



Meriwether
Lewis

Field Notes



William
Clark

From the Badger State Chapter of the
Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc

July 2017

Wisconsin's Chapter ~ Interested & Involved

Number 63

During this time in history: (December 1803 - December 1805)

(The source for all entries is, The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition edited by Gary E. Moulton, U. of Nebraska Press, 1983-2001.)

Our journal entries deal with Captain Clark's journey on the Yellowstone River and specifically the Corps' stay at Canoe Camp, the topic of the 2017 Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation annual meeting in Billings MT.

July 18, 1806, Stillwater County, MT, Clark: "...Charbonneau was thrown from his horse today in pursuit of a buffalo; the horse, unfortunately stepping into a Badger hole, fell and threw him over his head. He is a good deal bruised on his hip, shoulder and face... Gibson, in attempting to mount his horse after shooting a deer this evening, fell on a snag and sent it nearly two inches into the muscular part of his thigh... This is a very bad wound and pains him exceedingly. I dressed the wound.

July 19, 1806, Canoe Camp, Stillwater County, MT, Clark: "I rose early and dressed Gibson's wound... There being no timber on this part of the Rochjhone (Yellowstone) sufficiently large for a canoe and time is precious as it is our wish to get to the United States this season... I encamped under a thick grove of trees which was not sufficiently large for my purpose, though two of them would make small canoes. I took Shields and proceeded on through a large timbered bottom immediately below in search of better trees for canoes; found several about the same size with those at my camp...

July 20, 1806, Canoe Camp, MT, Clark: "...I determined to have two canoes made out of the largest of those trees and lash them together which will cause them to be sturdy and full sufficient to take my small party and self, with what little baggage we have, down this river... Those trees appeared tolerably sound

(Continued-See "Grey Column" page 2)



A DATE WITH THE BISON

September and October 2106 were busy months for our chapter due to the completion and dedication of our "Alexander Willard in Wisconsin" project and because of that we missed our picnic and bison visit at chapter member Mark Koepl's Catnip Hollow Bison ranch. (Pictured above)

Thanks to chapter Vice-President and Program Chair Jack Schroeder, we are happy to tell you a date has been selected for our "2017 Bison Bash". Write down Saturday, October 7, 2017 as the day to join us for socializing and watching the bison roam. We will gather at Catnip Hollow and further details will be announced as we near the date but be assured, there will be food, refreshments and conversation for all.

"Gray Column" Continued from page 1

and will make canoes of 28 feet in length and about 16 or 18 inches deep and from 16 to 24 inches wide...Gibson's wound looks very well. I dressed it..."

July 21, 1806, Canoe Camp, MT, Clark: "This morning I was informed that half of our horses were absent...the men work very diligently on the canoes, one of them nearly finished and ready to put in the water. Gibson's wound is beginning to heal...I am apprehensive that the Indians have stolen our horses...I determine to have the balance of the horses guarded and for that purpose sent out 3 men..."

July 23, 1806, Canoe Camp, MT, Clark: "Last night the wolves or dogs came into our camp and eat the most of our dried meat, which was on a scaffold...The men finished both canoes by 12 o'clock today and I sent them to make oars and get poles...I gave Sgt. Pryor his instructions and a letter to Mr. Haney and directed that he G. Shannon and Windsor take the remaining horses to the Mandans...In the evening had the two canoes put into the water and lashed together; oars and everything fixed ready to set out early in the morning..."

July 24, 1806, Canoe Camp, MT, Clark: "...Had all our baggage put on board of the two small canoes which when lashed together is very steady. At 8 a.m. we set out and proceeded on very well...I determined to set the horses across on the south side..."

April 8th Badger State Chapter Meeting

On a pleasant April Saturday, 22 Badger Chapter members assembled at the Fond du Lac Public Library for an update in Lewis and Clark news and an intriguing presentation by Jim and Ray Gramentine.

