Volume 14, Issue 3

June 2013 Newsletter

Worthy of Notice



WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, LCTHF

2013 DUES: STILL ONLY \$15.00!

Just a reminder to send in your 2013 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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45TH ANNUAL MEETING BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA JULY 28 - 31

HERITA

From the LCTHF website: www.lewisandclark.org

Celebrate the 45th Annual Foundation Meeting with your friends in North Dakota, and see the all-new Lewis and Clark Gallery in the newly-expanded Lewis & Clark Interpretive

Center at Washburn!

- World-class presenters
- Exciting field trips
- Future Explorers ac-

- See everything that's new at Fort Mandan!

See the full schedule on page 6 - Eds.

Registration Early-Bird Rate (by June 15) \$375 After June 15 \$395 Future Explorers \$150

See the registration form at www.lewisandclark.org -Eds.

Reduced rate for Future Explorers is made possible by a generous gift from the Ohio River Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

Conference registration covers Sunday, July 28-Wednesday, July 31. Refunds will be provided for cancellations made prior to July 15, 2013. - Sertoma Park (mini golf and superslide)

FOUNDATION

- Exploration activities at

Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park

- Interpretive programs and games from certified Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation interpreters

Chapter Booths and Vendor Opportunities

Chapters and vendors are welcome to set up booths in the Courtyard of the conference hotel. Contact Nicolette Borlaug at 877-462-8535 or nborlaug@fortmandan.org to reserve your space.

Conference Hotel

Best Western Ramkota Hotel 800 South 3rd St. Bismarck, ND 58504 (Phone) 701-258-7700

Conference Rate: \$89.00 for single or double Reservation Deadline: July 1, 2013

Ask for Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation rate



Bird's eye view of Fort Mandan

Future Explorers The Future Explorers program for children ages 6-14 will meet all day Monday and Wednesday, and participate in the field trips

on Tuesday. Activities for the Future Explorers program include: - The Dakota Zoo

- Gateway to Science

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WORTHY OF NOTICE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ROBERT HEACOCK

May 2013 President's Message

We are just back from the 2013 Northwest Regional Meeting that was held in the Lewiston and Orofino, Idaho areas. And what a trip it was, attended by about 50 members of the three northwest Chapters. We had wonderful food and great company on the banks of the scenic and 'clear as cristial' Clearwater River, adjacent to Clearwater Crossing. And a visit to the Camas Prairie, with camas plants in full bloom, while we enjoyed the Weippe Camas Festival events and the Weippe Discovery Center. We also took a side trip to the area of the September 20, 1805 meeting between the hospitable Nez Perce natives and the starving Corps of Discovery, having emerged from their brutal trip over Lolo Trail and the Bitterroot Mountains. We then capped off the trip with a jet boat ride up the Snake River and Hells Canyon to the Ordway site, with explanation and commentary by local Nez Perce, and a view of the mouth of the Salmon River. After another fine meal, again provided by Chuck and Penny Raddon, plus wine tasting, we enjoyed an informative talk by John Fisher entitled 'Lewis' Traveling Library', and were able to see several period books.

There are some great events coming in the next few months, some of which are in this newsletter. A more extensive list is in our e-mail notice. If you are not getting this e-mail listing please send me your e-mail address so we can add you to our distribution list. My e-mail address is *heacock1@mindspring.com*.

After the Foundations 45th Annual meeting this summer in Bismark, ND, we will be turning our attention to the 46th Annual meeting your Chapter is hosting in Richland, Washington August 3-6, 2014.

Robert Heacock

SOARING AGAIN - HOW THE MAC BROUGHT THE CONDOR BACK TO LIFE BY JACK NISBET

This article first appeared in The Pacific Northwest Inlander of April 23, 2013

When Scottish naturalist David Douglas arrived in the Northwest in 1825, one of the first creatures he searched for was the bird we now call the California condor. Douglas knew that the Corps of Discovery had delivered a skin of this huge carrion-eater back to Philadelphia, and he was eager both to observe the bird's behavior and procure a specimen for British science.

Lewis and Clark's observations proved correct, and during his time in our region, Douglas personally observed condors from the lower Columbia south along the Willamette Valley and into the Umpqua country. Fur trade hunters told Douglas how the big bird's range followed spawning salmon up the Snake to the Rocky Mountains, and the Scot wrote clear accounts of condor behavior — including a look at that hang-dog roosting posture often captured in cartoons, highlighted by a ruff of puffy feathers around the base of the neck: "They perch on decayed trees with their heads so much retracted as to be with difficulty observed through the long, loose, lanceolate feathers of the collar."

