

Washington State Chapter, LCTHF

Worthy of Notice

September 2003 Newsletter

Vol. 4, Issue 4

- Dedicated to the Memory of Pam Anderson -



President's Message

The upcoming bicentennial anniversary observance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition has created some exciting events that are planned for the Pacific Northwest. Our Chapter's involvement in these events will depend upon individuals stepping forward and offering to help out in whatever way they can to make for a successful representation of our state's hospitality, and the Nation's commemoration of a significant event in our heritage. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact me. We need your participation to make these events successful.

Two major events are planned for the Pacific Northwest in 2005. The annual LCTHF meeting in Portland and the Signature Event in Pacific County will draw many participants to our segment of The Trail. Additionally, there are many local Lewis and Clark events scheduled around our state over the next couple of years. In June, the chapter was involved with ceremonies pertaining to the remodeling of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Fort Canby State Park. July's ribbon-cutting event in Vancouver's Marine Park was the first of many events revolving around wayside kiosks planned for The Trail in our state. Many other local projects are planned for the future to help present "the Washington Experience" for the many tourists that will be visiting the Pacific Northwest - many for the first time. This is why it is important to become involved. We have an excellent opportunity - indeed, a responsibility - to commemorate and present significant events that occurred during the Expedition's time here that will enhance and enrich the experiences of visitors traveling along The Trail in Washington.

The Chapter's next scheduled event has created quite an interest for those wishing to explore along The Trail in our state. VP Gary Lentz is organizing a two-day, overnight campout motor tour of the "Forgotten Trail". The Eastern Washington tour of the overland return route will get you to many points of interest along a seldom-seen segment of The Trail that is often overlooked by the average visitor retracing the exploration route. I hope you have marked your calendars for this event, and plan to join us for the informative tour and presentations. A potluck dinner Saturday night at the Lewis and Clark Trail State Park near Dayton will give you the opportunity to meet old friends, and the chance to meet new people interested in our state's history. Looking forward to seeing you there and hearing about your summers' activities along The Trail.

Please send me your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address if you wish to be informed on bicentennial events that will need your involvement to be successful. Also, I'm sure *Worthy of Notice* editor, Tim Underwood, would appreciate your jotting down a few notes on your latest Lewis and Clark adventures and submitting them to be shared with other members.

See You on The Trail!
Doc Wesselius

Overland Trail Expedition 2003

This is it! September is here and the time is quickly approaching for the Overland Trail Expedition of 2003. Pages 7-10 of this issue of WON is a pull-out section for those attending the meeting in southeast Washington to bring with them, and for those not attending to follow the progress of the Corps across the shortcut. To get you started, see the information that begins on page 6 as it has the particulars. We hope to see you on The Trail. (Ed.)

Washington State Chapter Meeting, June 21, 2003 Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Ft Canby, Ilwaco, WA

The annual summer meeting this year was held at the "almost finished" Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center (LCIC) at Ft. Canby State Park on Cape Disappointment near Ilwaco. By "almost," it is meant that the 2—year renovations of the LCIC are not quite complete, as had been hoped. However, several of the new exhibits were ready and the chapter was privileged to be the first to view the new video about the Corps at Cape Disappointment in the new theatre. President Doc Wesselius and member and Governor's Committee Chair Barb Kubik had the honor of cutting the ribbon.

President Doc Wesselius opened the meeting with a few remarks and initiated the self-introductions of the approximately 30 members and guests in attendance.

Our first speaker was Ryan Karlson, Supervisor of the LCIC, who welcomed us and gave a few remarks on the renovations. Ryan later led the tour of the new facility.

Carolyn Glenn of the Long Beach Visitor's Bureau was next on the docket. Carolyn provided us with an update of the activities of the Pacific County Friends of Lewis and Clark. Besides their popular "Ocian In View" program in November, the group is working on the expansion of Station Camp, a "Jefferson Memorial" to be erected at Ft. Canby, the McKenzie Head Campsite and a Coast Discovery Trail, to name a few.

Also mentioned was the Signature event to be held on Thanksgiving weekend of 2005. At this juncture, a dinner for 1000 is being planned with, hopefully, a major speaker. (Jimmy Carter's name was mentioned.) This will be followed at Ft Clatsop by cider, doughnuts, guided walks and demonstrations. In all of these cases, volunteers are in dire need in order to make these presentations successful. (If you would like more information or to volunteer, contact Carolyn at 360-642-2805.

A Clark County Bicentennial update was presented by Arlene Johnson, our May meeting hostess. The Plankhouse Project has received another much-needed grant, and they have raised about half of the needed funding to complete the project. Also, Greg Robinson, a contractor of Chinookan decent, has been hired as the project manager.

Barb Kubik gave an update of the Governor's Committee and mentioned the July 30 unveiling of the first Information Kiosk at Marine Park in Vancouver. Of immediate importance, however, was her "concern" about funding cuts for the Gorge Discovery Center in Stevenson, Skamania County. (See page 13 for further information.) Barb encouraged members to help in any way we can with the Signature event. It is "our only chance to show the rest of the country who we are." Anyone interested in helping please contact Doc Wesselius.

Gary Lentz delivered a few remarks concerning the September two-day trip, which has drawn considerable interest. For this time, though, it is for chapter members only. (See page 6.)

Martin Snoey reported on his progress on the chapter project and the trade marking of the chapter logo. He has found some companies who will help put our logo on merchandise to help raise funds.

Lauren Danner gave an update on State legislative action, including the \$3 million for the Maya Lin "Confluences" project and the \$1 million earmarked for Lewis and Clark in Washington.

Doc finally introduced Steve Wang of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission in Olympia to speak on the LCIC and the on-going renovations. In turn, Steve introduced Ralph Rudeen, also of Olympia, who was involved with LCIC from the beginning in 1975. At that time, funds were slim but the project went ahead anyway (fortunately for us!). One idea they had then was to plant trees as a buffer hedge along the outer edge of the meadow at the top of the path to keep visitors from seeing the spectacular view until they were inside the building. However, the wind didn't agree with their "folly" and blew most of them down! The rest have since been removed. Nice idea, though.

Since opening in 1976, there has been an average of 37,000 visitors per year at the center – over 1 million total! This has taken a toll on the center necessitating a revamping of the whole facility. Besides adding 2400 square feet of room – the meeting room we were using – the nature of the exhibits have been made more specific to the Corps of Discovery from the general history of the original concept. Under Ryan's ministrations, the renovations are proceeding well and are planned for completion by September.

We ended the meeting with a guided tour of the new facility, including, as mentioned above, the debut of the new video. (Ryan is in the video!) Most of the exhibits are still in the workshop getting their final tuning up, but will be in place by September.

