

Washington State Chapter, LCTHF

Worthy of Notice

November 2002 Newsletter

Vol. 3, Issue 5



Editor's Notes...

Please notice on your mailing label, after your address, is the year. This is your subscription year, meaning the year covered by your subscription payment. I have managed to tweak the program that Rob and I have been using to show this for your information. It will look something like this:

John and Jane Q. Member
1805 Lewis and Clark Trail
Astoria, PNW 9-2005
2002

Please remember that your subscription runs from January through December of each year. As soon as you send in your renewal and it is processed, this number (the bold face in the above example) will be changed on your mailing label to reflect your renewal.

I hope this will work as a reminder for you as it is quite costly to send out renewal cards or forms, especially to as small a group as ours is. So please try to use this label addition and the notices in the newsletters to remind yourselves to renew after the first of the year. Thanks.

I hope all of you have a wonderful – and SAFE - holiday season this year. There are several interesting and exciting events on the docket for next year and we hope to see many more of you out on the trail then. The Commemoration begins on January 18th at Monticello with other events to follow all across the country. Watch future WONs for updates.

Best Regards, Tim

President's Message...

Fall is a beautiful time of year in the Northwest. It's also the time of year when the Corps of Discovery first entered what is now Washington state. As I rise to another crisp, sunny day, I think of our heroes awakening with a chill in their bones, and having it dissipate as the sunshine warmed their backs on their way westward. In their haste to reach the Pacific Ocean, they didn't take time to write glowingly of our state's charms. Negotiating the rapids on the Snake River took up a goodly amount of energy, and undoubtedly left them feeling a little glum about this part of the world. The Snake River rapids were one thing, but those of the Columbia were quite another. And if that weren't bad enough, the rainy coast nearly drowned them before they could find shelter. Maybe it's just as well that their words were few – we might not have liked it if they had elaborated on their true feelings toward our beloved state.

We, the intrepid explorers of the twenty-first century, don't have to contend with the miseries the Corps endured. We are free to appreciate the season, and to go to the places they traveled at the time of year they were there, take in the changing colors of the leaves, or spend a leisurely day fishing. If you can't get out on the trail, grab a new book about the expedition (there seem to be new ones coming out all the time), or settle in with an old, well-worn volume. Either way, you can savor the season and relive the adventure of the Corps.

Thanks to everyone who made the September 7 meeting a success. I wasn't able to be there, but I understand that it was another great gathering. I want to extend a special thanks to Gary Lentz, whose expertise and willingness to share with everyone has made him one of our chapter's most versatile and valued members.

As the year winds down, I don't suppose I need to remind any of you that the bicentennial kickoff begins in January 2003. Stay tuned to this newsletter for details of events, new books, and other items of interest related to the bicentennial. I hope to see many of you at the winter meeting in Tacoma, when we will elect officers and enjoy another outstanding program.

Cheryl Essary

Joint Meeting of the Washington, Oregon and Idaho Chapters, LCTHF
September 7 & 8, 2002 The CREHST Museum, Richland, WA

After opening greetings and remarks from 'Doc' Wesselius, and notes of interest by other attendees, Doc introduced the morning speaker, Gary Lentz. Gary gave an excellent talk and computer-aided program on whether or not Capt. Clark could see Mt. Hood from the Wallula Gap area as he had stated in the journals.

The program, entitled "Mountain of Mystery," tackles the question of the first sighting of Mt. Hood by an American enterprise, but from where? And when? And by whom? These questions were the reason Gary, along with Walt Gary, Steve Plucker, David Nicandri and Kennewick surveyor Rob Stratton, set out to "see what could be seen."

From the date of Clark's recording, 18 Oct. 1805, the Corps was still in the "bend of the river," the Wallula Gap. However, even today, with the river 100' higher, it is impossible to see any of the Cascade Mountains from water level. Therefore, whoever saw the mountain had to have been on a hill. But which one?

Then again, why was it important at all to see any of the Cascade Mountains? After all, they had just come through the Bitterroots. Wouldn't that have been enough? Simply put, it meant that they were back in "mapped" territory. Mt. Hood had been named in 1792 by Lt. Charles Broughton of the Vancouver Expedition while mapping the Columbia up as far as present-day Vancouver, WA. This meant that the Corps was close to being back in "terra cognita" for the first time since leaving Ft. Mandan six months earlier.

There were two significant factors to establishing which mountain was seen. The first is the term Clark applied to the mountains' shape – "conical." Theoretically – that is, when visibility allows! – several mountains in the Cascades should be visible from the gap area. However, the term "conical" only applies to a few peaks in Oregon and Washington, and only Mt Hood and Mt Jefferson in this area. Secondly, the azimuth bearing that Clark recorded of $253^{\circ} - 17^{\circ}$ south of due West – would eliminate all but Mt Hood; Mt Jefferson being too far south and any peaks in Washington being too far north. And finally, the fact that the rest of the mountains in the area are "loaf" mountains, that is, they are flatter-topped than conical peaks.



The question now turns to "who saw the mountain?" Since it was established that whoever it was had to be up on one of the knobs above the Gap, why didn't Clark write this down if it were him? If not Clark, then whom would he trust enough for the information to write it down? Perhaps Drouillard? A private? A native? Certainly, any of the hunters could have seen it and reported it to Clark. And the Natives had ample opportunity to see it – if it was there!

Our intrepid crew was thwarted in their attempts because of haze, smoke and fog. However, using a survey-plotting program, Rob identified possible locations for their next attempts by establishing a series of parallel lines on the 253° bearing that crossed the Wallula hills. Now they had some place to start.

The next item was the timing. The journals give conflicting information on this. Ranging from 1:00 to 4:00 PM as the departure time from the river confluence camp, would they have had time to make it up to the top of the hill – and back – before total darkness at around 6:30? According to Gary's research, yes they would have – barely! – had they left the Snake River camp at 4:00 PM as Clark noted. An interesting note about this date is that Mt Hood was only 1° off the sun's "sunset arc," therefore, the mountain would be silhouetted for a long time after sunset, and the snow would have reflected the sunlight as a "pink glow."

The question of who actually saw the mountain will most likely never be answered. Since Clark was the one doing most of the writing – all of the writing as far as the Captains was concerned – and it

was not mentioned, we are left to our own imaginations. The fact that it can be seen from a hill above Wallula Jct. is testimony to Clark's attention to details.

Jerry Igo answered a query as to where Mt Hood can first be seen from water level. He has seen it from Crow Butte St. Pk. But, this is at today's water level. No one knows about the old water level.

The rest of the morning was given over to a Power Point show of scenes along the Trail from Monticello west. Gary explained the significance of each picture until it was time to break for lunch.

