



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

May 2008 www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message May 2008

Preservation is messy work. Dealing with a wide variety of opinions, governmental issues, and funding questions can be extremely frustrating. Sometimes in the midst of it all, I find it necessary to rethink why it is so important to save hallowed dirt from destruction.

To many of us, the land is a needed connection to those who sacrificed more than most of us, thankfully, will ever have to. It is our only tangible way to understand and "touch" something those valiant young men so long ago walked upon. We can only imagine what that "kid" from Georgia or Indiana must have felt as his life flowed out on some lonely plain.

The noble courage that has run thru American veins enabling them to answer the call to defend their homeland, whatever the challenge, has continued to course through generations of Americans up to the present day. While we wish we could, we can't talk to those Civil War veterans we so admire. So today when you meet a veteran or see an American in uniform, stop and buy them a cup of coffee, and ask them to tell their story. They will appreciate it.

And as we approach Memorial Day, make sure you thank them

Greg Wade

JBHHS Conference A Big Success

Sam Hood of the John Bell Historical Society recently reported on the group's annual conference in Franklin May 9-11, 2008. They had 25 attend from California, Arizona, Virginia, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi, and several from the Nashville area, many of whom said they heard about the tour from their STFB newsletters.

He also wrote "Last weekend's JBHHS Conference and Tour of Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville was a great success. Many thanks to our expert guides Eric Jacobson and David Fraley, who were on their game on Saturday and Sunday respectively."

"Attendees included individuals from California, Arizona, Mississippi, Kentucky, Virginia, Alabama, Tennessee, and yours truly from West Virginia."

"A portion of the Sunday itinerary included David Fraley's exhaustive efforts to identify and chronicle the gallant men from both the Union and Confederate armies who fell during the Army of Tennessee's desperate retreat from Nashville to Mississippi during the bleak late-December days of 1864. Although David and fellow JBHHS member O. C. Hood are working on a book, a condensed account of Hood's Retreat and a casualty list appears at the website www.JohnBellHood.org. Please honor the memories of those forgotten heroes by browsing through the casualty list."

New and Renewing Members April 2008

Louise Batey	Franklin, TN
Dr Michael Brown	Chattanooga, TN
Betty Cannon	Pleasant View, TN
Robert Hicks	Franklin, TN
Carlton J Houghton	Essex Junction, VT
Robert J Irwin	Warrior, AL
David G Lee	Marietta, GA
Ross Massey	Nashville, TN
Mel Maurer	Westlake, OH
Ben McDonald	Louisville, KY
Rory McIntyre	Columbus, OH
Marcus/Chrissy Pearson	Holly Springs, NC
Jerry & Debbie Raymer	Nashville, TN
Tim Shea	Webster, MA
Kenda Shultz	Canby, OR
Billy Lou Smith	Franklin, TN
Joe Smyth III	Franklin, TN
Thomas D Vaughan Jr	Pell City, AL
Gary & Paula Waddey	Nashville, TN
Phil Walker	Nashville, TN
Greg Wade	Franklin, TN
John Andrew Warren	Los Angeles, CA

Franklin Civil War Roundtable

The Franklin Civil War Roundtable kicked off Sunday May 11 at the Williamson County Library. Former Brentwood Mayor and current County Commissioner, Tom Bain, spoke with fascinating detail about the War in the northern part of the county. Everyone was buzzing by the time he was through.

Rockland CWRT Gifts Franklin

The good folks of the Rockland CWRT in Pearl River, New York recently send a \$100 gift to aid preservation efforts here in Franklin. There was no note with the gift so the thank you will have to go to the entire group for keeping Franklin in their preservation plans. Rockland will henceforth receive a monthly STFB newsletter to keep them up-to-date on preservation actions in Franklin.

Sultana Reunion A Big Success

The Sultana Association had a very successful 21st reunion this year at Franklin, TN, April 24-25. About 65 people attended the event which consisted of several short talks Friday evening, a Saturday bus tour, and a banquet that evening. Three local experts on the Battle of Franklin were our speakers for Friday: Thomas Cartwright from the Carter House; Robert Hicks, author of *The Widow of the South*; and Eric Jacobson from Carnton Plantation. Sam Huffman, with STFB, had a great display on Friday to promote his group's cause and was a gracious host during the tour. Next year we will return to Knoxville, TN, for our 22nd reunion. For more information, contact Norman Shaw at shawclan4@bellsouth.net.

10% Discount for STFB Members!

For those of you who have not registered for Franklin's Charge's "Fighting for the Middle Tennessee Heartland" symposium, the event is only a short month away. As an added incentive to register, Franklin's Charge has offered a 10% discount to all STFB members.

The event will feature battlefield tours at Franklin, Thompson's Station, Murfreesboro, and Stones River National Battlefield.