Condors never mixed well with white settlers, and after Douglas' time, the beautiful buzzards went into a precipitous decline. The last documented record in the state of Washington was of an adult on the ground at Grand Coulee in 1899 — perhaps following a salmon run. The last mention from the state of Oregon was submitted when a father-and-son ornithologist team spotted two flying condors in the Umpqua hills during the winter of 1902. Like Douglas, they shot at the birds and missed.

Since the 1980s, when the final few California condors living in the wild were captured and kept alive at the San Diego Zoo, a captive breeding and release program has proved unevenly successful in California and the American Southwest. There has even been preliminary discussion about releasing condors back into the lower Columbia, where Douglas tracked them so diligently two centuries ago.

When the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture (MAC) (located in Spokane, WA) decided to undertake a David Douglas exhibit a few years ago, this background led to talk of somehow including a condor presence in the show. Rob

(Continued on page 3)

SOARING AGAIN - HOW THE MAC BROUGHT THE CONDOR BACK TO LIFE (CONT)

(Continued from page 2)

Faucett, ornithology collection manager at the University of Washington's Burke Museum, performed clerical miracles to obtain the carcass of one of the captive release birds that had died of lead poisoning in the wild. As the Burke's first adult condor carcass worked its way through a maze of Fish and Wildlife paperwork, Faucett called a taxidermist named Igor Caragodin to ask if he might want to tackle a large-scale project.

Caragodin was born in the republic of Moldova, now an independent state located between Romania and Ukraine. A boyhood visit to a nature museum led to a houseful of snakes, rats, lizards and small birds, and by age 14, he had tried his hand at stuffing a great chickadee. In time Caragodin earned a master's degree in ornithology (the study of birds) from the University of Kishinev, where he worked as a bird collector and preparator. In 1988 he moved to Russia's State Darwin Museum of Natural History in Moscow, where in association with the Burke Museum he honed his skills.

In 1998 Caragodin relocated to California, where today he operates a taxidermy service for museums, universities and outdoorsmen. He maintained his association with the Burke, creating a stunning wandering albatross mount for Faucett in 2008, and agreed reluctantly to try his hand at the frozen condor. Igor had worked with African vultures, and knew that compared to the albatross' dense plumage, tight skin structure and sleek body shape, carrion eaters had loose, fuzzy feathers and dumpy bodies. But he said yes.

A meticulous researcher, Caragodin prepared for his task by combing through archives for information about small details such as condor plumage succession and beak, head, and foot color in different age classes. He studied every photo and video he could find on the Internet. At the first opportunity, he traveled to the Grand Canyon to watch the flight mechanics of successfully released birds.

What Caragodin could not prepare for was damage done to the condor body tapped for the Douglas exhibit. Lab analysts had chopped the bird's head and neck to pieces, and also removed large chunks of muscle around the breast and crop, near the throat. He had to spend many hours sculpting clay to fashion a body shape before facing the aesthetic considerations that would bring the bird back to life.

To create a secure mount in a realistic posture, Caragodin welded a threaded bolt into the back of his sculpted body. He draped the skin around this base like a cloak and sewed it closed with tiny invisible stitches. He airbrushed a conservative shade of orange-red onto the naked head. He bandaged the wings and feet into a dramatic turning position, then carefully combed out all the loose feathers right down to the distinctive neck ruff. After a nerve-racking month to make sure the creation was completely dry, his condor mount (along with his classic wandering albatross) arrived in Spokane just in time for the opening of the MAC's David Douglas exhibit. There, the beautiful buzzard of the Columbia soars again.

Jack Nisbet curated the "David Douglas: A Naturalist at Work" exhibit, which continues its run at the MAC through Aug. 25. The exhibit then travels to Tacoma and reopens at the Washington History Museum.

CHAPTER OFFICERS & BOARD		
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CAMAS ... "WATER SEGO" OF THE WEST



Camas Flower in the wild

Camas is a beautiful dark blue late spring flower when it blooms in our area. Like onions, it is a member of the Lily family. When Capt. Lewis first encountered it he used the Shoshoni name, "Passigoo" which came out in his words as, "Pa-shi-co-quarmash". Sego or Mariposa Lilies grow in dry areas, but also provide a round starchy root used as food. Camas or Cammisia qua-

mash, it prefers wet meadows and was known as a "water sego". Later Captain Lewis would refer to it as "Quamash" using one of many Northwestern names for this nutritious root.

