



# Mouth of the Platte Newsletter

## Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

Volume 2012, Issue 3

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September 2012

### Good News



Distinguished Service Award Recipient

submitted by Mary Langhorst

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Sgt. Floyd Tri-State Chapter member Beverly J. Hinds of Sioux City, Iowa, was presented with the 2012 Distinguished Service Award by the Foundation at its annual meeting in Clarks-ville, Indiana.

Bev's husband, Stroud, first met other Lewis and Clark enthusiasts and knew immediately this was a group to which they belonged. For years the couple was a pillar of strength for the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation by serving on boards and committees both locally and nationally. Among their many accomplishments was the almost single-handed hosting of a national annual meeting in Sioux City.

On her own, Bev continues to be a fount of knowledge as she passionately shares the stories of the Expedition. For years she has been affiliated with the Sergeant Floyd Visitor Center where she informs visitors and school groups. [Finding Floyd's disembodied, reconstructed head in her living room is one of her favorite tales.] She is the irresistible force behind the annual reenactment of Floyd's burial on the grounds of the Sgt. Floyd Monument National Historic Site. In recent years, Bev has become a prominent member of the Middle Missouri Lewis and Clark Network (MIDMO), which coordinates Lewis and Clark related activities and sites in communities along the Missouri River in the South Dakota, Iowa, and Nebraska region.

Congratulations, Bev. You are well deserving of this award and an inspiration!

### Bad News

#### Mall Donates Murals to City

Southern Hills Mall, which is under-going renovation by its new management, is donating its 38 Lewis and Clark murals to the Sioux City Public Museum. Museum Director Steve Hansen said mall officials agreed on July 12 to provide the paintings to the city, which were packaged and moved within two weeks. The murals are expected to be displayed at the 607 Fourth St. museum.

The works, which measure 296 feet long and 8 feet high, were installed in April 2003 to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. It was one of many bicentennial installations and events coordinated through the efforts of Bev Hinds.



### And a Little In Between News

#### Tuesday Study Group Moves...

...to Wednesday

The MOP Lewis and Clark Study Group met on a reduced schedule during the summer, meeting only the second week of the month. Fall brings a return to weekly meetings, week of monthly dinner meeting excepted, but a change to the day. Budget cuts by the Iowa State Historic Society have closed the Western Historic Trails Center on Mondays and Tuesdays. As a result, MOP Study Group will now meet at 9 a.m. on Wednesdays, beginning September 5. Come join us, it is guaranteed to be a lively discussion.

#### Other Changes at WHTC

On September 9, 2012, MOP member KC Collins Hummel will be retiring as site manager for the Western Historic Trails Center. Her support of MOP study group, White Catfish Camp and other activities over the years has been an essential part of the success this chapter has enjoyed. It will be difficult to replace the enthusiasm and creativity she has provided through her position at WHTC. MOP will continue to benefit from her leadership as a member of the chapter board.

Come celebration her years of service and wish her a happy future at a special noon Toast and Jam session, Thursday, September 6, at WHTC.

Mouth of the Platte Chapter  
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage  
Foundation, Inc.



**Keepers of the Story....  
...Stewards of the Trail**

Monthly meetings held third Tuesdays  
Social time 5:30  
Dinner 6:00  
Program about 7:00

2012-2013 Meeting Schedule:  
11 September  
16 October  
20 November  
18 December  
15 January  
19 February  
19 March  
16 April  
21 May

**Annual events:**

June: Lewis and Clark Festival  
Lewis and Clark State Park  
Onawa, IA  
July: White Catfish Camp  
Western Historic Trails Center  
Council Bluffs, IA

**Wednesday Morning Study Group:**

9 a.m., most weeks  
Western Historic Trails Center  
3434 Richard Downing Ave.  
Council Bluffs, IA

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## **President's Note: Your Time to Serve/Shine**

This past year, as your president, I am sure my inexperience showed many times. My life training as a mother, hairdresser and later as a teacher of Lewis and Clark programs gave me experience working with people and this is what I have enjoyed doing most with Mouth of the Platte. This past year has been a great learning experience, as well, and I have to thank my patient board, KC Collins-Hummel, Mary Langhorst, Della Bauer, Dick Williams and Fr. Tom Coenen, and the volunteers who showed up at our events to help, for all of their cooperation. My plan was to make a difference by volunteering to be president. I can't say that this has happened I can only state that I gave it my best effort.

