



# THE LARIAT

Voice of the  
**LITTLE RIVER RAIDERS**

Website [www.littlerriveraiders.com.au](http://www.littlerriveraiders.com.au)

No5/2017  
President: Tony Diablo

November 2017  
Scribe: Patrick Floyd Garrett

## CAPTAIN'S CORNER (OR SAMBUCCA'S SPEAK)

Howdy all,

In October we held a General Meeting of members after the monthly shoot.

I spoke briefly about the matter of Club, Committee and Communication.

**CLUB:** Single Action started in Victoria at Dalhousie (near Seymour) in the mid 90's not unlike it started in the U.S. by the Wild Bunch some years earlier. Two Clubs came out of that namely Ft. Bridger and us, Little River Raiders, sponsored by the Military Rifle/Pistol Club. LRR was Licensed as a Re-enactment or living History Club.

**COMMITTEE:** President, Vice President, Secretary, Club Captain, Treasurer, Competitions Officer, Safety Officer and 3 Committee members. The Committee meets monthly to discuss various matters on behalf of members and to plan the annual calendar of event.

**COMMUNICATION:** We have various means of communication namely:

- At Club competition
- Lariat
- Emails
- General Meetings and AGM
- Face to face.

You will note that we do, in the main, ask for matters from members to be in writing to the Secretary. Why? If you ask a committee member to put something before the committee say while shooting the Sunday comp. You are asking that person to remember word for word just what you want!

Unfortunately, that doesn't always work. Something can be left out or presented out of context. The best way to present something to the committee is in your own words – you can do this in writing to the Secretary or ask the Secretary if you can present the matter in person.

On behalf of the Committee and I then addressed the following matters:

### **DRESS:**

Generally, I covered this under "Embrace your sport of Single Action" and "Family".

#### **From the Club Handbook:**

Baseball caps, shorts, short sleeved shirts, and sneakers are not permitted. 'cammos' are not permitted on our Ranges at any time. It is not hard to dress 'cowboy'! Jeans, a check work shirt an Akubra hat and typical work boots **make a perfectly acceptable start**. Sure, you'll see some pretty flash western attire on the Range, but you can ease into that at your own pace.

#### **From the SASS Handbook:**

**CLOTHING & ACCOUTREMENTS** Cowboy Action Shooting™ is a combination of historical re-enactment and Saturday morning at the matinee. Participants may choose the style of costume they wish to wear, but all clothing must be typical of the late 19th century, a B-Western movie, or Western television series. SASS puts a great deal of emphasis on costuming because it adds so much to the uniqueness of the game and helps to create a festive, informal atmosphere that supports the friendly, fraternal feeling we encourage in our competitors. **All shooters must be in costume, and we encourage**

invited guests and family also to be costumed. Shooters must remain in costume at all match events, including dinners, award ceremonies, dances, and other SASS related activities. All clothing and equipment must be worn appropriately and how it was intended, or how it would have been in the Old West or as seen on B-Western movies and television.

The Committee has recently discussed this matter and one of the major concerns is boots. Whilst we state that “work boots make an acceptable start” it was observed on a recent comp day that at least 15 pairs of work boots were being worn and they aren’t really appropriate to “the Old West”. Accordingly, we ask members to embrace our sport in the true sense and make Cowboy boots part of your costuming and we would like to see this by end January 2018 please. There are plenty of places that sell boots and the Internet can help out.

### **FIRST HANDGUN CALIBRE ABOVE .38 CALIBRE**

There seems to some confusion regarding the calibre of the first Handgun you purchase. To clear this up, from the Club’s perspective, your first Handgun must be Single Action and can be above .38 Calibre.

In terms of the Permit to Acquire you can have an above .38 Calibre. A .44 or .45 is considered a Controlled Handgun and authorisation by the Commissioner of Police is required. However, because we are a re-enactment Pistol Club we are licensed to use above .38 calibre i.e. Controlled Handguns, so be assured that your first and subsequent Handguns can be above .38 Calibre when PTA is signed off by LRR or another Single Action Club.

