



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

July 2017

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

President's Message

It is painful to watch the events taking place in Nashville, TN concerning the city park property around Ft Negley. After the Civil War, the fort was ignored, abandoned, and allowed to fall into disrepair. During the 1930's, the fort was restored by the WPA (Works Progress Administration), but once again was neglected, allowing all of that work to be for naught.

You might ask what this has to do with Save The Franklin Battlefield? Franklin was neither an isolated battle nor an isolated story. It was part of the Tennessee Campaign by General John B. Hood's Confederate army after the fall of Atlanta. As they marched north in an effort to retake Nashville, there were skirmishes and battles all along the way. Notable were the federal holding action at Columbia, TN, the sharp battle and improbable escape of the Federals at Spring Hill, the disastrous frontal charge by the Confederates at Franklin, and then finally the near annihilation of the Confederate Army of Tennessee at Nashville. All of these were separate parts of one campaign. To understand any of these events, the whole story must be told.

Nashville now has a golden opportunity to finally lead an effort to develop their Civil War story and to be part of the Civil War tourist destination that Spring Hill and Franklin have become. **The Friends of Ft Negley have an online Petition we invite you to sign.** There is a link from the [STFB Facebook page](#).

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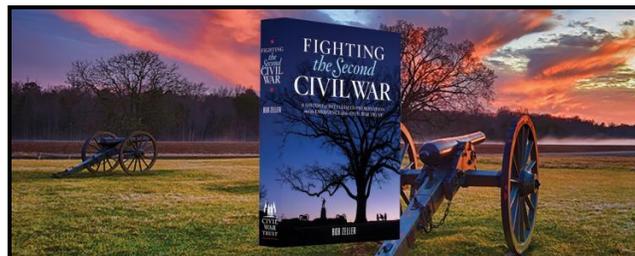
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New & Renewing Members June 2017

Dan Andrews	Nashville, TN
C Pat Cates	Dunedin, FL
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David Dale	Nashville, TN
Christine Gosey	Franklin, TN
Sam Hood	Huntington, WV
Walter J Duncan	Birmingham, AL
Bill Kennedy	Columbia, TN
Spyros & Mavy Lezimis	Chicago, IL
Ronald & Marty Ligon	Franklin, TN
Arthur Mellor	Durham, NC
Bryan Mitchell	Washington, DC
Ben Stein	Beverly Hills, CA
Ed Pulia	Bartlett, IL

---- Correction ----



The [STFB June 2017 Newsletter](#) announced the new book *Fighting the Second Civil War: A History of Battlefield Preservation and the Emergence of the Civil War Trust*, by historian Bob Zeller. It tells the story of the Civil War Trust's extraordinary journey to become the most successful nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in American history. The web sites where the book could be purchased were listed incorrectly in the STFB June newsletter. The

book is available at [Knox Press www.knoxpress.com](http://www.knoxpress.com) or at the [Civil War Trust](http://www.civilwar.org) web site www.civilwar.org

The book has one chapter devoted to the preservation efforts at Franklin. Additional historical notes on Franklin's preservation journey can be found at the Document Archive page of the STFB web site.

[Franklin Battlefield Preservation General Timeline](#) - a compilation of information from newspaper clippings, STFB newsletters, other historical sources to place the important milestones and turning points of the battlefield preservation journey here in Franklin. Hundreds of dedicated volunteers and donors have been part of this march over the past 150 years.

[A Compendium of Civil War Sites In Williamson County for Possible Battlefield Parks](#) - A 2003 summary of known battlefield parcels that could be saved as Battlefield Parks and linked with an interpretative program (pgs 11-21)

Additional Battlefield Parcel Considered for Purchase

Franklins Charge Board Member Ernie Bacon has announced that a purchase contract has been signed on the property at 1214 Columbia Avenue, two doors south of the recently purchased Lovell properties on the west side of the street.

This property was part of the ground covered by the mass of mixed Confederate and Federal forces from the advanced line after it collapsed. Both sides were desperate to reach the main trench line before the defenders could open fire.



The 1214 property is directly across Columbia Ave from the site of the former Domino Pizza shop

The purchase price of the commercially zoned ¾ acre property is \$1,365,000. The heavy lifting to identify donors, grants and financing is now underway. The contract duration and other details were not disclosed. The Franklins Charge Board consists of representatives from all of the State and local preservation groups, including STFB, as well as state and local tourism agencies. It was formed in 2003 to manage the fundraising and business operations required to contract and purchase the 112 acre Eastern Flank Battlefield Park (golf course) now a City Park.

