



# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

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October 2003

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

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

Dear STFB member—

A fresh wind is blowing through Franklin this month, with the results of our mayor and (at-large) Aldermen election. Three incumbents, the mayor and two aldermen, were swept from office by challengers running on preservation and slow growth issues. A third alderman was re-elected on these issues and a fourth alderman seat remains tied, with a run-off to follow. I feel that this may set the tone for future city and county elections. We will keep you posted!

My deepest thanks to all of you who sponsored marchers on our "Forty for Franklin" Preservation March this past week. If you haven't yet, it's not too late. We will be continuing to accept donations through the end of the year. Extra special thanks go to David Fraley and our team of dedicated reenactors whose heroic efforts have made this event such a yearly success.

I hope many of you will come to our Annual membership meeting next week. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other concerned members such as yourself. It is always a fine time.

Finally, November is an extra-special time for those of us who hold the Franklin Battlefield dear. The Indian Summer afternoons and cold, crisp evenings always pull our hearts and minds to the men of the two great armies that crashed into one another here on November 30, 1864. On a dusty plain in this Valley of Death, they hung up their hopes and made a heroic and supreme sacrifice for their beliefs.

We can have no better reason than these men, to Save The Franklin Battlefield.

*Joe Smyth*

## STFB ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual membership meeting of Save The Franklin Battlefield will be held Sunday, November 23, at the historic Hiram Lodge in downtown Franklin from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. In addition to reviewing the past year's activities and discussing plans for 2004, we will elect officers for the ensuing year. The meeting is free and the general public is invited. Refreshments will be served following the program. The historic Hiram Masonic Lodge is located in downtown Franklin at 115 2nd Avenue South.

Patrick McIntyre, the executive director of the Tennessee Preservation Trust will be our featured speaker. The Tennessee Preservation Trust is a nonprofit historic preservation advocacy organization that is Tennessee's statewide affiliate of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Under Mr. McIntyre's tenure as the organization's first director, the group has expanded its membership base and implemented new programs to raise the support for the preservation of the state's heritage at the local, state, and national levels. Prior to coming to Nashville in 2002, McIntyre served for three years as Endangered Properties Coordinator for the Alabama Historical Commission. From 1996 to 1999 he worked as a private consultant, completing National Register nominations as well as a countywide survey, where he recorded over 1500 diverse historic resources. McIntyre received a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Alabama, and holds an M.A. in Southern Studies from the University of Mississippi. In 2001, he was awarded a Rotary Foundation scholarship and spent a month in Sao Paulo, Brazil studying preservation efforts in the world's third largest city.

Please make your plans to attend this annual event. It is always an interesting, informative, and fun afternoon, and a chance to meet and visit with other STFB members. See you there!



## CARNTON DESCENDANT BUYS 100 ACRES OF BATTLEFIELD-Prospect of development made preservationist step up

By PEGGY SHAW-Staff Writer

FRANKLIN — When Forbes magazine was preparing an article on corporate leader J. Roderick Heller III five years ago, Heller chose to be photographed not at Carnton Plantation, his ancestral home, but in the McGavock Confederate Cemetery next door.

Heller will be keeping the cemetery well in his sights now that he and his wife, Kay, are buying land belonging to the Country Club of Franklin next door. The two plan to close on the \$5 million deal this week and eventually return the site to its mid-19th-century appearance, when Heller's great-great-grandparents, John and Caroline McGavock, lived there. "For my brothers and me, it's splendid that a vista from my grandmother's house will be preserved," Heller said last week. "But more importantly, this has broad national interest. Franklin is a dramatically overlooked battlefield, and it's very important for the locality, for Tennessee and the country that sites like this be preserved."

It's no wonder that Heller became an ardent preservationist. Before working as a corporate lawyer in Washington, D.C., Heller grew up visiting Carnton, where wounded soldiers were treated after the Nov. 30, 1864, Battle of Franklin. He also summered with his grandparents in Columbia, where Hood's Army of Tennessee skirmished with Union forces on the way to Spring Hill.

Later, Heller discovered that 23 of his ancestors had fought for the Confederacy in the War Between the States. Only nine survived. "I'm very interested in my family history, but that's not the motivation for this (land buy)," Heller emphasized. "I appreciate what my ancestors did, but my interest is much broader. I'm a preservationist."

