



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

April 2004

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

Dear STFB member—

Battlefield preservation here in Franklin is a constant roller-coaster ride both emotionally and spiritually. The exhilarating heights of a preservation purchase or a favorable media event are quickly lost on the downhill plunge to the next development threat to the battlefield.

The New York Times came to town last week to interview us for a story on Franklin and our preservation efforts. They were trying to scoop *The Wall Street Journal*, which is also working on the story. The regime change at City Hall and Rod and Kay Keller's purchase of the country club property had grabbed their attention.

In the 9th wealthiest county in America, where 35,000 new homes will be built in the next ten years, putting 70,000 more cars (before the children get their licenses) onto our roads and country lanes; in the middle of all this, there is progress yet being made—to set aside and preserve greenspace and battlefield land for future generations.

It's an amazing story...and it is an amazing ride.

Joe Smyth

TCWPA Taps Smyth

At the April annual membership meeting of the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA), the statewide organization voted STFB President Joe Smyth onto its board of directors. Jack Fishman, President and CEO of Lakeway Publishers, the parent company of *The Civil War Courier* and co-sponsor with STFB of the "140th Anniversary Battle Reenactment of Franklin" in October, was also nominated to the TCWPA board.

The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association is a non-profit organization devoted to the acquisition, preservation, and protection of Tennessee's endangered Civil War battlefields, buildings, sites and properties throughout the state. The TCWPA also strives to interpret the history of the turbulent years of 1860-1865 in the state, and to promote knowledge of the roles played by Tennessee during the Civil War. For more information, please visit www.tcwpa.org.

Battlefield Plan Underway

On March 22, STFB board members attended a series of meetings, sponsored by the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County. These meetings were part of a visioning process for a comprehensive battlefield preservation plan, funded by a \$20,000 grant awarded to the Heritage Foundation by the American Battlefield Preservation Program of the National Parks Service.

Phil Walker of The Walker Collaborative and Phil Thomason of Thomason & Associates, both of Nashville, have been hired to undertake the study. They ran the day's meetings, which were attended by virtually a "who's who" of historical site and preservation organizations in Franklin, Williamson County, and at the state level. The groups represented included the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, The Tennessee Historical Commission, The Tennessee Wars Commission, The Tennessee National Civil War Heritage Area, The Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University, The Tennessee Land Trust, The Tennessee Preservation Trust, The Heritage Foundation, The Williamson County Historical Society, the Williamson County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Afro-American Historical Society, The Carter House, Historic Carnton Plantation, Natchez Place, Citizens for Good Growth Management, the City of Franklin's preservation planning staff, and STFB and concerned citizens.

The morning meeting included Franklin residents and landowners with property on the battlefield. A lunch meeting included the City and County Mayors and other elected officials and staff. The afternoon meeting was a more in-depth session to discuss the expectations and direction of the study, its implementation, the political climate, heritage tourism, a battlefield interpretive center, and the future of the Franklin Battlefield.

Misters Walker and Thomason stressed their desire to work with all the groups represented at the meetings. The two already had copies of STFB's "Compendium of Civil War Sites in Williamson County" study and had accessed the STFB web site for information on the Battle of Franklin. They assured the participants that their input was vital to the success of the study at both the initial and later stages.

We will continue to keep you, our STFB membership, informed of the progress of this study.

News In Review

Roper's Knob – *The Review Appeal* – 3/17/04 –

FRANKLIN – Benjamin Nance, archaeologist for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, sponsored by Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc., led the hour-long hike to Roper's Knob, the highest point in Franklin. The group, which ranged in age from 7-70, learned about the history, geology and folklore of the hill located at the north end of Hillhaven Drive. Nance recently completed and archaeological dig at Roper's Knob and explained his finding to the hikers. The area was part of the Federal Fort Granger complex built in the spring of 1863. Federal troops held the land in their possession, which meant that 50 men could defend the hill against 5,000, Nance said. "This hill was also used as a signal station," Nance said. "Federal troops could communicate by flags and lights with other installations on Hilltops in Brentwood and Triune.

