Volume 17, Issue 3

September 2016 Newsletter

Worthy of Notice



WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, LCTHF

2016 DUES: STILL ONLY \$15.00!

Just a reminder to send in your 2016 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 FIELD TRIP Heritage Days - Sacajawea State Park, Pasco WA September 23 - 25

The Washington State Chapter will journey to Sacajawea State Park for our Fall field trip, and enjoy the annual Heritage Days program presented by the Friends of Sacajawea State Park.

THURSDAY, Sept. 22: Camping available at Sacajawea for Chapter members.

The Park will provide a dry camping area (no water or electric hookups) for Chapter members who want to camp there. If want to camp, you must arrive on Thursday (park volunteers will be too busy with the event on Fri. & Sat., to deal with arriving campers). Campers should plan to stay through Sat. night.

Camping is \$13 per night, payable by cash or check only. *Contact Barb & Rennie Kubik by email if you want to camp:* barbjkubik@gmail.com

FRIDAY, Sept. 23: Chapter Information Booth - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

The Friday Heritage Days program is focused on school groups visiting interpretive stations throughout the Park between 9 A.M. and 4 P.M., but the Park will still be open to the public (who will need to display a WA State Parks Discover Pass, or pay the \$10 daily parking fee).

Chapter members are needed as volunteers to staff our information booth at the event, on both Friday and Saturday. Volunteers should contact Barb Kubik. A temporary parking pass will be provided to Info Booth volunteers.

SATURDAY, Sept. 24: Enjoy the Heritage Days program.

Saturday is an unscheduled day, when Chapter members are free to explore Sacajawea State Park and enjoy all the activities of the event.

See the Lewis and Clark encampment of the Pacific Northwest Living Historians, where Lewis and Clark slept in 1805. Enjoy performances by Native American dancers and singers. Tour the mountain man camps. Watch blacksmiths and flint-knappers demonstrate skills that enabled the explorers and pioneers survive. View vintage steam engines in operation.

Because September 24th is National Public Lands Day, Saturday is a free day in Washington State Parks, and no parking fees will be charged.

The annual Council Fire will be held in the evening at 7:30 P.M., featuring songs & storytellers.

SUNDAY, Sept. 25: Chapter Meeting and Speakers

10:30 A.M.: Fall Chapter Meeting will be held. Speakers will include:

Sharon Stewart:

Friends of Sacajawea State Park Tracy Kessler:

Jaycees' Haunted Forest in the park. Mike Lowry:

Geo-caching in the park.

On Sunday you will need to display a WA State Parks Discover Pass, or pay the \$10 daily parking fee per vehicle, *except for Info Booth volunteers!*

WORTHY OF NOTICE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Orthmann

THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL HERITAGE FOUNDATION NEEDS YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS

Dear friends of the Washington State Chapter,

Please report any time which you have spent volunteering for Lewis & Clark-related events and projects for the 2016 LCTHF fiscal year, beginning Oct. 1, 2015, and ending Sept. 30, 2016. This information helps the Foundation to obtain funding to continue its mission.

Examples of eligible volunteer activities:

- LCTHF Meetings
- Chapter Board Meetings
- Chapter Meetings
- Committee Meetings
- Meeting Preparation & Reports
- Trail Stewardship Projects
- Travel Time to & from Meetings
- Chapter Projects
- Other time devoted to sharing the story of the Corps of Discovery, such as attending or participating in related lectures, living history programs, etc.

The hours should also include any other volunteer service related to your interest in Lewis and Clark, not just Chapter or LCTHF events and activities. Please add any volunteer hours which you have planned between now and the end of September. A detailed breakdown of the hours isn't necessary, however the Foundation needs the total volunteer hours by our Chapter.

Please email the volunteer hours to me at this email address: washingtonstate@lewisandclark.org

Or you can mail the Individual Volunteer Hours form, found on the website, to:

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

Please send your volunteer hours by September 30th.

