



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD

July 2004

www.franklin-stfb.org

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

Dear STFB member—

Save The Franklin Battlefield's plans for and participation in the 140th Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle of Franklin are gearing up as we move ever closer to the event.

STFB has begun an ad sales campaign (read more elsewhere in this newsletter), which will have financial benefits for our organization. We are also getting our local and web site ticket sales outlets up and running. STFB gets a portion of all advertising and ticket sales revenues for the reenactment, and this will be our major fundraising event for 2004. We cautiously hope to pay off a substantial portion of the remaining Collins' Farm debt.

We can use your help! If you have a business or service you would like to advertise in the 140th Franklin commemorative program book, please contact us. Plan also on purchasing your tickets through STFB or at one of our ticket outlets, so that STFB receives the greatest financial benefit from your purchase.

Additionally, we are looking for folks to volunteer for, say, a half-day or so, to help with parking logistics. Perhaps you could help Save The Franklin Battlefield for the morning, and attend the reenactment in the afternoon and evening. This is a wonderful opportunity to be a part of this historic event.

The excitement over this event is beginning to mount, and will continue into the fall. Thank you for all you do and continue to do, to help Save The Franklin Battlefield. I hope to see you in October!

Call for Volunteers for 140th Franklin

Save the Franklin Battlefield(STFB) is putting out a call for all member to volunteer to help with activities during the 140th Battle of Franklin reenactment that will take place 1-3 October 2004. The event will commemorate the 140th Anniversary of the Battle that took place November 30th 1864. Along with the Battle of Franklin, the Battle of Nashville and the Return from Atlanta will also be reenacted.

STFB will primarily be responsible for parking within the grounds of the reenactment site. It is anticipated that there will be 75,000 to 100,000 spectators or more during the three day event. Volunteers are needed during the three day event from about 8AM until 6PM. There will be two different shifts per day with about six to eight individuals

needed for each shift. If you can volunteer to work at least two shifts your help will be greatly appreciated. Once your shift is over or prior to your shift starting you will be allow free entry to the grounds allowing you access to the static displays and to the reenactments themselves.

Volunteers should be at least sixteen years of age and be able to provide their own transportation to and from the site.

If your are interested in helping as a volunteer please contact Dan Mora at (615)599-4415 or via e-mail at danmora@bellsouth.net for additional information.

Tickets for 140th Franklin Reenactment Available

Save the Franklin Battlefield(STFB)is currently selling tickets for the 140th Battle of Franklin reenactment that will take place 1-3 October 2004. The event will commemorate the 140th Anniversary of the Battle that took place November 30th 1864. Along with the Battle of Franklin, the Battle of Nashville and the Return from Atlanta will also be reenacted.

Along with the Civil War Courier(CWC), STFB has made plans to have 10,000 to 12,000 military and civilian reenactors to recreate the battles. Aside from the battles, there will be over 60 Sutlers(Period stores/Vendors) that will have goods for sale, static displays of original Regimental Battle Flags, two original cannon on loan from Shiloh, other museum pieces and last but not least, a full scale model of the Hunley Submarine. Authors will also be on hand to sell and sign their works on various Civil War topics.

Tickets sold by STFB will result in a percentage of the ticket price remaining with STFB to support our work of preserving, protecting and promoting civil war sites in Williamson County. Pre event prices for tickets are \$15 for all three day; \$13 for a two day ticket and \$10 for a one day ticket. Children ten(10) years of age and younger enter free, while children older than 10 years of age with a student ID pay \$5 for a single day entry. Tickets at the gate will be \$15 for a single day adult entry, while student entry will remain the same.

Tickets are available from the STFB website; www.franklin-stfb.org or by contacting STFB members. Please plan early and buy your tickets soon to continue to support the efforts of STFB throughout the county.



The 5th Kentucky, Co. B Infantry; while preparing their evening meal, share stories of their home and family with their brothers in arms.

STFB Tour of Fort Granger

By GREGORY L. WADE

On a steamy and stormy July 10th, about 20 Civil War enthusiasts attended the Save the Franklin Battlefield (STFB) tour of Fort Granger located in Franklin, Tennessee. The group made welcome an attendee in town from New Jersey who attended after reading of the tour on the Webb. Dedicated to the preservation of Civil War ground in the Franklin area, STFB has purchased over 3 acres for preservation on what was the Union left flank during the 1864 Battle of Franklin. The Fort Granger tour was another in a series of events the group is conducting.

Fort Granger certainly witnessed the massive 1864 carnage but it has a history well before that fateful day. STFB speakers Sam Gant, Sam Huffman and Bobby Hargrove discussed in detail the April 10, 1863 fight now known by some as the First Battle of Franklin. Confederate cavalry forces serving in General Earl Van Dorn's command fought through the town and were successful releasing some prisoners and in June of that same year, General N. B. Forrest led his brigades into the village also freeing prisoners and retreating south. With the fort's outer works not yet complete these attacks certainly got the attention of the Unionists based there.