Carter House descendant turns 100 today– *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 3/19/04 – FRANKLIN – Corinne Carter Ward will celebrate her 100th birthday today. The daughter of Dr. Moscow Carter, a Franklin dentist, and his wife, Lucy, Ward graduated from Franklin High School in 1926 and became Franklin's first female licensed barber and beautician. She later worked as a dental assistant for her father, as well as for her sister, Dr. Rosalie Carter, who was Franklin's first female dentist. "From their office window on the Square for 64 years, the Carters witnessed a lot of history

in Franklin," said local historian Rick Warwick. "Being the granddaughter of Col. Moscow B. Carter (1825-1913), Ward is possibly the only surviving grandchild of a veteran of the Mexican War (1846-48). Her Great-grandfather, F.B. Carter, built the Carter House in 1830. Her great-uncle, Tod Carter, was killed in the Battle of Franklin in 1864, within yards of his home.

Orchids and candlelight – *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 3/21/04 – FRANKLIN – A candlelit walkway welcomed members of the Randal McGavock Society to Historic Carnton Plantation recently for the annual seated black-tie dinner honoring those who have contributed \$1,000 or more to Carnton during the past year. Carnton board president Danny Anderson addressed guests before dinner as did Robert Hicks.

'Preserve America' status could help city gain grants – *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." – 3/22/04 – FRANKLIN – The city of Franklin's new designation as a nation Preserve America community could give it an edge in the competition for historic preservation grant monies, program administrators say. "Save America's Treasures," for example, was created to help rescue historical sites, monuments, artifacts and documents "that tell America's story," according to the Preserve America Web site. Communities are selected for Preserve America status if they "protect and celebrate their heritage, use historic assets for economic development and community revitalization and encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs."

J B Hood Society Pledges \$1,500 To STFB

The John Bell Hood Historical Society has just notified us that they are pledging \$1,500 to STFB for land purchase. The gift will be paid over a three-year period and will be used to pay down the Collins Farm mortgage. Several members of the JBHHS group have also been long-time STFB members and have financially supported our projects on many occasions.

The Society was chartered in 2003 as a tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) corporation, and founding member Sam Hood of Huntington, WV reports that their mission is "to recover, restore and preserve the honorable legacy of Gen. John Bell Hood". Other founding members are Mary Hood Pearlman; Asheville, NC, James Bagg, Houston TX; OC Hood, Franklin NC and Susan Tebbs, Lexington KY.

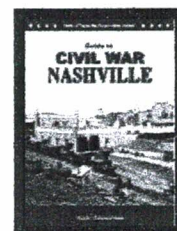
You can contact the Society at:
378 Diedrich Blvd Box 222
Ashland, KY 41102

Or visit their web site at www.jbhhs.org

Guide to Civil War Nashville

The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society has published a new book by Mark Zimmerman titled, "Guide to Civil War Nashville," that all Civil War enthusiasts and history buffs will want to order for their collection. The 8½ X 11 softbound book's 76 pages feature 63 modern-day photographs, 31 Civil War era photographs, seven illustrations, 16 travel maps and seven battle maps.

