



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The reunion went well! Attendees got to see our two acquisitions this year; our renewal of the train robbery mural and the Clay county rifle, which has joined the Jesse James rifle on display in the lobby of the museum.

Our first speaker, who was to discuss boots, including Abraham Lincoln's and Jesse's boots, was not able to come from California to speak. Then Dr. Raab, our second scheduled speaker, an archaeologist who was to speak about her work in the burnt district, had a family problem and was also not able to attend. Fortunately, Beth Beckett and Bryan Shibley were able to step in and describe new features added to the museum.

Our next speaker was Susan Grinlinton whose grandmother took care of Zerelda in her old age. She gave an interesting and humorous description of life with Zerelda.

Next, we, with members of Marty McGrane's family from three parts of the country, dedicated a maple tree to his memory. Scott Cole gave an emotional and admirable talk on Marty's many contributions to the Friends of the James Farm.

This was followed by a Barbeque dinner provided by the Friends at the Claybrook shelter which was followed by a talk by Steve Gingery on the Jesse James impersonators after his death and the James family's reaction to them. Steve is a collector and area-wide known historian.

Our final speaker was Charlie Broomfield who was a county commissioner when the county bought the farm from the James family. His talk was about the James brothers' connections to the Missouri towns of Kansas City and Harlem, where Jesse's wife came from.

The weather was great and the number of attendees was good. Please see elsewhere in the Journal for photos of the day.

BI



The old homestead, looking splendid in the Fall.



BY BRYAN IVLOW

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NEWS FROM THE FARM

The mural in the entrance to the Jesse James Museum has been revived and is now in place. As our President says, it can now be seen alongside the two showcase rifles. Be sure to come and take a look!



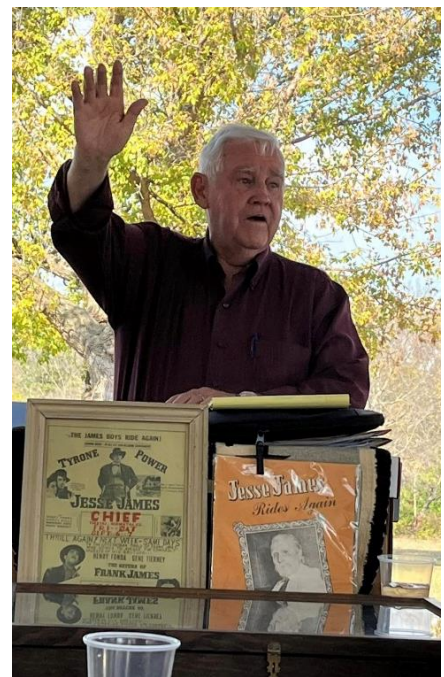
Bryan Shibley, Historic Sites Specialist at the Jesse James Birthplace and Museum, sends us this report on the development of the interactive display made possible by kind donations from Northfield's, James-Younger Gang. "The interactive display is up and running in the museum, though it is not all that interactive yet. Right now, it runs a Powerpoint about the James/Samuel/Cole family that I created for one of my presentations on James family genealogy.

"I have begun transferring some of the files that we have digitized downstairs onto the new ID with the hopes of being able to create an interactive display that visitors can one day interact with. The goal is to allow the files we have downstairs to be more widely accessible to the visitors that we have in the museum. That way if they ever had a question about a certain person, place, or event, they would ideally be able to look up whatever research we have on the subject in the Interactive Display. We would also be able to show more pictures of family, events, items in our collection on the new display as well.

"It has a lot of potential, but it is going to take time to cross all the info over onto the new computer and to create a program to showcase it all. I have been working with county IT on the project to make the system secure and easy to use."

We can't wait to see what this new addition to the Museum can do!

FRIENDS OF THE JAMES FARM REUNION OCTOBER 12, 2024



Clockwise – FOTJF President, Bryan Ivlow, welcomes guests, Susan Grinlinton tells stories of her ancestor who was a maid for Zerelda, Charlie Broomfield speaks about the James' connections to Kansas City and Harlem, Steve Gingery presents information on the many impersonators of Jesse James after he was killed, all enjoyed by an attentive crowd!

Right – Visitors enjoyed tours inside the old homestead throughout the day.

Photo credits – Linda Brookshier and Beth Beckett.



ORDER NOs 11 AND 9 AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI

What led to the issuance of General Orders No. 11 in Cass and surrounding counties? The Raid on Lawrence, led by William Clarke Quantrill with his four hundred Bushwhackers on August 21, 1863, was the match that lit the fuse. However, several events that occurred prior to that played a huge part in why the raid happened.

In April of 1861 James Lane, a new Senator from Kansas, was in Washington organizing a group of sixty men he called the "Frontier Guard." While there, they spent a week protecting the White House while waiting for regular troops to arrive. Lincoln's secretaries described Lane's men as "motley," dressed in civilian clothes, carried new muskets, left cartridge boxes strewn across the velvet carpeting, and conducted rudimentary squad drills, under the light of the gorgeous gas chandeliers. Lane himself brandished a sword.

Upon his return home to Kansas, Lane recruited troops for "Lane's Brigade." Governor Charles Robinson, who knew Lane well, warned that Lane's Brigade will get up a war by going over the line, committing depredations, and then return to Kansas.

