Volume 12, Issue 1 January 2011 Newsletter

Worthy of Notice



WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, LCTHF

2011 DUES: STILL ONLY \$15.00!

Just a reminder to send in your 2011 dues. If your mailing or email address has changed, please fill out the form on page 7 and mail it along with your check. Your membership helps support the activities of the Washington Chapter throughout the year.

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WASHINGTON CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING - FEB. 5, 2011

The Washington State Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation will hold its Annual Meeting on February 5, 2011. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma, WA.

Speakers for this year's meeting will include Jim Sayce, Ryan Karlson and David Nicandri.

David Nicandri, Director of the Washington State Historical Society, will discuss his new book, "River of Promise: Lewis and Clark on the Columbia."

Jim Sayce, manager of local projects for the



Washington State History Museum, Tacoma, WA

Washington State Historical Society, will talk about the plans for Station Camp. He will also share his thoughts about

the true location of Dismal Nitch.

Ryan Karlson, the Interpretive Program Manager for Washington State Parks, will discuss Lewis and Clark interpretation at state parks.

The agenda will also include the election of officers for the Chapter, so please plan to attend if possible.

The Governor's WA St. L&C Trail Committee will also meet at the museum in the afternoon. All Washington State Chapter members are invited to attend the afternoon meeting.

STORY CIRCLES DEDICATED AT SACAJAWEA PARK

On Friday, August 27 gorgeous weather welcomed the artist Maya Lin to Sacajawea Park in Pasco, Washington for the dedication ceremony of the Story Circles, which she de-

signed as a part of the larger Confluence Project. The ceremony was attended by representatives of local tribes, numerous government officials, native musicians, artists and poets.

Bobbie Conner of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) observed, "This was a bustling, robust, busy place. It was lively with

(Continued on page 7)

FALL FIELD TRIP: "OCIAN IN VIEW" TOUR AND EVENTS By Robert Heacock

a little before Day light the wind which was from the S.S. E. blew with Such violence that we were almost overwhelmned with water blown from the river, this Storm did not Sease at day but blew with nearly equal violence throughout the whole day accompaned with rain. O! how horriable is the day waves brakeing with great violence against the Shore throwing the Water into our Camp &c. all wet and Confind to our Shelters

Captain Clark's words on November 22, 1805 at Station Camp were a contrast to our own day on November 13, 2010, and we had a steady but manageable rainfall, visible from the comfort of a Pacific Transit System bus.

Thanks to the efforts of the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum (CPHM), and their 'Ocian in view' program, we were able to have an informative morning seeing sites on the proposed Columbia-Pacific Passage. Led by Jim Sayce, manager of local projects for the Washington State Historical Society; with involvement by David Syzmanski, Superintendant of the Lewis and Clark and Trail National Historic Park; Chinook

Nation chair Ray Gardner; and Bill Garvin, descendant of McGowan settlement founder P. J. McGowan; we were able to see current plans and site layout for the Middle Village-Station Camp-McGowan wayside as part of the planned Passage.

The Columbia-Pacific Passage encompasses the collective experience of multiple historical sites and destinations along the north side of the Columbia River, extending from Knappton Cove to Cape Disappointment.

Our first stop was the Middle Village-Station Camp-McGowan location and we then traveled to the Knappton Cove Heritage Center for a tour of the Quarantine Station, and also an opportunity to visit with re-enactors from Pacific Northwest Living Historians. As the US Public Health Service Quarantine Station (1899-1938), Knappton Cove played a significant role in the history of US immigration. An estimated 100,000 individuals passed through the Quarantine Station from 1899 to 1938.

We also stopped at the stone marker at the Knappton site, its brass marker now forcibly removed by vandals. The Megler rest area was our next stop with a visit to the bronze sculpture and it's background at the Dismal Nitch site.

We also had a discussion about Cliff Point and the following journal entries:

November 10, 1805 ...Shore being either a Clift of Purpendicular rocks or Steep assents to the hight of 4 or 500 feet

...we again unloaded the Canoes, and Stoed the loading on a rock above the tide water...

November 11, 1805 ...the great quantities of rain which has fallen losenes the Stones on the Side of the hill & the Small ones fall on us, our Situation is truly a disagreeable...

