

## Washington State Chapter, LCTHF

### *Worthy of Notice*

July Newsletter  
Vol. 2, Issue 3



#### Editor's Note:

With this newsletter, we begin a new era. But first we need to convey a hearty "Thanks" along with our heartfelt wishes to Pam Anderson. The job that she has done in the past 4 years as newsletter editor speaks for itself. Her work will be missed, I'm sure. However, as our intrepid explorers did, we must "proceed on." It is my sincere desire to produce a newsletter that, though not a match for Pam's efforts, will at least have interesting and newsworthy articles, meeting notes and schedules, journal excerpts and any other news that would be "worthy of notice." I hope you will bear with me as I embark on this new endeavor. And please feel free to contact me with any information that might be of interest to other members.

I would, at this point, like to thank "Doc" Wesselius, Don Popejoy and Gary Lentz for their help and encouragement in getting started.

Tim Underwood, Ed.

#### President's Message

Thanks to everyone who attended the chapter meeting in Kennewick on May 19! We welcomed not only our chapter members, but also visitors from Idaho and Oregon, and a few others who wandered in to see what we were doing. Despite some wind, we enjoyed our picnic at Two Rivers Park, and the field trip to Yellepit was outstanding! Thanks to Barb Kubik for leading the field trip and to Jerry Igo for his presentation at the East Benton County Museum.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, I had the chance to visit the grave of Jean Baptiste Charbonneau, aka "Pomp," outside Jordan Valley, Oregon. My sisters and niece indulged me as I took photos and had a good look at the countryside. Pomp died there at about this time of year, and I was trying to imagine what it must have looked like. (I do that at every Lewis and Clark site, and I bet most of you do, too.) It is sheep and cattle ranching country now and seems to be in the middle of nowhere. I had to remind myself why I was here in 2001. I don't know what would have made me go there in 1866, the year Pomp died. He was a child of the West, so he probably thought nothing of being so far from "civilization." It was easy to imagine what this place was like in 1866: windswept, with meadowlarks chortling on every bush of sagebrush, so very far from the next stage stop. The feeling I came away with was that yes, it was a lonely place to die, but so very beautiful.

With this newsletter we welcome a new editor, Tim Underwood. Tim graciously volunteered to take on the job that has been done so well by Pam Andersen. Since our chapter is spread all over the state and we have only four meetings a year, I've always believed the newsletter to be of vital importance. It keeps the membership informed of chapter activities and Lewis and Clark news, and allows members to contribute articles and suggestions. It is the glue that holds us together as a chapter.

We've also had a change on the board. Don Popejoy, who was elected Secretary in February, has stepped down due to his many projects. He found an able replacement in Robert Heacock, who will be the chapter scribe at future meetings. Thanks, Rob, for taking the job.

For me, summer means road trips. Undoubtedly many will be along the Lewis and Clark Trail. If you are out sightseeing, too, take a few notes and share your observations with us. We all love reading about each other's adventures on the trail. Have a great summer!

Cheryl Essary

*"we set out...along the South Coast of the river against the wind and a strong current..."*

(Lewis' journal of 25 March 1806 on the morning of the third day of the return trip)

## Membership Notice from Don Popejoy

The Washington State chapter is going on its fourth year of existence and has been growing stronger every year. Until now! As of the first of the year 2001, we had 155 memberships with a total of 218 members. Now, as of May 2001, after three renewal notices, we are down to 136 memberships and only 194 total members.

To those members that find their name listed below, this is your last issue of the chapter newsletter *Worthy of Notice*. Please rejoin your chapter as we need you just as much as you need us! Trust me, there is so much coming your way this year that you don't want to miss a single issue of *Worthy of Notice*. Most non-renewals are an oversight as we are so busy, we forget to do the most important thing each December/January, and that is to renew your membership with the Washington State chapter of the LCTHF. Please do it now.

Ed Callahan  
Doris Clymer  
Dee Roche'-Coons  
Doug Dale  
Jean Haven-Erickson  
Charles Hudson  
O.J. Lamont  
Albert LaPage

Jack & Millie Lyon  
Paul Nolte  
Max & Annette Patterson  
Richard Pingrey  
John & Joan Price  
R.T. Ravenholt  
Jeff & Shelley Rudeen  
Carole Simon-Smolinski  
James Vowels

If you feel that this is a mistake, contact Richard Klein, Treasurer, 1537 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Bremerton, WA 98337 P# 360-479-3062 [rkleinx2@aol.com](mailto:rkleinx2@aol.com)

When you send in your renewal, please send it to Don Popejoy at E. 308 Weile Ave. Apt #3, Spokane, WA 99208

Thanks for renewing.

