



Meriwether Lewis

Field Notes



William Clark

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

January 2018

Wisconsin's Chapter ~ Interested & Involved

Number 65

During this time in history: (February 1805 - August 1806)

(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 Jean Baptiste Charbonneau, son of Sacagawea and Toussaint Charbonneau.

February 11, 1805, Ft. Mandan, ND, Lewis: "...About five o'clock this evening one of the wives of Charbonneau (Sacagawea) was delivered of a fine boy..."

April 13, 1805, Mountrail County, ND, Lewis: "...About two in the afternoon a sudden squall of wind struck us and turned the white pirogue...we had embarked ourselves with three men who could not swim and the squaw with the young child (now just 2 months old). All would most probably have perished, as the waves were high and the pirogue upwards of 200 yards from the nearest shore; however we fortunately escaped and pursued our journey..."

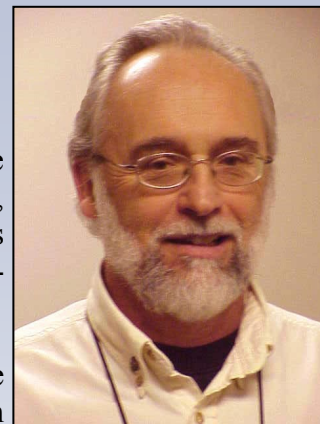
June 29, 1805, The Great Falls, MT, Clark: "...The rain fell like one volley of water and gave us time only to get out of the way of a torrent of water which was taking with it large rocks and mud. I took my gun and shot pouch in my left hand and with the right scrambled up the hill pushing the interpreter's wife (who had her child in her arms) before me...we at length reached the top of the hill safe..."

May 22, 1806, Camp Chopunnish, ID, Lewis: "...Charbonneau's child is very ill this evening; he is cutting teeth and for several days past has had a violent lax which having suddenly stopped, he was attacked with a high fever and his neck and throat are much swollen this evening. We gave him a dose of cream of tartar and flour of sulfur and applied a poultice of boiled onions to his neck as warm as he could well bear it..."

(Continued-See "Grey Column" page 2)

INSTEAD OF "BACK TO THE FUTURE," LET'S GO "FORWARD INTO THE PAST"

President's Message By: Jim Rosenberger



We enter into a new year and anticipate what it will bring. Like any other year, the year 2018 will likely have positives and contain some challenges, but if nothing else, it should be an exciting year.

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation is working side by side with the National Park Service to promote the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail as well as completing the addition of the Eastern Legacy portion to the trail. The Foundation continues to award grants for trail stewardship and education to chapters and other entities related to Lewis and Clark history. We Proceeded On and The Orderly Report continue to be published by the Foundation and the website Lewis-Clark.org is supervised by the Foundation. The William P. Sherman Library and Archives serves as a major source of information on Lewis and Clark history. But we do face some major challenges.

While both the Foundation and the Lewis and Clark Trust have worked to advance the addition of the Eastern Legacy to the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, including visiting Capitol Hill and discussing this issue with legislators, the report to Congress lingers in the Department of Interior. Perhaps we will all need to write Interior and legislators to get things moving.

We all have been looking forward to the release of the 10 part Television series based on Stephen Ambrose's book

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“Gray Column” Continued from page 1

May 27, 1806, Camp Chopunnish, ID, Clark: “... Charbonneau’s child is much better today though the swelling on the side of his neck, I believe, will terminate in an ugly imposthume a little below the ear...”

June 5, 1806, Camp Chopunnish, ID, Clark: “...I applied a plaster of salve made of the rosin of the long leafed pine, bee’s wax and bear oil mixed, which has subsided the inflammation entirely...”

June 8, 1806, Camp Chopunnish, ID, Clark: “...The child has nearly recovered...”

July 25, 1806, Pompey’s Pillar, MT, Clark: “...At 4 P.M. arrived at a remarkable rock...this rock I ascended and from its top had a most extensive view in every direction. This rock, which I shall call Pompey’s Tower, is 200 feet high and 400 paces in circumference and only accessible on one side which is from the N.E...”

August 4, 1806, confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri River, Clark: “...The child of Charbonneau has been so much bitten by the mosquito that his face is much puffed up and swelled...”

August 17, 1806, Ft. Mandan, ND, Clark: “...We also took our leave of T. Charbonneau, his Snake Indian wife and their son child who had accompanied us on our route to the Pacific Ocean in the capacity of interpreter and interpretess...I offered to take his little son, a beautiful promising child who is 19 months old, to which they both, himself and wife, were willing provided the child had been weened. They observed that in one year the boy would be sufficiently old to leave his mother and he would then take him to me if I would be so friendly as to raise the child for him in such a manner as I thought proper, to which I agreed etc...”

