

# Worthy of Notice



WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, LCTHF

## 2021 DUES:

**\$15.00**  
(NEWSLETTER  
SENT BY E-  
MAIL)

**\$20.00**  
(PAPER  
NEWSLETTER  
MAILED VIA  
U.S. POSTAL  
SERVICE)

Just a reminder to send in your 2021 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. **Send your check to the address listed on the membership form.**

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## SPRING FIELD TRIP & CHAPTER GATHERING PILLAR ROCK MAY 15, 2021 – 10:00 A.M

Members of the Washington & Oregon Chapters and friends are invited to a gathering on May 15th, near Pillar Rock on the north side of the Columbia River.

The meeting place is at a cabin near Altoona, WA, rented by Rob Heacock.

A silent auction will also be held, so please bring items to auction.

**10:00 A.M.** Presentation by Mike Rees entitled *Nov. 7th 1805 "Ocian in view!" – Fact or Fable*, regarding what the Lewis and Clark Expedition could see from Pillar Rock.

**11:00 A.M.** Walking tour of local November 7 & November 25, 1805 campsites.

**11:45 A.M.** Low tide estimated at Pillar Rock

**12:00 noon** Lunch, BYO main dish/sandwich/drinks, and chair.

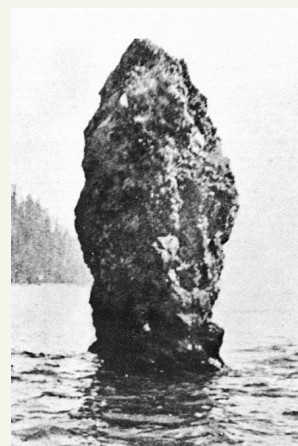
**2:00 P.M.** Tour of Pillar Rock Cannery

**3:00 P.M.** End silent auction, followed by beachcombing and river viewing. There will not be a business meeting.

## DIRECTIONS:

Space for parking is very limited at the cabin, so carpooling is requested. The Post Office on State Route 4 in Rosburg, WA may be a place to meet (allow enough time to drive on to the gathering site by 10:00 A.M.).

From Rosburg, drive south on Altoona-Pillar Rock Road. Continue 10 miles to the end of the road, and **watch for the 15 star flag.** It will be adjacent to the rental cabin near Pillar Rock Cannery. Bring your camera, binoculars AND SILENT AUCTION ITEMS!



Pillar Rock, before its height was reduced (date unknown)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL

### IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ!

The Washington State Chapter values our people! We thank those who have renewed their membership. We welcome new and returning members.

Unfortunately, a few membership applications (see page 7) and renewal checks have been **mailed to the wrong destination** — either to the address on

the back of this newsletter (that of the editor), or to a former Secretary of the Chapter. So **please** make sure that you send your 2021 membership dues to the address below:

**Robert Heacock**  
101 S. Wright Ct.  
Liberty Lake, WA 99019-9438

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY STEVE WANG

Even with all the challenges of the past months, your chapter has remained busy. Members continued to help with the reorganization of the national foundation, creation of the new Pacific Northwest Region and activities within our own chapter.

During our annual (virtual) meeting we elected two members – Rob Heacock and Rennie Kubik – to represent our chapter in the Region office. Thanks to Rob and Rennie for accepting this important challenge. We also modified our bylaws to allow a temporary extension of our chapter officers during this transition period from the current National/Chapter structure to the new National/Region/Chapter structure of our organization.

Expect some additional chapter changes over the next several months. A few administrative functions will be transferred to the Region office, but other changes will be determined by you – members of the Washington State Chapter. What changes or improvements do YOU want to see?

Once we return to in-person meetings, do you want to continue the opportunity to attend annual meetings virtually? What chapter activities interest you? Should we offer more educational programs and events; in-person field trips to historic sites; organized visits to interesting museums and interpretive centers; or other intriguing opportunities? Put on your thinking cap (or chapeau de bras, top hat, or bonnet) and let us know. Your input will help guide our activities in the coming years. And, tell us if you would like to serve on a committee to help identify or organize possible field trips, speakers or activities. We'd like to hear from you – this is a unique opportunity to reinvigorate the chapter, and help it flourish!

