



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

OCT
September 2001

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

From the President

Dear STFB Member—

There are a number of opportunities in the month of November to remember the men of the two great Armies who clashed mightily here at the Battle of Franklin, and to help the cause of establishing a Franklin Battlefield Park. Please take advantage of them!

We are ever grateful to you, our membership, for your interest and generosity. We are always looking for volunteers to help—this is an organization of all privates and no generals. We would be honored to work alongside you to help Save the Franklin Battlefield.

See you in November!

Joe Smyth

REENACTORS' MARCH FOR COLLINS' FARM

On November 16, 17, and 18, 2001, Civil War reenactors will be marching to help Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc. The twenty-one uniformed reenactors will be marching 30 miles over three days to raise funds to help retire the debt on Collins' Farm in Franklin.

Collins' Farm is 3.22 acres of core battlefield Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc. (STFB) purchased in June 2001, preventing it from possible commercial development. The land is on the extreme Confederate right/Federal left of the Franklin battlefield and was the ground General W. W. Loring's Division passed over as they climbed the railroad embankment and got entangled in the osage orange abatis in front of the Federal trenches. It was this ground of which Lieutenant William H. Berryhill of the 43rd Mississippi lamented, "I cannot see how any human being could live two moments in such a place."

Each of the twenty-one reenactors will portray and represent one of the 17 Union and Confederate states that had regiments engaged in the Battle of Franklin on November 30, 1864. Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee had troops fighting in the battle on both sides, hence the number twenty-one. Other states represented will be Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

The reenactors will march 30 miles from a point along the Natchez Trace, encamping along the way, and

News In Review by Sam Gant

Library will rise on battle site – *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 10/10/01

FRANKLIN – Resolution to reconsider BGA location fails after lengthy debate. Supporters of a resolution that would move the county library site off the old Battle Ground Academy campus on Columbia Avenue weren't able to sway County Commissioners. The resolution, sponsored by two of the commissioners, would have stopped plans to build a new county library on the BGA site and asked that the land be "dedicated forever" as a battlefield memorial park with now new construction except maintenance on existing structures. It also called for the Williamson County Library Board to recommend to the commission a new site for the library in downtown Franklin.

New library will stay at old BGA site – *The Review Appeal* – 10/12/01

FRANKLIN – The library will be built on the north side of the Battle Ground Academy campus on Columbia Avenue as planned, and a portion of the old campus will be set aside for a Civil War

memorial park to commemorate ground zero of the bloody battle fought in November 1864. Commissioners rebuffed pleas from members of Save The Franklin Battlefield and other historic preservationists seeking to set aside the entire 12-acre campus as a battlefield park. The commissioners limited public input to only five speakers.

Old school will get new owner and new roof – *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 10/24/01
BRENTWOOD – City of Brentwood will assume care of 1830s building as fixture of city parkland—A prominent and well-loved Brentwood landmark may be getting a much-needed facelift soon. Brentwood city officials are in the process of acquiring the Boiling Springs Academy from the Williamson County school system as well as 29 acres surrounding the building which will become part of the city's bicycle and pedestrian trail system. the 29 acres being acquired by the city include the historic Indian mounds, which will be protected from encroachment through the city's ownership.

MCGAVOCK CONFEDERATE CEMETERY ILLUMINATION TOUR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, AT 5:00 P.M.

Save the Franklin Battlefield, Inc. (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 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

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.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc. is a tax-exempt non-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation, protection, and promotion of Civil War sites in Williamson County. Members and prospective members meet at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Williamson County Library in Franklin. For more information visit the STFB website at www.franklin-stfb.org, or call the STFB office (615-500-6612).

into Franklin, ending up at the Collins' Farm property on Lewisburg Pike. STFB is encouraging our membership, other groups, and the general public to sponsor the reenactor representing the state of their choice on a "per mile" basis. The pledge is completely tax-deductible and can be sent to:

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc.
418 Lewisburg Ave.
Franklin, TN 37064
attn: Fraley / Fundraising March.

Here is a breakdown of the pledges received so far. Please fill out the form below and send us your pledge today if you have not done so already. We need your help!

Alabama CS	310
Arkansas CS	50 Pledged
Florida CS	200
Georgia CS	130
Illinois US	1,500 Pledged
Indiana US	160
Iowa US	112
Kentucky US	120
Kentucky CS	110
Louisiana CS	120

Michigan US	100
Mississippi CS	200
Missouri US	125
Missouri CS	200
Ohio US	338
Pennsylvania	200
South Carolina CS	110
Tennessee CS	1015
	590 Pledged
Tennessee US	300 Pledged

March for Collins Farm Pledge Form

I would like to sponsor the reenactor representing the State of _____, at \$ _____ per mile x 30 miles, totaling \$ _____ for the purpose of supporting the Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc in reclaiming the Franklin, Tennessee battlefield, and paying down the debt on the Collins Farm.

