



May – June 2021

## The Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri

### 2021 Officers

President ----- Mike Calvert  
1st V.P. ----- Pat Gradwohl  
2nd V.P. ----- Terry Chronister  
Secretary ----- Karen Wells  
Treasurer ----- Beverly Shaw  
Historian ----- Joyce Gillespie

### Board Members

Michael Clay Denise Irminger  
Bill Irminger Barb Wormington  
Denis Wormington

### Border Star Editor

Dennis Myers

### Meetings

2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm  
Via Zoom until further notice  
See instructions in this newsletter

### Visitors Always Welcome!

### Annual Dues

Individual ----- 25.00  
Family ----- 35.00  
Student (under 21) ----- 5.00  
Newsletter Only (no meetings) 10.00

### For Information

Mike Calvert ----- (816) 898-2603  
Beverly Shaw ----- (816) 225-7944  
Pat Gradwohl ----- (816) 781-8871

### Mailing Address

CWRTWM, P.O. Box 3019  
Independence, MO 64055

### E-Mail Address

mail@CWRTWM.org

### Website

www.CWRTWM.org

### Facebook

www.facebook.com/CWRTWM

# ★ *The Border Star* ★

Official Publication of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri  
"Studying the Border War and Beyond"

## *President's Letter*

I'm not afraid to say it. I'm not afraid to admit that for some time I have been concerned about the health issues that confront our country and the world. I will also admit that I have had deep concerns for the direction our country seems to be heading. I have worried, fretted and spent many hours deep in thought seeking a bright light at the end of the tunnel. No joke here about that bright light being a train. It seemed that every day our world was seeking out a new way to self-destruct. And in my deepest worried state I wondered if my grandchildren would have a world that would be worth living in. Then I remembered what I have often said that history does repeat itself. Somewhere and sometime the world has been through what we have and are experiencing. So, I started to explore the written word to discover if there was some guidance that might be found in the past. You are very aware that I read a lot; therefore I went to my library shelves to find that guidance. Here's what I found:

Jon Meacham	<b>His Truth Is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope</b>
Erik Larson	<b>The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz</b>
Steve Inskeep	<b>Imperfect Union: How Jessie and John Fremont Mapped the West, Invented Celebrity &amp; Helped Cause the Civil War</b>
A.J. Baime	<b>Dewey Defeats Truman, the 1948 Election and the Battle for America's Soul and The Accidental President</b>
Jay Winik	<b>1944: FDR and the Year That Changed History or April 1865: the Month That Saved America</b>
David McCullough	<b>The American Spirit</b>
Stephen Ambrose	<b>To America, Personal Reflections of an Historian</b>
Jared Cohen	<b>Accidental Presidents, Eight Men Who Changed America</b>
Tony Horwitz	<b>Confederates in the Attic: Dispatches from the Unfinished Civil War</b>
Thomas Desjardin	<b>These Honored Dead, How the Story of Gettysburg Shaped American Memory</b>
Drew Gilpin Faust	<b>This Republic of Suffering: Death &amp; The American Civil War</b>
John R. Neff	<b>Honoring the Civil War Dead: Commemoration and the Problem of Reconciliation</b>
Doris Kearns Goodwin	<b>Leadership in Turbulent Times</b>
John M. Coski	<b>The Confederate Battle Flag: America's Most Embattled Emblem</b>

Presidents Letter continued on next page...

## **Presidents Letter continued...**

I know this is quite a lot and you may not want to read them all. This is where I suggest to start.

Doris Kearns Goodwin – To find out if leaders are born or made, how leadership qualities are recognized and how leaders are guided.

David Horwitz – To gain some insight into the America we live in today and how today is affected by the Civil War.

A.J. Baime – To find out that elections really don't change and what to do when you are thrown into a whirlpool of events.

Space will not allow me to continue. I hope you will pick up these books, read them all, to discover that no matter how dark the world seems, we have been there before and we have found the leadership to lead us to the light. These helped me. I hope, if you find yourself where I was, they will help you as well. Good Luck!

