



# On The Ohio.....

The Newsletter of the Ohio River Chapter  
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

[www.lewisandclark.org](http://www.lewisandclark.org)

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## President's Message

From President Chuck Crase

As I sit at my computer writing this letter I am gazing out the window at the 10 inches of snow that fell with the winter storm. It reminds me of Kalamazoo weather and our first meeting there. I am looking forward to returning to the KLHS and I think it is a great experience for our Chapter. We could call it our annual spring meeting site. I encourage every chapter member to attend.

I have not had a great deal of time to devote to Lewis and Clark projects since the Berea meeting and fell behind in the work I had planned on several items. I do have catch up time before Kalamazoo and will update the membership at that meeting, and not in this newsletter as I had hoped.

I have started constructing an agenda for the K'zoo meeting. Please send me any items you want on the K'zoo Meeting Agenda at [afccecrase@roadrunner.com](mailto:afccecrase@roadrunner.com). I would also appreciate a brief summery letter with the item to clarify what the item is about and to include in the minutes to facilitate record keeping.

I have been working on a communications package for the ORC. We are a big group, geographically spread out, with a diversity of projects and interests. The Chapter could use a common denominator that defines who we are, what we do and what we stand for. I think that a Logo, Motto, Pin design, tee shirt and hat would be a start at creating a Chapter ID. This logo and motto along with contact information and basic Chapter information could the be used uniformly to advertise our Chapter on a business card, fold over membership brochure, a 2x3 nameplate poster to display at meetings and events, our webpage and our Facebook page. The idea is to distribute the same basic information to interested visitors and potential members. This information leads them all to the Chapter's website where detailed Chapter information is displayed. The website is linked to a Facebook page where the Chapter's activities and events are displayed with lots of photos to show what we are doing; such as Chapter meetings, regional meetings, grant projects and other interesting events, lectures and trips members have attended. I believe this would be an interesting project to work on, it could streamline our communications withh the outside world. It could help create a readily recognizable Chapter ID, and grant money may be available to help defray any costs.

I will be appointing a nominating committee in February to work on a slate of officers for next year. The Chapter would greatly benefit from more members being involved in the day to day activities of running the Chapter. Each member should be proud to serve the Chapter and the Membership with one year of service. Those Chapter members who want to serve on the nomonating committee or as a Chapter officer should e-

mail me at [afccecrase@roadrunner.com](mailto:afccecrase@roadrunner.com) Be quick about it, as my e-mail box is nearly full from back logged mail.

Cheers and Happy New Year to everyone/Chuck

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## Kalamazoo Living History Show

March 19-20, 2016

Kalamazoo, Michigan

More than 10,00 historical re-enactors, history enthusiasts and the general public will attend the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Kalamazoo Living History Show. The show is scheduled Saturday and Sunday March 19-20, 2016 (you do not have to attend both days.) the show takes place at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center, Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan. The show attracts artisans and vendors of pre-1890 living history supplies and related crafts. Other highlights include children's activities, Native American singing and dancing and artisan demonstration. The show is open 9:00-5:00 Saturday and Sunday with a one day admission price of \$7.00 and a two day admission of \$10.00. please check out their website at [www.KalamazooShow.com](http://www.KalamazooShow.com). For more detailed information, in particular for a map of the show location.

The Ohio River Chapter's Spring meeting (yes, the Spring meeting as the first day of Spring is March 20<sup>th</sup>, close enough) is Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> after an evening meal at the host hotel. If you have yet to make your hotel reservations, please do so as soon as possible. The Kalamazoo area is very busy that time of the year. Our host hotel is the Four Points by Sheraton Kalamazoo located at 3600 E. Cork Ct. in Kalamazoo. We have a block of rooms at \$95.00 plus tax



per night. Call 866-716-8133 using the name “Kalamazoo Living History Show” as your code. There is no advance registration fee, but we will need to make some reimbursements.

This is the third time the ORC has held a meeting during K’zoo. We have discovered (well maybe that was already known) that Lewis and Clark are very popular with the living history community. Anyway, the ORC display is very popular and several times ORC members have been involved with show presentations. Again, this year Skip Jackson (aka Meriwether Lewis), Chuck Crase, Rich Hennings, Jerry Wilson. Mike Dotson and others will be involved with such presentations. If any other members have historical presentations please let me know. However, you must be in period clothing for the presentations and if you volunteer to help at the display tables.

If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Wilson at 812-689-5172 Or [wilsonjkw@yahoo.com](mailto:wilsonjkw@yahoo.com)

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### **From the Journals**

September 5<sup>th</sup>

Again foggy, loaded both my canoes and waited until the fog disappeared set out at 8 OCl. had some difficulty in passing several riffles today but surmounted it without having recourse to horses or oxen— rained at six this evening and continued with some intervals through the night to rain pretty heard; took up at the head of Brown’s Island; it grew very dark and my canoes which had on board the most valuable part of my stores had not come up; ordered the trumpet to be sound and they answered. — they came up in a few minutes after; the stores in the canoes being well secured with oil cloth I concluded to let them remain on board and directed that the water which they maid should be bailed out of them occasionally through the night, which was done— they still leaked considerably notwithstanding the repairs which I had made on them; we came 16 miles this day;

Meriwether Lewis, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1803

From the Definitive Journals of Lewis and Clark by Gary E. Moulton, University of Nebraska Press