Please make your check payable to, and mail to:

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc. ~ 418 Lewisburg Ave - Collins Farm ~Franklin, Tennessee 37064

Your Name/ _____

Address/Phone/ _____

Email here: _____

Illinois Group to Tour Franklin Battlefield Sites

On the first weekend of November, a group of about 25 members of the Salt Creek Civil War Round Table of Wheaton, Illinois will visit Franklin to tour the various sites

connected with the Battle of Franklin. Some of the group, hailing from the Chicago suburbs, will arrive as early as Wednesday night, with some staying in the area through Monday. The group will stay at the Marriott Cool Springs, and conclude its visit with a Preservation Dinner to be held there. The tour will include visits to The Carter House, Historic Carnton Plantation, Winstead Hill, Fort Granger, McGavock Cemetery, and the Collins' Farm.

"I think it is important for the City of Franklin, the County government, and the Chamber of Commerce to understand and take advantage of the tourism possibilities inherent in the Franklin battlefield and the rich Civil War legacy of Williamson County," said Joe Smyth, president of Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc. "These dollars spent locally on food, lodging, shopping, and entertainment represent a non-polluting, low-impact source of income for the area."

The Salt Creek Civil War Round Table approached STFB a year ago with the concept of a "Partnership in Preservation." The Illinois group has raised funds for an historical marker to General George Wagner's Federal Division position to be placed on Columbia Avenue. They plan to continue their relationship with

Franklin and STFB into the future, by supporting and funding efforts to reclaim parts of the Franklin battlefield.

The Salt Creek Civil War Round Table was founded in 1962 and was chartered as a not-for-profit organization that same year. Most of its 135 members hail from suburban DuPage County with the organization meeting monthly at the College of DuPage located in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. The Round Table maintains as its mission "to preserve and educate" the general public in Civil War history. Through a number of fund raising programs, the round table has in the past supported many battlefield and historical organizations. The "Partnership in Preservation" program with Save The Franklin Battlefield was founded on the belief in the importance of the Franklin Battlefield to the Civil War community and the nation as a whole.

Remember that tickets to the Salt Creek Preservation Dinner on November 3 at the Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin are available to STFB members and their guests at \$25 per person. Cocktails (a cash bar) will begin at 7:30 p.m., with dinner at 8:00 p.m. Carter House historian and STFB board member David Fraley will speak on "The Battle of Franklin, What If..." Tickets can be reserved by calling Joe Smyth at (615) 500-6612 by October 28.

Dinner to Benefit Collins Farm



The third annual Patrick Cleburne Society Dinner will be held on November 30, 2001 at 6:30 p.m., at the Ramada Inn in Franklin. All proceeds from this event will go towards retiring the debt on the Collins Farm property. The Ramada Inn is conveniently located just off I-65 (Exit 65) on Highway 96. Bob Funk, of Jonesboro, Tennessee, will portray Sam Watkins of Co. Aytch fame in a one man play entitled, *Memoirs of a Confederate Soldier*. Tickets are \$35 for Society and STFB members and their guests, and \$45 for non-members, and are available in Franklin at The Carter House, (615) 791-1861, and the Heritage Foundation office, (615) 591-8500. Tickets may be purchased through the mail by calling the STFB office at (615) 500-6612. Other weekend events over the Battle of Franklin anniversary include the Nashville Civil War Show at the fairgrounds, and a Civil War encampment at Historic Carnton Plantation in Franklin.

A Petition

To The Williamson County, Tennessee Board of Commissioners

Whereas, the Williamson County Commission has purchased the 12 acre Battle Ground Academy Campus on Columbia Avenue, Franklin, Tennessee, and;

Whereas, that parcel is in the center of the Civil War Franklin Battlefield just south of the Carter House, and;

Whereas, the county commission plans to build a public library and other structures on this property,

Therefore, we, the undersigned, request that the Williamson County Commission designate the recently acquired Battle Ground Academy Campus as part of the County Parks program; and place the property into county use without additional construction; and, eventually convert the property to a battlefield interpretive public park.

Signature

Address

City/State

Zip

_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
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(Check box if you have visited Franklin, TN)

Mail Original to:

Copy to:

Copy To:

Clint Callicott
Williamson County Executive
1320 West Main Street
Franklin, TN 37064

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc
PO Box 851
Franklin, TN 37065

The Review Appeal
PO Box 681988
Franklin, TN 37068-1988

Petition Signatures So Far.....

In the first week we have received BGA Petitions with 53 signatures from supporters - 44 of them have visited Franklin. That's a start but we need many, many more. Be sure to return the enclosed Petition even if the only signature is your own.

Our petition champ so far is Ted Brook of Cumming, GA. Way to go, Ted. He crack out-of-the-box rounded up 13 signatures and sent them in the first week - 10 of them had been to Franklin. You see, there are people all over America who care about the Franklin Battlefield and we are counting on their help. □

McGavock Cemetery by David Logsdon

Carnton is so famous in Civil War history for its role as a field hospital after the Battle of Franklin that it's easy to think of it as the only Confederate hospital, especially since the mansion and the Carter House are the most prominent remnants of the battlefield.