The afternoon was filled with a field trip to the hill above Wallula Jct., Madame Dorion Pk. and a stop at Sacajawea St. Pk.

From the field next to the giant wind generators at the top of Hatch Grade road, we were able to see a "cloud mountain" at 253° that could indicate a mountain was hiding in it, but could not see the mountain itself. During good weather, it can be seen from this point, along with the splendid array of other Cascade Peaks.

At Madame Dorion Pk., we took a walk to the Walla Walla River and discussed the fishery and some of the local plants and their uses.

Our last stop was at Sacajawea St. PK. at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers. After a brief tour of the Interpretive Center, Gary gave us a description of how Clark determined the widths of the two rivers at this point and noted that we could now say that we have "walked in the footsteps of the Corps," as this is the place they camped for two nights resting, writing and exploring up the Columbia River.

Following this, arrangements were made for Sunday's trip, class was "dismissed," and we headed for the watering holes.

Sunday, Sept 8th

Many of us stayed over to accompany Gary to the huge rock formation that Clark dubbed "Ship Rock," today called Monumental Rock. After meeting at Hood Park and driving for an hour on paved and gravel roads, we finally broke over the hill where we could see the rock. It was a monumental sight, indeed. We then continued down toward the river and the Union Pacific tracks for a walk "around" the rock.

Upon first seeing the rock (a volcanic "leftover" after surrounding material had been washed away during a previous ice age "melt down" when an ice dam broke), the impression is "ho-hum." But after walking the railroad access road around to the NE side, it definitely takes on the appearance of an old wooden sailing ship rising out of a wave. Gary likens it to the USS Constitution. Interestingly, walking just a few yards in either direction, it is just another rock. Someone suggested asking the Power Company to move their poles from down by the railroad – where they are in the way of a good photo – to the top of the rock so they look like masts!

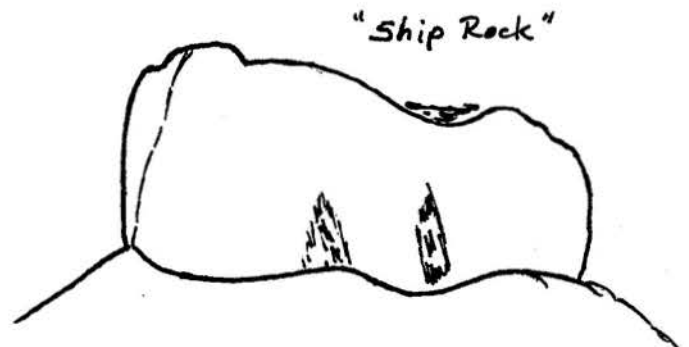
The rock is the namesake of the dam 4 miles downstream, Lower Monumental Dam.

If you are planning to try to see this interesting – and one of only about 30 absolutely identifiable LC landmarks – check with the UPRR and the Magallon Ranch, on whose property the rock is. Please respect private property in all cases.

(NOTE: For everyone's information, all railroads are under the jurisdiction of the Fed. Railway Admin. (FRA) – in whole or in part. Thus, just walking across RR property is "technically" trespassing. That is why you are urged to inquire before striking out to any of the out-of-the-way sites. ED.)

All the attendees had a wonderful time, especially with the beautiful weather we had and the great companionship. We hope those from Oregon and Idaho enjoyed some of "our" part of the trail.

And a BIG thanks go to Doc and Gary for another interesting and informative program.



Saving the Trail Parks; The Budget Axe...

As many of you are aware, we are in dire straights in Washington as far as the budget is concerned. Just as with our own personal budgets, Washington State has to pare back things in order to stretch what money there is available. This crunch has trickled down to the State Parks and Recreation Commission, a common "target for the budget cutters." As a result, four parks that are essential to the Lewis and Clark story in Washington have been slated for closure. They are Chief Timothy, Central Ferry, Lyon's Ferry and Crow Butte State Parks.

Partly as a result of a not-very-prominently-placed article in the Sunday, October 13th, newspapers, and partly because of some advanced notice, member Dr. Lauren Danner of Olympia, also a member of the Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee, addressed the State Parks and Outdoor Recreation Task Force's public hearing on Monday, October 14th. Lauren's primary purpose was to present the importance of these four parks to the Lewis and Clark Trail in Washington State. She noted the expected numbers of tourists, as figured by both the National Geographic Society and The National Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation office. These visitors – possibly as many as 25 million! – will not "simply drive along the trail and point at sites from their car windows," but will want to "walk in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark," float in the riffles and **camp** in the blanket depressions of Lewis and Clark. They will also bring a much-needed economic boost to the state by eating at our restaurants, sampling our wines and taking home souvenirs from the Evergreen State.

Finally, she presented three possible funding options that would significantly help with the costs of operation for the parks in question. All of the parks proposed for closure are on the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Following is a brief description of them.

Chief Timothy, named after a prominent Nez Perce Chief who was only 5 years old when the Corps passed through and was friendly with white settlers, is just below the confluence of the Clearwater and Snake Rivers. This is regarded as the "Gateway to Washington." It is the first park and LC site in Washington, and a logical overnight stop for tourists where they can plan their trip through Washington State.

Central Ferry is near the Oct. 12, 1805 campsite with access to the Snake River where campers can get a real feeling of the Expedition 200 years ago.

Lyon's Ferry at the mouth of "Drewyer's River," now the Palouse River, is not only important in LC history but in human history and culture. It was the site of the largest Palouse village on the lower Snake River and the location of the nearby Marmes Rock shelter, a 10,000-year-old archaeological site. Closing this park would open the area to historical **and** cultural degradation from looters.

Crow Butte, which is on an island in the Columbia, is near the April 26, 1806 campsite. It was the site of several Walla Walla Indian fishing villages that provided the trade opportunities to the Corps for more horses.

The closure of these strategic parks means turning away "hundreds of thousands" of visitors and their dollars to spend in Washington. As possible funding options, Lauren outlined the following three proposals.

First, develop a commemorative "Lewis and Clark Washington Parks Pass." This pass would be used only in State Parks, Interpretive Centers, Wildlife Refuges, Tribal Centers, Museums, etc. along the trail in the state. The pass would be offered to out-of-staters as an easy way to enjoy the trail in Washington, and the proceeds would help fund the four parks.

Second, develop a "Lewis and Clark Bicentennial" license plate, as other states have quite successfully done. Again, the proceeds would go toward the funding of the parks.

And last, approach and urge the original landowners – the Army Corps of Engineers – to resume the management of the parks. Unfortunately, the Corps has already given a resounding NO to this idea. Though they have indicated the desire to be involved with the commemoration, they have stopped at this point. This would seem to be the "last ditch" case.