In September of 1861, after a skirmish at Morristown, Missouri, where Lane lost two men and the Confederates lost seven, he moved on to Osceola, an important regional transportation center. There they came under Confederate fire just outside town. Lane counterattacked, claiming the town had to be shelled because the Confederates had taken refuge there. In his report he stated that the artillery set the town on fire and "the place was burned to ashes." However, Joseph Trego, one of Lane's men, wrote instead that the brigade loaded the wagons with valuables from the numerous well-supplied stores, and then set fire to the town. The courthouse, which had flown a Confederate flag, went up in flames. Lane's men allegedly stole horses, mules, flour, coffee, clothing, and even a piano and several slaves accompanied Lane back to Kansas. Osceola's 3,000 residents were left with nothing but a smoldering town. Numbers of those killed range from 10 to 50. Historian Edward E. Leslie states the number as 10.

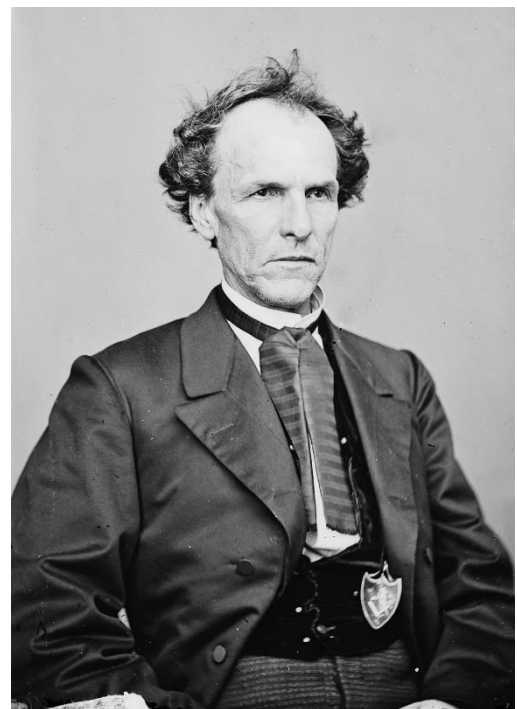
Lane later vowed that if Missourians flew the United States flag, his army would shield and support them. However, if they did not, he promised "the stern visitation of war will be meted out to the rebels and their allies...rest assured that the traitor, when caught, shall receive a traitor's doom."

Lane's unfounded destruction of Osceola sent many Missouri Unionists into the arms of the Confederacy. And one William Clarke Quantrill took it as a personal affront to be avenged.

Another event that may or may not have contributed to Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence was the burning of Dayton in January of 1862 by Colonel Anthony. On New Year's Eve, 1861, one Union man who resided in Dayton, Missouri, south of Harrisonville, rode to Camp Johnson, what had once been Morristown, to make Colonel Anthony aware that Confederates were recruiting in Dayton. Anthony mustered his troops and rode the 25 miles from Camp Johnson to Dayton, where he learned the Confederates had already vacated the town. In his rage at missing his quarry, it is said he ordered every chicken in town to be cooked to feed his men. When they were done, every home was torched—except the one owned by the Union man who had alerted Anthony to the recruiting. That home stood until, perhaps five years ago, when it was finally razed.



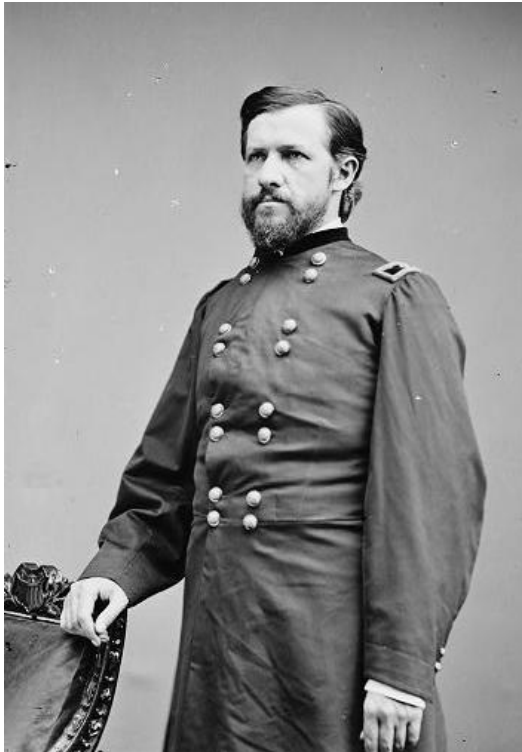
BY D. L.
ROGERS



James H. Lane

Yet another event most likely added to Quantrill's determination to find Lane. In Kansas City in August of '63, several young southern girls had been arrested for aiding and abetting the bushwhackers. They'd been known to give food, clothing, shelter, and even made bullets for Quantrill's men. Although the military superiors in charge of the detained girls had been warned that the building was unsound, their warnings went unheeded, and the building collapsed. One of Bloody Bill Anderson's sisters was killed in the collapse. Two other sisters were maimed. Two of Cole Younger's cousins were also injured.

