



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

February 2010

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

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President's Message

Although snow and ice still remain on the ground here in Franklin, the STFB board has been busy planning events for the new year. The various Franklin groups have set their coordinated schedules for the year but some the event details remain to be set. Check our web site regularly for the latest on all of these upcoming events.

The issue we need your immediate help on is the city funding for roads at the Eastern Flank Park. Some city officials want to alter the road plan to save a few dollars. We think they should stay with the Master Plan for the park and maybe slow the follow on elements of the plan. Read the article and **contact your alderman** to make your opinion known.

Franklin's Civil War Days are set for Oct 19-21 with re-enactments on Saturday & Sunday. Check the article and get signed up to come to Franklin this October.

Carnton will conduct **Blue Gray Days** the weekend of November 20-21 - the 10,000 candle Illumination is set for Saturday November 20. Come be a part of this very moving annual community event this year. You will be very glad you did.

And finally, "The Legacy of Stones River: Why They Fought" symposium is scheduled for Saturday, March 20 from 8 to 4 in Murfreesboro. This promises to be a top-notch program so get enrolled today.

Mike Walker - President

We Need Your Help Contact Your Franklin Aldermen

Your help is urgently needed to make sure that funding is approved for a crucial loop road at the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park (the former golf course near Carnton Plantation). Funding for the park is currently being considered by the Franklin Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Background

Shortly after this 100 acres of the Franklin Battlefield was purchased in 2005, the city had consultants develop a Master Plan for improvements to the property. This plan called for new road access, parking areas, removal of the tees and greens, restoration of the general wartime topography of the parcel, removal of non-native vegetation, new interpretive signage and other projects. It is a [comprehensive plan](#) for the Battlefield Park.

Due to the current economic slowdown, these spending plans have had to be delayed and extended out over several years to stay within the revised city budget projections. This is a disappointment, but understandable as necessary and prudent management of city finances.

One of the early elements of the Master Plan is a one-way loop road from Lewisburg Pike south to the Carnton Interpretive Center, then west to the old club house and Confederate Cemetery, and then back north to Lewisburg Pike – all within the park boundary. This plan also includes the necessary parking at the Interpretive Center and club house.

The road and parking are the Plan's first-step to providing public access to the park, removing tour buses and delivery trucks from Carnton Lane, and diverting traffic from neighboring subdivisions. However, the city is now considering other options

that radically diverge from the overall Master Plan for the Park. For example, build just a segment of the loop road and make it two-way road, omit the parking, build a less substantial roadbed, and other adjustments that would hopefully reduce the close-in costs.

It is true that the Master Plan for the Park carried a significant price tag. We can slow down its implementation to help with Franklin's budget realities, but to toss out the plan and do a differing road network that may preclude the eventual implementation of the Plan is simply folly. The city needs to adjust the scheduled spending but leave the Master Plan for the Eastern Flank Park as is.

And one last thought – many local preservation groups, city officials, and national preservation groups have labored many, many years to raise the necessary public support for the battlefield park, and the \$5 million to purchase this portion of the Franklin Battlefield, and to develop a Master Plan. After all of that steadfast effort by all of those people and groups, this is not the time to toss out all of their work just to save a few dollars.

How you can help

Without getting into all the options and variations, we ask that you **contact your alderman** and request that the Board approve Eastern Flank Battlefield Park Historic Drive Option #2 plus the parking areas. This option funds the entire loop road and the parking areas that are crucial to eventual visitor access to the entire park. On day-one, it also makes the Park a better neighbor to the adjacent subdivisions by getting the tour bus and truck traffic off of their neighborhood streets. This was a key selling element of the Master Plan when submitted.

Alderman e-mail addresses are listed below. Open this newsletter on our web site www.franklin-stfb.org so that you can use the active email links.

Franklin Board of Mayor and Aldermen

Mayor John Schroer
John.Schroer@franklintn.gov

Ward 1—Beverly Burger
bev@aldermanburger.com

Ward 2—Dana McLendon
danamclendon@mac.com

Ward 3—Michael Skinner
Michael.Skinner@franklintn.gov

Ward 4—Margaret Martin
Margaret.Martin@franklintn.gov

At-Large—Ann Petersen
AnnPetersen@comcast.net

At-Large—Clyde Barnhill
Clyde.Barnhill@franklintn.gov

At-Large—Ken Moore
Ken.Moore@franklintn.gov

At-Large—Pearl Bransford
Pearl.Bransford@franklintn.gov

New & Renewing Members January 2010

James B Atkinson M.D.	Brentwood, TN
James W Barrow M.D.	Miami, FL
Joe Brooks	Brentwood, TN
Scott Campbell	Harvest, AL
Scott Felix	Alum Bank, PA
Kathleen & Dennis Garoutte	Bloomington, MN
Dr Echols Hansbarger	Charleston, WV
Jackie Hardy	Brentwood, TN
Marva Hartman	Rose City, MI
George M Hodak	Pacific, MO
Mary E Knight	Waxahatchie, TX
Lee Krompart	Chicago, IL
William Mahaney	Xenia, OH
Sherry Male	Nashville, TN
Vernon McDannald	Humboldt, AZ
Neal Pulley	Columbia, TN
Dave & Carolyn Rousculp	Marietta, GA
John & Teresa Rutledge	Franklin, TN
Boardman & Lillian Stewart	Franklin, TN
Thomas Tarpy	Brentwood, TN
Eileen & Joe White	Cos Cob, CT

