



AUGUST ACTIVITIES ALERTS!

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Check out the indicated page in the newsletter for details and contact information for each featured event.

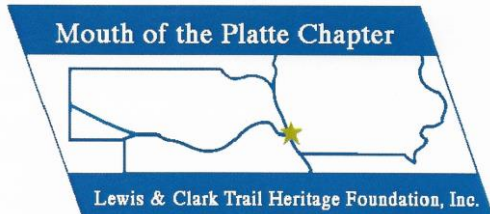
Don't miss these special events!
Save the rest of the newsletter until after the crowd has gone home!

Mouth of the Platte Chapter Newsletter

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

"Keepers of the Story~Stewards of the Trail"

August 2022 Edition



Dear Mouth of the Platte Members and Friends:

Lots going on behind the scenes at MOP! Ann Woolard will give details on much of this elsewhere in this newsletter, but I want to highlight a few things and express thanks to the people who make things happen.

Lets start with our newsletter. Thanks to Ann for the significant effort she puts into the newsletter. Lots of well written articles with lots of information. Couldn't ask for much more than that.

A mainstay of MOP is the weekly study group. Jim Christiansen does a great job of scheduling our read through the Expedition journals and keeping us on track. At least a dozen people are regular participants – a testimony to the work Jim and the participants put into this scholarly, yet social, venture. It has been going for over 20 years!!! Consider joining us if you're not already a participant.

Your Board has been busy on the changes to MOP's Bylaws to reconcile our long tradition of inclusiveness with the new membership structure from the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. Things are finally starting to come together on that, but some things yet to "iron out"; we hope to have something ready for our September 20 Annual Business Meeting and Election.

Referring to our elections, all four officer positions and two director-at-large positions will be up for election. The Board is functioning as the Nominating Committee, so let a Board member know your thoughts and your interest in being a candidate for one of these positions.

Harlan Seyfer is leading MOP's restoration of the Lewis and Clark Wayside Exhibits project. He is supported by his wife Bonnie, Keith Bystrom, and National Park Service folks Karla Sigala and Caitlin Campbell. We heard much of this at the July 19 White Catfish event at the Mills County Historical Museum, but things are "heating up", so watch for more information.

Dear MOP friend Butch Bouvier has his Second Annual *A Walk Thru Time* coming up August 27 and 28; lots to see there. Check out the info Ann has elsewhere in this newsletter – [including the link to the Cass County Historical Society's promotional](#) for the event.

Our monthly MOP dinner meetings are another mainstay of MOP activities. Hope all will join us at Tish's Restaurant on Tuesday, August 16 at 5:30 for Shirley Enos's insights and scale model construction of a Tipi. Details given elsewhere in this newsletter; they were also sent to you by e-mail – let me know if you need the information.

Proceeding on – Don Shippy, President

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As Study Group entered June, we confronted a whole new set of challenges with our men of the Expedition. We're cold at the higher elevations, with frost as early as August 19, 1805. By September 3 we have broken our last thermometer, but who needs it when the water is frozen over? We know it's cold! We're buying as many horses as the Indians will sell us, and the horses are struggling on the steep terrain. All of them slip and fall, some roll down the mountainside, and some have been crippled. The horses have to range far and wide at night to find grass to eat, which ranging makes them hard to find in the mornings. "Party and horses much fatigued" (Moulton, Vol. 5, p. 201). No wonder! In the absence of large game, we are eating small game (beaver, crow, geese, grouse, pheasant, etc.) and berries, when we can get anything at all. At times we have to melt snow to drink and cook. We are wrestling the "Steep Stoney mountains...high rugged mountains in every direction as far as I [Clark] could See" (p. 201, 207). We're finally reduced to eating horse meat, a circumstance that makes everyone uneasy. Through heavy snow and thick timber, through dysentery and skin eruptions, we push on, for there is no going back. Finally, we encounter the Chopunnish (Nez Perce), who succor us with dried roots and salmon, only to make our misery worse with "puking" and bellies "so full of wind that we were scercely able to breathe at night" (p. 246). Is it better to be hungry, or better to eat and then lie on the side of a road with a bellyache? Eventually, we drag ourselves to the Clearwater River and hack down trees big enough to burn out a few leaky canoes. We cache our pack saddles, brand our horses, turn the horses over to the Nez Perce chief, and cast ourselves to the ravages of the cold water, rocky channels, and punishing rapids. Our bedding, clothes, and loose gunpowder get wet. A "great many articles lost" (p. 271). Though we have "great Cause to lament" (p. 271), at least we are now eating dog! A treat for all but Clark. NOBODY is frolicking or fiddling at day's end! (See pp. 17-19 for Hunting the Native American Way)

-ADW



(1-4 Courtesy of B Smallen)

1



2. Canoe Camp



3. Camas



4. Clearwater Canyon



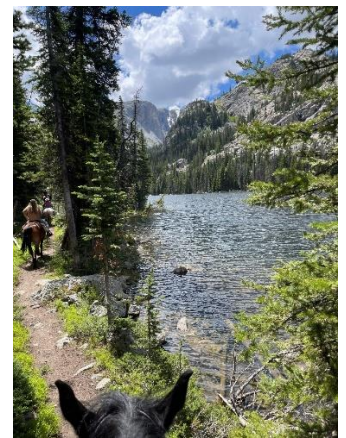
5. Big Horn Mountains



6. Fording the stream



7. Talus Slope



8. On the River

Mountain Horseback Riding Photos Courtesy of [William Lenz, Hunter Run Farm](#)

"I wanted to thank you for telling me about the Museum of the Fur Trade. I included it in my recent Western swing. Over the last two weeks, I have visited many fabulous sites. On the way home, I made my final stop at the Museum of the Fur Trade. I had planned only two hours, which ended up as three, and still was fully too little time. This stop was so delightful, and I plan on stopping back to do some research in the library on my trip back out later this year."

--William Lenz, Hunter Run Farm

[Editor's note: This museum has an extensive exhibit on Ishi. See p. 17]

June 21 (Gorat's Steakhouse): Jack Christ

Topic: *Vanguards of the Frontier* by Everett Dick (1941)

On Tuesday evening, June 21, seventeen MOP members and guests shared Gorat's Steakhouse with about a thousand excited College World Series fans (give or take a few). All of us were paying attention to events that, while "not historically significant, were behaviorally and socially relevant." (Jack Christ's words) The CWS fans may have been celebrating the fact that their teams made baseball history for their individual schools, and the seventeen of us were celebrating a broader view of the history of the U.S. and the continent, as revealed in Everett Dick's 1941 work *Vanguards of the Frontier*.

As Keith Bystrom was out of town, so not available to do his customary oral reading of the day's *Journal*, Jack Christ surprised us with an impromptu recital of the "doings" of the Corps as recorded on June 21, 1805: the men were preparing skins for the iron boat. When time came for Jack's presentation, he alluded to his "social science background" that contributed to his interest in this *Social History of the Northern Plains and Rocky Mountains from the Fur Traders to the Sod Busters*. So, I asked him about that background. This is what he told me:

As a child in the 1930s and 40s, Jack discovered in himself the seeds of a lifelong interest in explorers, in general. Since he was one of the older kids in a family of seven children, Jack frequently found himself as a caretaker of younger siblings. As a result, he was supremely fascinated with the story of Lewis and Clark and Sacagawea. Imagine taking a transcontinental journey while lugging an infant! He truly knew what sacrifices that entailed!

Jack's father was an executive in General Motors' Finance Division. He was of German extraction and characteristically strict about his children's personal freedoms. Jack was a headstrong boy with a lot of energy, which he channeled into playing all manner of sports and working on cars. (He has fond memories of his father's '53 Pontiac Convertible.) In college, Jack enlisted in the Army and spent 1955-57 in Georgia, where the heat and humidity were bad enough to wilt the starch right out of his crisply pressed uniform. He served as Company Clerk in the Infantry, doing TDY in Battalion Headquarters of Air Defense.

After his military service, Jack threw himself with a vengeance into getting an education: Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from Creighton University, Master's Degree in Library Science from Rutgers University, and Ph.D. in Social Science from the University of Missouri at Kansas City. He and Peggy married in 1960 and subsequently had four children together, one girl and three boys. (He quietly jokes that raising three boys is like raising a pack of dogs. Since MY parents raised show dogs, for me, that conjures up images of sleek, happy, enthusiastic gigglers with a lot of rough and tumble and a dollop of drool thrown in for good measure!) Jack and his boys put a lot of effort into Boy Scouts activities. In the meantime, Jack held down a series of library positions, including Head Librarian at Creighton University and Library Directorships at both Rockhurst University in Kansas City and at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. While the family didn't travel a lot, Jack and Peggy have been to Ireland, and they found themselves on an Alaskan cruise at the time of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Jack credits Peggy with making the suggestion that got the two of them involved with Mouth of the Platte in the early 2000s: she wanted to attend a Lewis and Clark Bicentennial program at Peru State College. As a result of that watershed meeting, Peggy and Jack put together their own joint material on the Lewis and Clark Expedition and spent three years (2003-05) presenting it around the area to nurses needing to enrich their professional qualifications. Peggy talked about the medical aspects and Jack the general history. Naturally, that beginning was fertilizer to Jack's figurative seeds. He has gone on to create other Lewis and Clark presentations to "flesh out" the skeletal journals of the Expedition, including *Reading between the Lines* (conjectures about what might have been said), *What if...?* (conjectures about what might have resulted if crucial turning points had fallen a different way), and *Clark's Military Decisions* (which we hope to hear at our October MOP meeting).

To continue with some of the fun facts shared by Jack at our June 21 meeting:

5

- 1) The *Western Engineer* was an 1819 sternwheel “fire canoe” – a “dragon that walked on water.” Its black snake head with fiery red tongue belched steam exhaust and loud wheezing, gurgling noises and was designed expressly to frighten the Native Americans.
- 2) In 1855, in an effort to promote Nebraska City as eastern terminus of the western trail, Otoe County, Nebraska, passed a \$20,000 municipal bond at 10% interest to build bridges over streams between Nebraska City and Fort Kearney. So that immigrants couldn’t miss the path, the town promoters also plowed a furrow the entire distance from Salt Creek (near Lincoln) to the Platte River.
- 3) Experiments with “steam wagons” in the 1860s seemed promising until they were actually run out on the prairie: a trial run near Atchison, Kansas, ended up with the heavy machine sinking into the ground, while a trial run near Nebraska City broke down just outside the city.
- 4) River boat pilots ran the “Pilots’ Benevolent Association,” an early labor union that limited the number of pilots who could be licensed by the government. Because pilots on the Missouri River were a scarce commodity and in high demand, they occasionally indulged in “prima donna” behavior, such as demanding a private carriage to pick up their belongings or delaying a piloting job for the convenience of attending a personal picnic. The per trip piloting fee could run as high as \$1500.
- 5) Mines were occasionally “salted” by means of blowing a shotgun-load of gold dust into the ground. No less a personage than Horace Greeley was taken in by that scam.
- 6) Loggers branded their logs to avoid confusion when rafting them down a crowded river.
- 7) Missouri River water was sometimes so thick that an egg dropped into a glass of the water was not visible.
- 8) Mountain Men with families would move their households this way: spread skin lodge on the ground, load possessions on top, run rope through tent peg holes, and draw up the rope to make a pouch with “mouth” opening upwards. Normally, the man’s horse carried the pouch. On a river crossing, the horse swam across the water with the man clinging to its mane and holding the pouch rope in his other hand. The pouch with children on top floated behind, while the wife clung to it from behind. A camp of 300 families could cross the river in an hour.
- 9) There was only one white buffalo hide among 5 million hides harvested from the herd south of the transcontinental railroad. While choice cow hides were selling for \$3 each, the white robe brought \$1000.
- 10) During the mid-1800s, rumors of the rise of a separate Pacific Republic on our west coast fueled the rapid construction of the transcontinental railroad. “The isolated Pacific coast was an extremely weak link in the American defense scheme” (p. 368).