Some historians say the catalyst for the Raid on Lawrence was the prior burning of Osceola. Some say it was the collapse of the building in Kansas City. Perhaps it was both, along with the destruction of Morristown and burning of Dayton. Some reports say the bushwhackers entered Lawrence chanting "Remember Osceola." Others say they chanted "Remember the murdered girls!" It is also believed the destination of Lawrence had been determined long before that actual attack, because that's where James Lane resided. However, on that day, Lane escaped death at the hands of William Clarke Quantrill and his men by hiding in a corn field behind his home.



Brigadier General Thomas Ewing

Four days after the Raid on Lawrence, General Order Number 11 was issued by General Thomas Ewing from Fort Union in Kansas City. The Order was issued to stop the supply chain feeding and sheltering the bushwhackers and included citizens of southern Jackson, Cass, Bates, and northern Vernon Counties in Missouri. Residents were forced to leave their homes, go to the nearest fort (Hickman Mills/Kansas City, Harrisonville or Pleasant Hill), and swear their loyalty to the Union. They were then to set up housekeeping within a mile of that fort for "protection" from the bushwhackers. What, exactly, did that mean? No one had money for hotels, which already had been taken over by the Federals to house their officers. Were you to put up a tent within that mile radius and set up housekeeping with your many children? This order affected all the residents of these four counties on BOTH sides of the war.

Order Number 11 was issued on August 25th, and the residents were given 15 days to leave their homes as ordered. That is **if** they got the order on the 25th. Some got the order days later and, therefore, only got 12 or 10 days to prepare to vacate. Some got 15 minutes when soldiers rode up to their home and announced it was to be burned. Many residents left with little more than their children and what they wore.

Weather conditions during the last week of August and early part of September had been horrible. For several weeks the temperatures had been in the 90s with drought conditions throughout the counties. The roads had turned to dust. There were no sound horses or mules to pull a wagon, **if** a wagon had been left behind. Most had already been stolen by foragers, soldiers, or bushwhackers. The animals that remained were old or blind, many good horses blinded intentionally by their owners. It was obvious you can lead a blind horse to plow your fields, but you can't ride a blind horse into battle.

Federal supporters went north to Liberty to catch a steamboat east or headed west into Kansas. Rebel supporters went south into Henry County and farther into Arkansas and Texas. Many never came back. If they did come back after the war was over, all that remained of the property they had toiled over was a chimney to prove a home had existed there. Weeds stood as tall as a man. Again—the properties of families whose husbands, sons and brothers who'd fought on BOTH sides came home to the same destruction.

The issuance of Special Order Number 9 in February of 1864 in Clay County banished the families of Missouri officers to behind Confederate lines in Tennessee or Arkansas. One of the families impacted by that order was Mrs. Lou McCoy. Her husband, Moses, had been a recruiter for the Confederacy. When Lou was accused of aiding

Confederates by feeding them and making uniforms for them, she was placed under arrest and sent to St. Joseph. Moses helped initiate a raid near Missouri City as revenge against Captain Darius Sessions and Lieutenant Grafenstein who had arrested his wife. Lou McCoy, was initially incarcerated in the home of Captain Dunn in St. Joseph. When she made a special request to the colonel in charge to be allowed access to town, her request was approved. In the days following, she visited St. Joseph every day, doing what we aren't certain, but it was said she never took another meal other than breakfast with the Dunn family again.

Another family impacted by the order was none other than Jesse and Frank James' mother, Zerelda, and their stepfather, Doctor Reuben Samuel. Because of their notoriety, they were exiled from the county but were allowed to go north into Nebraska instead of south like everyone else. As long as they left Missouri, the powers that be didn't care where they went.

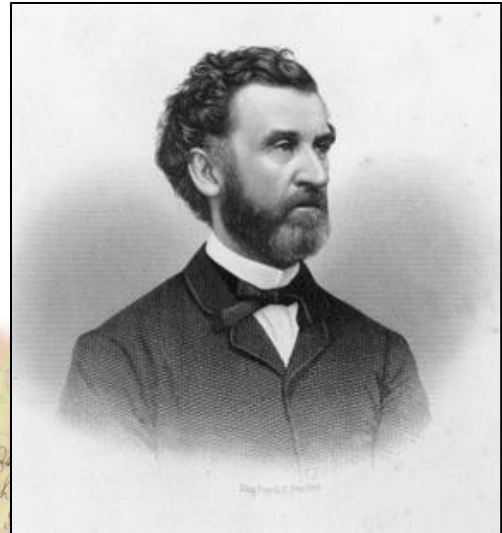
But what happened AFTER the war ended and folks returned to what had once been their homes? Where only a chimney stood as a reminder of the lives they'd once had?

Imagine surviving the war to return to nothing. Your home gone, your property nothing but acres and acres of weeds. Then learn you owe all the taxes that hadn't been collected throughout the war. FOUR YEARS' WORTH! These people had been living hand to mouth for all those years, and now they were expected to pay taxes on a homestead that no longer existed. What happened to the properties of those people who couldn't pay—which were the majority? The land went to auction, the bidding price starting at what was owed for taxes. And who had the money to pay those (small) amounts due that may as well have been a million dollars for the people who owned the property? The Yankees flooding the countryside.

And the Confederate men who had managed to survive the war were faced with another stumbling block that kept them from returning to a normal life – the DRAKE CONSTITUTION.

In 1865 a new Missouri Constitution was drawn up. The main contributor was a radical named Charles Drake, so the document became known as the Drake Constitution.