Personally, I'd like to hike or cycle Clark's round-trip trek from Station Camp to the ocean, north up the beach and return; once again stand on top of Beacon Rock, but this time with copies of the expedition maps to see how much the river has changed in two centuries; repeat the hike up to the country above Wal-lula Gap; experience more of the overland route between the Columbia River and the Snake River, including the ruts of the travois road near Pomeroy; return to where my Lewis and Clark venture began over 40 years ago to hike around Silcott Island for views up Alpowa Creek and up and down the Snake River; and more.

We also have an important event this fall. November 2021 marks the beginning of our 25<sup>th</sup> year as a chapter of the foundation! Plans for an exciting year of opportunities would be an ideal way to begin commemorating this important chapter event. We can also plan a "lasting legacy" project to complete – more on that later.

Think about the future of our chapter. Contact us ([washingtonstate@lewisandclark.org](mailto:washingtonstate@lewisandclark.org)) if you have any ideas, thoughts or concerns. As you proceed on, please keep safe and healthy.

Steve Wang



PHOTO BY KATHRYN HAMILTON WANG

Steve Wang

**Worthy of Notice** - Newsletter of the Washington State Chapter of the LCTHF

Publisher: John Orthmann

Email: [privatejwhitehouse@gmail.com](mailto:privatejwhitehouse@gmail.com)

Find us on Facebook! Page name: **WA Chapter Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation**

Chapter website: **[www.lewisandclark.org/washington](http://www.lewisandclark.org/washington)**

# CHOKE OR DISTEMPER

BY "DOC" WESSELIUS

## April 30, 1806

The homeward bound Corps of Discovery, with twenty-five horses and mounted Native American guides, followed an ancient overland trail from the Walla Walla–Columbia confluence to the junction of the Clearwater and Snake rivers. At the caravan's evening encampment on the Touchet River, Sergeant John Ordway wrote, "Several of the horses choked. by eating Some kind of a weed in the bottom, but they got over it after a while." Neither Ordway nor other expedition journalists gave any accounting of the vegetation that may have caused the horses to choke.

Choke in a horse, obstruction of the esophagus, occurs when a gluttonous horse eats too fast without chewing dry or coarse feed; subsequently its passage to the stomach is stopped. The blockage causes efforts to swallow, coughing and gagging. Discharge of saliva and food material from the nostrils and/or mouth ensues until the blockage is relieved. Spontaneous recovery is achieved by coughing up the obstruction or swallowing the saliva lubricated blockage.

After a day's trek on the barren sandy plain, the ravenous horses would have greedily consumed any available vegetation.

Ordway reported that the horses got over the affliction after a while. Fortunately the distressed horses recovered and were available for ser-



Choked Horse

vice the next day.

## June 21, 1806

The Corps left Camp Chopunish on the Clearwater River and was attempting to cross the Bitterroot Mountains. Snow blocked the trail, forcing the cavalcade of sixty-six horses to prepare for a return to Weippe Prairie. Both Captains reported, "One of Thompson's horses is either choked this morning or has the distemper very badly ..." Although the horse's service was questioned, its disposition was not recorded by the journalists. Subsequent horse herd inventories do not indicate the loss of a horse in the corps' herd during this period of the journey.

The eighteenth century word "distemper", although spelled the

same, had a totally different connotation than today's definition of equine distemper. The primal definition of "distemper" is not precise in William Owen, *Dictionary of Arts and Sciences*, (London: 1764), or Ephraim Chambers, *An Universal Dictionary of Arts and Science* (London: 1753). "Distemper" in the early nineteenth century was either synonymous with "disease" or was an inclusive term for gastric and abdominal ailments. Owens's dictionary was one of the books taken on the expedition.

Equine Distemper is a bacterial (*Streptococcus equi*) disease called "strangles" today. It is a highly contagious disease in horses, resulting in an upper respiratory tract infection. Symptoms for the malady are swollen lymph nodes in the head and neck, plus a pustulous nasal discharge. Throatlatch tissue swelling and excessive production of mucus may cause feed to be coughed out of the nose and/or mouth; thus its confusion with choke.

Thompson's horse must have spontaneously relieved its choke; it did not succumb to the affliction. Equine distemper has a high morbidity rate but a low mortality rate. There was no record of a horse fatality and fortunately no spread of a disease through the herd.