It is hopeful to note that the Task Force set up a sub-group to further study the four parks, especially in view of the fact that the National Park Service, which oversees the Lewis and Clark Historic Trail, is about to reprint their trail brochure. This brochure, which is distributed worldwide, includes both Chief Timothy and Lyon's Ferry St. Pks. listed as tourist's stops. (Perhaps, at the very least, a four-year hiatus in the closures?)

Let's keep the parks open so our visitors don't get the impression that Washington, as Lauren stated it, is "closed for business."

As an interested citizen of the Lewis and Clark saga, you can voice your interest in keeping the parks open by responding to the Task Force. You can send your communications to:

Rep. Jim McIntire, Chair
State Parks and Outdoor Recreation Task Force
House of Representatives
P.O. Box 40600
316 John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

*They meet Nov. 7
in Yakima. Contact them
Soon, or Lauren-*

Or contact him directly by calling: 360-786-7886 or by e-mail at: mcintire_ji@leg.wa.gov

It was also suggested that if you do contact the Task Force, send a carbon copy to the State Parks Commission. These are the people who made the initial decision to close the parks. They can be reached at:

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
P.O. Box 42650
Olympia, WA 98504-2669
issues@parks.wa.gov

In contacting these groups, please be positive and hopeful. Show your support for one of the above-mentioned funding options, or offer another of your own, but encourage them to turn over all stones possible to find a way to keep these parks operating through the bicentennial. Just complaining won't do any good, as they need solutions. However, volumes can be spoken if enough people communicate with them. While the budget woes are indeed dire, the timing could not be worse!

Many thanks to Lauren and Barb Kubik, and the rest of the Governor's Committee for tackling this issue on behalf of the historic trail preservation.

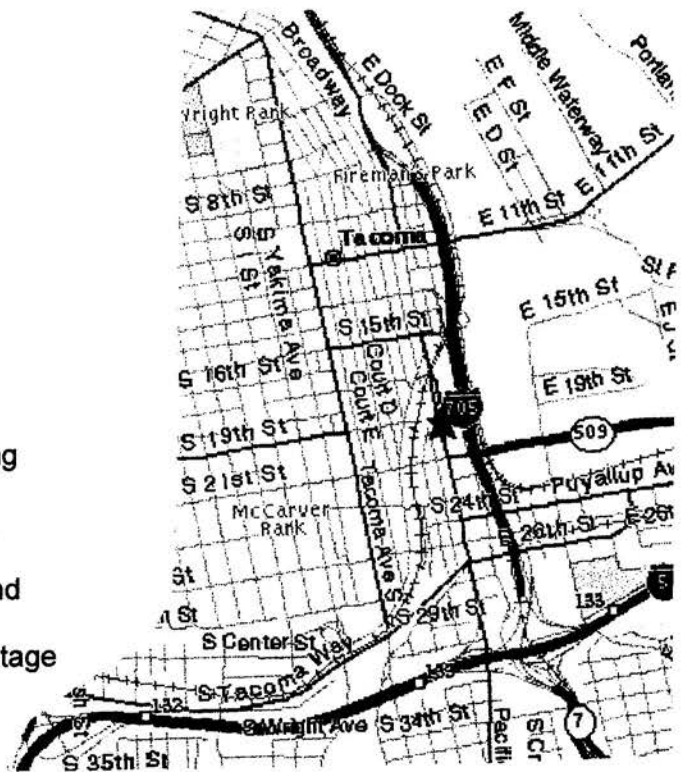
(Editorial for WON, with input from Lauren and Barb.)

Annual Washington State Chapter Business Meeting on February 8, 2003 Washington State Historical Society Museum, Mezzanine Level at 10:00 AM 1911 Pacific Ave. Tacoma, WA

The 2003 Annual Chapter Business Meeting will be held at the Washington State Historical Society Museum per usual. Included in the business will be the election of new officers and board members, the silent auction of the Dumas Malone biography of Thomas Jefferson, called Jefferson and His Time, the always popular raffle which will include a poster of the Corps at Fort Rock (form a mural in The Dalles) and an Oregon Trail poster of The Dalles area.

The featured speakers for the day will be Connie Estep from the CREHST Museum in Richland, WA, who will be speaking on the scientific aspects of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the role of artists in documenting expeditions before photography, and David Nicandri, Director of the WSHS Museum speaking about Hat Rock near Umatilla, OR.

Come and join in the camaraderie of our Corps and support the chapter as the bicentennial draws near. Become involved in the future of the Lewis and Clark heritage in Washington State.



Along the Trail...

The Corps in Columbia County (Submitted by Muff Donohue)

Dayton, WA—The Corps of Discovery stopped twice in Columbia County. The purpose of the first stop was to set up camp and spend the night. There is an interpretive marker made of native basalt commemorating this event just 2.5 miles east of Dayton's Main Street.

The engraved brass plaque on the four-foot column reads:

Patit Creek Campsite Columbia County, Washington

"Friday May 2d, 1806"

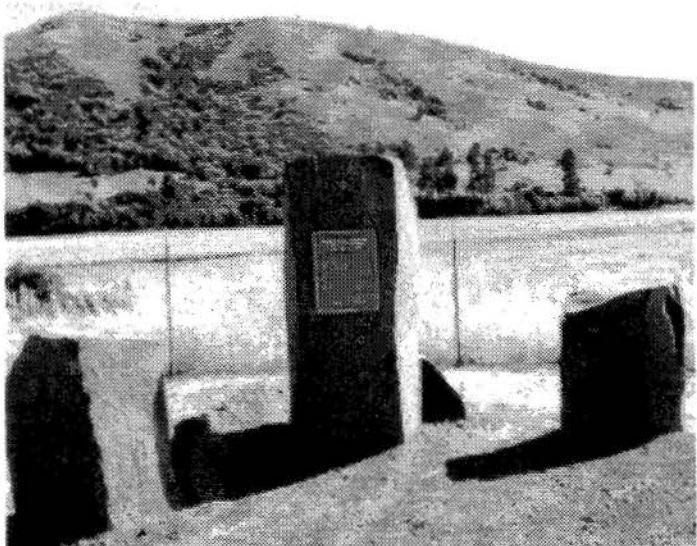
The Corps of Discovery camped near this spot with fair weather and a southeast wind on their return to St. Louis. They recorded seeing deer, sandhill cranes, beaver, and otter.

There was camas in bloom along the Patit Creek when Lewis and Clark both compared this land to the rich fertile bottomlands along the Missouri and Ohio Rivers.

To the north of the camp was the trail on which they proceeded on the morning of May 3rd. Today it is the Ronan Road that retraces part of the old trail.

This marker was placed here for your interest with the cooperation of the landowner.

PLEASE RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY!