The new Missouri state constitution had provisions that were at odds with the US Constitution. Among the most controversial was requiring male citizens to take a loyalty oath – swearing they had never supported the Confederacy in any way. Otherwise they couldn't vote, preach, teach, or sit on a jury. In taking the oath one swore that they had not participated in the rebellion or given aid or comfort to anyone who had been involved. Even writing a letter



Images: Charles Drake; Zerelda Cole James Simms Samuel; handwritten page of the Missouri Constitution 1865, Record Group 5.24, Office of the Secretary of State, Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City. All in public domain.

to a Confederate son or brother disqualified a person from taking the oath. There were over 80 infractions. This affected all the educated, experienced and influential members of Missouri society who fought for the South. The loss of this segment of the population would have serious economic and political implications for the entire state of Missouri. Many talented and influential people fled the state rather than sign the oath. Imagine being from a family divided by their beliefs. Two sons, each fighting on a different side. All you had to do was write a letter to the one fighting for the south and you would be stripped of your rights in Missouri.

One such man who refused to take the Oath was Abner Deane, a Union Cavalry Lieutenant who had been a preacher prior to the war. He stood firm that the only Oath he would take was to God. By refusing to take the oath, he was sent to jail. If a former Union Cavalry Lieutenant was sent to jail for refusing to take the Oath, what did that mean for normal citizens if they refused?

The new constitution was struck down two years later, but imagine those two years in between having no rights?

Surprisingly, Missouri is third for the most battles fought on her soil during the Civil War. Were the battles significant? With the exception of a few (Wilson's Creek, Lexington, and Westport), the answer is no. But Missourians were at war EVERY DAY just to survive. In the east, big armies moved through, fought, then left. Of course, they left destruction behind them, but in Missouri you feared **every day** for your life and the lives of your children from Bushwhackers, Jayhawkers, Redlegs, the Kansas 7th Cavalry, foragers, and deserters who would take whatever they could, even stripping the fence posts and rails in winter for fires.

Orders Number 11 and 9 were huge contributing factors for making Missouri such an unforgiving place to live during those years. No matter what side you were on, you faced the possibility of eviction or even imprisonment—before, during, and even after the war ended. **DLR**

SPECIAL VISITORS TO THE FARM

The Certified Entomologists of Mid-America (CEMA) recently held their annual meeting in Kearney and took the opportunity to take a tour of the Jesse James Birthplace to “explore the diverse insect life surrounding the historic site.”

A preliminary report was shared with Museum Director, Beth Beckett. The report stated that “a vibrant ecosystem thrived around the farmhouse,” and highlighted the fact that the site was “teeming with a diverse array of native insects.” The Entomologists found that “moths and butterflies, in particular, were abundant, showcasing a stunning variety of species. The area was also home to a prolific population of ants, bees, wasps, spiders, and beetles, each playing a crucial role in the local ecology.”



Pictured from left are Dr. Shripat Kamble, Dr. Phil Sloderbeck (holding Russel), Jae Horn, Dr. Tim Nowatzki, Brad Dutoit, Jeff Preece and Casey Burks. (PHOTO COURTESY OF CEMA)

Text and photo used by permission from Jeffery Preece, BCE, PHE, Entomologist.

THE DEDICATION OF MARTY'S TREE



During this year's reunion, the Friends planted a maple tree in honor of longtime board member and friend, Martin McGrane. Scott Cole, holding a copy of the Jesse James Birthplace and Museum guidebook, which was written by Marty, gave a heartfelt dedication, detailing the tireless efforts Marty made to preserving the history he loved. The maple was Marty's favorite tree.

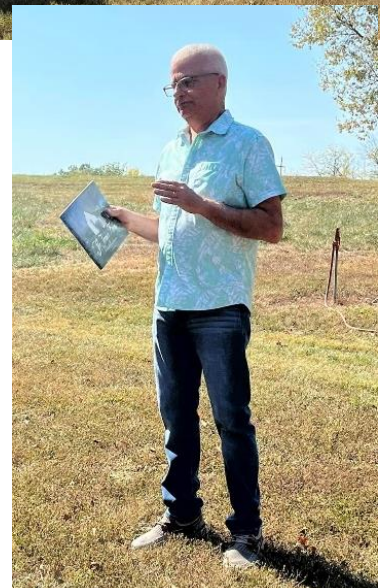


We received a wonderful letter from Marty's family which reads –

Dear Bryan and Members of the Friends of the James Farm,
Thank you for inviting our family to your annual meeting this year. The first time Marty and I visited the farm, shortly after Clay County purchased it, he knew he wanted to be involved. He was excited to learn more about the people, their lives and their times and get acquainted with like-minded people. Being a journalist and photographer, writing a book about Jesse and Frank James was particularly interesting to him. He was beyond proud when you were interested in reprinting it, and so gratified that you persisted and he lived to receive an updated copy of it.

We are grateful to have been there for his maple tree dedication and to see the plaque, as well as hear the kind comments that you and Scott made about his contributions. For Marty, I know it was an honor to be on the Board and to meet so many others who shared his love of history of the Civil War in Missouri.

