

Camp River Dubois Dispatch

January – March 2011 Official Newsletter of the Lewis and Clark Society and the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site

Volume 2 Issue 1

From the Desk of the President

By Rex Maynard, President

"The Clueless and Lark Expedition began at this very spot," the guide bellowed. The 4th grade boys and girls looked expectantly where he pointed in the shade of two massive trees. "That's why I like to talk about them here," he continued as he hitched his thumbs beneath his red, white and blue suspenders which appeared to be patriotic lines of longitude splitting his girth into three equal sections. "The Clueless and Lark Expedition was the most important thing to ever happen in America. It was the real foundation of this country. We can thank those two men who met here for the first time for everything we have or ever will have."

Amid the oohs and aahs of the 9 year olds, he pulled at a red kerchief hanging limply in his back pocket and started brusquely wiping at his forehead without ceasing his narration. "Merne and Bill decided from this time forward they would go all the way across the country, just to see what was there. They braved many dangers with just the help of an Indian princess, an escaped slave and a Labrador dog. They climbed mountains; they crossed swamps, wrestled alligators and rode on buffalo." A thin, four-eyed boy in the back row looked up from his book quizzically. He pressed the bottom of the book into his striped shirt and started whipping through the pages, but did not find a single alligator.

"They had to fight wild Indians all the way up the Mississippi River, but the meanest ones they faced were the red-headed tribes. These tribes were so mean that they hit their own babies in the head with boards until their heads were flat." All the children distorted their faces with disgust, except for the frenzied face of the thin boy in the back feverishly flipping through his book looking for an alligator. "Not only were Clueless and Lark explorers, they were scientists too. They discovered and named

(see President's Message page 2)

Manager's Corner

By Brad Winn, Site Manager

I am not sure if it is just me, but it certainly feels like Spring has Sprung here at the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site. It has been a rough winter for all of us this year; I know we have had more snow this winter already than we have ever had since the site was opened. I for one am hoping that the ol' Groundhog was right and we will see an early Spring!! We have some groundhogs around Hartford, I am wondering if maybe we should start our own Groundhog tradition, perhaps it might help us to predict rainfall for the May Event?!

Despite the harsh weather it has been a pretty solid winter thus far. We took the White Pirogue up to the Chain of Rocks Bridge in January and spoke to close to 1,000 visitors to the Illinois side, by far our best season in the 5+ years we have been going to the Bridge for Eagle Days. The Tower has had a wonderful winter season with their Eagle programs and winter events and continues to be a great partner for the Historic Site. Our attendance numbers have been pretty good all things considered.

We are all looking forward to the return of the school groups this Spring, our school group numbers are down a little bit compared to last year's bookings but I look for that to pick up here shortly. I know many schools are facing tough challenges which emphasize all the more our efforts at outreach and the importance of Education Day. It is obvious from the comments we hear from teachers and visitors that we have truly become a community Historic Site for both sides of the River. It will be another challenging year staffing wise but we will "proceed on" like we always have! Get ready this summer to see some major repair and improvements to Camp River Dubois.

(see Manager's Corner page 2)



Calendar of Events

Tuesday, March 15, 2011, 5:30 PM—Lewis and Clark State Historic Site: *Lewis and Clark Society Board of Directors Meeting.*

Saturday, March 19, 2011, 10 AM to 4 PM — Lewis and Clark State Historic Site — Men at Work - Artisans will be demonstrating early American crafts

Sunday, March 20, 2011, 10 AM to 4 PM — Lewis and Clark State Historic Site — Women Come-by - In conjunction with Men at Work, the women of the settlers' cabin will be demonstrating their cooking skills over hearth and fire pit.



Sunday, March 20, 2011, 1 PM — Lewis and Clark State Historic Site — General Membership Meeting—The program will Women Come By and will center on a pioneer dinner.