Patit Creek site (above) and Kimooenim Creek site (right). This is just one of the projects aimed at identifying historical sites in Washington. Thanks Muff.

The following day, they used the Celilo Indian Trail to reach the deep canyon of the Tucannon River where they paused to have lunch. Another basalt interpretive marker commemorates that occasion. Drive 13 miles north from Dayton on Hwy 12. Immediately after crossing the Tucannon River, turn right onto the Tucannon-Camp Wooten Road and proceed 10 miles to the marker. This route is paved all the way.

The engraved brass plaque on the column reads:

Kimooenim Creek Lunch Site Columbia County, Washington

"Saturday, May 3d, 1806"

The Corps of Discovery crossed the "high plains" and descended to this location after a cold morning of rain, snow, and hail. They described the Kimooenim Creek (Tucannon River) much as you see it here including willows and cottonwood growing along it, a pebbled bottom, and low banks.

Traces of the trail they followed can be seen in the canyon to the west of the river and on the hill to the east immediately south of the Maringo Grade road.

After 'dining' near this location, the expedition proceeded eastward over the hills to the south, and continued on the Pataha Creek near U.S. Highway 12.

This marker was placed here for your interest with the cooperation of the landowners.

PLEASE RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY!



Along the Trail...

Wood's Landing Threatened by Development Proposal

On September 13th, Lewis and Clark scholars, naturalists and aficionados gathered at Wood's Landing, one of the few remaining spawning grounds for the Chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*), sometimes known as "keta" salmon. Discussed was the preservation of the spawning ground and the sites' historical importance to the story of the Corps of Discovery. It was a warm fall day, much as the Corps experienced almost 200 years ago when Sgt. Patrick Gass wrote, "...we had a beautiful day."

Wood's Landing is located on the north (Washington) shore of the Columbia River, at the eastern city limits of Vancouver, Washington. The Landing is across the river from present-day Government Island (Clark's *Dimond Island*). The Corps of Discovery passed the site on November 3, 1805, and again on March 31, 1806. In the fall, Clark described the area saying:

"the COUNTRY is low rich and thickly timbered on each Side of the river..."

Joseph Whitehouse also wrote:

"The River had a handsomer appearance & the Current of it very gentle. We passed by some bottom land, lying along the River, which were cover'd with Cotton wood & Pine trees, and a number of Islands..."

The campsite of November 3, 1805 was on the north shore of Government Island facing the rich and fertile shoreline now called Wood's Landing. Towering Douglas fir and Western Red Cedars still frame the historic viewshed that the Corps saw from their camp that night.

In 1889, Henry J. Biddle, from the same family as Nicholas Biddle, purchased this land and made it his home. A conservationist with civic spirit, he also purchased Beacon Rock, upriver about 40 miles, to preserve the great monolith from blasting to become jetty material! He passed part of his land along the Columbia River to his daughter, Rebecca, who married Erskine Wood, known for his time living with Chief Joseph, famous leader of the Wallowa Band of Nez Perce Indians. Rebecca and Erskine preserved the lovely property at Wood's Landing in its natural state, living in a modest home they built, which is still present on the parcel.



Wood's Landing and Joseph Creek with nearby Steamboat Landing development

Wood's Landing is one of the last parcels of "low rich and thickly timbered" Columbia River shoreline in the urban-Vancouver area that looks much as it did two hundred years ago. The four parcels of the Biddle-Wood land provide some of the last spawning habitat for chum salmon, which seek out cool, clear springs emerging from the rocky tidelands and the small, local creeks. The chum salmon once numbered over a million; now, barely a few thousand return to the Columbia each year. In 2001, over 900 chum salmon spawned at Wood's Landing, representing nearly one-third of the entire population in the lower Columbia River. The Washington Department of

Fish and Wildlife has identified this site as having the most significant habitat between Bonneville Dam and the mouth of the Columbia.

Working with the Columbia Land Trust, descendants of the Wood and Biddle families are putting their three parcels into a conservation ownership to create a salmon sanctuary in order to protect the chum in perpetuity. A conservation easement was finalized and accepted by Columbia Land Trust in August on one parcel where the family will maintain its home. A conservation easement on the second parcel, and fee acquisition of the third parcel are in the final stages of completion. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will manage the site for chum habitat.

Wood's Landing is also an historic fishing site for the Kiksht-speaking (Upper Chinookan) and other tribal people of the area (These include the Yakama and Nez Perce Tribes.). Sinkers, bowls, grinding tools, and points have been found along the shoreline. A few miles down the Columbia River from Wood's Landing, near the present-day Portland International Airport on the south shore of the river, Clark noted the *Sha-ha-la* fishing village, writing:

"we landed at a village of 25 Houses: 24 of those we[re] thached with Straw, and covered with bark, the other House is built of boards ... about 50 feet in length and covered with broad Split boards This village contains about 200 men of the Skil-loot nation I counted 52 canoes on the bank in front of this village maney of them verry large and raised in bow."

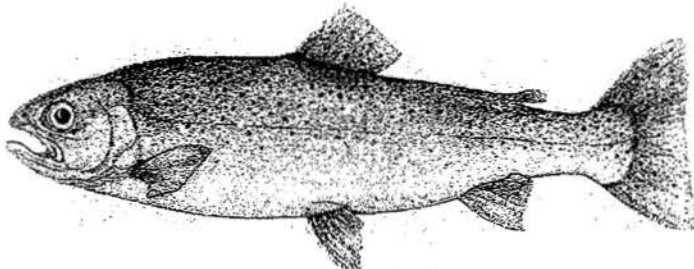
Like many sites along the National Lewis and Clark Historic Trail, Wood's Landing faces an immediate threat. A local developer owns one of the four original shoreline parcels once owned by Erskine Wood and Rebecca Biddle. The developer has applied to the City of Vancouver for a permit to remove 90 trees, including some towering cedars, from his property. In compliance with the (Washington) State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), the city is accepting public comments on the developer's proposal to remove these trees. Like the other three parcels now being put into conservation ownership, this piece of property is a mixture of chum spawning grounds, dense forest, wetlands, springs and small waterways. Like the other parcels, it looks much as it did when the Corps of Discovery canoed by almost 200 years ago. The groves of trees at Wood's Landing have been nominated to the American Forest's *National Registry of Historic Trees* for their association with the Corps of Discovery's route.

