

Washington State Chapter, LCTHF November Newsletter

Vol. 1, Issue 4

| IN THIS ISSUE: Chapter Meetings Plans for 2001page 4 | 4 |
|--|---|
| Pompey's Pillar Faces Big Challengepage 5 | |
| Thomas Jefferson Walking Tour of Parispage 1 | 0 |

A FORT CLATSOP CHRISTMAS



The Oregon Chapter has graciously included members of the Washington and Idaho chapters in their invitation to participate in a festive "Fort Clatsop Christmas Party" on Saturday, December 16, 2000. Plans are as follows: Meet at Fort Clatsop National Memorial at 1:00 p.m. for welcoming remarks by Supt. Don Striker, followed by brief comments from chapter, tribal and association presidents. A private NPS tour of the Fort will occur at 4:00 p.m. After the tour, the group will reconvene at the Red Lion in Astoria (located on Highways 101 & 30, near the approach to the Astoria/Megler Bridge and the West Mooring Basin Marina) for a reception at 5:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. Dinner, including a gratuity, is \$14.50 per person. Seating is limited, so reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Send your reservations with your check made out to OLCTHG to: Ms. Linda Nelson, PO Box 46, Corvallis, OR 97339. Reservations must be made by December 10. The Red Lion is offering a special room rate of \$49.00; call the Red Lion at 503-325-7373 and mention your Lewis and Clark connection.

♦ Bits and Pieces From Your Chapter President ♦ ♦

from Murray Hayes

A large contingent of our Washington Chapter members attended the meeting of the Foundation at Dillon, Montana. Ve take pride in the fact that chapter member Barbara Kubik was elected President of the Foundation and chapter member Steve Lee was elected Treasurer of the Foundation. Congratulations to you both!

The meeting occurred at the height of the Great Fire Season of 2000 in southwest Montana, and Dillon was arrounded by several of the largest fires. The meeting featured a series of extensive field trips, and the organizers managed to carry them all off without cancellation—albeit with poor visibility at times. At Lost Trail Pass our tour group watched a fire break over the ridge to the west near the ski area with attendant helicopters and exploding trees—almost as if the U S Forest Service was putting on a fire demonstration for us. Five bus loads of people streamed onto the pavement to watch the fire. Our speakers at this stop were overwhelmed by the competition from the forest fire, and I doubt that 10% of the tour group heard their presentation.

The dangerous fire season also kept chapter member and State Park Ranger Gary Lentz at fire standby duty in Washington. Therefore he was not available to present and demonstrate his replication of the Expedition Medicine Chest. Dr. Loge did describe the medical properties of the components of the Medicine Chest, but those of us who attended the 1999 chapter meeting at Lewis and Clark Trail State Park realize that Gary's participation would have added "reality" and another dimension to the session at Dillon. We missed you, Gary.

A chapter meeting was held just before the banquet with a majority of Washington Chapter members present. We noted that the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation will hold its 2005 Annual Meeting at Ft. Clatsop/Astoria. Local chapters often participate in sponsorship of the Foundation's Annual Meetings, but neither the Washington or Oregon chapters existed at the time the decision was made to meet in Astoria. Our membership can offer manpower to assist in conduct of the meeting and to provide guides for tours, etc. A motion was made and passed that our chapter offer to participate and jointly sponsor the 2005 meeting to be held at Astoria and Fort Clatsop. I wrote a letter to the organizing group making the offer, but have as yet no reply. The Oregon Chapter has made a similar offer.

I attended the Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee meeting in Walla Walla on October 14 to describe the Foundation's Trail Stewardship Initiative and our chapter's project to inventory privately owned sites along the trail. My purpose was to inform them of this effort and to make contacts in each trail county to help with the inventory. I was pleased to get a favorable response. I will be contacting members in the trail counties for help on this project.

Washington chapter member Martin Plamondon II, the Clark County member of the Governor's L&C Committee, presented an evening program on his newly published book, <u>Lewis and Clark Trail Maps</u>, <u>A Cartographic Reconstruction</u>, <u>Jolume I</u>. Martin described Clark's surveying technique and his reconstruction of Clark's Traverse along the trail. Clark's Traverse may well have been the outstanding technical achievement of the Expedition, and Martin's reconstruction gives ploquent testimony to the feat. Map buffs should leap to buy the book and pray for rapid completion of the two remaining polumes. Congratulations, Martin!

Washington State Chapter

November 2000

Page 1

With the bicentennial coming up in just three years, I've been reading Olin Wheeler's book, The Trail of Lewis and Clark 1804-1904 in two volumes published in 1904. This is "... a story of the great exploration across the continent in 1804-06; with a description of the old trail, based on actual travel over it, and the changes found a century later." It contains over 200 illustrations, a few from the earlier publications of the journals, but most photographs one hundred years later. To put the book in perspective, the principle sources published at the time were Biddle's original work and Cowes edition of Biddle. Thwaites was also published in 1904, and although Wheeler was aware of the work, it was not available to Wheeler. There are many recent trail guides, revisits to the trail, and descriptions, but it would be a fine comparison if someone were to revisit Wheeler's path and publish a comparable work. I'm not sure that type of scholarship is now in vogue!

Let me mention two other organizations of interest. The Washington Chapter is an Affiliate Member of the Washington State Historical Society. The WSHS is the "mother church" for historians in the State of Washington and, with the upcoming bicentennial, it is increasing focus on matters "Lewis and Clark". The State Museum heads the official State Education facet of the Bicentennial Celebration in Washington. We have been blessed to call the Museum home for our annual business meetings each year. I urge you to join and get involved. The second organization is the Oregon California Trail Association that focuses on other historic trails. We have several active chapter members who are also members of OCTA; you might contact Don Popejoy, Richard Klein or Jack Fletcher if interested. Dr. Fletcher and his wife

Patricia have recently published a book, Cherokee Trail Diaries, that I found of interest.

