



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

December 2003

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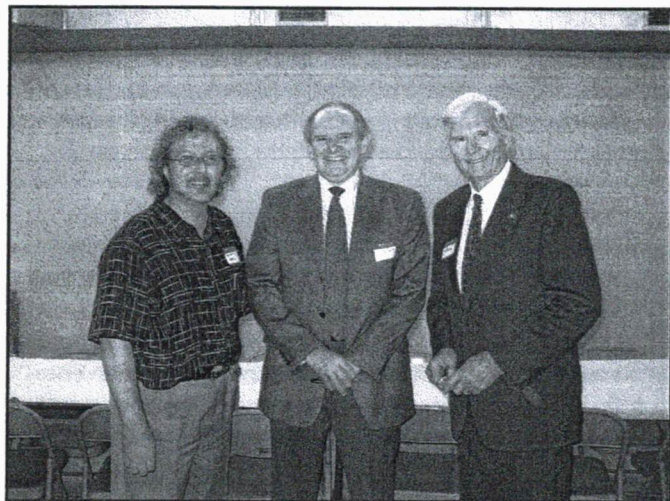
Dedicated to the Preservation, Protection, and Promotion of Civil War Sites in Williamson County, Tennessee

Dear STFB member—

The air is still abuzz with the “one-two punch” news of the Franklin City elections and the purchase of the Country club of Franklin for future preservation. As many of you know, the people of the City of Franklin last month voted in a new Mayor and four Aldermen-at-Large running on preservation and “slow growth” issues. Before the smoke had begun to clear, Carnton Plantation and the Civil War Preservation Trust announced the purchase of 100 acres comprising the golf course and Country Club across which W.W. Loring’s Division moved towards Collins’ Farm and the Federal earthworks. This land is only two “stones throws” from Collins’ Farm and all but insures the future preservation and interpretation of the eastern end of the Franklin Battlefield.

Our “Forty for Franklin” Preservation March 2003 was a front page story in last month’s *Civil War Courier*, and a story on the election and golf course purchase made the front page of this month’s *Civil War News*. The stone is beginning to roll here at Franklin, and, with your help, we’ll continue our efforts and build even more momentum to Save The Franklin Battlefield.

Joe Smyth



STFB President Joe Smyth welcomes new board members Tommy Burnett and Harold McMurtry

2003 Annual Meeting

Joe Smyth, STFB president, presided over the 2003 Annual Meeting of Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc., November 23, at the Historic Hiram Masonic Lodge in downtown Franklin, Tennessee.

Summary of regular and special 2003 STFB activities: New STFB logo designed by Pat Thompson; BOF vignettes; Franklin in CWPT “Also Endangered” list; Contract with CW Courier to co-sponsor 140th Anniversary of BOF Reenactment; BOF Hospital Tour; MTSU beginning process for National Historic Site status for Collins’ Farm; Opposition to rezoning of Parkway Commons; Formation of Coalition Group of preservation organizations; Garden Day at CF; STFB lecture for Senior Citizens; Battlefield sites list to Central Planning Commission; Registration and support for TAG; IBM donation of printer; Forty for Franklin Preservation March; 7-8 Collins’ Farm work days.

The Forty for Franklin Preservation March had brought in something over \$11,000 to date for Collins’ Farm purchase. The CF purchase price was \$227,000 with the mortgage at closing \$204,150. Currently the net mortgage is \$137,150.

140th Anniversary Battle of Franklin Reenactment: Beginning from casual conversation at the 2002 Civil War Show, the planned reenactment quickly developed into an STFB contract as the co-sponsor with the *CW Courier*. Rick Hoover and Sam Gant began the search for a 750-1000-acre site near Franklin, finally settling on a Spring Hill location including the original Battle of Spring Hill site. One key land contract is still outstanding. The 2004 national event will be nationally advertised through various media. 12,000+ reenactors and 50-70,000 spectators are expected.

Election of new Board members: Upon Brett Harden and Kim Hoover’s stepping down from the STFB Board of Directors, Harold J. McMurtry and Tommy Burnett were elected to the ten-member Board. McMurtry is the president of Volunteer Welding Supply, Nashville, and a former mayor of Brentwood. Burnett retired as a Bellsouth manager. At least two of Burnett’s ancestral family members fought in the Battle of Franklin.

The 2004 STFB Board of Directors consists of Tommy Burnett, Suzanne Burns, Lynn Dorris, David Fraley, Sam Gant, Bobby Hargrove, Sam Huffinan, Harold McMurtry, Dan Mora, and Joe Smyth. The current officers were reelected for

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Sam Gant's News In Review

Tours recall battle – *The Tennessean* – 11/14/03 – FRANKLIN – On November 15 and 16, Historic Carnton Plantation presented guided walking tours in remembrance of the November 30, 1864, Battle of Franklin. The two-hour tour revisited the eastern flank of the bloody battle that took 2,000 Confederate and 300 Union soldiers's lives those 139 years ago. The tours left from the Carnton parking lot and retraced the steps of General Loring's Confederate division that came sweeping across the plantation, the area that is now a golf course and land that is now known as the Collins' Farm. During the Civil War the farm was still part of the McGavock plantation.

