

FALL 2014

# IDAHO CHAPTER LEWIS CLARK TRAIL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

## SATURDAY LECTURE SERIES TO CONTINUE

*Please join us for this special event!*

**Saturday November 15, 2014**

**1:00PM**

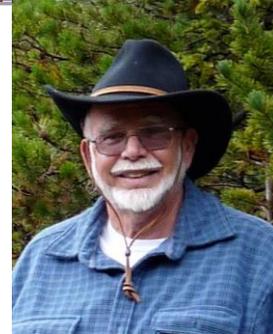
**Nez Perce National Historical Park  
Visitors Center in Spalding**

**Keith Petersen: will present on his  
new book:**

***John Mullan on the Trail of Lewis  
and Clark***

Keith Petersen served as the Idaho Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Coordinator from 1999-2006. He is currently the Idaho State Historian and Associate Director of the Idaho State Historical Society. He is the author of numerous books about Idaho and the Northwest, including *River of Life*, *Channel of Death: Fish and Dams on the Lower Snake*; *Educating in the American West: 100 Years at Lewis-Clark State College*; and *Company Town: Potlatch, Idaho, and the Potlatch Lumber Company*

February 7<sup>th</sup>: Keith Lawrence, retired Nez Perce Natural Resource Manager, lined up for Pomp's Birthday on February 7. He will talk on his research on the efforts to restore the Big Horn Sheep to their original range from Lewis and Clark travels through Idaho. For future events and speaker information, contact our Vice President Pat Rathman, 219 N. Lieuallen St, Moscow ID, 83843, [patty0727@hotmail.com](mailto:patty0727@hotmail.com)



### ***Chapter President's views***

In my view Idaho chapter is alive and well - at both ends of our state despite being bisected by the geography of Idaho. We've a few organizers making things happen in southern Idaho, and in the North Central Belt we are about to start another season of presentations at the National Park Service Visitor Center at Spalding near Lewiston. In April most of chapter leadership met in Boise for a Board meeting and we met again at the National Gathering in Richland in August. The Lolo Work Week was successful and no one was hurt. I will be giving a presentation to the Traveler's Rest Chapter in November about our annual work week. Our chapter budget is healthy. The Idaho Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee is functioning well and the Sacajawea license plate funding continues to bring in healthy amounts to fund Lewis and Clark education and information around the state. The LCTHF National Gathering in Richland, WA was a success, close by and a lot of fun. The Idaho chapter had quite a few members attending. Penny and I stayed on our boat in the city marina in front of the convention hotel and enjoyed the local resident ducks. In other sectors I'm not quite so sanguine. The passing of Barb Opdahl marks the passing of an era. The Forest Service's loss of focus on the historic Lolo Trail corridor is a major disappointment. I encourage you to visit the chapter web site and see our draft response to the forest planning effort. Your letters and comments on the NezPerce-Clearwater National Forest's web site will help our concerns be known.

# WASHINGTON CHAPTER EVENTS

September 18 Thursday 6:30 PM 'Capturing the beauty and mystery of nature and wildlife through photography' at the Old Liberty Theater 113 North Main in Ridgefield, Washington. Sponsored by the Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge.

September 26-28 - Friday- Sunday - Heritage Days at Sacajawea State Park and Interpretative Center

September 27 -Saturday National Public Lands Day, free day at Washington State Parks

October 14, Tuesday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Oregon City Tour and River cruise with complimentary parking, Northwest cuisine, and local guides in costume. Contact Portland Spirit at 503-224-3900 for more information. \$98 per person.

October 18, Saturday 10:00 AM - Beacon Rock State Park - Fall Chapter meeting and discussion of local Expedition sites, followed by a walk to the top of Beacon Rock, an event our Chapter has not done before.

November 8 - Saturday 1:00 - 3:00 'How Horrible is the day' at the Knappton Cove Heritage Center featuring the Pacific Northwest Living Historians, Hot cider & History will be served. Location is 3 miles upriver from the north side of the Astoria/Megler Bridge.