November 12, 1805 all wet and cold with our bedding &c. also wet, in a Cove Scercely large nough to Contain us, our Baggage in a Small holler about ½ a mile from us,...

Friday evening at CPHM was a wonderful talk by noted writer Robin Cody, author of Voyage of a Summer Sun and the recently published Another Way the River Has. Voyage of a Summer Sun is the nonfiction account of Cody's 82-day solo canoe trip down the Columbia River, from its source in Canada to its mouth at Astoria. With Voyage, Cody won the 1995 Oregon Book Award for literary nonfiction, and the 1996 Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Book Award. It is also in the Oregon State Library's "150 Books for the Oregon Sesquicentennial". Another Way the River Has, is a collection of short true stories published by Oregon State University Press in April, 2010.

Saturday afternoon the Chinook Tribe hosted their Annual Salmon Dinner at CPHM, which included regional seafood and Indian fry bread. And to finish the weekend, on Sunday Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Cape Disappointment presented the concert Carl Allen: Woody Guthrie Sings Journey Songs. In May 1941 Guthrie was hired on a thirty day contract by the Bonneville Power Administration to write songs for a film about the Columbia River. It was one of the most productive periods of his life. Carl Allen is a well known Folk singer who along with his partner Bill Murlin formed The Wanderers.

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WINTERING OVER

THE CORPS OF DISCOVERY RETURNS TO FORT CLATSOP

On January 15th, 16th and 17th, Fort Clatsop will come to life as the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park presents the 10th annual Wintering Over program.

Wintering Over is a living history event, featuring first-person interpretation by park rangers and members of the Pacific Northwest Living Historians. The interpreters will portray the people of the Corps of Discovery in an unscripted, interactive program.

Visitors to Fort Clatsop will have the opportunity to step back in time and converse with members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and discover a diversity of people and cultures. Who were these people? What did they think about what they were doing? What did they think about the people they had met on their journey?

The folks serving under Captains Lewis and Clark will perform the



daily duties required in winter quarters. They also will tell visitors about their labors and adventures, the people they met on their journey, and the dangers and hardships encountered. Just remember that they are living in 1806, so they won't know anything about automobiles, movies or cell phones!

The Wintering Over program

will be presented during the fort's regular winter hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The entrance fee for Fort Clatsop is \$3.00 for adults age 16 and over, free for age 15 and younger; this also includes admission to the interpretive center.

For additional information, contact the park at 503-861-2471, ext. 214.

CURRENT OFFICERS

President: Jill Stephenson

Vice President: A.G. "Doc" Wesselius

Secretary: Robert Heacock

Treasurer: Nick Giovanni



The Corps "votes" to "cross and examine."

VOTE FOR YOUR NEW OFFICERS FEB. 5!

PAGE 4 WORTHY OF NOTICE

Bringing History to Life: Lectures About Historical Projects in the Lewis & Clark College Special Collections By Tom Laidlaw

(This is the 2nd and final part of this article; Part 1 appeared in the previous issue.)

"James Gilchrest Swan (1818-1900): Wilderness Intellectual" by Stephen Dow Beckham, Dr. Robert D. Pamplin, Jr. Professor of History, Lewis & Clark College, was the second presentation of the day. Beckham is editor of *Oregon Indians: Voices from Two Centuries*, and curator of Watzek Library's current exhibit on James G. Swan

This talk was about a later Pacific Northwest personality, James G. Swan, who wrote The Northwest Coast

Swan was born in Medford, MA in 1818. His father and uncle ran a trading ship on the Pacific Coast in the years right after Lewis and Clark.

He became a ship chandler in Boston, married and had two children. But his uncle's stories of the 1806 - 1810 trading expedition to the Pacific Northwest continued to draw him westward. When the gold rush came he moved to San Francisco in 1850 and never again lived with his family. In San Francisco he outfitted

vessels, but the real pull was further north on the coast, so in 1852 he moved to Willapa Bay (then Shoalwater Bay).

Swan lived on the bay till 1852, trading in oysters like several other settlers, and making relationships with the Indians of the area. He learned the Chinook Jargon



Stephen Dow Beckham

and other Indian languages and The Northwest Coast is replete with descriptions and drawings of their homes, history, legends and way of life.

