

CAROLINA CHAPTER
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
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President's Note

Happy New Year! Clara and I wish for all of you a most happy and rewarding 2014. Exciting things are in store for our chapter in this upcoming year. We have an excellent program planned for our February meeting and we will be working with Fort Southwest Point in Tennessee to implement the project funded by the Trail Stewardship grant that has recently been awarded. We are also talking with the Ohio River and Meriwether Lewis Chapters about the joint sponsorship of a regional meeting at Fort Southwest Point in October. Thanks to the efforts of chapter member Russ Eagle you will see an updated and improved newsletter. In August our national meeting will be held in Washington State at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers. In addition, I hope we can share some of our personal best Lewis and Clark travel experiences. I look forward to seeing you at the meetings and being in touch with you electronically.

Trent Strickland, president

Winter Meeting

Our winter meeting will be held on Saturday, February 8, in Kannapolis, N.C., at Johnny Carino's Restaurant. Johnny Carino's has a private meeting room that has been reserved for our meeting and we will be able to enjoy a self-pay lunch. The meeting will begin at 11:00 and will include a program by chapter members Russ and Liz Eagle entitled "A Lewis and Clark Odyssey." Russ and Liz reside in Salisbury, N.C., and became members of the Carolina Chapter last year. Russ retired last June as Assistant Superintendent of Lexington, N.C., City Schools and Liz is a math instructor at UNC Charlotte. The Eagles have one daughter and one granddaughter.

In August of 2013 Russ and Liz spent nine days on two of the few pristine sections remaining of the Lewis and Clark Trail, canoeing 47 miles down the Missouri River through the White Cliffs region, and then hiking up to and along the Lolo Trail for three days. They were led on this "expedition" by Clay Jenkinson of the Fort Mandan Foundation. Last October Russ also accompanied Clay on a tour of Thomas Jefferson's Virginia, and then earlier this month he returned to the Bitterroot Mountains with Clay to experience the Trail in winter conditions. The Eagles will talk about these travel experiences and present a photographic and video record of their trips.

It is clear from the above that Russ and Liz have had some unique Lewis and Clark educational and travel experiences and we are fortunate that they have agreed to share with us some of what they have experienced and learned over the past year.

Directions to the February 8 Meeting Site

Johnny Carino's is located at Exit 60 off I-85 north of Charlotte. The address is 2235 Roxie Street NE, Kannapolis, N.C. 28083. Traveling south take Exit 60 and go straight at the top of the ramp through the stoplight. The restaurant will be on your right after a couple of blocks. Northbound travelers should take Exit 60 and then take a left turn at the top of the ramp. Then at the stoplight take another left onto Roxie Street and the restaurant will be on the right after a couple of blocks.

Trail Stewardship Grant

The Carolina Chapter was awarded a Trail Stewardship Grant in the amount of \$7,500 that will be used this year to purchase and erect interpretive panels/markers at Fort Southwest Point in Kingston, Tennessee. All of the grant funds will be expended for purchase and erection of the panels at the city-owned historical park that is located on the original site in Kingston.

Fort Southwest Point was a frontier fort located near the confluence of the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers. It was from this fort in 1803 that four (some accounts say eight) soldiers were detached for duty with the Expedition. The four named soldiers were Corporal Richard Warfington and privates Hugh Hall, Thomas P. Howard and John Potts. Richard Warfington is the only member of the Expedition from the Carolinas. More information on Warfington can be found in an article written by Trent Strickland and published in the February, 2005, issue of We Proceeded On. The title of the article is "The Forgotten Sergeant." We Proceeded On articles can be found on the Foundation's website (www.lewisandclark.org). Information on Hall, Howard and Potts can be found in Appendix A, Volume 2 of The Definitive Journals of Lewis and Clark which are available online at: www.lewisandclarkjournals.unl.edu. One may also search "Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition" and go to the University of Nebraska website.