One of the more interesting and colorful stories shared by the speakers involved two Confederate officers who for reasons not fully verified to this day, came into the Fort wearing the dress of Union officers. After touring the fort under the guise of "inspectors" they left and headed back north up the Franklin Pike. Some of the more skeptical Federal officers decided to pursue them for questioning and captured the two men a few miles away. They were tried as spies and hung just outside the fort's main works.

On an unusually warm November 30th, 1864, Confederate

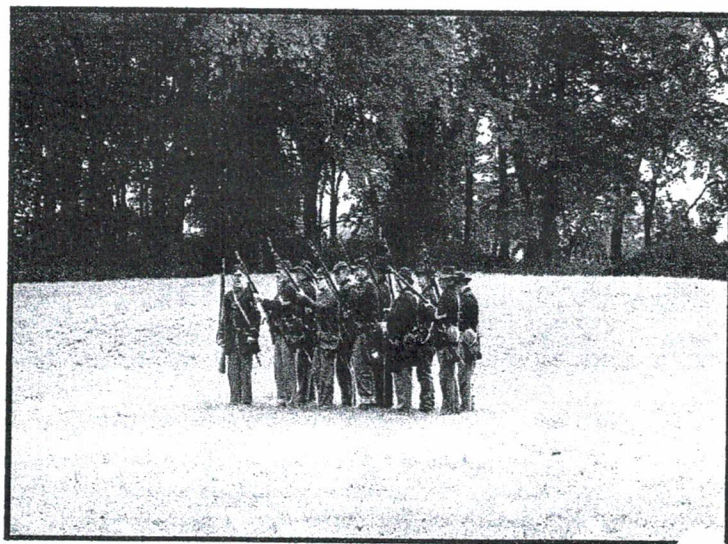
General John Bell Hood's Army of Tennessee approached from the south to attack the heavily entrenched Federals in Franklin. Hood, who was upset about lost opportunities in Spring Hill days prior, brought his army up without even the benefit of artillery to "soften" the Union positions. What transpired were Confederate charges in the one of the most intense battles in American history. It was a slaughter. During the battle, Fort Granger served for a time as Union General John Schofield's headquarters while shells from the earthwork's long range guns made the Confederate right flank a dangerous place to be indeed. The tour stressed that evidence of shell fragments around the Carnton mansion is indicative of the fighting in that area of the field.

As explained by the STFB speakers, the Fort for all practical purposes after the 1864 battle was of no further use. It was occupied for a short time after the Army of Tennessee retreated back through Franklin after it's eventual rout in Nashville. Soon, the local citizens simply wanted to get back to some type of normalcy and the fort was forgotten. Over the years it was covered in crops while the large areas outside the actual works have been developed into modern residential and industrial areas. The main works, however, are some of the best preserved in the United States and are now owned and protected by the City of Franklin.

Only in recent years has there been much interest by other than history buffs in the fort. A city park now adjoins the main works. Even those with only a casual interest can take walking paths through the fort and read it's markers about what it used to be and what took place there.

The STFB tour helped provide additional exposure to Williamson County residents who for the most part, don't even realize the fort is there. Along with the speakers were Federal re-enactors who put on a drill exhibition in the works main grounds for not only the tour group, but others who visited that stormy day.

As one walks through the immense works it is almost easy to picture the large numbers of troops who manned the works and the surrounding area for miles around. On the Saturday of the tour, the rolling thunder from the storm clouds to the West certainly reminded one of the sounds of artillery many years ago.



The 5th Kentucky, Co. B Infantry; including B. Mercke, B. Saunders, Miller, R. Hutt, M. Case, B. Hargrove, C. Madison, E. Steff, B. Weatherber, and T. Roth demonstrate maneuvers.

Couple explains motive for purchasing country club

By MINDY TATE / Review Appeal Executive Editor

Rod Heller III and his wife Kay of Washington, D.C., purchased the property for \$5 million in 2003 and contracted for the continued operation of the private Country Club of Franklin through 2005.

"We purchased the land for one reason only: to prevent the construction of a planned 70- to 90-unit town house development on the 47 acres of the site which are not in the flood plain," Heller wrote in an open letter addressed to the Williamson County Coalition for the Preservation of Historic Open Space.

This group is a loosely formed, independent group exploring what can be done to preserve historic spaces, including open spaces like the Country Club of Franklin, said Julian Bibb, who added he is a member of the group.

"We stepped in — and assumed all the risks of ownership — to give the community a reasonable opportunity to decide whether it wished to purchase the site and preserve its open space," Heller continued.