In 1855, Swan went back east to write his book. He also wrote articles for several newspapers. When Isaac Stevens became Washington State's delegate to congress Swan became his secretary, but by 1859 he returned to the Pacific, this time settling in

Port Townsend. Except for some time as a schoolteacher on the Makah reservation at Neah Bay, he remained there the rest of his life.

Continuing his habit of getting involved in many activities he passed the bar exam, practiced Admiralty Law and served as United States commissioner. He collected many artifacts and contributed them to the Smithsonian. The Smithsonian sponsored a four month trip in the summer of 1883 for him to study Haida culture and collect artifacts.

As one of the pioneers of Washington Territory he lived to see it become a state in 1889 and died May 18, 1900, at the age of 82.

"Recollections of Assembling a One-of-a-Kind Lewis and Clark Library and Thoughts on Writing an Autobiography" was the final presentation, by Roger Wendlick, antiquarian book collector and Lewis and Clark expedition scholar from Portland, Oregon. Roger is the author of Shotgun on My Chest: Memoirs of a Lewis and Clark Collector.

(continued next page...)

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Bringing History to Life: Lectures About Historical Projects in the Lewis & Clark College Special Collections (cont.)

I was thoroughly fascinated as he told his story, especially his great animation showing his great animation and delight at finding "THE BOOK" he'd been searching for. Eureka, I've Found it!

Starting by collecting objects from Portland's 1904 Lewis and Clark festival, he soon moved on to the books and was hooked. Oh, not on the story, not on reading them, just having them. He was a collector, not a Lewis and Clark Scholar.



Roger Wendlick

That would come later, after he had everything. Over the course of twenty years he gathered a collection worth 3/4 of a million dollars. He borrowed from everyone he knew, mortgaged his house three times and at one time had 11 credit cards and debt of \$100,000. Yet he never missed a payment One thing that kept him going was the knowledge that the bicentennial was approaching and the books would increase in value. As the books kept getting more and more expensive he was told that it was he who was driving the market. Probably the most brilliant move he made was to order

fourteen of each of the new edition of the journals as they came off the press. These more than doubled in value within just a few years.

His book "Shotgun on My Chest" is a great, simple, and honest telling of the story of his life as a construction worker and collector. The book's opening answers the question about the title:,

"On the evening of March 18, 1986 I jumped into bed pulling the covers over my stark naked body, shotgun on my chest. The cold chill from the steel barrel of a twelve-gauge shotgun was a warm companion to keep me company through the night. By that date, I owned a substantial collection of valuable Lewis and Clark memorabilia. I lived in North Portland, Oregon, the working class side of town that had its share of residential larcenies. I'd heard stories of people who had attended auctions or antique markets being followed home by thieves, where they were attacked and robbed. I was paranoid and somewhat fearful that someone would case me out and

break into my house to try to steal my treasures. This was not going to happen at my house! Any nighttime burglar would have been welcomed with a full magnum load of number-two buckshot!"

Roger's vault is now in the special collections dept. of Lewis and Clark College, to whom he sold it in 1998. The inside contains the very most valuable items, but by no means the whole collection.

With the collection disposed of and his status with the college as Collector in Residence, he then began to study, determined to become the greatest modern L&C scholar. He eventually became George Drouillard and brought his perfect impersonation to the world throughout the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

As he ended his presentation he said. "I've collected all the books, I've read all the books, now I've come full circle and written a book. I just happen to have a few copies at the back of the hall."

CHAPTER NAME BADGES

Members of the Washington Chapter can still order name badges. The badges are of the same design as the Chapter logo. The price for one name badge is \$12.50; the price for two or more is \$10.50.

To order, please do the following:

 Make checks payable to Awards West - PrintWares, Inc 2) Mail checks to:

Tim Underwood 128 Galaxie Rd Chehalis, WA 98532

- 3) Print your name the way you want it to appear on your name badge
- 4) Specify whether you want a pin back or magnetic back.

TRAVELING THE WASHINGTON TRAIL "IRON MEN" OF PATIT CREEK: DAYTON, WA

By Gary Lentz

In the spring of 1806, following a cold, wet, miserable winter on the Pacific coast, the members of the Corps of Volunteers for North Western Discovery started home. Part of the first phase of their route took them from the mouth of the Walla Walla River overland to the Mouth of the Kooskooskie or Clearwater River. The Explorers were on this section of the trail on May 2 when they reached the confluence of the Touchet River and Patit Creek, in today's eastern Washington. After sharing a snack of cow parsnip with their Walla Walla native guides, they continued up Patit Creek a few miles and "encamped on the N. side in a little bottom," according to the journals. They ate dog meat for dinner, then bedded down under a cold rain that later turned to snow. The next day they continued east.