Finally, another short pitch on participation. Several of the present officers and Board members have served out their allowable terms—our by-laws have term limits! The Board has appointed a nominating committee which will produce a slate of officers for your consideration. But leadership in organizations such as ours tends to become an incestuous bunch, and we certainly do not know all the talents of our members. We would welcome nominations from the membership at large. Send me those cards and letters or make yourself heard at the general meeting in February!

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Please fill out the Membership Application/Renewal form below and send it along with Your check for \$10 to Don Popejoy, our Membership Chairman, before December 30 to keep your membership active and continue receiving the newsletter. Our membership dues cover a calendar year—January through December. To keep our mailing costs manageable, we donot send renewal notices; rather we remind you at this time each year to renew your membership in our great chapter. So do it now before you forget or get caught up in the holiday whirl. Join us as we proceed on —thank you!

Your new membership card will be included with the next newsletter in January.

[Note: If you renewed or joined our chapter since Sept 1, your membership is good through 2001.]

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|--|---------------|-----------------|----------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| MAIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER | | | | | |
| Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Found P. O. Box 9021 | auva | | g repes | | |
| Spokane, WA 99209-9021 | | | | | |
| | MEMBERSHIP AP | PLICATION | /RENEWAL | | |
| CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP \$10.00 per year (Jan-Dec) for any person, family, firm, association or | Name(s) | | | | |
| corporation. Please make checks payable to: | Street | وسنسي واحدوث | | | |
| Washington State Chapter LCTHF | City | | | | ika Mangalana Kacamatan |
| Dues are kept as low as possible to encourage wide membership. In | State | Zip | | | |
| addition, members are encouraged | *Phone: (h) | | (w) | al residual Artist | |

Above dues are for Washington State Chapter only. Bylaws state that Chapter members must be current members of the National Foundation. Annual dues are: Individual, \$30 per year; Family, \$40 per year. Membership includes the quarterly magazine We Proceeded On. Send Foundation dues to: Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, PO Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403.

*Optional-will be included with membership roster

Page 2

*E-mail:

to make additional donations to support the organization.

Logo Shirt Order Form

| Name | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 'ailing Address | |
| | - 10-13-10-10-10-10-10-1 |
| Polo Shirt (white) \$15.00 each Available in Adult sizes S, M, L, XXL | 2 |
| Quantity of each size ordered: S M L XL XXL | \$ |
| Sweatshirt (gray) \$20.00 each Available in Adult sizes S, M, L, XXL | |
| Quantity of each size ordered: S M L XL XXL | \$ |
| T-Shirt (gray) \$12.00 each Available in Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL and Quantity of each size ordered: Adult: SM L XL XXL | d Children's sizes S, M \$ |
| Children: S M | \$ |
| Shipping costs are \$5.00 per shirt. Number of shirts x \$5.00 each = | \$ |
| Total Enclosed | \$ |
| Make checks payable to WA Chapter, LCTHF. Mail this form an | |
| Don Payne, 32237 3rd Ave SW, Federal Way, WA 98 Please allow up to 4 weeks for delivery. | 0020 |
| × | |

ப் Chapter Logo Shirts on Sale Again ப்

Folks attending the Dillon meeting eagerly lined up to buy our chapter's new logo shirts. If you missed out then, here's another opportunity to identify yourself as a Lewis and Clark enthusiast and member of the chapter by ordering a polo shirt, sweatshirt or T-shirt with our logo. The green and

yellow logo is printed on the upper left chest area of the white polo shirts; on the gray sweatshirts and T-shirts, the logo is larger and printed on the center front. These shirts are unique to our chapter and they are available in a variety of sizes.

A suggestion: they make great Christmas gifts, too!

The form printed above provides all the ordering information, including cost of the shirts and shipping costs. Past President Don Payne has volunteered to be our shirt sales coordinator—thanks, Don! Sale of the shirts also serves as a small fund-raising project for the chapter. Don will be submitting orders in batches of six (the shirts are custom printed for us), so please be patient if there is a delay between the time you place the order and the time you receive your shirts. But be assured—these shirts are well worth a short wait.

Chapter Elections Coming in February

Reminder: Chapter members will be electing officers and board members for the next year at the February 10 meeting in Tacoma. The Nominations Committee (Murray Hayes, Don Payne and Pam Andersen) will propose a slate of officers for your consideration in the next issue of this newsletter.

Your chapter needs YOU. Running your chapter takes little time but offers great satisfaction in knowing you helped our members gain more enjoyment and knowledge about our common bond—the Corps of Discovery. Won't you consider being involved in determining the direction of our chapter during the coming year? Contact Murray at 936 Cameron Rd, Sequim, WA 98383 or by phone at 360-582-1069 or by e-mail at mlhayes@olypen.com before the end of November to express your interest.

Reminder: Our Website is at a New Location

The Washington Chapter's website has been moved to a new, easier to access address. Many thanks to member Jay Rasmussen who orked with Dr. Joseph Mussulman and the folks at the ITRC (Information Technology Resource Center) of the University of Montana in Missoula to host the site. The new address (URL) is: www.lcarchive.org/wa_lcthf.html .

The Journals: "Oh! the joy" Duspires Happiness Once Again

Near the mouth of the Columbia River, on November 7th, 1805, Captain William Clark peered ahead from his canoe and scribbled, "Ocian in view! O! the joy" in his field notebook. It was probably his most cited entry of the journey. That night, at camp near Pillar Rock, he recorded, "Great joy in camp we are in view of the Ocian, this great Pacific Octean which we have been so long anxious to See. And the roreing or noise made by the waves brakeing on the rockey Shores (as I suppose) may be heard Distinctly."

Little matter that Clark's entry was mistaken, and he was looking at the waters of Gray's Bay. The Pacific cannot be seen from Pillar Rock, but the joy was real. After nineteen months and over 4,000 miles of incredible journey, Clark—who

rarely expressed emotion in his journal—was displaying personal feelings of elation and accomplishment.

But the journal entries quickly became as dismal, gloomy and foreboding as the circumstances the Corps encountered at the turbulent and moist mouth of the Columbia River. On November 9th, Clark recorded, "at this dismal point we must spend another night as the wind & waves are too high to proceed."