## September Meeting Directions

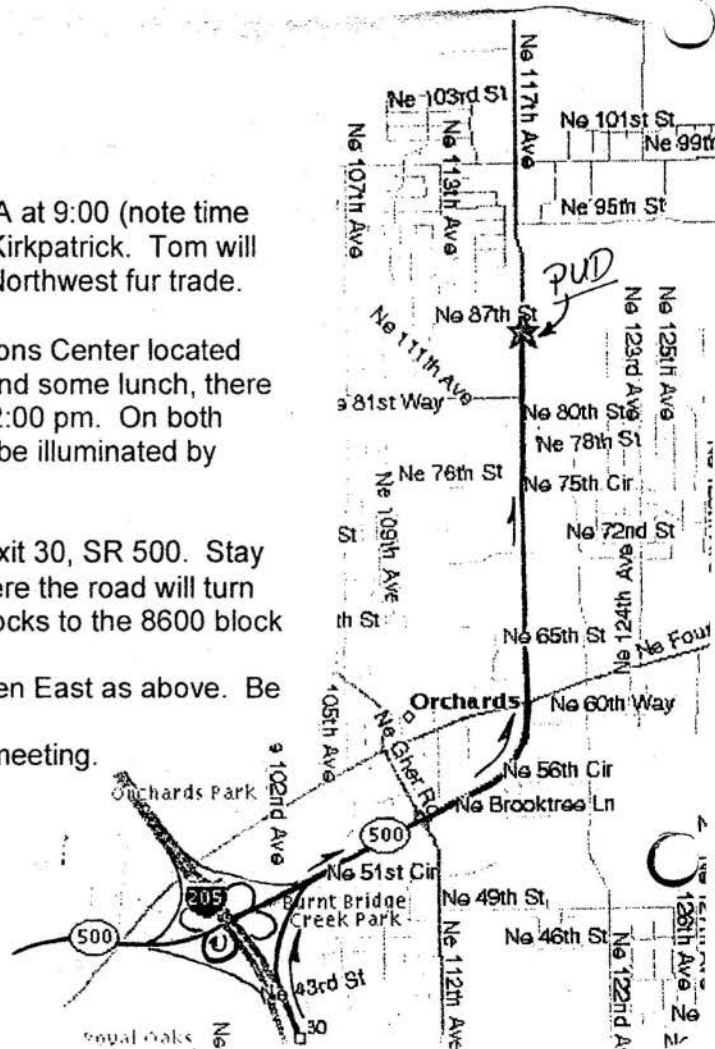
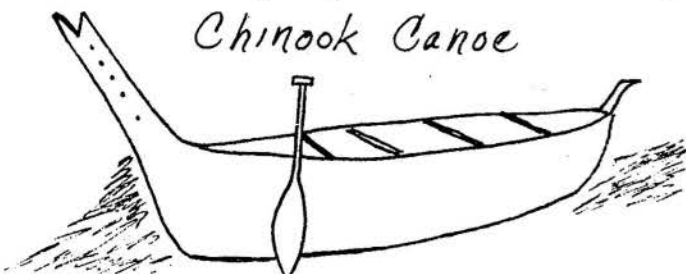
The September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in Vancouver, WA at 9:00 (note time change) where the speakers will be Tom Laidlaw and Glen Kirkpatrick. Tom will speak about the influence of Lewis and Clark on the Pacific Northwest fur trade. Then Glen will give us some insight on the Columbia Gorge.

The meeting will be held at the Clark County PUD Operations Center located at 8600 NE 117<sup>th</sup> (SR 503) east of I-205. After the meeting and some lunch, there will be a tour of the replica Hudson's Bay Fort Vancouver at 2:00 pm. On both Friday and Saturday evenings beginning at 7:00, the fort will be illuminated by candlelight to give the feeling of a night in 1845.

**Directions:** From the North: Follow I-5 and I-205 south to exit 30, SR 500. Stay in the left lane and follow SR 500 East through Orchards where the road will turn into SR 503 (heading North). Continue North for some 25 blocks to the 8600 block and the PUD compound.

From the South: Follow I-205 North to exit 30, SR 500, then East as above. Be sure to stay in the left lane.

Directions for getting to Ft Vancouver will be given at the meeting.



## **Kennewick Board Meeting Notes**

At the Kennewick Board Meeting of May 19, 2001, the minutes from the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as well as the treasury report.

Business included a review of, and subsequent larger order to be placed, for the Chapter brochure. Murray Hayes provided an update on the private lands inventory along the trail. He stated that the Lower Columbia region is well covered, and that the SE Washington overland route is getting help from chapter members in that quarter.

Board changes were enacted with Tim Underwood accepting the position of Newsletter Editor and Robert Heacock appointed as the new Secretary. Don Popejoy will continue as membership secretary, but will relinquish the general secretary's duties.

It was hoped that a vendor table would be available to the chapter at the national meeting in Pierre in August. If this is the case, Don Payne says that a wider selection of the larger sizes will be available. We are, at this point, waiting for confirmation of a table. (**Note:** Don regrets that there will not be time to deliver shirts at this juncture for use in Pierre. If you are planning on going to Pierre, you may wish to wait until you get there and save yourself the shipping costs. If you are not going to Pierre, then you will certainly have them by the September meeting in Vancouver.)

Finally, a decision was made to make a donation to the East Benton County Museum for letting us use their facilities, and to Jerry Igo to cover his expenses.

The next meetings will be in Pierre, SD on August 5<sup>th</sup> and at Ft Vancouver on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **General Meeting Notes**

The Chapter quarterly meeting was held Saturday, May 19, 2001 at the East Benton County Museum in Kennewick, Washington. The meeting started at 10:00 with about 40 people in attendance.