Commissioners make plans for old BGA campus – *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 11/19/03 FRANKLIN – A group of county commissioners will tour the old Battle Ground Academy campus soon to help them decide the fate of buildings on the site. It's the first step in getting serious on deciding what to do with the 20-acre campus, which was the site of intense fighting during the Civil War Battle of Franklin in 1864. Since the county purchased the land and built a new county library on part of it, the county has been bombarded with requests from various groups to use it. Everything from a battlefield park to a performing arts center has been mentioned for the property.

Monument dedication & March scheduled for this Sunday – *The Review Appeal* – 11/25/03 – FRANKLIN – On Sunday, Nov. 30, as part of the annual Battle of Franklin Anniversary March from Winstead Hill to The Carter House, the Capt. Samuel L. Freeman Battery Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, of Savannah, Tenn., will unveil and dedicate a monument to their namesake on Winstead Hill in Franklin. Uniformed infantry and artillery reenactors will be in attendance. The dedication will be followed by the annual march to The Carter House sponsored by The Carter House and the Sam Davis Camp, SCV of Brentwood.

Black re-enactor represents 'invisible' Confederates – *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 11/28/03 FRANKLIN – When Leonard Adams realized that black soldiers were not being represented in Battle of Franklin events, he stepped up. Adams, 42, marched 40 miles in Confederate gear for a Save the Franklin Battlefield fundraiser earlier this month. He was portraying Richard Miller, a black soldier in the Sixth Arkansas Infantry, Govan's Brigade, but Adams' presence at the march was meant to represent all blacks involved in the war. Richard Miller himself is said to have been ordered to the rear during the height of the fighting at the Nov. 30, 1864, Battle of Franklin but replied that too many men were falling. He went into the trenches near the Carter House cotton gin instead.

Marker will commemorate Union regiment – *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 11/28/03 FRANKLIN – Rich Rupp of Rhode Island will be at Carter House Sunday to dedicate a marker in his great-grandfather's honor. The bronze-and-steel memorial, provided by Rupp

and his family, will recognize the men of the 183rd Ohio Regiment Infantry in which Peter Rupp served. The young men of the 183rd Ohio were not veteran troops. They were raw recruits.

County to board up homes on BGA campus – *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 12/15/03 FRANKLIN – Now that the new library has opened, Williamson County officials are focusing on the rest of the former Battle Ground Academy campus. Members of the county's property committee met Thursday night to consider the land off Columbia Avenue, which was the site of intense fighting during the 1864 Battle of Franklin. Committee members agreed to begin boarding up and securing five county-owned houses along Everbright Avenue that have been damaged by vandals, recruit the advice of Franklin's new preservation planner and begin working on a master plan for the property, based on the county's needs. Ideas for the property have included using it for a performing arts center, government offices, and archive, a battlefield interpretation site and a community center.

Upcoming National Battlefield Conferences Come to Nashville

The American Battlefield Protection Program's (ABPP) "7th National Conference on Battlefield Preservation" will be held in Nashville, April 19-25, 2004. The weeklong conference will combine meetings, workshops, presentations, and tours, of four battlefield preservation groups: the ABPP, the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT), the International Battlefield Terrain Conservation Group, and the International Battlefield Archeology Conference. This combination could result in one of the most dynamic and diverse meetings on battlefield preservation ever presented in the United States.

Archeologists from around the world will meet during sessions for the Third International Battlefield Archeology Conference – "Fields of Conflict III" from April 20-21. During the Second International Workshop on Earthworks and Battlefield Terrain Conservation on April 22, participants will meet to discuss the "Vimy Declaration for the Preservation of Battlefield Terrain." The Civil War Preservation Trust will hold it's Annual Conference, this year entitled "Hood's Last Hurrah," concurrently with the conference from April 22-25, and will offer tours of Franklin, Nashville, and Fort Donelson.

The ABPP will sponsor paper presentations about numerous aspects of battlefield protection, a workshop on ABPP grants, and sessions concerning the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Historic Preservation Study. Conference attendees will be able to register jointly for CWPT sponsored tours, banquet, and presentations.

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the 2004 term. The officers are Joe Smyth, President; David Fraley, Vice President; Sam Huffman, Treasurer; Sam Gant, Secretary.

Recognition: Artists Pat and Jody Thompson were recipients of the Tennie Pinkerton Dozier Award for preservation. Pat created the new STFB logo, and Jody drew the excellent portraits of Generals Cleburne and Forrest to raise funds for STFB. Kim Hoover, retiring long-term Board member and Newsletter editor, was honored for her service to STFB. Patrick Craddock and Joe Smotherman received commemorative plaques for their fundraising efforts for STFB through the October Advanced Guard reenactment.

