Archie M. Graber (1924-1984)


A sculptor of note, Graber was born in Bloomfield, Montana, and was a graduate of the Minnesota College of Art, and traveled extensively in Europe where he studied with the artist and sculptor Oskar Katschka. Among his artistic works are: the Whale Fountain, Fairbanks, Alaska; and works at Seattle's Logan Building, the Ballard Library, First Presbyterian Church; the Dorsett Building in Bellevue; and Everett's Seafirst Bank. The “Eternal Light” fresco in the Temple B’Nai Torah is also his work.

Lewis and Clark enthusiasts recognized Archie as a serious student of the Expedition, and over the years he had accumulated a fine personal library containing most of the literature written about the exploring enterprise and the individuals involving its accomplishments. Other interests relating to American history and heritage were included in his studies, and he was considered to be an authority concerning the history of United States flags (see WPO, Vol. 4, No. 3, p. 10). Former Washington State Governor Dan Evans, knowing of his interest, appointed him to the State of Washington Lewis and Clark Trail Committee, and he was elected by committee members to serve as its chairman from 1980 until illness forced his retirement in 1983. From 1981 to 1983, he also served as a director of our (national) Foundation.

In 1981 and 1982, with special help from fellow committee member Clifford Imsland and other members of the Washington Lewis and Clark Committee, he proposed and brought to reality a permanent Lewis and Clark display in the museum of the Washington State Historical Society at Tacoma (see WPO, Vol. 8, No. 1, p. 13). For this effort Archie was honored with the presentation of the Society's David Douglas Award at a quarterly meeting of the Society in
January 1982 (see *WPO*, Vol. 8, No. 1, p. 11). A more recent project spearheaded by Graber involved the presentation of framed maps (detailing the routes of the Lewis and Clark Expedition) to schools in Washington state named after individuals involved with the 1803-1806 enterprise. This project is described on page 15, this issue of *We Proceeded On*.

Archie Graber will be missed by all who knew and worked with him, and Foundation members extend sympathy to his wife, Sylvia, who shared his interests and attended many Lewis and Clark events and Foundation meetings with Archie (see *WPO*, Vol. 5, No. 2, p. 6).

Memorial gifts in Archie Graber's name may be made to the Leukemia/American Cancer Society or to the Leukemia Aid/Leukemia Society of America, at 2120 First Avenue, North, Seattle, Washington 98109.

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Prepared by Bob Gatten, 2011