Roger Wendlich of Oregon talked briefly about the Washougal site, the March 31-April 6, 1806 campsite, now known as "Cottonwood Beach." The Fish and Wildlife Service is in the process of developing an interpretive center at the site.

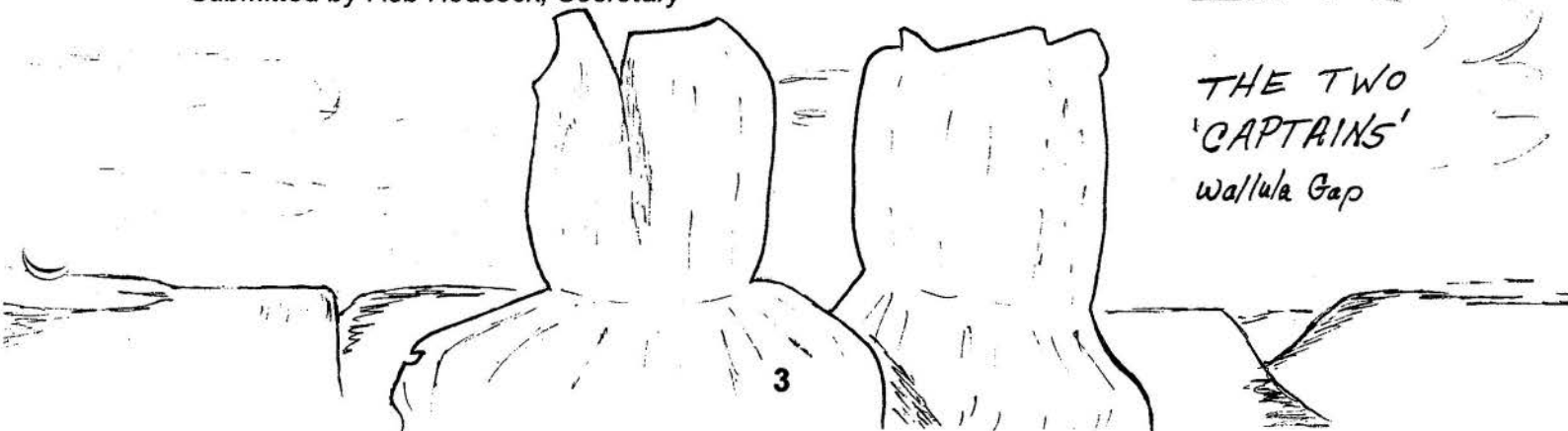
Glen Kirkpatrick, also of the Oregon Chapter, informed us of the new research that has confirmed that the ending point of Capt. Clark's journey up the Multnomah (Willamette) River as being Present-day Cathedral Park at the St. Johns Bridge. This means that the University of Portland can no longer claim this distinction. Glen explained how his research led to this conclusion.

Tim Underwood was introduced as the new newsletter editor, and Robert Heacock was introduced as the new general secretary for our chapter.

The featured program of the morning meeting was provided by Jerry Igo of Mosier, OR. Jerry gave a very informative presentation on the flora encountered and described by the Expedition in the Columbia Gorge area. He had approximately 75 freshly collected and potted specimens, and a typed summary of all that included the common and scientific names. Everyone was touched by his infectious enthusiasm, and enjoyed the benefit of his knowledge.

After the meeting, lunch was at Two Rivers Park, across the Columbia from the October 16-17, 1805 campsite at the mouth of the Snake River. Led by Barb Kubik, the group then journeyed to the April 27-28, 1806 campsite at Yellepit. This is in the Wallula Gap area, and is the location where the Expedition swam their horses across the Columbia to the mouth of the Walla Walla River. The actual site is now underwater, but possible routes down the bluffs from the Gap were identified. In the distance, near the entrance to Wallula Gap, is the rock formation known as the "Twin Sisters."

*Submitted by Rob Heacock, Secretary*





## Book Review

*River Walk* By Rita Cleary. Five Star Western Series, Unity, Maine 2000 \$21.95.

A longtime steadfast member of LCTHF, Rita Cleary (of Oyster Bay, NY) has justly earned distinction as a writer focusing on the early West. Her novels, *Sorrel* (1993) and *Goldtown* (1996), both red-blooded "Westerns," brought recognition among her peers; she is an aficionado of the Western Writers of America, and has been a judge for the Spur Awards. More recently, *Spies and Tories* (1999), according to Publishers Weekly, "ably captures the atmosphere of war-torn New York" during the American Revolution. Cleary has now turned her considerable talent to the beloved Corps of Discovery, having just published *River Walk*, the first of a trilogy on the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

This is an imaginative story of the life and upbringing of young John Collins, freshly departed from his family in Frederick, Maryland, becoming a new recruit for the Corps at St. Louis as it organizes and embarks on its epic voyage. This first installment of the trilogy covers the journey from winter boot camp at Woods River, 1803-04, to the rugged winter of 1804-05 at the Mandan Villages. But why **Collins** for the star role? Wasn't this man a "blackguard," as William Clark identified him – a boiling, undisciplined troublemaker? Indeed, it is just such a character that the author introduces. But as the story moves on, Collins becomes more *sympathique*, even an attractive personality. The novel's subtitle for our own contemporary reference could be "Saving Private Collins."