### **SIGNING IN BUT NOT SHOOTING:**

There have been a few incidents of members signing in at the Club but not shooting. This is not acceptable and you are actually breaking the law by making a false statement that you have attended a Club Match or Practice. This can reflect not only on the member but also on the Club and this practice must cease immediately. If you make the effort to go to the Range please do the right thing and participate. We

don’t want to put more controls in place than we already have but will have no option if members don’t do the right thing.

### **CLUB GUNS:**

We make Club Guns available to help members get involved as quickly as possible after obtaining their licence and/or getting practical experience under a NoRI. It is expected that members will look to purchase their own firearms within a 12-month period to ensure that there is not too much pressure (and wear and tear) on the Club Guns.

Most have their Category A & B Licence early after joining so the only real delay is Handguns because of the waiting period imposed by the Firearms Act.

Accordingly, we ask that every effort be made to have your full set of firearms within 12 months of joining the Club. If any difficulty is encountered in achieving this please speak to a Committee member to seek consideration to an extension beyond the 12-month period.

### **.45 1911’s**

If you purchased a .45 1911 to compete in the Mexican War or Metallic Silhouette then you made a statement in your Permit to Acquire that you were purchasing this Handgun to compete in that event! If and audit where to be conducted by LRD and you haven’t used that Handgun for the purpose (genuine reason) stated why have you got it? If you have it you need to use it.

### **CLUB MATCHES:**

Being part of our Club is the social side, not only shooting the competition. We encourage all to arrive early and help set up and clean up afterwards but an important part comes after that! We put on a sausage sizzle style of lunch and it is a great time to relax, have something to eat and a bit of a chat – getting to know your fellow Club members. We don’t stay all afternoon so you’re on the way home within an hour. So, lock your guns away and mosey up to the Club room.



## **WORKING WITH CHILDREN:**

Just a reminder on the "Working with Children" programme that has recently been overhauled with more stringent requirements as to those that have to have the check done. SSAA (Vic) has requested that all Range Officers have the check and we, as a Club, have had all the Committee undergo the check.

It is really quite easy and doesn't cost anything (which is a change) so if any members help with being a Range Officer and other duties that involve Juniors we ask that you go to the following site:

<http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/apply+for+a+check>

When you have the check please let Buck know for the records.

## **RED FLAG:**

Remember the Red Flag must be flying at our Range(s) before you remove firearms from your vehicle.

## **CAR SECURITY:**

Just a reminder again to make sure your vehicle is locked at all times at the range, particularly when you put your guns away for lunch.

Remember "Spirit of the Game" is the Cowboy way of being a good sport and we are all part of that Cowboy family.

See u on the range. Regards, Sambucca, Club Captain.

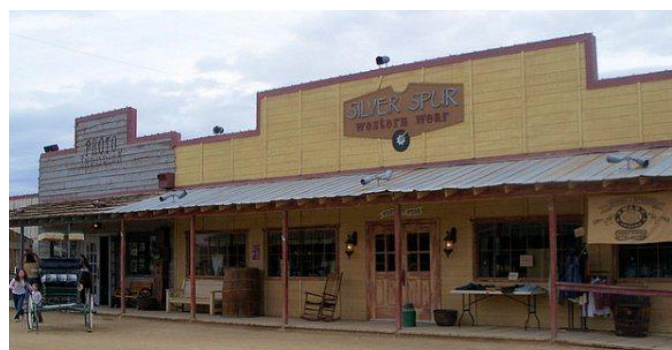


## **WELCOME THE NEW OFFICE BEARERS**

Buck Silverton as the new Club Secretary.

Texas Fingers as the new Competition Officer.

## **RAWHIDE: WHERE THE WEST IS STILL WILD.**



Have you ever wanted to see what life was like back before Arizona even became a state? If you want to go where the Old West is still alive, then Rawhide is the place for you.

Rawhide began back in the late 1800's as a frontier town, started by Charles "Rawhide" Rawley, a tradesman who wanted to start a town and his own store to provide goods, services and jobs for other settlers in the area.

People began to settle there; a town was soon born, and that town eventually grew into the Rawhide that we can enjoy today. In fact, many of Rawhide's more famous shops are run by the descendants of the people who originally built them.