The afternoon was spent touring local sites with Doc as our guide. The sites included Waikiki Beach, McKenzie Head, the old observation area of North Head and the new footbridge (part of the new Discovery Trail from Ft. Canby to Long Beach) at Baird's Hollow. Following our discussions at Baird's Hollow, the rest of the afternoon was left for our individual explorations. (Or, to sneak back to the bookstore at the LCIC, as I know some did – me included!)

It was another successful meeting, indeed.

(Submitted by Tim Underwood, Editor, in Secretary Rob Heacock's absence. 2003)

"Ocian in View!" November 7-10, 2003

"O! The joy!" It's that time again, for making plans to attend this year's presentation of what has become an interesting and timely program since its inception 2 years hence. And this year's program looks to be no less so with author Dr. David Peck, filmmaker Ron Craig and living history performer Hasan Davis on hand to entertain the attendees. Returning from previous years will be our own Gary Lentz as Sgt. Gass and tour guides Rex Ziak and Jim Sayce.

The weekend will begin on Friday evening, November 7th, with a lecture by Dr. Peck, author of *Or Parish in the Attempt: Wilderness Medicine and the Lewis & Clark Expedition*. The lecture will relate to wilderness medicine and the psychology of the Expeditions members. Dr. Peck has compiled evidence from the journals to make a comparison of the Corps' medical treatments and the same "illness" as diagnosed by today's doctors. He will also delve into the psychology of the Corpsmen as they learned to work together as a "unit." As witnessed by Montana Historical Society historian, Dave Walter, "Dr. Peck not only has great knowledge, he is also a wonderful and entertaining speaker."

Dr. Peck will speak at the Ilwaco Heritage Museum at 7:00 PM. The cost is \$10.

On Saturday evening, also at 7:00 PM, at the Hilltop Middle School, filmmaker Ron Craig and Living History performer Hasan Davis will speak about and present some fascinating new insight into the life of York, Clark's companion and slave throughout most of his life. Beginning as a subordinate, York quickly rose to an equal among the Corps members, and even superior to the members in the eyes of the natives! Both men are highly recognized for their work regarding the story of York. Plan on attending this evening to learn more on the life of York before, during and after the Expedition. The cost is also \$10.

Sunday will be a day to wet your whistle for. At 2:30 at the Fort Columbia State Park theatre, Gary Lentz, as Sgt. Patrick Gass, will entice your palate with his program called "Means of Subsistence." He will demonstrate the types of food, methods of cooking and the culinary details used throughout the Expedition. You may even get a taste of some of this wonderful food. (Just DON'T ask what it is!) Those of us who will be on the September trip will have a preview of this program at the Saturday campout.

To round out the weekend, on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, motor bus tours to sites around the area will be conducted from the Ilwaco Heritage Museum parking lot, beginning at 1:00 PM. Author and historian Rex Ziak will guide the Saturday and Sunday tours. Jim Sayce, historian from Long Beach, will guide Monday's tour. These are popular, so reservations are highly recommended. Send your check for \$25.00 along with your preferred date to the PCFL&C, P.O. Box 562, Long Beach, WA 98631

Plan on attending these interesting and fun programs – and alleviate the beginnings of cabin fever – to enjoy more along The Trail. For more information, contact:

Carolyn Glenn
PCFL&C or
P.O. Box 1059
Long Beach, WA 98631
360-642-2805

Carol Zahorsky
Pub. Rel. for Long Beach
360-704-3020 (Olympia)

For more information on the programs or lodging, call the Visitor's Bureau at 1-800-451-2542 or access their web site at www.funbeach.com. You may also access the Pacific County Friends of Lewis & Clark at www.lewisandclarkwa.org.

TRAVELER'S REST REVISITED

Submitted by Bill Lauman

I recently traveled to Montana with two friends to retrace parts of the Lewis and Clark route through that state. We visited significant portions of both the westward journey of the Corps of Discovery and parts of their return trip, including Camp Disappointment and the Two Medicine fight site.

One of our most thrilling visits was to the recently-opened Traveler's Rest State Park, the site where the Corps spent three days westbound in September 1805, and four days eastbound in the summer of 1806. I had previously been in the vicinity several times, had read the interpretive sign on Montana Highway 93 and gazed down the tree line on Lolo Creek to its confluence with the Bitterroot River, presuming, like many others, that it was **the** Traveler's Rest campsite. I was surprised to learn that in the past few years researchers have determined that the actual campsite is about 2 miles up Lolo Creek from its mouth at the ancient Indian crossroads. The property was purchased, and the State Park commemorating this site opened in May of 2002.

Traveler's Rest State Park presently encompasses about 15 acres with another 20 being purchased for the future development of parking and comfort stations. The actual campsite has been undisturbed over the years by any cultivation or development. A simple trail winds through the site with numbered interpretive stakes identifying different locations that include a cooking site, a possible gunsmith site and the latrine site where archaeologists positively identified the site through mercury tracings in 2002.

Visiting the actual site of such significance to the Corps was inspiring, so I was pleased several days later when I discovered a newly-published book entitled "We Called This Creek Traveler's Rest," which gives detailed historical and current information about Traveler's Rest. The book is the third on Lewis and Clark written by The Discovery Writers, a group of five women from nearby Stevensville, MT. They have previously published "Lewis and Clark in the Bitterroots" and "Lewis and Clark on the Upper Missouri." This most recent book is somewhat disjointed, reflecting the five different authors, but contains wonderful kernels of Lewis and Clark information throughout.

The first chapter details the two visits of the Corps to the site, the significant information they gained here and the important decisions they made here. Chapter Two chronicles the modern discovery and development of the site. In 1998, Dr. Robert Bergantine, a surveyor, cartographer and hydrologist from the University of Montana, was commissioned to ascertain the location of Traveler's Rest. He determined that the actual site was not at the confluence of Lolo Creek and the Bitterroot River, but almost 2 miles up the creek. In 2002 archaeologist Dan Hall and his team found evidence of a cook fire, uncovered a musket ball and puddle of lead and unearthed mercury tracings at the site of the latrine, proving conclusively the accurate location of the Traveler's Rest campsite. Through funding from philanthropists and the State of Montana, the property has been acquired and the Traveler's Rest Preservation and Heritage Association was incorporated in 2001 to administer the site.

Other chapters cover the medical aspects of the Expedition, its passages in both directions across Lolo Pass, plants and animals in the area, excellent coverage of the purchase of the property from the very cooperative owners and future plans for development. The books' strong point is its information on Traveler's Rests' past, present and future while its coverage of the Lolo Trail adds perspective.