While we don’t have room to recap the entire presentation, Jack deserves a profound “Thank You” for being the “sifter” for the group. I borrowed his well-loved copy of the book, and it took me two full 12-hour days to read and process the over 500 pages of material. Jack condensed the “best of the best” into an excellent 1-hour presentation. And he did it with great good humor in the face of high-decibel CWS competition! Way to go, Jack!

-ADW



Jack Christ



Caitlin Campbell

Onsite research at Two Rivers State Park
Look at the state of the original panel!
(See Next Page)

Topic: *Historic Wayside Exhibit Revitalization Project*

“Keepers of the Story~Stewards of the Trail” is a mission statement that finds its outlet in many different forms. On July 19 Harlan Seyfer, Karla Sigala (Senior Leader of Interpretation, Education, Volunteer and Visitor Services, Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail), and Caitlin Campbell (Interpretive Specialist, Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail) shared plans for a prominent three-dimensional embodiment of the mission with 25 guests at Mills County Historical Museum. These three dedicated historians, along with MOP President Don Shippy and MOP Vice-president Keith Bystrom, are working out the details of a project to replace seven deteriorating 20-year-old fiberglass trail panels with new, vibrantly colored, high-pressure laminate panels featuring updated graphics and text.

As L.T.C. Rolt says, “We speak of a ‘definitive’ biography or a ‘definitive’ history of a subject, but one of the most stimulating things about history is that, in fact, no one can say the last word on the subject. Each successive generation discovers new facts about the past or sees known facts in a different perspective as they recede. In this regard history is like some huge unfinished building to which every historian worth his salt has something to add.”¹ As an example, Harlan gave us some background on the new and more accurate picture chosen for the Two Rivers Wayside Exhibit; he said the new representation of earth lodges is an improvement over the old because it shows the lodges covered with a luxurious growth of prairie grass, consistent with the fact that, at the time Cruzatte and Drouillard made their foray into the Oto-Missouria village, the lodges’ inhabitants had already been absent a month on the buffalo hunt. Harlan further explained that these two related tribes had started sharing a village in about 1790 for mutual defense after the Sauk Indians attacked the Missouri and decimated their numbers in the years before 1790.

Another example Harlan gave also involved newer and improved artwork. The Harriet Otis painting, *Mouth of the Platte*, was not available at the time the Bicentennial exhibits were prepared. This 7 1/2” X 15” painting is a more accurate rendering of the junction of the Platte with the Missouri. It also shows the “keelboat” and one of the pirogues on the water. Because MOP owns the painting, we are able now to incorporate it into the updated panel. It will be removed from its frame and professionally scanned for use in the panel, before being reframed.

Karla Sigala praised the original exhibits created in collaboration with Big Muddy Workshop at the time of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. These older exhibits were funded by a “challenge cost share,” also in collaboration with the National Park Service. However, as Dick Williams pointed out, the original project was not able to fund maintenance of the exhibits, so time, weather, and flooding have taken their toll. The seven panel projects are in various states of completion:

- 1) *Our Wish to Cultivate Friendship* is in the advanced stages of planning. Location: Two Rivers State Park near the banks of the Platte River.
- 2) *Crossing the Mouth of the Platte* is in early stages of design. A new general Lewis & Clark panel will accompany it. Location: Cass County Historical Society has provided the new location east of the White Pirogue at the foot of Main Street in Plattsmouth and will help install the exhibit.
- 3) *To Make Our Party Comfortable*. This panel and its paired general Lewis & Clark Panel will be redesigned and replaced. Location: Iowa Riverfront Trail.
- 4) *A Great Number of Wolves*. Location: Near Bellevue Loop Trail, Harlan Lewis Dr. parking lot.
- 5) *An Island of Pelicans*. Duplicate of the original panel is available, but the exhibit will probably be redesigned. The panel will have a new base. Location: Pelican Point SRA.
- 6) *Hunter, Watchdog, and Faithful Friend* has research ongoing for a period-accurate picture of Seaman with wiry body & short hair. Location: MRBVC in Nebraska City.
- 7) *A Lively Trade Route* is temporarily on hold because of vandalism problems at Western Trails HC.

During the program, Karla and Caitlin shared additional graphics that they brought with them from NPS Headquarters. From the lively Q&A session that followed, it is abundantly clear that MOP members are enthusiastically invested in this project. While no money has yet been spent of the \$7500 LCTHF grant, Harlan is poised to buy the paint for the exhibit bases. It's almost time to roll up our sleeves! Thank you, Harlan, Karla, and Caitlin for the informative presentation. -ADW

¹*Lives of the Engineers*, Vol. 1, Samuel Smiles, Forward by L.T.C. Rolt, no page number.



Draft of the Wayside Exhibit for Two Rivers State Park

Camp White Catfish Dinner



Jack & Peggy Christ are glad to see Dale Wostrel after a COVID hiatus.



Edwards Tarumianz was the star of the evening, showing off the White Catfish he caught in Tennessee just a week before.

A resounding "Thank You!" to Chef Extraordinaire and Museum Director, Stephen Hunt, and Mills County Historical Museum Board members, Joan Hammer and Sybil Finken. While Steve was slaving over a hot stove, Joan and Sybil opened the museum for our inspection. All three ensured that a gorgeous meal appeared on every plate. The consensus was that this was an event worth repeating!

Teen catches rare catfish from Tennessee River

“Summertime...and the living is easy...
Catfish are jumping...high as the sky....”

July is catfish time, both in Nebraska and Tennessee. Just as MOP was preparing its annual celebration of Lewis and Clark’s July 23, 1804, White Catfish catch, the Facebook universe was set a-vibrating over the catch of another white catfish, 218 years later and hundreds of miles away. Edwards Tatumianz, age 15, was fishing in the Tennessee River with guide Capt. Richard Simms, 67, on July 8, 2022. Edwards hooked and landed an impressive, rare, leucistic blue catfish. The fat white catfish was boated, admired, documented, and released. Simms said he had never before seen a white catfish. Simms explained that “although it was solid white, the fish is most likely what's known as a "piebald," not an albino, because it lacks the pink eye. Edwards is one of the most polite young men I've ever had in the boat. And one of the most accomplished 15-year-old anglers I've ever been around.” [Edwards didn't have to say anything: his 1000-watt smile as he held his once-in-a-lifetime catch tells a story too marvelous for words.](#) (Click to view)

WAY TO GO, EDWARDS!

* * * * *

Next Monthly MOP Dinner Meeting:

Shirley Enos
Social Hour 5 P.M.
Dinner: 5:30 P.M.
August 16, 2022
Tish's Restaurant
1207 S. 35th Street
Council Bluffs, Iowa



Constructing a Tipi

MOP Board met June 7th, July 5th, and August 2nd, 2022

Treasurer's Report: The most recent treasurer's report included checking balance of \$8,239.32 (\$7,500 of this is LCTHF grant for Interpretive Wayside project) and savings balance \$2,849.79.

Membership: Keith Bystrom continues in his role of LCTHF Northern Plains Region board member and provides regular updates. As of June board meeting there were 113 LCTHF Northern Plains Region members. Almost half of the NPR members have no local chapter.

Keith sent an e-mail on July 8th asking members to designate a local chapter, and he received poor response. He needs to re-contact people and ask for them to designate chapter or remain independent.

At the August board meeting the board addressed MOP by-laws, which require revision to address the reorganization of membership process. The by-laws have been modified except Article 3 that includes membership, dues and voting. It is the board's goal to address these issues prior to the annual business meeting in September (2022).

Dinner Meetings: May meeting was Jerry Dirks presenting on "*Financing the Expedition*" which was well received. June meeting was Jack Christ presenting "*Did You Know???*" on interesting or unusual facts from the western settlement era.

July meeting was the White Catfish Memorial Meeting with a presentation by Harlan Seyfer and Karla and Caitlin from the National Park Service on *Historic Trail Marker Revitalization*.

August meeting (8/16/2022) at Tish's will feature Shirley Enos presenting "*Constructing a Tipi*."

September meeting (9/20/2022 – location TBD) will be MOP Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers and Board. Keith Bystrom will present on the LCTHF Annual Meeting he will have attended in August.

(MOP Board position is being vacated so if you have an interest in serving on the MOP board please contact a board member.)

October meeting (10/18/2022 – location TBD) will be Jack Christ's presentation on "*William Clark's Military Decisions*."

The board is discussing moving meetings to lunchtime (noon) on either Tuesdays or Saturdays from November (2022) through March (2023). Feedback from members is welcome.

Lewis & Clark Interpretive Wayside Exhibits: Harlan Seyfer continues to work with the park service and various community agencies to replace Lewis & Clark signs that have deteriorated or were damaged by the flood. To date none of the grant funds have been spent but will be in the near future. The first marker to be replaced will be one at Two Rivers. There is an effort to use the image of Otis painting (which MOP owns) for one of the exhibits.

Relationship with Cass County Historical Society and Nebraska City Lewis & Clark Center: MOP board is making effort to communicate MOP activities to Cass County and Nebraska City in an effort to strengthen collaboration. There is an event at the Nebraska City L&C Visitor Center to commemorate Meriwether Lewis' birthday on 8/18 after business hours.

Study Group: Study group continues to meet weekly on Wednesday mornings & is well attended.

Newsletter: Ann Woolard continues to publish newsletter which will be posted on LCTHF website.

Brochure and Facebook Page: Shirley Enos and Keith Bystrom have been posting keelboat activities on the Facebook page. If members want to post to Facebook contact a board member who can facilitate doing so.

Submitted by Peg Miller Evans, MOP Board Secretary

Memories of Erv Friesen

November 3, 1942 – July 4, 2022

By Doug Friedli

Erv Friesen was a small-town guy who touched thousands of lives in positive and personal ways: as a teacher, principal, church leader, barber-shop singer, community volunteer, city council member, Red Cross blood donor, husband, father, and grandfather. Erv left a legacy of “investing in people” to improve their lives.