The campsite, next to a county road near Dayton, Washington, remained remote and mostly forgotten for many years. But as the bicentennial of the explorers' stay at the camp approached, residents wondered how they might commemorate this small part of the Lewis and Clark story. Led by former Columbia County commissioner, George Touchette, they came up with the idea of placing life sized steel silhouettes at the campsite.

The owners of the surrounding property, the Broughton Land Company, donated seven and a half acres for the project. In 2000, as an initial step, several



The "Iron Men" of the Corps of Discovery at the Patit Creek camp site.

basalt monoliths were placed on the site, along with a plaque explaining its significance.

Touchette, meanwhile, raised more than \$100,000 from the Washington State Historical Society and the Washington State Bicentennial Advisory Committee to pay for the silhouettes, interpretive signs, and the site's landscaping with native plants. He also enlisted the help of local and state historians to determine what the campsite would have looked like when it was occupied by the explorers.

An actual camp was then set up at the site, complete with tents, horses, dogs, and volunteers - some dressed as explorers and others as the Walla Wallas who accompanied them. The organizers took care to ensure the historical accuracy of clothing, weapons, supplies, and tack. Photographs were taken, then figures and objects were cut from the photos and transferred

to paste boards. The cutouts were used by the firm of NW Art Casting of nearby Umapine, Oregon, as models for the 78 full-size silhouettes. Arranged in a table-top mockup, the cutouts also guided placement of the silhouettes at the site. The silhouettes were set into concrete bases at the site in early 2005, and a dedication took place on July 15.

Visitors can drive to the site by turning east off U.S. 12 in Dayton and continuing two and a half miles along Patit Creek Road. It's especially nice to arrive there on a spring or summer evening and see the explorers going about their chores in the orange glow of a Northwest sunset.

This article originally appeared in the November 2005 issue of We Proceeded On, the quarterly publication of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. It is reprinted here with the kind permission of the author.

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STORY CIRCLES DEDICATED AT SACAJAWEA PARK (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

plateau culture. Our culture has persisted, it has resisted and it has survived somehow against enormous assaults in the last 150 years. We are ... humbled by our culture and how it has sustained us."

The Story Circles were de-

signed by Lin and crafted by John Mendoza, stone artist and owner of Hell's Canyon Rock in Lewiston, Idaho. Mendoza built a custom saw to precisely cut the dense basalt into segments to form the circles. Each circle holds special meaning for Pacific Northwest tribes and historic

importance relative to the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Antone Minthorn, Confluence Board president and member of the Umatilla Reservation, summed it up: "We can all succeed together. Confluence Project is our legacy."



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

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*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 check payable to:

Washington State Chapter LCTHF, inc Mail to: Rob Heacock, Membership chair

13908 E. 27th Ct. Veradale, WA 99037

Dues are kept as low as possible to encourage wide membership. Please consider making supplemental donations to help support the organization.

☐ Please mark if address has changed.

Note: If you have recently renewed your membership, thank you. Please disregard this notice.

The above dues are for the Washington State Chapter only. Bylaws recommend that Chapter members be current members of the National Foundation. Annual dues are: Individual: \$49.00 per year, Family: \$65.00 per year. Membership includes the quarterly magazine WE PROCEEDED ON. Submit dues to LCTHF, inc. P.O. box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 15-17, 2011 - Fri - Sun 'Wintering Over' at Fort Clatsop (see page 3)

January 22, 2011 – Saturday 'Behind the Scene' Collection Tour at the Oregon Historical Society. Go to http://www.ohs.org for more information.

February 5, 2011 - Saturday Washington Chapter annual meeting (see page 1)

March 27, 2011 - Sunday Cathlapotle Plank House at Ridgefield, WA opens for the season.

April Date TBA – Washington Chapter field trip to the John Day Dam and Celilo areas.

The Washington Chapter of the LCTHF can be found on the web at...

www.wa-lcthf.org

Washington State Chapter Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation 19033 102nd Ave SE Renton WA 98055

January 2011 Newsletter