The next day Clark noted, "we are all employed until late drying our bedding nothing to eat but pounded fish." Dog

meat was preferred to fish by many of the Discoverers, but Clark never acquired that taste.

On the 11th, Clark journalized about the skill of the Indians on the water. "these people cross the river through the highest waves I ever saw small vestles ride." The Indians are the Cathlahma, a Chinookan tribe. The point where their crossing was observed by Clark was five miles wide.

Sergeant Patrick Gass recorded on the 11th, "the morning was wet and the wind still blowing so that we could not proceed; we therefore built large fires and made our situation as comfortable as possible, but still bad enough, as we have no tents, or covering to defend us, except our blankets and some mats we got from the Indians, which we put on poles to keep off the rain."

On the 12th, Gass wrote, "A cloudy wet morning after a terrible night of rain, hail, thunder and lightening. We

thought it best to move our camp."

Clark's entry for the 12th shows more concern. "our situation is dangerous, we took advantage of low tide and moved camp around a point." The party moved upstream to Hungry Harbor, west of Cliff Point, Washington, which Clark called, "a dismal nitch."

On the 13th, Gass records, "This was another disagreeable rainy day, and we remained at camp being unable to get away. At 9 o'clock in the forenoon it became a little more calm than usual; and 3 men (Privates John Colter, George Shannon and Alexander Willard) took a canoe, which we got from the Indians of a kind excellent for riding swells, and set out to go to the point on the sea shore, to ascertain whether there were any white people there, or if they were gone."

There were none—another disappointment for the Corps, who had now been out of contact since leaving Fort Mandan that spring.

On the 15th, Clark lamented, "... eleven days of rain and the most disagreeable time I have experienced confied on a tempiest coast wet, where I can neither git out to hunt, return to a better situation, or proceed. In this situation we have been for Six days past." By 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the wind subsided and the camp was moved about three miles to Haley's Bay. Clark recorded, "landed & formed camp on the highest spot, this would be the extent of our journey." The

Corps had now traveled 4, 144 miles.

On the 16th, Gass recorded, "This was a clear morning and the wind pretty high. We could see the waves, like small

mountains, rolling out in the ocean, and pretty bad in the bay."

On November 20th, Gass wrote, "They killed a remarkably large buzzard, of a species different from any I had seen. It was 9 feet across the wings, and 3 feet 10 inches from the bill to the tail." It was a California condor shot by hunter Reuben Field.

Today, the "joy" is restored by the Washington State Chapter's motto which appears in the logo on the newsletter's masthead. It also appears on the splendid selection of apparel (tees, sweatshirts and polos) which you can order from our chapter. [see related article on previous page]

contributed by Charles Blair

Chapter Meeting Plans for 2001

from Doc Wesselius, Program Chairman

February 10: Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma – Rex Ziak discussing Pacific County projects for the bicentennial (including plans for Station Camp); and Barb Kubik, the new Foundation president and our annual business meeting & election of officers.

May 19: Eastern Benton County Historical Society Museum, TriCities – Jerry Igo from Clark College will talk with us about the flora of the expedition (yes, at last we'll get to hear more about the flowers and plants noted by Lewis and Clark) and we'll have a field trip on the western shore of the Columbia River.

August: Chapter meeting during the annual LCTHF meeting in Pierre, South Dakota.

September 22: Fort Vancouver - Tom Laidlaw will talk about the influence of Lewis and Clark on the Pacific Northwest fur trade, and Glen Kirkpatrick will provide insights into the Columbia Gorge. A tour of the fort will be available on Friday or Saturday night for candelight presentation of 1845.

Hikes and/or field trips after meetings have generated interest with some members; we will try to include them in meeting plans

whenever possible.

Washington State Chapter

Name Your Newsletter Contest - Enter Now!

As announced in the August issue of the newsletter, the board is conducting a contest to consider naming your newsletter. All chapter members are eligible to submit suggestions. Members attending the February 10 meeting in Tacoma will select the winner. So put on your thinking cap and send your suggestions to Pam Andersen (see address P.S.). Entries ust be received before January 15; be sure to include your name, address and phone number. And the prize, you ask? A great book, donated by Cheryl Essary: A Life Wild and Perilous — Mountain Men and the Paths to the Pacific by obert M. Utley.

Pompey's Pillar Faces Big Challenge!

compiled from other sources by Pam Andersen

One of the most significant sites along the Lewis and Clark Trail is facing its biggest challenge ever. United Harvest LLC plans to build a high-speed grain-handling facility three-quarters of a mile from Pompey's Pillar, a National Historic Site in Montana. Pompey's Pillar-not just a stop along the Lewis and Clark Trail but the only place on that trail where there is physical evidence of the Corps of Discovery-Captain Clark's signature. On July 25, 1806, Clark made a journal entry: "... arived at a remarkable rock situated in an extensive bottom on the Strd. Side of the river & 250 paces from it. This rock I ascended and from it's top had a most extensive view in every direction. This rock which I shall call Pompy's Tower is 200 feet high and 400 paces in secumpherance I marked my name and the day of the month & year."

On September 29, 2000, Montana's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) granted an air quality permit to United Harvest LLC for a high-speed grainandling facility (four 150-foot concrete silos and accompanying structures) at Pompey's Pillar, Montana. 4 seems clear that this facility would have a huge impact on the view of the Yellowstone Valley directly south of the pillar. Your Foundation and many players in the multiple partnership business of trail stewardship moved into action, and the Pompey's Pillar Historical Association stepped up to the plate to file an appeal of the DEQ decision to the Montana Board of Environmental Review. However, that association has but 200 or so members and no budget for the legal fees that will accumulate during the appeal. Jeff Olson, LCTHF's Trail Coordinator, has put out an appeal for financial support for the PPHA. Your Washington State Chapter board approved a donation of \$150 toward this cause, and some of your fellow chapter members have already sent their personal checks to PPHA. In addition, the Foundation Board of Directors, Camp Fortunate

[Dillon, MT] Chapter, the Minnesota Chapter and individual Foundation board members have already sent donations.