Erv was an inspirational mentor and soul mate to me with his love of history and desire to be a life-long learner. Like our mutual hero, Thomas Jefferson (who also died on July 4), Erv and I shared a natural curiosity about many things. During Erv’s 17 years at the Lewis & Clark Visitor Center as Operations Director from 2006-2016 and Board Member from 2015-2022, Erv enjoyed visiting with many of the 153,000 tourists and students. He encouraged visitors to ‘observe and discover,’ using the words President Jefferson used in his instructions to Meriwether Lewis. Erv would explain how much of what Lewis & Clark saw, heard, tasted, smelled, and felt 218 years ago can be experienced today.

During Erv’s term as volunteer and Chair of the Mid-Missouri Lewis & Clark promotional coalition (Mid-Mo) he helped promote the sites Lewis & Clark wrote about on their journey on the Missouri River on the border of present-day Nebraska and Iowa.

I was blessed to spend so much time learning from Erv about the importance of building and maintaining relationships. Together we set community betterment goals, big and small, and were able to successfully achieve many of them. Erv was a taskmaster, focused on completing his daily to-do lists written on 3X5 cards that he carried in his shirt pocket. He would contact fellow committee members to remind them of the tasks they had volunteered to complete prior to our next meeting. He taught us how to be personally accountable to keep moving forward to achieve tasks. During committee meetings, Erv would often say, “Everyone’s business soon becomes nobody’s business. So, who is going to volunteer to be the ‘Who’s It’?” (the person taking the responsibility to lead the project).

Erv Friesen was humble. He always gave credit for successes to others.

And he had a sense of humor. He loved to eat just two kinds of pie...hot and cold.



Erv was born a twin in York, Nebraska, to Harvey and Martha (Mierau) Friesen. He graduated from Henderson High School, Freeman (SD) Junior College, Hastings College (NE), and earned two degrees from UNL (Master of Education & Education Specialist). He married Marcia (Reed) Scharp on June 23, 1972. Erv was principal at Oakland H.S. He moved to Nebraska City in 1979, where he also served as H.S. principal until 2001. He was Director of the NE City Chamber of Commerce (2001-5) and then Director of the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center (2006-16). Erv was cherished by his family and loved by his community.

Harlan Seyfer

From the beginning of contact with the Otoe-Missouria Indians, various promises by various White Men were made to establish a permanent trading post at or near the Confluence of the Platte and Missouri Rivers. Lewis and Clark were no exception.

Thomas Jefferson's instructions to Lewis on this subject were general: convey to the Indians "our dispositions to commercial intercourse with them; confer with them on the points most convenient as mutual emporiums, and the articles of most desirable interchange for them & us."¹

On 19 August 1806, when Lewis and Clark met with representatives from the Otoe-Missouria Tribe, the captains pledged that if the tribe would "avoid the councils of bad birds" and behave, as Lewis and Clark promised them, "as soon as possible after our return [to St. Louis] send a store of goods to the mouth of the river Platte to trade with you for your pelteries² and furs."³

In a *Nebraska History* article, Donald Jackson explained,

At this time, the government was engaged in a program of trade with the eastern Indians, having established "factories" or trading houses in several key locations. These factories, controlled by the Secretary of War through an establishment called the "Office of Indian Trade," never extended further west than Fort Osage near present Kansas City, Missouri. None was built at the mouth of the Platte, and by the 1820s the whole program collapsed under pressure from private trading interests.⁴

The Red Man cared little about how the White Man organized his side of the exchange. They were quite adept at looking out for their interests with remarkable commercial agility. In an infrequent instance of Indigenous and American worldviews coinciding, the Otoe-Missouria understanding of Lewis' speech, recorded in Otoe-Missouria oral tradition, was remarkably similar to what the Americans intended:

Inca ska [chief] Captain Lewis told our people that they [L&C] were on a long journey and it would be many seasons before they would return to our country. When they came back and if we were living in a good way as the *hínka ska xánje* [Great White Father, i.e., President Jefferson] had told us, then when they went to the *hínka ska xánje chí* [Great White Father's house], they would tell him that we were living in a good way. The *hínka ska xánje* [Great White Father] would send us many goods and also build an *ikírutanki chí* where the *ÑyíShúje* and *ÑyíBraxge* meet [*ikírutanki chí* = trading post; *ÑyíShúje* = Smokey River, i.e., Missouri River; *ÑyíBraxge* = Flat Water, i.e., Platte River]. At this *chí* we could trade our furs and pelts for goods that we may need.⁵

¹ "Jefferson's Instructions to Lewis [20 June 1803]," in Jackson, Donald (ed.), *Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with Related Documents 1783-1854* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1962), pp. 61-66, viz. p. 64 [hereafter: Jackson (1962), *Letters*].

² According to the *American Heritage Dictionary, Fifth Edition*, a pelt is "the skin of an animal with the fur or hair still on it." That fur coat one thinks one is wearing isn't; it's a pelt coat.

³ "Lewis and Clark to the Oto Indians," in Jackson (1962), *Letters*, pp. 203-208. Note that no one took down exactly what Lewis said that day. The captains sent the letter documented by Jackson to *We-ar-ruge-nor* Little Thief, Grand Chief of the Otoe, who was absent on the annual buffalo hunt.

⁴ Jackson, Donald, "Lewis and Clark Among the Oto," *Nebraska History*, Vol. 41, No. 3 (1960), pp. 237-248, viz. p. 244 [hereafter: Jackson (1960), *Among Oto*]; Robertson, R.G. and Karen Robertson, *Competitive Struggle: America's Western Fur Trading Posts, 1764-1865* (Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Press, 2012), pp. 4-5.

⁵ Jones, Matthew L., "Wahtohtana héda Ñyut^achi Mahín Xánje akípa: The Year the Otoe and Missouri Met the Americans," *Wicazo Sa Review*, Vol. 19, No. 1 (Spring 2004), pp. 35-46, viz. pp. 35 & 40 [hereafter: Jones (2004), *Wicazo Sa*] [This was privately printed and published with the English translations in footnotes, rather than inline: Jones, Matthew L., *Wahtohtana héda Ñyut^achi Mahín Xánje akípa (The Year the Otoe and Missouri Met the Americans)* (Matthew L. Jones, P.O. Box 84173, Lincoln, NE 68501, June 2004). I have used the former whenever differences between the two occur.]; Historian James Ronda describes

The Otoe-Missouria also understood the threat behind Lewis' words. As historian James Ronda coldly observed, "If river Indians ignored American orders and followed the 'bad birds,' trade would be cut off and there would be much suffering."⁶ After that historic first conference at Council Bluff and after the Corps of Discovery proceeded on, Lewis would repeat his speech, with minor changes, to nearly every Indian tribe they conferred with.

While the expedition was pushing its way upriver, events were taking place at home. On July 4th, 1805, President Jefferson's appointee, General James Wilkinson, became Governor of Louisiana Territory.⁷ Wilkinson has been described in many unfavorable ways. At the turn of the nineteenth century, Wilkinson was Commanding General of the U.S. Army. He was indeed perfidious. One historian titled his biography of the general "An Artist in Treason." Gary Moulton characterized him as "the general who never won a battle or lost a court martial." The Spanish colonial officials in Mexico dramatically referred to him as "Agent 13" on their payroll, which he earned by revealing secrets, especially the status of the expedition.⁸

In September 1804, Major James Bruff in St. Louis wrote General Wilkinson (not yet governor), "Suffer me now to suggest, that if a Military Post was established on the Missouri at the mouth of the river Platt between whose waters and those of the *del nord* [Rio Grande] there is but a short carrying place; where Traders from Santa Fe meet ours — as is absolutely the case at this moment"⁹ Wilkinson remembered Bruff's suggestion, whatever its imagined geography.

As Louisiana Governor, the Indian Trade Act of 1802 expressly prohibited Governor Wilkinson from having "any interest or concern in any trade with the Indians ... excepting for and on account of the United States." Gliding though that loophole, he assigned to his son, Lieutenant James Biddle Wilkinson, the responsibility of constructing a fort at the mouth of the Platte.¹⁰

The result? The *National Intelligencer* in Washington, D.C. published a letter from a correspondent in St. Vincennes, Indiana, dated December 21, 1805:

We have nothing worth communicating, except that young Mr. Wilkinson (who went up the Missouri, as the public have been some time since informed) has just returned to St. Louis, on account of a quarrel with some Indians, who killed one of his (Wilkinson's) party; upon which, the party killed one of the Indians.¹¹

some of undercurrents to this council in his book, *Lewis & Clark Among the Indians, Bicentennial Edition* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002), pp. 18-20 [hereafter: Ronda (2002), *Among Indians*].

⁶ Ronda (2002), *Among Indians*, p. 19.

⁷ "Proclamation by Governor Wilkinson," in Clarence Edwin Carter (ed.), *The Territorial Papers of the United States*, Vol. XIII, *The Territory of Louisiana-Missouri: 1803-1806* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1948), p. 155. [hereafter: Carter (1948), *Papers*] The Louisiana Purchase was divided into two parts in March 1804: The Territory of Orleans, south of thirty-three degrees latitude (roughly the state of Louisiana today), and the District of Louisiana, the rest of the Purchase. The District would be renamed the Territory of Louisiana on July 4, 1805, when Wilkinson officially became governor ["An act erecting Louisiana into two territories, and providing for the temporary government thereof," in Richard Peters (ed.) *United States Statutes at Large*, Vol. 2 (Boston: Charles C. Little and James Brown, 1845), pp. 283-289; Rodriguez, Junius P. (ed.), "Document 32: Louisiana Erected into Two Territories and Temporary Governments Established," *The Louisiana Purchase: A Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia* (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2002), pp. 432-436.].

⁸ Linklater, Andro, *An Artist in Treason: The Extraordinary Double Life of General James Wilkinson* (New York: Walker Publishing, 2009), pp. 4-5 for the moniker "Agent 13" [hereafter: Linklater (2009), *Treason*]; Moulton, Gary, *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 8, *Over the Rockies to St. Louis* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1993), pp. 347-348n5 [hereafter: Moulton (1993), Vol. 8]; Sturdevant, Dan and Jay H. Buckley, "Spanish Attempts to Apprehend Lewis and Clark," *WPO*, Vol. 45, No. 1 (February 2019), pp. 18-25.

⁹ "James Wilkinson to the Secretary of War," enclosure "James Bruff to James Wilkinson," in Carter (1948), *Papers*, p. 59.

¹⁰ Linklater (2009), *Treason*, p. 236; Majors, Harry M., "John McClellan in the Montana Rockies, 1807: The First Americans after Lewis and Clark," *Northwest Discovery: The Journal of Northwest History and Natural History*, Vol. 2, No. 9 (November-December 1981), p. 564n7 [hereafter: Majors (1981), *McClellan*].

¹¹ "Extract of a letter from a Correspondent at St. Vincennes," *National Intelligencer* (Washington, D.C.), February 10, 1806, p. 3.