Truly, it is saving that he needs. A naïve, hot tempered and vulnerable youth, Collins is like an unbroken colt, wild and uncontrollable, thrown into a frontier rife with suspicions, rivalries, temptations. He becomes a kind of shuttle-cock in the story, battered about amongst the circumstantial tensions surrounding the Expedition; i.e. Spanish, English and Indian plots and hostilities, as well as jealousies and squabbles among the travelers within the Corps. It is a wild and wooly drama that the author stages. In the course of passage, there is espionage, treachery, crime, fights, brawls; gambling for horses, women, whiskey; murder, mutiny, sex, marriages, betrayals, violence – life and death! Most of the action swirls around Private John Collins, bursting out at times like thunder and lightning on the prairies. BE ADVISED, however, that despite all the blood and guts, the story is not a mere "Wild West" Hollywood version of Lewis and Clark. The drama here is a lively reminder that this epic Voyage really did move against a backdrop of geopolitical tensions and human trial which would define the future of the continent.

The characters depicted are more than wooden toy soldiers lifted out of the "journal box." They emerge from the shadows of the Record as believable human beings, albeit clothed with distinctive personalities and events drawn from the author's own vivid imagination. About them, we have the same reaction that Booklist Review noted concerning the cast in Cleary's preceding novel: Her "characters are well developed and compelling, and she leaves the impression that their stories will continue." Thus, besides a brash and volatile Collins, we become acquainted, among others by way of illustration, with Sergeant Ordway – depicted as a self-righteous martinet, with "little insight" and "strict, puritanical ethics;" Labiche as a physically ugly, gambling demon, almost a satanic figure; Cruzatte as the "saintly Frenchman," a "papist," given to prayer and orthodoxy; – an avuncular Sergeant Pryor helps set Collins up with a Mandan bride. "You can bring her to the Fort," he says. "There are others who have already done as much."

Amidst such provocative scenes and personalities, there are two challenges: one for the reader with few preconceived notions, who may be relatively new to Lewis and Clark lore – and a different challenge for the "old time enthusiast," the person who is more deeply immersed in the historic record, i.e. the reader who may already have in mind fixed ideas and images of the Expedition... The "newcomer" on the one hand may want to turn from the excitement and intensity of the novel, and try to compare its drama with the more mundane accounts of the actual Journals. "Old-timers," on the other hand may be piqued to recognize that the spare Journal records do not, cannot, give truly distinctive life to the men toiling up river with their own individual private hopes, fears and dreams. This is the real challenge from Rita Cleary. She brings her story to life with diverse flesh-and-blood human beings, startling readers into wondering whether their own dim images of the GI soldiers may really be valid. In short, traditional stereotype views of these characters are subject to challenge!

For those who want the facts, and nothing but the facts, there are references in the narrative which will cause raised eyebrows among a number of readers, and will rouse strong criticism as well as alarm for an authentic presentation of the Expedition. Examples: Collins is shown as recruited for the Corps by Drouillard; he is alleged to have previously rescued William Clark from drowning at the Falls of the Ohio; Clark is seen wearing uniform insignia of a Lieutenant (an inexcusable *faux pas* of the author); Lewis is heard speaking "perfect French;" the entire Corps appears present at the ceremonial transfer of sovereignty over the Louisiana Territory; Warfington is referred to a "Captain;"

(Continued on the next page.)

protocol is irregular at courts-martial and punishments thereafter... These highly questionable liberties, obviously, at odds with the actual Record, will be typified as "poetic license." (This reviewer, for one, is particularly uneasy in accepting the character given to Sgt. Ordway, and would like to argue the case with the author.)

Aside from such causes for quibbling, the author's skill in animating crucial scenes is striking – especially the dance on the Square at St. Charles, the hair-raising fights in which Collins is embroiled, the confrontations with the Spaniards and the Sioux. And there are engaging metaphors throughout the text; here are a few: Drouillard "weaned with bears and wolves, had learned prudence and watchfulness in the wilds..." "the French boatmen fussed like cackling fowl..." Collins "let his anger harden like a brick in the sun..." "loneliness stared down like a cold moon..." "raindrops pounded on the canvas of the tents like drumbeats at a funeral..." Lassiter predicting that "the river will snap up the Americans like a bear who swipes up his fish for dinner..."

Cleary provides a colorful, fast-moving story, never a dull moment. Let the reader not be surprised at the dramatic adornments. A National Epic, such as the saga of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, will incite manifold versions and interpretations – novels, dramas, myths, legends – conceived generations after the originating events, interwoven with imaginative variations. We may expect more such embellishments (hopefully within the appropriate limits of discretion and respect for the written record) while the Voyage of Discovery becomes increasingly embedded in the National consciousness. With Cleary's *River Walk*, the reader has challenging occasion to anticipate such genre. Meanwhile, we can speculate about the next two stages of the trilogy, particularly as to what kind of outlook and prospects Private Collins may have by the time he and his companions get back to St. Louis in 1806.

*Thanks to Robert Hunt for this very thorough review.*

## News and Activities

### Tribes Hail Plans

In late May, a meeting was held in New York City between Tribal members, historical group representatives and Vancouver, Wash. City officials and artist-architect Maya Lin to discuss the developing plans for the bicentennial project of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Lin, who is the creator of the Viet Nam War Memorial in Washington, D.C., describes the project "as an opportunity to hold a mirror to the story of Lewis and Clark" - to take a look and understand a story from a tribes' perspective.

