



The **Battle of Nashville Preservation Society** and Civil War Roundtable, Inc.

VOLUME 10, NO. 3

www.bonps.org

May-June 2002

Upcoming Events

June 14, 7:00 PM

Co. Aytch: Memiors of a Confederate Soldier
Stewart County Libabry Anex (see page 3)

June 20, 6:30 PM

Shirley Jones BONPS Guest Speaker

The Civil War Diary of 41st Tennessee CSA soldier
Dr. John Kennerly Farris (her great-grandfather)
was published by the Franklin County Historical
Society. 6:30 pm at the Belmont Mansion. Free
to members. (see page 4)

June 12-23

Casey Jones Civil War Weekend in Jackson, Tennessee.
Activities include battles both Saturday and Sunday
plus a non-spectator dawn tactical on Saturday. Also
on Saturday there will be a period wedding, evening
meal and grand ball. Sunday will have a period church
service. A ladies' brunch social will be given both
days. Usual amenities provided. 10 lbs. Power each
to the first 5 guns pre-registered; powder rations to
the first 100 infantry and/or dismounted pre-
registered. \$20 bounty each to the first 10 horses pre-
registered. Pre-registrations must be in by May 1.
Pre-registration fee of \$3 per reenactor. Late
registration walk-ons \$5. Any profits realized will be
donated to the Save the Franklin Battlefield Inc.
Event is hosted by Co. K, 6th TN Infantry, CSA. For
registration or other information contact William
Long at 731-427-3146 or e-mail to w
long6tn@bellsouth.net.

July 12

Key to the Confederate Heartland. Dr. Benjamin
Cooling, professor of history at the Industrial College
of the Armed Forces, National Defense University,
will speak about the importance of the campaign for
Forts Henry and Donelson. Stewart County Public
Library, 7 p.m. Book signing immediately follows.
Fort Donelson National Battlefield will celebrate the
140th anniversary of the campaign for Forts Henry
and Donelson (Feb. 1862). This strategic military
victory gained national recognition for Gen. Ulysses
S. Grant, and secured control of much of Middle
Tennessee and Western Kentucky and major
waterways for the Union Army. The park is located
in northwest Tennessee, approximately 80 miles from
Nashville. The visitor center is open 8 a.m. to 4:30
p.m. daily. The self-guided battlefield tour includes
the remains of the Confederate fort and earthworks,
the surrender site and national cemetery. All programs
are free and open to the public.

August BONPS Field Trip - to be announced

A CALL TO ARMS

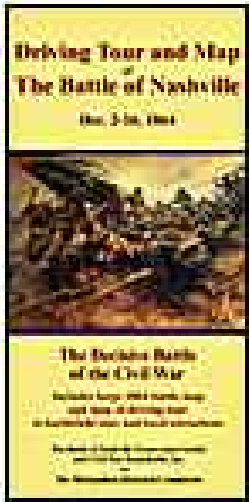
by J.T. THOMPSON



Our mission is a simple one. Preserve
for our children the Nashville battlefield,
educate the public on why the battlefield

must be preserved and honor the men and boys, on both sides,
who fought and died here. We all joined this organization with a
desire and maybe a dream to see our mission accomplished. We
have done a great deal. We need to celebrate each and every
victory no matter its size or breadth. Nevertheless, more, much
more needs to be done. Every day that passes, we lose more
ground to urban sprawl. We as an organization are supportive of
growth. It's good for our city, our state, and our country. But we
must not lose focus of our mission. The odds are against us. Most
people don't think the way we do. Thus, this renewed 'call to
arms.' We need all of our members to be active. Be it time, money,
creative ideas, whatever you can give, we need it. Everyone is
busy. We all have time constraints, jobs, and family pulling at us
wanting a part of us. That said, and on behalf of our board, I
challenge each and every one of you to rededicate yourself to the
organization you have joined. Unlike the soldiers who fought in
Nashville, our job is relatively an easy one. Thousands in 1864
paid their dues with their lives. They believed so much in their
cause, they were willing to die. That's why we must remember
them. We must preserve our history. We must act. The board
BONPS is not asking you to make the supreme sacrifice. However,
we are asking for your help. To all of you have given of yourself
in the past and have been most generous with your money, energy,
and time. We thank you. We need more of it. Call our general,
Bob, and let him know what you are willing to do. What you can
donate. What you can give. It's time for our organization to grow
up and we need you to do that. It is time to get busy living or get
busy dying. And so it is with you and BONPS. I look forward to
seeing you all at our next meeting. - J.T.