Now it's time for you to join this team in person. Legal fees for the appeal may reach \$4,000—or more. What can you do? Write a check. Do what you can, realistically. Do what you can so that you will sleep well tonight.

Send contributions to: Pompey's Pillar Historical Association PO Box 213 Worden, MT 59088

Here are more historical connections at the pillar for you to consider: Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and his soldiers made a massive camp there and even skirmished with Crow warriors at the site on March 16, 1873; significant fossils have been found nearby; cultural resources of the Crow Nation and other earlier prehistoric residents exist there; signatures and markings on the pillar represent fur trappers, Yellowstone River steamboat men, frontier army troops, railroaders, cattlemen, and homesteaders; a creek flowing through the United Harvest LLC property and onto BLM land where the pillar stands and nearby wetlands could be impacted; and BLM estimates that as many as 200,000 people will visit the pillar each year during the 2003-06 bicentennial.

It must be noted that although your Foundation has called for a full Environmental Impact Statement and a public hearing, it does not oppose the grain elevator project. It has offered to help United Harvest find a suitable site nearby, and the Bureau of Land Management—which administers the pillar site—has even offered to "swap" land to help offset monetary losses the company may face by moving the project site.

Report From the Membership Committee: What the Numbers Tell Us

submitted by Don Popejoy

I thought I'd share with you the geographical numbers I came up with as I analyzed our membership: 195 total members in the Washington State chapter of the LCTHF (as of October 1); 164 members from 59 cities, towns, villages or hamlets in Washington State; 20 members from 11 cities, towns, village or hamlets in Oregon State; 13 members from the states of Minnesota, Montana, Florida, South Carolina, Idaho, and Virginia.

he breakdown by city (top eight): Seattle 17; Olympia 14; Vancouver 10; Federal Way 8; Spokane 7; Port Angeles 7; Sequim 6; Tacoma 6. The most members from Oregon and the other five states was Portland with four.

You can help these numbers grow by telling your friends and family about our chapter and encouraging them to join us.

Washington State Chapter November 2000 Page 5

Chinook Chief Comcomly's Head

by Don Popejoy

Have you ever wondered how the great Chinook Chief Comcomly of Lewis and Clark fame lost his head? Well, I never had either, until recently when I came across a rather incredible story of this infamous event. But first a little background on Comcomly is needed. Comcomly (Qanqmli) was a one-eyed chief who has been written about since the end of the 18th century. He was an important person along the lower Columbia and in time came to dominate the Chinook people. He was always friendly with the white and helped the Astorians build Fort Astoria when they arrived in the area in 1811. Washington Irving has Chief Comcomly playing a central role in his book, Astoria. It has been said of Comcomly that even though he only had one eye, he saw more than most people saw with both eyes, especially when it benefited him the most. Comcomly's village was on Cape Disappointment where Point Adams is located. Madsu or Thunder, after which he was named, was said to have 300 slaves who went everywhere with him. However, it is more reasonable to go with the figure of 10 to 12 slaves which is the most often quoted number. He was the dominate figure along the lower Columbia until his death in 1830 from one of the many white man's diseases, small pox or the "cold sick."

On November 20th, 1805, Clark writes, "found maney of the Chin nooks with capt. Lewis of whome there was 2 Chiefs Com com moly & Chil lar la wil to whome we gave Medals and to one a flag." This second chief, Shelathwell, was a good friend of Comcomly's and they were often together. Not much is mentioned in the journals about this one-eyed chief, as Lewis and Clark didn't think much of him, and there was "a general order excluding them (Comcomly and his people) from our encampment; so that whenever an Indian wished to visit us, he began by calling out, No Chin nook."

In 1835 a British physician, Meredith Gairdner, was bored as a clerk with Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Vancouver and decided to make a name for himself before he died of tuberculosis. Now to make it easier to understand Mr. Gairdner's quest to become a noted grave robber, you must realize that in the 19th century there was a concerted interest in craniometry, the measurement of heads. Because the Indian race was considered to be inferior to the whites, it was thought they must have a smaller brain capacity, resulting in their barbaric (cultural differences) way of life. With their flattened heads, the Chinook and Clatsop Indians, thought Gairdner, were specimens that would be particularly fascinating to study. The question begged to be answered: does a flat head mean less intelligence? The white man (European) could not understand that happiness did not equate to possessions and that poverty could mean contentment.

William Clark wrote about the Yakamas living on the lower Snake River: "The people appear to live in a State of comparative happiness." Fur trader Alexander Ross had this to say about the Chinook. "On a fine day, it is amusing to see a whole camp or village, both men and women, here and there in numerous little bands, gambling, jeering, and laughing at one another, while groups of children keep in constant motion, either in the water or practicing the bow and arrow, and even the aged take a lively interest in what is passing, and there appears a degree of happiness among them which civilized man, wearied with care and anxious pursuits, perhaps seldom enjoys." Then Ross continues by describing the Okanogan Indians he had visited east of the Cascade Mountains. "The Indian in his natural state is happy, with his trader he is happy, but the moment he begins to walk the path of the white man his happiness is at an end. Like a wild animal in a cage, his luster is gone."

John Townsend writes, "Although living in a state of the most abject poverty, deprived of most of the absolute necessaries of life, and frequently enduring the pangs of protracted starvation, yet these poor people appear happy and

contented.

