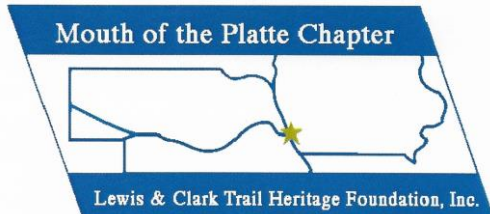


Mouth of the Platte Chapter Newsletter

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

"Keepers of the Story~Stewards of the Trail"

August 2023 Edition



Dear Mouth of the Platte Members and Friends,

First off – our sympathies go out to devoted MOP member Shirley Enos and her family on the recent death of Shirley's husband Tony.

There's still lots going on with Mouth of the Platte. I leave it to our newsletter editor, Ann Dunlap Woolard, to get the details to you elsewhere in this newsletter.

As the last MOP newsletter was published, several MOP folks were interacting with the family of MOP co-founder Kira Gale on the distribution of Lewis and Clark items from Kira's vast resources. Kira's son, Bill Gale, and her daughter, Beth Jobman, and Beth's son and daughter-in-law devoted many hours to meeting with MOP folks at the family home to allow us to sort through the treasures and take what was of interest. I have several boxes of books and other items from that – including a "naked" *Biddle the Bear* in its original box, and I know several other folks have lots of treasures also. Many thanks to Kira's family for this generosity.

The Gale family generosity coincided with a contact from folks at the closed Western Historic Trails Center in Council Bluffs – former meeting site of MOP's weekly Study Group. Harlan Seyfer, assisted by Keith Bystrom and Jim Christiansen, gathered more treasures relating to Lewis and Clark and MOP's history.

These two events prompted your Board of Directors to begin planning a *MOP Memories Night* to share our memories of the people and times we've shared in the 20+ years of MOP's history and to give you an opportunity to acquire some of the treasures gathered from Kira's estate and from WHTC. Details are still being worked out on this, but please mark your calendars for Tuesday evening, October 17, for this special night. The event will be at Pizza King in Council Bluffs. It includes MOP's Annual Business Meeting and election of officers and members-at-large to your Board of Directors. Full information will be distributed early in October.

MOP has a dinner meeting on the third Tuesday evening of each month through October; we shift to noon meetings on the third Tuesday for November-March. Study Group meets every Wednesday morning from 9:00-11:00; the members have at least one field trip planned in September. These and other Lewis and Clark events by other groups are all featured in this newsletter or by contacting members of your Board of Directors – they are named with contact information elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thank you for your support of MOP through your participation in its events. I hope to see you at one or more of these events.

Sincerely yours,
Don Shippy, MOP President

shippydv@msn.com

In this issue:

1. *President's Letter*
2. *Index*

Past:

3. *Study Group Notes: May – August 2023*
5. *Supplement to Study Group Notes: Pied-Bill Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) (ADW)*
8. *Northern Plains Region (NPR) News – notice of LCTHF Maps at Ponca State Park*
9. *MOP Dinner Speakers: June – August 2023*
9. a. *Troy Stolp: Lewis & Clark and Council Bluffs – Omaha: 1804-1854 (ADW)*
10. b. *Steve Wymore, Della Bauer, Peg Miller Evans: Camp White Catfish Trivia Quiz (ADW)*
12. c. *Denny Leonard: History of the Sergeant Floyd Honor Guard (ADW)*
14. *MOP Board News: June - August 2023 (Ann Dunlap Woolard)*
15. *Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) Annual Meeting (Keith Bystrom)*
20. *1804 British News: Osmium (Ann Dunlap Woolard)*
21. *Noted in Passing: Anthony "Tony" Francis Enos*

Present:

22. *In the News: Sarpy County Museum Site Dedication (Ann Dunlap Woolard)*
23. *In the News: South Korean Ban (Ann Dunlap Woolard)*
24. *Special Topic: Personalities (Harlan Seyfer)*
26. *Book Review: RUSH by Stephen Fried (Ann Dunlap Woolard)*
28. *Video Review: The Private Life of Deer (Ann Dunlap Woolard)*
30. *Members: Long's Peak and Encampment (Mary Jo Havlicek)*
31. *Members: Monticello/Falls of the Ohio (Tom and Ginny Conley)*
33. *Members: Farming the Land Explored by Lewis and Clark (Ann Dunlap Woolard)*
34. *Special Topic: Jane Austen--Petticoats and Tea (Ann Dunlap Woolard)*
35. *Places to Go: Museum List with Website Links*
35. *Thanks and Kudos*
36. *Easy Daytrip: Johnson County Museum (Michael Sweeney, D.D.S)*
37. *A Walk through Time (Butch Bouvier and Cass County Historical Society)*
38. *Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Visitor Center 2023 Calendar*
38. *Fort Atkinson 2023 Activities*
39. *Sergeant Floyd Tri-State Activities*
40. *Editor's Desk*

Future:

41. *MOP Chapter Activities Calendar*
41. *Upcoming MOP Speakers*
41. *One-time Events*
 - Our Chapter*
 - Other Chapters*
 - National LCTHF*
 - Other Organizations*

Contact Us

40. *MOP Board, NPR Board, LCTHF, and Editor Contact Information*

DISCLAIMER: The opinions, information, and views expressed in this Newsletter are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor, Mouth of the Platte Chapter, or the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

Study Group Notes: May - August 2023
“Lewis and Clark on a Budget”
February 7 to March 21, 1806

3



Jim Christiansen listens as Paula Imes reads

As the Corps of Discovery pushed westward toward the coast, the men were usually together to see and share each other's day-to-day activities. Not so, the last six weeks of Fort Clatsop life. Parties of men were dispatched almost every day on one errand or another, leaving at the fort the captains to scratch away at their journals and the enlisted men to process hides and repair canoes.

Likewise, Study Group has experienced a somewhat fragmented period of three months since our last snapshot in May. While we're not off making salt or hunting for tomorrow's meal, as were the men, various activities have chipped away at our shared experience of the summer.

Peg, Keith, Jim, Paula, Betty, and the Conleys have done some pleasure traveling (fun, but tiring); some members or spouses have suffered health concerns; there was at least one car accident; and there have been a number of deaths, including Don's sister, Betty's sister-in-law and Shirley's dearly beloved husband, Tony. Add to that a displacement from our normal study venue to a location twenty miles away because of re-carpeting work, and we have had a perfect recipe for reduced attendance.



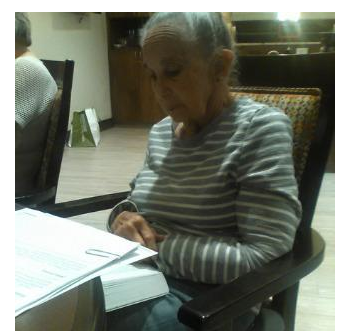
Della Bauer



Tom and Ginny Conley



Steve Wymore & Don Shippy



Mary Langhorst

Nonetheless, we keep proceeding on, with an average of eight people per meeting and several meetings with 10 to 13 folks.

Most of what we studied this quarter could be reported as “name it and describe it” journaling: 1) plants (berries, grapes, grasses, trees, seaweeds); 2) animals (elk, deer, lynx, foxes, squirrels); 3) birds (condor, grouse, bobwhite, blackbirds, owls, hawks, jays, woodpeckers, sapsuckers, flickers, meadowlarks, flycatchers, snipe, curlew, osprey, gulls, kingfisher, loons, grebe, swans, ducks, coots, nighthawks, geese); 4) fish and water-dwellers (eulachon, sturgeon, crayfish, skates, flounders, porpoise, salmon, char, mollusks, snails); and 5) people, languages, and customs (too numerous to list)—all better viewed in 3-D living color pictures than described in 2-D black and white words.

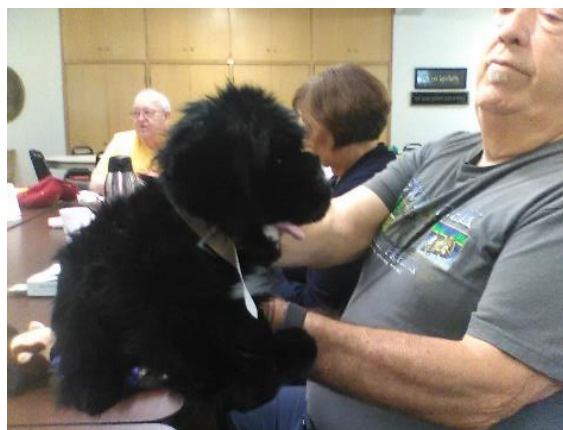
We’ve risen above the disappointing inadequacy of words without pictures by pouring rivers of colored ink through our computer printers to provide for one another 2-D living color representations for take-home study.

The other drag on our enthusiasm is a little harder to counter: the men, themselves, have suffered six weeks of late winter “blahs”. Clark says: “Willard is yet complaining and is low spirited.” (p. 393) Because it rains almost every day, the men are WET. Sometimes they’re cold and/or hungry. The Natives have given them disease and threats of more disease. Clark records: “The Clatsops inform us that Several of their nation has the Sore throat, one of which has latterly died with this disorder.” (p. 444) They’re suffering reduced circumstances because their store of trade goods has shrunk to one to two handkerchiefs full of items and a few garments. They’re pining for home. Lewis sums up the physical and psychological in these hopeful words: “I expect when we get underway we shall be more healthy. it has always had that effect on us heretofore.” (p. 441) (quotes from Moulton *Journals*, Vol. 6)

Above are some pictures of Study Group members enjoying the reading, despite the Corps’ reduced circumstances. We, too, have the hope of renewal and better days ahead; during the next quarter we’ll be headed home with the boys. And, contrary to the Corps experience, we ALWAYS eat well!