The most important detail to come out of this meeting, however, was the unanimous approval of the project by the tribes represented. Chief Cliff Snider of the Chinook, Antone Minthorn, Chairman of the board of trustees of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and Otis Halfmoon, representing the Nez Perce Tribal Council, all had praise for Ms Lin's enthusiasm, insight and understanding from the standpoint of Native Americans. Says Minthorn, "I was impressed that she is such a strong environmentalist and her interest was in doing something that will help us restore our lands, water and dignity as a people." Snider was impressed by Lin's interest "from the standpoint of the view from the Indian villages and the environmental impact for the last 200 years." Seeing this project as a chance to "make history," Otis Halfmoon stated that, above all, "it is important for healing."

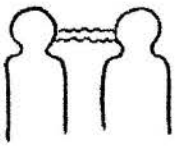
The project will be done in phases beginning with the concept development this year, theme and schematic design development next year and groundbreaking in 2003. The project will be completed in late 2003 or early 2004. The proposed sights are in Pacific County and Vancouver, Wash. on Chinook homelands, one in Pasco, Wash. on Umatilla homelands and one in Clarkston, Wash. on Nez Perce homelands.

*(Oregonian, June 6, 2001)*

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### **Reminder. Our Chapter Website is at a New Location**

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



Kumtux Wawa by Gary Lentz

### What is "Pore Elk?"

Ron Evans of Port Gamble, Washington, asked an interesting question. He says that while the expedition was at Ft. Clatsop, the Corps subsisted on "pore Elk." On March 23, 1806, Clark wrote "(we) *have lived as well as we had any right to expect, and we can say that we were never one day without 3 meals of some kind, either pore Elk meat or roots...*" What, exactly, is "pore Elk?"

Well, the first answer to come to mind is that journalists from that period were notoriously bad spellers by today's standards. However, as Stephen Ambrose points out in his book *Undaunted Courage*, even well-educated writers like Thomas Jefferson often spelled words as their fancy dictated. Even though Captain Lewis took along a four-volume dictionary, he apparently seldom referred to it. So the first problem is, does the word "pore" mean exactly what it says, or is it a misspelling?

Let's take a look at the word as it is spelled first. The word "pore" has several definitions. One is "to gaze intently," such as "he pored over the documents." Another is that of a small opening such as "skin pores." One more meaning is "a passage or channel." None of these definitions really fit what the journalist was probably referring to when he wrote about "pore elk."

But what if the word was "poor" instead of "pore?" Well, we usually think of poor as referring to someone who is destitute or financially impaired. Clark used this term with this identical spelling several times on the lower Missouri River when describing the inhabitants there. "...pore, polite, harmonious..." were his exact words. However, there was a more commonly used meaning to the word in Lewis and Clark's day. In

*Webster's New World Dictionary of the English Language* there are no fewer than 10 definitions to the word "poor." The sixth one, however, is the one that most applied to the elk that Drouillard and others were acquiring around Fort Clatsop that winter of 1805-06.

"Lacking nourishment; feeble; emaciated: as a *poor* body." In other words, the elk were not the "fine, fat" animals that the expedition had

grown accustomed to eating on the plains. On the other hand, I suspect that even a "pore elk" was a better meal than "fat dogs." It is a matter of personal taste and probably no wonder why Lewis wanted the men to make salt.



### 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 the members. He will research and respond to your questions for publication in the newsletter. Send your questions to: Gary Lentz, 36149 Hwy 12, Dayton, WA 99328. [itswoots@bmi.net](mailto:itswoots@bmi.net)

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### Books of Interest

Tom Laidlaw was kind enough to send a list of books that go along with his topic of the Fur Trade in the Pacific Northwest for our September meeting. If you are interested – and have the time – all of these should be available through Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com, Powell's, etc.

*Astoria* by Washington Irving

*A Majority of Scoundrels* by Don Berry

*Journal of a Trapper* by Osborne Russell

*The American Fur Trade of the Far West* by Hiram Chittenden

*River of the West* by Francis Fuller Victor

And I would like to add one that is a companion book to one listed in a previous newsletter; *Columbia Journals*, written by David Thompson about his wanderings in western Canada and Washington, Idaho and Montana. Thompson is the man who established Fort Spokane for the Northwest Fur Company not long after Lewis and Clark left the Northwest. The earlier-mentioned book is *Sources of the River* by Jack Nisbet. All of these books address the Fur Trade in the Northwest.



MAIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION TO:  
**WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER**  
*Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation*  
 P. O. Box 9021  
 Spokane, WA 99209-9021

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL**

**CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP**  
 \$10.00 per year (Jan-Dec) for any person, family, firm, association or corporation. Please make checks payable to:  
 Washington State Chapter LCTHF

Dues are kept as low as possible to encourage wide membership. In addition, members are encouraged to make additional donations to support the organization.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Phone: (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
*\*Optional—will be included with membership roster*

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.

