



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

June 2006

www.franklin-stfb.org

Dedicated to the preservation, protection, and promotion of
Civil War sites in Williamson County, Tennessee

Dear STFB Member:

Save the Franklin Battlefield is a non-profit, all volunteer organization. This means that all our board members and volunteers give their time and efforts freely, with no compensation other than knowing they are making a difference. With the support of our concerned, passionate, and generous membership across the land, these board members and volunteers perform the daily, weekly, and monthly work that makes STFB happen at the local level - where the rubber meets the road.

I can say that in my time as president of STFB, I've worked alongside some of the most talented, hard-working, and big-hearted folks I've ever been associated with. With that said, please welcome our newest board member Chris Cuomo. Chris grew up in New York, and has lived in Williamson County for the past six years. His hard work has been poured into the Collins' Farm site over the past two years, and I know he will be a great addition to the board.

Beth Adams, our newsletter editor is moving on to other projects. She has produced our newsletters for the past three years. Beth is a true preservationist, and we know she will continue to make a difference here in Franklin. Thank you Beth, from all of us at STFB.

Coming on board as our new editor is Eric Jacobson. Eric is the author of *For Cause & For Country: A Study of the Affair at Spring Hill and the Battle of Franklin*. I know he will be a great asset to STFB.

If you are traveling to Middle Tennessee this summer and plan to visit Franklin, let us know. We'd love to visit, and give you a chance to meet some of the people who work so hard to Save The Franklin Battlefield.

Joe Smyth

New & Renewing Members May 2006

William Adkins, Jr.	Akron, OH
Mary & Mark Aulman	Woodland, CA
Suzanne Burns	Brentwood, TN
C. Pat Cates	Woodstock, GA
Mr & Mrs James Coomer	Franklin, TN
Chris Cuomo	Thompson's Station, TN
Rosie Flite	Franklin, TN
Howard B. Foshee	Spanish Fort, AL
Bryan & Aimee Hansen	Thompson's Station, TN
Robert Heilman	Franklin, TN
Gary & Barbara Holbrook	Franklin, TN
Richard N. Kinsley, Jr.	Thompson's Station, TN
Archie Lintz	Huntington, IN
Gower Ludwig	Thompson's Station, TN
Carroll & Jane Moore	Brentwood, TN
Willaim & Cynthia Morelli	Brentwood, TN
John & Carol Petty	Wartrace, TN
Harold & Mary Jo Pratt	Brentwood, TN
Kimberly Skoda	Fort Worth, TX
Stephen Tosterud	Bush, LA
Joe Williamson	Castalian Springs, TN

John Adams was the only one of the six Confederate generals killed as a result of the fighting at Franklin who was married. His youngest daughter, one of six children, was just 13 months of age when he died.

Become a Preservation Volunteer

As study of the Battle of Franklin becomes more focused on the eastern flank, the significance of the action on the Collins' Farm site is becoming increasingly evident. On this site, Gen. Loring's Division was under heavy fire, and, reportedly, Gen. Adams shifted his troops a few hundred yards to the west where he fell mortally wounded. More information on the significance of Collins' Farm is being uncovered regularly.

STFB feels privileged to have the opportunity to preserve this hallowed piece of the Battle of Franklin, but preservation comes with a price: money and maintenance. It was truly an act of faith when STFB acquired the very substantial mortgage on the property. Yet with the generous donations of STFB members and with the insurance settlement from the freakish wind which toppled the pecan tree, Collins Farm is now debt free. But that still leaves the second responsibility of preservation: maintenance.

For the past few years, STFB Board members and member volunteers have cleaned brush, mowed, trimmed and done other jobs which have brought the grounds to the best appearance since it was purchased. With the lawn newly graded and seeded, a regular, systematic program with maintenance teams to mow, trim, and clean up is needed to keep Collins Farm looking good. If enough STFB members are willing to help, team volunteers should need to work only once or twice during the growing season.

Please call 615-500-6612 to become a STFB preservation team volunteer.

Thompson's Station Festival STFB Booth

STFB once again staffed a booth at the Annual Thompson's Station Festival on May 13. The event lets us meet the public, talk about preserving our battlefields, and raising funds. This year, seven volunteers pitched in for the program – Suzanne Burns, Chris Coumo, Bobby Hargrove, Sam Huffman, Joe Smyth, Greg Wade, and Mike Walker. For the first time, we conducted two short battlefield tours at the train depot during the festival for about 20 visitors. We signed up three members, sold a 140th Reenactment DVD and some books, and received a donation. Many booth visitors asked the status of the golf course purchase in Franklin as well as how they can help save the Thompson's Station Battlefield. As always, we are encouraged by the level of local interest in saving the battlefields of Williamson County.

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield Dedication

Over 200 acres of West Tennessee farmland was recently dedicated at the newly opened Parker's Crossroads Battlefield Park. Attended by more than 150 supporters on a hot June day, the event featured remarks by many of those responsible for the evolution of the facility, located about 70 miles east of Memphis along Interstate 40. State legislator Steve McDaniel is widely given credit as a leader in the community's efforts to recognize the December 1862 battle that took place there. Noting that the work of park preservation is not over, McDaniel said, "Almost 2000 acres in the area are designated to be of national significance. We can't save it all but we must continue to preserve and protect this land for generations to come."