**- Mike Calvert, President  
Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri**

## **CWRTWM Calendar**

### May 2021 Virtual Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Zoom meeting. Sarah Poff: Reflections along the Santa Fe Trail (Learn about this commercial trail and how it helped settle the west. Multimedia-Storyteller Sarah Poff will bring to life the adventures of Marian Russell and her trail traveling.)

Our Zoom meeting is now by pre-registration which we will send out the first week of May. After you receive the link, please click it to go to the second page to identify yourself and your device. You will then receive an Email from Zoom which will contain your individual code for entering the meeting. Please do not delete this Email until after the Zoom meeting.

### Guided Tour of Elmwood Cemetery

Saturday, May 15, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Guided tour of Elmwood Cemetery, 4900 Truman Road, Kansas City, MO. Please use the Truman Road entrance and park near the Armour Memorial Chapel (a mini-church). Please pull off the road enough to allow other cars to pass. This will be a walking tour on paved roads and grass so please be prepared for wet grass. Please bring your own water. There is a restroom at the cemetery office. Free-will donations.

### June Picnic and In Person Meeting

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. CWRT Picnic. Hill Park, 2201 S. Maywood Ave., Independence, MO. Pavilion with restrooms, electricity and water. The Round Table will provide fried chicken, drinks, and table service. Please bring a dish to share. Social distancing and masks except when you are eating.

You can see the pavilion from 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, but you must go one block west to Maywood and turn north in order to reach it. Plenty of parking. This park is in Independence about four blocks west of Sterling and on the north side of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street.

At 7:00 p.m. Ted Stillwell will be speaking about "Native Americans during the Civil War." Please bring your own lawn chair for comfort.

## **Other History Events**

### Jewell Cemetery Workshop & Work Day, Columbia, MO

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Workshop at 10:00 a.m. – Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, 5901 S. Highway 163, Columbia, MO. Work Day at 1:00 p.m. – Jewell Cemetery, 2803 S. Providence, Columbia, MO. Workshop: Proper cleaning techniques for cemetery stones followed by lunch (provided). Volunteer work: Wear work clothes and bring gloves. RSVP to [info@momainstreet.org](mailto:info@momainstreet.org).

Jewell Cemetery dates from 1823 and is the resting place of Charles Henry Hardin (22<sup>nd</sup> Governor of Missouri) and William Jewell known for establishing the first church in Columbia and is the namesake for William Jewell College in Liberty, MO.

### A Women's History of Lake City Army Ammunition Plant

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 – 12:00 p.m. Mike Calvert: When Women Left Home to Defeat the Axis. Virtual presentation on women's contribution to WWII at the Lake City Plant. Join at [www.indep.us/lakecity](http://www.indep.us/lakecity).

### Bicentennial Quilt at Arrow Rock, MO

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitors Center. Display of the official Missouri Bicentennial Quilt with blocks from all across the state. Also on display will be the 4H Missouri Bicentennial Quilt. Free.

### Spring Planting Day-Fort Osage

Saturday, May 8, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO. Learn what soldiers, civilians and Native Americans planted in their gardens. Bring your gardening tools and plant some heirloom vegetables. Adults – \$8, Seniors (62 and Over) – \$4, Youth 5-13 – \$4.

### Harry S Truman Library Renovation

Monday, May 10, 2021 – 12:00 p.m. Sam Rushay: \$30 million renovation, five years in the making. Join him at [www.indep.us/trumanlibraryreno](http://www.indep.us/trumanlibraryreno).

### Kansas City Posse of the Westerners

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner at Pizza Ranch, 4801 N. Oak Trafficway, Kansas City MO (junction of I-29 and North Oak Trafficway). Cost is \$10.59. Dennis Garstang: TBA. Masks required when not eating or drinking.

### Brown Bag Program-Shawnee Indian Mission

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 – Noon. Bring your own lunch. Speaker about 12:30. Shawnee Indian Mission, 3403 W. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, Fairway, KS. Ken Shoemaker: “The 1855 Harris-Kearney House. The story of the building and those who lived there.” RSVP to Ken Cook so that tables can be set up for social distancing ([kencook66103@gmail.com](mailto:kencook66103@gmail.com)). Masks are required.