In addition to the vote on our annual contribution to the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation discussed in another article in this issue of "Field Notes", President Jim Rosenberger informed the chapter membership that a \$100 donation had been made to our Alexander Willard Project by the Willard Family Foundation. Many thanks to them for that donation.

In addition to the Foundation's 49th annual meeting in Billings, MT July 23-26, 2016, Jim advised the 50th annual meeting will be held in Astoria, OR, October 7-10, 2017. Additional information recently appeared in the Foundation's quarterly news letter, "The Orderly Report".

It is hoped the legislation for the addition of the

Eastern Legacy to the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail will be brought to the U.S. Congress soon but that seems unlikely given the various other legislation being debated in Congress at present. When the time comes Jim urged chapter members to contact their local representatives and senators and urge them to vote "yes" on adding the Eastern Legacy to the Trail.

Our program presenters, Jim and Ray Gramentine titled their talk, "Built by the Buffalo Soldiers". The presentation was about the Chiricahua National Monument in Southeast Arizona built by a troop of Buffalo Soldiers to honor President James A Garfield who happens to be Ray's Great-grandfather. The presentation included excellent power point slides showing the beauty of Arizona and some of the history behind the monument.

In 1866 Congress passed legislation to form 6 units of Black soldiers; 4 infantry and 2 cavalry. One explanation for the name "Buffalo Soldiers" is that it comes from the Indian observation that the hair of the Black soldiers resembled the hair found between the ears of the Buffalo and so the nick name.



Another interesting fact given in the presentation was that the man who assassinated President Garfield, Charles Guiteau, lived in Wisconsin. He was born in Freeport, IL in 1841 but the family moved to Ulao, WI, near today's Grafton, WI and lived there from 1850 – 1855.

But the real question brought up in the presentation was why a troop of Black cavalry soldiers would build a monument to President Garfield. One theory was that President Garfield had legislation passed so all soldiers were paid the same, regardless of race, religion, etc. and the Buffalo Soldiers honored Garfield with the monument. Jim Gramentine's research led him to believe this was not necessarily true. Jim described his efforts to find the answer to other possible reasons for the monument and it was extremely interesting to listen to them. Oh, and the reason or conclusion for the monument being built to honor Garfield? Well, if you didn't attend the chapter meeting on April 8th, I guess you will have to wait for another opportunity to hear Jim and Ray give their presentation.

Return to the Replica Trail

You will recall our Badger State Chapter support for the Grand Marsh Elementary school in Grand Marsh, WI when they constructed a replica of the Lewis and Clark Historic Trail on property right behind their school building. The entire school district and community were involved in the construction of the trail as well as the signs around and along the trail. They did a fantastic job! (*See Field Notes #43, July 2012*)

Our chapter nominated the school for a Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Meritorious Achievement Award and at the Foundation's 2013 annual meeting in Bismarck, ND the award was presented to the school.

We kept contact with the school and discussed how we might work together to promote the Replica Trail as well as add features to the trail such as more signage, a small parking area and other possibilities. Unfortunately, we have never been able to move forward on any of those ideas.

Due to reorganization within the school district, along with teacher retirements, we lost our main contact people and many other teachers and administrative people were transferred to other schools within the district. It became difficult to keep a focus on the Replica Trail. Our primary contact person at the Grand Marsh school was the principal but she has also been transferred to another school and the new principal was not all that familiar with the Replica Trail.

Thankfully, help arrived in the person of Badger State Chapter member, Mary Jo Meyer. Grand Marsh Elementary is part of the Adams-Friendship school district and Mary Jo taught in the district for a number of years. She was acquainted with many of the individuals who had been and were now at Grand Marsh Elementary, including the new principal. Thanks to Mary Jo's help the new principal, Garret Gould, contacted chapter president Jim Rosenberger and a meeting was arranged to be held at the school.

