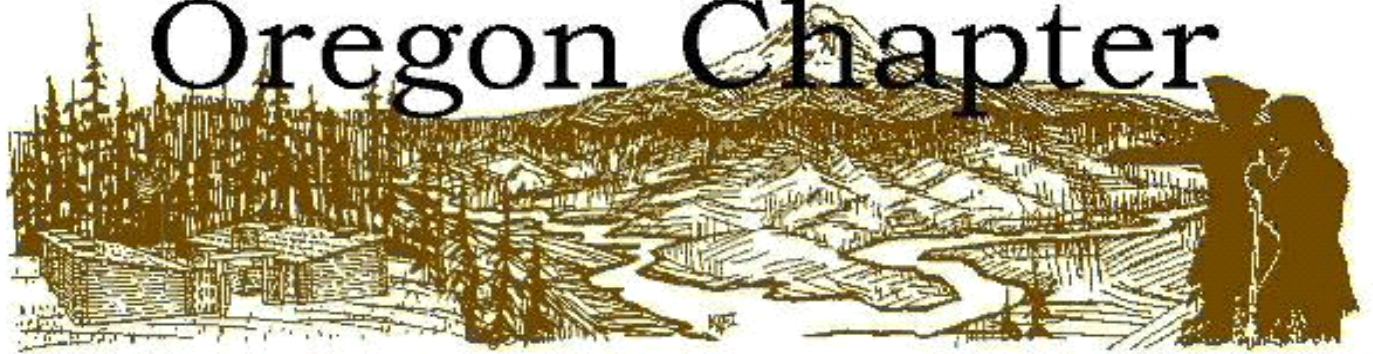


Oregon Chapter



Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

May 2020

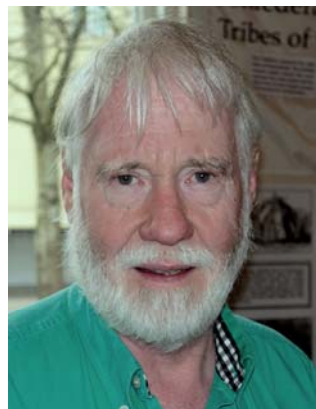
- **President's Corner:**
Glen Kirkpatrick
- **L&C Botanical Plaques**
- **New Teacher Resource**
- **New Book:**
Lewis & Clark on the Pacific Coast
- **2020 National Meeting**



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President's Corner



Dear Chapter Members,

When trying to understand historical events, it is critical to evaluate all the original documentation available. It is also important to not apply today's standards and norms to events of the past and become modern day revisionists of historical events. In reviewing the "mysterious" death of Meriwether Lewis, it is vital to evaluate the primary documentary evidence. I believe the facts and compelling evidence suggest that at the time of his death he suffered from mental illness that led him to end his life by his own hand. Six lines of evidence lead me to this conclusion.

(Continued on page 3)

New Book: *Lewis & Clark on the Pacific Coast*

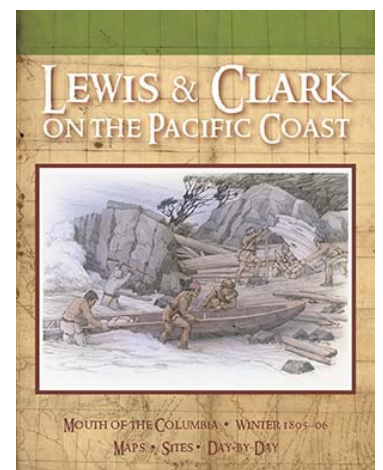
Participants in the 2018 annual meeting of the Foundation treasured the local guidebook prepared by the Oregon Chapter. It's now available to the public in updated form.

It contains a map depicting 42 principal L&C sites north and south of the Columbia; a map companion explaining sites; a day-by-day list of the Corps' activities; and a glossary/gazetteer explaining terms, native names, and geographic points of interest.

Glen Kirkpatrick and **Doc Wesselius** penned the text, **Ryan Cooper** (GIS specialist for the L&C Trail) created the map, **Ted Kaye** edited and laid out the book, and **Gavin Anderson** designed the cover. Illustrations were by the late **Roger Cooke**, whose art illustrates many Oregon and Washington interpretive panels.

