Volume 15, Issue 3 October 2014 Newsletter

# Worthy of Notice



WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, LCTHF

#### 2014 DUES: STILL ONLY \$15.00!

Just a reminder to send in your 2014 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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## FALL CHAPTER MEETING BEACON ROCK STATE PARK, WA OCTOBER 18, 2014

"...a remarkable high detached rock Stands in a bottom on the Stard Side near the lower point of this Island on the Stard. Side about 800 feet high and 400 paces around, we call the Beaten rock." - William Clark, October 31, 1805

Lewis and Clark would later change their minds, and rename the Columbia River monolith with the name it bears today: Beacon Rock.

Yet the prominent geographic feature was also called Castle Rock for many decades, a name given by other explorers.

However, the property would eventually be acquired by Henry J. Biddle - a descendent of the first editor of the Lewis and Clark journals, Nicholas Biddle. Henry Biddle convinced the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to restore the name to Beacon Rock. The Biddle family donated the rock to Washington State in 1935 for use as a park.

A century after Henry Biddle preserved Beacon Rock for posterity, the Washington Chapter will meet at Beacon Rock State Park, near Skamania, WA, on Saturday, Oct. 18th.

We will gather in the main parking lot, and the meeting will begin at 10 A.M. The Fall meeting of the will focus on various Chapter business.

A potluck lunch will follow the meeting at about noon. In the afternoon, there will be a hike of the trail to the top of Beacon Rock for those who want to participate. The park also features other trails for anyone who prefers an easier hike.

Don't forget—you will need to pay a \$10 parking fee at the park, or display a Washington State Parks Discover Pass in your vehicle.



**Beacon Rock** 

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Robert Heacock

October, 2014

A recent exploration on the Snake River reminded me of how fun it can be to see what is around the next corner, and the satisfaction of an outing in the beautiful Pacific Northwest we live in. Being immersed in spectacular basalt cliffs and enormous bars of flood gravel, we also got to retrace the river miles traversed by the Expedition. It is a great thing to be able to take advantage of such wonders, and I hope that we never become complacent of the need to protect and enjoy such treasures.

The Foundation's 46th Annual Meeting was enjoyed by about 125 members, with more than half the group also enjoying the pre and post meeting trips that included jet boat trips and land based tours. With that now behind us, we are looking forward to Chapter field trips and gatherings.

Our Fall event will be Saturday, October, 18 and we will meet at 10:00 AM at Beacon Rock following by potluck lunch at 12:00 and then walk the gentle Biddle trail up Beacon Rock. This walk will help us to prepare for October, 2015 which will be the 100th anniversary of Henry J. Biddle starting to build the trail to the top of Beacon Rock, a two year project that would not have been possible without his foresight and effort to protect and preserve this unique Northwest icon.

The Chapter's 19th Annual meeting will be February 1, 2015 in Tacoma at the Washington State History Museum, with a program and speaker at 10:30 AM and the Chapter business meeting at 1:00 PM, followed by a board meeting.

May 29, 2015 is the dedication the Confluence Project at Chief Timothy Park near Clarkston, another event that we are fortunate to be able to attend.

See you on the Trail

Robert Heacock

## CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Robert Heacock - Spokane Valley WA

Vice President: Kris Townsend - Spokane WA

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Director at-large: Tim Underwood, Chehalis, WA

Director at-large: Doc Wesselius, Centralia, WA

Webmaster: Kris Townsend Worthy of Notice Editors: Layne Corneliuson & John Orthmann



October 7, 2014

To Whom it may Concern:

RE: Humanities Washington - Washington Stories Fund LOI Project Name: Connected to the Waters: Community Stories of the Columbia and Snake Rivers

On behalf of the Washington State Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., it is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the "Connected to the Waters: Community Stories of the Columbia and Snake Rivers" program proposed by the Folk & Traditional Arts Program of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. We strongly encourage Humanities Washington to consider the grant application by Washington State Parks, in order to launch this effort to provide the public with live programs and digital presentations about the traditions and heritage of the people who live along the two great rivers.

