

Save The Franklin Battlefield

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

December 1999

www.franklin-stfb.org

From the President

Dear STFB Members—

As way of introduction, my name is Joe Smyth, and I have been elected your new President. I have been a resident of Franklin and Williamson County for over 18 years, and a board member of STFB for 3 years. If you ever have questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at my home at 615-794-6812 or smyth@vol.com.

Words cannot express the thanks we owe our out-going President, E J Neeley on her extremely capable stewardship of our organization, and her guidance of STFB towards the Year 2000. We are grateful and blessed that she remains with us as a board member. I know I will call upon her experience often during my tenure.

We welcome our newest Vice President, Suzanne Burns. Suzanne is an active founding member and Secretary of the Brentwood Historical Society, and is famous for her period portrayal of Nashville's own Adelia Acklen.

We also welcome our returning board members, Sam Gant, Sam Huffman, Lynn Pope, Bobby Hargrove, Herbert Harper, David Fraley, Kim Hoover, and our newest board member, Lynne Vaughn Dorris. Lynne was a past board member of STFB. Welcome back Lynne!

I look forward to a busy and productive year as your President. I personally thank each and every one of you for helping to Save The Franklin Battlefield!

Joe Smyth

First Annual Patrick Cleburne Dinner

On Saturday evening, November 27, 1999 The Patrick Cleburne Society held it's first Annual Dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Franklin.

Ms. Mauriel Joslyn, President welcomed those in attendance. Taking part in the evening program were STFB treasurer Sam Huffman, and STFB members Kim and Paul Caudell provided the music. After dinner we heard Dr. David Gleeson speak on "The Irish in the Army of Tennessee: Why They Fought."

Your new president, Joe Smyth, and board members past president EJ Neeley, Sam Huffman, Kim Hoover, and David Fraley were also able to attend. The Society had earmarked the money raised from the dinner to be given to STFB. We received their check for \$1000.

Our thanks to this fine group!

EJ Neeley

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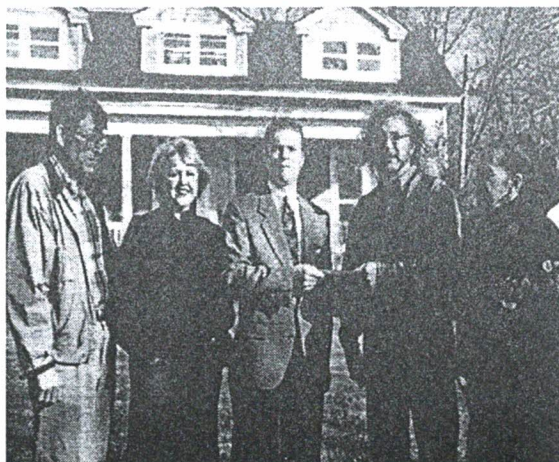
DECEMBER 26, 1999 -
JANUARY 2, 2000
STONES RIVER
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
RANGER WALKS— DEC. 26-31
ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATIONS—
JANUARY 1 & 2
BOOK SIGNING BY DR. MICHAEL
BRADLEY TULLAHOMA, THE
FORGOTTEN CAMPAIGN. FOR
MORE INFO CALL 615-893-
9501.

STFB Makes Important Donation

Officers of STFB and the Heritage Foundation met recently at 109 Cleburne Street to take one more important step in the journey to pay off the indebtedness on this the site of the Carter Cotton Gin. Their purpose was to present a \$2,250 donation from STFB and its supporters to help the Heritage Foundation buy the Carter cotton gin site. Heritage Foundation Executive Director Mary Pearce and Treasurer Jim Creason accepted the check from STFB President Joe Smyth that will be immediately applied to the outstanding balance of the property's mortgage.

"Two years ago, we had an opportunity to buy this important battlefield site even though we had no precise vision of how the \$160,000 would be raised," said Pearce. The cotton gin and the Carter farm buildings west of Columbia Avenue were the scenes of the fiercest fighting during the Battle of Franklin. "We are greatly pleased that STFB has attracted the attention of historical groups around the country to make this donation possible" she added.