Now on sale at the Fort Clatsop bookstore and other local venues, the 20-page book accompanies this

newsletter issue as a gift to all Chapter members.



Lewis & Clark on the Pacific Coast, published by the Oregon Chapter in February and spearheaded by President Glen Kirkpatrick. Contact him with any questions about content or purchasing.

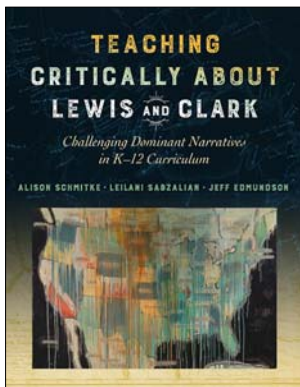


“Lewis & Clark Botanical Memorials” were placed along Front Avenue (now Naito Parkway) in downtown Portland in 1977 as “a volunteer Oregon heritage contribution by Greater Portland Federal Employees”.



This “asset” missed inclusion in the chapter’s 2013 Oregon L&C Inventory.

Who’s willing to research this project, then locate and identify all the plaques?



New Book for Teachers

This resource for educators provides a conceptual framework, ready-to-use lesson plans, and teaching resources to address oversimplified versions of the Lewis & Clark expedition. From Teachers College Press.

<https://www.tcpspress.com/teaching-critically-about-lewis-and-clark>
9780807763704

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

EXPLORE MORE!

Thelma Haggemiller leads **Explore More!**, a series of chapter trips which include a Lewis & Clark connection but also help members learn about other historical and cultural events that happened since that time.

Watch this newsletter, your mail, your e-mail, and especially the chapter website for more information and details.



Top: Mark Johnson honors Prof. Douglas Deur for his talk. Left: The Ne’Cus pole welcomes Jon Burpee, Glen Kirkpatrick, and Mark Johnson.

Dr. Douglas Deur, an internationally recognized researcher on the Native American cultures and environmental history of Northwestern North America, presented “Revisiting Clatsops & Killamox: The Corps of Discovery and the Villages of the Ocean Coast” at the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum on Saturday, March 3, 2018. Over 20 Chapter members and guests enjoyed the talk—several made a weekend of it and visited Les Shirley Park and discussed Clark’s trip to the whale and McNeal’s Folly.

Columbia River Candlefish Return in February

Hooligan—or ooligan, oolichan, eulachon, candlefish, pacific smelt, or even *Thaleichthys pacificus*—by any name, I agree with Lewis that “...They are so fat they require no additional sauce, and I think them superior to any fish I ever tasted,

even more delicate and lussious than the white fish of the [Great?] lakes which have heretofore formed my standart of excellence among the fishes...”

Carla Cole, Natural Resources Program Mgr.,

Lewis and Clark Nat’l Historical Park.



Candlefish could be sampled recently on the Pacific Coast.

2020 Chapter Events — Check the Website!

June 27, 1:00: Mark Jordan speaks on “L&C’s Near Misses” at Tualatin Her. Ctr.
July 25: Confluence Project at Celilo Park; Colin Fogarty, speaker.

Nov. 4: Dinner in Ridgefield and a trip to hear noisy birds.

Dec. 5: Holiday Dinner—location TBD.

Watch your e-mail and visit our website for more details on all upcoming events:
www.or-lcthf.org



Aloha, Hawaiian Chieftain

The *Hawaiian Chieftain* will soon be retired or sold.

Its owner, Grays Harbor Historical Seaport, has found the costs of repairs greater than its value.

The replica ship has participated in many L&C-era re-enactments over the years. Participants in the 2018 Annual Meeting may recall the optional cruise aboard her.

Built in 1988 in Lahaina, Maui, in a traditional tall ship design, the *Hawaiian Chieftain* is a 104-foot gaff-rigged topsail ketch



Hawaiian Chieftain in her prime.

with 4,200 sq. ft. of sail area. We'll be sorry to see her go, but appreciate the L&C connection she made for us.