Signed, Marty's Family



“WHEN BANDITS WERE BOLD”



BY ROBERT J.
WYBROW

The sub-headings to the above article from *The Kansas City Times* of December 19, 1919, were, “Captain Dennis Malloy Tells Some Early Day Tales. First Captain and One of Founders of Metropolitan Police Department Relates Hold-Up of Fair-grounds by James Gang.” Dennis Malloy, as mentioned in the headlines, had been a Police Captain in the Kansas City Police Force and almost forty years previous to this interview, had been involved in a bitter dispute with Chief of Police Thomas Speers; although this is not mentioned in the article which follows:

A “bobby” in the gayest parts of London in the days when gayety reigned to its greatest extent in the great metropolitan, a lieutenant in the Confederate army; one of the two originators of the present metropolitan police system in Kansas City; the first captain on the police force.

Those are the distinctions held by Captain Dennis Malloy, 80 years old, 3335 Charlotte street. With those distinctions, which spell a life of interest and excitement, goes the fact that he is still working every day as a promoter for a brick manufacturing company here.

Captain Malloy’s name frequently appears in the “forty years ago” column of *The Star*. He can recite many interesting and exciting stories of the days in which the Jesse James gang and other bandits operated.

WAS IN CONFEDERATE ARMY.

Born in Ireland, the son of a farmer, Captain Malloy went to London as a young man. For three years he worked as a “bobby.” In 1860 he came to this country, staying a year in New York city, where he joined the 69th New York militia. A year later he moved to St. Joseph, Mo. As a lieutenant in the Confederate army, he fought in the battle of Lexington, escaping injury.

In 1862, Captain Malloy came to Kansas City, joining the police force five years later. The police force consisted of only twenty-five men. Only two other members at that times are alive today. They are Patrick Kennedy, night watchman, and William Hanlon, Excelsior Springs.

In 1882 he was appointed public administrator. Two years later he was appointed a United States deputy marshal, serving four years. Later, after working as a government secret service agent in Chicago a short time, he returned to Kansas City and worked as a promoter for an asphalt company fifteen years.

TELLS OF THE FAIR GROUND HOLDUP.

Captain Malloy takes great pleasure in relating the story of the holdup of the fair grounds by the Jesse James gang years ago. He was in charge of the grounds at the time. He and his small son, Henry, who died sixteen years ago, were passing a bear show, when one of the small bears seized the boy. Five men who, Captain Malloy learned later, were Jesse and Frank James, Claude Miller, Andy Pitts and Jim Cummings, seized the bear, saving the boy.

A short time later shots were heard at the west gate of the fair grounds, which were surrounded by what would now be Twelfth and Fifteenth streets and Forest avenue and Harrison street. Hurrying to the gate, Captain Malloy found Scott Ford, the ticket seller, in a faint.

INQUIRED ABOUT BUSINESS.

“Frank James had gone to the ticket seller’s window and asked if the show was a success and how much money had been taken in,” the captain said yesterday. “Scotty” replied that the day was the best the show had ever experienced. To strengthen his statement, he pointed at a large box of money.

“What if Jesse James comes around here?” Frank James asked Ford.

“Oh, I’d fix him,” replied Ford “I’d use this.” He then reached over and picked up a large revolver.

“Well, Jesse James is here,” Frank replied, pointing a revolver at Ford. Ford fainted after several shots had been fired at him. And the bandits rode away with the money.”



A 'bobby' is a British slang term for a policeman, named after Sir Robert (Bobby) Peel, who founded Britain's Metropolitan Police Force in 1829. Malloy's age is often given in error throughout his later life. This newspaper article says he was 80 years old, but when he died in 1925 another newspaper said he was 94. Perhaps the *Times* meant 90 years old.

The robbery, at which Malloy was present, occurred on the afternoon of Thursday, September 26, 1872. The contemporary newspapers give the robbers' number as *three* not *five*, as Malloy says; most reports state that the bulk of that day's revenue had recently been collected; and according to *The Kansas City Times* of the following day, the ticket-seller's name was Ben Wallace. Finally, none of the contemporary accounts name any of the gang; and John Newman Edwards in his "*A Terrible Quintette*" makes no mention of the robbery, this is especially of interest when he could have been talking to the very men involved. **RJW**

FALL FRONTIER SHOOT REPORT

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

For the last shoot of the year on September 21, 2024, we had some unusual circumstances. This year, we decided to try something a little different than anything we have done before: a Casual 3-Gun Competition. Rather than having our typical revolver only target shooting, we included revolver, shotgun, and pistol caliber rifle.

While the intention was to have two stages with a variety of steel targets, we had to make a few adaptive improvisations due to weather and attendance. A wreck closed Courtney Rd near the intersection of Hwy 291, and to compound this, rain started falling as we were getting sign in ready. Due to these two circumstances, we only had 9 people show up (with two of them being new participants!), but everyone was willing to improvise, adapt, and overcome in order to still have some sort of shoot. So, by the end of the day, we only ran one stage, but everyone had a good time, and we received very positive feedback. And since we did have the shoot (though in an unplanned fashion), we did hand out medals for both men's and women's categories. Unfortunately, all of my electronic records disappeared by time of writing; so for those of you who won, you know who you are, and congratulations!

While nothing has been set in stone going forward, we will definitely be continuing our traditional revolver only shoots, but we may incorporate a special shoot once a year (again, nothing set in stone, but due to the positive feedback, we are considering it).