The July 2005 deadline appears important to Heller, who says while "the preservation of important Civil War sites has long been a major interest of mine," he is a "businessman." He has said he will sell the land at his cost, plus attorneys fees and disbursements, at that deadline.

"I must stress, however, that I am a businessman," Heller writes. "We would not have purchased the land without the ongoing cash flow from the club's operations, so the continuing health of the club was — and remains — an important consideration to us."

In his letter, he points out he and his wife have "no interest in owning an asset with below-market — or no — returns," and he has heard club members are boycotting it, "resulting in reduced revenue."

Heller spells out plainly in the letter his alternatives, which include selling the land to the city, the county or a private preservation group. Another alternative, should these groups be unable or unwilling to meet his July 2005 deadline, would be "selling the land to someone who would be free to develop it," Heller writes.

"While we are obviously interested in battlefield preservation (and have quite literally put our money where our mouths are), we are unwilling to bear the entire burden ourselves," he writes, adding if they should own the land at their deaths, his three children — "who are unlikely to share our interest in historic preservation or in Franklin" — would inherit and be free to do what they wish.

Heller, a former Civil War Trust president, is a direct descendant of the McGavock family, builders of Carnton Plantation, which is adjacent to the Country Club of Franklin off Lewisburg Pike.

Saying "Franklin still has unusual potential, even after so much has been lost," Heller said he shares "with many residents of

Franklin a fear of overdevelopment and a vision of a unique and vibrant community."

"People move to Franklin today because of its beauty and downtown charm — not because its subdivisions are better than elsewhere," Heller said.

"Historic open space — indeed, any urban or suburban open space — is a rapidly disappearing feature of American life," Heller wrote in the conclusion of his letter. "Who could imagine New York City without Central Park, or our own city of Washington without the Mall and its parks?"

"When we made this purchase, we believed that Franklin and Williamson County had leaders with a similar life-enhancing vision for all of its citizens," Heller said. "We still do."

140th Advertising Campaign

As part of Save The Franklin Battlefield's co-sponsorship of the "140th Anniversary Battle of Franklin Reenactment," STFB is currently undertaking an advertising sales campaign in Williamson, Maury, and surrounding counties. A portion of all proceeds from ad sales will go to STFB to continue our work of preservation, protection, and promotion of Civil War sites in Williamson County.

The 140th Anniversary Reenactment, subtitled "Sunset in the West: The Last Campaign," will be held on October 1, 2, 3, 2004 on 1200 acres in Spring Hill. As the largest planned event in the "Western Theater" this year, the reenactment is estimated to draw 10,000-15,000 reenactors, both military and civilian, and 75,000-100,000 spectators.

Save The Franklin Battlefield is approaching hometown and national businesses in Williamson, Maury, and surrounding counties to purchase advertisement space in the 140th Franklin commemorative program book. This book will be a full-sized, magazine-style format with black and white and color printing. It will be sold to both spectators and reenactors during the event, and will contain articles on and maps of the Battles of Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville. The *Civil War Courier*, sponsor of the event, estimates 60,000-100,000 copies will be printed and sold at the three-day event.

Ads are being sold in eighth, half, two-thirds, and full-page sizes. "From all my years in sales and marketing, I know these ads are priced extremely reasonably," said Sam Huffman, Treasurer for STFB. "This is an opportunity to both help STFB and to reap some hometown economic benefits for the advertiser from an event this large."

For more information on the program, advertising rates, and the event in general, please call the STFB office at (615) 500-

FULL PAGE	7.5" WIDE X 10" HIGH	\$210.00
2/3 PAGE	5.0" WIDE X 10" HIGH	\$130.00
1/2 PAGE	7.5" WIDE X 5.0" HIGH	\$115.00
1/8 PAGE	5.0" WIDE X 2.0 " HIGH	\$60.00
COLOR	PER COLOR	\$50.00

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ADS. SEPTEMBER 01, 2004

Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

Name(s) _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

QTY	ITEM	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donation: Marker Fund ~ Land Purchase (circle one)		
	1999 & 2000 Day By Day Civil War Calendar Set	\$5.00	
	"Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville" ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	Commemorative Belt Buckle ~ Commemorative Paperweight (circle one)	\$10.00	
	Battle of Franklin Self-Guided Driving Tour Map	\$3.00	
	Save The Franklin Battlefield Bumpersticker	\$1.50	
	"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. Donalson" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	"Eyewitness to the Battle of Stones River" ~ David Logsdon, paperback	\$12.00	
	Nathan Bedford Forrest ~ Jody Thompson, signed by the artist	\$30.00	
	Patrick Cleburne ~ Jody Thompson, signed by the artist	\$30.00	
	ORDER SUBTOTAL		
	SHIPPING & HANDLING (items only) ~ under 10.00	\$0.75	
	\$10 to 24.99	\$2.95	
	\$25 and up	\$4.50	
	ORDER TOTAL		

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

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