"There's so much legend built up around Franklin and the hospital at Carnton," says interpreter Brian Allison of the Carnton staff. "It's wonderful. Unfortunately, we can't say all of it is completely true." One tangle of fact and fiction Allison has been working on is the Hospital List in McGavock Confederate Cemetery, Franklin, Tennessee, a booklet that has been a steady seller in Carnton's gift shop since it was published in 1989 by the Franklin Chapter #14, United Daughters of the Confederacy. "The introduction gives the impression this is a list of wounded treated at Carnton," Allison explains. "The problem I've been finding more and more is nobody on that list survived their injuries, or at least, I haven't found one yet. "Also, a lot of wounded treated at Carnton and who survived, or died, don't show up on that list. I'm getting the impression this list has nothing to do with Carnton."

Instead, Allison thinks the men on the list were at other Confederate field hospitals. Allison began researching the list by examining the original Hospital List, part of Carnton's archives. "I found a mistake had been made in the transcription," he says. "It is not listed as a 'Hospital List.' In the original, there is no heading." Allison also found an error in the transcription of the list's introductory paragraph. "The way it's transcribed, it says the following is a list provided by the surgeon in charge of the hospital. It consists chiefly of the unknown men," Allison says. "But, the original says the following is a list provided by the surgeon in charge of hospitals - plural." Allison believes the list was just one of many pieces of information sent to the McGavocks after the war. The family kept records about the men buried in the nearby McGavock Confederate Cemetery, where most of the dead Southern soldiers had been gathered after the war. And much of the information was sent to them by families of the dead and wounded, or by men who survived the battle. Some of the survivors sent lists of the dead and wounded from certain regiments. "I think the original Hospital List was sent to help identify the dead," Allison says. "I think the list is of men wounded at Franklin and died of wounds."

"We do have names of wounded men treated at Carnton, but most of them don't show up on the list. This list is probably more important in helping identify men in the cemetery. "For example, there's a fellow named Gerard Foote, of Company K, First Missouri. We've got a letter from him that Tim Burgess found, and he talks about doing tolerably well, though he is obviously dying when writing the letter. He was writing to his father, and he directs any correspondence to Dr. F.S. Woldridge. He is a town doctor."

"Just recently, we came across a letter sent home from Captain Goah Stewart, the captain of Company K of the First Missouri. Gerrard's direct commander. In his letter, Stewart, who was apparently wounded in both legs, wrote to his wife. He said he was in good spirits, and he also said he was at F.S. Woldridge's house. "Now, Gerrard is on the Hospital List, but Stewart is not. That makes me think the list is only of men who died of injuries, and it was sent to the McGavock family in an attempt to identify the unknown."

Allison adds, "Recently, there has been a lot of discussion about a Texan named Sam Morris, who was supposedly brought to Carnton. "There's a letter to Mrs. S.F. Glass, thanking her for taking care of Sam in his last days. In an old map, we found the Glass home. I think it was called Pleasantview, and was out on what is now Highway 96 West. That's probably where Sam was. And, he does show up on the Hospital List. "So, there are two names that didn't die at Carnton, but are on the hospital list." Sam Morris apparently was not identified and is buried among the unknowns. But, Gerrard is buried in the Missouri section."

Asked what is the significance of his work with the Hospital List, Allison replies, "It's just my personal interpretation of the list. But, from the information I have seen and collected, it seems more and more likely that is the correct story behind that list. It just doesn't seem to have much to do with Carnton. But, probably everybody in the list is in the McGavock cemetery."

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	\$5.00	
	1999 STFB Day by Day Bicentennial Calendar	\$5.00	
	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	
	Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Franklin by D. Logsdon	\$12.00	
	Eyewitness to the Battle of Shiloh by D. Logsdon	\$12.00	
	Eyewitness to the Battle of Ft. Donelson by D. Logsdon	\$12.00	
		Order Sub-Total	
		Shipping/Handling under \$10 \$0.75 \$10 - \$24.99 \$2.95 \$25 and up \$4.50	
	-Individual	\$20.00	
	-Family	\$30.00	
	-Corporate	\$50.00	
	Donation—Marker Fund		
	Donation—Land Purchase		
		Order Total	

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, November 17

STFB McGavock Cemetery Illumination Tour. d Save the Franklin Battlefield, Inc. (STFB) will conduct an evening illumination tour of the McGavock Confederate Cemetery at Carnton Plantation on Saturday, November 17. The tour will run continuously between 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. 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.

Sunday, November 18

STFB Annual Membership Meeting. The annual membership meeting of Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc. will be held Sunday, November 18, at the Ramada Inn of Franklin from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Bob Jenkins, author of an upcoming book on the 31st Mississippi Infantry and Featherstons Brigade, will speak on the actions and events at Collins Farm during the Battle of Franklin. . In addition to reviewing the past years activities and discussing plans for 2002, we will elect officers for the ensuing year.

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