Heller is no stranger to the strategy sessions, maneuvers and skirmishes involved in Civil War battlefield preservation. A founding chair of the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT), he was instrumental in rescuing a battlefield site in Mill Springs, Ky., and wrangled the donation of 24 acres of timberland in New Bern, N.C., to the CWPT — land where Confederates, outnumbered three to one, fought for hours in 1862 before permanently losing the ground to Union troops.

He has also been described as proactive when it comes to saving Civil War sites. The country club deal, for example, was hammered out last summer and early fall after Robert Hicks, an incoming board member at Carnton, discovered that club owners were willing to consider selling to a developer. "We met several times and put together the core committee," Hicks said. "I went to Washington and laid it out for them [the Hellers], and then they came down in June. We realized that this

was not going to remain a golf club forever, which made our timetable move quicker."

For the country club deal, Heller and Kay are serving as what Hicks calls "banker-donors," buying the acreage and holding it until it can be repurchased by a preservation group. Heller is realistic about the difficulties of accomplishing this alone. "I hope that I and others who believe in this project can be catalysts in bringing the community together behind it," he said. "My next step will be meeting with community leaders and historic preservationists to discuss our options. I think it's important for the community to step up."

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## Preservation wins out in election

By NELLANN METTEE and MELONEE MCKINNEY  
Staff Writers

FRANKLIN — Political newcomer [and former STFB President] Pam Lewis said she was just echoing what she'd heard all over the city when she pushed her "slow growth" message on the campaign trail in recent weeks. Apparently, some of those residents who told her they'd had enough of growth voted on Tuesday.

So much so that Lewis walked away as the No. 2 vote-getter among six candidates, garnering way more than Clyde Barnhill and Steve Smith, two other longtime incumbents. Ernie Bacon and Robert Kriebel, who also were seen as preservation candidates, were elected to the board — along with a mayoral candidate who promised to slow "runaway growth."

"It's an equivalent of a sort of political earthquake," said former state Rep. Mike Williams, who watched the election returns at the county Administrative Complex on Tuesday night. Williams says he'll be interested to see how far this new board that considers itself "anti-development, pro-preservation" is willing to go. He expects it to actually come out somewhat moderate in its decisions, considering the backlash it could receive from flying too far the other way.

Bacon said it is very important that the board be moderate when it comes to growth, and it must maintain a balance in the city, adding that he supported preservation and "proper" growth that comes with proper infrastructure. "I think there's a very clear signal that the city is expecting elected officials to be supportive of and respectful of preservation, particularly green space and our downtown area," Bacon said, adding that he thinks the new board makeup will bring new ideas and new voices. "It is comforting to know that there will be like minds on the board," Bacon said.

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## COLLINS FARM MORTGAGE GOOD NEWS

Thanks to your generosity and good work, the campaign to pay down the debt on Collins Farm keeps making progress. Our current mortgage at the bank is \$142,000. In Addition, the STFB Land Fund totals about \$10,000, some of which is a bank-required escrow reserve. If we were free to apply the entire land fund reserve to the debt, which leaves us with a net mortgage amount of \$132,000. This 3.22 acre battlefield parcel was purchased June 2001 for \$227,000—we're almost half way - keep up the good work.

## IBM DONATES TO BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION

The IBM Corporation has donated a 30 page-per-minute laser printer to Save The Franklin Battlefield. According to IBM retiree Sam Huffman who made the application, the computer company has also donated three PC systems to STFB over the past eight years as well. All of the donated equipment and software was made available through IBM's Funds For Community Services program that supports IBM employees and retirees who volunteer with non-profit service groups.

Two of the past donated computers are used for STFB record keeping and web-site authoring. The third computer was donated with a scanner and large capacity hard drive that is used to create a large data base of images of Civil War documents and artifacts.

Huffman says this new printer will replace a 3 ppm laser printer that can no longer keep up. With 460 STFB members now, the old printer is overwhelmed with the volume of correspondence that STFB generates. The new printer will quickly fix that problem.