"We Call This Creek Traveler's Rest" can be purchased directly from the publisher at:

Stoneydale Press Publishing Co.
523 Main Street
Stevensville, MT 59870
Phone 406-777-2729

(Bill Lauman is a frequent contributor to WON. Thanks Bill! Edited for WON, 2003.)

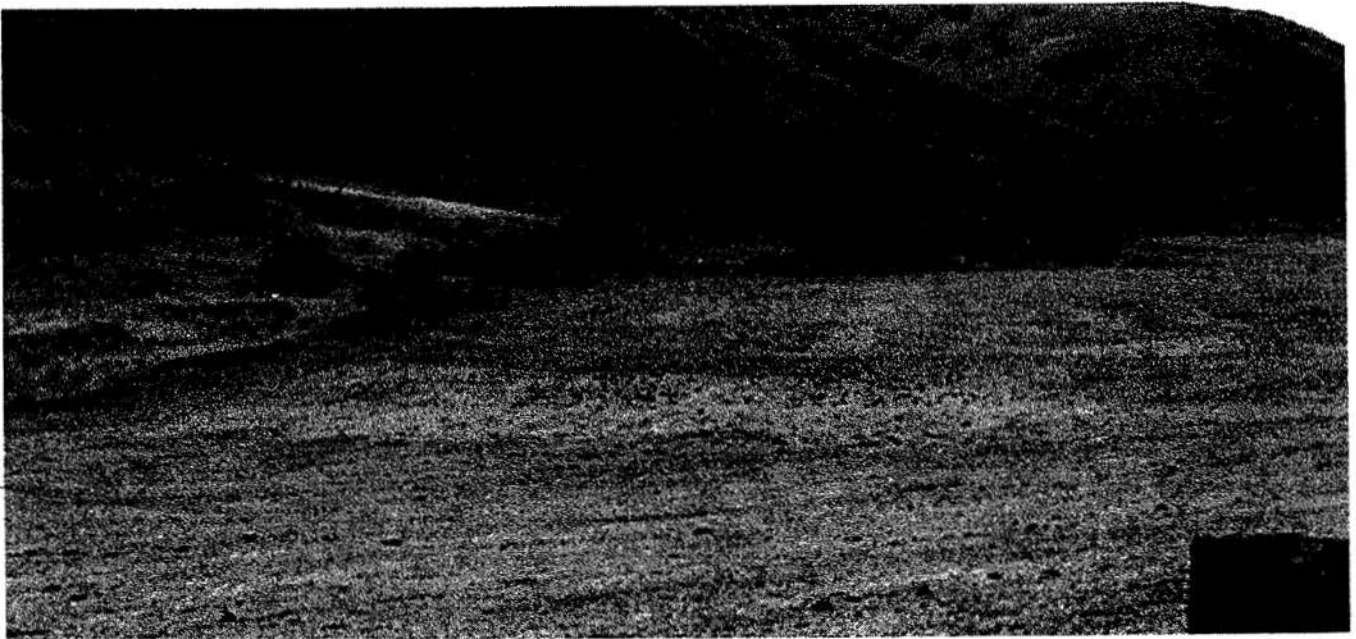
Along the Trail....

Pataha Creek Campsite:

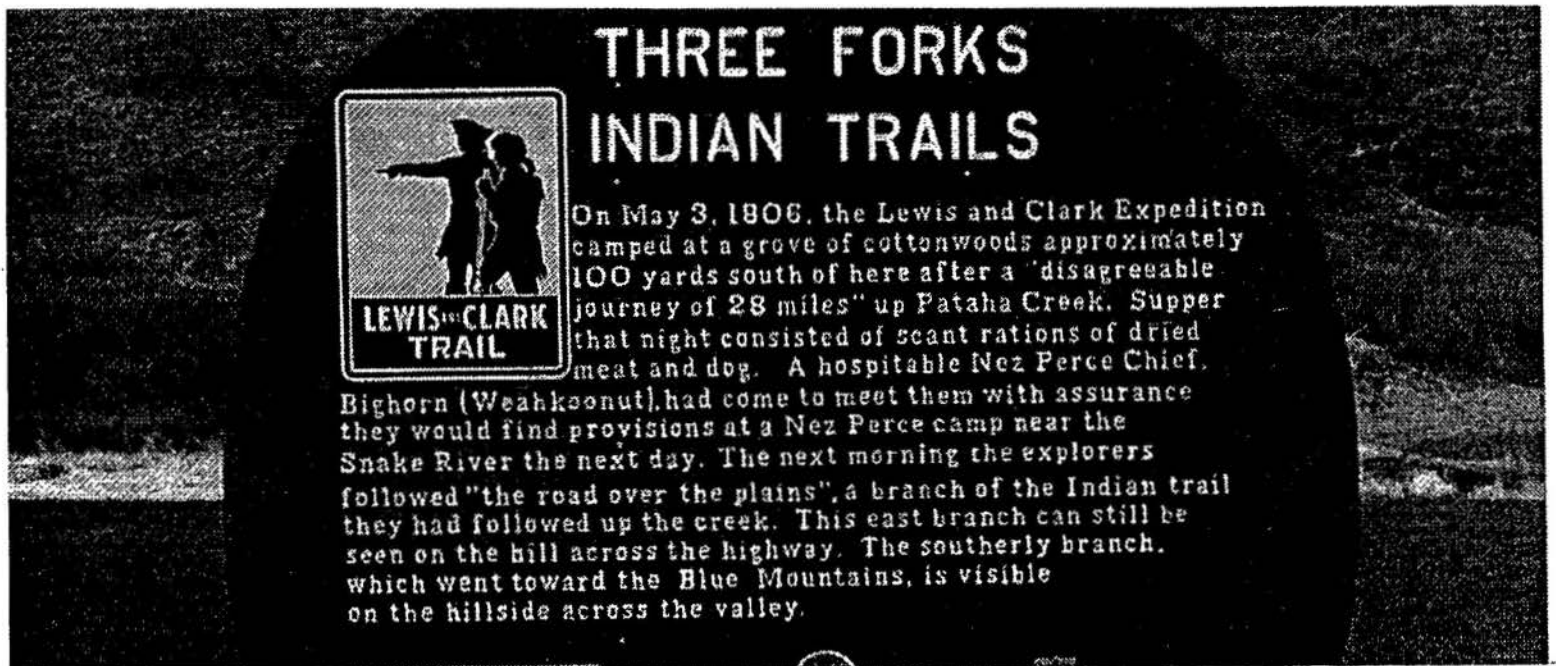
Member Edith Cole of Pomeroy, WA sent this photo of the May 3rd campsite along Pataha Creek today called the "Three Forks" campsite. This site, fortunately, is on Edith's property, so will have a chance at remaining pretty much as it was in 1806 – minus a few trees. The group of Cottonwood trees that the Corps camped in is gone, replaced by smaller trees. Otherwise the site has changed very little, according to Edith. This will be one of the stops on our Overland Trail trip on September 21st. Hopefully Edith will be able to speak with us concerning this spot.