The Chinook burial custom was to put the deceased, along with his most valued possessions, high in a tree cached in a cedar bark canoe. The theft and disturbance of these burial canoes was regarded by the Indians as the most serious of crimes. Gairdner knew that his quest for Comcomly's head was a very risky, life-threatening situation; but possibly, knowing his own death was imminent, he realized that this was his last chance at preserving his own immortality. One night, Gairdner crept silently into the burial ground where Comcomly had been buried some five years earlier. The Chinook, wanting to keep their great chief's burial site a secret, buried him in a forest to prevent someone like Gairdner from taking the old chief's prized possessions and the chief himself. How Gairdner found the site of Chief Comcomly's grave is not known (at least to me), but nevertheless he began to dig up the remains. Picture this: Gairdner, terrified of getting caught, slowly winds his way into the deep, dark forest, alone, continually coughing up blood and phlegm, sweating profusely eve on this cold, wet night. He finds what he is looking for and begins to dig. The wind howls around him, somewhere an owl "hoots" and Gairdner jumps, expecting at any moment to be shot dead from an Indian arrow or rifle. The wind blows the loosened dirt he has just dug up into his face, leaves swirl around him, but he continues to dig. In the night a wolf calls to his mate, letting Gairdner know that he is not alone. Then, suddenly, Gairdner finds the box that Comcomly was buried in. Slowly he pries off the lid and there before him he sees the old chief's skeleton, hair and skin still on the flattened skull! What a terrifying and defining moment in Gairdner's life this must have been. Coughing and spitting up more blood. Gairdner severs the head from the body and steals away into the night.

Gairdner boarded a ship for Hawaii and sent the boxed skull of Comcomly to a friend in England along with this letter of explanation: "By his ability? Cunning? Or what you please to call it, he (Comcomly) raised himself and family to a power and influence which no Indian has since possessed in the districts of the Columbia below the first rapids one hundred and fifty miles from the sea. When the phrenologists look at this frontal development, what will they say to this? If I return to the Columbia will endeavor to procure you the whole skeleton This was denied to Gairdner, for one

year later he died of tuberculosis.

But what happened to Chief Comcomly's head? After arriving in England, naturalist John Richardson studied the skull and then allowed it to be displayed for all to see at the Royal Naval Hospital Museum for the next 117 years. After the

(continued from p. 6) skull survived Hitler's bombing of London, it was loaned to the Smithsonian in 1956 and finally, in 1972, came home to rest forever near Comcomly's native village site at Ilwaco, Washington, on Baker Bay.

[For further reading about Chief Comcomly, see <u>The Chinook Indians: Traders of the Lower Columbia</u> by Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown.]

Information on Books About Lewis and Clark

Two book reviews from Doc Wesselius:

Lewis and Clark Trail Maps - A Cartographic Reconstruction, Volume I

A must for all dedicated "Clark-ies. The problem will be the wait for the next two volumes, especially for Pacific Northwest historians and students of history. The first volume is a cartographic reconstruction of the expedition's exploration of the Missouri river from Camp Dubois in Illinois to Fort Mandan in North Dakota. Washington State University Press will publish the next two volumes in 2001 and 2002, just in time for the bicentennial observance. The material will be available in three forms: hardbound at \$65 and paperback at \$45, as well as spiral-bound at \$65 (for those of us who will wear out the pages in our travels along the trail).

The maps compare the modern beds of the Missouri to the course of the river at the time of Clark's measurements and notes in his journals. There are many excerpts from the expedition's journals and the author has also added insightful frontier information. Martin's introduction to the cartographic re-constructions is an essay on frontier surveying, which was presented at the chapter's spring meeting this year at Horsethief Lake State Park. You can order your copy by mail from WSU Press, P O Box 645910, Pullman, WA 99164-5910; or by telephone 800-354-7360. Shipping costs are \$4 for the first book and \$.75 each additional book. Washington residents: Don't forget to add 7.6% sales tax.

Our Natural History - The Lessons of Lewis and Clark

Almost every professor of a major institution of higher learning is seeking to find a subject on Lewis and Clark that will sell with the upcoming bicentennial observance. Daniel Botkin, president of the Center for the Study of the Environment and director of the Program for Global Change, has seized upon the present popularity of Lewis and Clark to present a provocative book on environmental issues in the United States.

Botkin's material in this book describes the American West as seen by Lewis and Clark and compares it with today's hanges to the environment. At least, his views are practical and dilute many myths of the environmental movement. The isdom gathered from this material is that single issue solutions will not solve the complex environmental issues that we are presently trying to address. Botkin does not offer any specific answers for a specific question but does give some sight on how we must approach the sensitive issues of the environmental movement.

The book does provide new subjective information on environmental issues but little new information on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. In a time when environmentalism has become a fad, this book provides interesting reading. It does provide the reader with another way to look at the sensationalism on environmental issues that are sweeping the nation at the time of the bicentennial observance of Lewis and Clark.

Other new books of interest:

<u>Sacagawea Speaks – Beyond the Shining Mountains with Lewis and Clark</u> by chapter member Joyce Badgley Hunsaker will have its official public debut at the Gilcrease Museum the last of April. The original publisher sold the book rights to Falcon Publishing of Helena, MT, which then merged with Globe/Pequot of Connecticut during the book's scheduling, so the timeline got pushed back a bit. Falcon is taking advance orders for the book now (1-800-582-2665); price will be \$29.95. The first run will be 35,000 copies; 25,000 of those are already sold or spoken for. Joyce has seen the mockup and tells us it is one gorgeous book . . . full color, hardback (about 9-1/2" square), with her living history text, extensive endnotes, quotations from the journals, maps, timelines, historical and contemporary images, Shoshoni vocabulary, biographical sketches of the Corps members, etc. Also of interest, Little Voices Productions, formerly of Portland and now based in Denver, CO, has committed to creating a documentary film for television based on <u>Sacagawea Speaks</u>. Shooting is scheduled to begin in May, and air time is scheduled for 2002.

The Sacagawea video project is awaiting funding. Joyce has two fellowship/grant applications now under review for the filming and packaging, but unfortunately there are no videos available at this time. She'll let us know as soon as she has a video available.

Three Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, 1804-1806: From the Collections of the American Philosophical Society - Carter, Edward Carlos, ed.; American Philosophical Society.

Lewis and Clark for Kids: Their Journey of Discovery with 21 Activities - Herbert, Janis; Chicago Review Press.

<u>raveling the Lewis and Clark Trail</u> – Fanselow, Julie; Falcon Publishing Company. [Note: see pp. 34-35 of the August dition of *We Proceeded On* for a review of this book.]

