

Idaho Chapter Newsletter – September '97

CHAPTER EVENT – SEPTEMBER 18 IN LEWISTON

The next chapter event will be a reception and book signing party at 7 pm at the President's Home at 807 6th Street in Lewiston. Lewis and Clark enthusiast Sue Hottois (wife of LCSC President James Hottois) has graciously offered her back yard for this event. Carol Lynn MacGregor of Boise will have copies of her recently published work, The Journals of Patrick Gass, Member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. It contains the original 1807 text, is annotated, illustrated with six woodcuts from the 1810 edition. It also contains Gass's account book with notes. The book is available for \$36 (cloth) and \$20 (paper) and is a must for all persons interested in Lewis and Clark. Please plan to stop by and meet Carol from 7 to 9 on Thursday evening. All are welcome to attend and meet Carol.

Carol is a long time Idaho Chapter member and currently serves as co-chair of the Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee which has been given the charge from Governor Batt to plan Idaho's Lewis and Clark Bicentennial activities. She is also teaching a class at Boise State University.

If you are unable to attend this event, copies of Carol's book are available from Ludd Trozpek Books, 4141 Via Padova, Claremont, CA 91711. Please add \$2 shipping. (Ludd is also an Idaho Chapter member).

LCSC'S TALKINGTON COLLECTION ON DISPLAY IN LIBRARY

H. L. Talkington, a professor at Lewiston Normal School from 1899 to 1939, collected many items of local interest during his tenure at the Lewiston school. These artifacts formed the nucleus of the college museum. Currently on display on the main floor of the LCSC Library is a small part of this collection including one item of interest to Lewis and Clark enthusiasts. It is a small tree root said to be from a stump of one of the trees which the Corps of Discovery used to make canoes near Orofino in 1805. Talkington also wrote two books: Heroes and Heroic Deeds of the Pacific Northwest, Volume I - Pioneers and Volume II - Empire Builders. During your visit to the LCSC Library, also take in the Centennial Book Collection and the Lewis and Clark relief at the stairway entrance to the second floor.

VANDALISM TAKES ITS TOLL IN MONTANA AND IDAHO

The August issue of *We Proceeded On* tells the sad story of the vandalism that took place earlier this summer when the "Eye of the Needle" natural formation in the White Cliffs area of the Missouri River was destroyed by vandals. All that is left of this once

magnificent sight is two six foot rock columns. It is sad that someone would go to such great effort to reach and then destroy something that has taken nature so long to form. Additional vandalism has occurred in early August in the Lewiston area when vandals damaged the Lewis and Clark display at the the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center along the Lewiston Levee. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokesman said it was damaged irreparably and will cost about \$4,000 to replace. Damaged earlier was the nearby Tsceminicum sculpture which will cost \$1000 to repair.

REVISED WASHINGTON LEWIS-CLARK BROCHURE AVAILABLE

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has updated and reprinted the brochure entitled, "Lewis and Clark in Washington State." It features commentary on the Expedition in general, as they traveled in Washington, contains selected points of interest and information on the Lewis and Clark Trail Highway. It contains a map through Washington complete with general locations of both 1805 and 1806 campsites. For a copy, contact a chamber of commerce office in Washington or the WSPRC at PO Box 42650, Olympia, WA 98504-2650; 1-800-233-0321 or www.parks.wa.gov.

"GET IN THE PICTURE" AT LEWIS-CLARK ARTS & HISTORY CENTER

Lewis-Clark State College's Center for Arts and History, located at 415 Main in downtown Lewiston, is currently creating additional art on part of their historic brick building. The bricked-in windows, arches and doorways on the north side of the Center are currently being transformed by Lewiston artist Colleen Esparsen and Lapwai artist Kevin Peters. They are painting scenes which will give a glimpse inside the Lewis-Clark Center and the surrounding area including a "time warp" of Lewis and Clark in a contemporary setting! Pledges have been taken to help fund the region's biggest (140' x 18') outdoor art project. Work has not been completed at this time.

LEWIS AND CLARK TIME-LINE

Earlier this summer, a Lewis and Clark time-line was constructed on a long sidewalk at the Rooster's Landing marina near the intersection of 15th and Bridge Streets in Clarkston. It features many aspects of the Expedition, complete with facinating facts and colored art work Chapter member Charlie Knowles of Moscow was instrumental in researching the information for this great addition to the Valley's Lewis and Clark sites. It is located south of the marina on the southside of the Red Wolf Crossing Bridge at the west end of Clarkston.