Your Obt. Svt., John Orthmann

CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: John Orthmann - Des Moines WA

Vice President: Rennie Kubik - Vancouver, WA

Secretary: Layne Corneliuson - Renton WA

Treasurer: Nick Giovanni - Vancouver, WA

Immediate Past President: Robert Heacock

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Director at-large: Doc Wesselius - Centralia, WA

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

WHAT IF? Alternate routes to the Columbia River By Rob Heacock

During the winter of 1804 -1805 at Fort Mandan, the leaders of the Lewis and Clark Expedition were advised by the Mandan Indians to meet the Lemhi Shoshone Indians for horses to get over the Rocky Mountains before winter, and complete the Expeditions journey to the western ocean. The Expedition had also been instructed by President Thomas Jefferson to locate the source of the Missouri River, and to explore the Columbia River or 'River of the West'.

But what if they had alternate information or goals? Would there have been a quicker way to go from Three Forks to Cape Disappointment without going all the way south on the Jefferson and Beaverhead Rivers to Lemhi Pass. then north on the Bitterroot River to the Lolo Trail? And what if exploring most of the Columbia River was more feasible or beneficial than finding the source of the Missouri River? We must use caution in making assumptions. But given the Expedition's methods and activities prior to this point, and a good dose of caution, we can propose some reasonably likely scenarios.

The Expedition's trip through most of Montana would have been unchanged. But when they reached the Three Forks, Montana area, their trip could have taken a significant turn. The fact that horses were not available at Three Forks renders all other observations and arguments moot. But if horses were available in the Three Forks area, consider the following hypothetical scenarios.

The distance from Three Forks west to Butte, Montana is only about sixty miles, and would have taken them over the Continental Divide, and into the Columbia River Basin. From the area twenty miles west of Butte called Warm Springs, they could have easily followed what is now the Clark Fork River northwest to Missoula. Montana. Along about half of that ninety-six mile route the Clark Fork River is hardly large enough for canoes. But with the abundance of timber, if they desired to maintain a water route they could have built canoes nearly at any time they felt the river was large enough to accommodate them, as it does gain in size as it approaches the Missoula area.

From Missoula, it would have been an easy eleven mile walk to the Lolo Trail if horses were available, and if they still felt a need to take the Lolo route to the Clearwater River as they actually did with Old Toby. Or they could have stayed on a water route and gone from Missoula seventy one miles to St Regis, Montana, then one hundred fourteen miles to Lake Pend Oreille at what is appropriately known as Clark Fork, Idaho. This has the added benefit of the additional flow from the Bitterroot River and other streams joining with the Clark Fork River (*see the chart on page 5*).

More options abound at Lake Pend Oreille. If the Expedition desired to maintain a water route, from Clark Fork they could have made a westward traverse of the northern end of Lake Pend Oreille. continued on the Pend Oreille River, and then north, slightly into what is now Canada, to join the actual Columbia River near Trail. British Columbia. This would have made for a lengthy trip on the Columbia of more than seven hundred fifty miles, plus their Pend Oreille River mileage of one hundred forty miles for a total of eight hundred ninety miles. But that route would have provided the long sought after opportunity to clearly and authoritatively document the northern reaches of the Columbia River, and they would have eventually reached their goal of the Pacific Ocean.

Another route from Lake Pend Oreille would have been traveling south the thirty mile length of the lake, abandoning their canoes at the southern end near today's Bayview, and then striking out forty nine miles by land for the Spokane River, or even the Snake River.

(Continued on page 4)

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.

WHAT IF? (CONT.)

(Continued from page 3)

They probably would have heard that the Spokane River would be their quickest option to meet the Columbia River; a native guide may have been desirable to alert them to any falls they might have encountered, including those in present-day downtown Spokane. Horses would have also been available from the Spokane area natives, and timber would have been available for canoes anywhere in the area.

Including the Snake River in this alternate plan is not likely, as this would have involved a long overland trip of an additional ninety-plus miles south to the Lewiston, Idaho area, and then east up the Clearwater River to secure timber for canoes. They would have found no timber on the lower Snake River. In addition, before striking out from the Spokane area to head further south, the Expedition would have found out from the natives about the larger Columbia River a short distance to the west. They would have recognized the Columbia River as their immediate and urgent goal, and they would have focused on reaching the area by any means necessary, which would have precluded any trip to the Snake River.