President's Corner ... continued

(Continued from page 1)

1) Lewis's letter to James Madison, (9/16/1809)—one of his very last pieces of correspondence before his death. Very uncharacteristic of Lewis's writing, this letter shows distressed and disorganized thoughts.

2) Gilbert Russell's statement (11/26/1811) that before arriving at Fort Pickering, Lewis was "deranged" and twice tried to kill himself. He "recovered his senses" after five days and was then allowed to continue to the Natchez Trace.

3) James Neely's letter to Jefferson (10/18/1809) describing Lewis's state of "derangement" traveling from Chickasaw Bluffs.

4) Eyewitness accounts from Grinder's Stand.

5) Lewis's documented self-medication with free use of alcohol.

6) Of all the people who knew Lewis personally, none of them had any doubt he took his own life. This is the strongest evidence of all—at the time of his death there was no speculation about a nefarious cause.

Despite this evidence, the "Lewis was murdered" theory persists. Many would rather believe in some conspiracy leading to murder rather than accept that he was mentally ill. We put him on a pedestal as a larger-than-life historical figure, not wanting to believe he could be deranged and end his own life.

Chapter Board

Officers:

Glen Kirkpatrick, President '21
Lyn Trainer, Vice Pres. '20
Mark Johnson, Secretary '21
Ellie McClure, Treasurer '20

Directors:

Alec Burpee '21
David Ellingson '20
Thelma Haggemiller '22
Mary Johnson '21
Ted Kaye '20
Zachariah Selley '22
Roger Wendlick '21
Jon Burpee, *ex officio*
Hannah Crummé, *ex officio*
Larry McClure, *ex officio*

Please contact **Glen Kirkpatrick** (e-mail address below) with interest in Chapter service. There are two open positions.



www.or-lcthf.org

There is far more L&C information available on our website!

Please check it for the latest updates on Chapter activities and for photos of our events.

We're sending fewer postcards, so watch the website for updates.



The **Pillar Rock** event originally scheduled by the Washington Chapter for May 16, 2020 has been rescheduled to May 15, 2021.



Sons & Daughters of Oregon Pioneers: a sister group

Descendants of pioneers who arrived in the Oregon Country before 1859 form today's **SDOP**. Through its annual banquet (February) picnic (July), and museum visits (April, June, September), members celebrate and explore Oregon history.

Next events: Board Meeting and Tour, Brownsville, 6/20/20; Annual Picnic at Champoeg, 7/11/20.

SDOP invites our chapter members to join in.

Not descended? You can join as a "Friend". **Learn more at oregondop.org.**





Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Oregon Chapter

17760 S.W. Cheyenne Way
Tualatin, OR 97062

www.or-lcthf.org

The next national meeting:
Aug. 2-5, 2020 in Charlottesville, Virginia
see www.lewisandclark.org

Save Trees

To stop receiving this newsletter in printed form and receive it in electronic form only, please alert:
Ellie.McClure@or-lcthf.org

Please check your label and renew your membership if the "Paid Through" date is before 2020. Annual dues are \$10 for individuals, \$5 for students, & \$16 for households. Your prompt response will save your Chapter volunteers work and postage. Thanks!



Toussaint and His Story – February 2020

Garry Bush interpreted the Lewis & Clark Expedition through a different historical lens—that of Sacagawea's husband, Toussaint Charbonneau—in a presentation to 32 chapter members and guests at the Tualatin Heritage Center.

Referencing history from a French-Canadian and Native American point of view, Garry challenged old "truths" and exposed new possibilities to examine how the Charbonneau family impacted the

opening the American West from the 1790s through the 1860s.

A key part of his talk focused on how literary references to Sacagawea evolved from "savage" to "heroine" starting in the 1890s.

A long-time first-person interpreter of Charbonneau, Garry hails from Idaho and presents across six states, including a long history with **Roger Wendlick** from Bicentennial days.



Garry Bush interprets Sacagawea's husband, Toussaint Charbonneau, in a special presentation. Visiting from Idaho, he brought 17 years' experience explaining Charbonneau's role and discussing the evolving literary characterization of Sacagawea over time.