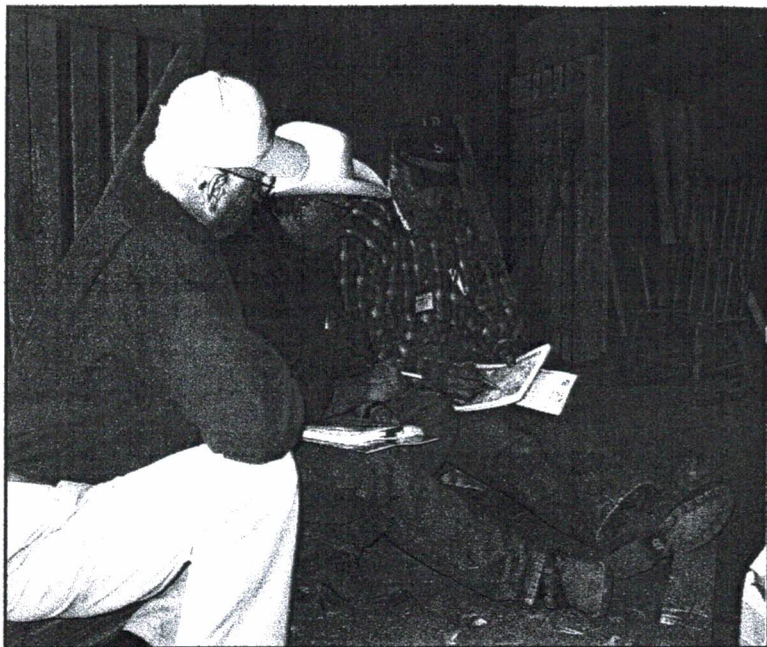
A ten-page section on the Battle of Nashville (Dec. 2-16, 1864) features four full-page battle maps with unprecedented detail: Granbury's Lunette, the Fall of the Redoubts, Peach Orchard Hill, and Shy's Hill, designed by the author and BONPS Historian Ross Massey.



All proceeds from the book will benefit the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society, whose mission is the preservation of Civil War battlefield sites. To order, send \$19.95 per book to:

BONPS
PO Box 190493
Nashville, TN 37219-0493
Or see the BONPS web site
@ www.bonps.org

Copies signed by Mark Zimmerman are available for \$29.95 each



Reece Sexton, publisher of The Civil War Courier, Mike Moore, Brigadier General of the First Confederate Division and Rick Hoover, Captain of the Williamson Greys review preliminary plans for the upcoming 140 Anniversary Battle Reenactment

140th Anniversary Battle Reenactment of *Franklin*

October 1-2-3, 2004
Battles of Spring Hill –
Franklin – Nashville

**National premier reenactment for 2004
on original battlefield at Spring Hill, TN**
Buy tickets online at www.franklin-stfb.org
or by mail at

STFB, P.O. Box 851, Franklin, TN 37065
Ticket sales to benefit battlefield preservation
through

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc.

Advance Ticket Prices:

1 Day \$10, 2 Days \$13, 3 Days \$15

Student tickets are \$5 with student ID
(\$1 postage and handling charge per order)

News In Review

Tod Carter remembered at Rest Haven Cemetery –
The Review Appeal – 3/24/04 – FRANKLIN – Today is the 164th anniversary of Tod Carter's birth in a place that became ground zero for the Battle of Franklin, and Sunday, Sons of Confederate Veterans remembered both in Rest Haven Cemetery. Reenactors in Confederate uniforms fired volleys over the grave of Carter. He died at age 24 after fighting for his cause, which included his capture by Union troops, his escape and fatal return to battle. Tod Carter Camp 854 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans conducted the memorial service. It included a wreath left at Carter's grave, birthday cake, juice and prayers. Thomas Cartwright, executive director of the Carter House, spoke at the service.

Preservation planners emphasize many aspects of battle –
The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." – 3/24/04 – FRANKLIN – The Battle of Franklin is more than a story. It is a collection of stories, and local preservationists and public officials emphasized those to battlefield preservation planners Monday at a meeting in city hall. Nashville planners Philip L. Walker of The Walker Collaborative and Philip Thomason of Thomason & Associates were hired by the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County to produce a battlefield preservation plan expected to be in draft form this May. The work is being funded by a grant awarded to the Heritage Foundation by the National Parks Service. Preservationists made it clear to Walker and Thomason that the Battle of Franklin is more than scattered sites around the city. It's more than a list of casualties, a map of troop movements or even the tragic story of Tod Carter. It's also the story, preservationists said, of the coming of war, the South's lost cause, changes in black and white relations, Reconstruction, and it's the story of

the war's impact on civilians.