Rawhide offers many different attractions celebrating its history and the spirit of the Old West. While you're there, you can enjoy activities, including live-action stunt shows, a train ride around the town, burro rides for the kids, gold panning, rock climbing, and so much more.

Of course, the attractions aren't the only reason to enjoy Rawhide; there's also a good variety of shops to visit if you want a souvenir to bring back. Among others, there's a blacksmith, a shop where you can buy Wild West-themed clothes, a candy



store, a toy store and, of course, the Rawhide General Store that started it all.

Finally, there's the biggest shop of all, the main attraction in the entire town — the world-famous Rawhide Steakhouse & Golden Belle Saloon, where you can dine on the finest Western-themed meals. Whether you're in the mood for steak, barbecue or anything else, it's all here, and it's all served to live music and occasionally other live entertainment.

So if you want to see a piece of Arizona history, and a place where the West is still very much "wild," then Rawhide's a place you definitely won't want to miss.



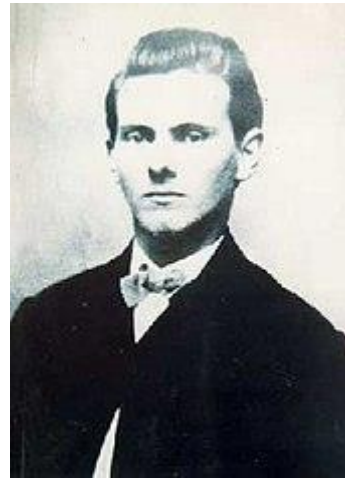
## THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JESSE JAMES

Jesse Woodson James was born on September 5, 1847 in Clay County, Missouri, near the site of present-day Kearney. This area of Missouri was largely settled by people from the Upper South, especially Kentucky and Tennessee, and became known as Little Dixie for this reason. James had two full siblings: his elder brother, Alexander Franklin "Frank" James, and a younger sister, Susan Lavenia James. His father, Robert S. James, farmed commercial hemp in Kentucky and was a Baptist minister before coming to Missouri. After he married, he migrated to Bradford, Missouri and helped found William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri. He held six slaves and more than 100 acres (0.40 km<sup>2</sup>) of farmland.

Robert travelled to California during the Gold Rush to minister to those searching for gold; he

died there when James was three years old. After Robert's death, his widow Zerelda remarried twice, first to Benjamin Simms in 1852 and then in 1855 to Dr. Reuben Samuel, who moved into the James family home. Jesse's mother and Samuel had four children together: Sarah Louisa, John Thomas, Fannie Quantrell, and Archie Peyton Samuel. Zerelda and Samuel acquired a total of seven slaves, who served mainly as farmhands in tobacco cultivation

## American Civil War



James as a young man

After a series of campaigns and battles between conventional armies in 1861, guerrilla warfare gripped Missouri, waged between secessionist "bushwhackers" and Union forces which largely consisted of local militias known as "jayhawkers". A bitter conflict ensued, resulting in an escalating cycle of atrocities committed by both sides. Confederate guerrillas murdered civilian Unionists, executed prisoners, and scalped the dead. The Union presence enforced martial law with raids on homes, arrests of civilians, summary executions, and banishment of Confederate sympathizers from the state. The James–Samuel family sided with the Confederates at the outbreak of war. Frank James joined a local company recruited for the secessionist Drew Lobbs Army, and fought at the Battle of Wilson's Creek in August 1861. He fell ill and returned home soon afterward. In 1863, he was identified as a member of a guerrilla squad that operated in Clay County. In May of that year, a Union militia company raided the James–Samuel farm looking for Frank's group. They tortured Reuben Samuel by briefly hanging him from a tree. According to legend, they lashed young Jesse.

## James–Younger Gang

Meanwhile, the James brothers joined with Cole Younger and his brothers John, Jim and Bob, as well as Clell Miller and other former Confederates, to form what came to be known as the James–Younger Gang. With Jesse James as the most public face of the gang (though with operational leadership likely shared among the group), the gang carried out a string of robberies from Iowa to Texas, and from Kansas to West Virginia. They robbed banks, stagecoaches and a fair in Kansas City, often carrying out their crimes in front of crowds, and even hamming it up for the bystanders.

