

Worthy of Notice

Washington State Chapter, LCTHF, Inc.
www.wa-lcthf.org

April 2008 Newsletter
Vol. 9, Issue 2
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President's Message:

Greetings! Spring is just around the corner, things are "beginning" to dry out and the buds are popping from the many plants that abound. Hopefully, most of you will be itching to get out and shake the cabin fever. The spring meeting on Saturday, April 19th would be a great time to do just that and see the Great Northwest blooming, smell the fresh earth and re-acquaint yourself with Lewis and Clark in one of the most beautiful settings in the country, the Columbia River Gorge. (See page 3 for more details.) This will be another joint meeting with the Oregon chapter and we hope to see a large contingent of Washington chapter members at Hood River to counter the Oregon group. It should be an interesting trip and an opportunity to renew old friendships or make new friends among the Oregon members. Please plan to join us in The Gorge!

We are pleased to announce that we have found a home for the Harry Hubbard book collection which the chapter purchased last summer. Sharon Tiffany, Director of the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center in Stevenson, WA has "ecstatically" agreed to accept our donation and keep them in their reference library at the Center. Final details and a delivery date have, as yet, to be worked out. However, I hope to have them done soon. It would be nice to make the transfer just before our April meeting.

Because of limits set forth in our chapter by-laws, we have a new treasurer for the next year, Nick Giovanni of Bremerton. We also have a new Board member, John Orthmann of Tacoma, to fill the vacancy left when Martin Snoey stepped down. I would like to heartily welcome both gentlemen aboard. I would also like to say a tremendous "Thank You" to both Rennie Kubik and Martin Snoey for their service to the chapter. Both have put in many hours of their time to make sure the chapter remains a viable entity within the Foundation. Again, many thanks to both men.

Again, please consider joining Joan and Peter Hockaday and both chapters for what we hope will be a nice weekend in the Columbia Gorge among the wildflowers and great company on April 19th. If you can't make it, hopefully we will see you at a future meeting.

Best Regards,

Tim

Annual Meeting in Tacoma, February 9th

With about 30 people in attendance, we proceeded with our annual gathering in Tacoma. President and WON editor Tim Underwood reported that recent catastrophic flooding from the Chehalis River has caused a significant disruption with our newsletter printer. Hopefully our printer can recover from this setback soon. (NOTE: As you can see, they are up and running, but only at about 75% capacity yet.)

Robert Heacock provided an update on a project that was initiated by Tom Laidlaw, which is the digital overlay of modern topographic maps on the original Oregon Territory cadastral survey maps circa 1860. Most pertinent areas, i.e. those most interesting points (Ft. Nez Perce, the Mullen Road, etc.), along the Snake and Columbia Rivers and Overland Trail have been completed, but more work remains in refining the images for further use. Much has changed on the east end but there are not that many changes on the west end.

Barb Kubik provided info on the Foundation's 40th Annual Meeting to be held August 10-13, 2008 in Great Falls, Montana. The theme for this years' meeting is *Using Maps as Metaphors: Tracing the Journey* with John Allen as the keynote speaker. (Spokane author Jack Nisbet will also be speaking at the meeting discussing David Thompson and his famous map. If you were at our annual meeting in 2006, you might remember Jack's presentation for us. Very interesting, indeed.) The 2009 meeting will be in Memphis, Tennessee, on October 10th, the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the death of Meriwether Lewis and will also visit Tupelo, Mississippi as that is the National Park Service headquarters for the Natchez Trace Parkway. The 2010 meeting will be in Lewiston, Idaho with trips to points in Idaho and SE Washington. The emphasis will be on the Nez Perce and Corps relations as well as on youth education of The Story of Lewis and Clark. (If any eastside members are interested in helping with the meeting arrangements, please let me know so I can forward your name to the Idaho president.)

The Chapter Spring meeting is an event with the Oregon Chapter. (See page 3 for more details.)

April 26 is National History Day and we are encouraged to get involved with our local history museum or society.

Elections were held and the nominees were:

President, Tim Underwood

Vice President Jill Dykeman

Secretary Robert Heacock

Treasurer Nick Giovanni <Past treasurer Rennie Kubik must be replaced per the Chapter by-laws. >

John Orthmann was elected to fill the Board vacancy left by the resignation of Martin Snoey. Current Board members are Murray Hays, Bob Harnden and Connie Estep.

All nominees were all approved by acclamation. Congratulations to our officers and board members,

Treasurer Rennie Kubik provided a Treasurer's report, which showed a current balance of \$5,117.90.

Kathryn Wang provided an update on the "200 books in 200 years," a joint project of the Washington State Library, our Chapter and the Governors Committee. The project is assembling a Lewis and Clark bibliography that is now nearing completion. To date, 100 titles are processed and catalogued with approximately 75 more in various stages of completion. (For a complete list you can access the Secretary of State's website and click on the Washington State Library.)