Automobile repairman plans to respect battlefield –
The Review Appeal – 3/26/04 – FRANKLIN – An auto repair shop owner wants to move his business to the Werthan property across Columbia Avenue from the CPS Corp. plant, and he wants his new building to compliment the landscape. Gary Davis, proprietor of Davis Auto, 111 Beasley Drive, bought eight acres of the Werthan property last summer. "there's a slave wall in front of the property," Davis said. "We intend to rebuild that." Buildings in that light industrial zone are to be at least 75 feet from the road. Davis plans his shop 125 feet from the road and proposes extensive landscaping. The 1980 Franklin High School graduate supports historic preservation, calling it an economic engine which could be better utilized.

MOS&B chapter to rededicate grave site April 4 in Arrington –
The Review Appeal – 3/26/04 – FRANKLIN – On April 4, Col. James W. Starnes Chapter 210 of the Military Order of the States a& Bars (MOS&B) will hold a rededication of the restored grave site of Col. James W. Starnes in Arrington. Starnes commanded the 4th Tennessee Cavalry and was mortally wounded at Bobo's Crossroads on June 29, 1863. He died in Tullahoma in the early morning hours of July 1 and was initially buried in Winchester. In 1866, his remains were moved to his family cemetery in Williamson County where three other soldiers of his command are also buried. Dr. James W. Starnes was a prominent physician who practiced medicine and operated a plantation along the Harpeth River in Williamson County. Starnes' Civil War service began when he organized the sons of the eminent families of Williamson County into a company of cavalry. Starnes' 4th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment fought at Fort Donelson, Thompson's Station, Brentwood and the First Battle of Franklin (April 1863).

News In Review

Franklin celebrates federal preservation community status – *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” – 3/30/04 – FRANKLIN – City leaders announced a major preservation initiative yesterday as U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn gathered to celebrate Franklin’s designation as a Preserve America city. Communities are selected for Preserve America status if they “protect and celebrate their heritage, use historic assets for economic development and community revitalization and encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.”

\$10 million would buy the farm—and maybe the club – *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” – 4/1/04 – FRANKLIN – City leaders have come up with a way to fund the purchase of Harlinsdale Farm for the sake of preserving it, even if the county doesn’t split the cost. Miller told the committee on Tuesday that the city and the county would each have to come up with about \$4 million to purchase the farm. Commissioner

Tom Moon said he’s found a way the county can come up with its \$4 million share without raising taxes. Moon said the county could declare homes it owns on Everbright Avenue, near the old Battle Ground Academy campus as surplus property and either give them to the city or sell them for the county’s share of Harlinsdale. Moon said the county should look at other property in Franklin—such as the old BGA campus, the vacant library building at Five Points and a tract on Second Avenue—to decide if it could be considered surplus and sold or traded.

10,000 expected at Battle of Shiloh anniversary – *The Tennessean* – 4/2/04 – The Battle of Shiloh, one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War, will be remembered this weekend as the National Park Service sponsors a living history demonstration on the 142nd anniversary of the confrontation that took place in Shiloh, a community near the banks of the Tennessee River. More than 10,000 people are expected to attend events at Shiloh National Military Park in Hardin County.

More Details On Roper’s Knob...

In 1829, John L. McEwen sold 37.5 acres, including the knob to Nicholas P. Perkins. It is believed that Perkins built the house on the terrace of the knob. Perkins died in 1833, and shortly after George Roper and his family appear to have moved into the area. The Roper family was probably living in the Perkins house, but does not seem to have owned the land. The Perkins children paid taxes on the land until 1859, but did not reside in the area. W.H. S. Hill purchased the land in 1859, following an ownership dispute. The name “Roper’s Knob” is first applied to the hill in 1859 court papers.

During the Civil War, Roper’s Knob was part of the complex of Union defenses in Franklin that also included the Fort Granger earthwork and several other detached artillery positions. Under the supervision of the 4th Battalion of the Brigade, the troops stationed in Franklin worked on the fortifications in two eight-hour shifts per day, comprising of 600 men per shift. Captain William Merrill, Chief Engineer of the Department of the Cumberland reported in his May 1863 report that the fortifications at Roper’s Knob had a redoubt for four heavy guns, a blockhouse for 60 men, a rifle pit, two cisterns, and a magazine. Roper’s Knob was also used as a signal station. By using flags or torches, troops could send messages through a chain of signal stations from Franklin to Murfreesboro. When Nathan Bedford Forrest attacked Franklin in June 1863, his troops cut the wires between Franklin and Murfreesboro, but the Union commanders were still able to communicate by way of the signal stations.