*Allen "Doc" Wesselius is a retired veterinarian, avid horseman and past President of the Washington State Chapter.*

## CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Steve Wang - Olympia, WA

Vice President: Bill Garvin - Chinook, WA

Secretary: Robert Heacock - Liberty Lake, WA

Treasurer: Steve Lee - Clarkston, WA

Past President: Rennie Kubik - Vancouver, WA

Director at-large: Barb Kubik - Vancouver, WA

Director at-large: Kris Townsend - Spokane, WA

Director at-large: Tim Underwood - Chehalis, WA

Director at-large: Doc Wesselius - Centralia, WA

Webmaster: Kris Townsend



## REMOVING MERIWETHER LEWIS' SPOTLIGHT

BY ROBERT HEACOCK

Some comments have been made about Captain Meriwether Lewis seeking the spotlight as he was engaged in the Expedition. This has been cited in regard to occasions when Lewis forged ahead to be the first to see what needed to be seen and to enter it into his journals.

In the November, 2019 *We Proceeded On* an article by historian Trent Strickland discusses this issue. I do not want to say that 'a lot' has been made of the issue relative to the overall scope of the Expedition, but it has been an issue.

But I feel we should not principally consider Meriwether Lewis' personality, but rather his motives with regard to the conception and execution of the Expedition to "this great Pacific Ocean"<sup>1</sup> which Thomas Jefferson knew (long before he was President) the United States so urgently needed.

There were two co-commanders of the Expedition, an unusual but necessary and fortuitous arrangement. Though Meriwether Lewis and William Clark shared command equally, they of course had differing responsibilities depending upon the task needed and circumstances relative to their strengths. And, we know now what the enlisted men and hired engages did not, that there was a difference in official rank between the two leaders.

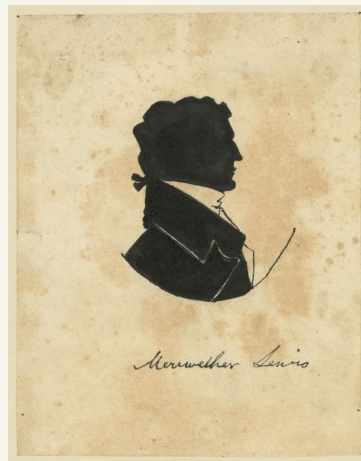
But who did Jefferson initially tap to lead the Expedition? His secretary, Meriwether Lewis. This itself was not an instantaneous process, and clearly Jefferson was working with Lewis to prepare him prior to the Summer of 1802.

And given Lewis' history with Thomas Jefferson, it was imprinted on his mind that the ultimate responsibility for the success of the Expedition fell upon the shoulders

of only one man, Meriwether Lewis.

Meriwether Lewis took command and responsibility seriously. His roving military experience had probably given him many opportunities to observe consequences of poor performance or poor decision making by other Army officers. He had seen the need to provide results and not excuses. He also did not want to disappoint Thomas Jefferson, his long-time neighbor and mentor.

In addition to our rights, we all have duties and responsibilities. In business, in the military and in our



personal lives, people often need to be prepared to defend their actions. Responsibility can lead to the need to defend what was done, and also defend if necessary, what was not done.

So we can probably be assured that Meriwether Lewis was very aware of the need to avoid the question of:

- 'Why did this (fill in the blank with the problem of your choice) happen?'
- The additional question of: 'Why did you do 'X'?''
- And the dreaded: 'Why did you not do 'Y'?''

Lewis's solitary shoreline

strolls alongside canoes are one thing. He could not botanize from a canoe. But much has been made of his forging ahead, sometime alone, at Marias River, at the Great Falls, or heading up the Beaverhead River as they approached Lemhi Pass during the most critical and still uncertain portion of their trip. He also made two trips up the deep canyons of the Snake River to locate any of the Cascade Mountain volcanoes laid down by Captain George Vancouver in 1792, when on October 18, 1805 Lewis finally put the Expedition 'back on the map'.