All in all, the 2024 shooting season was highly successful in fund raising for the preservation of history, and the enjoyment of historic shooting. Thank you all for your participation, and we look forward to seeing you next year!

Also, concerning our summer gun raffle; congratulations to Andrew Silva, who won our Summer raffle, winning a reproduction artillery revolver! We want to say a huge thank you to all who purchased a raffle ticket for this gun. The funds from our shooting competitions and the raffled guns are used to help preserve history about and surrounding the Jesse James Farm and Museum for future generations. All individuals who run the Friends of the James Farm organization, as well as the shooting competitions, are volunteers and do not get paid from the fundraising money. The fall raffle tickets have just been sold out and the winner will be drawn later this year. Good luck!

We will take a break for winter with plans to start up next spring with more shoots and more guns to raffle off.

As always, any questions, ideas, and thoughts regarding the shoots are welcome. See you next year! **CP**



BY CALEB
POOKER

ME & MR HOWARD - A NEW SONG BY DARYL MOSLEY

Daryl Mosley, three-time Songwriter of the Year, Grand Ole Opry veteran and native of Waverly, Tennessee, once home of Jesse and Zee James, recently released a brand new single titled, *Me and Mr Howard*. We were able to connect with Mr. Mosley and ask him a few questions about his inspiration for the song.

First of all, thank you so much for taking the time to speak with us.

I appreciate you reaching out. I'm proud the song will find its way to people that have an interest in the story.

I see from your website that you were born in Waverly. Have you grown up knowing about Waverly's connection to Jesse James or has that knowledge come later?

I heard years ago that Jesse James had lived here for a time and that his stillborn babies were buried here. I had to do some digging to find information as best I could on his actual time here.

In your new song, Me and Mr Howard, who is Me referring to? Who, in your mind, is the narrator?

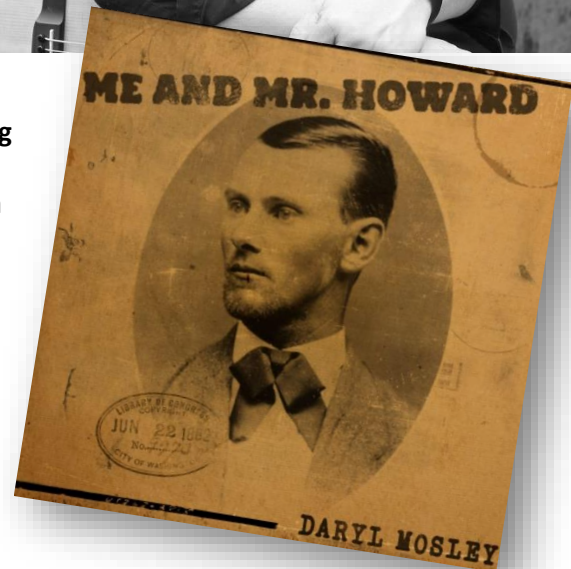
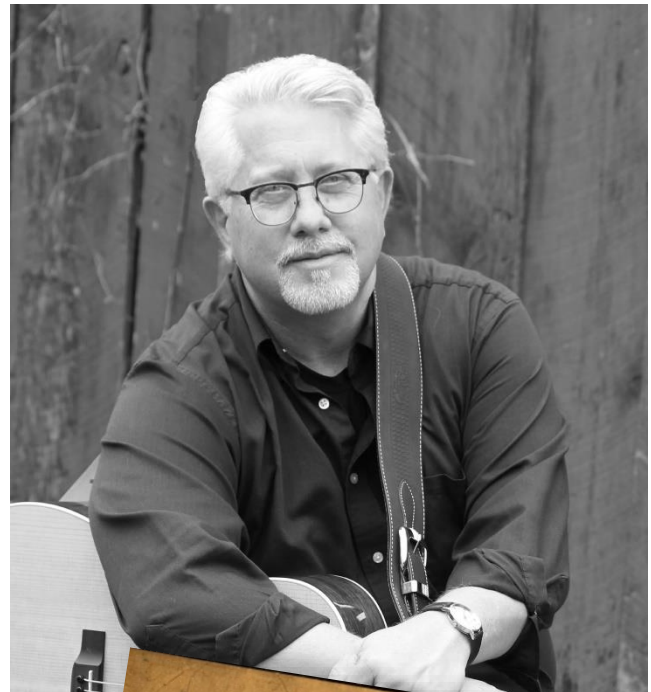
The song is the first person telling and it's loosely based on a store owner named Dan Goodrich. One of the genealogy sites mentioned him and that he thought Mr. Howard was a decent fellow. I just took some writer's liberties after that.

I thought it might have been through the eyes of Henry Warren but I can see why you chose Dan Goodrich!

It could have been Henry Warren just as well. I had to take a little bit of license in order to tell the story. For example, we don't know that Jesse was distraught and crying over the death of his twins. That certainly is not how we imagine him. But he was obviously a spiritual man and a family man and I can only imagine that must have been a horrific day for anybody, even an outlaw.

Jesse's time in Waverly offers a unique glimpse into his personality and lifestyle. Your song brilliantly demonstrates this but what do you think we learn most from his time there?