Excavations conducted by The Tennessee Division of Archaeology in the fall of 2000 located more than 5,000 historic artifacts, most of these were domestic items associated with the house. The most significant find was a wall trench, and by following the trench, they were able to determine the size and configuration of the blockhouse. It is also believed that some of the stone from the original house was used to construct the fortifications.

Thank you to Ben Nance for the background information.

A Survey of Civil War Military Sites In Tennessee

Now Available
For Ordering

This important work by Samuel D Smith and Benjamin C Nance was first published in 2000 and has been revised and republished for 2003. The studies that produced this book were done by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Archaeology. Ben was the guide for the STFB tour of Ropers Knob last month, and also co-wrote the book that includes detailed information regarding the site. The 266-page softbound 8½ x 11 book is a compilation of materials gathered in a series of studies first begun in the mid-1970’s. By 1988, only 27 sites had been identified. A series of additional studies from 1989 through 1999 has identified and cataloged a total of 499 sites in Tennessee. The catalog of sites is listed by county.

The book also has a timeline of Civil War events in Tennessee that presents an overview of the Civil War years in Tennessee. State Historian Fred Prouty has also contributed a “Glossary of Terms for Interpreting Tennessee’s Civil War Military Sites” for the book. If you ever wanted a definitive list of Tennessee’s Civil War sites, here it is.

Copies are available for \$10 each by writing to:
Tennessee Wars Commission
2941 Lebanon Road
Nashville, TN 37243

Notes from the Bookkeeper - New and Renewing Members for March 2004

When you get your STFB newsletter, do you take time to look through the list of new and renewing members? We publish the list each month so that members can confirm that we 'got the check' and have updated their membership records.

The list also is our way of publicly recognizing those special people who support STFB's efforts here in Franklin and Williamson County. Without their loyal and continuing support, we simply wouldn't have the wherewithal to publish and mail the newsletter, conduct tours and educational events, support other local groups, and make progress on the purchase of Collins Farm.

This month's list, March's new and renewing members, listed below is typical for a month's renewals. It names new and renewing members from 16 different states - California to New Jersey, Wisconsin to Florida - plus Australia. Almost all of them have visited Franklin at least once. Some used to live here and still come back to visit *their* battlefields. Our Aussie friends, John and Tracey Guimelli, will visit Franklin in early June making their third trip to Franklin by my count - it might be more. Many on the list are also members of the Carter House and have attended Descendants Reunions over the years. All of them have a special connection to Franklin, and I would guess many have visited us a dozen times or more.

Our membership mailing list is now 468, which includes a few state, local, and federal officials plus a few preservation groups who share a common mission with STFB. The rest are dues-paying loyal STFB supporters. Almost exactly half live in Tennessee, the other half come from the other 49 states plus Australia, the United Kingdom (who have also visited Franklin, some many times BTW). Several of today's members have been members since 1995, others recently found our web site and joined up.

In 2003, that half of the membership that lives outside Tennessee provided 67% of the dues, donations, etc that STFB raised during the year. No, you didn't misread that percentage - two-thirds of our financial support comes from out-of-state members.

Now I admit it, I cite that percentage as a gentle challenge to our fellow Tennesseans to pull a little harder at their oar. But more importantly, that 67% percent number indicates the strong emotional tie that those out-of-state STFB members have with Franklin and Middle Tennessee. For the 60,000 or so soldiers who were here that fateful day, Franklin was their most terrible Civil War experience. Their battlefields were mostly on this side of the Allegheny Mountains, and Franklin was 'the big one' for them. For those old soldiers and their descendants today, Franklin was their 'Gettysburg'. That's why our visitors return again and again.