This is the campsite the Corps shared with "The Bighorn" (We-ark-Koont), who had heard the Corps was using the old road and came out to meet them on their return journey. It had been a "disagreeable 28 miles" traveled.

From this point, it was an easy days' ride to the Snake River and their campsite on the north bank.



Three Forks Campsite on Pataha Creek. It is very similar today to what it was in 1806 – minus the big Cottonwoods.



Overland Trail Information....

The following page of information should answer a number of questions and address a few points that will help make the trip more enjoyable for all.

The trip has generated a *GREAT* deal of interest! So much so, that this first run is being limited to members of the WA, OR, ID and MT LCTHF chapter members. We don't even know if it will be any fun. If it turns out to be a successful venture (adventure?), then, perhaps it will be done again, possibly on a regular basis. But, for now, it is a "members only" trip. (We are the guinea pigs for this inaugural run.)

The trip will begin on Saturday morning at 9:00 at Madame Dorion Park at the junction of U.S. Hwy 12 and U.S. Hwy 730. The park entrance is just north of the bridge across the Walla Walla river at this road junction (See map below.). Our weekend host will be Gary Lentz, who will, along with a few of us early birds (aka "volunteers"), be there to greet you. Look for the 15-star flag and sign. Once most are there, Gary will present an orientation for the day's activities, pass out maps, etc. and get things organized. (See the "agenda" on page 11) We will be traveling cross-country on farm roads and on an old railroad grade - that has been graded and smoothed - but, unless you have a Porsche 914 or a Corvette that only have 4-6 inches of clearance, you should be just fine.

Make absolutely sure **that you have lunches and drinks for 2 days**, as there are few facilities for such amenities along the way. (And they won't let us shoot the local wildlife for lunch, either.) Don't forget to bring plenty of **water**, too!

Other "gear" might include a camera, binoculars, your favorite copy of the Journals and a copy of the Washington Gazetteer (you should be able to find a copy at K-Mart or Wal-Mart). Bring clothes for **anything!** (The weather is as unpredictable as Charbonneau was.) Don't forget your camping gear!

For those who cannot or do not wish to camp, there are several places to stay within a few miles of our "base camp" at the Lewis and Clark Trail State Park. In Waitsburg, there is the Waitsburg Inn, 509-337-8455. In Dayton (to the east) try:

Purple House Bed and Breakfast at 509-382-3159
The Weinhard Hotel at 509-382-4032
The Dayton Motel at 509-382-4503
The Blue Mountain Motel at 509-382-3040

With the interest that has been shown so far, you may wish to book early.

Gary will have the campground open for us to use for the weekend. We will gather there on Saturday evening for a potluck-type meal that will include some samples of some of the "trail food" that the Corps ate - complete with ash, I'm sure. Be brave and try something new! Just don't ask what is in it! (If you would like to volunteer to help with the "cooking chores," please contact Gary.)

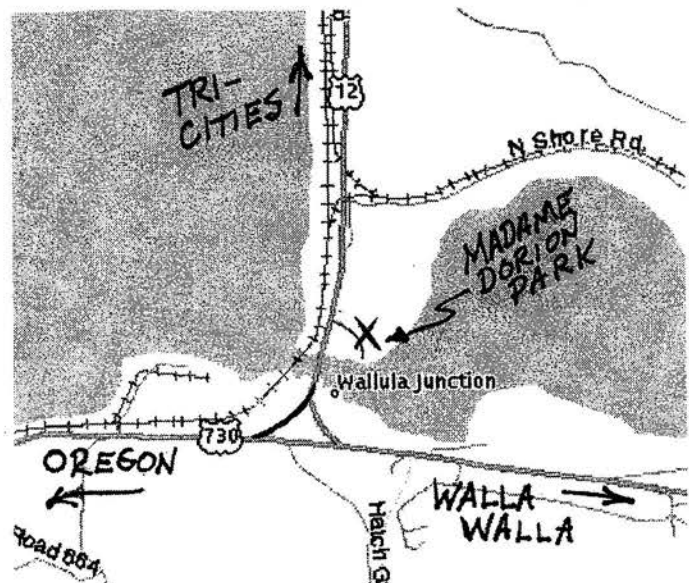
Plan on joining us for this unique experience on this seldom mentioned route called the "Overland Trail."

If you are planning on attending, we would appreciate you letting us know so we know about how many to plan for. Please RSVP to either of the following people by September 15th, if possible.

Gary Lentz @ itswoots@earthlink.net or
509-337-6457

Doc Wesselius @ docndeb@localaccess.com
or 360-736-6106

Tim Underwood @ tlitj@localaccess.com or
360-748-7398



“there was a good road...”

The Lewis & Clark Overland Field Trip Background

April 27, 1806, to May 5, 1806

After a cold, wet, flea-infested winter at Fort Clatsop on the Oregon coast, the Expedition left for St. Louis on March 23, 1806. The Corps made its way up the Columbia River in canoes to near The Dalles by mid-April. Bargaining for horses was not easy but the commanders realized that they could make better time on horses along the north side of the Columbia River. Trading for horses at this point would give them a head start at increasing the size of the herd they would need to cross the Rocky Mountains. There was always the possibility that the herd of horses they left with the Nez Perces could be lost or decimated by the time they reached the Kooskooskee (Clearwater) River.

By the time the Expedition reached what is present day Crow Butte Park they had about 11 horses. The horses were needed for transporting the supplies, clothing, instruments and other heavy items so it is unlikely anyone was riding them through this stretch of the trail. The one exception was private Bratton who had been suffering from severe back pain since leaving Fort Clatsop and he could barely walk. The Expedition made its way along the north side of the Columbia passing their campsite of October 18, 1805, on the opposite shore on April 27, 1806. There was some confusion on the part of their native guide who recommended they make a trip down to the water from the top of the plateau. They retreated back up onto the plateau when the camp of the Wallohwallohs was not found at the expected site near the river. The Expedition then proceeded northerly and once more dropped down to the river finding the camp of Chief Yellept and the Wallohwallohs.

The Captains had promised Chief Yellept they would spend some time with him and his people on their return from the ocean when they passed through in October of 1805. The Chief had been given a small medal on the way downriver with a promise of a larger one on the return. The journals are not clear about whether he received his larger medal but Chief Yellept held them to their promise of an extended visit and treated them very cordially. He personally brought firewood and food for the Explorers setting an example for the others in his tribe. The first night in camp, April 27th, 1806, was quiet. The following night would be different.