Wilkinson's attackers were never clearly identified, but might have been the Kickapoo forced westward by other tribes, who in turn were being driven west by White settlement.¹²

To that article the editor of the *Intelligencer* added:

Since the foregoing was received the Editor has conversed with a gentleman, immediately from St. Louis, who informed him that the object of Lieut. Wilkinson's journey up the Missouri, was to establish a fort at the mouth of the river Platte; and that the party was fired upon about 300 miles up the Missouri. It was suspected that several Spaniards were with the Indians, as some white men were discovered. No information of any attack having been made on major Lewis' party, had reached St. Louis, at the time our informant left it; and he apprehends the report must have originated from the attack upon Lieut. Wilkinson.¹³

Word of the younger Wilkinson's mission reached Wilkinson's Army boss, Secretary of War Henry Dearborn, who found it necessary to write the Governor/General on November 2, 1805:

I have to repeat to you the sentiment, contained in my letter of the 16th ultimo, viz, —that no detachment should be made, to any distant new post, at present. And, as the establishment of new & distant posts will, at all times, be a proper subject for Executive discretion, the approbation of the President of the United States, should be considered necessary, previous to any actual arrangements for such objects. I hope you have not made any detachments or taken steps, which may not accord with the foregoing observations.¹⁴

And again on November 21, 1805:

SIR, Your ordering a detachment to the River Plat, especially with a view of establishing a Military Post at the distance from 600 to 800 miles from St Louis, is very much to be regretted. Indeed, it was not believed you would undertake the execution of such distant projects without the express approbation of the President of the U. S.—You will, without delay, send orders for the immediate return of the Detachment;-and in future consider the establishment of distant posts as under the immediate direction of the President.¹⁵

Taken to task, Wilkinson responded on December 10:

I had dispatched an order by the River dumoine [Des Moines] to Lieut. Wilkinson, not to wait at the river Plate, but to descend the Missouri, so soon as he had taken the necessary measures, to convey the Riccara Chief to his nation — This order was however unnecessary, as the opposition of a Body of Canzès Indians [*sic*], about twenty leagues below the mouth of the River of that name [Kansas River], reduced him to the alternative of hazarding hostilities, or returning, and he accordingly descended to the Cantonment [military camp near St. Louis] the day before Yesterday.¹⁶

Meanwhile, following Jefferson's instructions, Lewis and Clark were sending chiefs to Wilkinson's headquarters in St. Louis to form a delegation to Washington.¹⁷ On April 7, 1805, Corporal Richard Warfington, in charge of the return party in the keelboat, departed Fort Mandan. He had orders to stop at the Arikara village and take on board their chief who

¹² Linklater (2009), *Treason*, p. 236; Brandon, William, *The Rise and Fall of North American Indians; from Prehistory through Geronimo* (Lanham, MA: Roberts Rinehart, 2003), pp. 206-207, 254-256. Moulton notes that as early as March 1804 both Lewis and Clark were involved in an attempt to stop a Kickapoo war party from attacking the Osages [Moulton, Gary, *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 2, *From the Ohio to the Vermillion* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986), p. 174n].

¹³ "Extract of a letter...", *National Intelligencer* (Washington, DC) 1806-02-10, p. 3; also see (among several other accounts) Untitled, *Gazette* (Portland, ME), 24 February 1806, p. 1.

¹⁴ "Secretary of War to Governor Wilkinson: November 2, 1805," in Carter (1948), *Papers*, pp. 251-252.

¹⁵ "Secretary of War to Governor Wilkinson: November 21, 1805," in Carter (1948), *Papers*, p. 290.

¹⁶ "Governor Wilkinson to the Secretary of War: December 10, 1805," in Carter (1948), *Papers*, pp. 297-298.

¹⁷ "Jefferson's Instructions to Lewis," in Jackson (1962), *Letters*, p. 64; "Lewis and Clark to the Oto Indians," in Jackson (1962), *Letters*, p. 207; Otoe-Missouria interpretation in Jones (2004), *Wicazo Sa*, pp. 40-41.

wished to visit the president in Washington. He may have been given oral orders to likewise pick up other leading chiefs.¹⁸

Two Indian chiefs arrived in St. Lewis with Warfington: Eagle Feather, Grand Chief of the Arikara, and Little Thief, Grand Chief of the Otoe.¹⁹ Both chiefs fell ill in St. Louis and insisted they be taken back to their people to recover. The younger Wilkinson was tasked with transporting the two invalids along with him. Thirty miles or so upstream Little Thief died.²⁰ About 300 miles farther on, Wilkinson's party was attacked and forced to return to St. Louis. Once back, Eagle Feather recovered and was able to rejoin the delegation in Washington to meet President Jefferson.²¹

Still on the defensive and smarting from Dearborn's rebuff, Wilkinson argued one last defense in a letter to his boss on December 30, 1805. "It was with sensible concern I received [your last letter] because it has been written evidently under impressions extremely unfavourable to me, which must have originated in misapprehension, or been excited by misrepresentation." It was done for the benefit of the ill Indian chiefs: "a Boat was suitably equipt & manned, with orders to the Officer Commanding [young Wilkinson] to ascend to the River plate, there to land the Otto Chief at his Village. ... The residue of the Detachment," Wilkinson continued, "must wait the return of the Men ... sent with the Ricari, at the River plate, and of course Winter There."²² At that point in early December, the younger Wilkinson's party had already returned safely to St. Louis.

Flip the calendar pages ahead to 1806, when the Corps of Discovery was homeward bound. On Wednesday, September 3rd, the homesick expedition heard their first news of "civilization" when they met James Aird leading a group of about 18 men upriver to trade with the Sioux.²³ After this the expedition would meet several other fur traders coming upriver. One of particular interest occurred on September 17, when an acquaintance of Captain Lewis was met in central Missouri. Clark wrote in his journal, "at 11 A.M. we met a Captain McClellin [sic] late a Capt. of Artily of the U States Army ascending in a large boat."²⁴

In 1805 John McClellan (there are several spellings of his surname) was commanding Fort McHenry in Baltimore. Wilkinson, shortly before becoming Louisiana Governor, ordered McClellan reassigned to the western frontier, i.e., to St. Louis. McClellan was unhappy with his assignment, that is, until he and Wilkinson had a long chat, following which Wilkinson wrote Dearborn, "I have also engaged a bold adventurer, who served under me during the late Indian War, and is now a Pensioner of the U.S.- (McClelan) to look at St Afee [Santa Fee] in person pending the Winter - He will take his departure from the Panis Towns on the River Plate."²⁵ Wilkinson knew that Dearborn was worried about potential hostilities with the Spanish over Louisiana's boundary with *Nuevo Mexico*.

¹⁸ Jackson (1962), *Letters*, p. 237n7.

¹⁹ Chalkley, Mark, "Eagle Feather Goes to Washington," *WPO*, Vol. 29, No. 2 (May 2003), pp. 6-10, viz. p. 7 [**hereafter:** Chalkley (2003), *WPO*].

²⁰ Jackson (1960), *Among Oto*, p. 248.

²¹ Chalkley (2003), *WPO*, p. 7. Sadly, Eagle Feather died in Washington, D.C.

²² "Governor Wilkinson to the Secretary of War," in Carter (1948), *Papers*, p. 356.

²³ Moulton, Gary E., *The Lewis and Clark Expedition Day by Day* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2018), pp. 628-629; Moulton (1993), Vol. 8, pp. 346-348. The Corps of Discovery's first contact with White Men in 1806 occurred when Clark met Joseph Dickson and Forest Hancock on August 11. The two trappers had been away from the Illinois country since the summer of 1804 [Moulton (1993), Vol. 8, p. 288].

²⁴ Moulton (1993), Vol. 8, p. 363.

²⁵ "Governor Wilkinson to the Secretary of War: September 8, 1805," in Carter (1948), *Papers*, pp. 196-200, viz. 199.

McClellan returned to Baltimore, where he resigned his commission, effective January 31, 1806. He then contacted James Calhoun Jr., a prominent Baltimore merchant, who agreed to outfit him in return for an interest in a forthcoming venture. Wilkinson used his authority to transport McClellan's ton of "army supplies" valued around \$2,500 to St. Louis.²⁶

Clark recorded their meeting:

Capt. McClellin informed us that he was on reather a speculative expedition to the confines of New Spain, with the view to entroduce a trade with those people. His plan is to proceede up this river to the Enterance of the river platt there to form an establishment from which to trade partially with the Pananas & Ottoes, to form an acquaintance with the Panias and prevail Some of their principal Chiefs to accompany him to Santa Fee where he will appear in a stile calculated to atract the Spanish government in that quarter and through the influence of a handsome present he expects to be promited to exchange his merchindize for Silver & gold of which those people abound. he has a kind of introductory Speech from Govr. Wilkinson to the Panias and Ottoes. ... Capt McClellins plan I think a very good one if strictly prosued &c.²⁷

The two parties camped together and "were makeing enquires and exchangeing answers [etc.] until near mid night."²⁸ The following morning Clark noted "we rose early Capt McClellin wrote a letter and we took our leave, and proceeded on."²⁹ Presumably McClellan gave his letter to Lewis and Clark for delivery upon their arrival in St. Louis. If it was addressed to Wilkinson, what did it say? None of the journal keepers say.

McClellan learned a lot from Lewis and Clark: the route up the Missouri, the overland route from Great Falls to the Clarks Fork, the friendly disposition of the Flathead Indians, and the wealth of beaver on the west slope of the Rockies. Armed with this knowledge, McClellan made an impromptu decision to go where he could make the most money for himself and his backers. Bypassing the Platte and wintering in South Dakota, McClellan and his men reached the Flathead River in northwestern Montana, where they established a trading post in early July 1807, which they named Fort Lewis.³⁰

McClellan was joined by a few expedition members after their discharge on October 10, 1806. Exactly who these were is not clear. Harry Majors speculates that three members headed back up the Missouri: Joseph Fields, John B. Thompson and possibly Pierre Cruzatte. If they travelled lightly and fast they could catch up with the McClellan party in their South Dakota winter quarters.³¹

Larry Morris, in his well-researched book *The Fate of the Corps*, thinks that only John Collins and Pierre Cruzatte joined McClellan, noting that Field and Thompson signed a petition to Congress in March 1807.³²

According to British explorer and geographer David Thompson,³³ somewhere west of the great falls of the Missouri, an "American officer and eight of twelve were killed" on May 22, 1808. Most historians now believe that was McClellan

²⁶ Majors (1981), *McClellan*, pp. 560, 566-568; Cox, Isaac Joslin, "Opening the Santa Fe Trail," *The Missouri Historical Review*, vol. 25, No. 4 (October 1930), pp. 30-66, viz. p. 39. Quite possibly Wilkinson introduced McClellan to Calhoun.

²⁷ Moulton (1993), Vol. 8, p. 363.

²⁸ Moulton (1993), Vol. 8, p. 363.

²⁹ Moulton (1993), Vol. 8, p. 365.