The morning session was completed by David Nicandri, director of the Washington State History Museum, outfitted for the task in his Jefferson work shirt from Monticello, who provided a very informative talk on different aspects of his up-coming book. Topics covered included the information from prior explorers that Lewis was likely exposed to, such as McKay, Evans and Alexander McKenzie. Other topics discussed were Lewis's journals and how, up until the Expedition left Ft. Mandan, they were still in territory that was familiar, even if on a limited basis. (The records that were kept until they left were "functionary records," i.e. mostly maps, daily logs and scientific data that Clark kept.) The topic of the brotherly relationship between Clark and Lewis was discussed as well as their perceptions when they arrived at the mouth of the Snake River, thinking that they had been on the main arm of the great Columbia River, when they had not. There is also the notion that the journals by Pvt. Whitehouse and the other authors were the most

reliable, as they were less politically involved in the outcome of the Expedition. The Captains were writing for history, the others were telling the story. (David's book will be published by Ft. Mandan Press with Clay Jenkinson as the editor. It is hoped that it will be printed and on the bookstore shelves by August. ED.)

The afternoon session was a very informative and entertaining living history performance by Karen Haas in the role of Mrs. Calvin Adams, the "gossipy" wife of a St Louis tavern-keeper during the time of the Expedition. St. Louis in 1803 was still "off limits" to the Corps though the Captains were allowed to enter town to make arrangements for the trip and the up-coming change of ownership of the Louisiana Territory. Even after the change of possession on March 10, 1804, the settlement was slow to take on "American" culture, even despite the quick decline in power of the Catholic Church.

Once the Corps left in May 1804, the community wondered if they would ever see them again. Indeed, within a few months, they were all-but-forgotten - until the next spring when the keelboat arrived in St. Louis with stories, artifacts and scientific data bound for Washington City. The interest in the Corps was rekindled. But, it was short-lived – again!

Interestingly, in 1805 Zebulon Pike left St. Louis to find the source of the Mississippi River and returned in April 1806. Again, the community remembered the Corps, and just as quickly, forgot them! (Pike discovered his "own" peak in November 1806.)

When, in September 1806 the Corps did return, the town was surprised and jubilant as they had given them up for dead. Everyone was interested to hear of their trip to the great ocean and all the other tales of daring and adversity. And they wanted to know about Sacagawea and York – a native girl and a black man – who went west with them.

During the ensuing weeks, the Captains were busy writing their reports for Jefferson and enthraling the gentry of St. Louis with their tales. Meanwhile, the other Corps members shared their own tales with the rest of the town; the history and the story!

Following the conclusion of Karen's program and final notes, the officers and board members met for a short meeting. The main discussion was centered around the Harry Hubbard book collection. It was decided that Doc Wesselius would check with possible sources so that we may donate the books to an in-state organization with the intent of keeping the Moulton set intact and allowing chapter members to use them with permission of the holder. It was decided, too, that if the books were sold, there would be a specific purpose for the funds gained from the sale. Our first wish was a donation, though. (Review page 1 for this information.)

Washington State Chapter Spring Meeting, April 19th in Hood River, OR

The spring 2008 chapter meeting will be held in conjunction with the Oregon Chapter in the beautiful Columbia River Gorge. We will meet at the Riverside Grill in the Best Western Hood River Inn in Hood River at 11:00 for a pre-trip briefing by Joan and Peter Hockaday and a no-host lunch before proceeding on to the Mosier area east of Hood River where Joan and Peter will lead us on a tour of the wildflowers of Lewis and Clark and other history. There will be opportunities to view other LC sites as well as other historical and cultural locations in the Gorge as well.

Bring your camera, sunglasses and interest and join us for an interesting weekend in the beautiful Columbia River Gorge. (As a precaution, you may wish to toss in your raingear or an umbrella for the occasional squall that passes through the area from time-to-time – usually when we are there!☺)

For those who do not wish to drive all the way, there is car-pooling being organized by the Oregon chapter to meet at Levi's Store at the Troutdale Outlet Mall off exit 17 of I-84. Members should meet there by 9:15 so you can get arranged and leave by 9:30 in order to make it to Hood River by 11:00 for the briefing. This is a good chance to meet other LC people and save some gas money in the process.

For those driving, the Best Western is right next to the bridge over the Columbia to White Salmon, WA. It should be very easy to see. We will see you there!

Future Events for Washington State Chapter Members

- April 19, 2008 Spring meeting of the Oregon and Washington chapters to be held in the Columbia River Gorge. See page 3 for full details.
- April 20, 2008 Lecture "Tales from the Times of Lewis and Clark" presented at the Fort Clatsop Visitor's Center at 1:00. Lewis and Clark NHP.
- May 18, 2008 Lecture "For the want of Branes" Hide tanning and sewing at Fort Clatsop, Lewis Clark NHP at 1:00.
- May 23-25, 2008 Camas Festival, Weippe, ID
- May 24-25, 2008 Pacific NW Living Historians Program at Dismal Nitch, Lewis and Clark NHP (Contact the park for exact times.)
- May 30 – June 1, 2008 Fort Clatsop 50th Anniversary Programs from 9 AM to 6 PM
Fort Clatsop, Lewis and Clark NHP
- June 14-15, 2008 Fort Walla Walla Days at the Fort Walla Walla Museum in Walla Walla. Hours are 10 AM to 5 PM each day.

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER
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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.