



# Save The Franklin Battlefield

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

February 2000

PO Box 851  
Franklin, TN 37065-0851  
(615) 500-6612  
www.franklin-stfb.org

## From the President

Dear STFB Members--

I am very excited about our upcoming STFB Battle of Brentwood Tour. First, the battle--really three separate engagements--is an exciting story of furtive cavalry movements in the night and bold charges by day. Secondly, I am excited that our tour is co-sponsored with the Brentwood Historical Society. The Society is in their third year with a membership of 300. STFB has worked closely with the Heritage Foundation, and the Carter House, Carnton, and Lotz House museums, and now we look forward to the same with the Brentwood Historical Society. Save The Franklin Battlefield plans to broaden and continue this outreach to local, county, state, and national organizations as there is much to be done and, "Much can be done when no one is concerned with taking the credit!"

We hope to see you at the Battle of Brentwood Tour!

*Joe Smyth*

## Brentwood Battlefield Tour

Save the Franklin Battlefield, in conjunction with the Brentwood Historical Society, will sponsor its first driving tour of 2000. A tour of the battlefield sites in the Brentwood Area is planned for Sunday afternoon March 19, 2000 between the hours of 2pm and 5 pm. Tickets should be obtained at the Ramparts Building in Brentwood on the corner of Franklin Road and Maryland Way and should be picked up anytime before 4pm. You will be given a map of the battlefield sites which you may then visit at your leisure. Interpreters will be stationed at each site to explain the site to you when you arrive. If you are not familiar with this particular event of the Civil War, you are certain to find this tour both entertaining and informative. The cost for the tour will be free to members of either STFB or the Brentwood Historical Society, and \$5.00 to the general public. Students and children are \$2.00.

## Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY 22  
FRIENDS OF STONES RIVER  
MEETS AT 7PM--STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD VISITORS CENTER.

MARCH 10-11  
PATRICK CLEBURNE SOCIETY  
SEMINAR. SEE PAGE 3 FOR  
MORE DETAILS ON THIS TOUR.

MARCH 12  
IRISH CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL  
SERVICE--MT. OLIVET CEMETERY  
STARTS AT 2 PM. FREE AND  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. (SEE PAGE  
3)

MARCH 19  
BRENTWOOD DRIVING TOUR  
(SEE ARTICLE ON THIS PAGE OF  
YOUR NEWSLETTER FOR MORE  
INFORMATION REGARDING THIS  
TOUR.)

APRIL 17-23  
NATIONAL PARK WEEK, WITH  
NATIONAL PARK DAY ON APRIL  
22 AT STONES RIVER NATIONAL  
BATTLEFIELD.

MAY 7  
WALKING TOUR OF HOSPITALS/  
HOMES IN DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN.

MAY 27  
SCOUTS DECORATE STONES  
RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
CEMETERY WITH FLAGS AT 10. A  
MEMORIAL SERVICE IS PLANNED  
AT 1:30 PM.

## Letter from Franklin

Camp Near Tusculumbia  
Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864  
Tuesday Night



My Own Dear Sisters,

My last letter was from near Nashville giving a detailed account of our trip to that point. Since then we have met with disasters of which you have probably heard before this.

Thursday Dec. 15. The enemy attacked our right & were repulsed this morning but in the evening they attacked our left in heavier force & drove that part of our line for 1 ½ miles & captured part of the artillery of Stewart's Corps. It was very unexpected to us. I went out to Franklin this morning & spent the night at Maj. McEwen's Aunt Martha's.

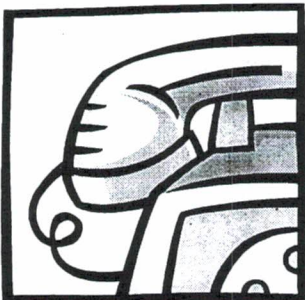
Friday Dec. 16. The enemy attacked us in heavy force today & the fight lasted 'till 3 or 4 o'clock when Bate's Division broke and our line gave way. I left Franklin to the front & met the head of our column. (page 2) beyond Brentwood retreating. The pike was filled with wagons, ambulances, Artillery horses, men to. No organized Command. At Brentwood guards were placed & the stragglers turned back. Everything was mixed up but still there was no panic. Everything was mixed up but still there was no panic. All were moving quietly. The enemy did not press their advantage as well as they might have done. Yesterday & to-day we lost 59 pieces of Artillery—of this our Corps lost 14. Everything was hurried to Franklin. Our loss in killed and wounded is light. That of the enemy heavier. Very little of the artillery was captured by charging it, but when our line broke they were in the rear of the artillery & it being rough country (we) could not bring it off. Many of our best batteries were captured. Maj. Genl. Ed Johnson was captured. Brig. Gen Sears had his leg amputated. Brig. Gen. Tom Smith of WmSon. Co. was captured.