FUTURE EVENTS

September 10 - "An Evening with Stephen Ambrose", Boise, 7 PM (Idaho Humanities Council Fundraiser)

September 18 - Carol MacGregor book signing, Chapter event in Lewiston, 7 PM

October 6 - Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Commission meeting, Boise

Lewis & Clark Experience may return

■ Despite low attendance, top organizer looks to 1998

BY SETH PRESTON
OF THE TRIBUNE

8-2-97

Although actual attendance was only about half of earlier estimates, the Lewis & Clark Experience's primary organizer says he already is planning a similar event for 1998.

"That is a major commitment on my part," Steve Leroy said Friday.

At this point, however, it's difficult to predict what form that may take, he added.

About 2,600 people attended a daylong event Sunday at Clarkston, capped by the world premiere of portions of a new documentary on Meriwether Lewis, William Clark and the Corps of Discovery. Nearly 200 years ago, the group explored the western lands obtained by the United States from France. The explorers passed through this region in 1805 and 1806.

Sunday night, site workers — not primary event organizers — estimated about 5,000 people attended the event. That was based in part on an erroneous estimate that about 4,000 meals were served. In fact, the meal count was about half that number.

Hundreds of people packed Pink House Hole near Orofino to watch canoes launch last Saturday, and later followed the boats

down the Clearwater River. But that enthusiasm didn't necessarily translate into ticket sales for Sunday's activities.

Leroy said he is "disappointed" more people didn't participate. But the first year of any event is the most difficult in terms of attendance, cost and participation.

With that in mind, he said he already is looking at options for a 1998 event. Several people have expressed interest in having another, especially if it involves an activity similar to the two-day Clearwater River canoe journey from Orofino to Clarkston.

"Does this community want this event to come back? I'm being told that," Leroy said.

He wants area residents to suggest any ideas they may have.

Meanwhile, he said he is working with co-organizers Tony Sittner and Bob Grimm, owners of Western Printing in Clarkston, to figure out event finances. Western Printing supplied up-front money for the event.

Leroy said arrangements will be made to make sure vendors and suppliers are paid what they are owed. Also, he said event organizers are trying to decide what to do with event merchandise not yet sold. Some did not arrive until after the weekend.

"There are thousands of items out, literally, under control that we need to get back out in the market," Leroy said.

Throughout the region, direct economic impacts associated with the Lewis & Clark

Experience are unclear. Several area business owners said it was difficult to judge the specific impact of the Lewis & Clark Experience, because other events also were going on during the weekend.

Those included the downtown Lewiston Street Fair featuring a rock concert at the Grand Plaza, a motorcycle competition at the Lewiston Roundup Grounds and a car rally based at the Quality Inn at Clarkston.

Quality Inn manager Curt Johnson said the motel received a noticeable boost in business at its lounge and restaurant, bolstered by eventgoers seeking respite from Sunday's hot, humid weather.

Orofino Chamber of Commerce executive director James W. Grunke said many people spent money in the Orofino area after Saturday's canoe launching. The event exposed some to the area for the first time.

"Overall, I would say it was good for Orofino," Grunke said.

The Nez Perce Tribe received a \$2,000 boost, thanks to General Motors. The vehicle-manufacturing giant backs all films made by Ken Burns, the acclaimed producer of the new Lewis-Clark documentary.

GM officials donated money to tribal officials for educational funding during a ceremony earlier this week on the Weippe Prairie, where Corps of Discovery members and the Nez Perce first met nearly 200 years ago.

■ Robert Frasure's relative?

Idaho State Treasurer Lydia Justice-Edwards says it's a family legend that her family descends from Lewis-Clark explorer Robert Frasure.

But she has never been able to prove it.

Justice-Edwards, whose cousin is Senate Transportation Commit-

tee Chairman Evan Frasure of Pocatello, says she's going to have to go to St. Louis to conduct research in libraries there to confirm her family's link to Robert Frasure.

She has served on Gov. Phil Batt and Cecil Andrus' advisory committee for the Lewis-Clark Trail.



WILMER RIGBY, LEWIS and Clark Historian, addresses PIT volunteers on the Lewis and Clark Trail near Salmon. The group inventoried the Trail.