Keith attended the release of this new stamp.



Tom Conley found a friend in Seaman.

Joann Prout's dolls (below)



George Drouillard & Meriwether Lewis



Charbonneau, Sacagawea, Pomp & Patrick Gass



York and William Clark

Supplement to Study Group: The Pied-Bill Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*)



Warm winds bent cattails over the nesting grebe and her young. An unnatural darkness covered the southern horizon and rapidly filled the entire sky. Several sandpipers and terns returned to their shore nests in sand and clumps of grass on the island as the rain intensified.

In a short time whitecaps formed on the inland lake, and they were pelted with heavy drops of rain. Lightning flashed through the thick clouds, and torrents of rain descended. Amid the storm a small bird remained on her nest as it precariously bobbed in the water.

The grebe had arrived early that spring and had made a skillful decision in selecting this particular clump of reeds for her nest. Her area was east of the tributaries' entrance in a narrow inlet, away from the open stretches of the lake's expanse. Painstaking care in construction was a hidden accomplishment, betrayed by an apparently haphazard appearance.

As the sudden spring storm continued to rage, the grebe nestled even closer to her eggs. Not since arriving had there been such a torrential downpour. This would certainly put all that the grebe had done in building the nest to its most severe test.

As the storm continued, streams that fed the lake swelled well beyond their banks. The waters gushed rampantly into the lake creating even larger whitecaps. Their treacherous crests crashed upon the shore and beat against the nests of frightened shore birds. Helpless, these birds watched as their eggs were washed out of their nests into the turbulent waters.

A different drama was taking place at the nest of the grebe. The nest appeared to be in even greater danger than the others because it was in the water, subject to all the heaving swells of the waves. However, in selecting her nesting area, the grebe had chosen a part of the lake where the waves were lower, broken by the land strip that jutted against the shoreline.

The nest bobbed with each swell and was unaffected by turbulent flooding. The grebe and its eggs rested safely in the carefully-built shelter.



In making the nest, the grebe had employed an amazing engineering feat which served as a precaution for just such a time as this. It had fastened the nest loosely to the reeds, and had designed it to float up and down with the waves. By choosing the location carefully and constructing the nest against the danger of sudden spring storms, the grebe and her young escaped destruction.

The pied-bill grebe spends most of its life in the water, the element for which it is ideally suited. Its feet are lobed. The lobes spread apart to achieve maximum force during a backward swimming stroke. The lobes are folded together to reduce resistance as the grebe draws its foot forward through the water.



An inhabitant of both fresh and salt water, this fifteen-inch bird has a wingspread of twenty-three inches. The migratory grebe weighs only one pound.

In choosing the site and material for its nest, the grebe takes precautionary measures so that it will remain unnoticed by animals who might prey upon it. The grebe gathers plant material and arranges it among reeds. The material is carefully chosen but haphazardly arranged so that the nest appears simply as a mass of dead vegetation.

In an effort to camouflage the eggs, the grebe completely covers them over with vegetation gathered from the nearby waters. She does this whenever she leaves the nest. By covering the eggs, she achieves two purposes. They are kept warm, and they are hidden from the sight of preying animals. It isn't long before these materials stain the whitish eggs. These stains cause them to be even less noticeable to any enemy that would prey upon them.

A grebe takes special precautions to avoid being seen near its nest. When approaching the nest, it will swim underwater to the edge, then quickly slip up on top of it, push away the vegetation and settle down over the eggs. If you saw a grebe in the water during nesting season, its nest would probably not be nearby.

Even though a grebe closely resembles a small duck, what distinguishes the grebe is that it floats at a higher level than a duck normally would. When danger approaches, the grebe is able to control the level of its buoyancy to the point where only its head is visible above the surface.



Floating high



Partially submerged



Only head visible

The grebe keeps constant vigil against predators. It is especially watchful for such enemies as the raccoon or the vicious mink. When it hears a suspicious sound or spots an approaching enemy, it engages in a very clever maneuver. First, it quietly pulls vegetation over the eggs. Then, it quickly slips off its nest and swims underwater for a considerable distance. When it finally surfaces, the mink or raccoon has no idea from what direction it came.

The nest of the grebe is a masterpiece of precautionary construction. It is uniquely designed to escape many land predators as well as torrential floods. The grebe begins construction by diving to the bottom of the lake and bringing up plants and mud. These are then piled on a preliminary platform of green stalks which in their fresh condition will easily float.



Floating grebe nest with eggs



Floating grebe nest with eggs covered

The platform is small enough to avoid easy detection, yet large enough to bear the weight of the 5-7 eggs as well as the nesting grebe. The final touch comes as the grebe loosely attaches this floating nest around the stalks of nearby cattails. This both anchors it and allows it to float up and down with the waves.



Feeding feathers to young

One final item of curiosity about this interesting bird is that it eats a considerable amount of feathers. This is not done to provide nourishment, but is another amazing illustration of wise precaution. The main diet of the grebe is fish, but many bones in fish could pierce the digestive tract of the grebe. To safeguard against this, as much as two-thirds of the stomach consists of feathers. These protect the lining and also hold back the bones until they are soft enough to be digested. The grebe also teaches its chicks to eat feathers to prevent sharp bones from puncturing their intestinal tracts. (*Character Sketches*, Institute in Basic Youth Conflict, pp. 91-98)

Northern Plains Region News
Don't miss the LCTHF Maps Exhibit at Ponca State Park
August 28 – September 30
Study Group will take a field trip on September 27.
Contact Jim Christiansen for details: jl.christ@cox.net

[Reimaging America: The Maps of Lewis and Clark](#)

When: Aug 28 – Sep 30, 2023

Where: Ponca State Park, 88090 Spur 26 E, Ponca, NE 68770, USA ([map](#))

Description: This exhibit explains how the Lewis and Clark Expedition's findings transformed Euro-American understandings of North America in the early 1800s. It also investigates methods used by the explorers to gather and process that information, including pre-existing maps, scientific navigational equipment that was considered cutting edge for its time, and intelligence gained from Native Americans with whom the explorers interacted.



June 20 (Council Bluffs Pizza King): Troy Stolp

Topic: *Lewis and Clark and Council Bluffs – Omaha: 1804-1854*

“Fifty years that made the metro.” If history is a web, as Tolstoy claims, Troy Stolp certainly captured 12 MOP members and guests in his. This local historian and teacher glowed with enthusiasm as he highlighted the strands of the web that show how the Lewis and Clark Expedition fits into the crucial early history of the Omaha/Council Bluffs region.

First, Troy set the stage for Lewis and Clark by explaining the Native American cultures that had inhabited the area before the Expedition’s arrival, mentioning such things as the Nebraska Phase and Glenwood Phase of Native American pre-history (before “stuff” was written down).

Next, Troy talked about the early history of whites in the area—explorers and trappers. One prominent name was Manuel Lisa, who founded a fur trading establishment on the Mississippi River and served as outfitter to Lewis and Clark. Before the Expedition, trappers and fur traders had been interacting with the Natives along the Missouri River. After the Expedition, Lisa established “Fort Lisa” five miles south of what would become Fort Calhoun, NE. Troy had presented an entire lecture on Lisa less than a week prior at the Florence Mill.

Troy mentioned such notables as Joshua Pilcher, John Pierre Cabanné, Lucien and Logan Fontenelle, and Peter Sarpy. He talked about the continuing Native presence, particularly the Omaha (Umon’hoⁿ) and the three tribes of Potawatomi. He traced out the military and political strands of the web, including Stephen Long’s Expedition, the relatively brief occupation of Fort Atkinson, and the 1830 Indian Relocation Act. Finally, he wove in the religious strands—including Father Jean de Smet and the significant Mormon presence involved in both the Mormon Grand Encampment (near present-day Iowa School for the Deaf) and the building of Kaneshville (Council Bluffs, IA) east of the river.

Of course, the 1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act, championed by Stephen Douglas, brought this crucial time period to a “head”, as it legally opened the Nebraska Territory to white settlement. While MOP members and guests would willingly have listened to Troy expound on the next 50-year fabric of the history web, we saved that for another day. Thanks, Troy, for sharing your expertise & enthusiasm!



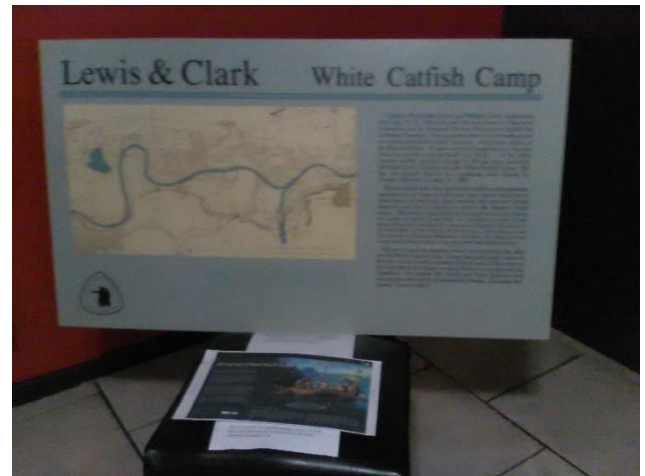
Thanks, also, to two special guests who joined MOP for the evening – K.C. Hummel, formerly affiliated with Western Historic Trails Center, and Char, a cherished friend of Denna and Lew Massey. You made the evening even better by your presence.