Tuesday, April 19, 2011, 5:30 PM—Lewis and Clark State Historic Site: *Lewis and Clark Society Board of Directors Meeting.*

Saturday, May 14 and Sunday May 15, 2011 10 AM to 4 PM — Lewis and Clark State Historic Site: — The Detachment is ready to head west, up the Missouri River...Re-enactors will portray expedition members executing marching drills, cooking and shooting demonstrations. Early American artisans will be demonstrating as well, such activities as woodworking and candle making

Tuesday, May 17, 2011, 5:30 PM—Lewis and Clark State Historic Site: *Lewis and Clark Society Board of Directors Meeting.*

Sunday, June 12, 2011, 1 PM — Lewis and Clark State Historic Site — General Membership Meeting — Programming is being worked on for this meeting but we are hoping to be able to have a speaker and several displays. Please mark your calendars.

Tuesday, June 21, 2011, 5:30 PM—Lewis and Clark State Historic Site: *Lewis and Clark Society Board of Directors Meeting.*

Thank You Volunteers!

By Cindy Upchurch

Mark your calendars, the 2011 Volunteer Dinner will be in the Trimpe Room at the Lewis and Clark Community College, Godfrey on October 21, 2011 in the evening.

The numbers are in ... Volunteer hours for the Site in 2010 are 5,754. This includes site volunteers, The Detachment, special events and outreach. Thank you so much for all your help, assistance and time.. Without the volunteers the Site would be so hindered. The numbers for the Store of Discovery are in for 2010 also. Volunteer hours for the Store are 3,281.5. Again, thank you for your volunteer service.

Manager's Corner

Continued from page 1

We will be starting in mid to late Spring with repairs to the damage in the Camp and will also start hopefully this summer with the sidewalk extension project to the Camp and the Settlers Cabin, so get your hard hats ready, or in my case I am hard-headed enough!

President's Message

Continued from page 1

'most every animal in the west, like the yellow-bellied sapsucker and the blue-bellied sapsucker. They had to use the sun and moon and stars to guide themselves, but, of course, as you know it gets darker in the west at night, which made it a lot harder."

At this moment, the absent red-faced teacher of the children came huffing up to them with a pale, blonde girl in tow. The girl's eyes were red-rimmed, her lips pinched tightly as if she was thinking of regurgitating again, but was trying to fight it. "Children," Mrs. Evans said authoritatively, "we need to head for the bus, but before we go let us thank our guide."

The children in unison said, "Thank you, Mr. Maynard."

At that, I awoke from my nightmare, panting and glistening with sweat. I sat on the edge of the bed and through the dim red glow of the clock radio I could see hanging on my closet door my brand new red, white and blue suspenders.

The truth is out there, do you know it?

Eagle Day 2011 Pictures January 15 & 16, 2011



Among the Nez Perce

By Joe Frazier

The Lewis and Clark expedition spent two episodes among the Nez Perce Indians who were probably the most important Indians with respect to the survival and successful completion of the expedition.

The Expedition staggered into the Nez Perce camps in September 1805 after their harrowing struggle over the Lolo Trail, across those most “terrible Bitterroot mountains” in dire need of food and rest and the Nez Perce provided it. They would spend nearly 3 weeks with them before they proceeded on down the Clearwater River.

On the westward trek, the Lolo Trail proved to be cruel and unforgiving. On Sept. 17 they decided that Clark and a few hunters would press ahead to find food and 2 days later Clark and his hunters emerged onto Weippe Prairie and the Nez Perce villages. They were welcomed with dried salmon and camas bread and they ate with abandon. The root bread produced diarrhea and painful intestinal gas. The next day, Clark sent Rueben Field back along the trail with food for the rest of the expedition. An Indian woman, Watkuweis, urged her people not to kill the expedition but to treat them with hospitality. On Sept 22, Lewis’ hungry and much fatigued party, had a glad reunion with Clark who warned them about eating too much dried fish and camas bread but they were hungry and paid the consequences.

They collected info on the trip ahead. Chief Twisted Hair drew an accurate map of the rivers on a whitened elk skin. The Nez Perce agreed to care for their horses and showed them how to burn out the center of pine logs to make 5 more dugout canoes.