We have 70+ members right now in Mouth of the Platte and I am asking some of you to step up and volunteer some time to be a board member. We have five board members leaving service this year and I am one of them. As yet, we don't even have a nominating committee. Thus we have no nominees for next year's board. What is the future of Mouth of the Platte? We need some good people to answer the call. To pile the work on the same few persons year after year is asking too much.

So here I ask you to look into your soul and into the future of our organization, keeping in mind what you yourself are willing to do in the coming year. If you can imagine everyone else in our chapter doing the same, you will have the answer to the future of Mouth of the Platte.

Snowflakes melt alone, but together they can be traffic stoppers!

To quote Mohamed Ali, "Service to others is the payment you make for your space here on earth."

Shirley Enos, President

## DID THE KEELBOAT HAVE A NAME?

submitted by Evelyn Orr

Early this year, a Lewis and Clark historian wrote in a historical publication: "Lewis christened the keelboat *Discovery*." The author was asked where that reference can be found. A friendly reply suggested checking in Vol. 2, Moulton edition of the Lewis and Clark journals. I had no luck finding the reference.

Two web searches (<http://www.ask.com/questions-about/>; <http://wiki.answers.com/Q/>) for the name of the Lewis and Clark keelboat yielded the same result: "Lewis named it *Discovery*." Another wiki entry stated: "The name was *Keelboat* it was used thru out the journey." No sources were offered in support of these statements.

Their official expedition name was *Corps of Volunteers for North Western Discovery* as Lewis defined it on August 26, 1804 (Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Vol 3, p. 14, Moulton ed.). For convenience, the expedition's name has been shortened to *Corps of Discovery*.

The Discovering Lewis and Clark website (<http://lewis-clark.org>) contains authoritative, peer-reviewed information. The [Flagship-Barge-Keelboat](#) article provides a comprehensive discussion of the expedition boats. It states:

*Lewis and Clark were free to call their flag ship whatever they pleased. Nearly six times out of ten they opted for the generic "boat." The rest of the time, perhaps in a spirit of nautical pride, they referred to it as "the barge." ...never ever did they call it anything else but a barge or boat? They simply call it the boat 190 times, or less often the barge, 32 times.... The word keelboat spelled as two words or one appears four times in the extant journals, and then only in reference to watercraft used by other travelers they met on the lower Missouri.*

The above information gleaned from the journals indicates they did not use the name keelboat throughout the journey as suggested by the wiki. The keelboat name *Discovery* does not appear to be in the journals. Can anyone provide information documenting when or where Lewis named the keelboat *Discovery*? I am willing to believe, when evidence is presented.

You may send your ideas directly to Evelyn Orr, Mouth of Platte Chapter LCTHF, 8310 Emmet Street, Omaha, NE 68134.

## To The Westward and Back Part II

## *Making Ready*

President Thomas Jefferson wanted to find an all water route to the Pacific Ocean known as The Northwest Passage. He also wanted to find the headwaters of the Missouri River. With these two accomplishments, he hoped to claim trade on this water route for the United States and perhaps with Asia across that ocean. The United States had just purchased a huge piece of land from France that more than doubled the size of the United States. This was The Louisiana Purchase. Jefferson wanted this new land explored and he picked Meriwether Lewis as the leader of an expedition to explore this land and on to the Pacific.

Meriwether Lewis knew the huge responsibility put upon him by President Jefferson. He looked to his friend William Clark for help. Lewis served under Clark when they were in the Army earlier and were good friends. In June of 1803, Lewis offered Clark the office of Captain to co-lead with him. As it turned out, the Army would only give Clark the rank of Lieutenant. This was not mentioned to the men of the expedition and Lewis and Clark were both addressed as Captains and led together.

Much had to be done to prepare. In March of 1803, Lewis traveled to Harpers Ferry, Virginia, an Army arsenal, to make purchases for the expedition. He ordered rifles, muskets, repair parts, an air gun, tomahawks, large knives, powder horns and pouches, extra locks, tools, fish gigs, grind stones and mosquito netting. He also had an experimental iron boat frame constructed. This frame was put together later in the expedition and covered with animal hides to make an extra boat. The experiment failed.