November 11, 2014 - 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State of Washington, 42<sup>nd</sup> State in the Union

February 7, 2015 - Saturday 10:30 AM - Washington Chapter meeting at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma

May 29, Friday 2015 - Tentative Date for the Confluence Project dedication at Chief Timothy Park, Clarkston, Washington

PLEASE CHECK THE CHAPTER WEBSITES FOR UPDATED INFORMATION:

FOUNDATION: <http://www.lewisandclark.org>

Washington: <http://www.wa-lcthf.org>

Oregon: <http://www.or-lcthf.org>

Idaho: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org>

Note a new website by Washington and Idaho Chapter members Kris & JoAnn Townsend here <http://lewisandclarktoday.net/6/18.html>

## OREGON CHAPTER EVENT

Here is information about the Christmas Dinner that the Oregon Chapter is sponsoring.

2014 Holiday Events

**December 6<sup>th</sup>, Saturday.**

-12-4 PM Bus tour of Dismal Nitch guided by Jim Sayce

- 5-10 PM Potluck dinner at Columbia Pacific Heritage Center in Ilwaco Gloria Linkey, speaker

Overnight at Crest Motel, Astoria. Special rate, Code = hohnbaum

**December 7<sup>th</sup>, Sunday**

-10 AM Presentation by Dick Basch in Gearhart

I would appreciate having the names of those who plan to attend so I can have table name tags made and enough programs. At the potluck dinner ham and beverages are furnished. The dinner is \$10.00 per person.

I can be contacted by using [hohnbaum@aol.com](mailto:hohnbaum@aol.com) for questions or more information or names of attendees.

Thanks, Dick Hohnbaum  
Oregon Chapter  
Lewis & Clark Trail  
Heritage Foundation

## Who else can tell some stories about this area?

### **Arrow Bridge, Coulter Creek – today's Potlatch River, a lot of things happened in a small area.**

A small section of the Clearwater River hosted a series of events for the Corps of Discovery in the fall of 1805 and the spring of 1806.

- Their second day in canoes resulted in a wreck with extended consequences.
- Returning upriver in the spring a good meal in the form of a horse was lost and expedition members had a dispute. Was it over the missing meal?
- War Axes built by the party's blacksmiths at Fort Mandan were found in a local village; how did they get there?
- Capt Lewis trained to be the medical person in Philadelphia but Capt Clark was earning their food by treating Nez Perce medical problems.
- Ninety years later a Jefferson Peace Metal was discovered in an Indian grave site by Railroad construction crews.



### **Canoe Wreck— Different stories of the same event.**

### **And, The rest of the story.**

Today's Potlatch River (L&C: Coulter Creek) joins the Clearwater River about 12 miles east of Lewiston. Highway 12 crosses the Clearwater River just below the mouth of Potlatch River on what today is called Arrow Bridge. In September 1806 the Corps of Discovery canoeing down river wrecked one canoe, probably just below the small island located just above the bridge. They camped on the north side of the river downstream from the bridge in today's highway department storage yard. This photo from Goggle Earth appears to have been taken in mid-summer when the river was much higher than it would have been in September.