"Most of these funds came from two out-of-state Civil War Round Tables, a re-enacting group, and the Patrick Cleburne Society," recounted STFB Treasurer Sam Huffman. "The remainder was donated in many small gifts from \$5 to \$100". Earlier this year, the Salt Creek CWRT of Wheaton, IL and the San Diego CWRT informed STFB that they had adopted Franklin as their preservation project for 1999. "We were greatly pleased to



Williamson County historian Rick Warwick (l) and Heritage Foundation Executive Director Mary Pearce look on as Heritage Foundation Treasurer Jim Creason (center) accepts a \$2,250 donation from STFB President Joe Smyth and Past President EJ Neeley.

have them join forces with us," said Huffman, "and both groups steadfastly followed through with their pledge in a wonderful manner."

In November, The Patrick Cleburne Society hosted their first-ever annual dinner here in Franklin, and the proceeds from that well attended function added \$1,000 to the STFB land purchase fund. "And just a week or so ago the 19th Alabama Infantry in Madison, AL surprised us with another \$200 to the fund. It all adds up," said Huffman "and it is all so very important - and greatly appreciated."

"There are many people and dedicated historical groups around the country who have a special interest in, and connection to, the Franklin battlefield," explained Smyth. "We hope that in the future our organization can coalesce all of their individual preservation actions into additional combined financial support for the gin site."

In December 1998, STFB sponsored a historical marker at 109 Cleburne Street that describes the cotton gin and the fighting that took place there during the Battle of Franklin November 30, 1864.

Sam Huffman

Kroger Calendar Sale Volunteers

Many thanks go out to STFB members Bob Hetherington, John Howe, and Dan Mora, who stepped up to the plate and ran the STFB Calendar Sales table at the Williamson County Kroger stores recently. Our Kroger Calendar Sales Program is a great way for the general membership to get involved in STFB activities. The Kroger Sales Program will continue into January. Call (591-1774) or email (smyth@vol.com) us if you want to volunteer!

McGavock Illumination Tour



The illumination tour of the McGavock Cemetery was a great success. In spite of the cold temperatures, we had 300 visitors to come through. We raised \$1212 to donate to the Franklin UDC for the perpetual upkeep of the cemetery.

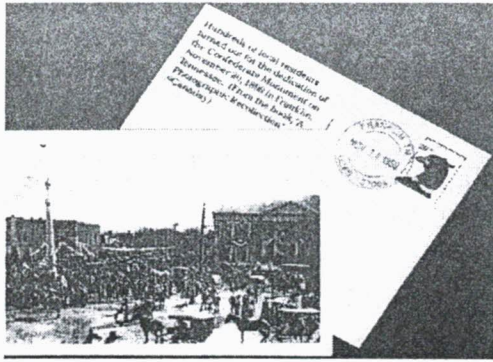
We would like to thank the following individuals for braving the cold weather and portraying the "ghosts" for us: Thomas Cartwright, Ronny Mangrum, Heath Mathews, Wendell Edison, Suzanne Burns, EJ Neeley, Joe Smyth, Rick Hoover, Bill Ivey, Jason Compton, and Colon Pope.

We also had many tour guides and reenactors that we need to thank. The Ladies Soldiers Friends Society, the Williamson Grays, Karen Brady, Paula Brady, Craig Courtney, Lyn Vaughan Dorris, Lynne Pope, Rachel Pope, and Denise Hargrove. We even had four out of state STFB members to come out and help us. Thanks to Joe and Jenna Smyth of Maine, and Vickie and Matthew Rumble of Alabama. A very special thank you to Kim and Paul Caudell, and to Doyle Neeley, you helped to make the tour complete!

Thanks again to one and all!!!

