



# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

June 2018

[www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org)

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

## President's Message

**Board of Directors**  
Chip Huffman  
*President*  
Bobby Hargrove  
*Vice Pres*  
Sam Gant  
*Secretary*  
Sam Huffman  
*Treasurer*

Dean Carr  
Robert Huff  
Mike Skinner  
Mike Walker

### Advisory Board

Suzanne Burns  
Ben Nance  
Mary Pearce  
Fred Prouty

Web site



Facebook



In June of 2017, Past President Dan Mora and I had the privilege of conducting a tour of the Franklin Battlefield for the Civil War Round Table of Southwest Michigan.

Several of the members had been here before and were astounded at the progress that we had made in Franklin over the last few years.

I received a reminder on our Facebook Page earlier this week, of the very nice Thank You Note that they had posted last year. As I thought about that tour a year ago, it occurred to me that in one single year, so much more has been accomplished, thanks to the hard, dedicated work of a legion of Preservationists and the donations of Loyal Members of Save The Franklin Battlefield like you!

Property has been purchased and Civil War Cannon have been placed on the Carter Hill Battlefield Park in the exact position that Federal Artillery was posted during the Battle. More Cannon are on the way, thanks to donations from our Membership.

It also occurred to me that NOW is not the time to let down on our preservation efforts. NOW is the time to double our efforts. Now is the time to re-commit!

Best regards,

Chip Huffman – President

## New & Renewing Members May 2018

Dan Andrews	Nashville, TN
Gary Bailey	Mentor, OH
Austin CWRT	Austin, TX
Rob Hodge	Nashville, TN
Peggy & Robin Hood	Franklin, TN
Bill Lamb	Franklin, TN
Karen McPeak	College Grove, TN
Arthur Mellor	Durham, NC
Rich & Teresa Shepler	Duck River, TN
Michael Skinner	Franklin, TN
Billy Lou Wright	Franklin, TN

## Carter House Visitor Center Update

At its last meeting, the Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission heard a short briefing on the plans for the new Carter House Visitor Center. The design is not finalized, but the general plan is for the Center to be located on the left side of the current entrance to the Carter House parking lot and built into the sloping bank there.

The new Center will be the first phase of the overall plan for the Carter House grounds. Construction drawings are planned to be available in August sometime but the current thinking is for a two-story 9,600 sqft building with natural wood siding and a metal roof. The idea is for the Visitor Center to appear as an outbuilding or barn on the Carter farm.

The entrance is on the northwest side at ground level with the parking lot. The second floor will open to the southeast at the general level of the Carter House grounds. An open-air plaza at this

level will provide space for gatherings and events.

Some time after the new center opens, the current visitor center will be removed. It is built on a fill area on the actual trench line that eventually will be returned to its original terrain profile.

For you who are familiar with the current visitor center, the new center will provide adequate meeting rooms, offices and (most of all) restrooms. When pictures are available, we will do another update.

### **Lotz House receives eighth consecutive Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence**

The historic Lotz House, located in downtown Franklin, has received a 2017 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence for the eighth year in a row.

The Certificate of Excellence is awarded to attractions with consistently high visitor ratings, and the Lotz House has maintained a five-star rating on the site since opening to the public in 2008. These impressive ratings rank Lotz House as the number one attraction in Franklin, among a community with many wonderful historical attractions.

“It is an honor to have received this award for the eighth year running. We’ve only been open to the public since 2008, but we strive to make a significant impact on our guests and the community of Franklin,” Lotz House Executive Director J.T. Thompson said.” We aim to make sure that every person who visits has a memorable experience, and we’re so thankful that our visitors take the time to leave such wonderful reviews about the Lotz House Museum.”

The Lotz House has been on the National Historic Register since 1976 and is located in the heart of historic downtown Franklin at ground zero of the pivotal Civil War battle, the Battle of Franklin.