PIT volunteers come to Salmon and inventory Lewis and Clark Trail

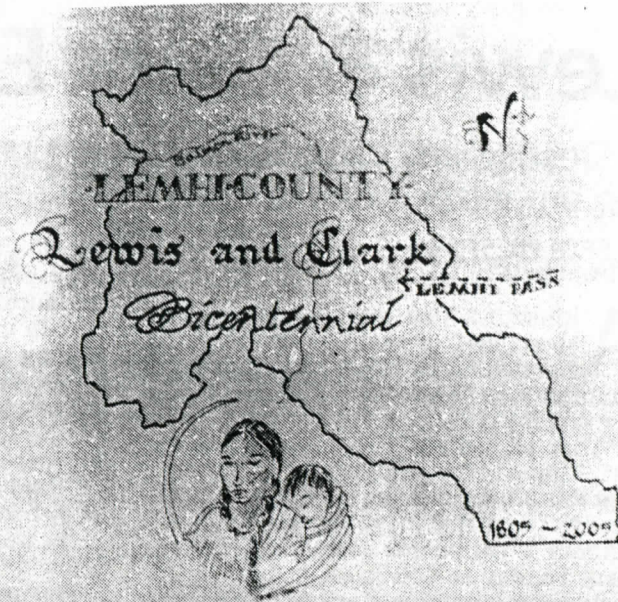
The Salmon and Challis National Forests and the Lemhi Resource area Bureau of Land Management sponsored a Lewis and Clark Trail "Passport in Time" project June 16-20. Passport in Time, also known as "PIT," provides opportunities for individuals and families to work with professional archaeologists and historians on historic preservation projects. Archaeological excavation, historic structure restoration, and oral history are just some of the possibilities.

A PIT volunteer takes part in vital environmental and historical research

on national forests across the nation. Ten PIT volunteers traveled to Salmon and took four days to inventory (survey) the Lewis and Clark Trail.

The volunteers started with the Trail near Lemhi Pass on the Leadore District. They worked the Trail between Pattee Creek and the Warm Springs Road, and the BLM area behind Dump Hill. On the North Fork District volunteers removed outdated PVC claim markers and painted water troughs to blend in with the natural scenery in the Burns Basin area. This is the first time the Trail has actually been surveyed.

RECORDER HERALD (SALMON) 7-10-97



DIANA HARRISON'S ART was chosen as the Lewis and Clark logo for the Bicentennial Celebration slated for Lemhi County in 2005 - Shumate photo.

Bicentennial logo chosen

by Leslie Shumate

Lemhi County now has an official logo for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Celebration and artist Diana Harrison has the honor of designing it along with a \$100 cash prize. Most of the prize money was donated by Tom Nelson and Melissa Cole at First Security Bank. Harrison will also be awarded a membership in the local Lewis and Clark Committee and the first official logo T-shirt and hat produced.

Harrison's design was chosen from among 16 entries Friday evening by members of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Committee. Her artwork depicts what no other area

can claim; Sacajawea, who was born here and Lemhi County with its unique borders in the shape of a horse's head, decorated on the official county map by a halter of crisscrossing rivers.

The Committee's goal is to have T-shirts bearing the new logo ready to go on sale for the first time August 9 during the Balloonfest sidewalk sales. The Committee's display will be in front of Story Teller Book and Coffee. Proceeds from the sale of the shirts and other merchandise will go to fund the Committee's work in preparation for local events during the nationwide three year celebration which will focus on this area in 2005.

SALMON-RECORDER HERALD 7-24-97



SALMON CITY COUNCILWOMAN, Marian Nisbet, discusses an artist's location concept of the proposed Sacajawea Cultural Heritage Center at Salmon City Park with official Shoshone-Bannock Indian tribal representative, Rose Anne Abrahamson and Abrahamson's mother, Camille George. (Shumate photo)

Abrahamson leads development of Sacajawea Cultural Heritage Center

by Leslie Shumate

With newly united efforts, the proposed Salmon Community Center and the Sacajawea Cultural Heritage Center at Salmon's City Park have a better chance of becoming a reality, according to Salmon City Councilwoman, Marian Nisbet.

City Park Development Committee member, Rose Anne Abrahamson, a Lemhi Indian, former Salmon resident, daughter of the late Willie George Jr., and direct descendant of Sacajawea, will be heading the Cultural Heritage Center project. Abrahamson is also one of Lemhi County's representatives on the

Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Governor's Board.

She told Park Development Committee members, on June 10, that by way of a Sho-Ban Tribal resolution, she has become the tribe's official Cultural Heritage Center representative and will lead the project to honor Sacajawea and her invaluable contribution to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. She says the proposed three and a half million dollar Heritage Center, to be built in proximity to, yet entirely separate from, the City's Community Center, will provide a teaching facility to people from throughout the world.

