



The James Family Home

## See the History

**N**estled in a wooded valley in western Missouri is an old log and clapboard house where a legend was born. Thousands have come from all over the world to visit this site, remember their heritage, and touch history.

Jesse James and his brother, Frank, were two of Missouri's most famous sons, whose characters were undoubtedly molded by the turbulent years marking the bloody decade preceding the Civil War. During the War, their reputations as guerrilla fighters grew while serving with William C. Quantrill and Bloody Bill Anderson.

Cultural icons and legends in their own time, Jesse and Frank James have become the custodians of America's Wild West legacy. Even though Jesse was shot and killed in 1882, fascination with his life and times lives on. Today, the humble farm where the James family lived, draws thousands of visitors and is open year round.

## Be a Friend

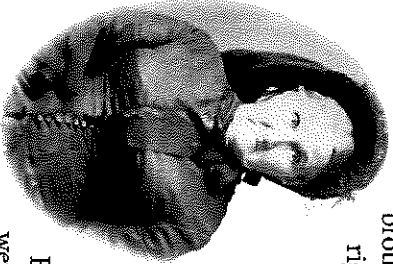
**I**n 1981 Friends of the James Farm was formed as a non-profit organization to restore and promote the farm. You can become a part of this historic adventure when you join Friends of the James Farm. Your membership supports preservation and development. You will also have the chance to attend the annual reunion and meet others who share your enthusiasm for this exciting time in American history.

## Hear the Story

**T**he James log cabin farmhouse, built in 1822, has witnessed

many generations of James family history. It was to this isolated cabin that the Reverend Robert James brought his young wife Zerelda and young son Frank in 1845. This

is where Jesse was born in 1847 and years later, Union soldiers seeking the whereabouts of Frank James, beat Jesse and tortured his stepfather Dr. Reuben Samuel by repeatedly hanging him from a tree in the front yard. In 1875 a Pinkerton "bomb" killed their half-brother Archie and severed Zerelda's right arm.



Zerelda James home of Frank and Jesse James. But they were seeing something more — a fine example of frontier architecture, one of the best and oldest structures still standing. Today the farm is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The James Farm Museum opened in 1988. For a modest fee, visitors enjoy guided house tours, self-guided museum tours, and a documentary film about the James family by Wide Awake Films, LLC. The museum is a member of the American Associations of Museums and the American Association of State and Local History.



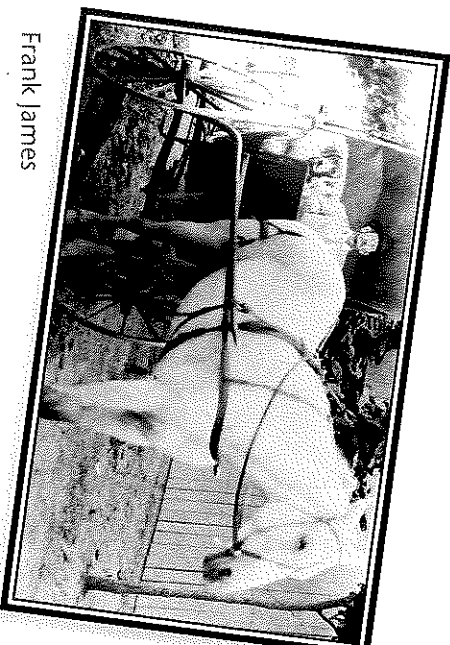
Jesse James

Zerelda gave the first guided tours of the farm after 1882, as did Frank, and later, Frank's son Robert and Jesse's grandsons. In 1978, Clay County purchased the farmhouse and 40-acre site from James family descendants. By the next summer, tourists were passing through the boyhood home of Frank and Jesse James. But they were seeing something more — a fine example of frontier architecture, one of the best and oldest structures still standing. Today the farm is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Join the Gang

For your contribution you will receive our quarterly newsletter and an invitation to the annual reunion, plus a single free admission to the museum. You also have the satisfaction of knowing that you helped preserve one of Missouri's oldest historic sites.

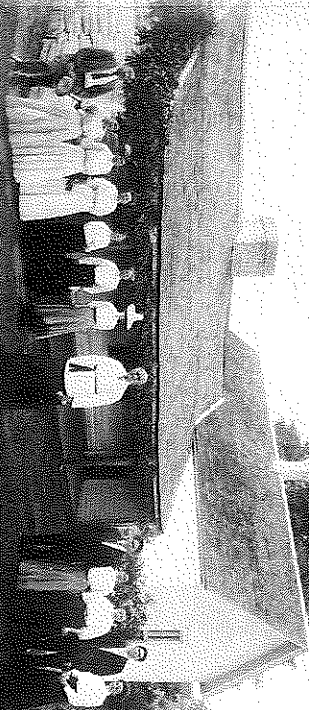
- Border Rufian .....\$20**
  - Bushwhacker .....\$30**
  - Clay County Irregular .....\$50**
  - Road Agent .....\$100**
  - Long Rider .....\$250**
  - Other ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_**
- Outside the continental United States, please add \$5 to your membership contribution.



Frank James



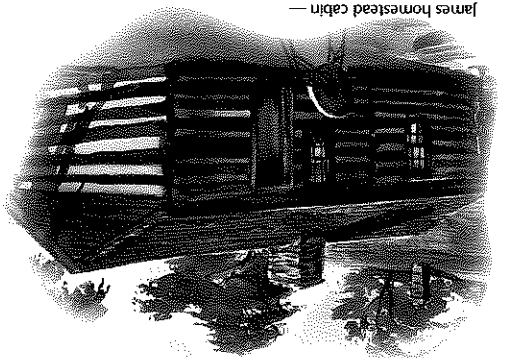
# Live the Legend



# Learn the History

Friends of the James Farm  
 P.O. Box 404  
 Liberty, MO 64069  
[www.jessejames.org](http://www.jessejames.org)  
 816.736.8500

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James homestead cabin —  
 Original art by Jim Hamill

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

YES, I want to join the Friends of the James Farm. I have checked my level of membership in the box at the right and enclosed a check or money order for the amount indicated.

Please mail membership form and payment to Friends of the James Farm, P.O. Box 404, Liberty, MO 64069

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- If this is a renewal, please mark this box.
- MEMBERSHIP LEVELS (Mark One)
- Border Ruffian ..... \$20
  - Bushwhacker ..... \$30
  - Clay County Irregular... \$50
  - Road Agent ..... \$100
  - Lone Rider ..... \$250
  - Other ..... \$
- Outside the continental U.S., add \$5 to your membership contribution.

Detach and Mail