### Clay County Webinar: Two Shots by a Stranger

Thursday, May 13, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Kathleen Bird: *Two Shots by a Stranger*. This true crime account tells the story of an 1866 double homicide of a newly freed young black woman and her child. The Zoom invitation will be sent during the first week of May.

### Year of the American Soldier – Fort Osage

Saturday, May 15, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Fort Osage, 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO. Explore how the U. S. military has changed since its inception. Adults – \$8. Seniors – \$4. Youth – \$4.

### Mid-Missouri Civil War Round Table, Columbia, MO.

Virtual meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. George Davis: Tullahoma Campaign of 1863. The Zoom invitation will be sent by Email the week before.

### Women Historians of Independence

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 – 6:30 p.m. Virtual video highlights Sue Gentry, beloved Independence journalist, and other women who volunteered at the Truman Library. In 1982 they did a secret inventory of the Truman Home at 219 N. Delaware Street and this became the basis for what you see today at the Truman home. Join at [www.indep.us/womenhistorians](http://www.indep.us/womenhistorians).

### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Angela Shear: The story of her grandmother’s Civil War experience as a nurse and the

burning of her home in New York City in the Draft Riots. Masks required.

### Urban Renewal in Independence

Thursday, May 20, 2021 – 12:00 p.m. Audrey Elder: History and effects of urban renewal. Join at [www.indep.us/urbanrenewal](http://www.indep.us/urbanrenewal).

### Saturday at Robertson Hall, Bates County Museum

Saturday, May 22, 2021 – 10:30 a.m. 802 Elks Drive, Butler, MO. Diane Rogers: *Treachery at Midnight – A Daughter’s Remembrances of the Civil War, Wayside Rest (Harrisonville), and Her Friendship with Cole Younger*. Donation luncheon following the presentation. Books available for sale.

### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, May 25, 2021 – Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$30. Milburn Golf & Country Club, 7501 W. 69<sup>th</sup> Street, Overland Park, KS. Dr. Ethan Rafuse: “General Lee vs. General McClellan and the War in the East.” Reservation required by May 19<sup>th</sup> by Email to [marnatoli@att.net](mailto:marnatoli@att.net).

### Union Cemetery Memorial Day Services

Saturday, May 29, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. at 227 E. 28<sup>th</sup> Terr., Kansas City, MO.

### From Slaves to Soldiers

Tuesday, June 1, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Virtual Event with John Bruce. Experience the history of the African American Buffalo Soldiers. Register by going to [www.mymcpl.org/events/69640/slaves-soldiers-mcpl360](http://www.mymcpl.org/events/69640/slaves-soldiers-mcpl360). At the scheduled date and time, go to [www.facebook.com/mcpl360](http://www.facebook.com/mcpl360).

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Discover Fort Osage!

Saturday, June 5, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Fort Osage, 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO. This event showcases the best of the history and cultures associated with Fort Osage through music, storytelling, walking tours, and historic crafts. Adults – \$8. Seniors – \$4. Youth – \$4.

### Confederate Memorial Day – CANCELLED

Saturday, June 5, 2021. Higginsville, MO. Due to COVID there will not be an event this year. The Confederate Memorial Friends Association looks forward to seeing you next year.

### Trails and Trailblazers

Saturday, June 5, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Baldwin City, KS. Shuttle buses leave on the half hour from Baker University’s Collins Center Parking Lot at 6<sup>th</sup> and Fremont to historic sites. 2:00 p.m. – Dedication of a

new Blackjack Ruts Trail at the Ivan Boyd Memorial Prairie Preserve. 3:00 p.m. – Tour of the Black Jack Battlefield with John Brown and Capt. Pate. Limited parking so please use the shuttle.

#### Flag Day at Fort Osage

Saturday, June 12, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Fort Osage, 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO. The same designed flag that flew over Fort Osage also flew over Ft. McHenry during the War of 1812. Raise and lower the colors and learn how the U. S. flag and its customs have changed over the course of history. Adults – \$8. Seniors – \$4. Youth – \$4.