³⁰ Majors (1981), *McClellan*, pp. 568-569.

³¹ Majors (1981), *McClellan*, p. 569.

³² Morris, Larry E., *The Fate of the Corps: What Became of the Lewis and Clark Explorers* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004), pp. 150-152 [hereafter: Morris (2004), *Fate*].

³³ Thompson theorized from his 1790s explorations of the upper Missouri that the headwaters of the Missouri lead to a passage across the Rocky Mountains. Lewis and Clark hoped to prove him correct [Allen, John Logan, *Lewis and Clark and the Image of the American Northwest* (New York: Dover, 1991), pp. 26-30; "Thompson, David," in Elin and Brandon Toropov, *Encyclopedia of the Lewis and Clark Expedition* (New York: Facts On File, 2004), pp. 338-339].

Topic: Ishi and Saxton Pope: Hunting in the Indian Way
By Thomas P. Pirotte, M.D.

Chronology:

Ishi walks into Oroville, California, Aug 29, 1911

Deer Creek 'camping trip' with Dr Pope and others, May 1914

Ishi dies, March 25, 1916

Anyone who knows about the Pope and Young Club has heard Saxton Pope's name, but few could tell much about this highly accomplished physician, writer, and author, who has been called the Father of Modern Bowhunting...

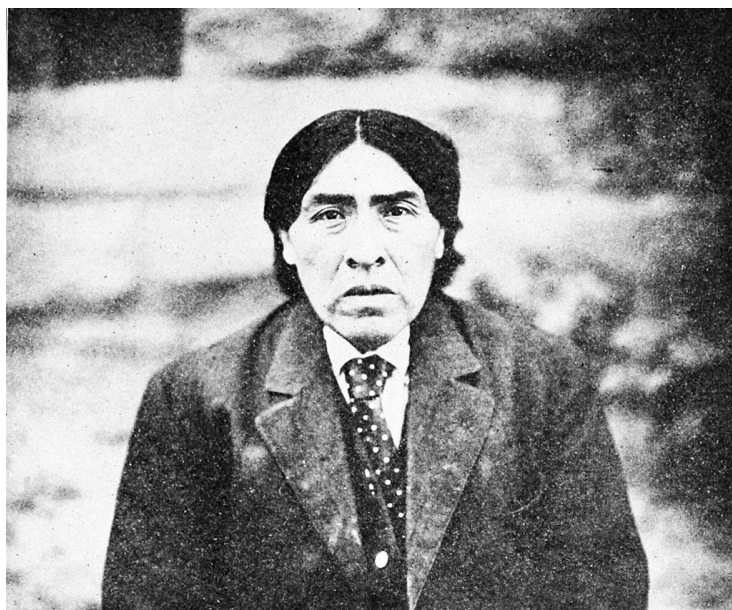
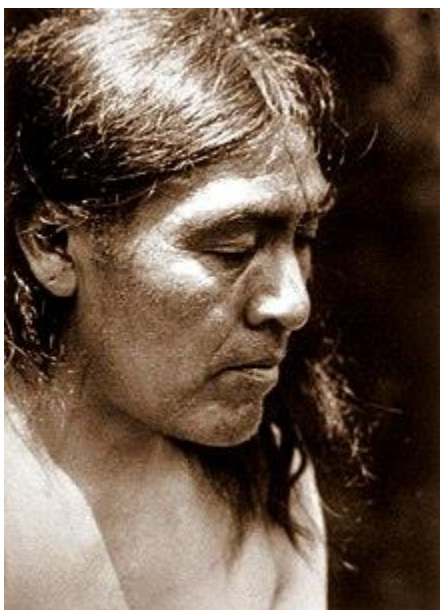
Saxton Pope was born in Texas in 1875, the son of a U.S. Army surgeon. When a man grown, he followed in his father's footsteps: he went to medical school, graduating from the University of California in 1899. He practiced his healing profession in the San Francisco area until his death in 1926.

In the summer of 1911, a lone Indian wandered into the white man's world. He was Ishi, last of the Yahi tribe of Northern California. Ishi was taken to live in San Francisco. When the Indian became ill, Dr. Pope was called to provide his medical care. Ishi and Dr. Pope became close friends. Ishi taught Pope to shoot the bow and hunt in the Indian way.

Ishi died in 1916. In his honor, Saxton Pope continued making and shooting bows. He hunted extensively in California and Wyoming -- usually with his fellow archer Arthur Young -- and he wrote of these hunts in his most famous book, *Hunting with the Bow and Arrow*. The book made Pope a famous author, and it is still in print today, 100 years later.

After many stateside hunts, Pope and Young had an opportunity to go on safari in Africa. The chronicle of their exploits there was Pope's second book, *The Adventurous Bowmen*.

Thrill now to my favorite selections from these two books, as I give you this account of Dr. Saxton Pope's adventures afield.



Hunting with Ishi was pure joy. *Bow in hand, he seemed to be transformed into a being light as air and as silent as falling snow.* From the very first we went on little expeditions into the country where, without appearing to instruct, he was my teacher in the old, old art of the chase. I followed him into a new system of getting game. We shot rabbits, quail, and squirrels with the bow. His methods here were not so well defined as in the approach to larger game, but I was struck from the first by his noiseless step, his slow movements, his use of cover. These little animals are flushed by sound and sight, not scent. Another prominent feature of Ishi's work in the field was his indefatigable persistence. He never gave up when he knew a rabbit was in a clump of brush. *Time meant nothing to him; he simply stayed until he got his game.* He would watch a squirrel hole for an hour if necessary, but he always got the squirrel.

He made great use of the game call. We all know of duck and turkey calls, but when he told me that he lured rabbits, tree squirrels, wildcats, coyote, and bear to him, I thought he was romancing. Going along the trail, he would stop and say, "This is good rabbit ground." Then crouching behind a suitable bush as a blind, he would place the fingers of his right hand against his lips and, going through the act of kissing, he produced a plaintive squeak similar to that given by a rabbit caught by a hawk or in mortal distress. This he repeated with heart-rending appeals until suddenly one or two or sometimes three rabbits appeared in the opening. They came from distances of a hundred yards or more, hopped forward, stopped and listened, hopped again, listened, and ultimately came within ten or fifteen yards while Ishi dragged out his squeak in a most pathetic manner. Then he would shoot.

To test his ability one afternoon while hunting deer, I asked the Yana to try his call in twelve separate locations. From these twelve calls we had five jackrabbits and one wildcat approach us. The cat came out of the forest, cautiously stepped nearer and sat upon a log in a bright open space not more than fifty yards away while I shot three arrows at him, one after the other; the last clipped him between the ears.

This call being a cry of distress, rabbits and squirrels come with the idea of protecting their young. They run around in a circle, stamp their feet, and make great demonstrations of anger, probably much to attract the attention of the supposed predatory beast and decoy him away, as anything else.

The cat, the coyote, and the bear come for no such humane motive; they are thinking of food, of joining the feast.

Not only could Ishi call the animals, but he understood their language. Often when we have been hunting he has stopped and said, "The squirrel is scolding a fox." At first I would say to him, "I don't believe you." Then he would say, "Wait! Look!" Hiding behind a tree or rock or bush, in a few minutes we would see a fox trot across the open forest.

It seemed that for a hawk or cat or man, the squirrel has a different call, such that Ishi could say without seeing, what molested his little brother.

Often have we stopped and rested because, so he said, a blue jay called far and wide, "Here comes a man!" There was no use going farther, the animals all knew of our presence. Only a white hunter would advance under these circumstances.

This reminds me that Ishi always said that a white man smelled like a horse, and in hunting made a noise like one, but apparently he doesn't always have horse sense.

Ishi could smell deer, cougar, and foxes like an animal, and often discovered them first this way. He could imitate the call of quail to such an extent that he spoke a half-dozen sentences to them. He knew the crow of the cock on sentinel duty when he signals to others; he knew the cry of warning, and the run-to-shelter cry of the hen; her command to her little ones to fly; and the "lie low" cluck; then at last the "all's well" chirp.

Deer he could call in the fawn season by placing a folded leaf between his lips and sucking vigorously. This made a bleat such as a lamb gives, or a boy makes blowing on a blade of grass between his thumbs.

He also enticed deer by means of a stuffed buck's head which he wore as a cap, and bobbing up and down behind bushes excited their curiosity until they approached within bow-shot. Ordinarily in hunting deer, the Indian used what is termed the still hunt, but with him it was more than that. First of all he studied the country for its formation of hills, ridges, valleys, canyons, brush and timber. He observed the direction of

prevailing winds, the position of the sun at daybreak and evening. He noted the water holes, game trails, "buck look-outs," deer beds, the nature of the feeding grounds, the stage of the moon, the presence of salt licks, and many other features of importance. If possible, he located the hiding-place of the old bucks in daytime, all of which every careful hunter does. Next, he observed the habits of game, and the presence or absence of predatory beasts that kill deer.

Having decided these and other questions, he prepared for the hunt. He would eat no fish the day before the hunt, and smoke no tobacco, for these odors are detected a great way off. He rose early, bathed in the creek, rubbed himself with the aromatic leaves of yerba buena, washed out his mouth, drank water, but ate no food. Dressed in a loin cloth, but without shirt, leggings or moccasins, he set out, bow and quiver at his side. He said that clothing made too much noise in the brush, and naturally one is more cautious in his movements when reminded by his sensitive hide that he is touching a sharp twig.

From the very edge of camp, until he returned, he was on the alert for game, and the one obvious element of his mental attitude was that he suspected game everywhere. He saw a hundred objects that looked like deer, to every live animal in reality. He took it for granted that ten deer see you where you see one -- so see it first! On the trail, it was a crime to speak. His warning note was a soft, low whistle or a hiss. As he walked, he placed every footfall with precise care; the most stealthy step I ever saw; he was used to it; lived by it. For every step he looked twice. When going over a rise of ground he either stooped, crawled or let just his eyes go over the top, then stopped and gazed a long time for the slightest moving twig or spot of color. Of course, he always hunted up wind, unless he were cutting across country or intended to flush game.

At sunrise and sunset he tried always to get between the sun and his game. He drifted between the trees like a shadow, expectant and nerved for immediate action.

In his youth, Ishi killed a cinnamon bear single-handed. Finding it asleep on a ledge of rock, he sneaked close to it and gave a loud whistle. The bear rose up on its hind legs and Ishi shot him through the chest. With a roar the bear fell off the ledge and the Indian jumped after him. With a short-handled obsidian spear he thrust him through the heart. The skin of the bear now hangs in the Museum of Anthropology in mute testimony of the courage and daring of Ishi. Had this young man been given a name, perhaps they would have called him Yellow Bear.

In all things pertaining to the handicraft of archery and the technique of shooting, he was most exacting. Neatness about his tackle, care of his equipment, deliberation and form in his shooting were typical of him; in fact, he loved his bow as he did no other of his possessions. It was his constant companion in life and he took it with him on his last long journey.