Washington State Parks has its own well-established tradition of providing humanities education to the people of Washington; interpretive programs have been part of the very fabric of the Parks for decades. The Washington State Chapter of the LCTHF has enjoyed a positive and mutually supportive relationship with Washington State Parks ever since the founding of our Chapter in 1997. The Chapter and its members have collaborated with Parks for many interpretive programs, such as "Heritage Days" in Sacajawea Park, and "Ocian In View" at Cape Disappointment State Park and Fort Columbia State Park.

The Washington State Chapter supports the plan for doing fieldwork along the Columbia and Snake Rivers, as the first stage of the "Connected to the Waters" program. Among the many and varied benefits of this exciting program, we believe that it will help to promote public interest in the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, as well as the preservation of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail; after all, in Washington State, the Snake River and Columbia River are the Trail!

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission as they seek external funding to support a project designed to enlighten the public about the traditions and heritage of the people who live along these two important rivers. Programs which can help our citizens learn about the people and history of the State of Washington will benefit communities throughout the state

If I can answer any questions or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert Heacock 2014 President, Washington State Chapter Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Spokane Valley, Washington

The letter above has been sent to Humanities Washington to express support for this new Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission initiative.

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# TRAVELING THE WASHINGTON TRAIL

### WALLULA GAP DETOUR - PART 2

By "Doc" Wesselius

Leaving the Corps of Discovery's camp of April 27, 1806, Captain Lewis reported, "at a distance of fifteen miles passed through a country similar to that of yesterday; the hills at the extremity of this distance again approached the river and are rocky abrupt and 300 feet high." Thus began a detour around Wallula Gap for the corps on its homeward-bound journey; leaving the northern banks of the Columbia River and traveling cross-country around basalt cliffs to return to the river again further upstream.

Scant information on the detour route is recorded by the journalists of the expedition, plus the route is not marked on Captain Clark's course map. Captain Lewis reported, "we ascended the hill and marched through a high plains for 9 miles when we returned to the river, ..." Historians have also been particularly reticent about details and the route of the cross-country trail taken across the Horse Heaven Hills in Benton County, Washington.

After researching the northern terminus of the detour route on horseback with a local guide and exploring trails to Yellepit's fishing camps, the next challenge was to determine the southern terminus of the detour route taken over two hundred years ago by the expedition. Determining the location of the April 26, 1806 campsite was crucial for determining where the corps ascended to the high-plains of the Horse Heaven Hills. The campsite was not marked on Clark's course map; however, there are clues in the journals for its location. A chapter field trip a few years ago followed the clues, and concluded that the campsite was downriver from Plymouth and in the vicinity of Four Mile Canyon. For fifteen miles from this campsite the corps followed an ancient trail along the banks of the Columbia River, then detoured



around the basalt cliffs of Wallula Gap to cross the high-plains before returning to the river. Unfortunately, except on the steep, difficult terrain of the north and south terminuses of the trail, the ancient Native American trail has been obliterated by today's agribusiness.

Switzler Canyon is fifteen miles upriver from Four Mile Canyon, and can be observed from Sand Station Recreation Area located across the river in Oregon. From that vista, basalt cliffs and talus slopes can be seen approaching the northern riverbank, blocking passage along the shoreline. To continue the investigation of the Wallula Gap detour route, horses were employed to survey the area and to assess the feasibility of climbing from the Columbia River to the Horse Heaven Hills.

(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 \$17.00; the price for two or more is \$13.50 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.

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## WALLULA GAP DETOUR - PART 2 (CONT.)

In late April, ten riders - accompanied by the guide of the previous investigation - started at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Horse Heaven Habitat Management Unit trailhead at McNary Dam, and rode upstream following a fishing access dirt road. It was the same course taken by the Corps of Discovery, except that the expedition followed an ancient Native American trail along the northern banks of the Columbia River in 1806. The Wallula Lake impoundment behind McNary Dam and railroad line construction has now resulted in the route being closer

to the basalt cliffs which prevent access to the high

plains.