Franklin's Earth Day April 7, 2010 - 10 am to 2 pm

Save the Franklin Battlefield served as an early advocate of the principles of Earth Day through the purchase of the Collins Farm property a few years ago and thus preserved the "green space" where so many Civil War soldiers fell. STFB continues to be an advocate for maintaining open battlefield land and the restoration of battlefield properties to their 1861-1865 appearance.

This year, STFB has been invited to have a booth at the April 17, Arbor Day/Earth Day event at Franklin's Pinkerton Park and to lead a 1:00 p.m. tour of Fort Granger for the general public.

The tour will step off from Pinkerton Park at 1:00 and will present a discussion of the construction of Fort Granger, the fort as a Federal staging area, the role of the fort during the occupation of Franklin, the hanging of the Confederate spies, and action at the fort during the Battle of Franklin. Immediately before and after the tour, Federal reenactors stationed at the fort will answer questions about the role of the common soldier during the Civil War.

**“The Legacy of Stones River:
Why They Fought” symposium
Saturday, March 20**

“The Legacy of Stones River: Why They Fought” symposium will take place on Saturday, March 20, 2010, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Murfreesboro, TN. The program features talks by Keith Bohannon, Sam Davis Elliott, and Kenneth Noe at the Rutherford County Courthouse in the morning, followed by park ranger-led programs at Stones River National Battlefield in the afternoon. A special teacher in-service session, “Choosing Sides,” will be held between the morning and afternoon activities.

The \$10 registration fee includes continental breakfast. See www.nps.gov/stri or www.tncivilwar.org to download a registration brochure or call 615-893-9501. The symposium is coordinated by Stones River National Battlefield and the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, which is administered by the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University.

**Carnton Blue Gray Days
November 19, 20, 21**

Carnton Plantation will hold its Blue Gray Days program the weekend of November 20-21 this year. We will publish the event schedule as it develops. On Saturday November 20, the Franklin Battlefield Task Force will conduct a memorial ceremony at the Confederate Cemetery and organize the **community project of the Illumination of 10,000 candles.**

The Carter House will organize the annual march from Winstead Hill on the November 30th battle anniversary as always. There is talk of having a small Illumination at the town square and the hospital sites as part of the anniversary events. No definite plans yet.

**Franklin Civil War Days
Set for October 15,16,17**

Mark your calendars and sign up - The city sponsored Civil War Days events this year are planned for the October 15-17 weekend. Friday will have school days, **re-enactments are set for Saturday and Sunday** commemorating the November 30, 1864 battle. Firewood and straw will be provided. Plus, a Blue-Grey Ball is planned for Saturday night. Food vendors and period sutlers will be on site. Check the STFB web site. For details, e-mail bthargrove123@aol.com or rghuff123@aol.com

**News In Review
February 2010**

Subdivision near historic home gets OK— *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 1/24/10 — SPRING HILL — In a 5-4 vote, the board approved plans for Oakview Estates, a 34-home neighborhood across Denning Lane from Oaklawn, a Civil War-era mansion and former plantation. The final reading and public hearing is scheduled for the board’s next monthly meeting, set for 7 p.m., Feb. 16 at City Hall.

Metro Historical Commission Plans Civil War anniversary in Nashville — *The Tennessean* — 2/2/10 — NASHVILLE — The Metro Historical Commission has formed a committee to gear up for the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in Nashville. Historical Commissioner Joan Armour said this is the commission’s first attempt to observe an anniversary of the War Between the States and study its affect on Nashville. During their Jan 25 meeting, commissioners discussed teaming with Metro Nashville Public Schools to teach students how Tennessee was instrumental in the war.

Historian tells story of ‘Colored Troops’— *The Tennessean*, “Williamson A.M.” — 2/12/10 — FRANKLIN — Bill Radcliffe shared the history of African-American soldiers in the Civil War during the February 14 Franklin Civil War Round Table. As a historian, Radcliffe likes to share what he knows and encourage people to look beyond what they might see in a book. His passion for history includes talking about the trials of African-American soldiers in the Civil War and preserving their stories and roles in the Union Army. Radcliffe was a member of the honor guard at the recent burial of Franklin’s Unknown Soldier and was part of the Battle of Nashville anniversary events at Fort Negley in December.

Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851
Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



February 2010

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	
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	SHIPPING & HANDLING (Items only) ~ Under \$25.00 - or -	\$3.95	
		\$25.00 and up	\$4.95
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STFB Membership is annual and donations are tax deductible.