



# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

October 2000

[www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org)

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### OCTOBER 27

STFB tour of McGavock Cemetery. Funds raised to go to the Franklin UDC for the upkeep of the cemetery. Tour begins at 5:30 and runs to 8:30.

### NOVEMBER 12

Annual Membership meeting 2:00 at the Historic Presbyterian Church. Guest speaker is Rob Hodge.

### DECEMBER 1

Patrick Cleburne Society -- 2nd Annual PCS Dinner, Franklin, Tenn. As last year, the dinner proceeds will go toward a local effort at Battlefield preservation in Franklin. Cost \$40 non-member, \$35 member. Speaker. Noted author and historian Wiley Sword will be our guest speaker. For more info contact Christine 615-599-2566

## *From the President*

Dear STFB Member--

As the crisp coolness of the first fall days and nights descends on Franklin, my mind is always drawn to thoughts of the men dutifully marching and fighting their way to that fateful and horrific meeting of two great Armies here on November 30, 1864. Please keep them in your thoughts—we must do no less... we can do so very much more.

Thank you for remembering the men!

*Joe Smyth*

PS—Please make plans to attend our McGavock Confederate Cemetery Illumination Tour, and to attend our Annual Meeting for the singular opportunity to hear our speaker, Rob Hodge. These two events should not be missed!

## McGavock Confederate Cemetery Illumination Tour

STFB will conduct an evening illumination tour of the McGavock Confederate Cemetery at Carnton Plantation on Friday, October 27. The tour will run continuously between 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Last year we raised over \$1200 for the upkeep of the cemetery, and we hope to have an even better turnout this year.

In the weeks and months following the Battle of Franklin, an ever-expanding forest of grave markers sprouted up around Franklin as soldiers died of their wounds and disease. John and Carrie Winder McGavock, owners of Carnton Plantation, donated two acres of ground adjacent to their family cemetery for the proper re-internment of Franklin's Confederate dead. With nearly 1500 graves, organized by state, and including 225 "unknowns," the McGavock Confederate Cemetery is the largest privately owned Confederate cemetery in the country and is open daily for visitors.

Tour guides will lead small groups of visitors to various locations in the cemetery, where military and civilian re-enactors will present biographical sketches of the soldiers buried there. Admission is \$5, Seniors \$3, and Students \$2. The proceeds for this event will be donated to Franklin Chapter #14, United Daughters of the Confederacy, for their perpetual upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery.

For more information visit the STFB website at [www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org), or call the STFB office (615-500-6612).

From 1861-1865 By an Old Johnnie –  
Personal Recollections and Experiences in the Confederate Army  
by Captain James Dinkins –

Promoted to lieutenant of cavalry in April 1863 at the age of eighteen he went to Mississippi to serve as aide-de-camp to General James R. Chalmers. When Chalmers command became part of Nathan Bedford Forrest's cavalry in January 1864, Dinkins therefore had the opportunity to closely observe Forrest for he participated in most of Forrest's raids and campaigns throughout the rest of the war.

Dinkins died July 19, 1939 at the age of 94 in North Carolina. Part of his account of the Battle of Franklin written thirty years later "as a record for his descendants and friends to read in after years."

From his account I quote, "We revere the memories of the distinguished dead, the privates not less than the generals. The men, who gave up their lives at Franklin on the confederate side, were martyrs to a hopeless cause. They felt regret at the lost opportunity at Spring Hill (not their fault), and went blindly forth to retrieve the errors, and were willing to redeem the mistakes of their officers with their lives, if necessary. We cannot over estimate their noble and heroic deeds. Every American citizen should feel a pride in cherishing the memory of the gallant men who stormed the works at Franklin, as well as those who defended them."

"When daylight dawned on Franklin, Tennessee, December 1, 1864, the scene was indescribable. About five thousand Confederates and two thousand Federals lay dead or wounded in and around the Federal breast works. In many instances, Confederates and Federals lay across each other, and there was one case where a Confederate and a Federal were found dead in the ditch, the Confederate grasping the Federals throat. General Schofield retreated about 2 am, leaving his dead and wounded in our hands, our army was badly whipped. The men knew that no earthly good had been accomplished, and that the flower of the army had fallen. They had hoped for brilliant results in Tennessee, but met disaster.

They could never again look into the faces of the noble men, the pride and glory of so many battles, who lay dead upon the field at Franklin, and their hearts were filled with gloom and sorrow. And this was the condition of Hood's army as it moved toward Nashville."

*submitted by E. J. Neeley*

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	\$6.00	
	1999 STFB Day by Day Bicentennial Calendar	\$6.00	
	Both Calendars 1999 and 2000—different pictures in each!	\$10.00	
	“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	
		<b>Order Sub-Total</b>	
		<b>Shipping/Handling</b> under \$10 \$0.75 \$10 - \$24.99 \$2.95 \$25 and up \$4.50	
	-Individual	\$12.00	
	-Family	\$15.00	
	-Corporate	\$25.00	
	Donation—Marker Fund		
	Donation—Land Purchase		
		<b>Order Total</b>	

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)

STFB Annual Membership Meeting  
November 12  
Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church  
Guest Speaker is Rob Hodge  
Hope to see you there!

Save The Franklin Battlefield  
PO Box 851  
Franklin, TN 37065-0851  
615-500-6612  
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