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**NOTE:** To anyone going to the National meeting in Pierre, if you would be at all interested in helping with our vendor table, please contact Don Payne. The items will include shirts and books from WSU Press. Don Payne, 32237 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW, Federal Way, WA 98023-5609 P# 253-838-5906  
 don.payne@accessone.com

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**Logo Shirt Order Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Polo Shirt (white)	\$15.00 each	Available in Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL	
Quantity of each size ordered:	S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___		\$ _____
Sweatshirt (gray)	\$20.00 each	Available in Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, 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 Children's sizes S, M	
Quantity of each size ordered: Adult:	S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___		\$ _____
	Children: S ___ M ___		\$ _____
Shipping costs are \$5.00 per shirt. Number of shirts ___ x \$5.00 each =			\$ _____

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Order must be received before August 15. Make checks payable to WA Chapter, LCTHF.  
 Mail this form and your check to: Don Payne, 32237 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW, Federal Way, WA 98023  
 Please allow up to 4 weeks for delivery.

Lewis & Clark Trail State Park  
**Interpretive Programs 2001**  
 (Saturday Evenings near Campground Pay Station)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PROGRAM TITLE</u>
May 26	8:00 PM	Lewis & Clark's Medical Problems
June 02	8:00 PM	The Scientific Instruments & Methods of Lewis & Clark
June 09	8:00 PM	The Foods & Cooking of The Corps of Western Discovery
June 16	8:00 PM	The Weapons of the Corps of Western Discovery
June 23	8:00 PM	Meriwether Lewis's Botanical Discoveries
June 30	8:00 PM	Lewis & Clark's Medical Problems
July 07	8:00 PM	Captain Clark's Magic Show
July 14	8:00 PM	The Foods & Cooking of The Corps of Western Discovery
July 21	8:00 PM	The Weapons of The Corps of Western Discovery
July 28	8:00 PM	Meriwether Lewis's Botanical Discoveries
August 04	7:00 PM	Lewis & Clark's Medical Problems
August 11	7:00 PM	Captain Clark's Magic Show
August 18	7:00 PM	The Scientific Instruments & Methods of Lewis & Clark
August 25	7:00 PM	The Foods & Cooking of The Corps of Western Discovery
September 01	7:00 PM	The Weapons of The Corps of Western Discovery

Gary Lentz, Park Ranger at Lewis and Clark State Park in Dayton,  
 WA kindly sent a schedule of the summer programs for this year.  
 For those on the road this summer, here is something to put on  
 the itinerary.

Programs last approximately 45 minutes. Please bring a folding chair and a flashlight. All programs are open to the public with a **\$1.00 per person donation requested**. Non-camper parking is available near the interpretive area at the campground entrance. Call the Park Ranger at 509-337-6457 for additional information.



## *"Ocian In View"*

A Pacific County "Friends of Lewis and Clark" Enrichment Program  
(Edited for Newsletter)

Last November 10-12, member Ron Evans attended the first meeting of the Pacific County "Friends of Lewis and Clark" Enrichment Program called, appropriately, "Ocian in View." The program is planned for Veteran's weekend during the next five years, coinciding with the Corps of Discovery Bicentennial. Each meeting will be a program of cultural and historical enrichment that will feature speakers, artists, musicians and others giving insight to the Corps of Discovery.

Last year's conference began on Friday evening with Chinook Tribal member Tony Johnson speaking about "The Chinook Indians at the Time of Lewis and Clark, And Today." A linguist, artist, master carver and Chairman of the Cultural Committee for the Chinook Tribe, Mr. Johnson gave a synopsis of the tribe before, during and after Lewis and Clark; their heyday, their contact with white people and their subsequent decline from diseases contracted from this contact. Because the tribe was not officially recognized by the U.S. Government, it was sent to the reservations of other tribes to live. Most were apparently sent to the Quinault Reservation north of Aberdeen. [Note: As of January 2001, the Chinook tribe has officially been recognized by the U.S. Government. However, this will create difficulties with the other tribes in matters of numbers and land apportionment. I'm sure we will follow this with keen interest.]

Day two of the conference was a bus tour of the Lewis and Clark campsites in Pacific County led by local historian Rex Ziak. [Rex spoke to us at the annual business meeting in Tacoma.] The tour ranged from Knappton, on Gray's Bay, to Fort Canby State Park and Long Beach. Rex shared his knowledge from many years of studying Lewis and Clark; their "achievements and struggles," and the changes of the land in the past 200 years. He also discussed some of the plans and efforts of Pacific County for the bicentennial observance.

The day was capped by a session at the Ilwaco Heritage Museum with Gonzaga Professor Robert Carriker discussing "Sacagawea at the Ocean – a Memorable Achievement in a Short Life Lived Well." Dr. Carriker reviewed Sacagawea's life and contributions to the success of the Corps. The fact that she was a member of the corps put the natives at ease. She also dug roots, and showed the men new foods that helped keep the corps alive. There were two important notes stressed by Dr. Carriker; 1) Sacagawea did interpret for the corps on several occasions, but she was NOT a guide. 2) Since the name Sacagawea is a Hidatsa name, and there is no "J" in their alphabet or vocabulary, S.a.c.a.g.a.w.e.a is the correct spelling.

Sunday was a repeat of the bus tour for those who were unable to attend Saturday's tour. This sounds like a conference worth marking on this November's calendar.

