999 calendar was not available until mid-November which greatly handicapped early sales efforts.

Although the 1999 effort did not produce large profits for STFB, the Board was very pleased that it actually did pay for itself in its very first year of publication. The Board feels that the calendars for 2000 and subsequent years should now generate clear profits for preservation projects.

The 2000 calendar is estimated to cost \$15,000 or so to publish and print. The new and additional text and pictures should be ready for typesetting in the next week or so. The plan is to have the finished calendar in time for all of the Franklin and Williamson County Bicentennial events planned for this fall beginning in October.

STFB is actively soliciting sponsorship gifts and donations to cover some or all of this cost. The calendar will have many new day-by-day entries and 13 new pictures - most from the archives. The selling price has not been set as yet but will be in the ballpark of last year's \$11.99 price.

In the next STFB newsletter, we will begin soliciting pre-orders for the 2000 calendar to help cover the printing cost. This method was used for the 1999 calendar and was a huge assist in paying for the calendar.

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
	1999 STFB Day by Day Bicentennial Calendar <i>Special STFB Member Price</i>	\$8.00	
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" Book Reprint	\$20.00	
	1989 Commemorative Belt Buckle	\$10.00	
	1989 Commemorative Paperweight	\$10.00	
	1997 Self-Guided Driving Tour Map	\$3.00	
	Save The Franklin Battlefield Bumpersticker	\$1.50	
		Order Sub-Total	
		Shipping/Handling under \$10 \$0.75 \$10 - \$24.99 \$2.95 \$25 and up \$4.50	
	-Individual	\$12.00	
	-Family	\$15.00	
	-Corporate	\$25.00	
		Order Total	

Please note that the commemorative items listed above for sale can be viewed on the STFB website at:

www.franklin-stfb.org/saleitem.htm