#### Brown Bag Program – Shawnee Indian Mission

Wednesday, June 16, 2021 – Noon. Bring your own lunch. Speaker about 12:30 p.m. Shawnee Indian Mission, 3403 W. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, Fairway, KS. Alex Welborn: “The Clendenen Museum at the KU Medical Center.” It features early history of the hospital and medical school including methods and equipment employed. RSVP to kencook66103@gmail.com.

#### Independence Civil War Study Group

Wednesday, June 16, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant, 3939 S. Bolger Drive, Independence, MO (across from Walmart). Sam Gill: Shelby’s 1863 Raid.”

#### 30<sup>th</sup> Annual War of 1812 in the West Symposium

Saturday and Sunday, June 19-20, 2021. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 9:00 a.m. to Noon on Sunday. Join national and regional historians who will discuss battles, campaigns, Native Americans, Rangers and the Army. The event is FREE to the public and no registration is required. Located at Fort Osage, 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO.

#### Draft Day at Missouri Town 1855

Saturday, June 19, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. 8010 E. Park Road, Lee’s Summit, MO. Get your fantasy team ready just in time for the harvest season! Will you pick the powerhouse oxen, the agile horse, or the dependable mule? See a variety of draft animals in action and decide who you would start out on the field. Adults – \$7. Seniors and Youth – \$4.

#### Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

Tuesday, June 22, 2021 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner. Cost is \$30. Teresa Roane, Archivist for the United Daughters of the Confederacy: “Role of Minorities in the Logistical Operations of The Confederate Army.” RSVP by Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> to marnatoli@att.net.

#### Artifact Day at Fort Osage

Saturday, June 26, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Fort Osage, 107 Osage Street, Sibley, MO. Gain an understanding of the past through the science of archaeology. Professionals will be on hand to help you identify any artifacts you may bring. Adult–\$8. Senior–\$4. Youth–\$4

## **Ongoing History Events**

#### Atkins-Johnson Farm, Gladstone, MO

Wednesday – Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. 4109 NE Pleasant Valley Road, Gladstone, MO.

#### Arrow Rock State Historic Site

39521 Visitor Center Drive, Arrow Rock, MO. Wednesday – Sun. 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Exhibit called “Paddlewheel to Wagon Wheel” will be on display through the end of the year. It explains how commerce on the Missouri River and the Santa Fe Trail were interwoven and resulted in Missouri being declared “the soundest economy in the Union” by 1839.

#### Bingham-Waggoner Estate

313 W. Pacific Ave., Independence, MO. Opens May 1, 2021. Thursday – Saturday – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sunday – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tours are given on the hour and the last tour starts at 3:00 p.m. Adults – \$6. Seniors – \$5. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - By appointment.

#### Clay County Museum

14 N. Main Street, Liberty, MO. Monday – Friday – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Saturday – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Closed Sunday. Masks required.

#### Lone Jack Battlefield Museum

301 S. Bynum Road, Lone Jack, MO (12 miles east of Lee’s Summit, MO on US 50 Highway. Hours are Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Adults: \$5.

#### Missouri Town 1855

8010 E. Park Road, Lee’s Summit, MO (near Lake Jacomo). Drive-thru Tuesdays – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Drive your personal vehicle down the main road into Missouri Town to explore the village and visit with living history interpreters. All tours begin at the Visitor Center where admission is purchased. Adults – \$7. Seniors 62 and over – \$4. Dates in May are May 4, 11, 18, 25. Dates in June are June 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.

### Vaile Mansion

1500 N. Liberty, Independence, MO. Opens May 1, 2021. Thursday – Saturday – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday – 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Adults – \$6. Seniors – \$5.

## News About Members and Friends

We wish to extend our condolences to the family and friends of recently deceased members of the history community:

**John Moloski**, Died March 22, 2021. John was a Board Member of the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri. He graduated from Rockhurst College in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in history, philosophy, and political science. He was a remarkable Civil War historian, publisher, and re-enactor.

