



Upcoming Events



**February 12**  
**USCT in the Battle of Nashville**

By Norm Hill and Kwame Lillard, "The Underground Railroad at Fort Donelson," by Susan Hawkins, Fort Donelson National Historical Park, Dover. For more information or to register, call the Metro Historical Commission at (615) 862-7970.

**February 15 & 16, Dover, TN**  
**General Grant and Buckner visit the Battlefield with the 50th Tennessee Infantry**

The Superintendent of Fort Donelson National Battlefield is pleased to announce that General Ulysses Grant and General Simon Buckner will visit Fort Donelson National Battlefield on February 15 and 16. For more information, visit us on the web at <http://www.nps.gov/fodo> call the visitor center at 931-232-5706.

**February 19**  
**CWPT "Top Ten" Press Conference at Fort Negley**

**February 20**  
**BONPS Annual Dinner**

**February 21**  
**World Release of Turner Films: 'Gods and Generals'**

**April 3-6 Lexington, KY**  
**"The Civil War in Kentucky"**

EDWIN C. BEARSS & DR. CHARLES ROLAND with Tours of Mill Springs & Perryville battlefields. Optional Tour of The John Hunt Morgan Raid Historic Trail Jerry L. Russell, National Chairman, Presiding (Phone 501-225-3996) P.O. Box 7388, Little Rock AR 72217 / [jl Russell@civilwarbuff.com](mailto:jl Russell@civilwarbuff.com)

**July 3-5 Gettysburg 140th Anniversary**

25,000+ Reinactors, Hollywood piro-techs. [www.gettysburgreenactment.com](http://www.gettysburgreenactment.com) or call (717) 338-1525 to obtain further information.

## Annual BONPS Dinner

The 3rd annual Battle of Nashville Dinner will be held February 20th, 2003 at Hillwood Country Club with guest speaker Earl B. McElfresh. Earl, a cartographer and map historian, is president of the McElfresh Map Company, which publishes highly accurate hand-drawn maps of Civil War battlefields. His maps are included in collections at many universities, libraries, including Harvard, the University of Chicago, Brigham Young University, the New York Public Library and the New York Historical Society. He has lectured on Civil War mapmaking at the American Antiquarian Society, the National Archives, the Smithsonian Institution, the Wartburg Institute in London and on C-SPAN Book TV. He lives in Olean, New York. The dinner will be \$35 for members and guests. Cash bar social hour at 6 pm, dinner at 7 pm. Dress code: Coat & Tie. Checks must be received by February 18th. Make payable to Battle of Nashville Preservation Society. For more information contact Bob Henderson at 615-352-9009, or [bobhenderson@mac.com](mailto:bobhenderson@mac.com). Hillwood Country Club is located at 6201 Hickory Valley Road (next to Hillwood High School) in west Nashville phone (615) 352-6591 for additional directions.



## Nashville Civil War Facts

- Meeting site of 1850 convention to consider secession
- Last major battle of the Civil War
- First Confederate Capital and first major city to fall to the U.S. Army
- Site where the U.S. flag became known as Old Glory
- Most extensive one-day battlefield
- Largest and bloodiest battle in the West by the USCT at Peach Orchard Hill
- Second largest medical center in the U.S. during the war
- More Minnesota losses than any other battle in any other war
- 19 U.S. Army Medal of Honor recipients at Nashville
- Largest supply depot in the West
- Largest inland fortification: Fort Negley
- Second most fortified city in the U.S.: Seven major forts, 14 miles of earthworks
- Largest battle between the Confederate Cavalry and the U.S. Navy
- Site of many postwar educational institutions for black students
- Site of the only monument to soldiers of both sides of conflict: Peace Monument
- First city in the U.S. to legalize the world's oldest vocation



# Once called 'too late to save' Civil War sites could get funds

By Judith R. Tackett  
jackett@the-citypaper.com

A status upgrade might give Nashville's Civil War sites the preservation boost they need.

According to Battle of Nashville Preservation Society (BONPS) President Bob Henderson, The Civil War Preservation Trust, a non-profit organization devoted to the preservation of endangered Civil War battlefield sites, has upgraded Nashville from a major site "too late to save" to the top 10 list of the most important battlefields in the country that need protection. This could mean eligibility for federal preservation funds.

"There has been a lot of talk about this, but there are still a couple of sites that they're debating on, but Nashville and Franklin definitely will be on the list," Henderson said, adding that he got the message from contacts at the Civil War Preservation Trust Monday. "That's a first for Nashville."

Nashville was classified 10 years ago as "too late to save," meaning that the development of the city was too advanced to make the sites worth saving.

"Our organization (BONPS) made a case that that was incorrect based on at least three instances... including Kelley's Pointe Battle Field, Reservoir No. 1 and Sky's Hill and a couple of other sites," Henderson

*"What we're hoping is... by upgrading Nashville to a priority battlefield site that we can now qualify for some federal funding."*

BOB HENDERSON

said. "And they reconsidered it."

