

# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

April 2011 www. franklin-stfb.org

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

# **President's Message**

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With this month marking the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first shots fired in the Civil War, we are seeing a flurry of media coverage including newspaper articles and TV specials exploring many aspects of the war and its effects on our lives today. For those of us who have been increasingly concerned over the limited attention paid to history education in many of our schools, it is encouraging to see this interest and we can hope that the Civil War Sesquicentennial will spark a new generation towards a lifetime of learning and enjoyment studying our nation's history as the Centennial did for many of us.

For the sake of future generations, it is imperative that we pass on a knowledge and context of our history. For this, we will need informed parents and political leaders as well as talented and motivated educators. Please consider what you can do to instill an interest in history with young people you come in contact with. Take a girl or boy to a historical site, battlefield, or museum. Gift them a historical magazine subscription, book, or membership in a historical or preservation organization. No age is too young to start!

Finally, be sure to read the 'News in Review' summary of a Tennessean article on progress of our Franklin battlefield land acquisition. We are making steady progress and ask your help to preserve this important parcel.

Mike Walker - President

#### **New & Renewing Members March 2011**

Jerry & Ellen Allen Phillip Allen Ernie & Nell Bacon James W Barrow Lorena Bestor Charles & Nancy Brantley Dan Brown Bert Chapman DLM Consulting Mary Craig Rockland CWRT Thomas & Judeth Derickson Montgomery, AL Don & Sarah Duncan **Rosie** Flite Ann Herbert Floyd Robert M Hearin Jr Rod & Kay Heller Jim Hudgins Mr & Mrs Calvin Lehew **Bob** Lessel Joan Markel Sana Mason John Moloski Brenda Stotts Muncey Billie Ruth Nanney Donald Orth Gale & Lyn Pewitt Tom Potter & Family Richard Rust Jr Brian Ruxton Brandon & April Ryan Stuart Sanders Timothy Shea Damien Shiels Amy & Tom Stone Gilbert M Sullivan Jr

Cary, IL South Bend, IN Franklin, TN Miami, FL Kansas City, MO Greenville, TX New Orleans, LA Estido Island, SC Franklin, TN Murfreesboro, TN Pearl River, NY Murray, KY Franklin, TN Franklin, TN New Orleans, LA Washington, DC Monticello, AR Franklin, TN Bartlett, TN Knoxville, TN Waynesville, MO Harrisonville, MO Walling, TN Clarksville, TN Johnson City, TN Naperville, IL Jamestown, TN Franklin, TN Elmhurst, IL Franklin, TN Perryville, KY Worchester, MA County Cork, Ireland Mt Airy, MD Birmingham, AL

Willis Thomas Douglas A Thompson Kathy & Mark Wells Michael Woods Craig & Patricia Young Staffordsville, KY Tallahassee, FL Franklin, TN Palmdale, CA Franklin, TN

## 147<sup>th</sup> Battle of Franklin October 15 – 16, 2011 Reminder to Register

**Registration is open** for the Reenactment of the Battle of Franklin. You can access the registration web page from the STFB web site <u>www.franklin-stfb.org</u> For questions and manual registration, email <u>bthargrove123@aol.com</u> or <u>rghuff123@aol.com</u> or joseph.grosson@comcast.net

The event will be structured much like the 2010 146<sup>th</sup> reenactment last October – only bigger. Re-enacters and attendees alike were very complimentary of last year's facilities and event organization.

The plan this year is to site the Confederate and Federal camps more remotely from each other and to re-orient the battlefield to cover a much larger area. Re-enactment events are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 PM. The event will be held as part of Franklin's Civil War Days weekend Oct 14 – 16 at the Harlinsdale Park just north of downtown Franklin. Food vendors and period sutlers will be on site. Check the STFB web site <u>www.franklin-stfb.org</u> for the latest information on events scheduled for that weekend.

### Arbor Day & Fort Granger Tour Saturday, April 16

The Arbor Day event sponsored each year by the City Parks Department at Pinkerton Park went off as planned last Saturday in spite of rain and cold temperatures. Middle Tennessee Electric was there as always to pass out <u>warm hotdogs</u> and tree seedlings along with the Harpeth River Association, Save the Franklin Battlefield and the other usual suspects who do booths for the Arbor Day event. Mayor Moore was on hand to welcome everyone to the event. The weather did hold down the crowd size but did not diminish the good humor of the exhibitors and visitors alike. There's always next year.

As part of the event each year, STFB does a tour of Fort Granger on the north side of Pinkerton Park for those who have always wanted to see Franklin's Civil War earthen fort but never quite got to it. A few oldtime choir members also join the tour as well. With the rapid population growth these last few years, we have decided that most locals in the Franklin area have never visited the fort. The Arbor Day tour of Fort Granger is an excellent opportunity to introduce our newer residents to our local Civil War history. Eight guests braved the weather to take the one-hour tour.