April 28, 1806

The next morning, April 28th, 1806, the Chief brought a white horse to Capt. Clark and offered it to him. Capt. Clark asked what he wanted in return and was told the Chief wished to have a kettle. The Captain informed the Chief that there were only enough kettles left for the Corps...probably one for each squad and one for the officer's mess. They could not spare any of them. In that case, the Chief said he would take whatever they offered in trade. Capt. Clark took off his sword and presented it to the Chief along with some lead balls, gunpowder and trinkets. The deal was complete and Capt. Clark had a fine but spirited horse for his personal transportation.

The Captains informed Chief Yellept they wished to transport their horses and supplies across the Columbia River that same day. Chief Yellept reminded them of their promise to stay with him and his people for a time and he was concerned they might not stay if they got their baggage over the river. He decided it was not a good day to loan out his canoes.

Capt. Clark, however, used his diplomatic skills to obtain what he needed. He pointed out that it was a good day to transport the animals and supplies because the wind was calm and the water smooth. He assured Chief Yellept the Corps would spend the night with the Wallohwallohs if they could use his canoes today. The Chief agreed and the bulk of the supplies and animals were safely transported across the Columbia River. A guard was posted on the opposite shore to keep a watch over the horses.

It was fortunate that a member of the WallohWalloh tribe could speak Shoshone. This enabled communications although through a rather lengthy set of interpretations. Chief Yellept would speak WallohWalloh to the former Shoshone woman who would then speak Shoshone to Sacagawea who would speak Hidatsa to Touissant Charbonneau who would speak French to private Baptiste LaPage who would finally speak English to the Captains. Then it would be reversed. It was lengthy, complicated and replete with possible errors but it worked.

A good portion of the afternoon was spent providing medical services to the Wallohwallohs. Capt. Clark set a broken arm, treated some boils, and administered a good quantity of eye water.

By evening a large number of Indians had traveled to Chief Yellept's camp. Nearly 200 locals had gathered to meet and see the Corps of Volunteers. The men played their instruments and danced to the delight of those gathered around the fires. The Indians danced for the explorers to their delight.

April 29, 1806

The next day, April 29th, 1806, it took longer than expected to finish the river crossing and round up the horses that had wandered away. Wandering horses would be a problem throughout the travel over the "good road" through southeastern Washington State. Apparently no amount of hobbling, picketing or watching could keep all the animals near their camps. Consequently there were delays almost every morning in getting underway. The Captains decided to stay one more night but on the east shore of the Columbia River about a mile north of the mouth of the Walla Walla River. Chief Yellept invited them to dance again but the weather didn't cooperate. The cold, drizzling rain put a damper on the planned activities. However, the Captains put the time to good use by describing the geography they were learning from the Indians, their method of fishing using a weir, and their manner of dress. They also purchased deer meat, camas bread, and 12 dogs.

April 30, 1806

Most mornings in April and early May are chilling in this part of the northwest. The morning of April 30, 1806, was no exception. After gathering the horses, packing the supplies and setting the Orders of March for the day the Expedition started off to the north and east. A Choppunish family accompanied the Corps along with some men that Chief Yellept delegated to show the way. The route took them across sandy mounds of earth with sparse vegetation. Capt. Lewis mentioned, "**aromatic shrubs**" (sagebrush), "**hurbatous plants**" (thymes), and "**short grass**" growing in the sandy soil. There were also edible plants such as the, "**one which produces a root somewhat like the sweet pittaitoe...**" Capt. Clark's white horse had wandered away but was brought in later by private Reuben Fields. The Expedition had increased the number of horses they acquired to 23 but Capt. Lewis recorded many of them had, "**Sore backs**". Nevertheless, they were much better than packing the supplies on the backs of the men.

This "**good road**" had been used for centuries by local tribes traveling between the Rocky Mountains and the Ocean. It wound through the Blue Mountains, along the Columbia and down to The Dalles. This route of trade and travel was well known and Chief Yellept recommended it as an alternative to traveling up the Snake River. An overland route along the Snake River would have been nearly 60 miles longer. The water route would be a struggle against numerous rapids the Corps had battled on the down river trip the previous October.

By afternoon the Expedition arrived on the Touchet River (pronounced "Too shee") about 12 miles north of the present town of Touchet, Washington. Capt. Lewis described the Touchet River as being, "**a bold Creek 10 yds. wide.**" (The campsite, marked by an interpretive sign and small vehicle pullout, was designed and located by local historian Steve Plucker, who lives nearby.) That evening while sitting next to the river, Capt. Lewis recorded more than a dozen species of plants that can still be found growing near this spot.

Capt. Lewis's Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Cottonwood	Black Cottonwood	<i>Populus balsamifera</i>
Birch	Water Birch	<i>Betula occidentalis</i>
Crimson Haw	Black Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>
Redwillow	Red Osier Dogwood	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>
Sweetwillow	Willow	<i>Salix spp.</i>
Chokecherry	Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Yellow Currants	Golden Currant	<i>Ribes aureum</i>
Goosberry	Wild Gooseberry	<i>Ribes divaricatum</i>
White-berried honeysuckle	Common Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Rose bushes	Wild Roses	<i>Rosa spp.</i>
Seven bark	Pacific Nine Bark	<i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>
Shoemate	Smooth Sumac	<i>Rhus glabra</i>
Corngrass	Basin Wildrye	<i>Elymus cinereus</i>

The camp of April 30, 1806 was uneventful. There was no singing and dancing, there was plenty of firewood for cooking, George Drouillard provided a beaver for the Captain's mess, and the rain had quit. It was a fair night. The men supped on fresh dog, tended the horses, and got a good night's rest.

The weather was too good to last. Another night rain had faded by sunrise and the Expedition was underway on **May 1st** by 7:00 AM. The route continued along the Touchet River to the north. The previous night's rain had firmed up the trail somewhat and the Expedition made a good pace. The river winds its way to present-day State Highway 124 near Lamar, Washington. The Winnet Creek falls in from the north and the trail branches at this location. A less traveled section continued northerly to the Snake River and the Choppunish man who was accompanying the Expedition recommended following it. Capt. Lewis decided to wait for his Wallohwalloh guide who was at the end of the column before making his decision. The horses were allowed to graze and the hunters looked for, "**every Species of game which they might meet with.**" It turned out to be pitifully scarce.