The city's recent initiatives to keep the Franklin Country Club golf course and Harlinsdale Farm as open city parks and gateways into Franklin serves another purpose as well. Both sites were battlefields in November and December of 1864, and will probably have some interpretative markers in time. Each time one of Franklin's battlefield parcels is kept and added to our collective list of interpreted historical sites, our visitors will come back once more to give their approval, and to give their eternal thanks.

James David & Susan Rossen	Manchester, TN	Dan Kolifrath	Nashville, TN
Bobby Allen	Cadiz, KY	Janet Krompart	Rochester Hills, MI
James W Barrow	Miami, FL	Bob Lessel	Bartlett, TN
Gary Battistoni	Cherry Hill, NJ	Doug Lewter	Madison, AL
John Bigham	Columbia, SC	T Vance Little	Brentwood, TN
Oscar Bird III	Mt Park, GA	Mel Maurer	Cleveland, OH
William & Gail Blackstone	Round Lake, IL	John L Moloski	Harrisonville, MO
Dr Michael Brown	Chattanooga, TN	Carrol & Jane Moore	Brentwood, TN
Dennis Buttacavoli	Hasbrouck Heights, TN	Dan & Linda Mora	Franklin, TN
Betty Cannon	Ashland City, TN	James Padfield	Springfield, TN
C Pat Cates	Woodstock, GA	Bob & Karen Pease	Franklin, TN
Bert & Anne Chapman	Edisto Island, SC	Bryan Pohanka	Alexandria, VA
Ronald Cotton	Brentwood, TN	Harold & Mary Jo Pratt	Brentwood, TN
Stephen Dixon	Charlotte, NC	Rochelle Ramga	Auburn, AL
Ronald Etzel	Franklin, TN	Jerry & Debbie Raymer	Nashville, TN
Mr & Mrs Earl Fitz	Brentwood, TN	Lynne Rhodes	Diamond Bar, CA
Howard Foshee	Spanish Fort, AL	Nick Romer	Franklin, TN
Kevin Gray	Florence, AL	Jack & Kim Skoda	Fort Worth, TX
John & Tracey Guimelli	Bulimba, Australia	Billy Lou Smith	Franklin, TN
Wayne & Dee Hammons	Franklin, TN	Scott & Kathy Speedy	Thompsons Station, TN
John Herbert	Brentwood, TN	Jack & Betty Stephens	Pryor, OK
Bruce Hohler	Thompsons Station, TN	Gilbert M Sullivan	Birmingham, AL
Doug Hood	Franklin, TN	Louis Towles & Family	Easley, SC
Gil & Annette Hutchinson	Brentwood, TN	Mark and Mary Ulman	Woodland, CA
Nick Kaup	Wilmette, IL	Valley Corps Confederate Vols	Salem, WI
David Kibitlewski	Round Lake Beach, IL	Marilyn Way	Franklin, TN
Patricia Knapp	Nashville, TN	Kimberly Willis	Dickson, TN
Ken Knouf	Madison, IN	Craig & Patricia Young	Franklin, TN

Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

Name(s) _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

QTY	ITEM	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donation: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	1999 & 2000 Day By Day Civil War Calendar Set	\$5.00	
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	Commemorative Belt Buckle ~ Commemorative Paperweight (circle one)	\$10.00	
	Battle of Franklin Self-Guided Driving Tour Map	\$3.00	
	Save The Franklin Battlefield Bumpersticker	\$1.50	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Franklin" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Shiloh" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Ft. Donalson" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Stones River" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	Nathan Bedford Forrest ~ Jody Thompson print, signed by the artist	\$30.00	
	Patrick Cleburne ~ Jody Thompson print, signed by the artist	\$30.00	
	ORDER SUBTOTAL		
	SHIPPING & HANDLING (items only) ~ under 10.00	\$0.75	
		\$10 to 24.99	\$2.95
		\$25 and up	\$4.50
	ORDER TOTAL		

Mail To: Save The Franklin Battlefield ~ P.O. Box 851 ~ Franklin, TN 37065-0851
 STFB Membership is annual, donations are tax deductible.

APRIL 2004

www.franklin-stfb.org
 Franklin, TN 37065-0851
 PO Box 851



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