**From the journals 8 Oct 1805**

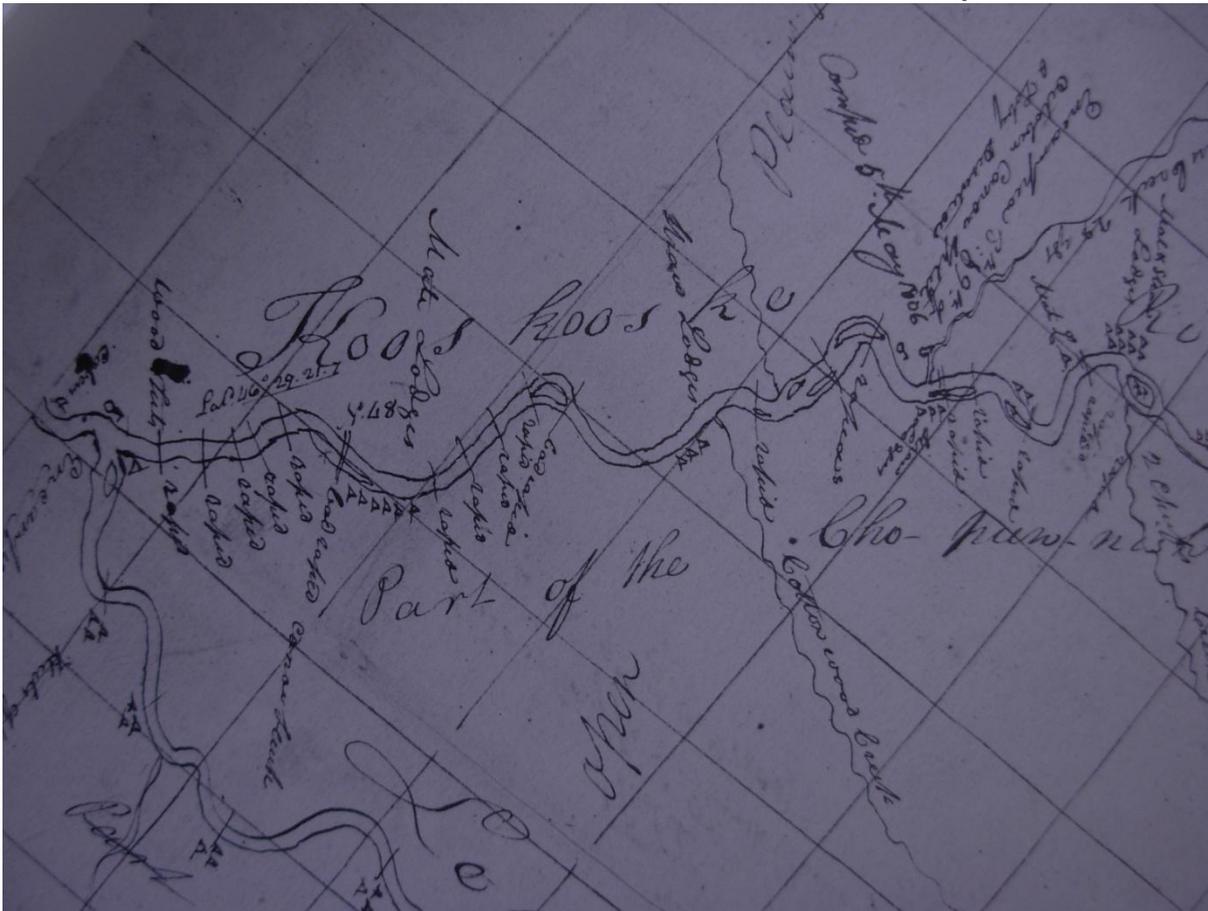
Following are different journal entries made about the canoe wreck including that by Sgt. Gass who was steering the canoe. Note how his description differs from the others.