Several Trail Stewardship grants will be awarded this year. The funds for the grants were raised during the Lewis and Clark Expedition bicentennial through the sale of Commemorative Silver Dollars. The grant funds must be used for the purpose of preservation, protection, and interpretation of the natural, historic, educational, and cultural resources of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Chapter members will be kept informed of the grant activities and the focus of the program at the Spring Chapter meeting will be Fort Southwest Point and the four Expedition members who served there. Moreover, plans are being made with the Ohio River and Meriwether Lewis Chapters to hold a joint/regional meeting at Fort Southwest Point in late October of this year. More on this will be shared in the spring newsletter.

Swap and Share

If you have a Lewis and Clark book or item you would like to share with other chapter members, please bring it to the February 8 meeting.

Objects That Made America

If you have not already done so, please check out the November issue of Smithsonian Magazine and the profile of the 101 objects that made America. On page 27 there is a full page photo of Lewis and Clark's compass which is now in the American History Museum.

Dues for 2014

If you have not paid your dues for 2014, please forward your payment to our treasurer James Hendrix at the following address : P.O. Box 2094, Cashiers, N.C. 28717. Yearly dues are \$10.00 for an individual and \$15.00 for families.

Travel Memories (Trent and Clara)

The program scheduled for the February meeting reminded me of some of the special Lewis and Clark travel experiences Clara and I have enjoyed over the past 12 years. Like us and Russ and Liz Eagle, most (if not all) of our chapter members have experienced memorable travel on the "Trail." Sadly, we do not have the opportunity to share those experiences with other chapter members. With this in mind I want to invite chapter members to share their special Lewis and Clark travel experiences with all the members of our chapter. The following is our most recent Lewis and Clark travel memory.

Last summer Clara and I drove to the national meeting in Bismarck, North Dakota, leaving a week before the meeting with plans to visit some non-Lewis and Clark historical sites that interest us. We spent a few days in Richmond, Indiana, and enjoyed learning more about the Quakers that settled there from North Carolina. We then drove northwest and visited Little House on the Prairie sites in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and South Dakota (yes, we are Little House on the Prairie history fans). We then proceeded on to Pierre, S.D., and continued north following the "Trail" up to Mobridge, S.D., crossing the Missouri and connecting with Hwy. 1806 and on northward to Bismarck. On Hwy. 1806 we visited Fort Manuel which is thought to be where Sacagawea died.

The annual meeting in Bismarck was excellent - outstanding programs, a full day of interpretive tours of Fort Mandan L.&C. Interpretative Center, Fort Mandan (reconstructed replica fort on the Missouri River), site of Fort Hall, and the Knife River Indian Village (where Sacagawea lived).

The meeting ended on Wednesday evening and it was on Thursday morning that we had a very special Lewis and Clark travel moment that capped off a great trip. Before leaving Bismarck, we decided to visit Fort Abraham Lincoln and the adjacent On-a-Slant Village. Fort Abraham Lincoln is the fort from which Custer left on his final, fatal mission. On-a-Slant Village is a reconstructed Mandan village located on the original site.

We drove up to the infantry area of the Fort that is on a bluff overlooking the Calvary area of the fort and On-a-Slant Village. The weather was perfect and the views in all directions were stunning. Views of the Missouri River were picturesque.

We next went down to the visitor's center/museum. While enjoying the museum exhibits, I recognized the artist Charles Fritz who was also touring the fort. I remembered Mr. Fritz from the just completed annual meeting where he had received a special award from the LCTHF. He was traveling with a couple who were his friends and next door neighbors. I talked with the couple and they told me that they had just visited the infantry area on the bluff and Mr. Fritz had shown them the spot where he did his painting of the Missouri River. Mr. Fritz came over and joined our conversation and I chatted with him for a few minutes.

From this chance encounter at the Fort, I have become a Charles Fritz fan. If you would like to learn more about him, go to charlesfritz.com .

Please share your special Lewis and Clark travel memories with me and I will forward them to all our chapter members.

Trent Strickland