-ADW



Jack Christ and the Catfish

Trivia Quiz



Harlan Seyfer brought panels and new art.

Twenty-five MOP members and guests made their way past the junction of Highways 75 and 34 into the micro-metropolis of LaPlatte, Nebraska, and down a long, winding road to a dusty, drought-hardened gravel parking lot. Fortunately, the itty-bitty berg didn't have enough streets to make its lone restaurant hard to find. The journey was definitely worth it! Where better to celebrate Camp White Catfish than *Catfish Lake at the Lodge* restaurant? They really know how to cook the catfish!

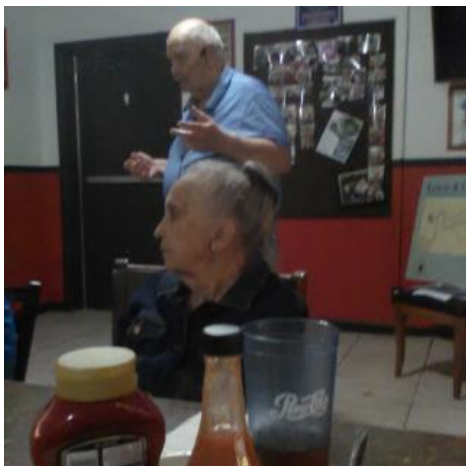


Left: Steve Wymore, Paula Imes, Joyce & Mike Bowman.
Right: Jim Christiansen



Mike Sweeney, Harlan & Bonnie Seyfer, Mary Jo Havlicek

Twenty-five orders from the menu later, we each had a repast fit for a hungry boatman. To our delight, several seldom-recently-seen member-wayfarers made a re-appearance among us: Kim and Scotty Stickles returned from ranging wide in their motor home; Joyce and Mike Bowman took a break from "soldiering" and settling into their new home; Mary Lu Larson brought daughter and son-in-law, Jane and Dennis Stone; and Peg and Jack Christ were back "in the pink." Sometimes, when old friends get together, it's hard to get a word in edge-wise for all the stories, jokes, and laughter. That was definitely the case in this crowd.



Mary Langhorst listens to Don Shippy's welcome.



Mary Lu Larson, Jane/Dennis Stone, Ginny Conley

Don provided each person a 6-page handout of *Journal* entries from July 1804, describing the Nebraska/Iowa camps and activities. Harlan brought for display two Wayside Interpretive Panels from the Western Historic Trails Center. Keith read the July 18 *Journal* entries for 1804, 1805, and 1806. And everyone brought an abundant supply of good humor.

After dinner, Steve Wymore made us put away our cell phones (NO CHEATING!) and buckle down to a 28-question multiple choice quiz prepared by Steve, Della Bauer, and Peg Miller Evans. You should have heard the groaning! MANY painful minutes later, we traded quiz papers with our neighbors for the big reveal of answers. The dark-horse winner was TOM CONLEY! Congratulations, Tom! (Jim, Don, and I are still out looking for the Woolly Mammoth, instead of the Giant Sloth Jefferson thought the men would find!)



Thanks, EVERYONE—especially the hard-working quiz committee—for a great evening. A good time was had by all!

-ADW

Butch Bouvier says:

Mark your calendars for the living history event *A Walk through Time*, August 26-27, at the Rockhill Windmill Event Center, 5910 Ranch Road, Plattsmouth.

To view a short (~20 minutes) video about last year's timeline event go to ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9iyotRmnN0>

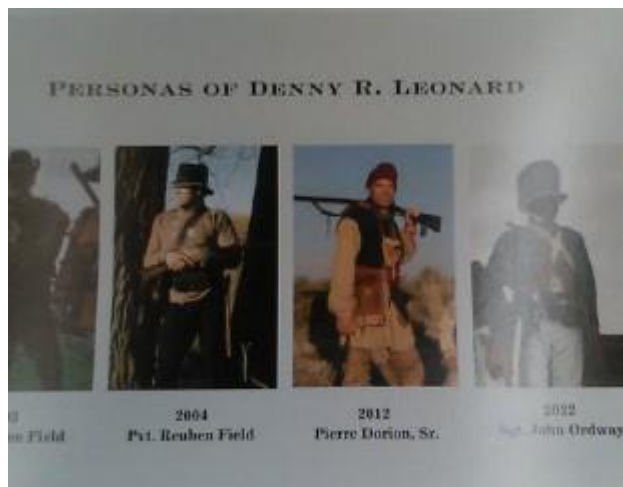
Topic: *History of the Sergeant Floyd Honor Guard*



Denny Leonard (l) and Al Underwood (r) in Wyoming in late June 2023

“Passion” is an over-used word. “Alignment” might be a better way to describe the match between Denny Leonard and the people and times that he portrays. Denny’s precocious interest in history and a spirit sympathetic to camping, hunting, and trapping as a youth laid the foundation for the activities that Denny pursues today.

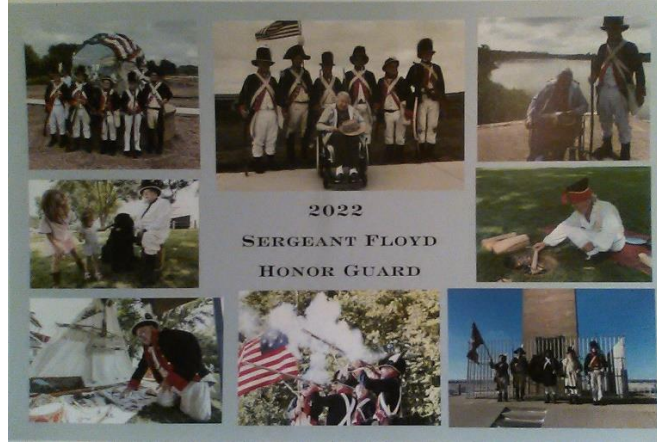
Denny grew up on a farm and witnessed the transition between horse power and the internal combustion engine. As early as 1985, Denny was aware that Lewis and Clark enthusiasts had started up a Corps and Honor Guard in Great Falls, Montana, and a mirror organization in Onawa, Iowa. By 1993, Denny was re-enacting the character of Pvt. Reuben Field, and by 1998 even his children (triplets) began to participate in the re-enactment fun. By 2004, the generally accepted soldier’s uniform he was wearing had changed, and Denny’s portrayal of Reuben Field had matured. By 2012, Denny’s desire for authenticity led him to turn his research and portrayal toward the character of Pierre Dorion, Sr., an older Frenchman who was affiliated with the Yanktons. In 2022, Denny’s research focus shifted again, leading to a mature portrayal of succinct, stable, and competent Expedition officer, Sgt. John Ordway.



In all of his roles, a persistent desire to share what he was learning led Denny to a wide variety of public education activities: the 1993 A&E Channel film, school programs, muzzleloader competitions, the Sgt. Floyd Honor Guard, the creation of 20 interpretive panels with Strode Hinds (Denny created the panel artwork.), seminars, re-enactment/living history encampments, the building of authentic equipment at the Sioux City Buck Pecaut Nature Center, the Bicentennial celebration, L & C festivals, and ceremonies, including the annual Sgt. Floyd Burial Ceremony at the Sioux City Sgt. Floyd Monument.



Denny's handmade writing desk



Encampment, Dedication ceremony, Burial ceremony



A cherished hand-made flag

Denny has seen a lot of people come and go from the public sphere of L & C re-enactment, from 70 soldiers in 2006 down to the core of 6 soldiers currently comprising the SF Honor Guard. Nowadays, recruitment is hard because schools are not exposing children to history as they once did and the general public is satisfied to just see the uniforms, without delving into the history. Denny says “living history” involves research and authenticity, starting with uniforms and equipment, and encompassing such fireside activities as molding bullets, making moccasins, sewing leather, and practicing Indian sign language.

On the personal level, Denny prefers “historical living”, the individual pursuit of experiences authentic to the historic period, but without the crowds and cameras. This encompasses his building of a dugout canoe and his 1989 dugout canoe trip from Yankton to Sioux City on the Missouri River. Nothing better than this could reinforce the authentic perception of the river as a dangerous force. It encompasses making his own bull boat and floating the Big Horn and Yellowstone Rivers in 2019, riding his horse through South Pass in 2022, wearing wool and leather foot coverings in winter for warmth, hunting with black powder, practicing Indian sign language (Denny compiled his own Indian Sign Language book), spending a long winter weekend eating cattail roots when the live game wasn't cooperating, and sleeping under the stars with only a 7' X 7' loosely woven linen gauze between himself and the hungry mosquitoes.

