



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

February 2006

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

Dear STFB member—

As the reality of 112 reclaimed acres of core battlefield sets in, all of us here at Franklin have paused to take stock and to consider our next moves. STFB is firmly committed to pressing on, to capitalize on the momentum we have achieved at places like the golf course and the Pizza Hut, and which began several years ago at Collins' Farm. We will continue to champion the need to save the important battlefield lands of First Franklin, Brentwood, Thompson's Station, and the Retreat from Nashville.

STFB realizes public awareness, both locally and nationally, of these endangered battlefields is a key to saving them. To this end, we are again scheduling and planning our annual series of public tours of these battlefield sites here in Williamson County. We will also be staffing our STFB booth at local festivals and events throughout the year.

We thank you for your membership and your support, and invite you to come out and take part in these opportunities. You'll meet some great folks like yourself who share the same goal to protect, preserve, and promote our Civil War sites here in Williamson County, Tennessee.

I'd look forward to that!

Joe Smyth

The STFB Board of Directors recently elected officers for 2006. Reelected for another term were Joe Smyth, President, Sam Huffman, Treasurer, and Sam Gant, Secretary. Reelected to a post she held some years earlier was Suzanne Burns, Vice President.

STFB Tours for 2006

We are planning to have three battlefield tours this year for STFB members and the general public. The dates for the later events are still in flux, so watch the newsletter and web site for details.

Our first event will be a tour of the Triune Earthworks on April 01, from 1-3 pm. These extensive earthworks were built by the Federal army in the spring of 1863 as part of their advanced line stretching from Franklin, Triune, and Murfreesboro. Fred Prouty, historian with the Tennessee Historic Commission, will lead the tour. This is an "over-the-hills" tour so be prepared to walk about a mile or more.

We will meet at 12:30 at the parking lot on the northeast corner of the Highway 96 crossroads in Triune, and then caravan the short distance to the tour site. This tour is on private lands and is scheduled only every few years.... so mark your calendars for this rare chance to see the Triune. Please RSVP to 500-6612. We will have more information about this event in next month's newsletter.

On Saturday, May 13, STFB will have a booth at the annual Thompson's Station Festival from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.. As part of this event, we are scheduling short tours of the Thompson's Station Battlefield at 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. for STFB members and the visiting public. Those tours will be conducted at the Train Depot and caboose in 'downtown' Thompson's Station. The tour will be done at that location and will not involve walking. Watch for more details in future newsletters..

On a Saturday morning in late August, we are planning to hold a tour of McGavock's Grove (the former golf course) in Franklin and discuss the Battle of Franklin events that took place on this newly designated Franklin Battlefield Park. Williamson County Historian Rick Warwick will lead the tour and discuss new discoveries concerning this site. We will keep you informed as the schedule and details firm up.



Board Members of Franklin's Charge: Rod & Kay Heller, Paul Hawke The Director of the American Battlefield Preservation Project of the National Parks Service, Doug Brouder representing The Civil War Preservation Trust, STFB Board members, and Franklin's Elected Officials take a moment to celebrate the acquisition of The Country Club Of Franklin.

Eastern Flank Celebration

On February 7th, the City of Franklin hosted an event on the Eastern Flank property to celebrate the acquisition of 112 acres of core Franklin battlefield, and to publicly thank the many individuals and organizations that brought the project from dream to reality.

Franklin Mayor Tom Miller thanked the city staff and local preservationists, and served as master of ceremonies for the event. Rod Heller, previous owner of the land, thanked the Franklin Mayor and Aldermen for accepting his preservation challenge. Franklin's Charge's Julian Bibb spoke to the effects of some 500 citizens and groups, including STFB and its members, who donated to the project. Paul Hawke, director of the American Battlefield Preservation Project of the National Parks Service, thanked the community for their vision, and promised further funds to help develop the property to NPS standards. Finally, Doug Brouder, representing the Civil War Preservation Trust, spoke of the value of the land as a true memorial to the men, both North and South, who fought across the landscapes of Franklin.

A reception was held in the former country club, with almost the entire STFB board and numerous members in attendance. Later that evening, Franklin's Charge held a thank you reception across the field at Historic Carnton Plantation. It was a fitting way to celebrate the hard work and generosity of many, many folks to Save The

Landmark Bookstore hosting Civil War Book Club

Save the Franklin Battlefield board member Gregory Wade will be hosting the first meeting of the Landmark Bookstore Civil War Book Club, Sunday March 12. The bookseller is located just off the square in Franklin and has become a meeting place for history buffs. The street address is 114 East Main Street, Franklin.

The initial meeting of the club is set for three PM and will last about an hour. Landmark's phone number is 791 6400. There will be a listing of books dealing with Franklin and the Civil War with the selection for the first reading to be made March 12 by consensus of the group. Meetings will be held once a month from then on.

Wade has been involved with the preservation efforts in Williamson County and has written on Middle Tennessee history in various magazines and publications. He can be reached at GregLWade@yahoo.com.