With the many 20<sup>th</sup> Century changes, the modernday explorers could only surmise what the "Mussel shell rapids" and Native American fishing camps looked like before they were inundated by the rising water behind McNary Dam. However, reading passages from the journals, the surveyors in our party marveled at the observation skills of the expedition's journalists. The sandy road often crossed rocky scree and slowed the progress of the horses as riders passed under the spectacular perpendicular basalt rocks, watching for nesting curlews and rattlesnakes - just as Lewis and Clark did.

Continuing upriver, several rocky canyons with steep sides were passed that were not appropriate for moccasin clad Native Americans, let alone a horse trail. At Switzler Canyon, however, there was an



**Basalt Cliffs above the Columbia River** 

opening in the basalt terraces east of the canyon walls that provided a sloping access, free of basalt talus, to the plains above. Unfortunately a four-wheel drive track has now obliterated any evidence of a trail, which was used for centuries by Native Americans, first on foot, and later with the aid of horses, to travel to and from the Columbia River fisheries and trading at Celilo Falls.

With confidence in their discovery, the riders easily rode to the high-plains and saw exactly what Ordway had seen – "assended a high plain where we Saw an extensive country around us & not a tree to be Seen." Respecting the "No Trespassing" signs, the riders stopped to take coordinate readings. Remarkably, from this spot, it was a



The Author ascends Switzler Canyon to the High Plains

straight line North to the wide gully which, on our previous ride, we determined had been followed by the expedition to the river; there, they met Yellepit, the leader of the hospitable Walla Walla. The ancient trail through the high-plains avoided deep ravines and escarpments of the high plains before descending to riverine fisheries above Wallula Gap.

The corps spent two nights at a Walla Walla fishing camp and was entertained by Walla Walla and Yakama tribal members. Afterward, they crossed the Columbia River and continued overland through the Touchet River Valley to the junction of the Clearwater and Snake rivers. The trail with its Wallula Gap detour was an extension of the Nez Perce Trail, known as "Celilo Falls Trail" by Native Americans.

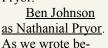
#### ADVENTURES OF LEWIS & CLARK THE

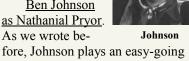
MOVIE THAT NEVER WAS (PART VIII): THE

PRYOR'S SQUAD

We continue to reveal more of the cast of our imaginary film, The

Adventures of Lewis & Clark. This time, the spotlight shines on the squad of Sergeant Prvor.





but capable Sgt. Pryor. Richard Widmark as John



Collins. Collins was a troublemaker, but apparently too useful to leave behind much like the sort of driven, abrasive characters portrayed by Widmark in numerous films such as

Widmark

Halls of Montezuma and The Alamo. Jose Ferrer as Pierre Cruzatte.

Ferrer's charismatic, Oscar-winning

performance in the title role of Cyrano de Bergerac persuades us that he is the perfect choice to play Cruzatte, the lively boatman and musician.



Ferrer

Ken Curtis as George Gibson.



Curtis

Curtis made a career of playing quirky, yet reliable sidekicks in The Searchers, The Alamo and Gunsmoke, so we like him as Gibson. who labored, hunted and played

the fiddle for the Corps.

Tim Holt as Thomas P. Howard. Perhaps best remembered for his role

in The Treasure of the Sierra Madre, B-Western star Holt will get to explain himself to Sgt. Ordway after he climbs



the wall at Fort Mandan.

Anthony Quinn as François Labiche. Two-time Academy Award



Quinn

-winner Quinn plays perhaps the most underrated member of the expedition - one of the most skilled boatmen, and a key translator in the multi-language talks with the tribes

west of the Rocky Mountains.

Harry Carey Jr. as George Shannon. Carry always seemed to play the wet-behind-theears young pup in John Ford's westerns, such as She Wore a Yellow



*Ribbon*; therefore, he is a natural as the bright but unseasoned Shannon.