Some of these activities have moved Denny closer to “hiverano” status in the [American Mountain Men Association](#). ALL of them have informed his authenticity in re-enacting characters out of the early 1800s. A few of them—such as the 2005 inflamed appendix of his young daughter during the Bicentennial observance—have moved him closer to a greater appreciation of the efficacy of modern medicine. Unlike Sgt. Floyd, Denny's young daughter lived to tell the story of her living history experience with the serious illness of the only man to die on the L & C Expedition. Denny says he has no illusions about how “romantic” life was in the early 1800s!

In order to help folks visualize this wonderful presentation, there are pictures of Denny and his materials dispersed throughout this newsletter. The only way to REALLY grasp Denny's topic is to attend the Living History Timeline event near Plattsmouth on August 26 & 27, 2023. (see page 37)

Thanks, Denny for sharing your alignment with us!

-ADW

MOP Board Meeting Minutes Summary

14

June 6, July 11, and August 1, 2023

Treasurer's Report: Checking: \$2,479.20. Savings: \$2,873.32. LCTHF Grants (2) for Interpretive Wayside Exhibits: \$5,753.48. Grant Expenses: \$200 for rights to use Gary Lucy's art and \$1,675 to Hopewell Manufacturing as half-payment for four panel mounts (including shipping).

Membership: The list of NPR members having designated MOP as Home Chapter is growing as people come to better understand that there is NO downside to specifying a Home Chapter and that the VERY REAL up-side is better communication of opportunities. The Board is working on tweaking the Bylaws wording to make sure that all paid LCTHF members having designated MOP as Home Chapter have the opportunity to vote on MOP matters, primarily elections. Currently, MOP members can vote in person and by live phone call or live Zoom connection during the meeting at which the voting is taking place. At issue is whether proxy voting (allowing the board to cast a vote in your stead), mailed or e-mailed votes (with a time period for casting them), and other forms of votes *in absentia* might be a good idea in order to accommodate a growing membership of folks located at some distance from the Omaha/Council Bluffs metro area. Write-in candidates have been permitted under the old voting system. Any future write-in candidates would be disadvantaged with the establishment of non-live voting options. Please contact any Board member with your thoughts on potential voting rules changes.

Dinner Meetings: June 20: 6:00 p.m. at Council Bluffs Pizza King. Program: *Lewis and Clark and Council Bluffs – Omaha: 1804-1854* by Troy Stolp. Effective, wide-ranging presentation. Troy's knowledge base would lend itself to a future presentation on another topic, so we may enjoy this speaker again.

July 18: 6:00 p.m. at LaPlatte *Catfish Lake at the Lodge* restaurant. Program: Trivia Contest. Questions prepared by Steve Wymore, Della Bauer, and Peg Miller Evans provided just the right balance of amusement and challenge. Winner: Tom Conley. Everyone took home a prize from a selection of items donated by Ava Hastert, Joann Prout, Kira Gale, Western Historic Trails Center, and others.

August 15: 6:00 p.m. at Council Bluffs Pizza King. Program: *History of the Sergeant Floyd Honor Guard* by Denny Leonard. This gentleman is well-enough known and loved by the group that his Q & A session expanded to include American Mountain Man Association (AMMA), his Indian Sign Language book, horses, farming, NPR, and you-name-it. This man is an asset to the region.

Future Dinner Meetings:

September 19: 5 p.m. self-guided tour of Washington County Historical Museum in Fort Calhoun, 6 p.m. bring-your-own brown bag dinner. Program: *Fort Atkinson Archeology* by Nolan Johnson. This outing was planned for a day when Fort Atkinson, itself, would be open 8-5 for viewing. If you opt to do an on-your-own visit to the Fort earlier in the day, please be advised that a Nebraska State Park Sticker is required for entrance.

October 17: 5:30 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. dinner at Council Bluffs Pizza King. Annual Meeting and Board election. Program: *MOP Memories Night* AND auction of L&C memorabilia. Special guests invited. If you have L&C memorabilia to donate for this fund-raiser, please contact a board member.

Relationship with Cass County Historical Society, Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Visitor Center, National Park Service Headquarters Visitor Center, Sioux City Lewis and Clark Center, and defunct Western Historic Trails Center: CCHS: MOP made \$100 donation to Timeline from money previously given to MOP by Ava Hastert. MRBVC: L&C Birthday Party on August 16. NPSHQ: No news. SCLCC: See ad for SF/TS Encampment (August 19 & 20) on p. 39. WHTC: The Center is essentially empty. Some items were used as Camp White Catfish Trivia Contest prizes. Many items will be auctioned at our October meeting.

Study Group: Weekly meetings are well-attended. Currently meeting at Sterling Ridge Retirement Community until completion of re-carpeting project at usual venue. See article page 3.

LCTHF Northern Plains Report: See Maps Exhibit information on page 8.

Newsletter: Next issue: November 2023. Submissions deadline: November 10, 2023.

2023 LCTHF Annual Meeting.

The 55th Annual Meeting of LCTHF was held from June 27-30, 2023, in Missoula, Montana. It was hosted by the Travelers Rest Connection, a non-profit friends group supporting Travelers Rest State Park, and was well managed by its executive director, Mollie Stockdale. The downtown Holiday Inn located on the banks of the Clark's Fork River provided a scenic background and a centralized location for the Annual Meeting activities.

I arrived early to take advantage of a pre-meeting tour of the Lost Trail 1805 descent by the Corps of Discovery into the Bitterroot River Valley. The tour was led by Ted Hall, a local Darby, Montana, LCTHF member who had diligently researched to identify the exact route Lewis and Clark experienced. He is the author of two books regarding his research - *The Trail between the Rivers* (2000) and *Lost Trail Pass: A Closer Look at the Lewis and Clark Route of September 3, 1805* (2016). It was a great day viewing numerous L&C sites in the Bitterroot Valley and hiking about 1 mile on the now-designated L&C Descent Trail into Montana. We observed the treacherous steep trail along "Dividing Ridge" where many pack horses were injured, a 250-year-old "witness tree" that research concluded was alive in 1805 when the Corps descended the trail, a small park in downtown Darby dedicated to Sacajawea, and other identified camp sites along the Bitterroot River leading to Traveler's Rest.



The Witness Tree

For me, the conference started early the next day, June 27, with the LCTHF Board Meeting and strategic planning session.

For others, the conference began with an optional float trip on the Blackfoot and Clark's Fork Rivers. The formal beginning of the conference was an opening reception held on the Holiday Inn patio overlooking the Clark's Fork River. I met Jim Christiansen, our MOP Treasurer, at this event. He was the only other MOP member in attendance and, just prior to the annual meeting, had enjoyed visiting with family members who lived in the area prior to the annual meeting.

One of the activities I always participate in at the Annual Meeting is the Wellness Walk. It is held each morning of the conference at 6 AM, and this year we had a beautiful two-mile walk along the Clark's Fork River.

On June 28 the substance of the annual meeting really kicked in. There were three substantive sessions, and, as is customary, participants had a choice during each session of which lectures to attend. These included:

- 9:00 - *A Mother's Journey: The Life of Lucy Meriwether Lewis Marks* –or–
The Salish People and the Lewis and Clark Expedition

I chose to see historic interpreter Mary Jane Bradberry portray the story of Meriwether Lewis's mother and her impact on raising a son who became a key player in the formation of the United States of America. She was very entertaining, and her program was filled with interesting insights about Meriwether Lewis. During my pre-conference tour, we had met with some Salish people, including someone who claimed to be a descendent of Sacajawea--the Salish spell her name with a "J" not a "G"--and had learned about the Natives' encounter with the Corps of Discovery and the tremendous assistance the Salish had provided to them.



On the Buffalo Range

- 10:45 - *American Bison: From Prehistory to 1890* --or--
Indigenous Cartography and Early 19th Century Cultural Landscape.

This session, I found it difficult to decide which presentation to attend, but I chose to learn more about the American Bison. The presenter was Lee Sillaman, a retired educator who told the story of the American Bison through photographs and vintage engravings that he had collected over many years and that were now being shown in the visitor's center at Travelers Rest State Park. His presentation was amazing, and when I later viewed his collection at Travelers Rest, I was even more impressed. In talking with friends who chose to learn more about cartography, that session seemed to also be very good and helped attendees understand native Indian cartography.

- 1:30 Walking Tours in downtown Missoula –
Art and the Expedition
Natural History and Animals of the Expedition
--or--
Riverside Roundtables on the Hotel Patio

I enjoyed the Lewis and Clark artwork in the downtown Missoula Art Museum. It was showing original works by indigenous artists reflecting on the Expedition and its long-term impacts. The works were very interesting and provided a view into the native artists' perspectives on Lewis and Clark. We also walked to the Missoula County Courthouse, which was home to eight large murals painted by Edgar S. Paxson in 1912, including three paintings featuring the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

After a wonderful dinner, the Moulton lecture was presented by Dan Flores, Professor Emeritus of Western History at the University of Montana. He gave an exciting lecture based on his interests in the history, animals, native tribes, and environment of the American West.

On June 29th the morning began with the option of participating in the same Walking Tours as the day before. I went on the *Natural History and Animals* tour that basically followed the Clark's Fork River and explained the landscape formed by glaciers and the flora and fauna that were found in the Bitterroot Valley.