BONPS DRIVING TOUR BROCHURE COMPLETE - SIGNS UP



Over the past two years, the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society has partnered with the Metro Historical Commission to create a driving tour of the Battle of Nashville. With the help of generous donations from Tricor, Metro Public Works and groups from the associated sites, the driving tour is ready for public

release. Copies are will be available at the MHC offices, the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society website (www.bonps.org), Travellers Rest, Belmont Mansion, and Belle Meade Plantation. After several

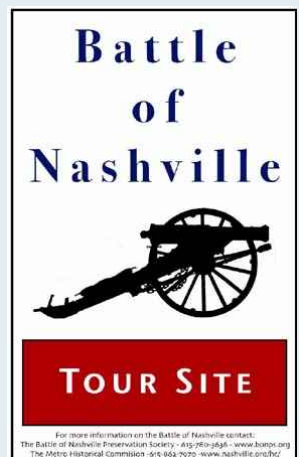
failed attempts, a unique partnership was formed to achieve this endeavor. The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society, Tricor, Metro Public Works, and Metro Historical Commission organized efforts to make the tour brochure a reality. Nashville: Occupied City features seventeen historically and architecturally significant buildings and landscapes from that time including Travellers Rest, Belmont Mansion, Belle Meade Plantation, Shy's Hill, Confederate Redoubt number 1 and City Cemetery to name a few. Maps and photographs of all tour sites enliven the brochure, which was printed through a generous donation from Tricor. - George Gause, Metro Historical Commission



George Gause of MHC; Doug Jones, BONPS Board Director; Wes Shofner, BONPS Board Director; Ross Massey, BONPS Historian; Bob Henderson, BONPS President; and David Currey, Executive Director of Travellers Rest

availability of the tour brochure May 23, 2002 at historic Travellers Rest Plantation and Museum were, above, 1 to r., . The full-size, full-color brochure features a narrative of the battle, a map of the battle and battle site locations, and photos and text describing the tour stops. The brochure was designed by Mark Zimmerman, BONPS Board Director and webmaster.

THE BROCHURE for the Driving Tour and Map of the Battle of Nashville, produced by BONPS and the Metropolitan Historical Commission, is now available at nearly two dozen tour stops and local tourism facilities. Announcing the



FORT DONELSON NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD 140TH ANNIVERSARY PRODUCTION

“CO. AYTCH: MEMOIRS OF A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER”

Dover, TN—The Friends of The Fort Donelson Campaign and Fort Donelson National Battlefield are pleased to announce the one-man play, Co. Aytch: Memoirs of a Confederate Soldier will be performed June 14, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stewart County High School Annex.

Internationally renowned actor, teacher, author, and director Bobby Funk will bring his one-man production to Fort Donelson and Stewart County June 14. The production is set in a lecture hall in 1862. In the play, Bobby Funk portrays Sam Watkins who will talk to you about his own experiences in the war. He will draw you back to 1862. The Civil War is raging all around. This is Sam Watkins’ story of his own experiences. Journey back in time with Sam Watkins—experience the humor and pathos of the Civil War. Visualize these dramatic scenes. Mr. Funk is a professor at Eastern

Tennessee State University. He instructs Drama, Performance and Theater and serves as director of the theater.

This event is sponsored by the FRIENDS OF THE FORT DONELSON CAMPAIGN. This non-profit group of volunteers provide an advocacy group for Civil War interpretation.