Lewis was not necessarily seeking limelight, but if these portions of the Expedition did not produce the desired results, he needed to make sure that there was a good reason for a disappointing result. Thus, he was the one who had to forge ahead, to see for himself, and to handle issues that if mishandled, may have been detrimental. Whether or not Lewis had faith and confidence in others is not the issue. The issue is risk, meaning the likelihood and impact of circumstances gone awry.

Plus, we can briefly consider his own personality, for better or worse, that we also saw on display in his final journey, where conscientiousness became an obsessive trait. Meriwether Lewis was not one to continue in an unknowing, anxious state if there was a way to be knowing and not anxious. Thus, Meriwether Lewis would forge ahead into the unknown but hopeful horizon, in an effort to ensure the success of the Expedition.

Robert Heacock  
Liberty Lake, Washington

1. Quote from *The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*, Gary Moulton – Editor, Volume V, November 7, 1805 – University of Nebraska Press

# LEWIS AND CLARK LIVING HISTORY RETURNS IN 2021

BY JOHN ORTHMANN

The global health crisis forced the cancellation of many history events and programs in 2020.

Thankfully, many events will return this year. Avid students of the Lewis and Clark expedition will share the story of President Jefferson's Corps of Discovery in history presentations and encampments, bringing history to life.

Living history interpreters recreate the many facets of the exploration party led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark for those who visit their talks and camps. Clothing of the types and styles used by the soldiers and interpreters are worn. Correct reproductions of period weapons, tools, and even watercraft are displayed and demonstrated. The adventures, dangers and struggles of those who survived the journey across the continent are told. First encounters with Native people are related, and discoveries of animals and plants which were unknown to science before Lewis and Clark are discussed.

Here are some of the Lewis and Clark living history events planned for the coming months.

## FORT WALLA WALLA MUSEUM 755 NE Myra Rd., Walla Walla WA

**Lewis & Clark  
Living History Weekend  
June 26 — 27**

**The Pacific Northwest Living Historians** (PNLH) will present this two-day event. Costumed interpreters of the PNLH will demonstrate the tools and skills employed by the explorers of this epic expedition.

With no means for resupply, the Corps — a U.S. Army unit of 31 men, accompanied by Sacagawea and her infant child, Jean Baptiste — needed to use a diverse combination of skills and tools in order to survive.

Visitors will learn the history and stories of the expedition, the native people who they met, the territory

they traveled and mapped, and the animals and plants they found.

### **Program times:**

**To be announced** (the Museum is currently open for limited hours, but this may change by late June).

More info: [fwwm.org](http://fwwm.org)



## LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL INTERPRETIVE CENTER

4201 Giant Springs Road  
Great Falls MT

**31st Annual  
Lewis & Clark Festival  
July 9 — 11**

The festival will highlight events of the Lewis & Clark expedition during their stay in Great Falls in 1805.

You will observe reenactors of the **Lewis and Clark Honor Guard** in historic dress, taste the types of foods the explorers ate, smell the burning campfires, and learn how they worked and what they found.

Attend a talk by Dr. Gary

Moulton, editor of the Definitive Journals of Lewis and Clark. Dr. Moulton's talk will be on July 10; the location will be announced soon.

Enjoy the sight of tipis in a native lodge encampment and experience Native American Dancers and Drummers, along with fine arts and crafts vendors, food concessions, children's area, and live music. Optional guided tour on Sunday of the Portage Route throughout Great Falls.

[www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/hlcnf/recarea/?recid=61458](http://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/hlcnf/recarea/?recid=61458)

## KNAPPTON COVE HERITAGE CENTER

**Lewis & Clark Living History  
at Knappton Cove  
July 10 — 11**

**Knappton Cove Heritage Center** and the **Pacific Northwest Living Historians** (PNLH) will present a living history program on Saturday and Sunday. Interpreters will share the story of the historic journey of Lewis and Clark and display the types of clothing, weapons and tools of survival used during the expedition.

**The program is FREE, but donations to the Knappton Cove Heritage Center are welcomed.**

Demonstrations will include handling of flintlock firearms, fire starting with flint and steel, camp cooking, making clothing from leather and making canoe paddles.

### **Program times:**

**Sat.: 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**

**Sun.: 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.**

Knappton Cove Heritage Center is located on State Route 401, about 3 miles east of the north end of the Astoria-Megler bridge, and about 8 miles south of Naselle, WA. The museum inside the historic U.S.

