



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

VOLUME 10, NO. 5

www.bonps.org

October 2002

Upcoming Events



October 17, 6:30 PM

BONPS lecture at the Belmont Mansion.

October 25-26

140th Battle of Stones River symposium at MTSU . Call 615-893-9501 for more information.

October 27, 2:00 - 5:00 PM

Whites Creek Greenways event at the University School Cumberland River Campus. BONPS booth exhibit of the naval operations in the Battle of Nashville. Call Jane Laub at 862-8400 for more information.

November 2, 10:00 AM

Federal earthworks tour of Nashville

November 15-16

Forty for Franklin March and Fundraiser

December 14th 11:00 AM

Battle of Nashville commemorative tours join Carter House curator and Thomas Cartwright for a driving tour of the Battle of Nashville. \$15 Adults \$ 6 Children (6- 12) Call 615.832.8197 for more information.

December 28 - 29

The Friends of Stones River will host the first ever reunion of descendants of Union and Confederate soldiers who fought at The Battle of Stones River. \$40 per participant. Non-descendants are welcome to attend. Contact Friends Group at PO Box 4092, Murfreesboro, TN 37133-4092 or friends_srb@yahoo.com

February 20th, 6:30 PM

Annual BONPS Dinner with Rob McElfresh \$35 member / \$45 non members

Stonewall Jackson Presentation

Doug Jones will give an informative presentation on General Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson at the Belmont Mansion Thursday October 17th at 6:30 pm.



Nashville Earthworks Tour

Newly discovered earthworks of the outer 1864 Federal line, will be the next BONPS tour Saturday November 2 at 10 am. Additional stops will include Fort Negley. The tour is free to all members and one guest. Non-members may join the tour




for \$20 which includes a one year membership in the battle of Nashville Preservation Society. For more information or reservations contact Bob Henderson at 615-352-9009, or bobhenderson@bellsouth.net

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. (Rob) McElfresh. Rob, 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 Warburg Institute in London and on C-SPAN Book TV. He lives in Olean, New York. The dinner will be \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members. For more information or reservations contact Bob Henderson at 615-352-9009, or bobhenderson@bellsouth.net



HOUSE PASSES HISTORIC LEGISLATION TO PROTECT
AMERICA'S CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS

CWPT praises House for its commitment to protecting America's hallowed battlegrounds

(Washington, D.C.) - The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) today applauded the U.S. House of Representatives for passing the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2002 (H.R. 5125). The authorization bill, which passed the House by unanimous consent on Tuesday evening, authorizes \$10 million a year to preserve endangered Civil War battlefields.

"This bill is a tremendous step forward for battlefield preservation," remarked CWPT President James Lighthizer. "The bill will allow nonprofit groups to save thousands of acres of battlefield land that would have otherwise succumbed to the bulldozer's blade.

The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act officially authorizes a matching grant program funded by Congress in the fiscal 1999 and 2002 Interior Appropriations bills. Since its creation, the program has helped protect nearly 8,000 acres of historic battlefield land in 12 states, including key parcels at Antietam in Maryland; Champion Hill in Mississippi; Malvern Hill and Manassas in Virginia; and Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

The bill was introduced by California Congressman Gary G. Miller (R) and cosponsored by a bipartisan group of nine House members. In his remarks from the House floor, Miller noted the educational benefits of protecting battlefield land, stating: "I believe by preserving history we teach future generations not only where we are from, but also what we are about, and where we are heading. These battlefields are living classrooms to remind future generations of our national history."

The Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act formally establishes a program that targets priority Civil War battlefields outside National Park Service (NPS) boundaries. Grants from the program are competitively awarded by the American Battlefield Protection Program (an arm of NPS). By requiring matching funds, the program gets both the public and private sector actively involved in saving battlefield land. A similar bill (S. 2968) introduced by Sens. Paul Sarbanes (D-Md.), James Jeffords (I-Vt.) and Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.) is currently pending in the Senate.

With 42,000 members, CWPT is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds.

CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST • Phone: (202) 367-1861 • www.civilwar.org • cwpt@civilwar.org

Civil War - A Call for Action!