On June 19th Principal Gould, Mary Jo and Jim met at Grand Marsh Elementary School. After a

short discussion about the trail they drove to the east entrance of the trail to check on its condition. Grass and weeds were high and needed to be cut. Some tree limbs were down along the trail and in some places the trail needed to be marked so a person could follow it clearly. The signs along the trail appeared to be in fair condition. Painting needs to be done to make lettering more visible and to preserve the wood planks of the signs designating the locations where the Corps of Discovery had been. The signs themselves were in good condition but their protective covering needed to be sealed better to protect them from water damage. In other words, there was work to be done.

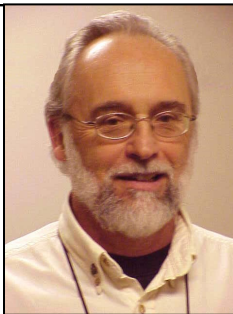
The trio returned to the school and Principal Gould said he would contact the appropriate people to have the clean up work on the trail completed. Gould indicated he was agreeable to promoting the trail to other entities and the discussion included ideas of how the chapter might assist by perhaps developing brochures; one to serve as a guide on the actual trail and another to promote the trail to other schools and organizations. But first the trail needs the cleanup. The school has a lot on their plate right now and it remains to be seen if they can devote the time and effort to the Replica Trail. We are thinking positively but for now, it is a wait and see situation.

Mary Jo volunteered to stay in touch with the school and other contacts to see how the cleanup work progresses and what the chapter might do to assist and she will advise Jim accordingly. Thanks so very much to Mary Jo.



President's Message

By: Jim Rosenberger



There is little news relative to the Eastern Legacy Extension study to the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. The Department of Interior (DOI) is currently in negotiations with the National Park Service (NPS) regarding the final version of the study. Once released from DOI, Congress will receive a copy and hopefully legislation will be introduced. When this takes place, we will be asking members to contact legislators to pass the legislation. We intend to send out talking points to all members when this happens, either in "Field Notes" or by separate email.

A few weeks after our April 8th quarterly Chapter meeting my wife, Mary, and I departed on a European river cruise we had long been waiting for. We had signed up for the cruise a year ago and had anxiously awaited the day we would be departing. The cruise was with Viking River Cruises and our trip would begin in Prague, Czech Republic and then we would be cruising the Danube River from Nuremberg, Germany to Budapest, Hungary. We had a wonderful time and saw many historic sights and learned so very much about the history of the countries as well as experiencing some of their current culture.

In Nuremberg, Germany we took a special tour of the city concentrating on the sights where Nazi rallies took place and where the criminal trials were held. The first treat of the tour was our tour guide, a seven foot, two inch young man from Nuremberg. As you might guess, he had played basketball all his life, including going to college in the United States and then having a ten year career playing professional basketball in Europe. He currently coaches basketball, teaches history and conducts historical tours like the one we were on.

We visited the parade grounds where Hitler had made his speeches as well as the huge coliseum that held more of the Nazi gatherings. The coliseum was intended to be larger than the coliseum

in Rome and hold 400,000 people but it was never completed. Hitler thought big. We also visited the court room in Nuremberg where the criminal trials were held and the lasting impression is of what a small room it was. We learned that changes had been made to the room for the trials but even at that, the expectation is that it is much larger than it is and was.

All of the locations we visited, from Nuremberg, Germany to Vienna, Austria to Budapest, Hungary had a lot of history to tell, from their early years and of course, World War II. Cruising the beautiful Danube River was a life time experience and Mary and I will never forget the wonderful countryside we saw. The entire trip was a wonderful experience but I couldn't avoid the opportunity to add to it with some history of Lewis and Clark.

If you have been on a cruise you are aware of the social opportunities when you are on board your ship, typically at breakfast, lunch, dinner and social get-togethers. At these venues you meet more and more people and on this cruise, most of the people were American. I prepared for this by taking Lewis and Clark apparel with me, primarily dress and casual shirts with our Badger Chapter logo, and made a point of wearing one of these at meal time or social time. As I had hoped, I would typically be asked what the Badger State Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation was. I was even asked who Lewis and Clark were. Now those of you who have attended our chapter meetings or been with me when someone asks about Lewis and Clark know that this is all I need to start talking about the Expedition on an endless basis. Not that I am the best speaker or am an expert on the subject, but I do talk. I am happy to say that these opportunities occurred a number of times and in a few instances even people at tables next to us got involved in the conversation. I handed out a number of Foundation business cards and chapter information and I have to believe that any of the people who did not know about Lewis and Clark history or the Foundation, now do know.