On July 21, 1873, they turned to train robbery, derailing a Rock Island Line train west of Adair, Iowa and stealing approximately \$3,000 (equivalent to \$60,000 in 2016). For this, they wore Ku Klux Klan masks. By this time, the Klan had been suppressed in the South by President Grant's use of the Enforcement Acts. Former rebels attacked the railroads as symbols of threatening centralization.

The gang's later train robberies had a lighter touch. The gang held up passengers only twice, choosing in all other incidents to take only the contents of the express safe in the baggage car. John Newman Edwards made sure to highlight such techniques when creating an image of James as a kind of Robin Hood. Despite public sentiment toward the gang's crimes, there is no evidence that the James gang ever shared any of the robbery money outside their personal circle

Jesse and his cousin Zee married on April 24, 1874. They had two children who survived to adulthood: Jesse Edward James (b. 1875) and Mary Susan James (later Barr, b. 1879). Twins Gould and Montgomery James (b. 1878) died in infancy. Jesse Jr. became a lawyer who practiced in Kansas City, Missouri and Los Angeles, California.

### Downfall of the gang

On September 7, 1876—the opening day of hunting season in Minnesota—the James–Younger gang attempted a raid on the First National Bank of Northfield, Minnesota. The robbery quickly

went wrong, however, and after the robbery, only Frank and Jesse James remained alive and free.

Cole and Bob Younger later stated that they selected the bank because they believed it was associated with the Republican politician Adelbert Ames, the governor of Mississippi during Reconstruction, and Union general Benjamin Butler, Ames' father-in-law and the Union commander of occupied New Orleans. Ames was a stockholder in the bank, but Butler had no direct connection to it

The gang attempted to rob the bank in Northfield at about 2 pm. To carry out the robbery, the gang divided into two groups. Three men entered the bank, two guarded the door outside, and three remained near a bridge across an adjacent square. The robbers inside the bank were thwarted when acting cashier Joseph Lee Heywood refused to open the safe, falsely claiming that it was secured by a time lock even as they held a Bowie knife to his throat and cracked his skull with a pistol butt. Assistant cashier Alonzo Enos Bunker was wounded in the shoulder as he fled through the back door of the bank. Meanwhile, the citizens of Northfield grew suspicious of the men guarding the door and raised the alarm. The five bandits outside fired into the air to clear the streets, driving the townspeople to take cover and fire back from protected positions. They shot two bandits dead and wounded the rest in the barrage. Inside, the outlaws turned to flee. As they left, one shot the unarmed cashier Heywood in the head. Historians have speculated about the identity of the shooter but have not reached consensus.

The gang barely escaped Northfield, leaving two dead companions behind. They killed Heywood and Nicholas Gustafson, a Swedish immigrant from the Millersburg community west of Northfield. A massive manhunt ensued. It is believed that the gang burned 14 Rice County mills shortly after the robbery. The James brothers eventually split from the others and escaped to Missouri. The militia soon discovered the Youngers and one other bandit, Charlie Pitts. In a gunfight, Pitts died and the Youngers were taken prisoner. Except for Frank and Jesse James, the James–Younger Gang was destroyed.

Later in 1876, Jesse and Frank James surfaced in the Nashville, Tennessee, area, where they went

by the names of Thomas Howard and B. J. Woodson, respectively. Frank seemed to settle down, but Jesse remained restless. He recruited a new gang in 1879 and returned to crime, holding up a train at Glendale, Missouri (now part of Independence), on October 8, 1879. The robbery was the first in a spree of crimes, including the hold-up of the federal paymaster of a canal project in Killen, Alabama, and two more train robberies. But the new gang was not made up of battle-hardened guerrillas; they soon turned against each other or were captured. James grew suspicious of other members; he scared away one man and some believe that he killed another gang member.