The Choppunish man wanted them to camp at this location and set out in the morning for the Snake River. The Captains were not interested in this route. It took them away from their main easterly course and away from water. When the Wallohwalloh guide arrived, "**Some words took place between those two men**". The Captains decided to pursue their course along the Touchet River and the Choppunish family left them and set out for the Snake River. The Corps followed the flat country of the Touchet River Valley. They noticed that the timber was becoming more abundant and there were many birds common to the prairies of the East.

A camp was made along the Touchet River near present-day Bolles Junction about 26 miles from their previous camp. Toward evening, three young men from the Wallohwalloh village arrived. They returned a steel trap that had been left behind. A trap of this nature could provide food and clothing for a native family and would have been a genuine treasure. The Captains were impressed with this act and recorded, "**I think we can justly affirm to the honor of these people that they are the most hospitable, honest, and sincere people that we have met with in our voyage.**"

May 2nd provided another clear morning after a drizzly night. It took a while to round up the horses and the one they had obtained from the Choppunish man had completely disappeared. It was 1:30 PM before the horse was recovered nearly 17 miles from camp. The road continued on the north side of the Touchet River past the mouth of the Coppei Creek. From this slight rise the Captains recorded seeing the Southwest Mountains (Blue Mountains) about 25 miles distant. The timber became denser along the river, as it is today. A few miles from camp the Expedition passed through present day Waitsburg. Here they saw the first of the "Long Leafed Pines" (Ponderosa Pine) on the hillsides south of the river. They proceeded east along the meandering Touchet River crossing over to the south side near Lewis & Clark Trail State Park around 3:00 PM. The journalists recorded the, "**50 acres of well timbered pine land where we passed the creek.**" It would have been a great campsite but there was still plenty of daylight, a level road, good grass, and time to be made up due to the delay in searching for horses that morning. The Corps proceeded on the south side of the Touchet River to the present-day town of Dayton. About a mile south of where the US Highway 12 bridge crosses the Touchet River at Flour Mill Park the Expedition crossed the river one more time. Sgt. Ordway said it was about 3 feet deep and presented no obstacle to crossing. The Corps continued on to a small tributary called Patit Creek. They camped on a narrow bottom at the base of a hill where the road would continue up in the morning. There is a fine pullout and interpretive marker erected at this site through the efforts of George Touchette of Dayton.

The night began pleasantly enough. It didn't last. By morning there was rain, hail and snow. After breaking a cold soggy camp and bidding farewell to the WallohWalloh men who had accompanied them to this point, the Corps was on present day Ronan Road by 7:00 AM. The route took them over "a high level plain". Today it is mostly private farmland with a tremendous view of the Blue Mountains and surrounding countryside. None of the journalists had much to say about this leg of the journey perhaps because they were taken with the view. Perhaps they were just too tired, wet, and cold from the buffeting winds and snow. In any case it was a tedious hike and a steep descent into the Tucannon Valley. The Corps stopped for lunch on **May 3** and recorded the face of the land. They referred to the Tucannon River as the Kimooenem Creek and noted it was a tributary of the Snake River, which they also referred to as the Kimooenem River the previous October. The lunch site on the Tucannon was also developed by the efforts of George Touchette of Dayton.

The Corps continued up over the steep hills out of the Tucannon Valley. They descended to the Pataha Creek along US Highway 12 where they met an old friend. Chief We-ark-koomt, also known as the **"bighorn Chief"**, greeted them near present-day Pomeroy, Washington. Chief We-ark-koomt had accompanied the Corps down the Snake River and informed the native people they encountered of their friendly intentions. He met them with 10 of his men and continued easterly along the Pataha Creek with the Corps. Near the Three Forks interpretive sign along US Highway 12 about 6 miles east of Pomeroy, the **"good road"** left the Pataha Creek and **"ascends the hills to the plain"**.

The Captains decided this was a good place to camp. They would have water, firewood, and shelter from the windy, cold storm they had battled throughout most of the day. They could get an early start over the hills in the morning. A small grove of cottonwood trees near the creek provided most of their necessities for the evening. Supper was the last of the dogs purchased from the Wallohwallohs. Chief We-ark-koomt assured them there would be food the next day when they reached a small Indian village at the Snake River.

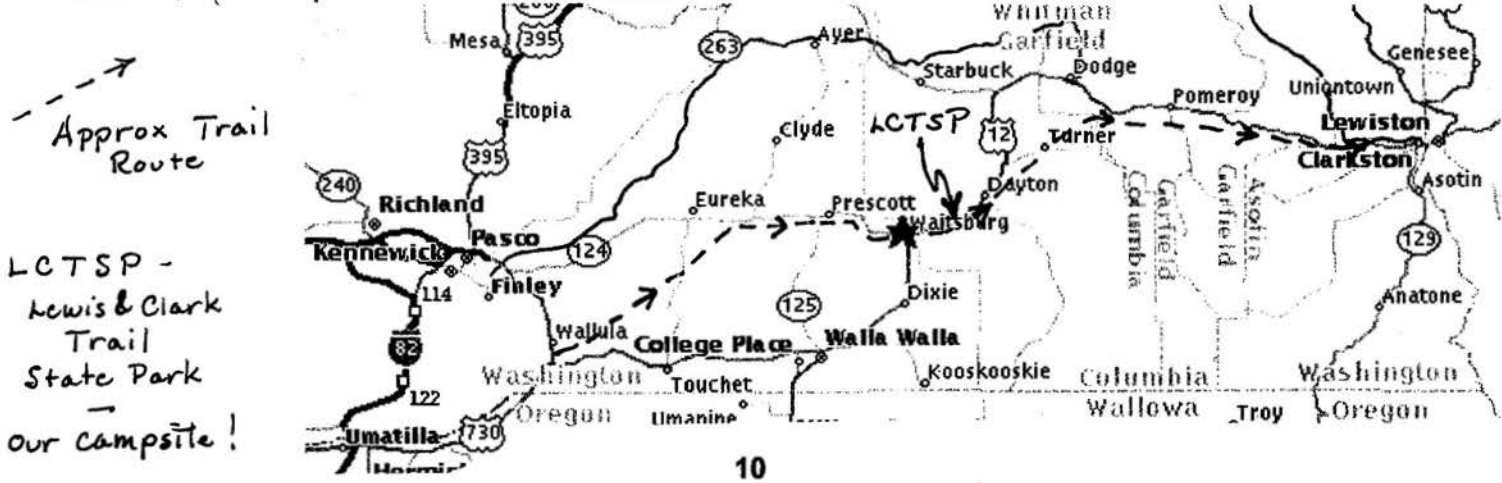
The morning of **May 4th** found a layer of ice 1/6th of an inch thick on the nearby water and the hills had a little extra snow on them. The ascent was uneventful and so was the crossing of the high plains. The party began its descent from the plains and met Stember Creek near its crossing with US Highway 12. They continued down Alpawai Creek with a few tense moments. A horse slipped on the narrow trail in the canyons and fell into Alpawai Creek. It was carrying ammunition but the horse and its load were not seriously injured. Capt. Lewis' gunpowder was stored in his lead canisters and was protected from the water in the creek. Good planning in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania paid its dividends near Clarkston, Washington.