- 11:00 - *So Hard to Die: A Physician and a Psychologist Explore the Mystery of Meriwether Lewis's Death*
--or--
One in Common and Boundless Pasture: Sharing the Prairie for Wildlife People and Communities

Having recently read David and Marti Peck's book on the subject, I chose to attend their discussion. Their lecture, as did their book, evaluated the various medical and psychological theories that have

been proposed by historians and others to account for Lewis's death. Was it suicide or murder? They came down on the side of suicide.

- 2:00 - *Montana Journeys after the Split* --or--
All About the Grizzlies

I chose to hear Norman Anderson from the LCTHF Portage Route Chapter explain the Corps of Discovery's various journeys across Montana after the parties split up at Travelers rest on July 3, 1806, and then reunited in current North Dakota on August 12, 1806.

- 3:15 - All of the conference participants came together for a final panel discussion on the *Archaeology of Travelers Rest*. Local archaeologists presented a very interesting panel discussion about the science, research, and ultimate discovery of the campsite at Travelers Rest State Park.



Salish Home on the Buffalo Range

On Friday, June 30, bus tours were scheduled, and participants had previously chosen which tour they wanted to join when they registered for the annual meeting. I chose to tour the National Bison Range, a wildlife refuge now under the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. It was about an hour drive north of Missoula and we saw several bison (although not as many as some had seen on prior visits). We also explored the Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana and its impressive collection of artifacts, Native American beadwork, Western art, photographs, and life-size dioramas.

A second Bus Tour visited the "Road to the Buffalo" at the confluence of Clark's Fork River and the Blackfoot River. This is the beginning of the shortcut to Great Falls that Meriwether Lewis explored in 1806. Although that is a part of the L&C Trail I have not traveled previously, I will have to return at a later date to investigate that segment of the Lewis and Clark Trail. The third bus tour visited Lolo Pass Visitor Center, Packer Meadows, and Glade Creek L&C campsite, and saw cultural demonstrations by the Nez Perce. I had seen those sites when I traveled the trail in 2017 and planned, instead, to visit the actual Lolo Motorway during a post conference tour.

At 4:00, the three tour buses delivered all attendees to Travelers Rest State Park, the final event of the 2023 LCTHF Annual Meeting. We all enjoyed touring the identified L&C campsite, reviewing archaeological artifacts from the expedition, meeting living history reenactors from the Portage Route and Travelers Rest Chapters of LCTHF, viewing the American Bison engraving exhibit in the visitor center, and sharing a wonderful outdoor barbecue dinner under a tent.



“Those terrible mountains”

On July 1, I participated in a post-meeting tour on the Lolo Trail. It was spectacular. I had not traveled on the actual Lolo Trail in 2017 because all the guidebooks indicate that you need to have four-wheel-drive and/or a knowledgeable guide with an appropriate vehicle to travel on the Lolo Motorway. Our tour left in vans at 9:00, drove past Travelers Rest State Park, took US Highway 12 to the Lolo Pass Visitors Center, and, after traveling west for several miles, turned north onto the gravel roads that eventually took us to the Lolo Motorway along the ridgeline where the Corps of Discovery traversed the mountains to the Columbia River. We were able to walk in the path of Lewis and Clark and observe such beautiful views of “those terrible mountains” from locations such as the Indian Post Office, Sinque Hole Camp, and Wendover Ridge. At various sites our guide read from the Lewis and Clark journals. It was the highlight of the annual meeting for me.



Sinque Hole Camp Site



Reading the Journals

The next day, Sunday, July 2, 2023, I left Missoula and PROCEEDED ON to my home in Nebraska.



KEITH BYSTROM
Vice-President, Mouth of the Platte Chapter
Board Chair, Northern Plains Region
Board Member, Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
Remembering the Expedition

Be kind to my remains; and oh defend,
Against your judgment, your departed friend!

John Dryden (1631-1700)
Epistle to Congreve [1693]



Osmium crystal



Osmium re-melted pellet

While Lewis and Clark were preparing for the Expedition of Discovery, laboratory scientists of their day were making discoveries of their own. The story of one particular discovery begins with the realization in 1748 that the silver mines of Colombia were yielding, besides silver, a distinctly new element: platinum. Chemists who studied platinum dissolved it in a mixture of hydrochloric and nitric acids to create soluble salts. They always observed a small amount of a dark insoluble residue. In 1803, in England, Smithson Tennant analyzed the insoluble residue and concluded that it must contain a new metal. Tennant identified two previously undiscovered elements in the black residue, iridium and osmium. After acidification, he was able to distill OsO_4 (osmium tetroxide). He named it osmium after the Greek *osme*, meaning “a smell,” because of the ashy, smoky smell of the compound. Discovery of the new element was documented in a letter to the Royal Society on June 21, 1804.

Osmium is the densest naturally occurring element. It is approximately twice as dense as lead. It is among the rarest elements in the Earth’s crust, making up only 50 parts per trillion. Osmium is found in nature as an uncombined element or in natural alloys. It is obtained commercially as a by-product of nickel, copper, and platinum mining and processing.

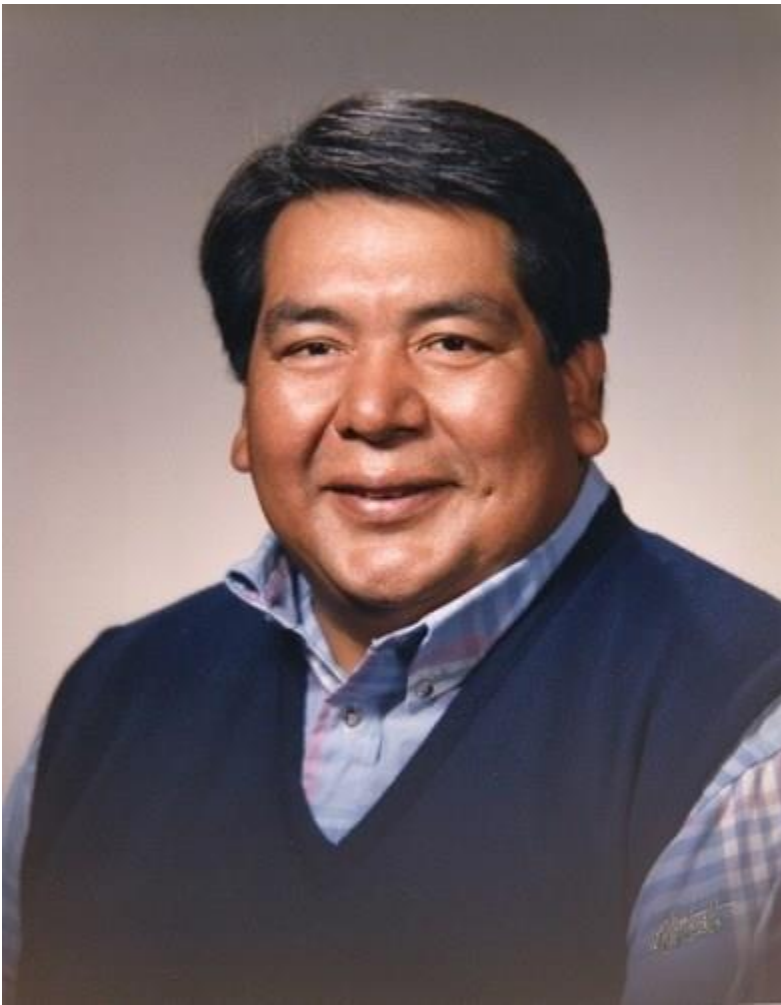
The pure metal is a fine, black powder or a hard blue-gray mass. Its melting point is 4892°F , but it can vaporize before a high temperature is reached. When heated above 200°F , osmium gives off a vapor which may cause total or partial blindness.

Despite its broad range of compounds in numerous oxidation states, osmium in bulk form, at ordinary temperatures and pressures, is stable in air, is innocuous, and is not very reactive. The most important safety concern is the potential for the formation of osmium tetroxide, which is both volatile and very poisonous. Because of the volatility and extreme toxicity of its oxide, osmium is rarely used in its pure state, but is often alloyed with other metals for high-wear applications. Osmium alloys are very hard and are used in the tips of fountain pens, instrument pivots, and electrical contacts, as they can resist wear. They were used for the tips of phonograph styli during the late 78 rpm and early “LP” and “45” record era, circa 1945 to 1955. Osmium alloy tips were significantly more durable than steel and chromium needle points, but wore out far more rapidly than competing sapphire and diamond tips, so were discontinued. Osmium tetroxide has been used in fingerprint detection and in staining fatty tissue for optical and transmission electron microscopy (TEM). Because osmium atoms are extremely electron-dense, osmium staining greatly enhances image contrast in TEM studies of biological materials. Osmium has been used to make standard weights and measures. It has also been used in electric-light filaments.

Expedition members came home to a changed world in 1806, and awareness of osmium was a part of that change.

Sources: Wikipedia *Osmium*

The World Book Encyclopedia, Volume 14, 1970

Anthony “Tony” Francis Enos

July 8, 1946 - July 31, 2023

Tony served 10 years in the U.S. Air Force including two tours in Vietnam.

He also served 33 years with OPPD as a station engineer.

Preceded in death by his grandma Mary Ann, uncle Patrick, nephew Dominic, brother-in-law Clifford, niece Cassie and great-niece Rose.

Survived by his wife of 44 years, Shirley; children Justin Enos (Laura) and grandson Eli; Katie Enos; James Nicholas Enos; Blake Enos; Kat Russell and granddaughter Zintkala Chik'ala; Jax Bulling (Zach); sister Loretta Pablo; nephew Clifford, Jr., and nieces Faith and Monique.