I think most people are multi-dimensional. It's really easy to pigeonhole a person as being this or that but that's not entirely who they are. When you think about Jesse James, you of course think about his reputation as a notorious outlaw but apparently during his time in Waverly he was quiet, respectful, well liked, social, even a churchgoer. I'm not trying to minimize any of the bad things he may have done in his life but that is obviously not his entire story.



Waverly, like everywhere else that has a connection to the James story, draws in its fair share of historians and curiosity seekers. What do they usually want to see?

Most of the historians and curiosity seekers that come here, and are aware of the James connection, used to come because the twins were buried here. They have since been moved to the James place in Missouri (I believe).

Did anything you found out about Jesse surprise you?

I was able to find a copy of a small book that was written about him and his time here called "The Rabbit Man." I can't remember the author offhand. But he mentioned Jesse being involved in church and actually speaking/preaching on occasion. I don't think most people when they think about Jesse James imagine him standing in a pulpit.

What is your favourite story about his time in Waverly?

Apparently, during his time here, he was quite the opposite of a gunman. In fact, accounts say he did not even carry when he was here. But his horse, Red Fox was widely known as the fastest horse in the county. And it certainly makes sense why Jesse James would need a fast horse!

Is it easier to write a song about real events and people, or more difficult?

Obviously when you're writing a true story, you're limited by material and facts. The song wasn't especially difficult to write though once I figured out how to tell it. That's why I chose to tell it from the store owner's perspective. Again, that's a somewhat fictional account but most of what you hear in the song was pulled from actual accounts of his time here.

Is this song going to appear on an album?

The song was released on August 30th as a single from my upcoming album, "Long Days & Short Stories". The album will be released on all music platforms October 4th.

Photos by permission of Daryl Mosley.

A MUSICAL TREAT ON THE PORCH!

Linda Brookshier, Historical Interpreter at the Jesse James Birthplace, recently met a couple from Springfield, Missouri. They came in, visited for a little bit and then decided they wanted to take a tour of the cabin.

The couple turned out to be Max and Jenine Bacon, who had performed in Branson for 27 years at the Ozark Mountain Jubilee, and the Sunday Gospel Jubilee and who had, during Covid lockdowns, started posting music videos on YouTube. They said it kept them from losing their minds and going stir crazy!

Max is a retired circuit court judge from Green county, Missouri, and also served in the Missouri House of Representatives. Jenine is a retired kindergarten teacher.

They performed the famous Ballad of Jesse James on the porch of the cabin and have posted it on their YouTube channel.



Photo credit – Linda Brookshier

FRIENDS OF THE JAMES FARM REUNION - MEET THE FRIENDS AND FAMILY -



Clockwise – Steve Gingery, Charlie Broomfield, FOTJF treasurer Vivie Tison, long-time FOTJF supporter and former tour guide Pam Banner, FOTJF President Bryan Ivlow and Board Member Laura Ganschow; Monty Griffey and his sister, Mary-Lou, direct descendants of Fanny Quantrell Hall; Scott Cole and Mike Albright, both direct descendants of Zerelda Samuel; Scott Cole and Historical Interpreter Dan Doty; visitors Lacy and her family; and Museum Directors, Beth Beckett and Bryan Shibley.



THE BANDIT'S BRIDE - HOW FRANK JAMES WON THE PRETTY ANNA RALSTON

On July 7, 1876, a train was robbed at Rocky Cut, near Otterville, Jackson county, Missouri. The pursuit of the robbers led detectives to the home of Samuel Ralston, a respected farmer. Roused early in the morning by a terrible noise, Mr. Ralston had descended the stairs and asked the men, all armed with shotguns and pistols, what they wanted. They gave no reply but continued to search the house. Finding neighbor and guest, Mr. Connelly, in his undergarments they told him to dress and, applying handcuffs, led "the supposed Jesse James" to the special train. Connelly was then taken by train to Wyandotte, Kansas, where a simple inspection of his hands told detectives he was a working man and he was released. Connelly protested that that was no way to treat a man, "to take him fifteen miles from home and then turn him loose", but he was told they were through with him and he should go.

Such an apparently uncalled for invasion no doubt caused some to wonder why Ralston had been targeted. The answer came as a surprise. "No one who knows anything of the career of the James brothers would expect them to woo, win and marry like other people," a Kansas City reporter argued, despite Jesse having married Zee Mimms two years earlier, but that is what they had just discovered - Frank James had married Mr. Ralston's daughter, a marriage that "might have remained enshrouded in the private obscurity of every day country life had it not been for the startling raid of the St. Louis and Cincinnati detectives into this vicinity."