Lewis and Clark enthusiasts are urged to send their comments expressing their concerns about the proposed tree removal, the potential damage to this important Corps of Discovery location, tribal fishing camp and chum salmon spawning ground, and about the value of this piece of property as a part of the historic viewshed of the Trail. Comments should be sent to:

Amy Drought, Senior Planner
Development Review Services – City of Vancouver
P.O. Box 1995
Vancouver, WA 98668-1995
Amy.drought@ci.vancouver.wa.us fax 360-696-8283

Reference: Maitland Tree Permit #PRJ2002-0009/TRE2002-00015

For those who wish to follow this through, the Northwest Environmental Defense Center (NEDC) will provide updates on the permit process on its website; www.nedc.org. Comments submitted now will help protect Wood's Landing as a salmon sanctuary and as an important remnant of the natural setting that the Corps of Discovery experienced during their journey through the Lower Columbia River almost 200 years ago.



"Ocian In View"
Cultural and Historic Enrichment Weekend
November 8-11, 2002

Featured speakers will be Amy Mossett and Peter Onuf

Long Beach, WA – Just two months prior to the Monticello kick off of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration, "Ocian in View" – a cultural and historic enrichment weekend focusing on the Lewis and Clark Expedition – will be held November 8-11, on the Long Beach Peninsula. History buffs and the general public can partake of lectures and bus tours of historic Lewis and Clark sites around the Columbia River and Pacific Coast. This southwestern area of Washington State is where the Expedition achieved President Jefferson's goal of reaching the Pacific Ocean.

On Friday evening, Peter Onuf, Thomas Jefferson Foundation History Professor at the University of Virginia and author of *Jefferson's Empire*, will speak on "Jefferson and the West." Onuf will be a featured speaker on Jefferson at the Bicentennial opening at Monticello in January 2003.

On Saturday evening, Amy Mossett will discuss "Sacagawea: Her Life & Legend." Dressed in native wear, Mossett, Co-Chair of the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council Circle of Tribal Advisors (COTA), will describe Sacagawea's life among the Hidatsa/Mandan people. Both programs will begin at 7:00p.m. at the Ilwaco Heritage Museum, Ilwaco (on Lake St., one block south of the light, then left to the parking lot.). A \$5 donation is requested.

Coordinating with the "Ocian in View" series, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Ft. Canby will host an open house with refreshments on Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday at 3:00 p.m., Gary Lentz, a State Park Ranger, dressed in full gear as the Expedition's Sgt. Patrick Gass, will present a free program on the "Medicine of the Lewis and Clark Expedition" at Ft. Columbia Park Theater. (Ft. Columbia St. Pk, east of Chinook, above the tunnel!)

On Saturday, Sunday and Monday, award winning local Lewis and Clark historian, Rex Ziak, will guide educational bus tours to sites in the area. The cost is \$20, and advanced reservations are strongly advised. Make checks payable to Pacific County Friends of Lewis and Clark (PCFL&C), note a preferred date and mail to P.O. Box 562, Long Beach, WA 98631. Please include a telephone number for confirmation.

For information on the program or available lodging, call the Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau at 1-800-451-2542 or access the Peninsula's website at www.funbeach.com. Lewis and Clark information is available at www.lewisandclark.org. Or you may contact:

Carol Zahorsky		Carolyn Glen
Pub. Rel. for Long Beach	or	PCFL&C
360-704-3020 (Olympia)		360-642-2805

Come and enjoy the fun on the beach!

Water Safety on the Lewis and Clark Trail

As the bicentennial approaches, the number of kayaks, canoes and boats is increasing, too. Many travelers wish to "feel" the experience of being on the water as the Corps did. (Did they dig out their own cottonwood tree?) With this increase comes the issue of safety on the water. Obviously, Lewis and Clark did not have all the huge cargo ships coursing up and down the rivers.

To address this concern, Ginni Callahan of Columbia River Kayaking has created a web page that contains safety information and resource links. The page contains info on tides, weather, water hazards for hand-powered boats, camping locations, launch access, Coast Guard recommendations, training centers, emergency phone numbers and much more. The format is straightforward and can easily be printed out and carried with you. But, check it often as it is regularly updated.

To view the page, go to:

<http://columbiariverkayaking.com/Safety.html>

If you have questions or suggestions, you can contact Ginni directly at 888-920-2777 or ginnical@yahoo.com

Enjoy and be safe!

FLORA AND FAUNA EXHIBIT

AVAILABLE FOR THE BICENTENNIAL

Two years ago the Capitol Woodcarvers Association, Olympia, proposed to the Washington State Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation a woodcarving exhibition to be available as part of the State of Washington's observance of the Bicentennial. The exhibit was to feature the flora and fauna noted in the records of the Expedition. After seeing samples of the work, the State Chapter appointed Don Payne, Board Member, as liaison to the project, Payne assisted the Association in moving the project along and became a strong endorser of the unique project.

The project will be unveiled for public viewing at the Northwest Woodcarving Show at the Puyallup Fairgrounds November 9 and 10.

The exhibit consists of two parts, the first being a series of four panels entitled "The Flora and Fauna of the Lewis and Clark Expedition," and the second part being one panel entitled "Skamokawa Indian Village – November 7, 1805." The entire exhibit has been proffered to the Washington Historical Museum, Tacoma, for display during the Bicentennial. The Flora and Fauna part of the exhibit is scheduled for display at the Washington State Capital Museum, Olympia, from October 10, 2003 through June 2004. The Indian Village scene, donated by the Northwest Wood Carvers Association, will become part of the Washington Historical Museum's "End of Our Voyage" exhibit shown in Tacoma, and then circulated to small museums and libraries in Washington. That schedule will be announced by the Tacoma Museum.

Approximately 70 woodcarvers have participated in the project. The "Flora and Fauna" exhibit is largely the work of Olympia area carvers. The Olympia Club invited the Northwest Wood Carvers Association of Federal Way to participate in the project and that club produced the Indian Village scene. The woodcarvers participating have borne all costs of their materials and contributed their time and effort for both exhibits.

The Flora and Fauna Exhibit consists of four panels, each three feet wide, two feet high and two feet in depth. The vertical part of the panel depicts important scenes or episodes of the expedition. On the horizontal part are the wood-carved flora and fauna encountered by the Expedition. Panel one shows the expedition viewing the White Cliffs of the Missouri and the Corps getting its first view of the Great Falls. Fauna displayed include the pronghorn antelope, buffalo, grizzly bear, elk and prairie dogs. Panel two shows the Corps meeting the Shoshone Indians and being saved by the Nez Perce Indians. This scene features the horses so vital to the Expedition. Panel three shows the Corps arriving at the Columbia River and passing through Celilo Falls with fauna of that area. Panel four shows the Expedition establishing Station Camp on the north side of the mouth of the Columbia and exploring Cape Disappointment. It features the flora and fauna of the coastal area. Allen Madison, Capitol Woodcarvers, drew and designed the panels.