As a “newbie” to some of the unanswerable questions of Lewis and Clark, I have been intrigued by the mystery of the origins of the iron boat experiment. The thought occurred to me that, as well-read and well-connected men of their day, both Thomas Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis would have known of any new uses being made of iron in Europe, both on the continent and in the British Isles. Jefferson travelled widely in Europe. He served as foreign minister to France, was physically present in Europe during the years **1784-1789**, and would have been conversant with the innovative uses being made of iron by the Europeans.

From the World Wide Web, I identified two books as being of possible assistance in my inquiry:

- 1) *Industrial Biography: Iron Workers and Tool Makers* by Samuel Smiles (1863), first printed by John Murray of Albemarle Street, London, in November of 1863. I acquired this 1967 reprint through Interlibrary Loan from the University of Nevada Library. [Bio]
- 2) *Lives of the Engineers: Harbours—Lighthouses—Bridges: Smeaton and Rennie* by Samuel Smiles (1874), first printed by John Murray of Albemarle Street, London, in 1874. I acquired this undated reprint through Interlibrary Loan from the Carleton College Library in Minnesota. [Rennie/Smeaton]

While I will not – cannot – make any assertions as to the Jefferson/Lewis familiarity with the facts recounted by Smiles, I will quote from Smiles some interesting facts that would have been in circulation among educated men during the late 1700s and early 1800s. During those years, men came up with new ideas for how iron could be used, and they learned to process iron differently. The cost of iron was dramatically reduced by a significant reduction in the price of coal used in its processing. Principally, however, every new use of iron led to exciting ideas about its usefulness in other new fields. The following information is in chronological order, so that innovations follow one another in logical sequence.

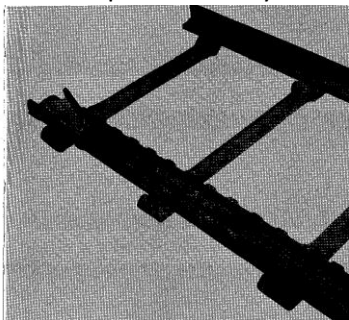
*“It appears from the ‘Blast Furnace Memorandum Book’ of Abraham Darby...that the make of iron at the Coalbrookdale foundry, in **1713**, varied from five to ten tons per week. The principal articles cast were pots, kettles, and other ‘hollow ware,’ direct from the smelting-furnace....In course of time we find that other castings were turned out: a few grates, smoothing irons, door-frames, weights, baking-plates, cart-bushes, iron pestles and mortars, and occasionally a tailor’s goose.” (Bio, Ch. 5, p. 82)

*“By the exertions of the Darbys [**1763**], the Coalbrookdale works had become greatly enlarged....they had agencies at Newcastle and Truro for the disposal of steam-engines and other iron machinery used in the deep mines of those districts. Watt had not yet perfected his steam-engine [first patent 1769]; but there was a considerable demand for pumping-engines of Newcomen’s construction [to take water out of coal pits], many of which were made at the Coalbrookdale Works. The increasing demand for iron gave an impetus to coal-mining, which in its turn stimulated inventors in their improvement of the power of the steam-engine; for the coal could not be worked quickly and advantageously unless the pits could be kept clear of water. Thus one invention stimulates another; and when the steam-engine had been perfected by Watt [renewed patent 1774], and enabled powerful-blowing apparatus to be worked by its agency, we shall find that the production of iron by means of pit-coal being rendered cheap and expeditious, soon became enormously increased.” (Bio, Ch. 5, p. 85)

*“...extract of a letter from Mr. Reynolds to Mr. Thomas Goldney of Bristol, dated ‘Coalbrookdale, **25th April, 1766**:...The iron put into the [air-furnace] was old Bushes, which thou knowest are always made of hard iron, and the iron drawn out is the toughest I ever saw....I look upon it as one of the most important discoveries ever made, and take the liberty of recommending thee and earnestly requesting thou wouldst take out a patent for it immediately....a reverberatory furnace [new, more efficient way to work iron] being built of a

proper construction, the pig or cast iron is put into it, and without the addition of anything else than common raw pit coal, is converted into good malleable iron, and, being taken red-hot from the reverberatory furnace to the forge hammer, is drawn out into bars of various shapes and sizes, according to the will of the workmen.'...A patent was secured in the name of the brothers Cranege, dated the **17th June, 1766**....By this method of puddling, as it is termed, the manufacturer was thenceforward enabled to produce iron in increased quantity at a large reduction in price...." (*Bio*, Ch. 5, p. 86-88)

*"Among the important improvements introduced by Mr. Reynolds while managing the Coalbrookdale Works, was the adoption by him *for the first time* of iron instead of wooden rails in the tram-roads along which coal and iron were conveyed from one part of the works to another, as well as to the loading-places along the river Severn. He observed that the wooden rails soon became decayed, besides being liable to be broken by the heavy loads passing over them, occasioning much loss of time, interruption to business, and heavy expenses in repairs. It occurred to him that these inconveniences would be obviated by the use of rails of cast-iron; and, having tried an experiment with them, it answered so well, that in **1767** the whole of the wooden rails were taken up and replaced by rails of iron. Thus was the era of iron railroads fairly initiated at Coalbrookdale, and the example of Mr. Reynolds was shortly after followed on all the tram-roads throughout the country." (*Bio*, Ch. 5, p. 89)



*"Cast iron rails and sleepers cast at Coalbrookdale, c **1770** (*Bio*, Ch. 2, p. 42, illustration)

*"It is also worthy of note that the first iron bridge ever erected [**1777-8**] was cast and made at the Coalbrookdale Works—its projection as well as its erection being mainly due to the skill and enterprise of Abraham Darby the third." {footnote: "Among the other subscribers [to the shares of the company formed to build the bridge] [was]...**Mr. John Wilkinson** [the famous ironmaster], an active promoter of the scheme, who gave the company the benefit of his skill and experience when it was determined to construct the bridge of iron....Willkinson...was a man of great energy and originality. *Besides being the builder of the first iron ship* [emphasis added], he was the first to invent, for James Watt, a machine that would bore a tolerably true cylinder. He afterwards established iron works in France, and Arthur Young says, that 'until that well-known English manufacturer arrived, the French knew nothing of the art of casting cannon solid and then boring them' (*Travels in France*, 4to. ed. London, 1792, p. 90)....Wilkinson is also said to have invented a kind of hot-blast...."} (*Bio*, Ch. 5, p. 88-90)

*"The construction of a bridge of iron was an entirely new idea [**1777-8**]. An attempt had indeed been made at Lyons, in France, to construct such a bridge more than twenty years before [**1750s**]; but it had entirely failed, and a bridge of timber was erected instead." (*Bio*, Ch. 5, p. 90)

*"The entire arch [was] of cast-iron....The abutments of the bridge were built in **1777-8**, during which the castings were made at the foundry, and the ironwork was successfully erected in the course of three months. The bridge was opened for traffic in **1779**, and proved a most serviceable structure. In **1788** [Jefferson was in Europe then.] the Society of Arts recognized Mr. Darby's merit as its designer and erector by presenting him with their gold medal.... Mr. Robert Stephenson has said of the structure: 'If we consider that the manipulation

of cast-iron was then completely in its infancy, a bridge of such dimensions was doubtless a bold as well as an original undertaking, and the efficiency of the details is worthy of the boldness of the conception.” (*Bio*, Ch. 5, p. 91)



*The Iron Bridge, Coalbrookdale, in **1788**, engraved by James Fittle (from a painting by George Robertson). (*Bio*, Ch. 3, p. 43, illustration)

*“[In **1800**] Mr. Telford, the well-known engineer [said], ‘The great improvement of erecting upon a navigable river a bridge of cast-iron of one arch only was first put in practice near Coalbrookdale. The bridge was executed in **1777** by Mr. Abraham Darby, and the ironwork is now quite as perfect as when it was first put up. Drawings of this bridge have long been before the public, and have been much and justly admired.’” (*Bio*, Ch. 5, p. 92)

*“[Mr. Rennie’s] next work was to prepare an estimate and design for the repairs of Mr. Aitcheson’s flour-mills at Bonnington, near Edinburgh [**1780**]. Here he employed cast-iron pinons instead of the wooden trundles formerly used—one of the first attempts made to introduce iron into this portion of the machinery of mills.” (*Rennie*, Ch. 3, pp. 213-4)

*The state of physical science was then [**1780s**] at a very low ebb in this country [Britain], and the labours of Continental [European] philosophers were but little known even to those who occupied the chairs in our Universities; the results of their elaborate researches lying concealed in foreign languages, or being known, at most, to a few inquirers more active and ardent than their fellows....As a relief from graver topics, [Rennie] set himself to learn the French and German languages, and was shortly enabled to read both with ease. [Jefferson read French.]” (*Rennie*, Ch. 3, pp. 214-6)

*“...the important character of Mr. Cort’s improvements, as embodied in his two patents of **1783** and **1784**. In the first he states...a peculiar method and process of preparing, welding, and working various sorts of iron, and of reducing the same into uses by machinery....by the method of piling and faggoting...by laying bars of suitable lengths, forged on purpose, and tapering so as to be thinner at one end than the other, laid over one another in the manner of bricks in buildings, so that the ends should everywhere overlay each other...and when the heat was perfect, the faggots were then brought under a forge-hammer of great size and weight, and welded into a solid mass....Another process employed by Mr. Cort...was that of working the faggots by passing them through rollers.” (*Bio*, Ch. 7, pp. 117-8)

*“Our engineer [John Smeaton, 1724-1792] was...called in, when he recommended further improvements, including a new dock, the first stone of which was laid in **July 1784**....In carrying out the elongated pier, Smeaton first employed the *diving bell* in building the foundations, making use of a square wooden chest, *partly of iron* [emphasis added], weighing about half a ton. It was 4 feet 6 inches in height and length, and 3

feet wide, affording room for two men to work in it; and they were provided with a constant supply of fresh air by means of a forcing pump placed in a boat which floated above them.” (*Smeaton*, Ch. 5, pp. 158-9)

*“Among the commercial enterprises to which the increasing speculation of the times gave birth, was the erection of the Albion Mills [1780s]....Fire-engines, or steam-engines, had heretofore been employed almost exclusively to pump water out of mines; but the possibility of adapting them to the driving of machinery having been suggested to the inventive mind of James Watt, he set himself at once to the solution of the problem, and the result was the engines for the Albion Mills—the most complete and powerful which had been produced by the Soho manufactory....The two [50 horsepower] engines working together were capable of grinding, dressing, etc., complete, 150 bushels an hour—by far the greatest performance achieved by any mill at that time....But the engine power was also applied to a diversity of other purposes, then altogether novel—such as hoisting and lowering the corn and flour, loading and unloading the barges, and in the processes of fanning, sifting, and dressing—so that the Albion Mills came to be regarded as among the greatest mechanical wonders of the day. The details of these various ingenious arrangements were entirely worked out by Mr. Rennie himself, and they occupied him nearly four years in all, having been commenced in 1784, and finished in 1788....The completion of the Albion Mills, indeed, marked an important stage in the history of mechanical improvements; and they may be said to have effected an entire revolution in millwork generally....Mr. Rennie’s adoption of wrought- and cast-iron wheels was of much greater importance, and was soon adopted in all large machinery....The machinery of the Albion Mills, as a whole, was regarded as the finest that had been executed up to that date, and formed the model for future engineers to work by....They were destroyed by fire on the 3rd of March, 1791, only three years after their completion.” (*Rennie*, Ch. 4, pp. 224-8)