Celebration of Life will be held at a time to be determined later.

Bellevue Memorial Chapel
2202 Hancock Street
Bellevue, Nebraska



Published by Omaha World-Herald on Aug. 6, 2023.



Shirley and Tony Enos



Sarpy County Museum dedicated its new museum site on June 27, 2023.

"We have lost generations...."

**Mayor Roseland
(City of Springfield)**

Over 200 guests attending the new Sarpy County Museum Site Dedication were challenged with those words. Sarpy County Museum is poised to undergo a visionary transformation that will position it to share the gripping stories of the past and inspire all generations to forge ahead into a confident future.

This metamorphosis isn't just about maintaining ADA-compliant exhibits concerning the Lewis and Clark Expedition and Sarpy County's early residents and historical community growth, or completing hundreds of research requests annually into the 7,000 immigration records, extensive newspaper archives, and over one million photographs in the museum's future climate-controlled storage. It's about educating thousands of area K-12 students and over 7,500 additional visitors per year on timely topics by hosting ground-breaking traveling and temporary exhibits. It's also about properly exhibiting and caring for William "Bill" Wimmer's one-of-a-kind private collection of railroad memorabilia--from model trains and dining car china to an industrial locomotive and 100-year-old handcars.



Scott Wimmer, Jody Culp, Judy Wimmer, Bill Wimmer, Mike Draper

Scott Wimmer, one of Bill's sons, calls the nascent facility the "Smithsonian of Sarpy County." He recounts the amazement on his daughter's face as she encountered her first hand-crank roll-up window, the incredulity of architectural students viewing a hand-drawn (not computer-drawn)

architectural drawing of an early railroad depot, and the utter incomparability of bicycle-powered railroad track inspection with that done by high-rail Suburban.

The Museum will incorporate interactive technologies to celebrate Sarpy County's global impact on Agriculture, the Military, and Transportation, too.

The new, expanded, state-of-the-art facility will share with Trinity Church the southwest corner of the intersection of Highway 370 and South 90th Street in Papillion. This is a highly visible and accessible location with plenty of parking.

Multi-faceted fund-raising is crucial to the progress of this dream. Golfers can help by participating in a September 15, 2023, tournament at Eagle Hills Golf Course. Gifts, sponsorships, and membership fees will help fund the new facility, exhibits, educational programs, and day-to-day operating expenses.

For more information: 1) visit the website sarpycountymuseum.org
 2) view the video <https://sarpycountymuseum.org/new-museum/>
 3) visit the current museum at 2402 Clay Street, Bellevue, NE 68005

For assistance, contact: Ben Justman, Executive Director
director@sarpymuseum.org
 402-292-1880



In the News: South Korean Ban



During their stay at Fort Clatsop, the men of the Expedition continued to buy and consume the Natives' dogs. Hence, it was with interest that I heard on the July 31, 2023, TV news that South Korea is considering a legislative ban on dog meat farming in that country.

Though the Korean market for dog meat has declined from several million slaughtered annually 10 to 20 years ago to less than a million now, many dog meat restaurants still exist in the countryside. It's much harder to find one in downtown Seoul. Public awareness of animal rights and an increasing concern about South Korea's international image as a wealthy, ultra-modern democracy have undermined support for the practice, even as young people have stayed away from it. In addition, South Korea's first lady, Kim Keon Hee, recently expressed her support for a ban on farming dog meat.

Two lawmakers have submitted bills to eliminate the dog trade. Currently, it is neither explicitly banned nor legalized. One in three South Koreans **opposes** such a ban. While dogs are still eaten in China, Vietnam, Indonesia, North Korea, and some African countries (Ghana, Cameroon, Congo, and Nigeria), South Korea is the only nation with industrial-scale farms (most over 500 dogs, with some holding over 7,000 dogs).

Activist campaigns, citizen complaints, and influential figures speaking out against dog meat consumption have dropped the number of farms to between 3,000 and 4,000, half of what it was a few years ago.

Ju Yeongbong, an official of the dog farmers' association, says farmers want to continue farming dogs for about 20 more years, until older people, their main customers, die, allowing the industry to naturally disappear. Observers say most farmers are also in their 60s to 70s.

It's all in the social context. I'd be willing to bet most members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition never ate another dog, once they returned to "civilization" in St. Louis. -ADW
 (This material was taken from an Associated Press Article by Hyung-Jin Kim: *South Korean dog meat farmers push back against growing moves to outlaw their industry* (<https://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory/south-korean-dog-meat-farmers-push-back-growing-101858315>), accessed 8-4-23.)

Harlan Seyfer

The following Portraits of the officers of the General Government, are drawn by a (southern) Traveller on his visit to the city of Washington—published in the Charleston Daily Advertiser of the 14th ult.

“Before coming here, I felt much anxiety to know the character of the gentlemen who govern in our councils, and having learned their characters, I give them to you in detail, hoping, that if you feel any of my former anxiety, this portrait will not be unamusing to you and your friends. I have been introduced to the President and all his ministers. Mr. Jefferson is most affectedly plain in his dress; the morning I waited upon him, he opened his door for us, he wore cut shoes and slippers, and very coarse brown stockings, which his secretary (an awkward, and stiff young Virginian, called Capt. Lewis,) took care to tell us were from the manufactory at Germantown near Philadelphia. The President rides out every day, unattended by any servant, on a handsome horse, Col. Homes made him a present of. I saw him at the Capitol, where I went last Sunday to attend divine service. Upon dismounting he hitched his horse among twenty others, at the row of pegs which are placed before the Capitol door, in the manner you have seen at country taverns. The anti-federalists here never call him the President—sometimes Mr. Jefferson, but more frequently Jefferson and Tom Jefferson. Mr. Gallatin is a little man with a monstrous nose, and very large black piercing eyes, has long hair which he wears in a queue of great length; he is as brown as a man of colour, and has lost most of his teeth. He does not go into society, sees no company, and is said to be constantly in his office smoking and writing. Mr. Dearborn is a great overgrown and uncouth Yankey looking fellow, much like a well-fed recruiting serjeant; he is making the most of his office here; he has turned out all the former clerks, and his two sons are appointed clerks;

and the husband of his daughter who came on from the eastward with him, is the chief clerk in the War Department. Mr. Madison is the only one of the ministers who sees company; he gives a dinner once a week, in a very plain and frugal manner; but his lady and himself both do the honours of his house handsomely, and his parties are said to be pleasant. Mr. Madison has not turned one of the old clerks in his department out of office, and I am told was opposed decidedly, and actively, to the dismissals which have been made.”

This article appeared in the *Halifax North Carolina Journal* on 31 May 1802, reprinted from the *Charleston [South Carolina] Daily Advertiser*. Before press services came into being, most if not all newspapers exchanged issues, from which each freely copied, usually with credit.

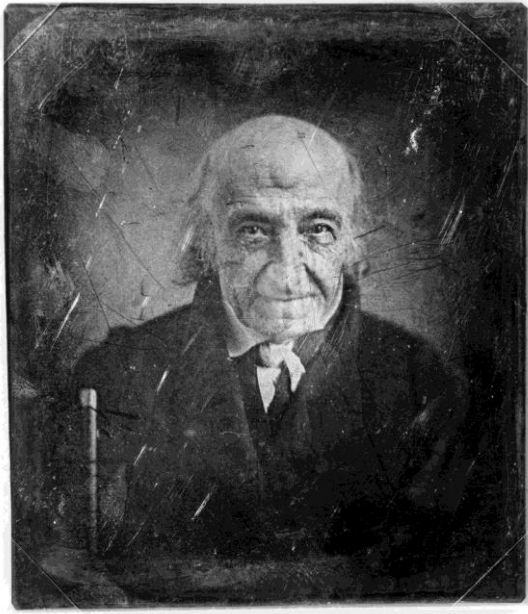
Warning: Following the practice of the time, this article uses the “tall s” which looks very much like an “f” to us today.

This article attracted my attention because it gives one person’s impressions of some of the personalities associated with the expedition. It is – do note – gossip, which makes it that much more intriguing.

Mr. Gallatin, of course, is Albert Gallatin, after whom one of the three forks of the Missouri is named. Gallatin served in Jefferson’s cabinet as Secretary of the Treasury. He was an astute scholar of geography and Indian cultures, so it was natural for Jefferson, with whom he had a great deal in common, to ask him to take part in planning the expedition. When the President asked him to review the draft message to Congress concerning the expedition, Gallatin suggested that the appropriation request be made in a separate, secret document. Jefferson followed this

advice. Meanwhile, as there was no accurate map of the entire reach of the Missouri to be travelled, Gallatin asked cartographer Nicholas King to draw a map to be used by the expedition.¹ Gallatin wrote in a letter to Jefferson, “I have requested Mr. King to project a blank map to extend from 88 to 126° West longitude from Greenwich & from 30° to 55° north latitude; which will give us the whole course of the Mississippi [*sic*] and the whole coast of the

¹ Allen, John Logan, *Passage through the Garden: Lewis and Clark and the Image of the American Northwest* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1975), reprint, *Lewis and Clark and the Image of the American Northwest* (New York: Dover, 1991), pp. 97-106.