In 1879, the James gang robbed two stores in far western Mississippi, at Washington in Adams County and Fayette in Jefferson County. The gang absconded with \$2,000 cash in the second robbery and took shelter in abandoned cabins on the Kemp Plantation south of St. Joseph, Louisiana. A law enforcement posse attacked and killed two of the outlaws but failed to capture the entire gang. Among the deputies was Jefferson B. Snyder, later a long-serving district attorney in northeastern Louisiana.

By 1881, with local Tennessee authorities growing suspicious, the brothers returned to Missouri, where they felt safer. James moved his family to St. Joseph, Missouri in November 1881, not far from where he had been born and reared. Frank, however, decided to move to safer territory and headed east to settle in Virginia. They intended to give up crime. The James gang had been reduced to the two of them.

## Death

With his gang nearly annihilated, James trusted only the Ford brothers, Charley and Robert. Although Charley had been out on raids with James, Bob Ford was an eager new recruit. For protection, James asked the Ford brothers to move in with him and his family. James had often stayed with their sister Martha Bolton and, according to rumour, he was "smitten" with her. By that time, Bob Ford had already conducted secret negotiations with Missouri Governor Thomas T. Crittenden, planning to bring in the famous outlaw. Crittenden had made capture of the James brothers his top priority; in his inaugural address he declared that no political motives could be allowed

to keep them from justice. Barred by law from offering a large reward, he had turned to the railroad and express corporations to put up a \$5,000 bounty for each of them.<sup>[1]</sup>

On April 3, 1882, after eating breakfast, the Fords and James's went into the living room before traveling to Platte City for a robbery. From the newspaper, James had just learned that gang member Dick Liddil had confessed to participating in Wood Hite's murder. He was suspicious that the Fords had not told him about it. Robert Ford later said he believed that James had realized they were there to betray him. Instead of confronting them, James walked across the living room and laid his revolvers on a sofa. He turned around and noticed a dusty picture above the mantle, and stood on a chair to clean it. Robert Ford drew his weapon, and shot the unarmed Jesse James in the back of the head. James' two previous bullet wounds and partially missing middle finger served to positively identify the body.

The death of Jesse James became a national sensation. The Fords made no attempt to hide their role. Robert Ford wired the governor to claim his reward. Crowds pressed into the little house in St. Joseph to see the dead bandit. The Ford brothers surrendered to the authorities and were dismayed to be charged with first-degree murder. In the course of a single day, the Ford brothers were indicted, pleaded guilty, were sentenced to death by hanging, and were granted a full pardon by Governor Crittenden. The governor's quick pardon suggested he knew the brothers intended to kill James rather than capture him. The implication that the chief executive of Missouri conspired to kill a private citizen startled the public and added to James' notoriety.

After receiving a small portion of the reward, the Fords fled Missouri. Sheriff James Timberlake and Marshal Henry H. Craig, who were law enforcement officials active in the plan, were awarded the majority of the bounty. Later the Ford brothers starred in a touring stage show in which they re-enacted the shooting. Public opinion was divided between those against the Fords for murdering Jesse, and those of the opinion that it had been time for the outlaw to be stopped. Suffering from tuberculosis (then incurable) and a morphine addiction, Charley Ford committed suicide on May 6, 1884, in Richmond, Missouri. Bob Ford

operated a tent saloon in Creede, Colorado. On June 8, 1892, Edward O'Kelley went to Creede, loaded a double-barrel shotgun, entered Ford's saloon and said "Hello, Bob," before shooting Ford in the throat, killing him instantly.

O'Kelley was sentenced to life in prison, but his sentence was subsequently commuted because of a 7,000-signature petition in favour of his release. The Governor of Colorado pardoned him on October 3, 1902.



Jesse James Gravestone in Kearney, Missouri. Courtesy of the Missouri State Archives.

James' original grave was on his family property, but he was later moved to a cemetery in Kearney. The original footstone is still there, although the family has replaced the headstone. James' mother Zerelda Samuel wrote the following epitaph for him: "In Loving Memory of my Beloved Son, Murdered by a Traitor and Coward Whose Name is not worthy to appear here." James' widow Zerelda Mimms James died alone and in poverty.