President Jefferson arranged for Lewis to study with experts in astronomy, botany, medicine, taxidermy, natural sciences, fossils, and mathematics, among other things. He studied at several locations in Pennsylvania to prepare for this long trip. There would be none of these experts on the journey and Meriwether Lewis learned enough to be able to keep good records, be a doctor to his men, navigate by the stars and keep plant and animals samples correctly. From April through June of 1803, Lewis was traveling and studying.

In July of 1803, William Clark agreed to accompany Lewis on this expedition and began recruiting men. From Army forts in the area of

Clarksville, Indiana, Clark contacted many men. He lived here and perhaps knew some of these men already. The famous "Nine Young Men of Kentucky" were recruited here. Officers in charge of various forts in the area were instructed to help find good men among their enlisted. As they traveled down the Ohio River, they stopped at forts along the way to collect more men. This would be a military expedition and using men already enlisted kept their cost down. These men needed to be young, strong and unmarried. They needed to be capable of living for long periods of time in the wild and be good woodsmen, boatmen, carpenters, cooks, tailors, interpreters and hunters.

Many supplies had to be collected for this long journey as well. Meriwether Lewis had eleven pages of lists. How much food to take? What kind of food? Lewis took along 193 pounds of portable soup for which he paid \$289.50. How many rifles and how much ammunition? Lewis took along lead containers for gunpowder that could be melted down and used for rifle balls after they were empty. He also ordered 30 different kinds of medicines, a lot of paper and powdered ink packets.

They would need gift items for the many native tribes they would meet along the way, gifts such as trade beads, colorful fabric, needles, mirrors, burning glasses, small kettles, knives and scissors to name a few.

A big question that couldn't be answered was how long would they be gone? They did not know. It must have been hard to plan not knowing that.

In July of 1803, Lewis returned to Harpers Ferry to collect the 3,500 pounds of supplies he had ordered and sent them to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on a Conestoga wagon. In Pittsburgh, Meriwether Lewis had a 55 foot long keel boat built. The supplies were loaded on the boat with the men collected so far and floated down the Ohio River, up the Mississippi River to a location near St. Louis. They built Camp Dubois along the Wood River and waited for the official transfer of the Louisiana Purchase lands from France to America. The treaty was signed in Paris May 2, 1803. On March 9 and 10 of 1804, official ceremonies were held to transfer the land to the United States. The expedition set out on May 14, 1804.



**The 48 contiguous U.S. States**

**On The Map Locate:**

- Harpers Ferry, Virginia
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Camp Dubois in Illinois

**Things to Consider:**

- Why did Captain Lewis need to know astronomy?
- Why would the men for the expedition need to be unmarried?
- What is a burning glass?
- Do you know how many times the rifles of 1804 could fire before they had to be reloaded?
- Do you think the men of the expedition liked the portable soup Captain Lewis brought along?

For a complete list of supplies for the expedition look go to:

[http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/inside/idx\\_equ.html](http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/inside/idx_equ.html)

In our next issue: "The Boats of the Expedition"

T O M A H A W K S P P V Z B O O K S  
 S H G R I N D S T O N E L D K G T W  
 S E Z M T N L T S W Z H C P F X M A  
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- Boats
- Books
- Clothing
- Compass
- Drugs
- Fish Gigs
- Grind Stone
- Gun Slings
- Large Knives
- Locks
- Maps
- Medical Supplies
- Muskets
- Pouches
- Powder Horn
- Rifles
- Sextant
- Tomahawks
- Tools
- Watch Chronometer



## Lewis and Clark Country Family Days

submitted by Shirley Enos

Our educational mission this year for the Mouth of the Platte Chapter was to host free family-oriented activities open to the public during the summer. We initiated "*Lewis and Clark Country Family Days*," which were held every fourth Sunday, April through August, at the Western Historic Trails Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Volunteers worked long hours preparing for the programs in committee meetings, collecting supplies and making crafts ready, lining up speakers, organizing groups for period demonstrations, making posters, advertising, and scheduling our volunteers for each Sunday.