Fort Donelson preserves the remains of a Confederate fort, a national cemetery, and the “Surrender House”, one of the few remaining structures that hosted a major Civil War

surrender. This site is one of about 380 areas nationwide managed by the National Park Service. The Friends of the Fort Donelson Campaign and Fort Donelson National Battlefield invite everyone to come and experience Mr. Funk’s remarkable performance. It is FREE and open to the public. For more information, call 931-232-5706.



From the President

Bob Henderson, Jr.

The Volunteer State!

Several times a year we call for volunteers to promote our preservation presence and educate the public about our local history. I know that we all have busy schedules, but everyone should strive to contribute some time to a volunteer effort of their choice this year. If our mission is important to you, we need your help. Financial donations are vital to our mission, but we desperately need human capital as well.



Next BONPS Meeting June 20th 'Letters to Mary' Remanences of the 41st Tennessee

By Shirley Jones



Shirley Farris Jones, Civil War historian and community activist, retired from Middle Tennessee State University in 2000, where she had been a staff member for 34 years. She currently serves as President of the Martha Ready Morgan Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, President of the Rutherford County Chapter Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, and both Vice President for the Middle Tennessee district and Treasurer for the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association. She served four terms as President of the Rutherford County Historical Society (1990-1994), three terms as President of the Friends of Stones River National Battlefield (1994-1997), and has been on the Tourism Council of Rutherford County. A direct descendant of two Confederate grandfathers, she is a member of the Real Great-granddaughter's Club of the UDC. "Civil War history is more than just a hobby, it has been a 'passion' since childhood," according to Ms. Jones, who has had several articles published in "Civil War Regiments," "The Journal of Confederate History," the United Daughters of the Confederacy monthly magazine, and Blue & Gray magazine. Ms. Jones has done extensive research on General John Hunt Morgan, including work for artist John Paul Strain in his limited edition print series, Gallant Leaders of the Civil War. "Morgan's Wedding" was number six in this series. Ms. Jones grew up just down the street from where Mattie Ready lived and was married. I became intrigued with this extraordinary young woman when I was a little girl. Her home was still standing, although it had been converted to offices and shops. "As I began to research Mattie, I quickly realized that this was a woman ahead of her time" and the perfect match for the dashing, daring cavalryman from Kentucky." In 1994, "Letters to Mary: The Civil War Diary of Dr. John Kennedy Farris" was published by the Franklin County Historical Society. Transcribing the letter of her great-grandfather was a long-term project which involved almost five years. "Reading the letters he wrote to his wife over one hundred thirty five years ago has, at times, seemed to be an intrusion of their privacy. But how fortunate I am to have been able to share in his joys and sorrows, the hopes and despairs he experienced during this desperate and difficult time. He mastered it with such dignity and accepted it with such grace that I cannot begin to tell you the pride I feel in knowing him." Ms. Jones, a lifelong resident of Murfreesboro, attended Middle Tennessee State University and is a graduate of Knox Business College. She is married to Jerry Jones, and they are the parents of a son, Jeff. She has been actively involved in historic preservation efforts throughout the community.

The Belmont Mansion is located on Wedgewood Avenue on the Belmont University campus. The mansion is accessed through the interior of the campus complex. Parking is available for visitors in any of the designated parking areas. Pizza will be available for \$2 per slice.



• • • Membership Renewal Form • • •

Address

Day Phone

Evening Phone

Email Address

Mail this form and \$20 dues or \$25 family plan (\$5 discount for email newsletter)
Battle of Nashville Preservation Society • PO Box 121796, Nashville, TN 37212

**BE SURE AND CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL. IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP
DUES ARE DUE, THERE WILL BE A PAST DUE STAMP ON THE FRONT.**

BONPS CONTACTS

President/Newsletter - Bob Henderson - 615-438-3949

Secretary - Wes Shofner - 615-252-2441

Website Master - Mark Zimmerman - 615-641-1046

Public Relations - J.T. Thompson - 615-665-9942

website - <http://www.bonps.org>

Message line - 615-780-3636

The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society
PO Box 121796
Nashville, Tennessee 37212

“Poor is the nation
having no heros.
Samefull is the one
having them that
forgets” - Anonymus



Address Correction Requested