New & Renewing Members Jan. 2006

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Jerry & Ellen Allen | Buffalo Grove IL |
| Gene Andrews | Nashville TN |
| James B Atkinson, M.D. | Brentwood TN |
| Louise Batey | Franklin TN |
| Lonnie Belt | Baltimore MD |
| Charles & Nancy Brantley | Greenville TX |
| Ed Butler | Cookeville TN |
| Fred J Ehlert | Riverdale IL |
| Dennis Field | New Lenox IL |
| John D Fraser | Franklin TN |
| Dr & Mrs C B Gantt | Sanford NC |
| Oliver King Goad | Murfreesboro TN |
| Marva Hartman | Michigan Center MI |
| Bob & Nell Harvey | Pittsburg CA |
| James D Kay Jr | Nashville TN |
| Michael Loftin | Franklin TN |
| Claude Longo | Thompsons Station TN |
| Daniel E McCarthy | Western Springs IL |
| Ben McDonald | Louisville KY |
| Don A Nall | Little Rock AR |
| Andrew & Nancy Ramsey | Ashburn VA |
| Glenn Rieuf | Franklin TN |
| Allan Schoenberger | Germantown TN |
| Joe Smyth III | Franklin TN |
| Theraco, Inc | Nashville TN |
| Mr & Mrs Timothy Traver | Clay City OH |
| Union Veterans Union, Inc | Fair Oaks CA |
| Michael & Barbara Walker | Franklin TN |
| Mary Watts | Clinton SC |
| Phyllis A Wilson | Gray TN |

Old BGA? That's Academy Park to you — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." —

1/15/06 — FRANKLIN — Phyllis Huffman, the planning administrator for the Williamson County Parks & Recreation Department renamed the old Battle Ground Academy recreational Facilities "Academy Park." Huffman said she came up with "Academy" as a tribute to what the gyms used to be and "Park" because she thought the other parts of the campus "looked like a park with all of its green spaces."

Traces of former country club vanish — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 1/20/06 —

FRANKLIN — Crews are ripping up part of a golf cart path and filling in the swimming pool at the Country Club of Franklin, milestones in the conversion of the former golf course to its 1864 appearance when the Battle of Franklin raged. But the next steps in creating a battlefield park won't come until Jan. 23, when architectural firms turn in their proposals for how the 110-acre site would look upon completion.

Talks continue on turning old courthouse into city hall — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 1/20/06 —

FRANKLIN — The courtship between Franklin leaders and Williamson County officials over the city leasing the county's historic courthouse on Franklin Square is back on. City officials want to move out of Current city hall space and across the street to the county-owned antebellum courthouse, which is bigger, historic and probably needs millions of dollars in renovations and improvements.

Freedom Award going to Carter descendants — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." —

1/30/06 — FRANKLIN — Former slave owner F. B. Carter owned about 80 slaves who all lived on land surrounding the Columbia Avenue historic landmark. Before the Civil War, all of the slaves took on the last names of their masters. Carter gave all of his slaves their freedom in 1859, two years before the Emancipation Proclamation declared them free. Many of the former slaves remained in Franklin and purchased land; scores of their descendants still live in the area. Georgia Lane, David McLemore, and Stacey Lane, grandmother, son and grandson are descendants of freed slaves who took the Carter surname from slave owner F.B. Carter,

who owned the home at the center of the 1864 Battle of Franklin, will be given the Historic African-American Freedom Award at the fifth annual Black Tie Affair.

Carter House to receive capital improvements — *Franklin Review Appeal* — 2/1/06 —

FRANKLIN — The proposed budget by Gov. Phil Bredesen includes additional funding for Tennessee's state-owned historic sites, highlighted by a \$1.25 million allocation for Franklin's Carter House. The capital improvement would fund the construction of a visitors' center with an interpretation area for the Carter House, a state-owned historical site in Franklin.

New developer has interest in buying development rights — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 2/3/06 —

FRANKLIN — An agreement has been signed between a developer willing to purchase the development rights of a 25-acre piece of property near Harlinsdale Farm along Franklin Road and transfer them to a 23-acre site in another area. If this happens, the program would preserve the Franklin Road property near Harlinsdale while allowing its landowner to sell the development rights of that land.

Former BGA faculty houses bring in big money at auction — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 2/3/06 —

FRANKLIN — Five dilapidated houses on Everbright Avenue that used to be home to the Battle Ground Academy headmaster and other faculty members were sold this week for enough money to retire the county's debt on the purchase of the former campus. One of the stipulations of the auction was that the homes must be renovated. The buyers have 18 months from the time of closing to complete the renovation.

Mayor believes criticism will fade, community will rally around battlefield park project — *The Tennessean*, "Williamson A.M." — 2/9/06 —

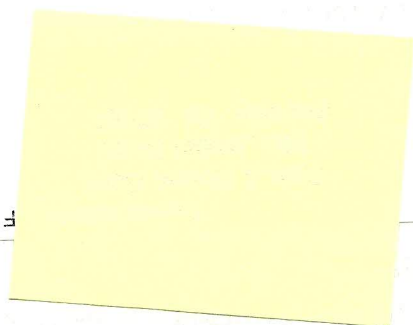
FRANKLIN — Standing on the former golf course, Mayor Tom Miller told a crowd of about 100 supporters that he had been skeptical the deal could be pulled off, though it was important for preserving the area's heritage and open space. The meeting was to commemorate the sale from Washington, D.C., businessman Rod Heller to the city which was finalized Dec. 29. Miller conceded that detractors had questioned the land's historic importance to the Battle of Franklin, but that criticism eventually will fade once work on the project moves forward.

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 | \$10.00 | |
| | NEW!! ~ Battle of Franklin Map ~ laminated & in full color | \$6.00 | |
| | NEW!! ~ "Battle of Franklin – Five Hours in the Valley of Death" DVD | \$25.00 | |
| | "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 | |
| | NEW!! ~ "Eyewitness to the Battle of Nashville" ~ David Logsdon, paperback | \$12.00 | |
| | <i>Cleburne or Forrest</i> Prints, signed by the artist (circle one ~ or both for \$30) | \$20.00 | |
| | ORDER SUBTOTAL | | |
| | SHIPPING & HANDLING (items only) ~ under 10.00 | \$1.00 | |
| | \$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.



FEBRUARY 2006



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