The "Flora and Fauna" Exhibit will be available to a limited number of communities for showing during the bicentennial. It is hoped that the Vancouver Museum and Fort Canby will be interest in showing the exhibit. There will be a cost for transportation of the exhibit from Olympia to the locales selected. Application can be made to:

Dr. George M. Eisentrout
5036 Orvas Ct. SE
Olympia, WA. 98501
360-352-2617
geisentrout@aol.com.

The exhibit is an exceptional educational opportunity, when explained, for students who have studied about the Expedition. Adult reaction has been with appreciation and enthusiasm for the significance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in the history of our country. The Washington State Chapter of the LCTHF can be proud to have sponsored such a project.

(Thanks to George for the information and update. From the samples shown at the meetings, it should be fantastic! Ed.)

Signature Event: Bicentennial Kick-Off

Bicentennial Inaugural: Jefferson's West

18 January 2003

Monticello, Charlottesville, VA

The national commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial will be launched and President Thomas Jefferson's stewardship of the historic trek across North America will be recognized on Saturday, January 18th on the grounds of Jefferson's mountaintop home. This bicentennial commencement event will feature formal ceremonies, music and speakers with dignitaries representing the federal government, states associated with the expedition, federal and state agencies and Native American tribes, nations and confederations in attendance. The date for the inaugural event, which will be free and open to the public, marks the 200th anniversary of Jefferson's confidential message to Congress requesting funds for an expedition to the Pacific.

The bicentennial inaugural event will be the centerpiece of "Jefferson's West: A Lewis and Clark Exposition," a festival of talks, performances and other programs to be held at Monticello, the University of Virginia and other Charlottesville-area sites from January 14 to January 19. The exposition will be a two-tiered event, operating as both a paid conference (registration fee \$225) and a public festival.

On January 16th, the bicentennial exhibition "Framing the West at Monticello: Thomas Jefferson and the Lewis and Clark Expedition" will open in the Entrance Hall of Monticello. The exhibition will recreate the appearance of the "Indian Hall" in which Jefferson displayed items sent back by Lewis and Clark, and will remain in place throughout 2003. (See the article on page 9 of the June 2002 WON.)

Speakers participating who represent Washington are Barb Kubik, Vancouver historian and past president of the LCTHF and Rex Ziak, historian, lecturer researcher and guide from Naselle. Other locals will include: Dr. Stephen Beckham, Lewis and Clark College in Portland; Roberta "Bobbie" Conner, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation near Pendleton; Ron Craig, film-maker from Portland and Clay Jenkinson, currently a Scholar-in-Residence at Lewis and Clark College. The "usual" cast of speakers will also be there; Ronda, Moulton, Mossett, Thom, etc.

For a brochure covering all the events of the "Jefferson's West" program, contact:

Jefferson's West: A Lewis and Clark Exposition
University of Virginia
School of Continuing & Professional Studies
P.O. Box 400764
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4764
800-346-3882

Or register on-line at: www.monticello.org/jefferson/lewisandclark

For information about the Exposition, contact:

Nancy King
Thomas Jefferson Foundation
P.O. Box 316
Charlottesville, VA 22902
434-984-9829
nking@monticello.org

For information on Monticello's programs, contact:

Kat Imhoff
Thomas Jefferson Foundation
P.O. Box 316
Charlottesville, VA 22902
434-984-9802
kimhoff@monticello.org

Website: www.monticello.org/jefferson/lewisandclark

Hotel Rooms Available...

Several hotel rooms have been reserved at the Marriott in Charlottesville for the Kick-Off events. If you are planning on going and need a room, contact Arlene Johnson of the Clark County Bicentennial Committee for all the info. For \$69 per night, you can hardly find a better location for a better price!

You can call Arlene at 360-906-7119 or use e-mail at: director@lewisandclark-clark.org.

Hurry! They are filling quickly.

Silent Auction of Dumas Malone's JEFFERSON AND HIS TIME

In memory of Pam Anderson, the Chapter's first Secretary and Newsletter Editor, the Board of Directors has decided to conduct a silent auction of her six-volume set of Dumas Malone's biography of Thomas Jefferson. Professor Malone began his award-winning biography in 1943, with the first volume being published in 1948, and the sixth and final volume in 1981. The series won the Pulitzer Prize for History in 1975 and The Chairman's Citation from the national Endowment for the Humanities in 1979. It has been considered one of the great biographies of the twentieth century.

Pam's set of "JEFFERSON AND HIS TIME" is in near new condition and consists of six volumes: JEFFERSON THE VIRGINIAN, JEFFERSON AND THE RIGHTS OF MAN, JEFFERSON AND THE ORDEAL OF LIBERTY, JEFFERSON THE PRESIDENT - First Term, 1801-1805, JEFFERSON THE PRESIDENT - Second Term, 1805-1809 and THE SAGE OF MONTICELLO.

Most volumes of the set are still available in larger bookstores at the list price of \$29.95. A paperback edition is also generally available with individual volumes priced at \$15.95 - \$17.95. Used copies are also available through "Powell's" or other dealers. There are complete sets available on the Internet for a price, both in hardback and paperback.

The Silent Auction will be conducted through the newsletter and at the General Membership meeting in Tacoma on February 8, 2003 with a minimum bid of \$100. It's a great buy in memory of Pam and her contributions as well as a worthy contribution to the future of the Chapter! Send your offers to the Newsletter Editor Tim Underwood before February 2, 2003, or make a bid at the February Meeting. (Use the address on the newsletter. ED.)

The winning bidder will be recognized in the April issue of WON.

Respectfully Submitted, Murray Hayes, Auction Coordinator

A NOTE ON PIERRE DORION, JR.

(Submitted by member Murray Hayes)

On a field trip during our recent Chapter meeting in Richland we visited Madame Dorion Park at the confluence of the Walla Walla and Columbia Rivers. We noted a historical plaque there, which states that her husband, Pierre Dorion, was a member of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Her husband was Pierre Dorion Jr., and while he was not a member of the Corps of Discovery there was a connection.

On 12 June 1804 Lewis and Clark met Pierre Dorion Sr., who was coming down the Missouri River with two pirogues loaded with a cargo of furs and "voyager's grease" (probably the base for pemmican). The elder Dorion had lived with the Yankton Sioux for 20 years, had a Sioux wife and was fluent in the language. In President Jefferson's instructions to Lewis for the Expedition he had specifically mentioned contact with the Sioux, and Lewis, seeing an opportunity, convinced Dorion to return up river with the Expedition to act as interpreter.

Dorion accompanied the Expedition back up river and served as interpreter at the meeting with the Yankton Sioux on 30 August 1804. On 27 August the Expedition had learned that the Sioux were camped nearby and Sergeant Pryor and old Mr. Dorion had been sent out to invite the Chiefs to a meeting. They returned with the Chiefs and about 70 Sioux on the 28th across the river from the Expedition camp. Old Mr. Dorion was accompanied by one of his sons who then lived and traded with the Sioux. Lewis and Clark sent young Dorion and Sergeant Pryor back across the river to tell the Chiefs that the meeting would be held the following day.