*Treasurer Sam Huffman and Vice President David Fraley unload laser printer donated by IBM*

## New & Renewing Members September & October - 2003

James T Addicott  
Kurt & Donna Amacher  
Karen Arnsdorf  
Ethel Baxter  
George Berghoff  
Marcel Bonner  
Betty Callis  
Scott Campbell  
John Chaballa  
Alan Davis  
Nicholas DiGiovanni  
Dennis Faught  
John Fristoe  
James Galloway  
Elizabeth Gerber  
Herbert Harper  
Bob & Nell Harvey  
Robert Hicks  
Harold Joerin  
Bob & Kathy Lawson  
David Little  
Ronny Mangrum  
Sana M Mason  
Sid Mathis  
Steve McCormick  
Don & Annie Miller  
Don Nall  
Ken & Nancy Noller  
Nick Norwood  
Christain Puryear  
Jeff Rector  
Herschel Smith & Family  
Court & Janet Stahr  
Dick Staley  
Bonnie Steadman  
Eileen White  
Thomas Wiehle  
Howard Williamson  
Greg Yackel

Rice, MN  
Vesuvius, VA  
Chippewa Falls, WI  
North Hills, CA  
Scottsdale, AZ  
Studio City, CA  
Hendersonville, TN  
Harvest, AL  
Franklin, TN  
San Anselmo, CA  
Marlborough, MA  
Columbia, MO  
Xenia, OH  
Nashville, TN  
San Francisco, CA  
Franklin, TN  
Pittsburg, CA  
Franklin, TN  
Southfield, MI  
Franklin, TN  
Bloomington, IN  
Franklin, TN  
APO AE  
Franklin, TN  
Midlothian, IL  
New Castle, IN  
Little Rock, AR  
Riverside, CA  
Minor Hill, TN  
Nashville, TN  
Columbia, TN  
Celebration, FL  
West Union, IA  
Diamond Bar, CA  
Alpharetta, GA  
Cos Cob, CT  
Remer, MN  
Cullman, AL  
West St Paul, MN





**Sponsorship To-Date  
"40 For Franklin - 2003"  
November 7 - 8**

This year's march stepped off Friday morning south of Columbia in cool and cloudy weather, with just a wisp of rain early on - it was good weather for marching. The overnight camp at Rippavilla's primitive campsite was a bit chilly - but dry - and the march on to the Carter House in Franklin Saturday was under a bright and sunny sky. In all, the weather was just perfect, but 40 miles in any weather is a real commitment for our marchers to make. They were simply magnificent to see the project through to the end. Kristin Scherrer and Lynn Dorris provided the logistical support and chase vehicles again this year. They pre-positioned firewood and straw, and then brought meals and medical aid for the rest stops. When you see any of the marchers, or the support team, make sure you commend them on a great job well done - because that is exactly what every one of them did.

The Forty-for Franklin march has raised \$9,462 cash-in-hand so far and will receive another \$800 in matching gifts from donor's employers. If you haven't sent your sponsor's check for one of the marchers, you still have time. Actually, over the next few months, will continue to receive donations into early 2004 because some donors use their company's Matching Grant Program to supplement their personal donation, and those matches are sometimes not paid until after year-end. Also, some supporters have organized their own fund-raising projects for the Marchers, and won't have all their funds in-hand until later.

Below are the marchers who made the 40 miles from Columbia, Tennessee to Franklin over the two days. They are raising funds for Collins Farm debt reduction. They still need your support on a per-mile basis to make their efforts worthwhile. Listed with the marchers' names are the total funds raised by state for 2003 to-date. In 2001, the marchers raised \$12,700 for Collins

Farm, and for 2002 they increased that total to \$16,303. The marchers hope to do even better this year but need many sponsors to help them along. You can follow the donation totals by state at:

[www.franklin-stfb.org/march03.htm](http://www.franklin-stfb.org/march03.htm)

1040	Alabama	Shane Smith
105	Arkansas	Lee White
		Leonard Adams
140	Florida	Evan Hudson
440	Georgia	Richard Russell
180	Kentucky	Jim Lawrence
140	Louisiana	Matt McGill
570	Mississippi	William Long
475	Missouri	Evan Kutzler
600	South Carolina	William Carraway
1712	Tennessee	David Fraley
160	Texas	Justin Scherrer
		O C Hood
5562	Total Confederate Marchers	

**Federal Marchers  
To-Date**

2003	State	Marcher
295	Illinois	Allen McClelland
215	Indiana	Ron Wilkins
120	Iowa	Shane Smith
160	Kentucky	Chris Cox
150	Michigan	Louis Varnell
90	Missouri	Jerry Layton
1375	Ohio	Chris Lane
		Bill Radcliffe
1015	Pennsylvania	Mark Grant
110	Tennessee	Trent Golden
270	Wisconsin	Brian Maddox
3900	Total Federal Marchers	
9462	March Total as of 11/10/03	

**Confederate Marchers**

**To-Date**

2003	State	Marcher
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### European Visitors at Franklin Civil War Sites

Several members of the United Kingdom Civil War Roundtable accompanied their President Peter Lockwood during their visit to Franklin last Sunday. The group visited the Carter House and Collins Farm among other sites in the area as part of their two week visit to civil war battle sites in Middle Tennessee and Northern Georgia.