- **Sgt. Ordway:** *...decended a rocky rapid at the foot of an island where was several Indian camps. One of the canoes struck a rock in the middle of the rapid and swang round and struck another rock and cracked hir so that it filled with water. The waves roared over the rocks and some of the men could not swim. Their they stayed in this dolefull situation untill we unloaded one of the other canoes and went and released them. 2 indians went in a canoe to their assistance also. We got the men and the most of the baggage safe to shore. A few articles lost one tomahawk and a few light things. We put the baggage out and camped on the stard . side at high plains.*
- **Pvt. Whitehouse:** *...as were decending a rocky rapids at the foot of an island on which was some indian camps, one of the canoes struck a rock and wheeld round then struck again and cracked the canoe and was near splitting hir in too. Threwed the steersman over board, who with difficulty got to the canoe again, but she soon filled with water, and hang on the rocks in a dolefull situation. Some of the men on board could not swim, and them that could had no chance for the waves and rocks. An indian went in a small canoe to their assistance. Our little canoe went also and took out some of the loading, and carried it to shore. We unloaded one of the other canoes and went in the rapid and took the loading all out of the canoe which was stove and got all to shore below the rapid, and camped at dark. Examined found every thing wet which was in the canoe that was stove. Some small articles lost....*
- **Capt. Clark:** *...Set out at 9 oclock passed 15 rapids four islands and a creek on the Stard Side at 16 miles just below which one canoe in which Serj. Gass was steering and was nearle turning over, she sprung a leak or split open on one side and bottom filled with water & sunk on the rapid, the men, several of which could not swim hung on to the canoe, I had one of the other canoes unloaded & with the assistance of our small canoe and one Indian canoe took out every thing & got toed the empty canoe on shore, one man Tompson a little hurt, every thing wet perticularly the greater part of our small stock of merchindize, had everything opened, ...*
- **Sgt. Gass:** *... At 2 we proceeded on again. In the evening, in passing through a rapid, I had my canoe stove, and she sunk. Fortunately, the water was not more than waist deep, so our lives and baggage were saved, though the latter was wet. We halted and encamped here to repair the canoe, after coming 18 miles. ...*

**From the journals 9 Oct 1805**

- **Ordway:** *...we delayed to repair the canoe and dry the baggage & C....We got the canoe repaired in the evening ...*
- **Clark:** *The morning cool as usual the greater part of the day proved to be cloudy, which was unfavourable for drying our things & c. which got wet yesterday. In examoning our canoe found that by putting knees & strong pieces pinned to her sides and bottom she could be made fit for service by the time the goods dried. Set 4 men to work at her, serjt. Pryor & Gass, Jo Fields & Gibson, others to collect rosin, at 1 oclock she was finished stronger than ever. The wet articles not sufficiently dried to pack up obliged us to delay another night.*
- **Gass:** *We stayed here during the whole of this day, which was very pleasant, and repaired our canoe. In the evening we got her completed and all the baggage dry.*

The Rest of the Story  
We benefit from the Un-intended Consequences



Because of the wreck Capt Clark had extra time to create a much better map of the Clearwater River than would have been available otherwise. He used a two mile grid that shows every bend and Indian village. You can lay this map along a modern map and all the

river bends and significant places are shown. The left edge shows the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers. Clark made notes and probably made the map at Fort Clatsop during the winter. We think he added to the map as they returned east in the spring of 1806. If you examine the map closely you can see different entries facing different directions. Also, the pens made from waterfowl quills wear rapidly, so entries made on different days will look different.

### The Horse and Lingering in Camp with the Chopunnish.

In May 1806 the expedition returned to the area on their way east. They were traveling up the Clearwater River because they had cashed supplies in two places along the river on their way west the previous year. After crossing the Snake River about 7 miles below present day Lewiston, they camped a few miles below the confluence of the Snake (Lewis) and Clearwater Rivers. May 5, 1806 they continued up river and camped near the mouth of today's Potlatch Creek. The map only shows one symbol for a campsite. Today we wonder did they camp in the same place or in 1806 did they camp a little further upstream? From Clark's journal it would appear that it was upstream and Clark didn't bother to add a 2<sup>nd</sup> camp symbol to a piece of map already cluttered with information.