Each *Family Day* afternoon began with a short movie, *We Proceeded On*, followed by a guest speaker. In April, Matt "Sitting Bear" Jones (Kiowa/Otoe-Missouri) shared his cultural perspective on "The Otoe and Missouri Nations Encountered by Lewis and Clark and the Loss of Their Culture." In May, Darrel Draper slipped into his amazing interpretation of "George Drouillard, Hunter, Interpreter and Guide for Lewis and Clark." Our June program, "The Four Attempts by the Spanish to Stop the Expedition," was presented by MOP member Evelyn Orr. During a 104 degree Sunday in July, Butch Bouvier spoke on "The Boats of the Expedition" in front of his replica keel boat outside the Trails Center! Our August program was a presentation for children on the American bison. This involved dressing up a volunteer from the audience in a costume. As each part of the bison and its use was explained, a piece was added. The volunteer child was fully clothed as a bison by the time the program ended.

Period demonstrations of lace makers, mountain men, and Native American beading were offered each day. Hands-on and demonstration crafts were ongoing through the afternoons. The many Lewis and Clark related crafts included figures of Jefferson, Lewis, Clark, Sacagawea and York; Keel Boats, Pirogues, Northwest Canoes, Bull Boats; Sun Catchers, Dream Catchers, Jefferson Peace Medals, among others.

Our volunteer base was extremely dedicated and reliable. I thank them all for the hard work they performed setting up and tearing down each Sunday, along with the preparations and planning. How can we do what we do without dedicated volunteers? Each brought to the experience their knowledge, patience, and their desire to help and make this chapter work.

I can't sign off without thanking KC Collins Hummel and the Western Historic Trails Center. They were a huge part of our endeavors. I thank KC for her patience, hard work and contributions to our success and for graciously giving us the venue for our programs.

Lewis and Clark are our connection to the past; educating others about them and keeping the story alive takes us into the future. Share what you know.

### Local DESC Crew Encampments

Members of the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles are encamped at the Plattsmouth City Boat Ramp August 31 to September 3. From September 4 to 6, they will be encamped at the Nebraska City marina. MOP members and the public are invited to visit at the encampments throughout their stays. Formal station presentations are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on September 3 (Plattsmouth) and 5 (NE City).

On Monday, September 5, MOP is hosting a pot luck lunch for DESC at 11:00. Contact Mary for details, 402-291-1585.

### Lorna Hainesworth September MOP Speaker

The September MOP dinner meeting will be one week early (Sept 11) to accommodate presenter Lorna Hainesworth's attendance at the Surveyor's Historical Society annual meeting later that week (Sept 12-15) in Council Bluffs. The topic of Lorna's presentation is "Andrew Ellicott, the Surveyor."

MOP members may be interested in the SHS meeting which includes presentations on the navigation and mapping skills used by Lewis and Clark. Presentations closely aligned with Lewis and Clark are listed for informational purposes. The full schedule and information on registering for one or all days are available at [www.surveyorshistoricalociety.com](http://www.surveyorshistoricalociety.com).

Thursday, September 13

Fort Atkinson/Lewis and Clark State Park

- 7:45 *Equipment and Methods of Lewis and Clark for Navigating, Surveying, and Mapping*
- 8:45 *Looking for Council Bluff*
- 9:45 Darrel Draper as *George Drouillard*
- 10:30 Tour of Fort Atkinson
- Lunch at Lewis and Clark State Park
- 1:30 Butch Bouvier: Keel Boat Experience

Friday, September 14

Holiday Inn, Council Bluffs

- 8:00 *GLO Surveys Along the Missouri River Affected by a Changing River*
- 11:45 Darrel Draper as *Daniel Freeman: America's First Homesteader*
- 1:00 *Captain Andrew Talcott's account of his journey to, design of, and surveys at Fort Atkinson-1819/1820*

### Lewis and Clark Reunion 5

submitted by Mary Langhorst

*"July 19, 1804, the Expedition passed by what is now Nebraska City, Nebraska"*

Erv Friesen, Director of the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, again organized a Lewis and Clark Reunion to commemorate the presence of the Expedition in the Nebraska City area in 1804. This was the 5<sup>th</sup> year for the Reunion and Friesen declared the weekend a success with 220 in attendance despite the hot temperatures on July 21-22.

Visitors were entertained and enlightened for two days by the Missouri River Re-enactor Corps who set up camp near the keelboat, worked at blacksmithing, and carving a dugout canoe. Friesen reported that many visitors commented favorably about the on-site presentations which included: Butch "Mr. Keelboat" Bouvier interpreting on and around the keelboat, John "Lizard" Wilcox at the Mountain Man campsite, and Mary Langhorst at the newly remodeled and refurbished Earth Lodge. Presenter Joyzelle Gingway Godfrey's recent research on Lewis and Clark's meeting with the Sioux offered many interesting thoughts. Darrel Draper, interpreting both George Drouillard and Teddy Roosevelt, was "great, as usual," declared Friesen.