President’s Message-continued from page 1

“Undaunted Courage” but it appears it is still in a rewrite phase and we will just have to wait and see what develops.

It appears to me that our Foundation has some major challenges to deal with, perhaps the largest being membership. During the bicentennial years membership was nearing 4,000 members; today our membership fluctuates around 1,000 members. This has also had an impact on the number of active chapters we have in the Foundation. During the bicentennial years we had around 42 chapters. Over the years the chapter count reported to us fell to 32 and then 30 chapters. Chapter presidents recently received correspondence from the Foundation about general topics including the number of chapters. We

were advised that 5 more chapters have reported themselves as “inactive” and based on an attached, amended list of chapters, we now have 24 active chapters.

We know some of the reasons for the reduction in membership and chapters. An aging membership base and younger generations who are not inclined to join organizations are a couple of the reasons of which we are aware. Many chapters have the issue of the same people continuing to serve as the directors, officers and committee members and they are stepping down from those positions after years of service with no volunteers to take their place. At any rate, these issues will need to be looked into, studied and an action plan set up.

The good news is we have a very capable and active board at the Foundation and I think they will respond to these issues with appropriate effort and changes. There are also things we can do to support Lewis and Clark history. It is important that we support our local chapters by joining a chapter or renewing your chapter membership. Don’t be hesitant to join another chapter or chapters. At the same time, renew your membership in the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation or if you are not a member, please, please, please join the Foundation. Talk to anyone and everyone about Lewis and Clark history and make people aware of the Foundation and our Chapter and encourage them to join us as “Keepers of the Story and Stewards of the Trail”.

Proceeding on into the New Year and Beyond

As 2018 begins we look back on what was accomplished in 2017 and what remains for us to do in 2018 as well as what new accomplishments we might achieve. For the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, recently elected board of director members have taken their seats and planning has begun for the upcoming terms and for operations further into the future. That planning involves cooperation from the chapters of the Foundation.

Recently, chapter presidents received a communication from Foundation Vice President Lou Ritten which included a list of items the Foundation board felt might help improve member, chapter and Foundation relationships. Chapter presidents were asked to offer comments, opinions and suggestions on these items as well as share the items with chapter boards of

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director. The list of items **Continued from page 2** has been shared with the Badger Chapter board and in addition, your chapter president felt it would be important to share some of the listed items with Badger Chapter members. Some of the items on the list deal with administrative issues such as electronic communication between the chapters and the Foundation and we omitted these. The following are items we felt you may be interested in and might want to comment on.

Volunteer Hours: Each year the Foundation asks each chapter for the total number of volunteer hours accumulated by individual members of the chapter. The total of all chapter and Foundation volunteer hours are reported to the National Park Service. Volunteer hours include but are not limited to Lewis and Clark activities such as attending meetings, travel to and from meetings, events or sites, time at a site, giving a Lewis and Clark presentation including preparation and follow-up, time spent reading, researching, writing or presenting anything related historically or currently to the Lewis and Clark Expedition etc.

In the past the Badger Chapter has estimated the number of volunteer hours based on meeting attendance, knowledge of chapter members who do presentations and knowledge of time spent in the administration of chapter business. The Foundation would like a more accurate report on volunteer hours and this would mean something like implementing a fiscal year end survey to the membership to collect volunteer hours.

Foundation and Chapter membership: The Foundation suggests that when they sign up a new member, they would offer membership in the appropriate local chapter and that the affected chapter would then provide chapter membership free of charge for the remainder of the chapter's fiscal year. It would seem that we could be a part of such a program provided the Foundation would reciprocate, that is, if a chapter signs up a new member, the Foundation would provide free Foundation membership to that member for the remainder of the fiscal year.

A common membership form: The Foundation would develop a membership form listing all chapters and used by all chapters. The application would be paired with the chapter's own brochure and that chapter highlighted on the application. This would promote membership in both the Foundation and chapter and provide form consistency.

A common scouting badge or patch and set of requirements: The Badger Chapter has a scouting patch program but has not issued many patches. A common badge or patch would provide standardization. However, chapters not on the Lewis and Clark Historic Trail would have some differing requirements and this would have to be taken into consideration.

Reduced membership dues for receiving electronic WPO: Receiving an email issue of WPO rather than a hard copy would impact Foundation expenses. WPO costs currently account for 80% of the standard \$49 LCTHF membership fee. Of course, this should be a choice of the individual member(s).

A master calendar of events: The Foundation promotes Lewis and Clark events, including chapter meetings and events, on its web-site, www.lewisandclark.org, and on Facebook. It currently has over 1,200 members on Facebook. We need to do a better job of getting information out through the use of social media.