Once a purchase is complete and all loans secured by the title are retired, the parcel is transferred to the Franklin Parks Dept. Franklins Charge does not permanently own any battlefield parcels.



The 1214 Columbia Ave property (left) as seen from the main trench line where the 1st KY battery was entrenched with four ordnance rifles

Franklin's Charge secures authentic artillery display for Carter Hill Battlefield Park

Press Release – Franklin - Franklin's Charge has secured authentic replicas of four artillery pieces that will be displayed at Carter Hill Battlefield Park to further interpret the Battle of Franklin held Nov. 30, 1864.

The Franklin's Charge Cannon Committee, led by Chairman Cullen Smith, recognized the need and worked to secure three 3-inch Ordinance rifles and a 12-pounder Napoleon to be displayed on the site as it was during the battle.

"I remember visiting battlefields as a kid and climbing on cannons and wondering about it all," Smith said.

"Now, Franklin's story will be more complete with the addition of these incredible artillery pieces. We're looking forward to making this display a reality for the City of Franklin."

The dedication of the cannons will be held on Friday, Nov. 10 at 1 p.m.

"To place these cannons as they were during the battle is a huge step in interpreting the action of the battle," Battle of Franklin Trust CEO Eric A. Jacobson said. "Federal artillery pieces played a devastating role in the outcome of this fight."

The Battle of Franklin Trust operates and manages Carnton and The Carter House sites.



One of the Franklin display guns being prepared in the manufacturing process

To date, more than 20 acres make up Carter Hill Battlefield Park, which continues to expand and contribute to the economic impact of heritage tourism in Williamson County. Last year, local and national preservation partners closed on a land transaction that resulted in the creation of this city battlefield park along Columbia Avenue in downtown Franklin.

The Civil War Trust, The Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County, The Battle of Franklin Trust and Franklin's Charge, Inc. transferred acres of property to the City of Franklin that were converted into a public battlefield park near The Carter House, a national landmark site.

"Cullen has worked to raise funds to secure these cannons and donations are still needed," Ernie Bacon, one of the leaders of Franklin's Charge who also serves on Franklin's Battlefield Preservation

Commission and represents Middle Tennessee on the Tennessee Historical Commission Board, said. "We're pleased the commission voted unanimously to accept the cannons for positioning on the Carter Hill Battlefield Park."

Franklin's Charge is accepting donations for the cannons, which may be sent to Cannon Fund, Franklin's Charge, 604 West Main Street, Franklin, Tenn. 37064. Details of the dedication to follow. For more information, visit www.franklinscharge.org/support/

News In Review July 2017

Success Stories: Spring Hill, Tennessee — Hallowed Ground — Summer 2017 — Spring Hill— In the 1990s, an 118-acre site, identified by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission as core battlefield, became available for purchase by the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites and the Civil War Trust, with help from ABPP. The battlefield park was dedicated in August 1999. An 84-acre property immediately north of Rippavilla was determined surplus by the GM Trust which voluntarily chose to seek a preservation solution that would create a unified 184-acre battlefield park. The sale was announced at a Sept. 2010 news conference.

Franklin Battlefield Procures Artillery for Interpretation — Civil War News — July 2017 — Franklin — Authentic replicas of artillery that played a critical role in the November, 1864, Battle of Franklin, Tenn., will soon be part of a rising battlefield park. The initial order is for three, 3-inch Ordinance Rifles and one bronze, 12-pound Napoleon with their carriages. A later order of a similar Ordinance Rifle and Napoleon will complete the artillery for that part of the Carter Hill Battlefield Park. The replica artillery is expected to arrive in Fall, 2017

Jacobson to speak on Civil War history's future in lecture series — Williamson Herald — 6/11/17 — FRANKLIN — The Battle of Franklin Trust hosted its ongoing Civil War lecture series on Thursday, July 13, featured speaker was Eric A. Jacobson, CEO of The Battle of Franklin Trust. Entitled "America, the Confederacy and the Future of our Civil War," the lecture addressed current events, the Confederate flag, monument removals, changing interpretation and what is in store for the future of Civil War history.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

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July 2017

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