Your assistance is needed right now! There is some major legislation in Washington DC pertaining to Fort Heiman as well as Civil War in general. And as we all know, the session is drawing to a close. If we don't get it done now, we will have to wait another year. We have legislators willing to introduce bills, amendments etc. but they need their fellow members support to get them passed. There are only weeks left in the session but it can be done. Act now! Contact your legislators and spread the word for others to do the same.

We have tried to highlight each one of the bills or issues on our website. And we will be constantly updating the site as we get more information. Go to thinkwestkentucky.com and click on Historic and Civil War Sites

We also have up and running the comment page. Thanks to many of you for allowing us to post yours. Feel free to add more as well as copies of letters you might be sending out.

Also, do not hesitate to let us know how we can improve the site and make it clearer to everyone what they need to do.

Spread the word to others. We have to make this happen and we have to make it happen now! Thanks for your help on this.

thinkwestkentucky.com
West Kentucky Corporation
45-county Economic Development Organization
Bowling Green office - (270)781-6858





Tennessee Gains Funds to Purchase Battlefields

By Colleen Creamer, *The City Paper*

The Tennessee Wars Commission has received the first of what it believes will be many Transportation Enhancement Act funds to purchase and preserve Tennessee historic Civil War battlefields.

Commission officials announced this week that roughly \$500,000 in federal money will go towards the purchase of property at Parker's Crossroads in Henderson County and Fort Donelson west of Clarkesville. The commission is now pursuing the next round of funds for other endangered battlegrounds across the state.

"Both of these sites are listed as one of 38 most significant sites in the state," said Director of Programs Fred Prouty.

Prouty said the most significant sites in Davidson County have already been encroached upon, but he added there might be other ways future funds could be used in Nashville. He said that roughly 97 percent of the 340 or so battlefield sites in the state are on private property.

"So the majority are in danger ... There's just very little remaining in Davidson County," Prouty said. He added that the federal government has looked for "interpretive" projects on which to spend funds.

"And this is something I have in mind down the road," said Prouty, "a Civil War tour for the state which would include signage and new kiosks and maybe even putting up physical signs on the route and having pull-offs, which means you would have to buy those pull-off areas."

Transportation Enhancement funds are given to states for enhancement of transportation links.

"They could improvements along the roads but as per federal regulations and criteria they can also be used for things like battlefields," said Prouty. "This is a first."

Thomas Cartwright, Executive Director of Carter House in Franklin, said battlefields are "hallowed ground."

"Brave, brave Americans gave up their homes, their families and their lives," said Cartwright. "Fifty or 100 years from now everything's going to be New York City. Civil War battlefields are being destroyed at about one acre every 10 minutes. History is very boring if you only hear dates and facts, but being able to walk these grounds with these brave Americans helps all of us when we go through adversity."



From the President

Bob Henderson, Jr.

It looks like the long-time dream of local Civil War preservationists is finally going to come true. The city of Nashville is going to refurbish Fort Negley, and build an interpretive museum dedicated to the Battle of Nashville. Metro has allocated \$2 million dollars for this project which is estimated to take two years to complete. It will be done in two phases: Phase 1 will restore, open and interpret Fort Negley. Phase 2 will be the construction of a visitor center located somewhere on the Negley property. Thank you very much Mayor Purcell.

I spoke with the Mayor a few weeks ago, and he expressed his concern that the city has not done enough to preserve our Civil War history here and wants to do more. I believe that the Fort Negley project, and my recent appointment to the Metro Historical Commission indicate that the city of Nashville is very serious about Civil War preservation in Davidson County.

From the newly financed approval of the funds to complete the Kelley's Point project (\$360,000 thanks to Councilman Bob Bogen,) to the new \$10 million National Civil War Preservation Act (H.R. 5125), Civil War preservation is moving in a very positive direction for the first time in decades. If things continue to improve at this rate, I am worried that we will quickly run out of things to complain about ;-). Much more needs to be done, but it is evident to me that the federal, state and local governments of the United States, are beginning to see the benefits of protecting these valuable sites, which are disappearing at the fastest rate in our nations history. Let's keep it going!

Thanks to Joe Cooper for the wonderful tour of Stones River last month. We were lucky enough to also see a demonstration by the 7th TN Cavalry CSA when we were there.



The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society
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*"Poor is the nation
having no heros.
Samefull is the one
having them that
forgets" - Anonymus*



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