Keynote Speaker: Patrick McIntyre, the Executive Director of the Tennessee Preservation Trust, was the keynote speaker. He discussed the challenges facing preservation throughout Tennessee and the role that TPT took in successfully preserving various properties, as well as conceding some of their losses for preservation.

The "40 For Franklin" March Results To-Date

The 2003 "Forty For Franklin" March for Collins Farm has raised \$12,539 as of December 8, 2003. The total donations by state can be seen at www.franklin-stfb.org/march03.htm.

The Confederate Marchers have tallied \$6,822 in actual donations received, and the Federal Marchers' total is \$5,717. As the final pledges come in over the next three months, and the "in the mail" checks are tallied, the final march total will be near \$14,000, we believe.

You still have time to get your donation, or a combined donation from your group, to us in order to be included in the official "Forty For Franklin" totals. We are making steady progress thanks to all of you.

COLLINS' FARM MORTGAGE STATUS

Purchased June 2001	\$227,000
Current Mortgage	\$139,000
Land Reserve Fund	\$8,900

Net Owed	\$130,100
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STFB Booth at Civil War Show Dec 6-7

STFB had a booth again this year at Mike Kent's Civil War show at the Nashville Fairgrounds Sat-Sun Dec 6-7. As in prior years, Mike showed his support for STFB by donating a table to our group. When you see Mike, thank him again for us - he has been very good to STFB over the years. This year's show was the largest ever with booths in 5 fair-ground buildings.

The Civil War Courier had a booth to sign up new subscribers and to promote the 140th Battle of Franklin that they are sponsoring with STFB and the North-South Alliance.

Tommy Burnett, Sam Gant, and Sam Huffman swapped off booth duties to meet and greet the sizable crowd - particularly on Saturday. We took in \$188 with the usual mix of books, buckles, and maps - and signed up 3 new memberships.

Wide Awake Films had a booth near the show's main entrance. Rob Hodge arranged, and announced over the PA system, for all of their booth's profits on Sunday to be donate to the STFB Land Fund. At show's end Rob presented STFB with a donation of \$375. When you see Rob or the staff at Wide awake Films, thank them for us. Over the years, they have been good friends to the Franklin Battlefield.

140th Anniversary Battle of Franklin Reenactment

On October 18, the eve of the reenactment of the Battle of Murfreesboro, plans were laid for the 140th Anniversary Battle of Franklin Reenactment. STFB and The Civil War Courier will co-sponsor the event.

Reece Sexton, publisher of the *Civil War Courier*, Mike Moore, Commanding General, First Confederate Division, and Rick Hoover and Sam Gant of STFB established basic guidelines and responsibilities that each organization will assume in preparing for the reenactment. They also spent much time studying an aerial view of the reenactment battlefield. In a few days, they plan to do an on-site inspection of the entire area.

The Reenactment battlefield will consist of approximately 800 acres including the site of the Battle of Spring Hill. Events will be staged each day, October 1-3, 2004, with the reenactment of the Spring Hill battle being held on the actual site of the 1864 conflict. The reenactment will be held on a nearby tract of land which, itself, is historically significant.

The *Courier* is already advertising the Reenactment quite widely through the newspaper itself, with banners at reenactments, in meetings with Civil War roundtables, reenacting units, and distributing materials. Many reenactors and reenacting units have committed to taking part in this national event.

New And Renewing Members For November

Beth Adams	Franklin TN
Jack & Wanda Bartlett	Sherman TX
Louise Batey	Franklin TN
Ethel Baxter	North Hills CA
Bob Beck	Franklin TN
Carl Bibee	Nashville TN
Tony Cichantk	Wood Dale IL
Ed Dopke	Wauconda IL
Skip Earle	Franklin TN
Scott Felix	Alum Bank PA
Brett Hardin	Spring Hill TN
Marva Hartman	Michigan Center MI
Kirk Hinman	Lakewood OH
Kim & Rick Hoover	Franklin TN
Michael & Deborah J.	Franklin TN
Stephen Johnson	Longview TX
Michael Loftin	Franklin TN

Sherry Male
 Ralph McClure
 Dr & Mrs P. McCombs III
 Patrick McIntyre
 Kevin & Kelle McLemore
 Wm Darrell Moseley
 Jeremy & Donna Nichols
 Delbert Norton
 Dennis Phillips
 Tom Potter Family
 Dave & Carolyn Rousculp
 Peter Schofield
 Peter Schwartz
 Joe Smyth III
 Theodore Taylor
 Doug & Marilyn Thompson
 James Turner
 Earnest Wade
 William & Candace Wade
 Elizabeth Whipkey
 Tom Yearby

Nashville TN
 Bruceville IN
 Nashville TN
 Nashville TN
 Clarksville TN
 Franklin TN
 Franklin TN
 Scottsdale AZ
 Franklin TN
 Murfreesboro TN
 Marietta GA
 Cleveland OH
 Auburn AL
 Franklin TN
 Summer Shade KY
 Tallahassee FL
 Nashville TN
 Snellville GA
 Columbia TN
 Hodgenville KY
 Shreveport LA

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