Consider hosting an annual or regional meeting: For the most part, the Badger chapter has good representation at these meetings, but we could always use more. The meetings have very interesting presentations and tours with visits to some sites the general public does not usually see. Does the Badger Chapter have enough Lewis and Clark history to host a regional meeting? An annual meeting? Would you volunteer to organize such a meeting?

General items: Would you be willing to serve on the Foundation board or a committee? There is a need for new people to volunteer for these positions. Would you be willing

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to serve in a position in the **Continued from page 3**
Badger Chapter?

If you have any ideas or thoughts on improving Foundation and/or chapter operations, visibility, membership or revenue growth or anything at all that will make us a better organization, please share them with us.

As you can see, the Foundation is looking into the future and attempting to find ways to improve our operations. Give some thought to the above items and if you have comments, suggestions or criticisms, contact Lou Ritten at lritten01@yahoo.com or 708-354-7778. If your comments etc. are primarily for the chapter, contact any of the directors or officers shown on the last page of this issue of "Field Notes".

Tom Strauss Obituary:



A man of great character and faith left this earth for his Heavenly home on October 29, 2017.

Thomas Gary Strauss was born 71 years ago on September 8, 1946 in Shawano, WI, the son of Franklin and Eleanor Beversdorf Strauss. Raised on a dairy farm north of Shawano led to a life-long love and respect for nature.

He graduated in 1964 from Shawano High School and enjoyed staying in touch with classmates by being on class reunion committees. Attending WSU-Oshkosh he met the love of his life, Mary Meyer also of Shawano and they married on July 4, 1970, making their home in the Fond du Lac area. Tom's memory will be cherished by his loving wife, adoring three children Kyle, Jennifer, Sarah and their spouses, four grandkids, friends and extended family.

Tom was proud to have been a teacher for 33.5 years at Goodrich and Fond du Lac High Schools where he served for many years as Math Dept Chair and headed the social committee before retiring in 2003. He started the Chess program and as coach, helped Goodrich win their first state championship in 1976. They also went to the National High School Chess tournament three times, finishing as high as 8th in Philadelphia.

He often remarked how great the staff and culture was at school. Trying to meet the needs of struggling math students, he, along with Christine Horbas and Paul Weisse co-authored AMME applied math textbooks to teach math in a hands-on, visual, every-day approach. The Wisconsin Technical Education Association recognized their efforts by naming Tom the Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Tom also loved working with the KEY Club's Reading Mother Program and their annual Storybook Land where he played Geppetto, Pinocchio's woodcarver. In 1995, on the recommendation of a former student, he was given an award by Milwaukee School of Engineering. During the 2000-2001 school year, he was named Fond du Lac Secondary School Teacher of the Year and was honored with the Kohl Teaching Fellowship. His Master degree was earned at Silver Lake College.

A colleague recently wrote

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this to Tom: “You have touched the lives of thousand of students. Walking by your classroom in the morning, I saw many, many students getting support on math or challenging their minds playing chess. Math wasn’t the first priority in your classroom, students were. For many students, math seemed confusing and confounding. You skillfully unlocked the mystery of math by making it both understandable and relevant. Mission accomplished. Well done.”

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He was involved in many activities, and his faith was important to him. As a grateful member of Church of Peace, he served on committees and co-chaired the Fundraiser Bazaar often.

He learned Taxidermy, which led to discovering decorative duck decoy carving under the guidance of many wildlife artists around Fond du Lac.

Best of Show honors came as a novice in his first competition. He judged at several national competitions including the Ward Foundation World Championships in Maryland.

His many interests included local Softball and Volleyball teams into his 50’s. He collected Ephemera – turn of the century Victorian era paper - and searched for it while enjoying traveling the US with his family. Many winter nights were spent planning the summer adventures.

A Fan of our Brewers, Badgers and Packers he attended the famous Ice Bowl Game and went to Major League baseball parks in every city except for three, most with the help of his friend, Don Gorske.

Interest in the Corps of Discovery led him to the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and as a Badger State Chapter member served on the board of Directors.

Both he and Mary love genealogy and keep the family ancestry records; a trip to Germany’s Pommern area where the families emigrated from was a highlight.

In retirement, they built a log home near Shawano, cutting the trees he helped plant while in junior high school. On that site they held their wedding reception and have hosted numerous family gatherings.

Nothing meant more than family to him and he loved seeing how their three grown children used their talents. Spending time with their four grandchildren, his siblings and extended family gave him so much joy and they meant so much to him.

Preceding him in death were his parents Franklin and Eleanor (1982), brother Fran (2015), in-laws Evelyn (2000) and Orie Meyer (2008).