The women of the tribes would dig the roots. Shortly after a rain was best. The ground would be soft

Digging Stick pc

by Gary Lentz

and the digging sticks would only need to be stuck in the ground beside the flower stalk, angular pressure applied and the root would be lifted out of the ground. Members of several NW tribes including the Umatilla, Cayuse, Walla Walla, and Wanapums still gather the roots for annual roots festivals each spring. It is best to gather them when it blooms. There is another plant that appears similar to Camas. Death

Camas is also found in the same meadows as the edible Common Camas in many places. When in bloom, the Death Camas has a cream-yellow flower. As the Common Camas

ages it's flowers turn a light shade and

to an inexperienced root gatherer it could be confused. When Common Camas is in bloom it is bright blue to bright purple with yellow centers. It also a good time to gather because the root sugars and starches are at a high point. After transporting the roots, usually in hand-woven baskets, back to the village they were processed. When the roots were cleaned they were placed in either baskets or mats made from a variety of weaving materials such as cattails. Large pits were dug, the pits were lined with stones, and fires were built in them. When the stones were hot, the coals were removed, set aside, and then the baskets of roots were set in-



Camas Habitat side. More mats covered and pro-

tected the roots and the hot coals were placed back inside the pit. Dirt was placed over the pit, and the roots were left for about 24 hours. When the roots were dug out they would be dark brown and caramelized. The brown syr-(Continued on page 5)

CHAPTER NAME BADGES

Members of the Washington Chapter can still order name badges. The badges have 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 each. To order, make checks payable to **Awards West - PrintWares, Inc.**

Mail checks to: **Tim Underwood, 128 Galaxie Rd, Chehalis, WA 98532**. Print your name the way you want it to appear on your name badge and specify whether you want a pin back or a magnetic back.

CAMAS ... "WATER SEGO" OF THE WEST (CONT.)

⁽Continued from page 4)



Camas Harvest

upy flesh was worked into cakes, dried, and used as an additive to soups or as a snack. High in sugar and taste they were always a treat.

There is one drawback to eating camas roots, however. The men of the Expedition discovered that drawback while at the Idaho camp of the Nez Perces in October of 1805. On the 5th of October Capt. Clark wrote, "Nothing to eate except dried fish & roots. Capt Lewis & myself eate a supper of roots boiled, which Swelled us in Such a manner that we were Scercely able to breathe for Several hours....". They discovered, as many after them would, that camas roots, especially raw or poorly cooked ones, contain a great quantity of an amino acid known as cysteine. As it breaks down in the digestive system it releases gasses. This "wind in the bowels" can cause great discomfort. For nearly 3 days at the Nez Perces camp the

men could hardly work, ride horses, or build canoes due to the intestinal discomfort. Prepared properly the gases were reduced.

Despite the side effects the roots were nutritious and provided starch, sugar and other dietary requirements. They were purchased for rather minor trade items and made an excellent side dish to the meats available. We often hear culinary preferences in our culture as for "meat and potatoes". Dog, elk, deer, and buffalo provided a bulk of the meat. Camas and Wapato provided the potatoes.



Camas roots in cattail mats ready for baking

One unusual use of the camas root was accomplished by Private Collins on October 21, 1805, on the way down the Columbia River near the Great Falls. Capt. Lewis wrote, "...one of our party, J.Collins presented us with Some verry good beer made of the Pashi-co-quar-mash bread, which bread is the remains of what was laid in as Stores of Provisions, at the first flat heads or Cho-punnish Nation at the head of the Kooskoske river which by being frequently wet molded & Sowered &c." Lewis used the term, "Pa-shi-co-quar-mash" that he learned first from the Shoshonis. How did Collins pull off this highly regarded fermentation? Perhaps by placing the moldy bread in an elk bladder, adding water, tying it off and carrying it in a canoe for nearly three weeks? We may never know just how he did it but he used the versatile camas root and received praise from his commanding officer.

Camas still grows throughout most of its native range. In fact,

you can find it only a few blocks from the Capitol Building in Olympia growing along some vacant lots and sidewalks. As hearty as it is tasty, camas reminds us of our past and brightens our present. Its future is up to us.

We suggest viewing this issue of WON on the Chapter website at www.wa-lcthf.org to view Gary's photos in color -Eds.



Camas roots and dried fish

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45th Annual Foundation Meeting Schedule

Friday, July 26

12:00-5:00 p.m. LCTHF Board Meeting

Saturday, July 27

8:00 a.m.-12:00 pm LCTHF Board Meeting 1:00-5:00 p.m. Lewis and Clark Trail Visitor Center Network Workshop 6:00-8:00 p.m. Network Reception

Sunday, July 28

Registration Opens 8:30-9:30 a.m. Past President's Breakfast 9:30-11:00 a.m. Chapter Officers Meetings 1:00-2:00 p.m. pre-meeting excursion (\$10) Lewis & Clark Riverboat Cruise – Limit of 75 people 4:00-5:00 p.m. New Members and First Time Attendees Meeting 5:00-6:30 p.m. Dakota Institute Authors Panel and Book Signing 7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception with Heavy Hors d'oeuvres

Monday, July 29

Registration Opens 6:00-7:00 a.m. Wellness Walk 7:00-8:30 a.m. Breakfast 8:30-8:45 a.m. Opening Ceremonies with Presentation of Colors