This summer's speakers are a mix of Civil War scholars and heritage professionals. Historians scheduled to appear are Sam Elliot, the award-winning biographer of General A. P. Stewart; Dr. Earl Hess, author of *Banners to the Breeze* (a study of the Kentucky and Middle Tennessee campaigns) and *Field Armies and Fortifications*; and Dr. Chris Losson, the biographer of General B. F. Cheatham.

The symposium will close with a re-enactor camp at the Eastern Flank of the Franklin battlefield and a dinner on the ground of Historic Carnton Plantation. Both days are packed with information, food, and fun. To register and get your STFB discount, please visit www.franklinscharge.com/summer-register.html or call 615-595-0636.

Dick Simpson Campaigns In Pennsylvania

Our good friend from Lancaster, PA was busy in April presenting his Battle of Franklin slide program to CWRTs out east. He conducted an event for the Civil War Round Table of Gettysburg, and with a generous donation from that CWRT, sent a \$200 check to STFB for preservation projects in Franklin. A later fund raising program with his slide show raised \$100 with the Major Charles McCuen Civil War Round Table of the Union League in Philadelphia.

Dick is becoming an almost full-time ambassador for the Franklin Battlefield with his slide show to CWRTs in the eastern theater. As it turns out, Dick and his wife are currently moving his base of operations to their summer home in the Vermont northlands in Orleans. If your CWRT is in the New England area and you need a great program on a fresh topic, contact Dick at dicksimpson@earthlink.net. We greatly appreciate Dick's efforts to carry the Franklin story to other groups, and look forward to the day he can again visit Franklin to see the progress made since his visit five years ago. Way to go, Dick!!!

News In Review

Preservation Award

Civil War News - February/March 2008

The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA) gave its annual Bob Ragland Award to Ernie Bacon of Franklin, a former Franklin alderman who was active in recent public-private initiatives that included saving 108 acres known as the Eastern Flank of the Franklin battlefield.

Austin Civil War Round Table Pays Off Carter House Garden

Civil War News - February/March 2008

A half-acre of the infamous Carter House Garden has been paid off thanks to the Austin (Texas) Civil War Round Table. The Carter House was one of two recent recipients of grants from the Austin round table that totaled more than \$33,000. The money was provided by a round table member who prefers to remain anonymous.

Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne's personal effects to return to Carnton for summer exhibit

Williamson Herald - 5/2/08

For the first time since the Civil War Battle of Franklin, 143 years ago, Historic Carnton Plantation will house the pistol and kepi, or cap, once belonging to Maj. Gen. Patrick Ronayne Cleburne. Both items will be on display at the historic landmark from June 15-21. Noted Carnton Military Historian and author Eric A. Jacobson calls the exhibit "a tremendous opportunity for people to better understand the Battle of Franklin and Cleburne.

Carnton board enjoys barbecue Franklin Review Appeal - 5/7/07

Historic Carnton Plantation's board of directors, advisory board and their spouses recently enjoyed a casual barbecue supper on the back porch of the house. Carnton's military historian, Eric Jacobson, spoke to the group about the importance of their work preserving Carnton and the adjacent land, which will become a battlefield park. An enthralling speaker, Jacobson made an old story new and fresh to an attentive audience.

Laura Bush to speak on preservation

The Tennessean - 5/13/08

Tennessee Preservation Trust Executive Director Dan Brown said First Lady Laura Bush is scheduled to speak June 7 at the gathering in Columbia that's aimed at spreading awareness for preserving historic properties. The conference will take place at several historic venues, including the James K. Polk Home and Rippavilla Plantation.

Upcoming STFB Events

STFB is again planning a variety of events and tours for both our membership and the general public. In September we will be giving our first-ever tour of the 1864 Retreat from Nashville battle which centered on the Harlinsdale Farm property in Franklin. In October we will tour Roper's Knob, the Federal signal station and earthwork built in 1863. Finally, in November we will be holding our Annual Membership Meeting.

Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

Name (s) _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

QTY	ITEM	PRICE	TOTAL
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donation: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	"Battle of Franklin – Five Hours in the Valley of Death" DVD	\$25.00	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Perryville" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	"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	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Nashville" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	SHIPPING & HANDLING (items only) ~ under \$25.00	\$3.95	
	\$25.00 and up	\$4.95	
	ORDER TOTAL		

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

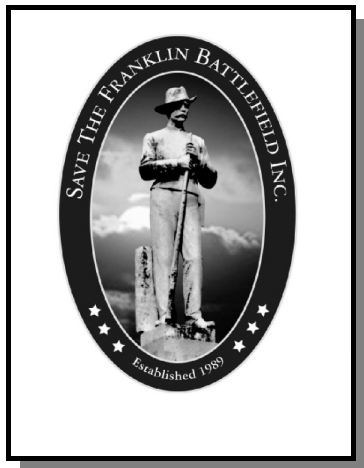
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



May 2008