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How to Contact Your Officers & Board Members

President: Murray Hayes, 936 Cameron Rd, Sequim, WA 98383; 360-582-1069
Vice President: Cheryl Essary, 886 So Hwy 17, Othello, WA 99344; 509-488-9074

Secretary: Pam Andersen, 2374 Crestline Blvd NW, Olympia, WA 98502; 360-943-3979

Treasurer: Rennie Kubik, 10808 NE 27th Court, Vancouver, WA 98696; 360-546-5989

Board: Lee Edtl, 919 22nd Avenue, Longview, WA 98632; 360-577-0485

Don Payne, 32237 3rd Ave SW, Federal Way, WA 98023; 253-838-5906

Don Popejoy East 308 Weile, #3, Spokane 99208; 509-483-3174

Doc Wesselius, 1608 Big Hanaford Valley, Centralia, WA 98531; 360-736-6106



Corner of Discovery: Profiles of our Members

prepared by Cheryl Essary

A column featuring Chapter members and their comments concerning their interest in the Lewis and Clark Expedition

It appears this column is coming to an end because we haven't received any bio info from members for the past six months. If you enjoy reading about your fellow members, please take the time to share your own responses to the following questions so we can all get to know one another better. Send them along to me at 886 So Hwy 17, Othello, WA 99344-9799 (or by e-mail to merchaf@concord.televar.com. Last opportunity: consider sending me your comments about your interest in the Corps of Discovery to enable us to continue this column.

- 1. How did you become interested in Lewis and Clark?
- 2. What parts of the trail have you traveled? What was your favorite place? Why?
- Other than the journals, what is/are your favorite Lewis and Clark book(s)? Why?
- 4. Do you have a favorite member of the expedition? If so, whom and why?
- 5. What aspect of the expedition most interests you? (geography, natural history, Native Americans, etc.)
- 6. Is there anything else you would like to add?

look What You Missed Out On: Exploring the Portage Route & Bonneville Dam

by Cheryl Essary

Bonneville Dam's Bradford Island Visitor's Center theater was the rendezvous point for members attending the hapter's September 23 meeting. Twenty-five people were present, including two visitors from Belgium. Chapter esident Murray Haves spoke about the National Foundation's Trail Stewardship Project, in which chapters are being asked to obtain ownership information of the trail areas in each state. He has volunteered to head up our chapter's team r this project and welcomes volunteers.

The program got underway with Don Dinsmore, our host for the day, who started off with a demonstration of his musical skill on the Jew's harp. This ubiquitous instrument is not mentioned in the Lewis and Clark journals, but it was listed in the expedition's inventory. Don played several tunes, including "Yankee Doodle" and "Freré Jacques." His performance set us up for the main event: the screening of the new video "Travelin' On the Lewis and Clark Trail," featuring historian Clay Jenkinson. And Don, who recently retired from Bonneville Dam's staff, led us on a tour of the

dam. He was just like a kid showing off his favorite toy.

This was just the beginning of a full day of adventure. During the phases of our tour of Bonneville, we migrated from the Oregon side to the Washington side of the dam, and it was in Washington that we set off on our next jaunt. Led by local historian Cliff Crawford, a caravan of cars stopped at several sites along Highway 14 to see the portage trail around the Great Shute (the Cascades of the Columbia). As with most sites along the Columbia River, the geography here is much changed. However, the fact that this was a well-used portage before and after the Corps gives us a good idea of its location. Cliff is well versed in the history of this portage route, from pre-European settlement to today. It was along this portage route that Seaman was stolen from Lewis (and subsequently recovered). We stopped at Ice House Lake, and at another stop we walked across railroad tracks to see the top of a nearly submerged island that was at the head of the Cascades (falls). The expedition camped on this island on October \$1805. Cliff showed several photographs from his own collection of the area before the dams altered the landscape. Seeing these photos while viewing the "live" places helped us to understand how it must have looked nearly 200 years ago.

Thanks to Cliff Crawford for his time and expertise; his knowledge of Lewis and Clark's activities in Skamania County is a valuable resource for all Lewis and Clark buffs. Thanks also to Don Dinsmore, who showed us a great time and did it

with such enthusiasm. He was enthusiastic and had answers for all our questions, even the silly ones.

Washington Members & Wildfires Make Strong Showing in Dillon submitted by Cheryl Essary

Our state and chapter were well represented during the Foundation's annual meeting at Western Montana College in llon, Montana, held from August 13 to August 16. Over 40 Washingtonians attended the convention, which boasted over 600 attendees. In spite of smoky skies from the infamous Montana and Idaho wildfires, all field trips were completed as scheduled. These outings were not for the faint of heart! One day was a 14-hour trek to Lemhi Pass, Salmon, Idaho, back to Jackson, Montana for dinner, before returning to Dillon. The many sites on this day were overwhelming, including Lemhi Pass on the Continental Divide, the treacherous route to the open country where the Corps met the Shoshonis, and the Salmon River. The shorter but no less enjoyable trip took members to view Beaverhead Rock, Clark's Lookout, and Camp Fortunate, where Dayton Duncan gave a talk. Everyone was split into two groups, alternating the trips on two days. The tour guide and maps compiled by the Camp Fortunate chapter were outstanding. With these excellent resources, it would be easy to go to all these places again on your own and not miss a thing,

A bevy of speakers gave talks throughout the final day of the meeting. In between, our chapter sold our new chapter T-shirts, sweatshirts, and polo shirts. They were a big hit not only with Washington members, but others, too. Later that day all Foundation chapters held meetings on the lawn at Western Montana College. With the help of several visitors

from Oregon, we had 33 attendees at our meeting, making it one of the largest.

That evening, the banquet's featured speaker was Oregonian Albert Furtwangler, author of "Acts of Discovery." Washington's own Barbara Kubik was introduced as the new President of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, and a merry time was had by all!

Kumtux Wawa by Gary Lentz

What Questions Would You Like to Have Answered?