Saturday Dec 17. We moved to Columbia today. Our rear guard had heavy fighting from Holly Tree Gap back. A large portion of \_\_\_\_\_ Regt. Cavalry was captured, also the 4th & 30th (page 3) Regt's. La. Infantry. The enemy occupied Franklin about 12 o'clock to-day. Douglass's Battery was captured 4 miles this side of Franklin.

Sunday Dec. 18. Remained at Columbia today getting the trains & everything across the river. Several pieces of Artillery were left on the other side ont being able to get them over.

Monday Dec. 19. Marched near Pulaski to-day. It rained all day & towards night. It froze on the trees & continued raining all day towards night it froze on the trees & continued raining. We did not get into camp till after dark & then it was snowing. It has been a very unpleasant few days & ton-night is decidedly the worst night of the campaign. I \_\_\_\_\_ such a night, not since leaving Virginia.

*(letter from Sergeant Joseph B. O'Brian, Co. B 1st Tennessee Infantry CSA to his sisters, ac. #60 TSLA, will be continued in next month's newsletter)*



STFB has a new phone number!  
Please make a note of the new phone  
number which is 615-500-6612.

## Patrick Cleburne Society Seminar

MARCH 10-11, 2000 - CHATTANOOGA, TN-Patrick Cleburne Society seminar. Tour of Tunnel Hill, Tennessee Battlefield, on Missionary Ridge, where Cleburne's Division successfully repulsed Union Gen. William T. Sherman on November 25, 1863. Headquarters of tour at Historic Read House hotel in Chattanooga. Guides Jim Ogden of Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Battlefield Park, Keith Bohannon and Lee White will explore Cleburne's action on Saturday morning March 11. That afternoon, bus tour will continue to Ringgold,



Georgia, where Cleburne's Division held Ringgold Gap against Union Gen. Joseph Hooker's three corps, and allowed Bragg's Army of Tennessee to retreat to Dalton unmolested. Cost \$100 per person; includes all day tour and lunch. Non-members \$135 (includes a 1-year membership in the Patrick Cleburne Society). Contact [info@patrickcleburne.com](mailto:info@patrickcleburne.com) or call (706) 444-7412, or write Patrick Cleburne Society, PO Box 130817, Birmingham, AL 35213. Proceeds go to battlefield preservation of Cleburne's Division sites.

## Sponsors Sought for 2001 STFB Calendar

Plans are underway to print the STFB Day-by-Day calendar for the year 2001. This will be the third time in as many years that STFB has published this striking day-by-day chronicle of Civil War events in Williamson County and Middle Tennessee. The calendar has become one of STFB's best public education methods to promote the need to have a battlefield park at Franklin.

We expect to have the 13 new pictures and revised text to the printers by June 1 for delivery by August 1. That also means we have to have the project funding completed in May so that the production contracts can be signed.

This year we hope to remove the past funding delays to our production schedule by enlisting 20-30 corporate and individual sponsors to cover most of the expected \$15,000 publishing expense. If you have not seen the print quality and scholarship of

the 1999/2000 STFB calendars, contact Joe or Sam (below) and they will send copies for your review.

STFB is a 501(c)(3) corporation so all outright donations to the project are tax deductible. The sponsors will be listed on the calendar's back cover, and optionally can list their address, phone, web site, and logo as an advertisement. Copies of the calendar will be available to sponsors to use in their marketing and promotional activities.

If you would like to help sponsor the 2001 STFB Day-by-Day calendar, please contact STFB President Joe Smyth at 615-794-6812 e-mail [Smyth@vol.net](mailto:Smyth@vol.net) - or Treasurer Sam Huffman at 615-370-3842, e-mail [samhuff@ibm.net](mailto:samhuff@ibm.net)

## Irish Confederate Memorial Service

The third annual Irish Confederate Memorial Service will be held on Sunday March 12th at 2 p.m., at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Nashville. This cemetery holds many Irish soldiers, predominately from the 10th Tennessee Infantry, who spent their final years at the nearby Old Soldiers' Home. Military reenactors and pipers will be in attendance, and STFB member--and former board

member--Thomas Cartwright will be the featured speaker. The Irish Confederate Memorial Service is held annually on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day, and is sponsored by the Tod Carter and Randal McGavock Camps of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. It is free to the public.

**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  
Phone Number: 615-500-6612

**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	\$10.00	
	1999 STFB Day by Day Bicentennial Calendar Special STFB Member Price	\$5.00	
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" Book Reprint Special STFB Member Price until 12/31/99	\$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	
	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](http://www.franklin-stfb.org/saleitem.htm)