Henderson said there were at least 10 key features, which make Nashville distinctive as a Civil War site.

The Civil War Preservation Trust plans to make an official announcement of its top 10 list in February, immediately before the release of the blockbuster movie *Gods and Generals*. Cast members Robert Davul, Stephen Lang and Jeff Daniels will be invited to the press conference at the Chancellorsville battlefield (also a top 10 site).

"What we're hoping is going to happen is by upgrading Nashville to a priority battlefield site that we can now qualify for some federal funding that we've been ineligible for," Henderson said, adding Nashville now could become eligible for the



new Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002, which authorizes \$10 million each year to preserve endangered Civil War battlefields.

"That's really significant because Nashville has never had any funding for anything that I'm aware of other than the WPA reconstruction of the Fort Negley's bunk in the '20s or '30s," Henderson said.

Mayor Bill Purcell has allocated \$2 million this year for Fort Negley to create an interpretive walking trail and to plan a visitor's center. While the mayor's office is not taking an official stand toward the news of including the Battle of Nashville site on the top 10 list, officials say they're welcoming the possibility of federal funding.

"Of course any help from the federal and state level would be great," said Ava Phillips with the mayor's office said.



Fort Negley, on a hill south of downtown, helped place Nashville on a list of the 10 top national Civil War sites worth saving. The list could make the city eligible for federal funding.

## Possible Fort Zollicoffer Discovery



Photo: Bob Henderson / Pilot: Blake Henderson

Named for General Felix K. Zollicoffer CSA, statesman before the war, killed at the battle of Fishing Creek, KY. This photo is where it seems certain Confederate Fort Zollicoffer was on the Cumberland River 6 miles downstream from downtown Nashville. The terrace looks like it could be the base of the original fort. This location is in the first big bend of the Cumberland River (Kelley's Point is in the second). It is adjacent to Tennessee State University. The company that owns the site is the French owned Rhodia Chemical Company which produces pure phosphoric acid via a thermal process plant. Many people have been told that the fort was further down the river, but this point is described as the location in 'Steamboat' in the Cumberland' and makes more sense being located in the apex of the river. The fort was abandoned when Nashville was evacuated in February 1862.





## Nashville Battlefield too late to save?

We don't THINK so, and the Civil War Preservation Trust doesn't either. This is a parcel of core battlefield that was occupied by Stewart's Corp on December 16, 1864. You are looking east down Battery Lane between Lealand Lane and Franklin Pike. This land won't be around forever. Cluster homes are attacking the line faster than Wood's Corp did.



Photo: Bob Henderson / Pilot: Blake Henderson



### From the President

Bob Henderson, Jr.

Well it's time for a change-of-command. Due to my extensive business travel requirements, I am stepping down as president of BONPS after the annual dinner February 20. I have enjoyed being the president for the last two years (although the work load was a little more than I bargained for - we need more

volunteers folks!) I also think that it's healthy for the organization to rotate this position every 2 years or so. New blood, new ideas. Please do what you can to support our future leader: attorney Doug Jones.

This will also be my last newsletter. I'm not sure about future issues as a new newsletter volunteer has not been found yet. If you have e-mail please join our yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com>. Once you are signed up, you will be able to go directly to the newsgroup at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bonps>. This is the best way to keep current with the affairs of the preservation group. I will continue to pass on information through that vehicle. Feel free to contact me with any news at [bobhenderson@mac.com](mailto:bobhenderson@mac.com) or call me at 615-352-9009.

I am very happy to announce that we have two recipients for the BONPS annual preservation award. The first is my old Councilman Bob Bogen for his help in getting Kelley's Point through (which is scheduled to be complete this summer), and Mayor Bill Purcell for the allocation of funds to help restore Fort Negley. I am optimistic that our new Governor Phil Bredesen and new Congressman Jim Cooper will be allies in future Civil War preservation efforts as well.

We are on the eve of a very significant opportunity to save more Nashville Battlefield than ever before. There is no doubt in my mind that WE HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE and will continue to do so!

Thanks for all your help. Keep up your support, and please do what you can for the group. - Bob

## Annual BONPS Dinner Registration Form

Name and Address \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Guest \_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Battle of Nashville Preservation Society. Mail to 763 Harpeth Trace Drive, Nashville, TN 37221 c/o Bob Henderson. **Checks must be received no later the February 18.** Hillwood Country Club is located at 6201 Hickory Valley Road (next to Hillwood High School) in west Nashville off Davidson Road (which runs between Harding and Charlotte Pike.) Phone (615)352-6591 for additional directions. Cash Bar at 6 pm dinner at 7 pm. Dress Code: Coat and tie.