What aspect of the Lewis and Clark Expedition have you been wondering about? Here's a great opportunity for you as a member of the Washington State Chapter: Gary Lentz has offered to write a column in the newsletter based on questions from our members. What aspect of the Lewis and

ark Expedition have you been wondering about? He will research and respond to questions for publication in the newsletter. Send your questions to: Gary Lentz, 36149 Hwy 12, Dayton, WA 99328.

Washington State Chapter

November 2000

Page 9

Thomas Jefferson Walking Tour of Paris: A Natural Progression

by Robert Heacock

A continuous and connected series. That is what the dictionary calls a progression. (I will stay away from the mathematical-related definitions here for us "mathophobes.") After finally being able to satisfy (some) of my curiosity about the Corps of Discovery with the plethora of publications that have been available in the last few years, I felt that I had reached a plateau that may allow me to be comfortable in my level of knowledge about the story of our intrepid explorers. But in doing so, I also developed a desire to become more familiar with the person who recognized the urgent need for their trip, and who commissioned, guided and helped to plan their trip. Thus my progression to things Jeffersonian.

Jefferson. Just the single word stands for so much in the history of our country, our laws, our scientific knowledge and as a beacon for the free world. I have not yet made a pilgrimage to Albemarle County, but it is high up on my list of things to do. In rummaging about bookstores, looking for Lewis and Clark material, I frequently came across material that is related to Jefferson, and eventually could not help but to seek more. I was able to gather a few books, and even perused the Monicello Foundation website (monicello.org) for further information.

Enter my wife, Melanie. With a chuckle, she has watched my desires for L&C information grow, and she did enjoy swimming in Clark Canyon Reservoir at Camp Fortunate. (And I think she <u>really did</u> enjoy camping on Lemhi Pass). I have even learned to satisfy her looks of concern when I return from a business trip in Montana, Idaho or even the Oregon coast area that may have a bookstore or two (well, OK, a few) in it. As Jefferson said, "I cannot live without books."

Now, one thing we have learned from Jefferson is advance planning and taking advantage of an opportunity. My wife, being a high school French teacher, occasionally takes student groups to Europe—specifically France—and, of course, Paris. She has graciously taken me on prior trips as a chaperone, and this latest trip she had planned fit fairly well with my

desire to fill a niche with some more Jefferson knowledge.

In seeing and enjoying any historical venue, most of us are not satisfied just to be in the areas where an event occurred. We want to stand on the spot where it happened. Anything less is unsatisfactory. So in researching Jefferson in Paris, I compiled a Thomas Jefferson Walking Tour of Paris. The best source of information I could find was Thomas Jefferson's Paris, (Howard C. Rice, Jr., Princeton University Press 1976), a wonderfully written and informative book that is lavishly illustrated.

On our recent trip, I was able to find the time to visit most of the sites listed, but I will save the rest for a future trip. One does not need much of a reason to justify an enjoyable trip to this wonderful city. But this walking tour certainly can give you a good reason, if a reason is needed.

Thomas Jefferson Walking Tour of Paris:

1782 Mrs. Jefferson dies in Virginia

3 Aug 1784 Jefferson, with daughter Martha (Patsy) and servant James Hemings, lands at Le Havre as

American Commissioner to negotiate trade treaties with European powers

6 Aug 1784 Traveled down Champs-Elysees to Place Louis XV (Place de la Concorde) and down Rue de

Honore to Palais Royal. Stayed six days at Hotel d'Orleans at 30 Rue de Richelieu; the back of the

house is on the Rue de Montpensier.

10 Aug - 17 Oct Stayed on left bank at Hotel d'Orleans (same name) on the east side of Rue Bonaparte, between Rue

Jacob and Rue Visconti

16 Oct 1784 Moved to Cul-de-Sac Taibout, now Blvd Haussman and Rue du Helder, east of the Opera House at

Place Adrien Oudin

Jan 1785 Jefferson received word his daughter Patsy died

11 Jul 1785 Ben Franklin leaves Paris; he had been living in Passy at Hotel de Valentinois, now Rue

Raynouard and Rue Singer, just north of Maison de Radio-France. Jefferson appointed Minister

to France

17 Oct 1785 Moved to Hotel de Langeac at the Grille de Chaillot, northeast corner of Champs-Elysees and Rue

de Berri

14 Jul 1789 Storming of the Bastille 26 Sept Jefferson leaves Paris 1842 Hotel Langeac demolished

Jefferson's Favorite Places:

Right Bank - Helles aux Bleds, now Bourse du Commerce; Rue Saint Honore; Palais Royal

Left Bank – Blvd Saint-Germain area for printers and booksellers. Quai des Grands Agustins for books. Home of Marquis Lafayette, near Palais Bourbon, now 119 Rue de Lille & Blvd Saint-Germain; house was similar to that at 121 Rue de Lille.

[Source: Thomas Jefferson's Paris, Howard C. Rice Jr., Princeton University Press 1976]

Once again, your newsletter contains articles from several chapter members, some of whom are "newcomers" to writing and submitting articles for your pleasure. Why not join them?

Send your submissions to Pam Andersen (address on page 8).

Page 10

Kudos, Opportunities, Announcements

We bid farewell to charter members Lyle and Joan Soulé, who have moved to Virginia to live nearer to their family. Lyle and Joan were a "fixture" at our apter meetings; their enthusiasm for L&C and their zest for life made them a treasure that we will all miss eatly. Their new address is 2261 Willow Oak Cir, 204, Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

Welcome to our newest members: Sally Cook, Larry & Anne Dellwo, Nicole Graham, Michael L. Harris, Elizabeth Hinson, Scott & Jan Jensen, James & Mary Johnson, Larry & Eleanor McClure, Junius Rochester, Molly Smith, and Jayne Uerling.

Hope you're all still enjoying our great logo, designed by member **Gary Lentz**. In case you missed it, we'll point out that if you look closely at the black area between the captain's heads, you'll see a special aspect that we Washingtonians can be proud of: an image that looks like George Washington in profile!