The meeting was held with Pierre Sr. as interpreter after which the Chiefs retired to their "bower" while Lewis and Clark had their dinner and consultation. Apparently young Dorion was at the meeting since Clark notes that "Mr. Durions Sun much displeased that he could not dine with Cap Lewis and my Self". After the meeting on August 30 Mr. Dorion left the Expedition to stay with the Sioux for the winter, and was charged with making arrangements to escort several of the Chiefs to Washington, D.C. the following year to meet President Jefferson. The "Sun" here is assumed to have been Pierre Dorion, Jr. though not specifically named.

References to the Dorion family appear many times in western history. Moulton notes (Vol. 2, p295, n3) that Clark may "perhaps had heard of Dorion before, for the trader had corresponded with George Rogers Clark in 1780." Pierre Jr. is best known for his part in and as interpreter for the Hunt Party on its overland journey to Astoria. On this trip with the Astorians he demanded that his wife and two children be allowed to accompany the Astoria expedition. Thus came Madame Dorion who was herself to become a western legend for the next 40 years. Pierre Jr. was killed by Indians in Idaho in 1811.

Captain Clark's Magic Show By Gary Lentz

"... the port fire caught and burned vehemently..."

William Clark, April 2, 1806

Imagine living in a culture where there are no pyrotechnics. A culture where making fire is done by friction of wood against wood. A culture believing in the mystery and magic of nature. Imagine the beauty and awe in seeing meteors streaking across the night sky and watching sparks dance in the thick smoke of a pitch-laden log thrown on a hot campfire. Imagine sitting around a small cooking fire in a tule-mat lodge on a warm spring night with strangers you never met before. The Columbia River flows swiftly by in the distance as one of the strangers explains that he comes with greetings of a "Great Father, Chief of the Seventeen Fires," who dwells far off in the direction of the rising sun.

Or... imagine you are one of those strangers. You are a Lieutenant of Artillerists even though you were promised a Captaincy. The year is 1806 and, along with Captain Lewis and more than 30 other people, you are making your way up the Columbia River by canoes on your return from the Pacific Ocean. As an officer in the United States Army, you are charged with contacting the people whose culture was described above. You are also vastly outnumbered, cannot speak the language directly, and must communicate in a way that will be remembered. What can you do?

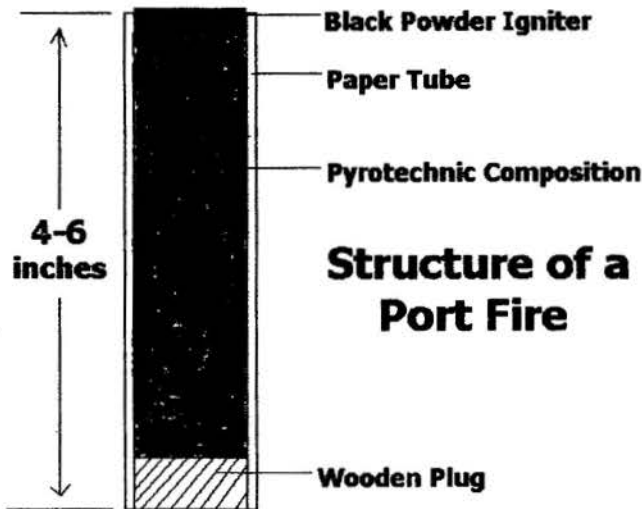
Of course, you have the compass and magnet trick up your sleeve. You make the needle dance to the wonderment of those present. Naturally, the compass needle is responding to the magnet hidden in your hand, but your audience doesn't know that. You might also show them the magnifying glass that makes the words of the Great Father even larger and more important. Or, perhaps, you can show them your airgun, or spyglass or pass around the pocket watch that has a ticking sound like the heart of a small animal. Or... perhaps... you can resort to an old artillerist's trick. One that seldom fails to gain the results you are looking for.

Reaching into your haversack and discreetly removing a small piece of port fire, you drop it into the hot coals unnoticed by those gathered around the campfire. The – suddenly – a brilliant, blue, hissing light bursts forth from the glowing orange embers. It flares into a huge ghostly light, casting dark flickering shadows on the walls of the lodge. Your hosts pull back, shielding their eyes and imploring you to make it stop! You know the burning time of the small piece ... every good army officer would ... and you time your hand gestures to coincide with the end of the pyrotechnic display. The blue light dies down suddenly and leaves only orange embers in its place. The smoke rises to the hole at the top of the lodge and drifts off into the starlit night. Your audience is impressed.

This event happened on April 2, 1806, in a Chinookan village located in present-day Portland, Oregon. William Clark had tried unsuccessfully to convince the local inhabitants to trade or sell him some wapato roots. After adamantly refusing to trade with the expedition, Clark resorted to some "magic" and showmanship to acquire the food he needed. Here is what he said:

"I entered one of the rooms of this house and offered several articles to the natives in exchange for Wappato. They were Sulkey and they positively refused to Sell any. I had a smallpece of port fire match in my pocket, off of which I cut of a pece one inch in length & put it into the fire and took out my pocket Compass and Set myself down on a mat on one Side of the fire, and a magnet which was in the top of the ink Stand the port fire cought and burned vehemently, which changed the Colour of the fire; with the Magnit I turned the Needle of the Compass about very briskly; which astonished and alarmed these natives and they laid Several parsles of Wappato at my feet, & begged of me to take out the bad fire; to this I consented; at this moment the match being exhausted was of course extinguished and I put up the magnet, &c. this measure alarmed them So much that womin and children took shelter in their beads and behind the men, all this time a very old blind man was Speaking with great vehemence, appearently imploreing his gode."¹

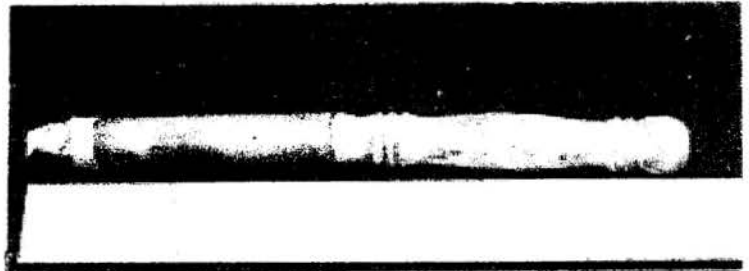
¹ Moulton, The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, pp58-61.