The Corps arrived at a small village along the Snake River near Chief Timothy Park. The people were poor and Chief We-ark-koomt was undoubtedly helpful in acquiring two lean dogs. The dogs and some half cured bread produced from roots made a breakfast **"soope"** to feed the hungry men. Most of the Indians were out gathering roots and the Salmon were not yet running. It was a lean time.

The Expedition continued along the south shore of the Snake River for about three miles. Another old friend from the previous October met them. Chief Te-to-ar-sky had also accompanied them and made communications and intentions more understandable to the natives along the Snake and Columbia Rivers. The Chief advised them to cross over the Snake River at this point since the road to the Kooskooskee was better on the north side of the river. The Captains took his advice and with three of his canoes they crossed the Snake River to the north side. Here they made camp for the night. It was another cold night and the warmth of the campfire was shared with many of the locals who came to meet the Explorers.

May 5th was a fair day and their time in Washington State was coming to an end. The horses cooperated and the Expedition was underway by 7:00 AM. About 4 1/2 miles up river they met the Kooskooskee (Clearwater) River joining Lewis' (Snake) River at present day Clarkston, Washington. They would continue into Idaho and spend the night about 8 miles east of the confluence of the large rivers. From here they proceeded on into history.

The Captains had, indeed, saved many miles and many days of travel by taking the **"good road"**. They discovered a new face of the land much different than the one seen coming down the Snake River. It was a land they compared to the rich and fertile plains of the Ohio, Mississippi, and Missouri River valleys. They met some of the friendliest and most helpful natives on their entire journey. The Great American Desert was revealed for what it really was...a land of promise and resources. It was to be an inevitable part of the American dream.



Lewis & Clark Overland Shortcut Field Trip Agenda for September 21-22, 2003

Saturday, September 21

- 09:00AM Meet at Madame Dorion Park at Wallula, Washington for orientation
Pass out maps, brochures, and general travel information
- 09:30AM Orientation and introduction to Benton County camp of Chief Yellept
Gary Lentz & Connie Estep
- 10:30 AM Leave Madame Dorion Park and travel to campsite of April 30, 1806.
- 11:00 AM View sand dunes and route taken to campsite.
- 11:30 AM Visit campsite of April 30, 1806
Steve Plucker, campsite developer and historian
- NOON Lunch on the trail; (Bring a lunch) ...no facilities at this location.
- 12:30 PM Continue trip north with short side trip to the Touchet River at Luckinbill Road.
- 2:00 PM Continue north to Highway 124 and Winnett Creek.
Next 3 miles over old NP railroad right-of-way along Touchet River
- 3:00 PM Continue to Prescott, WA with short side trips to view Touchet River
- 3:30 PM Campsite near Bolles Junction on the Touchet River
- 4:00 PM Coppei Creek, view of Blue Mountains, and Waitsburg
Leave Walla Walla County ... enter Columbia County
- 5:00 PM (or sooner) Arrive at Lewis & Clark Trail State Park for evening

Sunday, September 22

- 07:45 AM Orientation, map review, etc
- 08:00 AM Travel to Dayton's Flour Mill Park to examine route along Patit Creek
- 08:15 AM Travel to and visit campsite of May 2, 1806, on Patit Creek
Possible orientation and talk by George Touchette, campsite developer and historian
- 08:30 AM Continue over Ronan Road to Turner, WA
- 09:00 AM Continue over high country route to view parts of the trail and the Blue Mtns.
- 09:30 AM Travel to and visit lunch site of May 3, 1806, on Tucannon River
Possible orientation and talk by George Touchette, campsite developer and historian
- 10:15 AM Continue on Marengo grade out of Tucannon Valley to Pataha Creek
- 10:30 AM Stop to enjoy view from high ground;
Leave Columbia County ... enter Garfield County
- 10:45 AM Travel down Pataha Creek on US Highway 12 to Pomeroy
- 11:00 AM Continue to Three Forks campsite of May 3, 1806.
Possible orientation and talk by Edith Cole, landowner and historian
- 11:15 AM Continue over high country across Alpawai Pass and down to Chief Timothy Park
Leave Garfield County ... enter Asotin County
- NOON Continue to Clarkston, cross Red Wolf Bridge, view campsite of May 4, 1806.
Possible orientation and talk by Carole Simon-Smolinski, Asotin Co. historian
and member of the Governor's L&C Trail Committee
- 1:00 PM End of journey.

News Briefs....

The Gorge Discovery Center

Stevenson, WA – As mentioned by Barb Kubik on page 2, there is a growing concern about the future of The Gorge Discovery Center in Skamania County. Your help is urgently requested to ensure the operation of the Center through the upcoming bicentennial.

As with most of us, Skamania County is experiencing funding problems. There is a question within the county government whether the Center is an efficient use of their funds or if those funds would/could be better used elsewhere.

It should be remembered that the Center is located on The Trail, explains the Corps' history in The Gorge nicely and houses the Strong collection of books, manuscripts and other documents. Ruth and Emory Strong were instrumental in preserving and explaining the history of the Expedition on the lower Columbia River, especially in the Gorge area. Their wonderful book *Seeking Western Waters* is a culmination of years of research, most before all the dams inundated The Trail. This is an important resource for scholars researching this part of The Trail.

Members are asked to access the Skamania County website and fill out the survey that will help preserve the operations of the Gorge Discovery Center. Please be sure to include your address so the commissioners will understand that out-of-county visitors do visit the Center. Since time may be a factor, please try to fill out the survey by September 15th if possible. The website is: www.skamaniacounty.org/skamania_forward_survey%20.htm

Thanks for your special help.

(Information from Sharon Tiffany, GDC Director. Edited for WON.)

Maryhill Museum Program

Goldendale, WA – In its continuing efforts to present local information concerning the Lewis and Clark bicentennial, the Maryhill Museum of Art has an exhibit on display, now through November 15th, entitled "Reflecting On Lewis & Clark: Contemporary Native American Viewpoints." As the title implies, the exhibit conveys the views of Natives on the Lewis and Clark Expedition, both what has been passed down through the generations and contemporary thought.

As part of this on-going exhibit, a symposium will be held on October 25 where a panel of Native American speakers will be making presentations, then follow up with open discussions.