Missing Tom forever will be his loving wife of 47 years, Mary, son Kyle (Caryn Goron) and grandpets in Grants Pass, OR, daughter Jenny (Sam) Sonnenberg and children Ephraim and Elise in Mukwonago, WI, and daughter Sarah (Luke) Drake and children Charlotte and Vivian in Germantown, WI. Siblings are Sharon (Les) Thorson and Philip Strauss, Shawano, Tim (Carolyn) Strauss, Petoskey, MI, and sis-in-law Jane (Tom) Lewis, Alpine, CA. Beloved nieces and nephews and their children will miss his magic tricks, too. College friends, the Critters, were life-long dear friends.

To say he led a courageous battle almost 4 years with pancreatic cancer does not cover it all. He remained upbeat and positive to all he met. Thank-you go to Dr. Dana Vasquez at Agnesian HealthCare, Dr. Doug Evans at Froedtert Hospital, the wonderful staff at Agnesian Cancer Center, Agnesian Hospice Home Care and Dr. Choi and staff at the Agnesian Pain Clinic.

Additionally, the Badger State Chapter and the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation have lost a great friend and a tireless worker.

Our deep sympathy goes out to Mary and the rest of the Strauss family. We miss you, Tom.

Badger State Chapter Meeting Schedule

It is always a challenge to schedule our chapter meetings when we consider people's family responsibilities as well as consider people's travel plans, especially during the winter months when we head for warmer climates and then again during summer months when vacation schedules are in place. But this year, under the guidance of Badger Chapter Vice-President and Program Chair Jack Schroeder, we have developed a tentative schedule of meetings for the entire year. This tentative schedule is as follows:



March 10, 2018: Badger Chapter meeting at the De Forest Library, De Forest, WI. There will be a brief business meeting to update the membership on Chapter and Foundation happenings followed by a program to be announced in the official meeting notice.

May 19, 2018: Badger Chapter Board of Directors meeting at the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac, WI. This will primarily be a planning session and will be held to review, and discuss the status of the Chapter as well as programs and projects to better promote the Lewis and Clark story and trail as well as grow the chapter. This Board meeting will be open to members and the public so please plan to attend and contribute your thoughts and suggestions.

June 9, 2018: Badger State Chapter meeting at the Oconomowoc Public Library, Oconomowoc, WI. This will be a regular chapter meeting with an update on Lewis and Clark happenings and a program to be announced in the official meeting notice.

September 22, 2018: Annual Bison Picnic at Catnip Hollow, Mt. Horeb, WI which will include a brief Chapter meeting.

October 8, 2018: Badger State Chapter meeting at the annual meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation in Astoria, OR. A brief chapter meeting is typically held at Foundation annual meeting to discuss Foundation and Chapter news and activities.

December 8, 2018: Badger State Chapter Board of Directors meeting at the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac, WI. This Board meeting is intended to review the past year's activities and help plan for the year 2019. We hope to make this board meeting an annual planning event. Again, it will be open to all chapter members and the general public.

(Suggested save for later reference & planning)

Seaman Says-January 2018

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



April 4, 1807: Governor Lewis and I made the trip from Washington City to Philadelphia, the largest city in this country I am told. While I enjoyed our stay in Washington City and made many new friends, I am happy we were back on a trail and traveling once again. Washington City was too crowded, had too many meetings and too much sitting. The open country and fresh air reminds me of our late expedition and brings back many fond memories of places and the various species and humans I met.

Of course, being the largest city, Philadelphia has more buildings, more people and even more activity than Washington City. However, its buildings are mostly constructed and nicely arranged with people moving about in an orderly manner. Washington is still being constructed and seems to be in a situation of chaos which, I am informed, is not unusual for a city dedicated to government. But I understand that eventually, Washington will not be in chaos.

Governor Lewis and I have obtained lodging at the boardinghouse of a Mrs. Eliza Wood and while it does not in any way compare to Mr. Jefferson's White House, it will be comfortable enough for us. The Governor has brought numerous books, papers and plants with us and I suspect this will be another visit which will involve a lot of writing, reading and discussions with numerous people. I have to believe that the Governor would be much happier traveling on the western trail rather than using all of his time talking about the travel. I know I would.

But before the work we must, of course, have the celebrations or what the Philadelphia people call a "Ball". My Governor Lewis has been greeted with cheers and praise for our wonderful expedition to the West and many Balls have been held and more are planned. Of course, with the Ball come the ever present and numerous "toasts". I am beginning to wonder if there can be too many celebrations and toasts. They can be fun but are also a distraction to the duties we need to perform.



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 \$4,719.48 in the Treasury as of January 1, 2018. We have 72 paid Chapter members, out of the 80 we had last year. Chapter members come from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Montana, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Washington, Virginia, & Florida.

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