On Oct.7 the expedition headed down the Clearwater River to the Snake River and then to the great Columbia.

After leaving Ft Clatsop on March 23, too early for a quick trip across the Lolo Trail on their way back to the United States, the Expedition reached the Nez Perce camps. On

May 4, the expedition reached the first of the Nez Perce lodges on the NE side of the Clearwater river near present day Lewiston, Id. They camped with Twisted hair and Cut Nose while Clark was doctoring with eyewash and trading for additional horses which they butchered. They asked for more food and were given roots and dried salmon and as many horses as needed for fresh meat. They spent the first evening feasting on prime horse meat, smoking friendly pipes, talking and fiddling.

On May 12 they found a good campsite on the Clearwater, near present day Kamiah, Id. with good hunting, good pasture and fresh salmon in the river. They would spend nearly a month here. (the Long Camp or Camp Kamiah) While waiting for the snow to melt, they traded, doctored, participated in sports and sex. In early June there were tests of skill and strength and athletic contests, foot races and target shooting.

On June 15, against the advice of the Indians, they made a false start over the Lolo Trail but had to turn back 2 days later because of the deep snow. They left again on June 24, led by 3 Nez Perce guides. Led by these experienced guides, the expedition made a swift and safe passage over these terrible mountains and enjoyed the soothing waters of Lolo Hot Springs before arriving at Travelers Rest on July 1.

Store of Discovery

By Ron Goldsmith

The Store of Discovery had very strong sales in 2010. We finished the year with net sales of \$5500 more than sales in 2009. This was possible only because of the many volunteers who worked in the store and everyone who made purchases. The store would cease to exist without that help. Some may wonder what happens to the funds generated through those sales.

It takes about 70% of the money generated from sales to operate the store. Most of that 70% is used to replace the inventory that has been sold. The rest is used to pay for all remaining costs that include the telephone lines, the charge made by credit card companies that allow us to make credit card sales, and insurance and an outside audit that are required by the Society's contract with the state of Illinois that gives us the right to operate the store. Unlike some of the larger historic site gift shops, no salaries are paid to anyone working in the store. Everyone associated with the store is a volunteer. We would welcome any additional help that you might wish to provide. The remaining funds generated by the store are given to the Society which in turn provides money for the many educational programs and activities carried out by the staff. The store was able to provide more than \$16,000 for those activities during 2010. Put another way, the Society received approximately \$6600 more last year than it received the last year the store was operated by an outside agency. That should erase any doubts that may have been raised when the Society voted to purchase the store and operate it independently.

Updated Bookmark Available Soon

By Ron Goldsmith

The bookmark giving a brief history of the Society that was available for several years has been updated and will soon be available in the Store of Discovery. The reverse side of the bookmark had a membership application and that, too, has been revised. The proof has been received and returned to the printer. There will be no charge for the bookmarks and they should be available any day.

Stop by the store and pick up one yours up Several new books related to Lewis and Clark have become available in the store. The store managers believe it is their obligation to continue providing a wide variety of books dealing with the individuals who made one of the greatest explorations of all time.

Emblem of the United States of America – The Bald Eagle

By Tim Raymer

Our National Emblem, the bald eagle was chosen June 20, 1782 as the emblem of the United States of America, because of its long life, great strength and majestic looks, and also because it was then believed to exist only on this continent.

As we find on many of our gold and silver coins we see an eagle with outspread wings; on the Great seal



of the United States and in many places which are exponents of our nation's authority we see the same emblem. The eagle represents freedom. Living as he does on the tops of lofty mountains and amid the solitary grandeur of Nature, he has unlimited freedom, whether with strong pinions he sweeps into the valleys far below, or upward into the boundless spaces beyond.

This story may or may not be true, Maude M. Grant reported this story: It is said the eagle was used as a national emblem because at one of the first battles of the Revolution (which occurred early in the morning the noise of the struggle awoke the sleeping eagles on the heights and they flew from their nests and circled about

over the heads of the fighting men all the while giving vent to their raucous cries. "They are shrieking for Freedom" said the patriots.