Chapter member Vi Forrest of Walla Walla was recently recognized for her 25 years of active service on the Governor's L&C Trail Committee.

As the holidays approach, most of us are thinking about gift-giving. Here are some suggestions for you to consider: Purchase a copy of the Foundation's "L&C Curriculum and Resource Guide for Middle and Junior High Schools" to donate to your local school district (\$40 + \$6 s&h, from LCTHF, Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403 or by phone 1-800-701-3434). Or buy and donate a copy of Gary Moulton's L&C atlas or a new book about the Expedition or a Foundation membership for your local library.

Sharon Tiffany reports that the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center has provided research assistance to the Missouri State Historical Society for possible loans on a national touring exhibit.

Next Chapter Meeting is February 10

Plan now to attend the annual business meeting on February 10 at the Washington State Historical Society in Tacoma. Rex Ziak will fill us in on Pacific County's projects for the bicentennial (including plans for Station Camp), and we'll hear from Barb Kubik, the Foundation's new president. Business includes election of officers and voting on a possible newsletter name. And as always, there will be time to get to know and renew acquaintances with other chapter members.

News and Activities from Near and Far

Almost two centuries after he and Meriwether Lewis traipsed west to the Pacific Ocean, explorer William Clark is finally on his way to becoming a captain. Both the U.S. Senate and House approved a bill to posthumously promote him. he bill now goes to President Clinton for his signature. (excerpted from *The Olympian*, 10/28/00)

- U. S. Navy Secretary announced that a new class of Navy vessels will be named after Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. One ship will be named after Lewis and Clark; another ship will be named after Sacagawea. "Naming a ship after them is a very natural thing. We name our ships, above all, after spirit," Danzig said at an outdoor ceremony at Lewis & Clark College. The entire fleet of 12 vessels will replace 15 similar ships beginning 2004. The ships are unusual because they can do a range of things, including carry supplies, fuel and provide battle group support, which will be their main function. (excerpted from The Olympian, 10-28-00)
- A roughly hewn knife unearthed in the tiny archive room at Fort Clatsop National Monument may have been forged by members of the Corps of Discovery as a peace offering to Nez Perce tribes who helped save the explorers' lives. Erhard Gross, a local historian and craftsman, was researching the knives when he set out to create replicas to sell during the upcoming bicentennial. In a book on historic knives and weapons, he found a crude sketch of what he was looking for; the caption said the original knife was in the Fort Clatsop archives. It was purchased in 1961—for \$20—from an Idaho museum. Records show that the Sacajawea Museum in Spaulding, Idaho, had traced the knife's ownership from the Nez Perce chief who had accepted it from Lewis and Clark. Although Don Striker, superintendent at Fort Clatsop, noted there's no physical proof the knife came from the Corps of Discovery, he said, "There's a very, very solid record placing this knife in the hands of folks we know existed." (excerpted from *The Oregonian*, 10-1-00)
- A recent rare book discovery: When Elliot Coues began working on his narrative summary of the journals of Lewis
 and Clark, he arranged for Mary B. Anderson, a handwriting expert, to secretly make an exact copy of the original
 journals in 1893. The book was part of George Tweney's collection, recently acquired by Lewis and Clark College.
 (excerpted from The Oregonian, 9-26-00)
- From the Aug 2000 Quarterly Newsletter published by the multi-state agency task force): The Cowlitz Indian Tribe is proposing to construct a "working" exhibit of the Lewis and Clark Expedition period that will include living history displays and reenactments exhibiting Cowlitz dress, tools, a canoe, masks, basketry, Cowlitz culture and environment; the primary basis for the interpretation of the exhibit shall be taken from the Expedition journals during the specific days of avel through Cowlitz territory. The Washington State Agency Assistance Team has developed an exciting interpretive aide—using graphics, text, photos & quotes from the journals—that summarizes the highlights of the Corps of Discovery's travels through Washington; titled "The End of Our Voyage", the guide is targeted for distribution to funding surces, sponsors & others to explain the urgency of project implementation needs in Washington.

From the National Park Service's (NPS) "The Corps Explorer" newsletter, July & October issues: "As the U.S. Mint winds down its \$42 million advertising campaign promoting the Sacagawea dollar, fewer than half of Americans have. encountered the coin—and most who have save it rather than spend it. The Mint is satisfied with how the coin has penetrated daily commerce after just six months in circulation. A better coin, better promotion and extensive distribution-expected to pass one billion by the end of the summer-leave the Mint confident of the dollar coin's success *The NPS is refurbishing the gravesite monument of Meriwether Lewis; the column and stone monument will be carefully cleaned and reassembled. Some of the stones need replacing and NPS is having a hard time finding a source of this type of rock. *The Washington State Historical Society was awarded \$70,000 to create an exhibit on the Lewis and Clark Expedition to travel throughout the State of Washington during the bicentennial. These funds are among those appropriated by Congress to assist states and local communities in development of project on the L&C National Historic Trail. *The NPS has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Geological Survey & the University of Montana to establish a framework for cooperation on a National Lewis and Clark Education Center and Lewis and Clark Data Consortium; they are also working cooperatively with other federal agencies including the Dept. of Education, NASA, & The Natl. Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Council. *The Lewis and Clark Internet Archive, aka Lewis and Clark on the Information Superhighway, has moved to a new site: www.lcarchive.org . Jay Rasmussen, a member of both the Washington and Oregon chapters, is the Web guru for this site. *As part of a cooperative research & development agreement, the USGS and Microsoft have combined their expertise and resources to provide the public with on-line access to aerial and map-like views of the United States. Log onto Microsoft's Terra Server at http://www.terraserver.microsoft.com to find maps that could be of use to you out on the Lewis and Clark Trail.

In case some of you wonder why your newsletter pages are not stapled together, it's because the Post Office has requested that we use tape only (keeps the paper from jamming in their equipment).

Robert-Thanks so much for your article-very interesting!

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation 2374 Crestline Blvd NW Olympia, WA 98502