Assuming the Expedition reached the Spokane River in the Post Falls, Idaho area at twenty six miles from Lake Pend Oreille, they likely would have been at today's Corbin Park, which is below the narrow rocky chute and falls that create Lake Coeur d'Alene. They then would have built new canoes, and had a river route of six hundred thirty nine miles on the Columbia, plus exactly one hundred miles on the Spokane River, for a total of seven hundred thirty nine river miles. They probably would have felt it better to make canoes at Post Falls, as opposed to securing horses to get them to the Columbia so they could avoid the expense of horses, and probably secure better timber in the Post Falls area.

Making canoes below the falls at Spokane would have also been a possibility, especially if they felt a high river flow at the Spokane Falls was not manageable for cordeling canoes down the falls, and portaging their gear. This may have also necessitated another of Clark's reconnoitering trips, this one of about fifty miles round trip from the Corbin Park area to the Spokane Falls.

From the mouth of the Spokane River they would have been able to make a long but varied Columbia River trip past Grand Coulee, the Omak River (at what was later Fort Okanogan), several other smaller rivers coming from the Cascade Mountains, and then to the mouth of the Snake River. From there they would have been on the actual route which they did use in October and November of 1805.

The April and May 1806 return would have been probably unchanged and consistent with the actual Overland Trail, but they would have been able to see more variety of country for the first time, plus make the attendant claim to American ownership.

In the chart on the opposite page, note that the mileage figures for the larger rivers (Columbia, Snake, and Pend Oreille) are accurate and based on actual figures. The smaller rivers and land routes have approximate figures.

In reviewing the mileage figures, it seems that the actual Lolo Trail trip was in fact one of the most efficient options, with the possible Butte-Missoula-Lolo Trail trip the most efficient, but only by approximately 115 land miles.

Note that no natives were encountered on the Lolo Trail, so there was no need to make diplomatic stops. Along all other routes, the expedition would have met many natives, which would have necessitated stopping for diplomatic needs and securing food. But they would have met their goal of crossing the Rocky Mountains before winter, so any time extra taken to meet the variety of natives along the Columbia River would have been informative and time well spent politically, and need not have been done in haste.

If any of the above scenarios would have played out, we would not have had Lewis's view when standing at Lemhi Pass, nor Sacajawea's reunion with Cameahwait. The events of what could have occurred on an alternate northern route can only be left to conjecture. But an Expedition route on the upper Columbia River in Washington would have considerably strengthened the claim of the United States to the area. The United States eventually prevailed in their claim to most of the Columbia River Basin, as other factors such as the rise and decline of fur trade, later economic development and diplomatic wrangling eventually

Segment 1 Actual		Segment 2 Butte - Lolo			Segment 3 Butte - Trail, BC River			Segment 4 Butte- Spokane River			
	River miles	Over- land		River miles	Over- land		River miles	Over- land		River miles	Over- land
Three Forks - Lemhi Pass		139	Three Forks – Warm Springs		77	Three Forks – Warm Springs		77	Three Forks – Warm Springs		77
Lemhi Pass - Lolo Trail		160	Warm Springs- Missoula		96	Warm Springs- Missoula		96	Warm Springs- Missoula		96
Lolo Trail - Canoe Camp		167	Missoula- Lolo Trail		11	Missoula – Lake Pend Oreille	71 + 114 = 185		Missoula – Lake Pend Oreille	71 + 114 = 185	
Canoe Camp - Cape Disap- pointment	40 + 139 + 325 = 504		Lolo Trail – Canoe Camp		167	Lake Pend Oreille – Cape Dis- appointm ent – via Trail BC	892		Lake Pend Oreille – Spokane	30	49
			Canoe camp - Cape Disap- pointment	504					Spokane- Cape Dis- appointm ent	72 + 639 = 711	
Totals: Actual	504	466	Total: Butte - Lolo Trail	504	351	Total: Butte – Pend Oreille River	1077	173	Total: Butte - Spokane	926	222
Grand Totals	970			855			1250			1148	

WHAT IF? (CONT.)

(Continued from page 4)

settled the boundary with Canada at the 49th Parallel with the Oregon Treaty of 1846. However, the Lewis and Clark Expedition directly or indirectly led to all those factors.

So our conclusion can be that in spite of having to go on their circuitous path - south to Lemhi Pass, then north over Lost Trail Pass to the Lolo Trail - in retrospect that was a satisfactory option, perhaps even the most desirable option, even if horses had been available to them at Three Forks.