Funding for the tribute to Sacajawea will be sought through channels unrelated to possible financial sources for the Community Center. However, Nisbet feels the two entities combined goals will open additional grant opportunities.

The key to success for both projects is concentrated coordination between the Park Development Committee, the City, the County, the Golf Association, and the community.

Since the preferred site for the Heritage Center is on land currently occupied by the Golf Course driving range, the range would have to be

relocated and the back nine-hole project, that has been planned for some time, would have to move ahead. That's step one. Steps two through and actual ground breaking celebration will involve finalization of proposals, presentation to, and approval from, the City Council and the Lemhi County Commissioners, an agreement between the City and the Tribe on disposition of the land on which the Heritage Center is to be built, and finding the financial means.

Rod Ariwhite, of the Lemhi Tribe, has also proposed a Sacajawea Cultural Center as part of his campaign to get official tribal recognition for the Lemhi Indians, by way of an independent nation declaration. The Lemhi Indians are now considered apart of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe. Nisbet says Ariwhite's tribal status issues are completely separate from the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration plans and the City Park Development, "That's between him, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe. From what I know of Rod Ariwhite's plans for an Indian village and reservation, this center should have no impact whatsoever on his proposal."

In meetings last week Nisbet brought both the Rotary Club and the Salmon valley Chamber of Commerce up to date on plans to develop current City Park facilities into a community center which will accommodate convention meetings of over 500 people, enclose the swimming pool for year around use and build a 30 thousand dollar hockey rink designed so that heat generated from the ice making process will heat the pool.

During summer months the covered hockey rink would offer a very sizable area for any number of civic events. She says funding to build the center will be found through a variety of sources and that no local tax dollars will be used. Considering the present popularity of hockey and lack of facilities for tournament play, the Park Development Committee feels "If there is ice, they will come." With available statistics the committee predicts the hockey rink will be able to support itself by making tournament facilities available for teams throughout the state and is checking into the viability of as much as a tournament per week.

Nisbet estimates 90 percent of the Community Center's yearly operating costs will be generated through fees, facility rental and conferences and conventions. The remaining 10 percent will have to be made up through ongoing requests for grants and donations. Since all facilities will be available for school programs, education related grants are a possible revenue source. "Our main goal is to create an environment for our youth that will give them something positive to do and get them off the streets as well as develop recreation programs for all family members." If all the individual factors come together into one coordinated effort, the Community Center could be completed in three to five years.

Story & photos by
BILL LOFTUS
of the Tribune

Dugout canoes don't handle quite like other boats.

Dozens of paddlers found that out during the weekend's Lewis and Clark Experience festivities.

Many of the hand-hewn dugouts rolled like they'd been built for birling. Others simply swamped, then turtled. That's a euphemism for capsizing or rolling bottom up.

The weekend event completed a month-long project that began with the building. Chips flew and ponderosa pine logs at Lewiston and Orofino began to resemble canoes.

Some were more picturesque than others. The Hog Heaven Muzzleloaders fashioned two 30-foot dugouts at Lewiston that were poster perfect, one of them in fact appearing on an official poster for the event.

Our crew's dugout had more rough edges, unfinished chips here and there. But it also paddled reasonably well for a 2,000-pound, 25-foot log.

Saturday morning at Orofino, there were a few last-minute chores to complete.

Some leaks where beetle grubs had created holes through the wood shell were easy enough to fix. Steve Hornbeck of Lenore pounded pencil-sized wood pegs into the grub holes, sealing most of the leaks. Greg Klemesrud's buckskin provided strips of sealer to patch the remaining cracks.

The rest of the crew — Beth Maloof of Moscow, Mike Allen of Clarkston, Mike Venso of Lewiston and I — kept busy finding new branches for pegs, bailing or performing other dugout duties, like waiting, a seemingly frequent part of the Experience.

The biggest problem with a dugout is less with the boat, a craft that has proven itself riverworthy for thousands of years, but with learning to handle it.

*For those who braved the
Clearwater's swift currents,
the Lewis & Clark
Experience proved a
lesson in ...*



hazards along the way.

The best perspective on the skills needed for paddling a dugout came from David Benson of Potlatch, a member of the Hog Heaven Muzzleloaders known as "Groundskeeper."

"We're trying to learn what they already knew," he said. Lewis and Clark picked the most woods-wise men for their expedition. They'd grown up paddling dugouts and other boats and knew instinctively how to keep a boat right side up and as dry as possible.

The most basic skill was teamwork. The muzzleloaders were among the few to make it through Big Eddy upright, even though their boat filled with water.