Albert Gallatin

Source: Wikimedia

Pacific ocean within the same latitudes together with a sufficient space to the North to include all the head waters of the Port Nelson River.” Apparently Gallatin had discussed the map with King about incorporating several previously released maps of parts of the area.² There is no mention of this map in the Journals; however, there are corrections apparently written during the expedition in Lewis’ hand on the map copy held by the Library of Congress.³ Henry Dearborn served Jefferson as his Secretary of War. As such, his contribution to the expedition was bureaucratic but significant. Technically he was the man to

whom the captains reported, but that legality was bypassed by the *carte blanche* given to Lewis by the President.

Dearborn disliked Lewis. He refused Lewis’ request to commission Clark a captain, not once but at least twice. Dearborn based his decision on the military maxim that “co-command does not work,” reinforced by his own Revolutionary War experiences. He did, however, order the commanders of Fort Massac and Kaskaskia to allow Lewis to pick an interpreter and 12 privates and noncommissioned officers from their commands.⁴



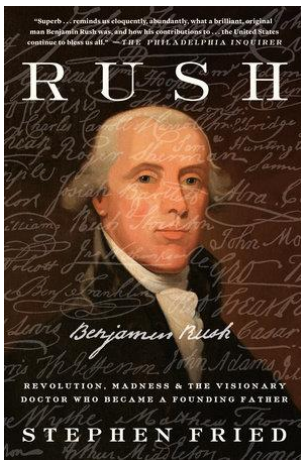
Henry Dearborn

Source: Wikimedia

² Jackson, Donald (ed.), *Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with Related Documents 1783-1854* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1962), pp. 27-28.

³ Allen, pp. 97-98.

⁴ Ambrose, Stephen E., *Undaunted Courage; Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1996).



Book Review

26

Rush: Revolution, Madness & the Visionary Doctor Who Became a Founding Father
by Stephen Fried
(2018)

(The following synopsis of the life of Dr. Benjamin Rush is extracted from the prologue of this book.)

Benjamin Rush made quite a first impression. He was tall, lean, and handsome with active blue-gray eyes and an aquiline nose. His long blond-brown hair, tied back in a loose ponytail, accentuated his most prominent feature: an uncommonly large head. Dr. Rush was a medical and political prodigy from a middle-class family on the humbler side of Philadelphia. He had lost his father, a gunsmith, at the age of five, leaving him and his five siblings to be raised by their mother, who opened a package goods store and tavern just down the street from Benjamin Franklin's print shop and post office. Rush finished school at thirteen, graduated from college at fourteen, finished medical training in Edinburgh and London at twenty-two, and began practicing and teaching medicine at twenty-three. This headstrong young man would become a Founding Father, a transformative writer and lecturer, and the nation's most famous, powerful, and controversial physician, who knew his fellow patriots as intimate friends, rivals, and patients.

Rush was a protégé of Benjamin Franklin. He was one of four professors at the first medical school in the colonies. He penned one of the boldest abolitionist pamphlets ever published and quietly co-authored the Philadelphia anti-tax proclamation the Sons of Liberty adopted to justify the Boston Tea Party. Rush went on to serve the revolution as a doctor, a politician, a social reformer, an educational visionary, and even an activist editor. (He edited, titled, and brought to a publisher the pamphlet *Common Sense* by Thomas Paine.)

Rush was elected to the Second Continental Congress in 1776 at the age of thirty and signed the Declaration of Independence. He treated patients throughout the war, crossed the Delaware with Washington's forces, patched up soldiers at Trenton and Princeton, and was captured during the Battle of Brandywine. He served as a surgeon general and adviser to Washington, but left the war—and the government—over a political showdown.

At the age of thirty-two, Rush retreated to Philadelphia to raise a family of nine children, build his medical career, and champion the causes the American people would have to embrace to become upholders of the new democracy. The struggle would be to balance "science, religion, liberty and good government."

Over the next three decades, Rush became the most prominent physician and public health advocate in America and one of the few American public intellectuals whose writings were read in Europe. He

declared that mental illness and addiction were medical conditions and deserved to be treated as such.

Outside the hospital, Rush became the nation's loudest advocate for public schooling, helping open education to women, to African Americans, and to non-English-speaking immigrants. He founded the nation's first rural college, rejoined the abolition movement, and helped young African American clergymen found and fund two of the nation's first churches led by and for black worshippers. Though a man of deep faith himself, he was one of the nation's first resonant voices to argue for the separation of church and state and for the protection of religious liberty.

Both Rush and Philadelphia were nearly destroyed by the most horrific medical crisis in the history of the new world: the 1793 yellow fever epidemic. In just three months, almost 10 percent of the capital's population was lost.

While Rush and personal friend President John Adams developed political disagreements as the nation split into Federalists and Republicans, they had much in common personally. Each had a son who was a rising star: Rush's son Richard would become a cabinet member for three presidents, including Adams's son John Quincy, whom he also served as a vice presidential running mate. Each also had an equally promising son overwhelmed by private struggles. Adams's son, Charles, died from alcoholism at the age of thirty. Several years later, Rush's eldest child, Lt. John Rush, descended into mental illness, triggered in part by a tragic duel.

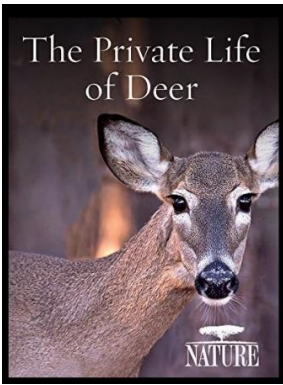
Rush eventually used his correspondence with both Adams and Jefferson to try and heal the broken friendship between Adams and Jefferson. Not long before his death, they reconnected. Adams wrote that Rush had contributed more to the American Revolution than Franklin.

And yet, after Rush died in 1813 at the age of sixty-eight, those who loved him most took steps that prevented his full story from being told. Rush had been controversial in many ways, openly criticized powerful slave owners, questioned Washington's leadership, advocated bleeding and purging treatments for yellow fever, won a libel trial, and had a large ego. In the end, it wasn't so much what he had said and done that made his most powerful friends worry. It was what they had told him. Adams and Jefferson especially had shared years of confidences about their feelings, their politics, their religion—even their bathroom habits—with Dr. Rush: the kind of information men mindful of their legacies might not want entering the historical record. Rush was the founder who knew too much.

Beginning with Adams and Jefferson, and helped along by his politically ascendant son, Richard, who had his own reasons for suppressing his father's writing, Rush's legacy dimmed. He became a foot-noted founder, a second-tier signer. As a result, many Americans know very little about Benjamin Rush.

Over more than 500 pages, this excellent and entertaining book fleshes out the details of this amazing man's life. I do recommend it.

-ADW



Video Review

28

The Private Life of Deer
PBS Nature

During this summer quarter, Study Group has spent a lot of time talking about men hunting desperately for deer or elk to eat. In an effort to better understand the quarry, I watched the PBS DVD *The Private Life of Deer* and learned some interesting facts.

To begin, deer rely more on their acute sense of hearing and their highly refined sense of smell than they do on their relatively weak vision. The video says “Deer are nearly blind, by human standards” because they can’t see defined shapes as much as they see movement. Their vision works best at the “edges of the day”—dawn and dusk—because they have more light-gathering “rods” in their eyes than color-sensing “cones.” “Their famous ‘deer in the headlights’ immobility...is not caused by fear at all, but rather by bright light overpowering their visual cortex and locking down their brains for a period of up to several minutes.” They stare confusedly into the light during this time. Fear has nothing to do with this phenomenon.

Contrast this visual weakness with a deer’s **300 million** olfactory receptors (for smell). Humans only have five million such receptors. While a fawn enters the world with an adaptation unusual in the animal world—he/she is almost scentless at birth—sniffing one another in greeting is the adult deer equivalent to hand-shaking. Males “in rut” can smell the female in heat and follow her around, isolate her, and guard her until she is ready to be bred. The buck has seven scent glands, himself, including glands on the bottoms of his feet. During rut, he rubs his antlers on trees and shrubs, shredding the bark and, more importantly, leaving a scent from his forehead glands.

Speaking of antlers, deer antlers are shed and regrown annually. At one inch of growth in two days, antlers are the **fastest growing tissue on earth**.

Dr. Boulanger, Wildlife Biologist at Cornell University, gave cameras to the human residents of Cayuga, New York, to record the behavior of the 100-deer-per-square-mile deer population coming and going from their yards and eating their gardens. (He said a better deer population for the area would have been ONE deer per square mile!)

Studies show that deer will eat 600 different plant species—grass, shrubs, fruit, twigs, and bark—and have even been known to eat nestling songbirds. They consume seven pounds of food per day. Even an 8-foot fence is not high enough to deter a deer. They have no upper front teeth. Instead, they press with their lower incisors against a firm pad in the upper jaw. Their digestive tract is similar to that of their ungulate relatives—cow and buffalo—a 4-chambered stomach. They eat their food quickly

and then retire to a secluded spot to lie down, cough up the food, and leisurely digest it. Thermal cameras have shown that deer frequently remain in the underbrush very near humans during their time of digestion, undetected because they remain essentially motionless.