## Legacy

James' turn to crime after the end of the Reconstruction era helped cement his place in American life and memory as a simple but remarkably effective bandit. After 1873 he was covered by the national media as part of social banditry. During his lifetime, James was celebrated chiefly by former Confederates, to whom he appealed directly in his

letters to the press. Displaced by Reconstruction, the antebellum political leadership mythologized the James Gang exploits. Frank Triplett wrote about James as a "progressive neo-aristocrat" with "purity of race." Some historians credit James' myth as contributing to the rise of former Confederates to dominance in Missouri politics. In the 1880s, both U.S. Senators from the state, former Confederate military commander Francis Cockrell and former Confederate Congressman George Graham Vest, were identified with the Confederate cause.

In the 1880s, after James' death, the James Gang became the subject of dime novels that represented the bandits as pre-industrial models of resistance. During the Populist and Progressive eras, James became an icon as America's Robin Hood, standing up against corporations in defence of the small farmer, robbing from the rich and giving to the poor. But there is no evidence that he shared the loot of his robberies with anyone other than his gang members; they enjoyed the riches with him.

Jesse James remains a controversial symbol, one who can always be reinterpreted in various ways according to cultural tensions and needs. Some of the neo-Confederate movement regard him as a hero. But renewed cultural battles over the place of the Civil War in American history have replaced the long-standing interpretation of James as a Western frontier hero.



Jesse and Frank James in 1872



## 1860 HENRY AND 1866 WINCHESTER MUSKET

**Winchester rifle series**

<b>Type</b>	<u>Rifle</u>
<b>Place of origin</b>	United States
<b>Service history</b>	
<b>In service</b>	1866–1940s (U.S)
<b>Used by</b>	United States
	Canada
	Mexico
<b>Wars</b>	Ottoman Empire
	<u>American Indian Wars</u> ,
	<u>Russo-Turkish War of 1877–78</u> ,
<b>Wars</b>	<u>North-West Rebellion</u> ,
	<u>French intervention in Mexico</u>
	<u>Spanish–American War</u> ,
<b>Wars</b>	<u>Mexican Revolution</u> , <u>World War I</u> , <u>World War II</u>
<b>Production history</b>	
<b>Designed</b>	1866
<b>Manufacturer</b>	<u>Winchester Repeating Arms Company</u>
<b>Produced</b>	1866–present
<b>No. built</b>	≈720,000
<b>Variants</b>	Full-stocked "Musket", Carbine, Sporting model
<b>Specifications</b>	
<b>Weight</b>	9.5 lb (4.3 kg)
<b>Length</b>	49.3 in (125 cm)
<b><u>Barrel</u> length</b>	30 in (76 cm)
<b><u>Calibre</u></b>	<u>.44-40 Winchester</u> , <u>.38-40 Winchester</u> , <u>.32-20 Winchester</u> , <u>.22 Long Rifle</u>
<b><u>Action</u></b>	<u>Lever action</u>
<b>Feed system</b>	15-round <u>tube magazine</u>
<b>Sights</b>	Graduated rear sights, fixed-post front sights

## ADVERTISEMENTS

For all your reloading needs see Tony Diablo great prices on projectiles primers and other items if he hasn't got it in stock he can get for you.

**DIABLO RELOADING SERVICE**

Tony  
0419 187 980

**BENALLACK'S SPORTS**

*Handwritten signature: Andrew*  
*Handwritten number: 0447 660857*

**Camperdown** 203-205 Manifold St Camperdown VIC 3260  
Phone: (03) 5593 1894 Mobile: 0447 660 057  
Email: sales@benallackpl.net.au

**A.N. HEPNER & SONS**

L.I.C. FIREARM DEALERS

EST: 2011  
Lic No. 414 - 853 - 80F

DEALING IN:  
FINE BRITISH DOUBLE RIFLES & SINGLE SHOT RIFLES  
AS WELL AS ALL CONTEMPORARY  
- RIFLES - SHOT GUNS - PISTOLS -  
RARE & COLLECTABLE KNIVES

PH: 0412 841 555 Email: andrew@fineguns.com.au

If you have anything you would like to advertise in the Lariat pending approval, please email me at [voyagerncc69@gmail.com](mailto:voyagerncc69@gmail.com)

Regards *P.F.G.*