The UK Civil War Roundtable(UKCWR), headquartered in London, formed in 1953 is one of the oldest Civil War Roundtable in the world, with only a few Roundtable in the US older. The UKCWR consists of over 280 active members, both males and females, from throughout the UK. They meet bi-monthly in London and its membership is made up of individuals from all walks of life, to include an accountant from Northern Ireland.

One of the principal reasons for the visit to Franklin was to allow the UKCWR to present a donation to Save the Franklin Battlefield(STFB) land fund for the preservation of battlefield sites in Franklin and Williamson Counties. When asked why STFB had been selected as a candidate for its donation, Lockwood stated, "We in the UK did not do enough to preserve our own battlefields, so we would like to help save US civil war battlefields because you cannot afford to loose this land." Lockwood further stated that it appears the federal, state and local governments in the US are not doing enough to preserve US civil war battle sites. One of the goals of the UKCWR is to help raise funds to contribute to the preservation of US Civil War Battlefields. In the past five years, the UKCWR has contributed over \$10,000 for civil war Preservation. Lockwood further challenged the Franklin and Williamson County governments to do more to preserve civil war battle sites.

Britons are "keen" to learn about the US Civil War. Many have become interested in recent years because of the Ken Burns Civil War series, while others wanted to learn more about the civil war after having seen "Gone with the Wind." Some of the roundtable members drive as much as five hours each way to attend meeting, while still others fly up to three and one half hours. The latter, Ann Millar, is a chartered accountant(a CPA) for a hotel group in Belfast, Northern Ireland. She has been a member of the organization for three years. Millar stated that like herself, there are many more folks in Northern Ireland that share her interest in the US Civil War. This was Millar's third trip to the US where she has visited the Eastern Theater, the Shenandoah Valley campaign and now the Middle Tennessee and Northern Georgia campaign.

Another visitor Roger Blake, a retired Bus Driver, aside from being a member of the UKCWR, is an avid civil war reenactor. Blake stated that he was old enough to experience battle first hand during World War II as a youngster. Like many Britons, Blake expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the role of the US military in liberating England and felt that what he is doing today is a modest way of thanking the US for having given England the opportunity to live freely and not under "nazi domination." Blake is a member of the Southern Skirmishers Association, a group consisting of about 500 members. Blake portrays a union artillery man in reenactments through the UK. His group was recently invited to participate in the 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Prior to their departure, Lockwood stated that he personally escorts members of UKCWR and others to the US to visit civil war battle sites at least twice a year. This was the sixth consecutive year he has brought visitors to the US. Lockwood invited any member of STFB that traveled to the UK to be sure and contact him or any of the UKCWR members.

Civil war tourism is a \$10 Billion a year industry in the US, and it continues to grow each year. Franklin and Williamson County need to do more to preserve battle field sites to attract this tourism into the area.

## Forty for Franklin March is Over!

The 2003 "Forty for Franklin" march is over. Now begins the healing process as we mend up our many blisters, etc. So many kind folks helped out this year! Our weather was pleasant and "marchable" (unlike last year...)! But more importantly, nearly \$10,000.00 were raised to help reclaim the Franklin Battlefield! Yes, the total amount of pledges is down this year, from the past two years. Could you help us with that? Donations for "Forty for Franklin", 2003, will be cheerfully and gratefully accepted until December 31st, 2003! Please consider sending us your tax-deductible donation, if you have not already. And anything, that doesn't make it to us by the end of this year, will happily count towards next year's march.

More details, reminiscences and hopefully a few photos, from the march will appear in next month's newsletter. Thank you all so much for your kind support of the hallowed Franklin Battlefield! God bless you!

David Fraley (*on behalf of the marchers of "Forty for Franklin, 2003"*)

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