It was another exciting experience; being in Europe, floating down the Dan-

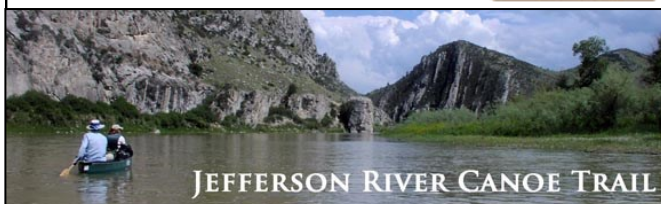
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ube River, talking about Lewis and Clark History and letting people know what we, as an organization are trying to accomplish. I don't know if the Foundation or any chapter will gain any new members but it was so much fun talking Lewis and Clark to all those people.

I encourage all of you to do the same. If you haven't already, contact Land's End Company, order a clothing item or two with the Badger Chapter logo and wear it whenever you can to promote who we are and what we do. It really is a lot of fun, all over the World.

And speaking of things to do; this Fall, probably September, will be time for our Chapter election of Directors and Officers. When you get your ballot, please vote. At the same time, if you are interested in serving on the board or volunteering for a project of the chapter, please let your board know, they are all listed on the last page of this newsletter. We can always use assistance in setting up meetings, obtaining speakers, getting articles for "Field Notes" and completing projects we pursue. Your chapter isn't just the seven directors and officers we have, it is the total of the eighty members we have. Thank you for your support.

Another Chapter's request for Support and Assistance



At the end of May all chapters of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation received an email from the Jefferson River Canoe Trail Chapter asking for support and assistance in obtaining and protecting a 30 acre parcel of land on the Jefferson River in Montana. In verifying the authenticity of this email with the Foundation, I found this Chapter has been active in protecting the Jef-

fereson River and adjacent land as well as promoting safe, ecological and recreational use along the river. The Jefferson River Canoe Trail Chapter is attempting to secure a new 30-acre public campsite and walk-in fishing access site on the Jefferson River segment of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

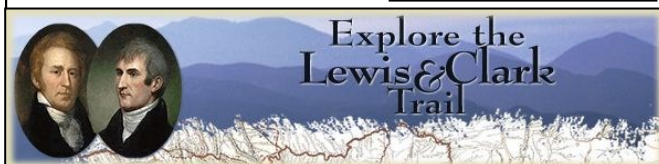
The property, located near Waterloo, Montana (southwest of Three Forks, MT) is temporarily named Waterloo Grove. It will be renamed by local school kids this fall based on local journal entries from Lewis and Clark. Acquiring this property saves the parcel from development as a home site and thereby helps preserve the historic viewshed along this segment of the Trail. The purchase of this property will protect the viewshed so river floaters can continue to experience the Jefferson River much as Lewis and Clark found it 200 years ago.

The Citizens Advisory Board for the Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust pre-approved the Jefferson River Canoe Trail Chapter's \$195,000 grant application towards the \$270,000 purchase price of the property. The chapter started with \$9,000 in the bank and is now working to secure an additional \$66,000 in donations and loans to secure the property.

The Jefferson is a great river with beautiful scenery, abundant wildlife, good floating opportunities, and an essential stake in our nation's history. The Jefferson River Canoe Trail Chapter is working to fill in gaps to provide convenient, quality campsites along the entire length of the Jefferson River. This local project will eventually connect with other water trails downstream to form a national blue trail along the Lewis and Clark route from Montana to St. Louis.