(Continued on page 7)



## Tall Tales with Rob

### TRAVELS ON THE WASHINGTON STATE TRAIL WITH ROBERT HEACOCK

#### RIPARIA

One their way down the Snake River on October 12, 1805 the expedition passed several rapids and traveled 37 miles on the river, their longest total since they crossed the Rocky Mountains

They had an early departure from their campsite at what is now Almota, and later took meridian altitude and had lunch at the start of New York Bar on the south side, two miles below the Central Ferry bridge and State Route 127. Near sunset they stopped at the head of two mile long Texas Rapids, and felt it

prudent to wait until the next day to tackle the rapids.

Their October 12, 1805 campsite is known as Riparia and is at the mouth of Alkali Flat Creek. Riparia is three miles downstream from Little Goose Lock and Dam, completed in 1970. Riparia can be best seen from the south side traveling from Starbuck at mile marker 5.8 on the Little Goose Dam Road. There is also access on the north side from Hay, about 12 miles on the road also named Little Goose Dam Road.

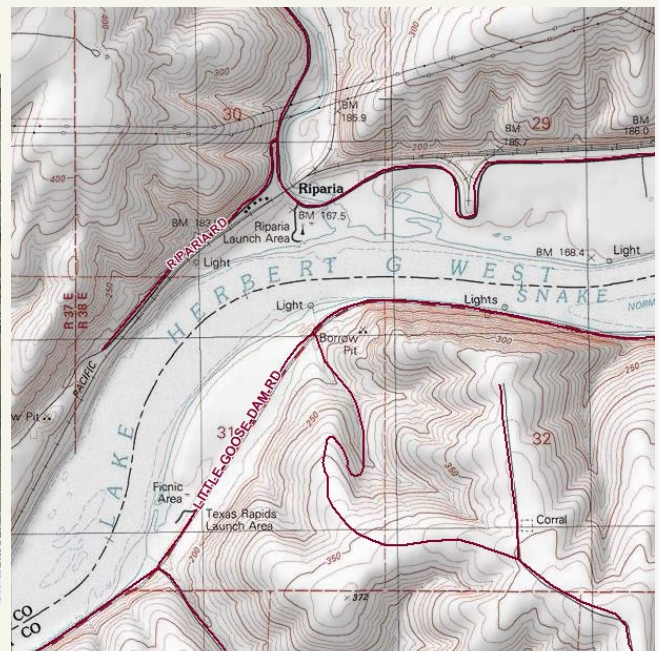


Rob Heacock



PHOTO BY ROBERT HEACOCK

Mouth of Alkali Flat Creek , taken October 13, 2019



Riparia

#### 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.

## ALSO WORTHY OF NOTICE

### ZOOM TALKS

**May 16** — A lecture on “Early Explorers of the Pacific Northwest – A Long Time Coming” presented at 1 P.M. (Pacific Time Zone) will be given by **Robert Heacock** of the Washington Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. This is one of the virtual lecture series, “In Their Footsteps,” hosted by Lewis and Clark National Historical Park. The lectures are held virtually and live on the Fort Clatsop YouTube page. Heacock is the author of *Wind Hard from the West*, which chronicles the daily activities and location descriptions of the Lewis and Clark Expedition on the Snake and Columbia Rivers, complete with maps, plus historic and modern photos. The book’s photography was done by Kris Townsend, webmaster for the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

**May 30** — **Mike Carrick** will give a free Zoom talk about the weaponry of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Mike is an expert on the topic and delivers informative presentations that audiences enjoy. The talk starts at 2 P.M. Pacific. If you have not previously attended one

of these talks, send an email to go [garykimsey55@gmail.com](mailto:garykimsey55@gmail.com). In your email, please include brief info about your connection to the story of Lewis and Clark. Gary will send you the email link. If you have previously attended a talk, you will automatically be emailed the link and do not need to send an email to Gary.

**June 20** — **Barb Kubik** will give a free Zoom talk about Sacagawea. The talk begins at 2 P.M. Pacific and is part of a monthly series hosted by the LCTHF Missouri-Kansas Riverbend Chapter. If you have not previously attended one of these talks, send an email to go [garykimsey55@gmail.com](mailto:garykimsey55@gmail.com) (more info above).