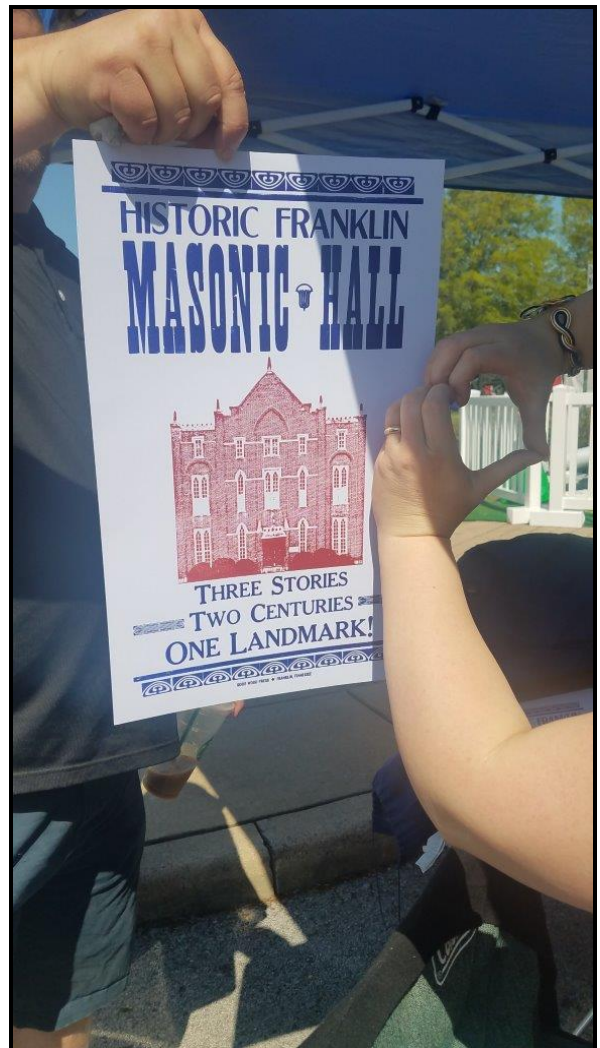
The house is open Monday–Saturday from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday from 1–4 p.m. or by appointment. The Lotz House is located at 1111 Columbia Avenue and offers Battlefield Walking Tours, Cellar Tours and tours of the McGavock Confederate Cemetery. For more information on tours, call 615-790-7190 or visit [www.lotzhouse.com](http://www.lotzhouse.com)

## **Witnessing the Transformation at the Historic Franklin Masonic Hall**

*By Rachael Finch*

Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1973, the Historic Franklin Masonic Hall is a multi-year, multi-million-dollar rehabilitation project, offering visitors a behind the scenes experience into the lives of all people forever connected by the political, social, and economic transformation of Franklin, Tennessee, and the United States.

The Hall, (c1823) a rare example of early Gothic architecture in Tennessee, served as the negotiation location for the Treaty of Franklin (1830) between President Andrew Jackson, Secretary of War John Eaton, Cabinet member General John Coffee, and representative Chickasaw Chiefs. Originally serving a dual purpose; a first floor public space and Masonic spaces on its second and third floors, the onset of the Civil War transformed the Hall during the four, long, hard years of war.



**This Masonic Hall commemorative poster is available for \$20 including postage. Contact the info email below.**

Recently, transformative preservation work has revealed names of Civil War soldiers in never before seen areas of the Hall! As our team continues to carefully survey and examine hidden recesses of the Hall, we engage with its uniquely significant Civil War past. With the first phase of work scheduled for late summer 2018, continued conservation of interior spaces, and educational hands-on preservation workshops are slated to begin by late fall.

The Historic Franklin Masonic Hall is the location of the oldest continuously occupying fraternity, Hiram Lodge 7, in the state of Tennessee and endures as one of the oldest Masonic Halls in the United States. The Historic Franklin Masonic Hall Foundation (HFMMHF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established to preserve, conserve, and interpret the nearly two hundred year history of the Franklin Masonic Hall.