If you are interested in contacting the Friends, write to:

Pacific County Friends of Lewis and Clark  
P.O. Box 1059  
Long Beach, WA 98631

(Residence in Pacific County NOT required)

*Thanks to Ron for the information.*

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### How To Contact Your Officers and Board Members

President: Cheryl Essary, 886 So Highway 17, Othello, WA 99344-9799 P# 509-488-9074

Vice-President: Richard Vigesaa, 4418 Phinney Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103 P# 206-545-9315

Treasurer: Richard Klein, 1537 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Bremerton, WA 98337 P# 360-479-3062

Secretary: Robert Heacock, 13908 E 27<sup>th</sup> Court, Veradale, WA 99307 P# 509-942-4020

Board: Muff Donohue, 315 South Second, Dayton, WA 99328 P# 509-382-2639

Lee Edtl, 919 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Longview, WA 98632-2245 P# 360-577-0485

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## Moulton, Plamondon in Ilwaco: A Synopsis

On Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, the Ilwaco Heritage Museum hosted two well-known experts in Lewis and Clark lore. Chapter member Martin Plamondon and Dr. Gary Moulton shared their knowledge with a packed house in the museums' lecture hall.

Washington Congressman Brian Baird introduced Martin, who spoke briefly about his 3-volume book set of detailed maps of the entire trail, an endeavor of more than 50,000 hours worth of work – so far! But his major concern for the evening was the importance of our responsibility for protecting what is left of the natural and cultural beauty of the trail. He cited several cases in point. For example, the wanton desecration of native burial grounds solely for the monetary gain of the culprits – artifact grave robbers! This happened at the turn of the century, and it has occurred within the past few years to a local Chinook cemetery that just happened to be owned by a white man. Also mentioned was the great Montana landmark known as the "Eye of the Needle," the natural rock arch that was destroyed by vandals with sledgehammers "just for fun."

The most important thing that we, as LCTHF members – and citizens, have to do is be "wide-eyed" about this damage and make sure it is reported. This will let the vandals know that the community – indeed, the nation – is not happy about any damage!

Barb Kubik then introduced Dr. Moulton, who spoke on the effectiveness of Lewis and Clark as leaders, and making a comparison with contemporary ideals in leadership. Citing Stephen Covey's book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, he reminded us that, though they would have been effective today, they were in a different time and place that may have seemed compromising. Able to relate easily to the corps members, they were, however, Virginia elite, slave owners, and distinguished military officers. They had been steeped in that great internal quality of "character ethic."

Lewis and Clark, along with Thomas Jefferson, had set a goal and were determined to follow it to the end – "begin with the end in mind." That goal, as conveyed by Jefferson, was to get to the Pacific and back across the continent, i.e. the "end." This particular venture was Jefferson's vision, and Lewis and Clark were the "actors" to carry it out. And since Jefferson was a product of the "Enlightenment," his instructions included those ideals of scientific knowledge.

We must remember that this Expedition was NOT a forced military march even though they pushed on despite any problems, especially those unknown dangers that they did encounter. Indeed, there was a synergism involved – the whole was vastly greater than the sum of its parts. It was not just simple luck that only one man died or that only one man was lost for any length of time. This was a well-run and well-thought out mission of the highest caliber. That Lewis and Clark were "pro-active" in their approach to challenges was demonstrated by their "doing what was needed" and taking the "initiative by using different tactics" to meet problems as they arose. In this way, they became the perfect compliments to each other; that is, the Left Brain – Right Brain analogy was very much in evidence. To illustrate, while Lewis, the poet, wrote the long, fantastic descriptions of places like the Great Falls of the Missouri, Clark, the manager, was busy trying to figure a safe and effective way around the edifice! They were the personification of the conflict of "keeping the boats moving, but not moving so fast that they couldn't observe the natural surroundings."

Perhaps one of the greatest inequities of the Expedition was their "unpreparedness" for their dealings with the Native Americans. They were prepared to explain their political purposes, but they were not prepared to listen to and understand the trade philosophies and strategies of the Natives, who basically "wanted the best goods for the least cost and from the most dependable supplier," be that Americans or Canadians!

Lewis and Clark were able and trustworthy leaders, but they also trusted in the other members of the Corps. It has been stated that they used democratic principals in their "votes" at Marias River and Station Camp, but, being military officers, it is doubtful that they actually accepted the vote for its democratic demeanor. Rather, they used these "consensus" to gauge the feeling of the members to help them make a better decision.

Dr. Moulton closed with some seldom-related information about Lewis' problems after the Expedition. These problems resulted mainly because he did not have Clark to "lean on" or rely on as he did during the very trying and hectic Expedition. He was, therefore, (continued on page 11)

unable to cope with the problems of a "civilized" world. He was left to handle the problems himself, and let too much slip by before giving things his attention. Thus the great burden of office, on top of his preparations of the journals for publication, began to take its toll. After three short years that must have seemed interminable, Meriwether Lewis put an end to everything at Grinder's Stand. And through all of this, we seem to take for granted – or more often, forget – that William Clark spent most of the next 30 years following the Expedition faithfully carrying out his duties as a Federal agent in the Upper Missouri region until shortly before his death in 1838.