Monday, July 29 (continued)

8:45-10:15 a.m. Foundation Annual Meeting 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tracy Potter, Travels with LaVerendrye 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Lunch and Panel with Larry Epstein, Margaret Gorski, Barb Kubik, Gary Moulton, Dick Williams, Proceeding On: 45 Years on the Trail, Telling the Storv! 2:00-3:00 p.m. John Fisher, Travel and Exploration 3:00-3:30 p.m. Snack Break with Chapter Booths and Vendors 3:30-4:30 p.m. TBD 4:45-6:00 p.m. Kari Cutting and Kathy Neset, The Bakken: The Best is Yet to Come and Lewis and Clark Would Be Amazed! 6:00-6:30 p.m. Break with Chapter Booths and Vendors 6:30-8:00 p.m. Dinner with James Ronda Video Presentation

Tuesday, July 30

6:00-7:00 a.m. Wellness Walk 7:00-8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Field Trip to Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, Fort Mandan, Fort Clark and Knife River Indian Villages with Lunch Tuesday, July 30 (continued)

6:00 p.m. Dinner on Your Own in Downtown Bismarck (shuttles provided)

Wednesday, July 31

6:00-7:00 a.m. Wellness Walk 7:00-9:00 a.m. Breakfast 9:00-10:00 a.m. John Logan Allen, Passage Through the Garden Revisited 10:15-11:15 a.m. TBD 11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Break with Chapter Booths and Vendors 12:00-1:15 p.m. Foundation Awards Luncheon 1:30-2:15 p.m. Kevin Kirkey, Update on Fort Mandan Preservation 2:30-3:15 p.m. Clay Jenkinson, Enlightened Travel: Lewis & Clark and Prince Maximilian 3:15-3:30 p.m. Snack Break with Chapter Booths and Vendors 3:30-4:30 p.m. David Nicandri & Clay Jenkinson, Enlightened Travels continued and Travels of Captain Cook 4:30-5:00 p.m. Author Book Signing with Chapter Booths and Vendors 5:00-7:30 p.m. Social and Silent Auction 6:30-8:30 p.m. Closing Banquet featuring dinner with President Jefferson and David Nicandri

It's time to reveal more of the cast of our imaginary film, The Adventures of Lewis & Clark. This time our focus turns to five of the eight members of Sergeant Gass' squad.

We revealed earlier that James Whitmore would portray Sergeant Gass in our mythical movie cast. But who would play the men in his squad? Read

on!

Robert Mitchum as Joseph Field and Robert Ryan as Reuben Field.

Their exploits in the journals per-

suade us that the Field brothers were as tough as boot leather; Mitchum and Ryan fit the bill.



See them together in the film noir classic, Crossfire.

Jack Webb as Robert Frazier. We know that Frazier kept a journal,

Ryan

unfortunately has been lost to history. Who was ever better at providing a nononsense narrative than Jack Webb in

Webb Dragnet? If you think Webb a bit too straight laced, search the web for his old radio show, Pat Novak, for Hire.

which

Pedro Armendariz as Jean Baptiste LePage. Armendariz was a star in Mexican cinema, but he



may be best known to American film buffs for his roles in 3 Godfathers, Fort Apache, and From Russia With Love.

Armendariz

James Arness as Hugh McNeal. Its easy to imagine the tall, redheaded young Arness, before Gunsmoke made him a house-



Arness

hold name, standing astride the source stream of the mighty Missouri River, proclaiming thanks to the heavens that he had lived to see it. See him with John Wayne in Hondo.

More of Gass' squad in the next newsletter. J.O.

NEXT NEWSLETTER: SGT. GASS' SQUAD PT. 2

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL		
Name(s)		
Street		
City		
State	Zip	
Phone*(H)	(W)	

Mitchum

E-mail *

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: Layne Corneliuson 19033 102nd Ave SE Renton, WA 98055 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.

*Optional -will be included with membership roster

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

July 28-31: 45th Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Bismarck, ND (see page 1 and page 6 for more info)

August 16-18: The Saltmakers Return, Seaside, OR - a Corps of Discovery living history encampment. For more info, visit the Fort Clatsop website: www.nps.gov/lewi/planyourvisit/saltmakers-return.htm

August 25: Last day of "David Douglas: a Naturalist at Work" exhibit at Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, Spokane, WA (see pages 2 and 3 for more information)

September 7: Washington Chapter meeting at the Clymer Museum and Gallery, Ellensburg, WA (more details in the next issue of WON)

September 27-28: Heritage Days, Sacajawea State Park, Pasco WA

August 3-6, 2014: 46th Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Richland, Washington. (Much more information to follow).

Visit our Washington Chapter website...www.wa-lcthf.org

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

June 2013 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.