To learn about the preservation of the Hall, give to the rehabilitation efforts, sign up for preservation workshops, or participate in volunteer opportunities, please go to [www.hfmhfoundation.org](http://www.hfmhfoundation.org) or email us at [info@hfmhfoundation.org](mailto:info@hfmhfoundation.org)

## News In Review June 2018

**'Telling the whole story:' Franklin woman uncovers slaves turned soldiers — Williamson-The Tennessean — 5/27/18 — Franklin** — As a result of Tina Jones' research into the U.S. Colored Troops — segregated regiments of the U.S. Union Army that fought during the Civil War—she has identified around 300 soldiers. She started with just eight soldiers who had served in the regiments. Ahead of the Memorial Day weekend, Jones put the finishing touches on a new exhibit inside the Williamson County Archives in downtown Franklin.

**Memorial Day Ceremony at Five Points to focus on African-American soldiers — Williamson Herald — 5/25/18 — Franklin** — This year the ceremony recognized Williamson County African-American soldiers who served during the Civil War with the US Colored Troops, segregated units of the US Army, and in the US Navy. It was formerly thought only a handful of former slaves from Williamson County served during the Civil War; however, African American Heritage Society member Tina Jones has recently uncovered research estimating

the numbers were about 300. Twenty-nine of these USCT soldiers have been recognized through engraved brick pavers in the Williamson County Veterans' Park.

**Heritage Foundation symposium features preservation success stories — Williamson Herald — 6/4/18 — Franklin** — The day-long, New Preservation Directions symposium featured internationally known speakers, Robert Leath, Chris Ohrstrom and Matthew Webster, as they discussed historic preservation projects they had been a part of. The symposium was hosted by the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County and Renasant Bank .

**Lotz House, Living History Corp announce second annual 'living history' event — Williamson Herald — 6/5/18 — Franklin** — The June 16 live event focused on the Tennessee Campaign of 1864 and the Army of the Cumberland, one of the principal Union armies during the Civil War. Historians from the Living History Corp portrayed and reenacted various branches of service including infantry, medical staff and the United States Colored Troops. There was also a special appearance from President Abraham Lincoln and a display of Civil War relics for guests to observe.

**Franklin author's new book deeply explores Tennessee's slave history — Williamson Herald — 6/6/18 — Franklin** — In his new book, "Runaways, Coffles and Fancy Girls: A History of Slavery in Tennessee," Franklin author and historian Bill Carey includes a 56-page appendix of various runaway slave ads found in old newspapers from across the state. Each item consists of the slave's name and age; the newspaper's name where the ad appeared and the publication date; the slave holder's name and the county in which the slave was held; and, most compellingly, a special note about the slave that could help lead to his or her capture.

**African American Heritage Society to host Juneteenth at McLemore House — Williamson Herald — 6/14/18 — Franklin** — On June 16, the African American Heritage Society hosted its 13th annual Juneteenth celebration at the McLemore House located at 446 11th Ave. in Franklin from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event was free and the public was invited to join the celebration, festivities and food. American Legion Post 215 performed the opening ceremony in which both the American and the Juneteenth flags were raised. Activities throughout the day included plenty of music, recognition of Pioneer and Freedom families presented at the annual Black Tie events, storytelling, Bingo and games for children. Hourly door prizes were awarded.

# Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851

Franklin, TN 37065-0851

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## June 2018

### 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: <b>Marker Fund</b> ~ <b>Land Purchase</b> (circle one)		
	“Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville” ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Perryville” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Shiloh” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Ft. Donelson” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Stones River” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Nashville” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$15.00	
	<b>SHIPPING &amp; HANDLING (Items only) ~ Under \$25.00 - or -</b>	<b>\$4.95</b>	
	<b>\$25.00 and up</b>	<b>\$5.95</b>	
	<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>		

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