Children's activities included making nature prints using natural materials and printing ink under the direction of Jenni Brant. David Beck was busy taking "old time photos" of visitors dressed in frontier and Lewis and Clark costumes. Duncan, the Newfoundland, was a favorite of children of all ages.

Planning is already underway for Lewis and Clark Reunion 6, but in anticipation of repeat hot summer temperatures, it will be held sometime in September.

## Dinner Meeting Location Changes

Decreased attendance at MOP dinner meetings prevents us from meeting at the Riverside Grille regularly. We will be able to enjoy our traditional Christmas Buffet at the Grille.

September 11, 2012 (**1 week early this month!**)

Uncle Buck's Restaurant  
Bass Pro Shop, Council Bluffs

October 16, 2012 and  
November 20, 2012

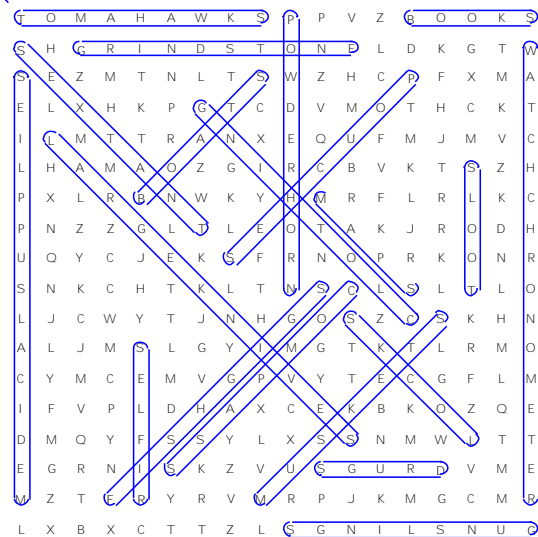
Tish's Restaurant  
1207 S 35th St, Council Bluffs

NOTE for Uncle Buck's and Tish's:

Order from the menu; beverage extra;  
separate checks which will include tax and gratuity.

December 18, 2012 Christmas Buffet  
Riverside Grille, Council Bluffs  
Details to be Announced

Social time 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. Please RSVP to Mary Langhorst by the Sunday evening prior to each dinner meeting: 402-291-1585 or [mouthoftheplatte@cox.net](mailto:mouthoftheplatte@cox.net)



## In the Works for Fall Dinner Meetings

MOP Board members Dick Williams and Mary Langhorst will report on the 44th annual meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation in Clarksville at the October 16 dinner meeting at Tish's. This year, our own Della Bauer was elected to the board of the national Foundation.

Doug Latka of the US Army Corps of Engineers is yet to be confirmed as the speaker for the November 20 dinner meeting at Tish's. The Native American flute musician Michael Murphy has been invited to provide entertainment for the December 18 holiday buffet at The Riverside Grille.

## How Influential was the Corps?

Time Magazine recently announced its listing of the 20 Most Influential Americans of All Time ([click here](#)). Among this select few are: Sacagawea, Meriwether Lewis, and William Clark. Wow!! This a grand slam home run, a hat trick, a trifecta all rolled into one. They came after Thomas Jefferson, and before Abraham Lincoln, but the list was chronological. Who else is among the illustrious few: Sitting Bull, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Albert Einstein, Louis Armstrong, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Steve Jobs among the non-presidents. The only other woman was Margaret Sanger, women's health crusader

## Position Available: Editor Needed

from the Editor

I regret to announce my resignation as editor for the MOP newsletter. After a difficult year with an increasing number of external demands on my time, changes are needed to assure my continued well being. In May, I recommended to the MOP board that a new editor be found beginning in 2013. They acknowledged the need for me to redirect my limited personal time, and agreed to find an editor after this issue. Once that person steps up, is "volunteered," or is otherwise identified, I will assist as needed for a smooth transition and to help maintain the quality I strived to achieve.

Thank you all for the many kind words and compliments you offered over the years. I have edited newsletters for five organizations, and the MOP has provided the most interesting and rewarding experience.

Mouth of the Platte, Inc.  
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