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### *Seeking Columbia Waters: Along the Lewis and Clark Columbia River Water Trail*

On Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Doc Wesselius and I joined members of the Oregon Chapter on a canoe trip down part of the Columbia River Water Trail. At the invitation of Past President, Keith Hay, we met and set in above Knappa, Oregon and paddled down to the John Day River boat landing, a distance of about 13 miles paddled. [This "John Day" is the river called the "kekemahke" in the journals, and most likely named for or by the same man. See Coues, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> footnote.] We were also joined by a writer and photographer from the Oregonian newspaper. Before embarking, Keith gave us a brief itinerary of the day and Susan Stahl of the Lewis and Clark National Wildlife Refuge gave a short talk about the refuge and what we would be seeing as we float down the channels.

The little flotilla of 4 canoes and 2 kayaks started down Blind Slough, where Lewis and Clark took a wrong turn on their return trip. Some of the banks along the slough must surely be as they saw them in 1806; not much can be done with this type of ground and marshland. Our ultimate goal was to paddle down among the islands roughly along the route taken in November, 1805 on their way to the eventual site of Fort Clatsop. We picked up that route when we reached Knappa Slough, following it down around Karlson Island toward Calendar Slough. Along the way, we passed the site of the Cathlamah village, at present-day Knappa, that Clark called the "stinkingest place" he had ever seen. On the south end of Karlson Island, we looked for a Blue Heron rookery but could not locate it. Once through Calendar Slough, we ducked into a back channel to get out of some wind that was causing a little trouble, and there discovered a nice crop of wapato as well as other plants that were noted and/or collected by LC.

This channel took us through the small fishing hamlet of Svenson. Just beyond, at the end of the easy paddling, we made Settler Point, where the corps camped on Nov 26<sup>th</sup>, 1805. From this point on, most of the paddling was arduous at best. The grass island to the river side of us did not stop the wind very well and caused a fair amount of chop and whitecaps. But we, as our intrepid corps did, proceeded on. Despite the going, we did see some young eagles and a number of terns flying above us and swooping for fish. We were finally able to round John Day Point and make it up the river to the take out, very tired, but none the worse for wear. (I won't mention how sore I am this afternoon, Sunday.) Everyone was well satisfied with what we had done.

This was an excellent opportunity for us to see quite a bit of what the corps saw, and see just how difficult it was for them to really see much from their canoes. The banks and hills behind are covered with almost impenetrable brush, difficult to see into.

Despite the aches and pains, all had a great time, and will undoubtedly take more like it.

*Submitted by Tim Underwood*

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### **Future Worthy of Notice Newsletters**

A new schedule has been established for future issues of **WON** that is designed as the most timely and efficient way to get important meeting information to our members – our most important asset. There will be 5 issues of the newsletter annually, 4 scheduled to carry notices of meetings that will be held the month after the newsletter is mailed to you. This will ensure us of having the most complete and up-to-date information for the membership. The mailings and corresponding deadlines are as follows:

<u>Mailing Month</u>	<u>Information Deadline</u>
January	December 15
April	March 15
July	June 15
September	August 15
November	October 15

Hopefully this will benefit everyone and make things easier for those wishing to submit material. Ed.



## Future Washington State Chapter Meetings

August 5-8, 2001

"Encounters on the Prairie" – Pierre, South Dakota  
33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the LCTHF

Date, place and time of Wa St Chapter meeting will be announced. Also, check the message board.

September 15, 2001

Fort Vancouver, Washington

See the meeting announcement and directions on page 2 of this issue of the newsletter.

Remember to include in your schedule the opportunity to tour the fort during the evening candlelight presentation at 7:00 on Friday and Saturday.

"Christmas at Fort Clatsop"

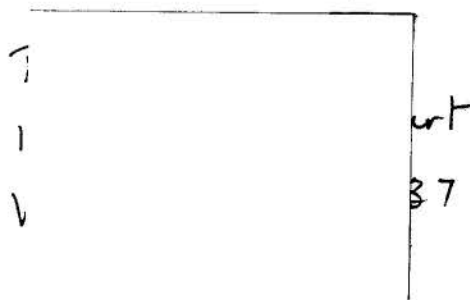
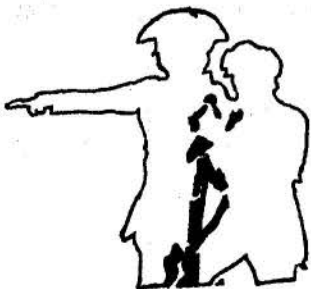
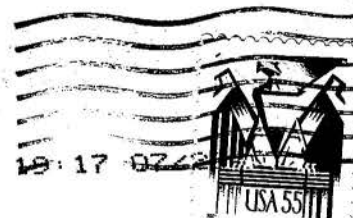
This was a huge success last year so the Oregon Chapter is planning on presenting the event again this year. This year's celebration will be December 8, 2001 at Fort Clatsop. Watch for more information in future newsletters.

February 2002

Tacoma, WA at the Washington State Historical Society

Annual Wa St Chapter business meeting. Watch for specifics in future newsletters.

**WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER**  
**Lewis and Clark Trial Heritage Foundation**  
128 Galaxie Road  
Chehalis, WA 98531



The mission of the LCTHF is to stimulate appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition's condition to America's heritage and to support education, research, development and preservation of the Lewis and Clark experience.

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