Many works of art and artifacts are included in this exhibit, ranging from historic to contemporary art, to help explain the story of the Corps through native eyes.

For more information, access the Maryhill website at:

www.maryhillmuseum.org/calendar.htm

Lewis and Clark Heritage Day Festival

Tri-Cities, WA – The original campsite will be the site of a Heritage Day Festival in the Tri-Cities area on October 18; almost exactly 198 years after the Corps camped there. Sacajawea State Park, at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers, will host the events that include living history presentations, first-person interpretation, entertainment, music, a kids camp, Native American storytellers, skills demonstrations, FOOD and more. Admission is free.

Congressman "Doc" Hastings will preside over the opening ceremonies, complete with color guard in period uniforms. And for those with extra energy, there is the 22-mile Sacajawea Heritage Trail along the river that helps identify the area's historic relationship to the Corps of Discovery as well as providing heritage, cultural and environmental interpretive opportunities to users.

For more information, contact the Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau at 509-735-8486.

End Of Our Voyage Exhibit

Richland, WA – This wonderful exhibit that covers the Corps of Discovery's time in Washington State will be on display at the Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology (CREHST) Museum, 95 Lee Ave., Richland, WA from November 8 through January 25, 2004.

Signature Event: Falls of the Ohio

Louisville, KY and Clarksville, IN – This next Signature event will be the second longest Signature event of the series, lasting 13 days, the amount of time Lewis and Clark spent at these two villages before moving on down the Ohio to the Mississippi and up to St. Louis. Beginning on October 14 with a reenactment of Lewis' arrival in Louisville and his meeting with Clark, the next 12 days will be filled with extensive Native American and African American programs, symposia with renowned speakers, the Corps of Discovery II, special exhibits in and around the area. The hallmark of this commemoration will be an expanded Lewis and Clark River Festival showcasing the role of the Falls of the Ohio area and residents played in the success of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

On October 26th, the festival will end with the reenactment of the Corps' departing Clarksville for their journey into history.

For more information, contact:

Dell Courtney
Falls of the Ohio Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Committee
P.O. Box 2246
Louisville, KY 40201
502-292-0059
e-mail: dellcourtn@aol.com

You may also wish to check out the festival website at:

<http://fallsoftheohio.org/lewisandclark.html>.

Birds Seen By Lewis and Clark: A Checklist

A project by member Connie Estep

In January, I began compiling a checklist of the birds recorded by Lewis and Clark on their entire journey. The list includes the current common and the scientific names for each bird, the names listed by Lewis and Clark, dates recorded and the general area where they were seen. Two volunteers from the CREHST Museum have assisted me on this project: a typist and a graphic designer.

Putting the list together has been a learning experience. Did you know that the California Condor was first called the "Buzzard of the Columbia?" The Mallard duck was called a "Duckanmallard," the Brown-headed Cowbird was a "Buffalo Pecker," and the Golden Eagle was called a "Calumet Eagle" because its feathers were often used to decorate peace pipes, which were called "calumets."

This project is sponsored jointly by our Washington State Chapter of LCTHF, the CREHST Museum and the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society. We are looking for funding for the initial printing, a small amount of which has been set aside from a birding class I taught for the Audubon group last spring.

(If you are interested in helping in this interesting project, please contact Connie at the CREHST Museum at cestep@crehst.org or you may speak with her at the Overland Trail meeting.)

[Thanks to Connie for the update.]

Lewis and Clark Air Rifle

David Nicandri, Director of the Washington State Historical Museum in Tacoma has relayed the information that the original "VMI" air rifle will be on display at the museum when the exhibit "Beyond Lewis and Clark: the Army Explores the West" opens in Tacoma next February. The rifle is on loan from VMI for this exhibit.

The companion volume to the exhibit, written by James Ronda and published by the WSHS, is in print and can be purchased from UW Press or from the museum gift shop.

(WSHS news release, 2003. Edited for WON.)



Sacagawea's Journey Video

Last spring, the Idaho PBS folks released a one-hour documentary, titled *The Journey of Sacagawea*. The film, a production of Idanha Films and Idaho Public Television, is a chronicle of Sacagawea's life and her journey with the Corps of Discovery. Barb Kubik is one of the historians interviewed in the film. The video is available to the public for \$24.95 + \$4.95 S&H. Send check or money order made out to Idanha Films to:

Idanha Films
ATTN: Lori Joyce
1609 N. 11th St.
Boise, ID 83702

Lewis and Clark Websites....

The following are more sites for your internet-exploring pleasure.

www.americanjourneys.org This is a Wisconsin Historical Society project website. They are in the midst of a HUGE project of posting over 18,000 pages of early exploration documents, books, diaries early engravings, manuscripts and narratives on the web for the browsing pleasure of all. First up will be Lewis and Clark information. Included so far are Jefferson's letter to George Rogers Clark concerning the expedition, Sgt. Floyd's handwritten diary, Volumes one and two of Thwaites' 1904 edition of the journals and Lewis' first report to Jefferson on what the expedition had found. It is a very interesting site and can only get better with more material added. Check it out!

www.wisconsinhistory.org This is the Wisconsin Historical Society's own website.

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Washington State Chapter Website: www.lcarchive.org/wa_lcthf.html

3/03

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 the Forest Green hats with the logo they can be purchased for \$19.00 each. Make checks payable to: WA Chapter, LCTHF. Please allow 3 weeks for delivery.

SOLD

OUT!

_____ 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

\$15.00 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

September 20-21, 2003 – SE Washington. The Fall Chapter meeting, "The Overland Trail and Campout." This will be a two-day auto tour of the "Overland Trail" from the mouth of the Walla Walla River to the mouth of the Clearwater River. The overnight campout will be at the Lewis and Clark Trail State Park near Dayton, WA with Gary Lentz as our host.

November 7-10, 2003 – Ilwaco, WA. The 2003 presentation of "Ocian In View" will be a great treat for those wishing to get out of the house again. Guest speakers will include Dr. David Peck, Ron Craig and Hasan Davis. Of course, Gary Lentz will be there cooking up some delectable delights! And Rex Ziak and Jim Sayce will escort the always-popular tours. Plan on this lively experience in the doldrums of early winter.

Ft. Clatsop Christmas – TBA – A delightful treat for the Christmas season. Experience Christmas the way the Corps did. Watch for further details.

February 7, 2004 – Tacoma, WA. This is the annual business meeting held at the Washington State Historical Society Museum, 1911 Pacific Ave.

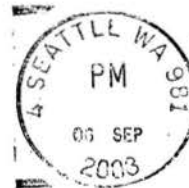
Mark your calendars with these dates and plan on joining us on "The Trail!"

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WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER
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September 2003 Newsletter



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.