Clark May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1806...about ½ a mile above the rapid where we Sunk the 1<sup>st</sup> Canoe as we decended the river last fall. We encamped on the lower Side of this Creek a little distance from two Lodges

*of the Chopunnish nation ... One of those Lodges Contained 8 families, the other was much the largest we have yet seen. It is 156 feet long and about 15 feet wide built of mats and Straw, in the form of the roof of a house having a number of Samll dores on each side, is closed at the ends and without divisions in the intermediate Space. This lodge at least 30 families. Their fires are kindled in a row in the Center of the Lodge and about 10 feet asunder. All the Lodges of these people are formed in this manner.*

You can view the probable location of this large lodge by turning off Highway 12 onto SR 3 and stop at the first wide pullout with a hill between the turnout and the creek. Walk to the top of the hill and look down on the mouth of Coulter's Creek. To your left you will see a field. Was this the location of the large lodge? Some locals believe the Indian homes might have been further up the creek to get better weather protection during the winter. However, the next field or level area is on the other side of the creek and Clark said the "lower" side of the creek. Perhaps their 1806 camp was about where the bridge crosses the river.



© 2001 Airphoto - Jim Wark

### **Forest Service planning will affect the Lolo Trail Corridor.**

The NezPerce-Clearwater National Forest is at step two of a multi-step process to create a new forest plan. The initial step was public outreach in the fall of 2012. The Idaho Chapter failed to respond to that outreach and apparently so did many people concerned with the history and the management of the Lolo Trail Corridor. Consequently, the "Proposed Action" just issued contains very little direction about the Lolo Trail Corridor and the two National Historic Trails within the corridor. I have reviewed the "Proposed Action" and have written several pages of comments. You can find the draft at the Idaho Chapter Website: <http://lewis-clark-idaho.org/index.html>. The Forest Service is dealing with significant budget cuts. The center portion of the Lolo Motorway has not received any maintenance since the L&C Bicentennial and none is planned in the future. It is only a matter of time then before the road is closed to all highway vehicles so that only off road vehicles may travel there. There are several other concerns about the proposed action. Again, see the draft comments in our chapter web site.

You can make your comments on line. Check the forest's web site: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/nezperceclearwater/about-forest>. Mid-way on left go to the "About the Forest" block and click on "contact us." That will take you to the information about the proposed plan.

If you can take the time to make comments or would like more information contact Chapter President Chuck Raddon at [idahoclarkie@gmail.com](mailto:idahoclarkie@gmail.com).

## LOLO WORK WEEK 2014

Another successful year working on the Lolo Trail Work Week was completed in late July. Twenty two volunteers spend a week working on the trail. When everything was done including the paperwork, the week can be summarized as follows.

### TOTAL HOURS

	<b>JOB</b>	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>\$\$ VALUE</b>
1.	Trail Work	400	7,500
2.	Road brushing & maintenance	100	1,880
3.	Camp site clean and monitor	73	1,370
4.	<u>Sign &amp; facility maintenance</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>1,870</u>
	<b>Total project "work"</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>12,630</b>
5.	Travel to & return from camp	220	4,130
6.	Camp Operation	172	3,230
7.	Volunteer Costs		4,540
8.	Other Partners		650
	<b>Total "value" of Work Week</b>	<b>1,065</b>	<b>21,950</b>

The \$\$ values come from our report from our grant agency. They use \$18.77/ hour for time spent on work projects.

#### **The Team:**

The final team was 22 individuals spent the full week and one person brought our mid week supplies. The farthest traveling volunteers (three) came from California, one from Montana, five from Washington State, the remainder from Idaho.

**The Work days** started at 0630 for breakfast and fix your own lunch. Morning briefing was at 0715 and crews left camp at 0730. Depending on travel time, work available, crew fatigue (average age 55) and heat (temperatures in 90s several days, crews returned to camp between 2 PM and 6 PM. Dinner was at 6 PM and evening debriefing occurred at 7:30 PM. That made for a long day, and most headed for bed when darkness descended about 9:30 pm.



Photo 1: Part of the crew on Willow Ridge trail. From left, Maggy, Chuck, Anne, Mike, Barb, Kathy, Bonnie.