Kim Hoover

Commemorative STFB Postcard Available

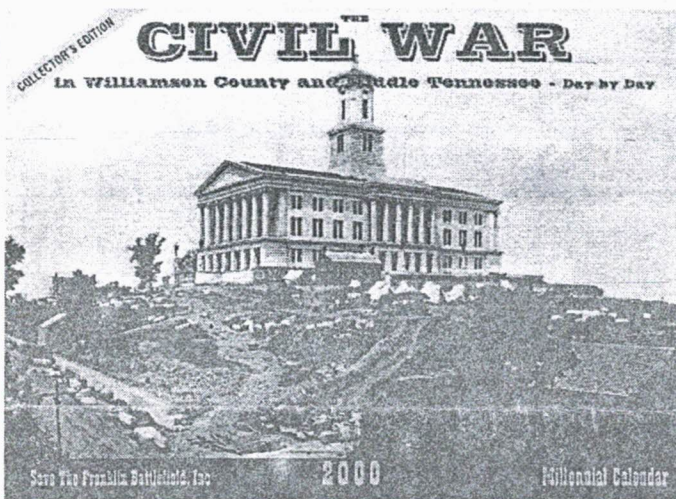


To commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Confederate Soldier Monument dedication at Franklin Town Square, STFB in cooperation with Canaday Photography in Franklin had a special postcard printed. The picture is the November 30, 1899 photograph (featured as the November picture in the 1999 STFB calendar) of the original dedication of the monument. The postage side of the card has a 20 cent stamp cancelled at Franklin on November 30, 1999 -exactly 100 years later.

They are destined to become collector's items since only a few hundred were printed. They are priced at \$5 each at shops in Franklin, from Canaday Photography, or by mail order from STFB (see order form page 4). Proceeds will go to pay down the mortgage on the Carter Cotton Gin property.

STFB Calendar Update

In the last month, local STFB volunteers have manned 14 calendar booths at historical gatherings and meetings, craft fairs, Kroger stores and at Civil War Shows. Twelve museums, bookstores and gift shops carry the calendar in the Franklin, Nashville and Murfreesboro areas. Press releases were sent to 62 newspapers in the Middle Tennessee area, and we expect local TV coverage two weeks before Christmas.



Business is brisk - but we are counting on STFB members to make it even better by giving STFB 2000 Day by Day calendars as Christmas gifts. Doing so of course helps STFB financially, but it helps in a much bigger way too. When you give a STFB calendar to someone else, you educate one more potential supporter about the need to save a portion of the Franklin battlefield. Public education was one of the main reasons the calendar project was begun last year and continued for 2000. We are counting on you to help carry that public education mission over the top.

Just So You'll Know

There has been a recent growth in public interest in what the STFB membership is getting done at Franklin. And it's not just the local preservationists that are paving the way. Our support comes from all over America - and beyond.

The active (read that as dues-paying) membership of STFB is now 334 households. In 1998 it was 289, and at YE 1997 it was 234.

We now have members in 39 states outside Tennessee plus Canada plus Australia - combined they represent 40% of the active membership. Twenty-five percent of the active members found us on the STFB web site and joined up in the last two years - the web site gets 1,000+ hits per month. We don't have a good count yet, but an ever-increasing number of new members enroll by using the membership card that is wrapped inside every calendar we sell.

It is very heartening and encouraging to local volunteers to see so many distant friends who have a very close and enduring tie to Franklin and to the events that occurred here November 30, 1864. Several of our far-away supporters have written to express how thankful they are that local efforts are being made by several Franklin groups to reclaim, however slowly, a Battlefield Park at Franklin.

Marker Fund

The STFB marker fund balance is now \$397. We had hoped to place a marker by year end 1999 on the Old Franklin High School property. That parcel is now part of the Carter House holdings and was the site of the Federal counter-charge that stemmed the Confederate break-through of the Union line during the Battle of Franklin. The markers cost about \$1,500 and require several months lead-time to have cast.

We will continue to accept tax-deductible contributions to the marker fund and will keep you updated on a revised schedule for placing the marker.

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
	2000 STFB Day by Day in Middle Tenn. Calendar	\$13.00	
	1999 STFB Day by Day Bicentennial Calendar Special STFB Member Price	\$3.00	
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" Book Reprint Special STFB Member Price until 12/31/99	\$13.00	
	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	
	Commemorative Postcard	\$5.00	
	Donation for Marker Fund		
		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