### FOUNDATION EVENTS

The **Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation** invites you to take advantage of exciting opportunities for a variety of activities in 2021, including the Annual Meeting in September.

*Visit the LCTHF website for more Foundation news and information about Zoom talks and events!*

[lewisandclark.org/events/](http://lewisandclark.org/events/)

## LIVING HISTORY RETURNS (CONT).

(Continued from page 5)

Quarantine Station building will be open 12 noon - 4 P.M. both days.

For more information, visit [knapptoncoveheritagecenter.org](http://knapptoncoveheritagecenter.org) or contact Nancy Anderson at [knapptoncove@gmail.com](mailto:knapptoncove@gmail.com).

### SEASIDE OREGON West end of Avenue U Lewis & Clark Salt Makers September 11 — 12

The salt-making camp will be recreated, with interpreters making salt from sea water.

The program is presented by the **Seaside Museum & Historical Society** and PNLH. More details to come in the next issue of WON!

### SACAJAWEA STATE PARK Pasco, WA

#### Heritage Days September 25 — 26

More details in next issue of WON!

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \* \_\_\_\_\_

\*To receive *Worthy of Notice* newsletter delivery by e-mail.

**Dues Amount:** ☐ \$15.00 ☐ \$20.00 (please check one)

**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; Student, \$30.00 per year. Membership includes the quarterly magazine *WE PROCEEDED ON*. Submit dues to LCTHF, Inc. P.O. box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403

### Chapter Membership

**\$15.00** per year (Jan - Dec) if you choose delivery of *Worthy of Notice* by email.

**\$20.00** per year (Jan - Dec) if you choose delivery of a paper copy of *Worthy of Notice* by U.S. Mail.

These rates are for any person, family, firm, association, or corporation.

Please make check payable to:

**Washington State Chapter, LCTHF**

**Mail to: Robert Heacock**

**101 S. Wright Ct.**

**Liberty Lake, WA 99019-9438**

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.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**May 15, 2021** (Saturday) 10:00 A.M. – WA State Chapter gathering at Pillar Rock. Altoona WA. Presentation by Mike Rees, visits to Lewis and Clark campsites, Pillar Rock Cannery tour (see page 1).

**May 16, 2021** (Sunday) 1:00 P.M. — In Their Footsteps Lecture. Robert Heacock presents “Early Explorers of the Pacific Northwest – A Long Time Coming.” Fort Clatsop Netul River Room and at [youtube.com/user/Lewisandclarknhp](https://www.youtube.com/user/Lewisandclarknhp) (see page 7 for more info, and links to more Zoom talks).

**May 30, 2021** (Sunday) 2:00 P.M. Pacific — Mike Carrick presents a free Zoom talk about the weaponry of the Lewis and Clark Expedition (see page 7).

**June 15-24, 2021** – Coach tour, “Lewis and Clark: St Louis, MO to Bismarck, ND” by Inland Empire Tours. Follow the Trail along the Missouri River. See [www.ietours.net](http://www.ietours.net) or call 888-654-8367 for more information

**June 20, 2021** (Sun.) 2:00 P.M. Pacific — Barb Kubik presents a free Zoom talk on Sacagawea (see page 7).

**June 26-27, 2021** (Sat.-Sun.) times TBA — Lewis & Clark Living History Weekend. Fort Walla Walla Museum, 755 NE Myra Rd., Walla Walla WA (see page 5).

**July 10-11, 2021** (Saturday) 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., (Sunday) 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. — Lewis & Clark Living History at Knappton Cove. Knappton Cove Heritage Center, Naselle WA (see page 5).

**September 12, 2021** (Sunday) times TBA — The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation will be held virtually once again. This one-day event will feature the Moulton Lecture with John Logan Allen, business meeting, awards ceremony, and a cooking demonstration with Luann Waters. Join us so that we can all laugh, learn, and talk together once again this year. See LCTHF website for more information — [lewisandclark.org](http://lewisandclark.org)

Visit our website: [lewisandclark.org/washington](http://lewisandclark.org/washington)

### ***Worthy of Notice***

**Washington State Chapter  
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation  
1325 S. 259th St  
Des Moines, WA 98198**

**May 2021 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.