*“As late as 1790...Pennant says, ‘The present Steelyard is the great repository of imported iron, which furnishes our metropolis with that necessary material. The quantity of bars that fills the yards and warehouses of this quarter strikes with astonishment the most indifferent beholder.’ – Pennant, *Account of London*, 309.” (*Bio*, Ch. 3, p. 44, footnote)

*“In 1798, [Rennie] designed one [bridge] of light cast-iron arches to span the river Don at Aberdeen....Another abortive but grand design was proposed by [Rennie] in 1801....a single great arch of cast-iron 450 feet in span...crown to be 150 feet above high water at spring tides. A similar bridge of 350 feet span, having its crown 100 feet above the same level, was also proposed by him for the crossing of Conway Ferry....Rennie’s plans were, however, thought far too daring, and the expense of executing them far too great....The first bridge constructed by Mr. Rennie in England, and the earliest of his cast-iron bridges, was that erected by him over the Withem...in 1803. It consists of a single arch of iron ribs, forming the segment of a circle, the chord of which is 80 feet. (*Rennie*, Ch. 6, pp. 261-6)

*“It may be worthy of note that the first locomotive run upon a railroad was that constructed by Trevithick for Mr. Homfrey in 1803, which was employed to bring down metal from the furnaces to the Old Forge.” (*Bio*, Ch. 7, p. 131, footnote)

A final comment by this author (Smiles) could well be applied generally to Thomas Jefferson throughout his life (and, by extension, to his protégé, Meriwether Lewis) and particularly to his role in the creation, evolution, and promotion of Lewis’ iron boat experiment: “The inventive faculty is so strong in some men that it may be said to amount to a passion, and cannot be restrained. The saying that the poet is born, not made, applies with equal force to the inventor, who, though indebted like the other to culture and improved opportunities, nevertheless invents and goes on inventing mainly to gratify his own instinct.” (*Biography*, Ch. 9, p. 183)

We must conclude that the Expedition’s iron boat was the right idea at the right time. Its appearance fulfills that old saying, “Necessity is the mother of invention.” Lewis needed a boat, and the time was ripe to make it of iron. Perhaps he smiled to realize that, like the prophet Elisha, “He made the iron float.” (II Kings 6:46)

[Cass County Historical Society](#), 646 Main St., Plattsmouth, NE 68048 (402-296-4770)
[Fontanelle Forest](#), 1111 Bellevue Blvd. N., Bellevue, NE 68005 (402-731-3140)
[Ft. Atkinson State Historical Park](#), 201 W. 7th Street, Fort Calhoun, NE 68023 (402-468-5611)
[Glenwood Public Library](#), 109 N. Vine Street, Glenwood, IA 51534 (712-527-5252)
[Johnson County Historical Society](#), 3rd & Lincoln Streets, Tecumseh, NE 68450 (no phone)
[Johnson County Museum](#), 401 Broadway Street, Tecumseh, NE 68450 (no phone)
[Joslyn Art Museum](#), 2200 Dodge St., Omaha, NE 68102 (402-342-3300) **CLOSED until 2024**
[Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Headquarters](#), Omaha Visitor Center, 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, NE 68102 (402-661-1804)
[Mills County Historical Museum](#), 20 Lake Dr., Glenwood, IA 51534 (712-527-5038)
[Nebraska Historical Museum](#), 131 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508 (402-471-4782)
[Sarpy County Historical Museum](#), 2402 Clay St., Bellevue, NE 68005 (no phone)
[Sioux City Lewis & Clark Interpretive Ctr.](#), 900 Larson Park Rd., Sioux City, IA 51103 (712-224-5242)
[Sergeant Floyd Monument](#), 2601 S. Lewis Boulevard, Sioux City, IA
[State Historical Museum of Iowa](#), 600 E. Locust St., Des Moines, IA 50319 (515-281-5111)

Thank you for your
Donations!

To MOP:

- Jim Christiansen
- Ann Woolard

To Timeline Event:

- Shirley Enos

Thanks!

Congratulations to Mary Jo Havlicek for having a story accepted for publication in the 2022-23 College of Saint Mary Annual Review.

Congratulations to Steve and Marilyn Wymore on their 45th wedding anniversary!

Thanks to Andy Woolard, who converts photos for use in this publication!

Thanks to the folks who submitted articles to this issue and to the staff at Willa Cather Library who enabled its publication!

**Easy Daytrip
Schilling Wildlife Refuge
Plattsmouth, Nebraska**

25



Flood debris at Schilling



Approaching the temporary road and drain

Believe it or not, Schilling Wildlife Refuge is still open to the public. Visitors must park outside locked gates at the South Entrance and walk in. The choice is to head East toward the Missouri or head North toward the Platte. These photos were taken on the North route.



Drainage Pipe (The fish hang out here!)



Downstream of the drainage pipe



Eagle in a tree at Schilling Wildlife Refuge



Platte River above Confluence with Missouri River



Figure 1 The Confluence of the Niobrara and Missouri Rivers

In early September 1804, the Expedition passed along the northern border of Nebraska. Clark noted:

September 1: “yellowish red, & brownish White Clay which is as hard as Chalk” (p. 38)

“Cat fish...so plenty that we catch them at any time and place in the river” (p. 39)

September 2: “Bear grass [yucca] and Rhue [likely, smooth sumac]” (p.40)

“antient fortification” (p. 40)

“yellow Clay bluff of 110 feet high” (p. 42)

September 3: “Great quantities of Plumbs of a most delicious flavour” (p. 44)

“grapes of a Superior quallity large & well flavoured” (p. 44)

“wild Goats [pronghorn]...Elk & Buffalow...verry plenty” (p. 44)

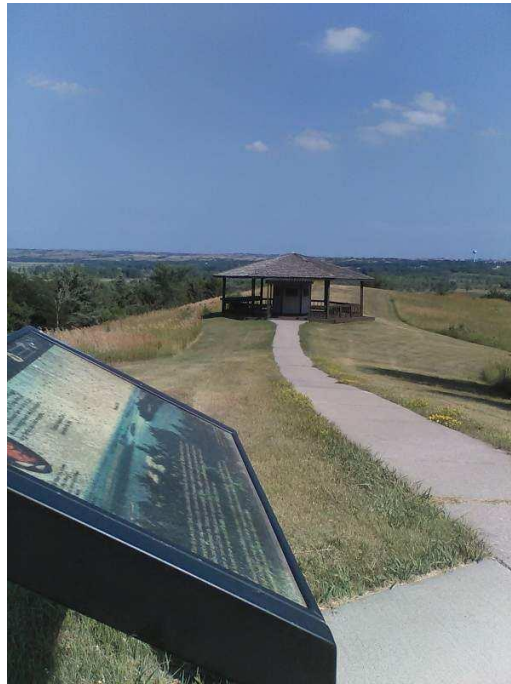
“Scarcely any timber in Countrey except a little on the river” (p. 44)

September 4: “a Cliff covd. With red Ceeder” (p. 44)

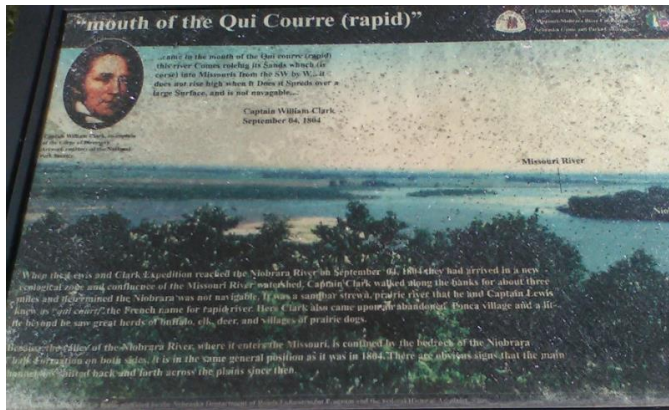
On September 4, the men (minus Shannon, who was lost, and Coulter, who was pursuing Shannon)

“Came to at the mouth of Qui courre (rapid)” (p. 46). Clark continues: “this river Comes roleing its Sands whuch (is corse) into the Missouris from the S W by W. this river is 152 yards across the water and not exceeding 4 feet Deep it does not rise high when it Does it Spreads over a large Surface....it has a Great many Small Islands & Sand bars...this river widens above its mouth.... The Current verry rapid, not navigable for even Canoes without Great difficulty owing to its Sands; the colour like that of the Plat is light” (pp. 46-47). Since this is exactly the same time of year, the following is a photo journal commemorating the Niobrara camp...what one now sees at Niobrara State Park. -ADW

[Quotes are from *The Definitive Journals of Lewis & Clark: Up the Missouri to Fort Mandan*, Vol. 3, Moulton.]

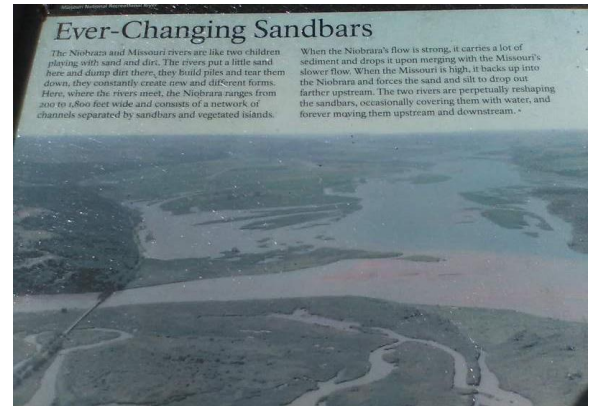


Interpretive Center



The Wayside Exhibits

1

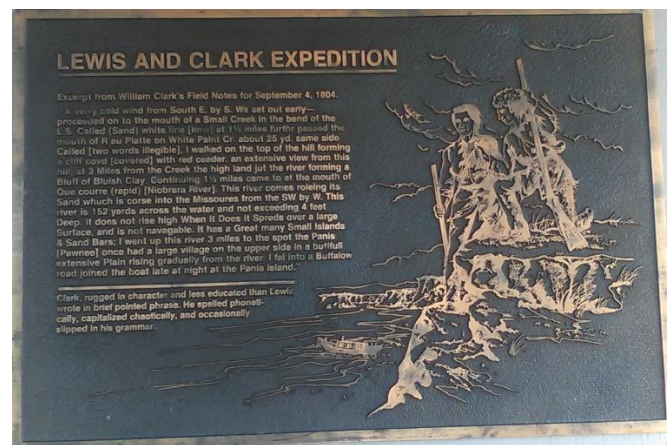


2



Inside the Interpretive Center

3



4

Bridge Washed Out in 2019 Flooding: Center section is downstream of the break.
(Park Staff said that the bridge is slated to be removed soon.)