The Jefferson River Canoe Trail Chapter made a plea for financial support from chapters and individuals to assist them in achieving their goal of

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purchasing this property. Having just completed our "Alexander Willard Project" last October, the Badger State Chapter understands the need for financial support. Our chapter board of directors reviewed the Jefferson River Canoe Trail Chapter's request and authorized a donation of \$250 to assist in reaching their goal. Individuals can also contribute to their goal and we encourage you to consider doing so as the Jefferson River Canoe Trail Chapter now has a matching gift donor.

Information about the fundraiser can be found at these sites:

http://jeffersonriver.org/campsites/waterloo_grove.htm

<https://www.generosity.com/community-fundraising/waterloo-grove-jefferson-river-canoe-trail>

Donations can be sent to; Thomas J. Elpel, President, Jefferson Canoe Trail Chapter, LCTHF, P.O. Box 697, Pony, MT 59747.

And if you do donate, be sure to mention the Badger State Chapter.

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One of the little known things that occurred during the Lewis & Clark Expedition was that a female grizzly befriended them and left warning signs along the trail where the Expedition was apt to face difficulties. Within the Group, these wooden signs came to be known as "Bear-Ma Stave Signs". Here is one we recently discovered.

THE RIVER'S

BEEN ROUGH,

YOU SELDOM

WERE DRY,

BUT THE

MOUNTAINS

AHEAD WILL

SOON MAKE

YOU CRY!

BEAR-MA STAVE



Seaman Says-July 2017

We continue with the post-expedition journals of Seaman, recently discovered in the minds and creative thoughts of the publishers of "Field Notes"



January 23, 1807: My Captain Lewis and I remain in Washington City and, in fact, have moved into the President's House; living now with President Jefferson. I have learned that Mr. Jefferson's name is Thomas Jefferson rather than President Jefferson, that President is a title. From this, and careful observation, I have learned that my Captains name is Meriwether Lewis and that Captain is a title. I don't believe I realized this until now. I find I continue to learn new things throughout my life.

There was to be a large celebration for Captains Lewis and Clark but it had been delayed due to Captain Clark not having arrived in Washington City. His "affair of the heart" apparently has caused a further delay. It was decided to not wait any longer and on January 14th the celebration was held. I was not allowed into the building where it was held but it was attended by many humans, all dressed quite elegantly. I did, occasionally, sneak up to the entrance, but was quickly ordered out of the way. I could see Captain Lewis was having a good time, including dancing with the ladies and the inevitable "toasts" were in great abundance. I did have an enjoyable time as there were a number of other canines relegated to the outside of the building, both male and female, and I made a number of good friends. As far as the females are concerned, I would only suggest that I believe I am learning what an "affair of the heart" means.

It will take me some time to explore all of the President's House for two reasons; at times, both Captain Lewis and President Jefferson order me not to enter a certain room at a certain time. The second reason is that the house is quite large, having a number of floors and many rooms and hallways. Fortunately, for the most part, it has very little furniture which makes it easier for me to move around.

Captain Lewis spends a good amount of time at his desk doing a lot of writing. He speaks to me as he writes so I am able to get somewhat of an idea what he is writing about. Much of it is a report to the President and other people about our travel on the expedition and what we discovered and learned. One interesting recommendation he continues to make is that future expeditions should take one-half to two-thirds of their stores in blue beads. I agree that blue beads were an extremely important item of trade all along our travels.

I believe we will be in the President's House for sometime to complete all these reports and visiting with people of importance.



Newsletter Articles



Do you have an interesting thought about the Lewis & Clark Expedition, or know someone who shares our interest in "The Journey?" Would you like to share it with others through this newsletter? Then write to either Jim Rosenberger at punkinz@tds.net or Bill Holman at wghmch@gmail.com. If you don't have e-mail, call Bill at (608) 249-2233. If you include a picture, we will be happy to return it upon request.

Treasurer's Report



The Badger State Chapter had \$3423.95 in the Treasury as of June 14, 2017. We have 80 Chapter members, 4 of whom are first timers. Chapter members come from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Montana, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Washington, Virginia, & Florida.

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