Sam Gant (left), Bobby Hargrove, and Dave Miller set-up a small encampment and led Arbor Day tour of Fort Granger

#### Visiting Downtown Franklin? There's an App 4 That

The Williamson County Convention and Visitors Bureau (WCCVB) has just launched a new iPad application which offers visitors a fun, interactive way to discover the history, architecture and stories that creates Franklin's Great American Main Street experience.

The Franklin Tour app is a map based, GPS enabled walking tour with a real-time "you are here" feature. App users can walk any or all of the six different tours or simply download the app for use wherever. That way you can experience the tour, or preview your upcoming visit to Franklin, from the comfort of a coffee shop or local deli in the event of inclement weather. The stories and photos will come to life on the iPad.

If you are in Franklin without your iPad, a limited number of rental units are available at the Visitor Center for an introductory price of \$10 per day. The rentals are available during visitor center hours only. The Franklin Tour Apps are:

<u>Great American Main Street</u> - one of a kind shops, restaurants, churches and historic buildings
<u>Art & Antiques</u> - a local theater, art gallery, historic homes and the antiques district
<u>Haunts & Headstones</u> - Historic sites, haunted homes and cemeteries
<u>Hincheyville</u> - neighborhood of historic homes located in Franklin's first subdivision
<u>Battle of Franklin</u> - Civil War museum homes & the site of the five bloodiest hours of the Civil War
<u>Margin to Main</u> - O'More College of Design and historic homes.

information at <u>www.VisitFranklin.com</u>

#### News In Review April 2011

Desire for tranquility saved battlefield land -The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." — 4/14/11 -FRANKLIN - Traffic prevention, not historic preservation, was what spurred a group of Adams Street neighbors to buy a grassy 5-acre field off their street nearly a decade ago. The land, known as the Loring's Advance Tract, might be the best-kept secret in Franklin preservation. As it happens, the 5acre plot was the scene of bloody conflict on Nov. 30, 1864, when Confederate troops met their deaths when they stormed into the Union troops' guns that day. Preservationists see the property fitting into a larger plan that's been gaining momentum, that being attracting tourists who are expected to come to Franklin during the Civil War sesquicentennial. With plans for a proposed Columbia Avenue Battle of Franklin Civil War park being firmed up, the Save the Franklin Battlefield preservation group and the Washington, D.C.-based Civil War Trust are moving forward on buying the Loring's Advance property.

Franklin's Charge begins work on Carter Cotton Gin Park — Williamson Herald, "E-news" — 3/25/11 — FRANKLIN— Franklin's Charge, Inc., has begun work on the Carter Cotton Gin Park on Columbia Avenue in Franklin. Starting around April 1, historic restoration specialist Michael Lee will begin disassembling the house, which will be carefully recreated on Lewisburg Avenue in downtown Franklin. Once the structure has been dismantled and moved, the property will become the Carter Cotton Gin Park. The park, located across from the Carter House, will provide more detailed interpretation of the Battle of Franklin and an enhanced experience for Civil War visitors.

Historian Jacobson named Battle of Franklin Trust COO — *The Tennessean,* "Franklin Review Appeal" — 3/23/11 — FRANKLIN — Historian and author Eric Jacobson has been named chief operation officer for the Battle of Franklin Trust. Prior to his recent appointment, Jacobson worked as the director of operations for the Trust. The appointment comes as the Trust searches for a new chief executive officer.

Cavalry returns—147 years later — *The Tennessean,* "Williamson A.M." — 3/24/11 — FRANKLIN — The 7<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Cavalry Co. D hosted its annual cavalry camp of instruction at Carnton Plantation on Saturday, March 19. Nearly 80 riders from 16 states took part, learning battalion formation and performing drills. Spectators saw a realistic portrayal of Civil War cavalry techniques and several living history activities.

Civil War 'puzzle' comes together — The Tennessean, "Williamson A.M." — 3/31/11 — FRANKLIN — Members of the nation's largest Civil War battlefield preservation group will make the completion of a proposed Battle of Franklin park on Columbia Avenue a national preservation cause. Jim Lighthizer, president of the Washington, D.C.based Civil War Trust, said the group's 55,000 members will attempt to raise \$870,000 needed by Franklin's Charge, a local nonprofit, to buy a small retail space and Domino's Pizza take-out restaurant at 1221 to 1225 Columbia Ave. That land is the final parcel needed to re-create a 7-acre site where a cotton gin once stood in Nov. 30, 1864, when Union and Confederate troops collided in what became one of the bloodiest days of fighting in the war. Supporters of Franklin's Charge formally announced plans for this park in October 2009.

Unknown soldier's life will stay mystery — *The Tennessean,* "Williamson A.M." — 4/14/11 — FRANKLIN — On the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Civil War, a small group of Franklin residents and historians gathered this week to commemorate one of the most recent burials of a soldier who was killed in the war. Members of the city's Battlefield Preservation Commission unveiled a \$2,300 historic sign detailing the discovery of the soldier's remains and his reburial.

## Save The Franklin Battlefield

PO Box 851 Franklin, TN 37065-0851

#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



# April 2011

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