

IDAHO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1994

NEXT MEETING: LEWISTON, NOV. 11



On **November 11th**, Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston will officially dedicate the Centennial Mall on campus. This beautiful addition to the campus includes bronze statues of Twisted Hair, Meriwether Lewis, William Clark and Lawyer by artist Doug Hyde. As part of the dedication, the final two statues depicting three generations of Nez Perce women will be unveiled. The Centennial Mall commemorates LCSC's 100th anniversary in 1993.

All chapter members are invite and encouraged to attend this dedication to be held at **1:00 p.m.** The site is between Reid Hall and the College Union Building. A public reception will follow in the Williams Conference Center on campus.

Upon completion of the ceremonies, a short chapter meeting will be held in **Room 207** of the C.U.B. (adjacent to the Williams Conference Center).

Agenda items include:

- 1995 meetings
- Appointment of nominating committee - officers and directors need to be elected in 1995 for two year terms.
- Treasurer's Report
- Report of raffle/video tape project
- Suggestions for future chapter activities and/or projects
- Other new business

At the last meeting in Kamiah area, the following suggestions were made for 1995 meetings. A spring meeting to be held in late March at Lolo Hot Springs. This would also give interested members an afternoon of spring cross-country skiing at Lolo Pass or swimming at the hot springs prior to the meeting. Members also expressed interest in having another campout on the Lolo Trail. Two dates recommended for this are July 15-19 or August 13-17. If you would be interested in this type of activity, please let us know. Finally, we will also conduct a meeting/field trip in the Salmon area perhaps in the later half of June or in the fall. It was also suggested that in lieu of a field trip activity, the chapter could bring in a speaker. Please let Steve Lee know your feelings on these suggestions at the November meeting or write him at PO Box 96, Boise 83701 or call (208) 336-5066. We welcome your input on Chapter activities and meetings.

President Steve Lee named Lydia Justice Edwards of Boise, Jim Fazio of Moscow and Diane Coons of Clarkston to the nominating committee. Call them if you are interested in serving or have names to submit for next year's board: Lydia (334-3200); Jim (882-0965) or Dee (509-758-9850).

LEWIS-CLARK STATE COLLEGE

A Nez Perce tableau

■ Statues depict historic meeting

By Mohsin Askari
of the Tribune

Life-sized statues depicting Nez Perce chief Twisted Hair's first meeting with explorers Lewis and Clark were placed at the Lewis-Clark State College campus Friday morning.

The meeting, which would change the course of history, took place in 1805 as the Lewis and Clark party straggled over the Bitterroot Mountains, short of food and reduced to eating its horses.

The tableau, which also shows Twisted Hair's son "being a little boy," according to New Mexico sculptor Doug Hyde, is the focal point of LCSC's Centennial Mall, which is under construction.

It is placed on a specially created site that has "rivers" gushing through it, with old trees framing the entire area. The rivers have been created by building an underground tank that circulates water through them.

"It's going to be spectacular when all the plants are in," Hyde said, adding that it is going to be the best such site anywhere.

The mounds are symbolic of the area's mountains, he said, and vegetation will reflect the way things were before plants were introduced from outside.

There will be a row of small trees on the highest ridge in the area, serving as a backdrop. And native vegetation such as camas will be planted throughout the area.

Two more statues are yet to come to add to the story being related by the scene. One statue is of a woman picking berries, while the other is of a woman teaching her granddaughter how to dig camas roots.

Several people showed up at the site for the unveiling of the tableau. Among them was Mylie Lawyer, the 83-year-old great-great-great-grand-



Tribune/Barry Kough

The first of three statues is unveiled at the Centennial Mall under construction at Lewis-Clark State College, as observed by artist Doug Hyde of Santa Fe, N.M., LCSC President Lee A. Vickers, Mylie Lawyer, the great-great-great-granddaughter of Twisted Hair, portrayed in the statue, and Nez Perce tribal member Alta Guzman.

HIKE CAPS OCTOBER FIELD TRIP

Another enjoyable Chapter outing was held on October 8 and 9 in the Kamiah area. The group left Long Camp (Kamiah) and headed up the hill towards the Weippe Prairie. Lewis and Clark traveled this route on June 10, 1806 during their east-bound journey. Chuck Raddon guided the group to Lolo Creek where a "tailgate" lunch was enjoyed by the group. It was then on to the Weippe Prairie with a stop at the interpretive sign near the Opresik house. It was at this location that the Expedition first met the Nez Perce.

In late afternoon, the group headed to Lolo Creek and set up camp. Around the campfire, everyone pitched in for a good potluck dinner. It was near this campsite that the Expedition camped on their west-bound trip on September 21, 1805.

After a hearty breakfast and the breaking of camp, the group took a several mile hike along the trail beginning at the Lewis and Clark Grove (Capt. Clark and six hunters camped near here on Sept. 19, 1805). It was an spectacular hike through the tall, old-growth preserve of trees.

Tableau

From 1A

daughter of Twisted Hair.

Lawyer, who lives in Lapwai, obviously was enjoying herself thoroughly, and full of jokes, sometimes at the expense of others present.

Asked if there were any stories in her family about Twisted Hair, she replied, "Yes, he wore his hair twisted."

At one point she was getting tired standing and LCSC anthropology and social sciences professor Alan G. Marshall went to look for a chair for her.

He apparently didn't find one, because he came back and offered a large rock for Lawyer to sit on.

"There's a rock or I can turn that pail over," he said, pointing to a metal bucket.

"I want you to turn the rock over. ... I thought you were a good anthropologist," Lawyer quipped.

She declined his offer of both rock and pail, and instead left with a relative for some shopping which, she said, would take all day.

The Centennial Mall, which will have no stores, is to consist of a series of displays and plazas depicting the area's history and providing educational and recreational opportunities. They will be scattered throughout the central part of campus.

LCSC president Lee A. Vickers said a dedication is planned in October.

"It really will be an outdoor classroom depicting our history," he said.

Hyde, who is a Nez Perce, said he used to live in Lapwai and went to Santa Fe, N.M., during his senior year to attend the Institute of Indian American Arts.

"I did paintings before but I hadn't tried any real sculpture," he said. "Soon as I saw sculpture I realized I saw things better in three dimensions than I visualized on canvas."

Hyde said he does a lot of what he called monumental sculpture. He is now doing a 16-foot-high statue of two women for the city of Palm Springs, Calif.

One work of his, which is on display in downtown Phoenix, Ariz., is a 10-foot-by-13-foot statue of a Navajo boy playing a flute.

The statues he has done for the Centennial Mall took him about two years. He was provided the idea and he came up with the details.

Hyde said it involved a great deal of research, as he had to obtain details on clothing that might have been worn by people then.

He obtained paintings of Lewis and Clark to make their likenesses, while Twisted Hair's features are patterned on photographs of some of his descendants, which he obtained from the family.

Portraying Nez Perce people was an inspiration for him. Hyde hopes that his work will inspire other Nez Perce artists.

"This is really significant for me, particularly because I went to school here," he said. "I guess this is my home town."