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ЈОНИ FISHER RECREATES PLANT PRESS



Alexander von Humbolt

John Fisher of the Pacific Northwest Living Historians has informed Worthy of Notice of yet another of his many projects to rediscover the technology of the Lewis and Clark era. He has recreated plant presses of a style which might have been used by Captain Lewis.

"I have wondered what Lewis's plant press would have looked like and inquiries to the Smithsonian did not yield any period presses," said Fisher. "Fortunately while



looking for images of Alexander von Humbolt, who visited Jefferson about the time of the expedition, I discovered an exceptional painting of him with a plant press. This is likely what the botanists used that collected plants during the Fur Trade Era. Lattice style seems to be later 1800's."

After discussions with botanical consultants including Jack Nisbet, Carol Kuhn, and Susan Buchel, and spending a few hundred dollars on proper materials, John has completed four replica presses which resemble the appearance of the one depicted in the Humbolt painting.

"I planed out two English Walnut slabs to 11.5" X 15.5" X 1/4" boards and made one press using some 50 year old hand made cotton 167 lb. paper out of England. The three larger 12" X 18" leather covered mahogany presses, use thick absorbent paper typically used in plant presses. Although thicker, the leather looks like 1800 era book binding leather. The paper was too white, so I sprayed down the sheets with diluted coffee spray to 'fox' the edges and each page on both sides. The foxing does not show up in these images but is noticeable in hand."



English walnut press exterior

"When I travel to Colombia again this fall I may be able to get some full size heavy handmade paper from a colonial mountain town. There is an

old paper processing factory that dates back at least 200 years and is run by senior citizens."

As suggested by Carol Kuhn, next spring John will press some plants in the plant presses to distress the pages more. He plans to collect more L & C plants from the Northwest when they are in flower and will choose the same species found in Moulton's Volume 12: Herbarium of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.



Another view, English walnut press

AND CLARK NEWS LEWIS IN ТНЕ

Here are some Corps of Discovery-related articles on the internet...

"Adventurer Solos Lewis and Clark Trail by Foot, Kayak" (tip from Rob Heacock) http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2016/sep/03/adventurer-solos-lewis-and-clark-trail-by-foot-kay/

"Retired Smokejumpers Build New Lewis and Clark Trail" (from LCTHF Facebook page) http://ravallirepublic.com/news/local/article_ddce3170-69ab-11e6-adcb-4ffd86a36663.html



Bill Lauman book collection donated to Richland Library. The Washington Chapter has found a home for a collection of Lewis and Clark-themed books donated by longtime Chapter member Bill Lauman of Seattle. Although a small part of the collection was auctioned at our annual Chapter meetings, most of the titles are now available to the patrons of the main Library in Richland, WA.

Ann Roseberry (right), manager of the Richland Library, is shown above accepting the collection from Chapter officers John Orthmann (left) and Layne Corneliuson (he took the photo).

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

*Optional -will be included with membership roster



Congratulations to Volunteer Extraordinaire Sharon Stewart and the Friends of Sacajawea State Park!

At a recent Friends meeting, Sharon and the group were presented with the "2016 Midwest Region Outstanding Trail Partnership Award" for their ongoing support of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail at the park!

The award comes from the National Park Service.

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 17-19: (Sat. - Sun.) Foundation Regional Meeting in Minneapolis-St. Paul hosted by the Illini Chapter of the LCTHF will feature tours of several sites of historic and cultural interest, a paddlewheel boat ride on the Mississippi River, visit to the National Eagle Center and other stops. Meeting hotel is Best Western Dakota Ridge Hotel, 3450 Washington Dr, Eagan, MN 651-452-0100 with a special rate of \$89. Registration fee \$200.00 and \$75.00 for the separate trips. Registration is limited to 50 attendees for each part. Please contact Lou Ritten at https://www.internul.com or 708-354-7778 for more information and to register.

September 23-25: (Fri. - Sun.) Washington State Chapter Fall Field Trip and meeting at Heritage Days, with living history, speakers and more, Sacajawea State Park, Pasco, WA (see page 1 for more information).

December 3: (Saturday) Oregon Chapter holiday potluck and annual meeting (more information to follow in the November Worthy Of Notice).

February 4, 2017: (Saturday) 10:30am Washington State Chapter annual meeting at the Washington State History museum in Tacoma Washington.

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

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

September 2016 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.