Ernest Borgnine as John Shields.



Borgnine

Borgnine played many tough characters in his career, but he won the Best Actor Oscar playing a lonely bachelor in *Marty*. He seems just right for the multifaceted Shields, the indispensable artifi-

cer of the Corps, and the only known married man deemed worthy of enlistment by the Captains.

Richard Jaeckel as Peter Weiser.

A youthful Jaeckel portrays one of the youngest recruits; as he matured, he would routinely play "sarge" roles in films like The Dirty Dozen and Ulzana's Raid. See his memorable



Jaeckel

death scene in Sometimes a Great Notion, which earned him a Best Supporting Actor nomination.

Karl Malden as Joseph Whitehouse. The Oscar-winning character

actor usually played sturdy, earnest average Joes in pictures like A Streetcar Named Desire: thus, he is our choice to portray Whitehouse, the tailor and "skin



Malden

dresser" of the expedition. His other notable credits include On the Waterfront, Patton and The Streets of San Francisco.

#### THANKS!

Thanks to the **many** chapter members who included a donation when they joined and/or renewed their membership for 2014. The donations ranged between \$5 and \$50 and were all greatly appreciated.

## More Thanks

Thanks to Ken Sweeney of Kennewick Washington for his generous donation, to cover the cost of van transportation to and from the living history encampment, between the 46th Annual Meeting hotel and Sacajawea State Park, .

**NEXT NEWSLETTER: NATIVE LEADERS** 

## THANKS TO 46TH ANNUAL MEETING VOLUNTEERS

The Washington State Chapter thanks its many members, as well as other volunteers, who generously donated their time and effort to making the 46th Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation a success.

Rob Heacock, Co-Chair Rennie Kubik, Co-Chair Steve Lee, Treasurer Kris Townsend, technology Jeanne Newton, pre/post trip coordinator Hal Stoltz - vendors Barb Kubik, troubleshooter John Orthmann, encampment

Encampment transportation:
Layne Corneliuson
Jeremy Gwinn
John Pontarolo
Ken Sweeney
Doug ??

Registration:
Steve and Kathryn Wang
Bonnie Chew
Joan Howard
Shelly Kath (Montana)
Barb Kubik
Larry and Ellie McClure
Peg Miller
Ellen Miyasato
Margaret and Al Nelson



Nik & Cathy Taranik

Tamastslikt & Wallula Gap Tour guides: Rob Heacock Barb Kubik Doc Wesselius

Sacajawea Park visit interpreters:

Glen Allison John Fisher Doc Wesselius

Encampment:
Hog Heaven Muzzleloaders/
Bitterroot Corps
Lewis and Clark Honor Guard

Thanks again to everyone for making the Annual Meeting a memorable experience.

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Name(s)	
Street	
City	
State	Zip
Phone*(H)	(W)
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.

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

<sup>\*</sup>Optional –will be included with membership roster

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

**October 18:** (Sat.) Washington State chapter fall meeting at Beacon Rock State Park at 10:00am (see page one for more information)

**November 7:** (Fri.) "Ocian In View" at the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum, Ilwaco, WA, 360-642-3446. Speaker, Barb Kubik: Recruiting Volunteers for the Corps of Discovery"

**November 8:** (Sat.) 1:00pm – 3:00pm 'How Horriable is the day' at the Knappton Cove Heritage Center featuring the Pacific Northwest Living Historians, Hot cider & History will be served. Location is 3 miles upriver from the north side of the Astoria/Megler Bridge.

November 11: (Tue.) 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State of Washington, 42<sup>nd</sup> State in the Union

**December 6-7:** (Sat.) Oregon Chapter bus tour to Dismal Nitch and a potluck dinner at the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum in Ilwaco. **Sunday** lecture in Gearhart with Gloria Linkey, Jim Sayce, & Dick Basch, speakers, Sponsored by the Oregon Chapter

**February 7, 2015:** (Sat.) 10:30 AM - Washington Chapter meeting at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma

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

October 2014 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.