Photo 2: Which way did they go? This year was the best beargrass flower show anyone can remember. The view was just breathtaking along ridgeline trails with beargrass in the foreground and the "sea of mountains" as a backdrop. *Additional pictures from Margaret Gorski on facebook.*





The crew at the end of the week. All well and



happy-

## ***Local artist & local buyer win***

A fund raising event at this year's National meeting featured a raffle of a framed wall hanging by Clearwater County artist Penny Raddon, and it was won by a Clearwater County ticket holder. The wall hanging features a buffalo on the plains near the Missouri River. On the back were several quotes from the Lewis and Clark journals about their encounters with buffalo. Raddon made the wall hanging as a fund raiser for the National Lewis and Clark Foundation's Education funds. The winner, Marlyn Pennebaker is a host at Dent Campground on Dworshak Lake. Pennebaker purchased the winning ticket at Clearwater Quilters' Day of Workshops held at Orofino High School in June. Raddon was teaching a class titled "*Experimenting with Decorative Thread*" and used the then uncompleted wall hanging as an illustration of thread work. She just "happened" to have some raffle tickets handy. The raffle raised more than a thousand dollars for the Lewis and Clark Education fund. This year's National Meeting was held in Richland, WA and next year it will be held in Kansas City.



Raffle winner Marlyn Pennebaker and Penny Raddon with the wall hanging "Bull of the Plains." Raddon presented the wall hanging to Pennebaker at Dent Acres.



The Moscow Library was displaying a collection of artifacts during the month of July reflecting the era of explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's journey through Idaho. The exhibit was installed by John Fisher from his collection. Pat Rathmann from the Idaho Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation arranged for the exhibit preliminary to the Annual Meeting of the national organization in Richland WA. The national organization is dedicated the preservation, promotion and teaching of the diverse heritage of Lewis and Clark.

This release was written by Chis Sokol from the library who thought it was the best exhibit they ever had.

## **In Passing: Barbra Opdahl.**

Barb Opdahl died at her daughter's home in Farmington, New Mexico on Monday, Sept 8, 2014.

She and her husband Harlan operated "Triple O" outfitters along the Lolo Trail for many years, and to many they were the face of the Lolo Trail. For many years Barbara served on the Idaho Tourism Board and served as a voice of outfitters to the general public. She was a major force in giving the call about L&C Bicentennial coming to the State of Idaho. She had many influential friends, and the Smithsonian tour of the motorway brought many easterners to the west for a look at our state and our historic trail.

At the 2010 National Convention in Lewiston, the LCTHF awarded Barb and Harlan the Meritorious Achievement Award for outstanding achievements in bringing to life the story of Lewis and Clark on the Lolo Trail. Harlan died shortly after the award was presented in 2010.



CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: CHUCK RADDON, 1264 Shriver Road, Orofino, Idaho 83544, (208) 476-3123,  
[idahoclarkie@gmail.com](mailto:idahoclarkie@gmail.com)

VICE PRESIDENT: PAT RATHMANN, 219 N. Lieuallen St, Moscow ID, 83843,  
[patty0727@hotmail.com](mailto:patty0727@hotmail.com)

SECRETARY: JANIE GOTTSCHALK, 1922 Shay Hill Road, St. Maries, Idaho, 83861 (505) 379-  
7796, [jrgot7@aol.com](mailto:jrgot7@aol.com)

TREASURER: HOLLY CRAWLEY, 7325 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Idaho Falls, ID 83404, (208) 552-1639,  
[holly@crawley.myrf.net](mailto:holly@crawley.myrf.net)

SOUTHERN EVENT COORDINATOR : *SUSAN BUSH*EL, [retireinmt@yahoo.com](mailto:retireinmt@yahoo.com), ( 406) 788-  
8923

KEEP IN THE LOOP BY KEEPING YOUR EMAIL AND/OR SNAIL MAIL ADDRESS CURRENT-PLEASE SEND INFO  
TO JANIE  
TO RENEW DUES, USE ENLISTMENT PAPERS AND SEND TO HOLLY

IDAHO CHAPTER LCTHF  
C/O JANIE GOTTSCHALK  
1922 SHAY HILL ROAD  
ST. MARIES, IDAHO 83861