**Keith Nelson**, Died April 26, 2021. Keith was a Clay County Archives Board Member and the originator and supporter of the Chouteau Fountain which should be displayed in July, 2021. He spoke to our Round Table about this project several times, and we made a contribution.

**Mavis Gippner**, Died April 16, 2021. Mavis was the leader and caller for the Missouri Town 1855 dancers.

**Kenneth Gene Abitz**, Died February 15, 2021. Ken was a Board Member and longtime supporter of the Black Jack Battlefield and Nature Park in Kansas.

**Glenda Burcham**, Died March 11, 2021. Glenda was a very active member of Village Heights Community of Christ Church where our Round Table met and was our liaison with the church. We will miss her ready smile and cute dimples.

There continues to be controversy in Liberty, MO over the **Confederate soldier's monument in Fairview Cemetery**. Eric Adler wrote a piece for the Kansas City Star on February 28, 2021, which gave the viewpoint of Black people who lived during segregation in Liberty and were reminded of their status whenever they viewed the monument. Friends of John Moloski tried to have his cremains interred near the monument but it was found that there are already burials there.

**The Bingham-Waggoner Estate** will be open for tours again, but one face will be missing – its longtime Site Coordinator, Shireen McLaughlin who has retired after 14 years.

## Hill Park Cemetery Independence, Jackson County, Missouri

10499 E. 20th Street, Independence MO  
Lat: 39° 05' 01"N, Lon: 94° 27' 15"W

From Kansas City, MO, take I-70 East to I-435. Take I-435 North to State Highway 78 (E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street). Take E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, East to South Ralston Ave. and turn left (North). Take S. Ralston to E. 20th Street and turn left. Cemetery is halfway down the block on the South side of the street.

This cemetery was once part of land owned by Adam Hill. This area is now Hill Park, which has a public area, and contains a walking trail and a skate park near the cemetery. For additional information, please contact: Independence, Missouri, Parks and Recreation Department.

The Hill Cemetery contains the remains of Adam Hill and his immediate and extended family members plus a few descendants. It is located on land once owned by them before becoming a public park. The cemetery opens to a peaceful vista of meadows sloping down to a creek lined with trees, now complete with a skate park nearby.

Here also lies the remains of Alexander "Frank" James, brother of Jesse James, and Frank's wife Ann Ralston James. Ann Ralston was the daughter of Samuel Ralston and Mary Catherine Hill.

Mrs. Frank Abston, daughter of William Hill, granddaughter of Adam, is the last marked burial. In 1933, Mrs. Abston stated that also interred here are a sister-in-law and nephew of Adam, near the close of the Civil War, Peter Land, a Confederate soldier killed during the battle at Independence, MO, June 1861, four small babies and seven children, all descendants. Frank and Ann Ralston's burial was not mentioned.

+ = Family relationship obtained by research (not stated on stone) – see below;

**Abston, Fannie Brooks Hill**, b. 27 Apr 1874, d. 03 Nov 1959, Wife of Frank Abston, + Daughter of Wm. Moberly and Ann Gossett Hill

**Abston, Frank**, b. 22 Feb 1872, d. 16 Oct 1948

**Hill, Adam**, b. 29 Aug 1799, d. 24 Feb 1896, s/w Ann Wood Hill

**Hill, Ann Elizabeth Gossett**, b. 10 Nov 1850, d. 04 Nov. 1880, Wife of W. M. Hill

**Hill, Ann Elizabeth**, age: 2 yr. + Possible dau. of Wm. Moberly and Ann Gossett Hill

**Hill, Ann Wood**, b. 26 Aug 1809, d. 12 Jul 1851, Father and Mother, s/w Adam Hill. + Dau. of Benjamin Moberly and Susannah Anderson Reid

**Hill, Curtis**, b. 29 Dec 1845, d. 17 Jun 1867, 24 y 5 m 18 d, Two stones, both flat in pieces. + Son of Adam and Ann Moberly Hill