"We swamped pretty good but we stayed

*"We swamped
pretty good but
we stayed low
and bailed and
the boat came
back up."*

Tom Fleming, canoeist

low and bailed and the boat came back up," said Tom Fleming of Moscow, another muzzle-loader and a crew member on the group's cannon-equipped Boat A.

By Wednesday, Fleming said, the excitement was just

beginning to subside. "We're still riding a pretty high wave."

It's worth noting, though, that even the Lewis and Clark Expedition had its share of

Dugout Dynamics

The Pride of Orofino, a name bestowed on another boat by Idaho Public Television, showed just how sensitive a dugout could be by rolling within five feet of shore at Orofino's Canoe Camp.

Our crew's turn in learning the physics of canoe handling came less than two miles downstream below Snell's Island.

Our weight was a little far forward and as we entered the 2-foot chop below the fast water, the bow dove. Each wave dumped a bathtub-full of water into our canoe until we floated out and the canoe rolled.

Swimming with the boat through a bigger rapid, we finally pushed it to shore shortly before Peck, somewhere between a half mile and a mile downstream.

We learned to ease off our paddling at Big Eddy (after swamping again in the chop along the north shore) before we even got to the big stuff.

Sunday went better. We'd learned the basics well enough to avoid another swamping. Our paddling had improved enough to put us exactly where we wanted to be as we passed between the bridge pylons, the biggest and most dangerous

woes on the Clearwater. Somewhere around Spalding one of its five dugouts hit a rock and was pinned against it by the current.

Several of its crew who couldn't swim clung to its side until they could be rescued. The dugout had been split along one side, requiring repairs.

If nothing else, the weekend excursion proved the value of life jackets. Dozens of people went into some moderately hazardous waters.

With the life jackets and the help of jetboats, kayaks, rafts and personal watercraft, no one was in serious danger.

Thursday, July 31, 1997

LEWISTON MORNING TRIBUNE

OUTDOORS

Filmmaker tells fort's story

Ken Burns captures Lewis & Clark saga

Ken Burns peers through the camera viewfinder at the interior of a log room at Fort Clatsop. A fire crackles in the stone fireplace, and on the wooden table, a half-dozen candles burn, interspersed among tin plates and cups.

"The fire is fabulous," Burns says. "Give me some puffs there, Dayton."

In a corner of

Fort Clatsop

Fort Clatsop's open daily from 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. from Labor Day through mid-June and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. the rest of the year. The park is closed on Christmas Day. Admission is charged. The Fort is located in Warrenton, 3 miles off of U.S. Highway 101. For more information, call (503) 851-0471.

the room, just out of camera range, Dayton Duncan sits with pipe in mouth, smoke drifting toward the center of the room and into the shot.

Burns is the documentary filmmaker who produced the popular public television series "The Civil War" and "Baseball." Burns and others joined

author Duncan at Fort Clatsop in March 1995 to work on a new project – a documentary about the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Lewis and Clark spent the winter of 1805-06 at Fort Clatsop after they completed their journey from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean. The fort, which was named for the local Clatsop American Indian tribe, was the home of the explorers for three months as they prepared for their return trip back to St. Louis.

The Lewis and Clark expedition,



A costumed Fort Clatsop guide relates the Lewis & Clark story to visitors.

like the Civil War, was a defining event of American history, Burns says. A closer look at this 200-year-old adventure may help us understand American life today.

"All of us as Americans are struggling to find the meaning of the word 'home,' –

individually and collectively," says Burns, who considers his documentaries attempts to define common ground for Americans.

Burns' friend and production partner Duncan says there's more to the Lewis and Clark journey than the dry inventory of dates and places that has been taught in history courses.

"As I learned it, the story was two guys who ventured into an uncharted and unpeopled wilderness," Duncan says. "The more I've learned, what strikes me is what a remarkable community it was in and of itself – an Indian woman, a black slave,

French-Canadians, men with one Indian parent and one white parent.

The filmmakers traveled down the coast to Ecola State Park and across the Columbia River to Fort Canby. They filmed some aerial shots from a helicopter and some footage of the mouth of the Columbia, Duncan says.

The 90-minute Lewis and Clark documentary is planned to air on PBS until sometime in 1997, Burns and Duncan said.

"We like to think of ourselves as the Paul Masson of filmmakers," Burns said. "We release no film before it's done."

"LEWIS & CLARK -
The Journey of the Corps of Discovery"

on P.B.S.

NOVEMBER 4 AND 5
1997