Approach to the Bridge



Wildfowl Nesting Protection



Campsite 7 under the Cedars on the West Bank of the Niobrara looks East toward the River



Take a Walk in the Woods



Footbridge



Squirrel Feeder

Mouth of the Platte wants to say "THANKS" to Peg Miller Evans for her service as Secretary to the MOP Board.

*

Peg is taking a break from her service to the Board in order to do some travelling with her husband, Mark. The Board is in need of a new VOLUNTEER to step into the Secretary's position. If you have an interest in serving as MOP Board Secretary, please contact any current Board member.

*

Northern Plains Region is also in need of a Board Secretary. If you are interested in filling this position, contact Keith Bystrom, President of the Northern Plains Region Board.

Editor's Desk:

Time is money, or so it is said. Either can be spent or saved, squandered or invested. We talk about someone's "buy-in" to a project. That sounds like money, yet involves so much more: attention, energy, finances, ideas, time, and innumerable other resources. Come to think of it, a buy-in implies approval on many levels. It's saying "Yes" to a project and seeing where that "Yes" takes one. It's an attitude that seeks to promote, rather than to stifle. It's "being willing to" and "being intentional" and "doing things of one's own accord." Accord is agreement. So, one chooses to do what agrees with oneself, without solicitation, compulsion, or persuasion and without profit, payment, or valuable consideration.

As I observe my fellow members of the Mouth of the Platte Chapter, I recognize in each one a spirit of cooperation in promoting the aims of the organization: "Keepers of the Story~Stewards of the Trail." We are doing things with one accord: this one reads a book and shares its contents, another one offers a helpful map, a third sews a period garment, a fourth brings a photo as illustration, a fifth goes to a meeting and brings back a report, and so on. Whether through donations of office supplies, food, advice, or you-name-it, every member contributes something of value, even if that "something" is as invisible as a moment's pause to reflect. These spontaneous gifts from one to another are like heat reflected from the fireplace surround. We all know that, if you pull an ember from the fireplace to the hearth, soon enough, all that remains is a cold lump of ash. Our giving to one another graciously and freely keeps the precious energy from dissipating and keeps the fire alight.

So, Lewis and Clark and the Expedition are our focus. History is our focus. Education is our focus. Discovery is our focus. Reaching out to others to ignite their passion for these joys is our focus. I just want to say "Thank You" to all MOP fellows. The joy we make together is what keeps us all showing up. We are all Volunteers. I spell Volunteers with a capital "V", which stands for "Valuable." You are all worth your weight in gold. Thank you for Proceeding On!

Ann Dunlap Woolard, Editor
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LCTHF Contact Information:

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
P.O. Box 3434
Great Falls, MT 59403
Phone: 406-454-1234 / 1-888-701-3434
www.lewisandclark.org



You Are Invited to Attend a
BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
Thursday, August 18, 2022

5:00 to 7:00 pm

Free Appetizers

William Clark's birthday August 1, 1770

Meriwether Lewis' birthday August 18, 1774



Special presentation at 6:00

Bring your friends and employees. Experience what over 10,000 out-of-town visitors from all 50 states and from over 30 foreign countries come to explore each year

Doug Friedli
 Executive Director
 Lewis & Clark Visitor Center
www.LewisandClarkVisitorCenter.org
 Telephone: 402-874-9900

Amy Allgood
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CELEBRATE!
The 175th
ANNIVERSARY OF THE

Mormon Trails Across
NEBRASKA
A SYMPOSIUM

Aug 18th & 19th 2022
Mormon Trail Center
3215 State Street, Omaha NE
Sessions Starting At 9AM

Free!
Open to the Public

Elder Kyle S. McKay

Church Historian and Recorder, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Blair Buswell

*Lead Sculptor, Pioneer Courage Park
Downtown Omaha, Neb.*

Historical Society
Directors and Curators

*From Counties All Along the Mormon Trails
Across Nebraska*

Aaron Mahr

*Superintendent, National Trails Office,
Regions #6, 7 and 8 National Park Service*

Travis Boley

*Executive Director,
Oregon/California Trails Association*

Tom Bryan

Nebraska State Archaeologist

Richard E. Bennett

*Professor Emeritus, BYU
and Director, Mormon Trail Center*

SEVERAL OTHER SPEAKERS INCLUDING LEADING SCHOLARS,
EXPERTS, ARTISTS AND COMMITTED STUDENTS OF THE MORMON TRAIL

For More Information Call 402-453-9372

Lewis & Clark Floyd River Campsite Rock Dedication



The Sergeant Floyd Tri-State Chapter invite all interested in the history of the Lewis & Clark Expedition to the dedication of this new wayside exhibit located in Chris Larsen park, Sioux City, Iowa

Saturday, August 20, 2022 at 10:00 am.

Parking is available in the Siouxland Expo Center West Parking lot, 550 Expo Center Drive, Sioux City.

Walk the bike trail pedestrian bridge across the Floyd River, follow the bike trail under Interstate 29 and into Chris Larsen Park. As you come out from under the interstate, continue on the bike trail up the short incline, the Rock is just to the left of the bike trail.

Caution: this is an active bike trail, WATCH FOR BICYCLE TRAFIC



Sgt. Floyd



Floyd's Death



Floyd's Burial



When: August 27-28, 2022

Where: 5910 Ranch Road, Plattsmouth, NE

You will be able to walk through history and talk to re-enactors from:

- Lewis and Clark Expedition
- US Army: Fort Atkinson
- Mountain Man Era
- Oregon Trail
- Civil War.

Hours

Saturday, August 27: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday, August 28: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Directions

Follow Highway 75 into Plattsmouth.

Turn West on Highway 66.

Turn North on 60th Street.

The Rock Hill Windmill Event Center (5910 Ranch Road) will be on your right.

Re-enactors

Captain William Clark (Randy Rumelhart)
 Private John Colter (Sterling Fichter)
 Sergeant Patrick Gass (Dale Clark)
 Private George Shannon (Bill Hayes)
 Trader Peter Sarpy (Darrell Draper)
 Civil War Soldiers with cannon
 Captain Robert Baker from Camp Missouri (Fort Atkinson)
 Mountain Men
 Blacksmith (Dean Slader)

Humanities Nebraska Speakers at this Event

August 27: *Darrell Draper: Nebraska—Crossroads of the Western Fur Trade (11 a.m.)

***David Seay: Nebraska Territory Stories (4 p.m.)**

August 28: *Bill Hayes: George Shannon of the L&C Expedition (11 a.m.)

***Bill Hayes: The Nebraska Underground Railroad (1 p.m.)**

***Renae Hunt/Saundra Bottger: Seaman/York/Sacagawea/Pomp (2:30 p.m.)**

More information: keelboat@longlines.com. This event is free and open to the public.

Mouth of the Platte Chapter Activities

Weekly:

Lewis and Clark Study Group

(You need not be a MOP member to attend study group.)

Meets: Wednesday, 9-11 a.m.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

600 Bluff Street

Council Bluffs, Iowa

Contact: Jim Christiansen (402-657-4600)

Monthly:

MOP Chapter Dinner

(You need not be a MOP member to attend dinners.)

Meets: Third Tuesday of the month

5 pm Social Hour

5:30 pm Dinner

6:30 pm Speaker

August 16: Shirley Enos at Tish's Restaurant

Location: 1207 S. 35th St., Council Bluffs, IA

Topic: Constructing a Tipi

September 20: Keith Bystrom

Location: TBD

Topic: LCTHF Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh

Note: MOP Elections will be held this evening.

October 18: Jack Christ at Tish's Restaurant

Location: TBD

Topic: William Clark's Military Decisions

November 15: Speaker TBD

Location: TBD

Topic: TBD

Time: Winter meetings are mid-day

Contact: Don Shippy 402-740-7851 or shippydv@msn.com

MOP Chapter Board Meetings

Meets: First Tuesday of the month

September 6: 6 p.m. (Ann's house)

October 4: 6 p.m. (TBD)

November 1: 6 p.m. (TBD)

Annually:

June: Lewis and Clark Festival

[Lewis and Clark State Park, Onawa, IA](#)

July: Camp White Catfish Dinner

[Mills County Historical Museum](#)

Upcoming One-time Events:

35

Our Chapter: See list of Dinner Speakers

Other Chapters:

August 20: Floyd River Campsite Rock Dedication 10 am

Chris Larsen Park, Sioux City, IA (see p. 33)

Park at Siouxland Expo Center West

(Contact: Dan Whitlock, 712-259-4010,

whitlock@longlines.com) (SFTS)

Sgt. Floyd Encampment (10 am - 4 pm)

Sergeant Floyd River Museum

1000 Larsen Park Rd., Sioux City, IA 51101

(Contact: Denny Leonard: 712-210-2772,

leonard1796@yahoo.com) (SFTS)

Sgt. Floyd Burial Ceremony (6 pm)

Sgt. Floyd Monument (bring a lawnchair)

2601 S. Lewis Blvd., Sioux City, IA

August 21: Sgt. Floyd Encampment (10 am – 3 pm)

(Contact: Denny Leonard: 712-210-2772,

leonard1796@yahoo.com) (SFTS)

National Organization:

LCTHF 55th Annual Meeting: August 2023

Location: Great Falls, MT

Info: lewisandclark.org

Other Organizations:

Cass County History Museum: Aug. 2-Oct. 29: Merritt Beach

Aug. 30-Oct. 29: Plattsmouth Harvest Festival History

Oct. 16: Rock Bluff School Open House (2-4 pm)

Fort Atkinson Living History: Sept. 3-4, Oct. 1-2

Nov. 5: Candlelight Tour (reservations: \$18)

Historic Downtown Plattsmouth Association:

Oct. 28: Halloween-on-Main

Kids' Trick-or-Treat (4-5 pm)

Legends & Lanterns (7-8:30 pm, 7:30-9 pm)

\$15 Tickets: historicdowntownplattsmouth@gmail.com

Dec. 3: Victorian Christmas-on-Main (6-9 pm)

Joslyn Art Museum: Closed

Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center:

August 18: (5-7 pm) Business after Hours:

Celebrating the Captains' Birthdays

Sept. 10, Oct. 8: 2nd Saturday with a Soldier (10-4)

Nebraska History Museum Special Exhibitions:

Archeology, Photographers and the Plains Indians

Rock Hill Windmill Event Center:

August 27: (9 am-5 pm) Timeline Event (see p. 34)

August 28: (9 am-4 pm) Timeline Event

Location: 5910 Ranch Road, Plattsmouth, NE



Mouth of the Platte Chapter
% Jim Christiansen
173 Bennett Ave, # 1180
Council Bluffs, Iowa, 51503