The Battle of Parker's Crossroads took place on New Year's Eve of 1862. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest found his command surrounded by Union brigades led by Cols. John Fuller and Cyrus Dunham. Forrest ordered his men to "charge them both ways." The Confederates did just that and were able to break out of the trap in good form.

Parker's Crossroads Battlefield Park has over two miles of well-maintained walkways providing easy access to battlefield interpretative signage. There is over 1,200 feet of a restored split rail fence where Colonel Dunham's men fought desperately to hold their ground. Visitors can read new signage at key auto tour stops and there is a gift shop located in the park.

Save The Franklin Battlefield would like to congratulate our friends in preservation for their fine work and success at Parker's Crossroads. It is a testament to what leaders with vision can do!

The next STFB board meeting will be on Monday, July 10, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Heritage Foundation office, located in the rear of the U. S. Post Office at Five Points in Franklin. The public is welcome!!!

Gen. John M. Schofield, commander of the Union forces at Franklin, was general-in-chief of the United States Army following the Civil War and suggested Pearl Harbor, Hawaii be used as a military base.

News in Review May 2006

City begins planning for battlefield park - *The Tennessean*, *Williamson AM.* - May 14, 2006

A months-long process began here last week to answer questions about the 1864 appearance of the former country club property, how additional traffic will be handled, what will become of the beavers, would historic artifacts be recovered from the site, how much will it cost to restore the Civil War battlefield, and will city officials ever agree to pay it. The Westchester, PA-based John Milner Associates architectural firm held private meetings with officials and a public forum at the old country club's clubhouse to ask questions of their own about the property—and provide a glimpse of what might lie ahead in the group's final master plan.

Flag may come back to Carter House - *The Tennessean*, *Williamson AM.* - May 19, 2006

A Civil War-era flag believed to have been carried at the Battle of Franklin by a Mississippi soldier could be making its way back here. The tattered blue-and-white cloth was purchased for \$3,600 by a Kansas man at a real estate auction in 2002. Its authenticity was recently verified by Civil War scholars and the current owner said he's selling it for \$160,000 to a private collector in Florida who plans to display it at a museum in Franklin. That museum is likely to be the Carter House Museum and Historical Site on Columbia Avenue.

Historians target south county development *Franklin Review Appeal* - May 24, 2006

As Franklin works toward reclaiming land central to the Battle of Franklin, many are saying Civil War property in Spring Hill needs to be preserved—not paved over—as well. The Civil War Preservation Trust ranks the Spring Hill Battlefield as "highly threatened by development" and calls it a "major battle important to the outcome of the campaign." A 56-bed hospital is being proposed near the intersection of Kedron Road and Saturn Parkway, to the western edge of the battle site. GBT Realty of Brentwood wants to build The Crossings of Spring Hill, with a Target store as its anchor, on 37 acres at the eastern edge.

Visit www.franklin-stfb.org for additional news items.

Open space and history should be respected with battlefield project - *Franklin Review Appeal* May 31, 2006

In the months ahead, city consultants will use historic documents to draw up a plan that re-creates what the land resembled on Nov. 30, 1864, the date of the Battle of Franklin. When it's completed, the city would still have to pay to re-adapt the golf course into the eastern flank of the Battle of Franklin. Since public input will be sought, several Franklin residents spoke up recently about what they want done with the land. **Tommy Murdic, County planning commissioner:** "...It should reflect times prior to, during and after the Civil War, which brought about some major changes..." **Joe Smyth, President, STFB:** "I think the common thought is to return it to what it would have looked like in 1864..." **Dodson Randolph, Ward 3 Alderman:** "...the original goal was to turn it into a battlefield, and I don't know exactly the way you turn something into a battlefield..." **David Langhans, Developer:** "I would love to see it remain rolling like it is, with trees and nicely landscaped but still open space..." **Bob Buelterman, Franklin resident:** "In my estimation it should be a golf course. It's a waste of money right now. It never has been a battlefield, so why are people pretending it was?" **Thelma Battle, Local black historian:** "I think both sides of the history should be told from that place. A true history would include a black and a white story..."

CWPT Announces 2006 Preservation Awards *Hallowed Ground*, Summer 2006

Every year, the Civil War Preservation Trust honors those individuals and groups who have made an outstanding contribution to Civil War Battlefield preservation. Among the awards presented during the CWPT's annual conference in Memphis, Tennessee, were: *Shelby Foote Preservation Legacy Award:* Franklin's Charge, Franklin, Tennessee, for mobilizing an entire community to reclaim 110 acres on the Eastern Flank of the Franklin Battlefield and *State Leadership Award:* Franklin Mayor Tom Miller and the Franklin City Board of Aldermen for their role in reclaiming the Pizza Hut site at Franklin and committing \$2.5 million for preservation of the eastern flank portion of the Franklin Battlefield.

City leaders target Civil War land for repair center *The Tennessean*, *Williamson AM.* - June 12, 2006

A staff committee has recommended that the city purchase some of the 49-acre site on Columbia Avenue where the former Through the Green golf-teaching facility is now overgrown with weeds, and use it as the location for a new maintenance facility for its vehicles.

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. Donelson" ~ 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	
	Cleburne or Forrest 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.

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