

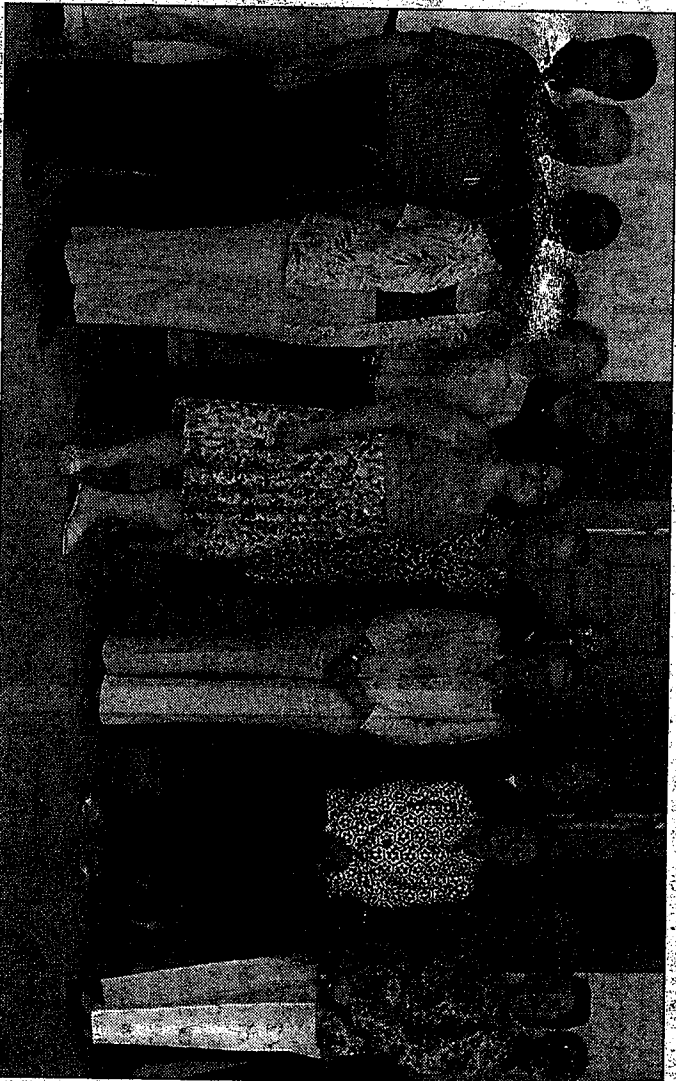
## Franklin's Charge formalizes affiliation with group

Franklin's Charge recently formalized its affiliation with the Franklin Civil War Round Table as part of ongoing efforts to provide educational opportunities about Middle Tennessee and related Civil War history. The official announcement was May 26 at a kickoff event on the back porch of Carrion. Ernie Bacon, president of Franklin's Charge, congratulated members of both groups for their vision.

Franklin's Charge, known for its efforts in battlefield preservation already hosts an annual summer symposium featuring well-known speakers and tours of various historical landmarks.

The Round Table started about two years ago and was then known as the Landmark (bookstore) Civil War book group.

As we grew we needed more space and moved to the Williamson County Library, said founder Greg Wade. Round Tables are not officially organized and



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there is no national organization. "Round Table" is a well known name for groups that bring in speakers, especially authors about the

Civil War period."

The Franklin group meets the second Sundays of the month.

"We will provide admin-

istrative support while the Round Table will help support the group's preservation efforts," said Stacey Watson of Franklin's Charge. "It's a

win-win for everybody and will help us round out our mission to learn more about that period's rich local history," she added.

On Sunday, June 14, at the Williamson County Library in Franklin, the Franklin Civil War Round Table will host a multimedia lecture featuring author Thomas R. Flagel, who will present, "The Messengers of Death: How the Press Reported the Battle of Franklin."

Flagel has authored books on the Civil War, World War II, and the American Presidency, and he is currently working on two volumes concerning Abraham Lincoln. He holds degrees from Loras College, Kansas State University, Creighton University, and has studied at the University of Vienna. He currently teaches American History at Columbia State Community College.

Flagel became interested in the Civil War as he states, "by getting outflanked." His first academic emphasis

was European history. He says that he and other Old World scholars joked that "American history" was a contradiction in terms, because the U.S. was too young to have a past.

Flagel's girlfriend at the time was offended by this attitude, and took him on a whirlwind tour of Civil War battle sites. He soon realized his mistake, and slowly but surely, he dedicated more and more of his research to the War Between the States. And today, Americans history is his profession, and that girlfriend, the one who outflanked him, is now his wife.

The event begins at 3 p.m. and is free and open to the public. As June 14 is Flag Day, an original, hand-sewn 35-star U.S. flag will be on display. The 35th star is for the state of West Virginia, which entered the Union in 1863.

For more information, please contact Greg Wade at Gregiwade@yahoo.com.