### **From the Membership**

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#### **The Corps and the War of 1812**

Lorna Hainesworth is scheduled to give her presentation titled “The Corps and the War of 1812” to the Badger State Chapter on April 16 at the DeForest Public Library in DeForest, WI. On April 17 she will give the same presentation to the St. Louis Greater Metro Chapter at the Boat House in St, Charles, MO and on April 18 will present this talk to the Illini Chapter at the Downers Grove Public Library, Downers Grove, IL a companion paper by the same title is available by way of a PDF. The text covers those members of the Corrps of Discovery who had a significant life experience during the period of the War of 1812 from the Embargo Act in 1807 through the Treaties at Portage des Sioux in 1815. The paper also includes descriptions of War of 1812

related experience for persons associated with the Lewis and Clark Expedition. For further information contact Lorna Hainesworth at [lornament@comcast.net](mailto:lornament@comcast.net) or call 410-655-8492

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## **Lewis and Clark Wellness Program**

The Wellness Challenge is off to a good start. There are 12 teams registered with a total of 47 participants. Currently the Ohio River Mile Trackers are in second place, although all teams have not reported their November/December points.

The Harpers Ferry t-shirts have been designed and ordering information appeared in the recent Orderly Report. This information will also appear in the next Orderly Report as well as be placed on the Foundation website. Proceeds from the sale of the shirts will go to the Wellness program.

Submitted by Janice Wilson

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## **Private William Bratton**

An update/overview from E. Colleen Duncan

Nestled in the rolling farm ground of West Central Indiana, at the edge of the small community of Waynsetown, lies the burial place in Old Pioneer Cemetery of Pvt. William Bratton, Corps of Discovery, Lewis and Clark Expedition. Pvt. William Bratton was recruited by Capt. William Clark as one of the nine young frontiersmen from the Indiana/Kentucky territory. Bratton went the entire distance and back again on the westward exploration as a member of the permanent party.

Bratton received a commendation document of exceptional service from Capt. Meriwether Lewis and his exploration issue of \$178.31 in addition to a landgrant of 360 acres in Missouri where he lived for several years. Bratton sold the Missouri land then moved back to Kentucky where he married Mary Maxwell. He and Mary settled on the Indiana frontier in Montgomery County, Wayne Township. Bratton became a farmer and raised a large family.

Pvt. William Bratton's burial place in Old Pioneer Cemetery is marked by an Indiana Roadside Marker. The Ohio River Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. held their 2002 Spring Meeting in conjunction with the dedication ceremony of Bratton's Indiana Roadside Marker.

The Wayne Township trustee maintains Old Pioneer Cemetery in fine order. the Ladies Auxiliary Post 445 of the Waynetown American Legion (disbanded in 2015) take care of placing the American flag for military service on Pvt. William Bratton's grave.

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## **“The Role of Women in the Lewis and Clark Expedition”**

Of the many fine presentations that Ron Laycock has given over the years, “The Role of Women in the Lewis and Clark Expedition” ranks high on his list of favorites. In this presentation, Ron covers the first woman who was a member, even a paid member, of the expedition. Unlike Sacajawea, she actually applied for the position.

During his presentation, Ron uses entries from the journals to help tell the story of the Mrs. Cane.

January 1, 1804. “A woman came forward wishing to wash and do such things as may be necessary for the detachment



January 6, 1804. "I ordered those men who had fought , got drunk and neglected duty to go and build a hut for a woman who promises to wash & sew." A woman was housed at the fort

Clark was sick much of the month of January. On January 5<sup>th</sup> he wrote; "Still sick. The frenchman and wife came to see us today. Mrs. Cane also."

April 15<sup>th</sup>. "Settled with Mrs. Cane for all this day, and paid her."

Hopefully, in the future, more information will come to light about this mysterious member of the Expedition and we will know much more about one of the women who contributed to the success of the Expedition.

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## From Colter's Creek

### Nez Perce country

While researching Expedition medical supplies purchased by Israel Whelan at Gillaspay & Strong Apothecary in Philadelphia, I found Dr. Gregory Higby's work on the website "Discovering Lewis & Clark." While I have supplied my medical chests with Pettit Tournequets, most common during the era, this is the one that Lewis most likely carried.

My neighbor, who is a machinist, and I worked up a replica since none apparently exist in museums and collections around the world.

Come to Harpers Ferry this summer to hear "the rest of the story."

John Fisher.



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**Colonial Terms**

Clothes press – Closet for storage, movable upright closet

Cobler – One who mends or makes boots or shoes

Cricket – A low footstool

Deft - A glazed white paste earthenware

From [www.chaddsfordhistory.org](http://www.chaddsfordhistory.org)

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Thanks to each member who came forward with articles that help make your newsletter more interesting. Hope to see all of you at the Kalamazoo Living History Show the the ORC Spring Meeting.

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**Ohio River Chapter Officers**

- President.....Chuck Crase                    [afccecrase@roadrunner.com](mailto:afccecrase@roadrunner.com)
- Vice-president.....Jerry Wilson                    [wilsonjkw@yahoo.com](mailto:wilsonjkw@yahoo.com)
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- Treasurer.....Skip Jackson                    [jackson.skip@yahoo.com](mailto:jackson.skip@yahoo.com)