True or not, thus the eagle, full of the boundless spirit of freedom, living high above the valleys, strong and powerful in his might has become the national emblem of this great nation, a country that offers freedom in word and thought, an opportunity for a full and free expansion into the future.

When the Great Seal of the United States was adopted in 1782, the Seal shows a wide spread eagle faced front having on his breast a shield with thirteen perpendicular red and white stripes surmounted by a blue shield with the same number of stars. In his right talon the eagle holds an olive branch in his left talon a bundle of thirteen arrows, and in his beak he carries a scroll inscribed with the motto "E Pluribus Unum".

At the Second Continental Congress, after the thirteen colonies voted to declare independence from Great Britain, the colonies determined they needed an official seal. So, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson as a committee prepared a device for a Seal of the United States of America. However, the only portion of the design accepted by the congress was the statement *E Pluribus Unum*, attributed to Thomas Jefferson.

Six years and two committees later, in May of 1782, the brother of a Philadelphia naturalist provided a drawing showing an eagle displayed as the symbol of "supreme power and authority." Congress liked the drawing, so before the end of 1782, an eagle holding a bundle of arrows in one talon and olive branch in the other was accepted as the seal. The image was completed with a shield of red and white stripes covering the breast of the bird, a crest above of the bird, a crest above the eagle's head, with a cluster of thirteen stars surrounded by bright rays going out to a ring of cloud; and a banner; held by the eagle in its bill, bearing the words, *E pluribus Unum*. This only happened after many states had already used the eagle in their coat of arms, as New York State did in 1778. The official seal has undergone some modifications in the last two hundred years; the basic design is the same.

Lewis and Clark SHS Volunteer Application

Name_____ Phone_____

(Please write clearly)

Street Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

If presently employed, name of firm_____

Indicate special skills, hobbies or interests_____

How did you become interested in our volunteer program_____

Volunteer experience_____

Work experience_____

Do you prefer to work in the Visitor's Center, gift shop, Camp River Dubois, special events or other?_____

Please circle the days of the week you can volunteer.

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN

All Day or am/pm shift

(Monday and Tuesday are seasonal)

Number of hours you can work: Monthly_____ Weekly_____

Other information you feel pertinent to your application:_____

Contact in case of emergency

Name_____ Relationship_____

Home Phone_____ Work Phone_____

Signature_____ Date_____

Please submit application to: Lewis and Clark SHS, Attention Volunteer Program, 1 Lewis and Clark Trail, Hartford, IL 62048

Thank you for your interest in Lewis and Clark State Historic Site

Commemorating the Point of Departure Since 1957



Lewis and Clark Society of America
#1 Lewis and Clark Trail
Hartford, IL 62048
www.lewisandclarksociety.org

Lewis and Clark Society of America Membership Information

The Lewis and Clark Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public about the immense importance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The dues structure is:

Student	\$10	_____
Individual	\$20	_____
Family	\$30	_____
Business	\$45	_____
Non Profit Organization	\$35	_____

Make checks payable to Lewis and Clark Society of America and mail to #1 Lewis and Clark Trail, Hartford IL 62048. Members receive a ten per cent discount on items purchased in the Store of Discovery.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

This newsletter is a publication of the Lewis and Clark Society of America, Inc., and the IL Lewis and Clark State Historic Site. All Society members and Site volunteers are invited to contribute articles or photographs to the newsletter. Articles published do not necessarily represent the opinion or policy of the Lewis and Clark Society of America, its Board of Directors or its Officers. The Camp River Dispatch will be published on a quarterly basis and mail at approximately the first of March, June, September and December. Please submit any items for inclusion approximately one month in advance by email to LCSA@CampRiverDubois.com

or by mail to:

Lewis and Clark Society of America
Newsletter
#1 Lewis and Clark Trail
Hartford, IL 62048.

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