**Hill, Moberly Erwin**, 5 yr. + Possible son of Wm Moberly and Ann Gossett Hill

**Hill, William Moberly**, b. 06 Jul 1836, d. 27 Nov 1912, + Son of Adam and Ann Moberly Hill

**James, Alexander F**, b. 1843, d. 1915, s/w Ann Ralston James. + Known as Frank, brother of Jesse James

**James, Ann Ralston**, b. 1853, d. 1944, s/w Alexander F James. + Daughter of Samuel Ralston and Mary Catherine Hill 2 Old stone markers, + Possible children of Adam and Ann Moberly Hill



Ann Ralston James

Wife of Western Outlaw Frank James. The daughter of wealthy Independence, Missouri businessman Samuel Ralston, she was working as a school teacher when she met and married Frank James, brother of Jesse James. The cremated remains of her husband had been kept in storage until the death of Ann Ralston. On July 26, 1944, the cremated remains of both Frank James and wife Ann Ralston were buried in Hill Park Cemetery. The Ralston home, located at 2121 Sterling Road, Independence, Missouri, still stands today.

## Frank James Was a Family Man

He had married Annie Ralston in Omaha, Nebraska, on June 6, 1874, just six weeks after Jesse married his first cousin, Zerelda or Zee. Annie gave birth to their only child, a son, Robert Franklin James, on February 6, 1878. When Jesse was killed in 1882, Frank must have looked at three-year-old Robert and said, "I have to get out of this life."

The letters that Frank wrote during his prison stay as he awaited his trials convey the deep love he felt for his wife and child, and they for him. On Valentine's Day in 1884, while he sat in a jail in Huntsville, Alabama, having been acquitted of the Missouri charges, but still waiting for his trial over the Muscle Shoals payroll robbery in 1881, Frank concluded his letter to Annie with, "Kiss Rob and remember me to Ma and all the family. Hoping to hear from you soon. Will say good night."

When Frank was still in Missouri, in Gallatin, awaiting his trial, on March 24, 1883, he sent a drawing of a bird to his son Robert, printing on the reverse, "God Bless My Little Man from Papa."

When Frank sent Annie a pen and ink sketch he made of him kissing her through the jail bars, his dear wife he so desperately missed and wished to hold once more, she added a Maggie May Danehy poem to his drawing and wrote, on the reverse side, "Still my griefs are mine."

Frank surrendered on October 4, 1882, and four years later, he walked out a free man. "The issue of Frank James being allowed to go free after so public a life of crime is still hotly contested today," Marley Brant wrote in *The Outlaw Youngers*.

Frank left behind his life of crime and found work in various jobs, as a shoe salesman, a Burlesque ticket taker (the theatre promoted, "Come get your ticket punched by the legendary Frank James"), an AT&T telegraph operator, the betting commissioner for a horse racetrack and a berry picker at a Washington ranch. He even joined up with his old comrade, Cole Younger, on a Wild West show tour through the South, and gave lectures on how crime does not pay.

Frank lived in Nashville, Tennessee, in various places in Missouri (including St. Louis during the 1890's) and in Oklahoma from 1907 to 1912. In a speech Frank gave at the August 1904 reunion of Quantrill's men in Independence, Missouri, Frank said, "I have been in Ohio, Pennsylvania and other states we learned to hate because they gave birth to the Federal troops we hated so well, and their people have treated me like a man," Frank told the war-scarred veterans. "But here in Missouri, among my own people, I am un-honored and unsung, then why should I not turn to the belief of the people who have, in my declining years, proved my friends?"

His mother's death brought Frank back to the James family farm in Kearney, where his story had begun all those years ago. After his mother died on February 10, 1911, on her way home from visiting him in Oklahoma, Frank planned to summer in Missouri and winter in Oklahoma, which he did, until 1913, whereafter he stayed in Missouri permanently.

At the James family farm, Frank gave 25-cent tours and sold souvenir pebbles to folks who stopped by to visit the grave of Jesse James and his childhood home. A man perpetually outshone by his younger brother in the annals of history, Frank left behind his wife, Annie, and their son, Robert, dying from a stroke, at the age of 72, on February 18, 1915.