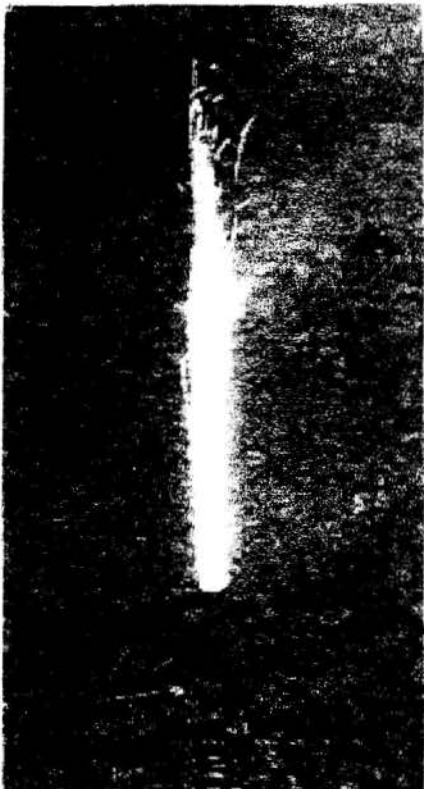
Structure of a Port Fire

Well, a port fire was certainly a handy thing to have brought along all the way from St. Louis, wasn't it? But, what, exactly, is a "port fire?" It might surprise you to know that it is a pyrotechnic device that has been in use for the past 500 years or more! They are also known as "Rains," "Saxons," "Lances," "Gerbs," and "Blue Lights."² They are in use today at fireworks displays whenever a "set piece" is used. A set piece is a loose framework with small "lances" of various colors to illustrate items such as flags, Santa Claus, greetings, etc. The individual lances burn about 45 seconds to a minute and produce a beautiful display. Even a common red flare or "fusee" is a type of port fire.

Port fires are intended to give a bright reliable fire for igniting cannons or signaling over long distances. It is a loosely packed composition of potassium nitrate, sulfur and antimony inside a paper or cardboard tube. A large port fire is known as a "Bengola." The Bengola, or "blue ship light," was a form of torch used mostly by ships in signaling for pilots and to each other. They consisted of a strong waterproof paper case about 1 ½ inches in diameter and 4 inches long equipped with a wooden handle.³



In addition to providing light and a hot blue fire, Captain Clark probably brought



several with him for a variety of other uses. One use was the "magic" demonstration described above. Another use could have been to start wet wood burning under the severely damp conditions that would have been anticipated by any outdoorsman. A port fire would have come in particularly handy if a ship had been spotted from the coast near Fort Clatsop. Clark knew before leaving the East Coast that it was Lewis' intention to try and return by sea if at all possible. Such an intense blue light would have been recognized by mariners, and was unlikely to have been the result of any natural occurrence. They were lightweight, small and easily transported. A light coating of wax would have rendered them fairly waterproof. After leaving Fort Clatsop, the use of the port fire for signaling a ship at sea was eliminated, thus freeing up the port fires for other uses.

The photograph is a demonstration of a port fire in operation. The port fire is re-created with the formula given in a nineteenth century book on pyrotechnics. They are used to demonstrate this awe-inspiring bit of magic that Clark carried in his pocket nearly 200 years ago.

² Weingart, George W., Pyrotechnics, 1947.

³ Ibid.

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 sizes ordered: Adult: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ \$ _____

Children's S ___ M ___ \$ _____

Shipping costs are \$5.00 per shirt. Number of shirts ___ X \$5.00 = \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to WA Chapter, LCTHF. Send your form and check to:
 Don Payne, 32237 3rd Ave SW, Federal Way, WA 98023 Allow up to 4 weeks for delivery.

HATS HATS HATS HATS HATS HATS HATS HATS

Logo Hats For Sale

The Chapter has WA. ST. CHAP. Logo hats available for purchase. If you would like one of these adjustable Forest Green hats with the Yellow embroidered logo, they can be purchased for \$15.00 plus \$4.00 S&H each. Make checks payable to: WA St Chap. LCTHF Please allow 3 weeks for delivery.

No. of Hats ___ X \$19.00 = \$ _____
 Send this form and your check to:
 Hats
 c/o Tim Underwood
 128 Galaxie Road
 Chehalis, WA 98532

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

*Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

*E-mail _____

**Optional - will be included with membership roster*

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
Mail to: Rob Heacock, Membership Chair
 13908 E. 27th Ct
 Veradale, WA 99037

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

Please mark if address has changed

The above dues are for the Washington State Chapter only. Bylaws state that Chapter members must be current members of the National Foundation. Annual dues are: Individual, \$40 per year; Family, \$55 per year. Membership includes the quarterly magazine *We Proceeded On*. Send Foundation dues to: Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403

Future Meetings of the Washington State Chapter, LCTHF

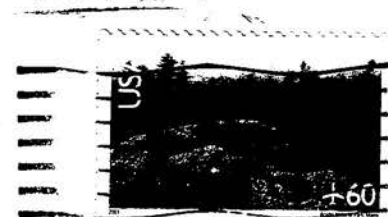
February 8, 2003 – Tacoma, WA – The annual business meeting for the chapter will be held, per usual, on the Mezzanine level of the Washington State Historical Society Museum. The featured speakers will be Museum Director David Nicandri speaking on Hat Rock, and Connie Estep of the CREHST Museum in Richland speaking on scientific aspects of the Corps and the place of artists before photography. Voting for new officers and board members will also take place. Look for directions in this and the Jan. WONS.

May 10, 2003 – Ridgefield, WA – The meeting will take place at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge where the plankhouse is in the planning stages at this writing. Though final arrangements are still being ironed out, there will be a speaker, a tour of the plankhouse project and the refuge itself. Watch for more info in the April WON.

July 2003 – Again, since the National meeting will be so far away, an extra meeting may be planned for the chapter this next summer. The exact site and the program are still being looked at, however, it should give members another chance to get out and enjoy the trail. Watch for future news in the WON.

September 21-22, 2003 – SE Washington – "The Overland Trail and Camp Out." This will be a two-day field trip across SE Washington following the route that the Corps took on their way back to the Clearwater River. We will begin at the mouth of the Walla Walla River and work our way toward Dayton, stopping for the night - and some good, old-fashioned campfire fun - at the Lewis and Clark Trail St. Pk. Again, Gary Lentz will facilitate the tour and present many interesting facts at the group campsite during the evening. (If we are lucky, we might get Gary to fix up some of his "Trail Stew" for us to savor in camp.) On Sunday, the tour will continue toward Lewiston and the junction of the Clearwater and Snake Rivers. We should have a very good appreciation for the rigors that they withstood when we are through. Watch for updates in future WONS.

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
128 Galaxie Road
Chehalis, WA 98532



November 2002



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

33037+9363