Under the headline, *The Bandit's Bride - How Frank James Won The Pretty Anna Ralston*, reporters explained that it was to them unknown where the couple met. "She lived with her father, a well known and very respectable farmer, about seven miles from Independence. Frank James had not been a frequent visitor to the house, and had not been on intimate terms with the family." That family, the report continued, had no idea that Annie and Frank were courting and saw nothing wrong in their daughter's wish, in July 1875, to visit her brother-in-law, Ezra Hickman, in Kansas City. "It transpired afterwards that Frank James was on the train to receive her and that the elopement had been prearranged. When she met Mr. Hickman, he offered to help her down from the train but she "laughingly refused assistance, saying she desired to see a friend inside the car, and would follow him up to the house in a hack." A Mr. Connelly, brother of the man taken from the Ralston house by the St. Louis detectives, saw Annie on the train and spoke to her. "That was the last seen of the romantic girl." Her parents, the report continued, "had no idea that Annie had left her home for all time to come," the realisation only dawning on them when they received a brief note from her saying, *Dear Mother; I am married and going West*, and signed, *Annie Reynolds*. Her parents knew no one of that name but "Mrs Ralston, while in Kansas City soon afterwards, heard of a gambler of that name, and received

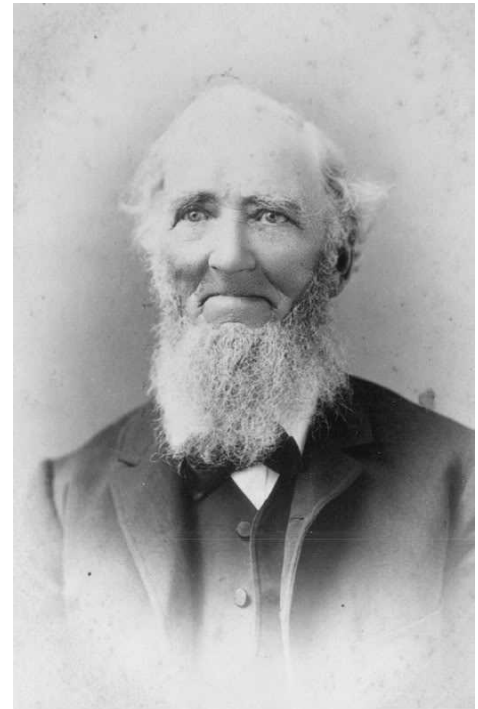


Annie Ralston and Frank James

such news as led her to believe her girl had gone off with a gambler. Mr. Ralston wrote to his son, who at once made search in St. Louis, without success. The other sons were put on the trail. They enquired diligently for their lost sister, and had about given up the search, when one of the boys made a startling discovery by accident. He was in Kansas City when he was accosted by one of the uncles of the James boys, who inquired whether he was not 'a Ralston'. He replied that he was. 'Well,' said the uncle, 'I am glad to meet you. My nephew, Frank James, has married your sister.'"

This news was relayed to Sam Ralston, who decided the less said about it the better. "The affair was kept still and no one outside a few family friends would have known about it had not the recent train robbery led the detectives to Ralston's house in the hope of finding Frank James here."

Several years later, on September 20, 1881, an interview with Samuel Ralston appeared in the Sedalia Weekly Bazoo. With regard to his daughter's disappearance, Ralston explained that Annie taught school during 1873 and 1874 and "was often a guest at the house of Ezra Hickman, whose wife was a daughter of Mr. Ralston's second wife." He therefore thought nothing of her wish to go there but had no idea at all she was in a relationship with Frank James. "She was a very pretty, loving daughter and was unlike most girls of her age," Ralston explained. "She did not court the attention of young men of the neighborhood; on the contrary, rather shunned and repelled them." When asked where he thought the two had met, Ralston said he didn't know but that his daughter "taught school some time at New Santa Fe and I presume it was there." In a contradiction to the earlier report that Frank was not known at Annie's home prior to their elopement, Mr. Ralston confirmed that Frank James "was an occasional visitor to my house after the war, and from 1870 until Annie left us, he was at the house perhaps half a dozen times. The idea that he wanted my daughter for his wife, or that she would accept him never entered my head," he maintained. "I knew all about his actions and doings during the war and didn't want such a man for my son-in-law."



Samuel J. Ralston,
father of Annie Ralston James.

Since Annie had left for the Hickman house, Mr. Ralston had not seen or heard from his daughter except the short note saying she was married. According to her father, she also "said she had deceived me and asked forgiveness." When asked if Frank James had been to the house since the marriage, Mr. Ralston answered, just once. In the spring of 1876, Frank had arrived and for a long time did not want to get out of the saddle in case he was captured but eventually agreed to have breakfast with them. "He talked about Annie a good deal and said she was well, and wanted to know if I had forgiven him. I told him he was a d_____ rascal and had stolen my daughter and I wanted her to come back. He stated that if I did not forgive her she would not return, and in any case I would not see her for ten years. I replied that his life was so uncertain that his wife ought to be in a place of safety, but he only said, 'By G____, she shan't come back and you shan't see her,' and then mounted his horse and rode away."

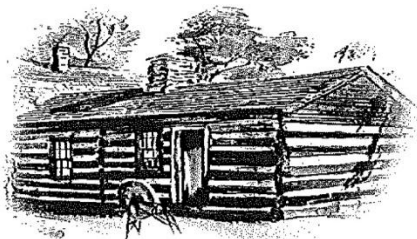
In October 1876, Mr. Ralston removed to Texas where he visited Allen Palmer, husband of Frank's sister, Susan. "Palmer would say nothing about my daughter, but his wife said she had been there earlier in the year but left with her husband for the north, and my visit there amounted to nothing."

In the years that followed, Samuel Ralston was frequently accused of harboring Frank and Jesse James but it was never proven that he did.

Sources - St. Louis Republican, August 12 and 13, 1876, The Kansas City Times, August 16, 1876; Kansas City Journal, January 5, 1899.

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James homestead cabin —
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