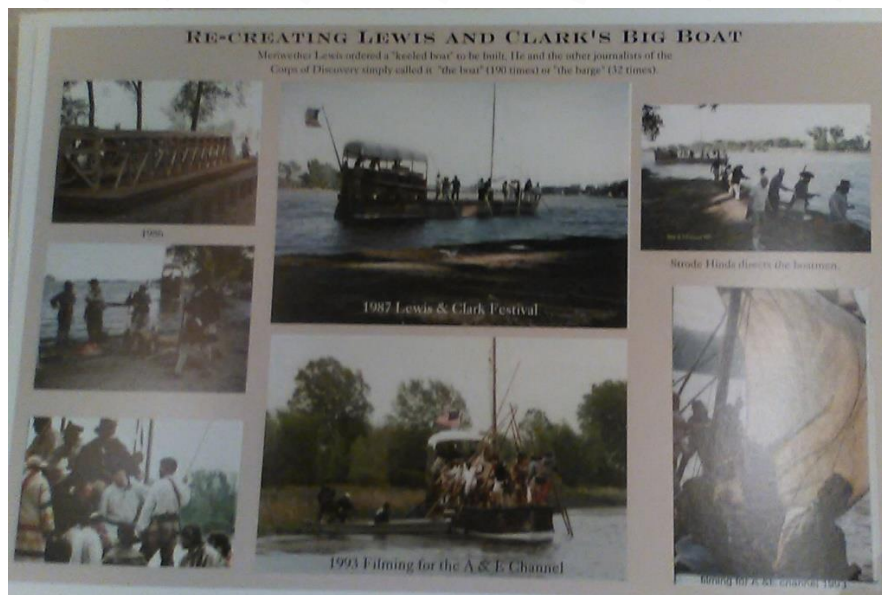
Dr. Millspaugh hung cameras on the deer, themselves, and discovered a great deal of social interaction in the herd. In addition to the sniffing “handshake,” deer groom each other, both to remove parasites and for the sake of bonding. Female deer demonstrate as much antagonism toward each other as do the males, establishing a social hierarchy. Walking erect with head up shows dominance, while a hunched posture with head drooping down shows subordination.

Millspaugh’s camera studies confirmed anecdotal evidence that deer are very intelligent and adaptable. When pursued by a dog in its yard, the deer were aware of the dog’s limits, rarely retreating far beyond the owner’s property line. They, likewise, demonstrated a clear grasp of the limits of their danger with a dog on a leash.

Ecologist Bernd Blossey erected three silhouettes of coyotes in a yard. Trail cameras revealed that the deer, while initially wary, were soon circulating freely among the 2-dimensional coyotes, one deer even going so far as to lick the silhouettes and another intentionally knocking them down. It is no wonder, then, that the men of the Expedition perceived that the deer of Point Adams and the Kilhow-â-nah-kle River seemed to have retreated away from them in 1806. The danger posed by the men of the Expedition was very real!

The rest of this 60-minute video dealt with miniature deer in the Florida Keys, rare “ghost deer” (albinos), and “Blossom,” a rescued fawn who came and went from a family’s home like a pet dog. This latter material is less relevant to our study of Lewis and Clark than the former, but the video footage of the entire DVD is entertaining and informative. It is available from the Omaha Public Library system on 7-day loan. (Call # DVD 599.65 Private, 2013)

-ADW



The Big Boat

by Denny Leonard

Mary Jo Havlicek



Sprague Lake. Long's Peak towering in the background.
Note "Keyboard of the Winds" descending to the right from the peak.

Long's Peak is named after Major Stephen Long, whose troops encamped along the Missouri River in 1820 near the Douglas/Washington County line. He wintered in St. Louis. They were to follow Lewis and Clark's route initially, but, come spring, orders changed to proceed along the Platte to the Colorado Rockies. It was he who named our area "The Great American Desert."

Years ago UNO did a "dig" at the encampment site. The area is all covered up. One can see it from the River Road just a mile or so past the Douglas/Washington county line. I'm thinking no more funds were available to continue. Hope was to build a visitor's center at the spot. For years the land along the Missouri River between South Sioux City and Omaha has been touted for a scenic highway. My aunt's farm is right on the Douglas County side. I spent many a Sunday afternoon hiking in the area. This ends today's lesson.



Mary Jo Havlicek



Tom

Conley

Ginny

31

At the end of June we made a trip to Virginia to visit our grandson, Ben Ayala, who was in Culpeper, VA, to play on a summer college woodbat baseball team that was called the Culpeper Cavaliers. Besides attending a few baseball games, we also did some day excursions while there.



One was visiting Shenandoah National Park.



Another was, of course, Lewis and Clark related. We went to Monticello, beautiful home of Thomas Jefferson.



We happened to be there at the time that a Thomas Jefferson re-enactor was there giving his talk that he has done several days a week for 40 years.



While walking the grounds, Tom spotted a Lewis and Clark commemorative plaque on the ground—the peaceful shaking of the hands.



On our last day we decided to visit the home of our 4th President, James Madison, which is Montpelier.



On our way home we stopped in Clarksville, Indiana, where Lewis and Clark officially shook hands and started their journey at the Falls of the Ohio.



Falls of the Ohio Interpretive Center



Falls of the Ohio

(All photos courtesy of Ginny Conley. No wonder Tom won the Lewis and Clark Trivia Contest at Camp White Catfish!)

Farming the Land Explored by Lewis and Clark

33

(Ann Dunlap Woolard, Firedog Haven, Madison County, Nebraska: Sixty miles from the Missouri River)

Lewis and Clark traveled with a big dog:
Seaman.



Ann travels with a cat: Mehitabel.

Lewis and Clark found no fences
in the Missouri River Valley.



Putting fence and gates in the Elkhorn Valley.

The prairies were treeless when Lewis & Clark
came through Nebraska.



Ann's work: finding barbwire fence under downed limbs.

The keelboat was 55 feet long.



The bean sprayer is 120 feet wide:
room for a keelboat on either side!

Lewis and Clark discovered new flowers.



Farmers Dale and John make
the prairie bloom: soybeans.

Then: Buffalo roamed these lands.



Now: computerized dashboard of Hagie
GPS-guided high clearance sprayer.

Bruised from pulling the keelboat, the men wrote their *Journals*.



Bruised from farming, Ann takes a break to read the *Journals*.

This is one thing the men **would** recognize.



A coat of paint will make it like new!-ADW



1790—Inspired by the English Redingote, the dress of lavender grey silk is worn over a white muslin petticoat with a Buffon (puffy neckline) and blue scarf crossed and tied as a sash. The petticoat is visible in front of the lavender gown.

Jane Austen
(1775-1817)

What dreadful hot weather we have! It keeps me in a continual state of inelegance.

Letters to her sister Cassandra
(September 18, 1796)

On March 19, 1806, Lewis commented on the dress of the Native women: "The garment which occupies the waist, and from thence as low as nearly to the knee before and the ham, behind, cannot properly be denominated a petticoat, in the common acceptation of that term." The petticoat which Lewis had in his mind's eye, was "a dress worn beneath the robe or open gown as another layer of formal garment rather than underwear. The petticoat provided a convenient extra layer that could be used to give a contrast or depth of color allowing the outer dress to be gossamer thin....It could also allow the richer fabric of the outer dress to be tucked out of the way when walking through muddy lanes without the danger of showing an indecent ankle...Older dresses were often recycled as petticoats."

Quite a contrast, indeed!

Fashion in the Time of Jane Austen
by Sarah Jane Downing



1816--Long-sleeved evening gown of white gauze with pink satin roses and a striped satin petticoat worn with pink shoes and white gloves. The petticoat is visible below the gauze gown.

Most of us know that TANNINS are instrumental in processing hides into leathers. Here is an interesting tidbit on tannins from the entry on TEA in Reader's Digest *Food that Harm, Foods that Heal*:

- Tannins, which are found in wine as well as tea, are chemicals that bind surface proteins in the mouth, producing a tightening sensation together with the impression of a full-bodied liquid. They also bind and incapacitate plaque-forming bacteria in the mouth and thus may have a beneficial antiseptic effect in people who are susceptible to dental disorders. The fluoride in tea—particularly green tea—also protects against tooth decay.



[Cass County Historical Society Museum](#), 646 Main St., Plattsmouth, NE 68048 (402-296-4770)
[Durham Western Heritage Museum](#), 801 S. 10th St., Omaha, NE 68108 (402-444-5071)
[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 Museum](#), 289 Clay Street, Tecumseh, NE 68450 (402-853-3614)
[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)
[Mormon Trail Center at Winter Quarters](#), 3215 State St., Omaha, NE 68112 (402-453-9372)
[Nebraska Historical Museum](#), 131 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508 (402-471-4782)
[Sarpy County Historical Museum](#), 2402 Clay St., Bellevue, NE 68005 (402-292-1880)
[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)
[Union Pacific Railroad Museum](#), 200 Pearl St., Council Bluffs, IA 51503 (712-329-8307)
[Washington County Museum](#), 102 N. 14th St., Ft. Calhoun, NE 68023 (402-468-5740)

**Grain Bin Gazebo
at
Rock Hill Windmill
Event Center**



Thanks!

**Grain Bin Cabin
“To Make Our Party
Comfortable”
Firedog Haven**



Thanks to Keith Bystrom,
who makes sure all MOP
events appear on the
LCTHF national calendar!

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

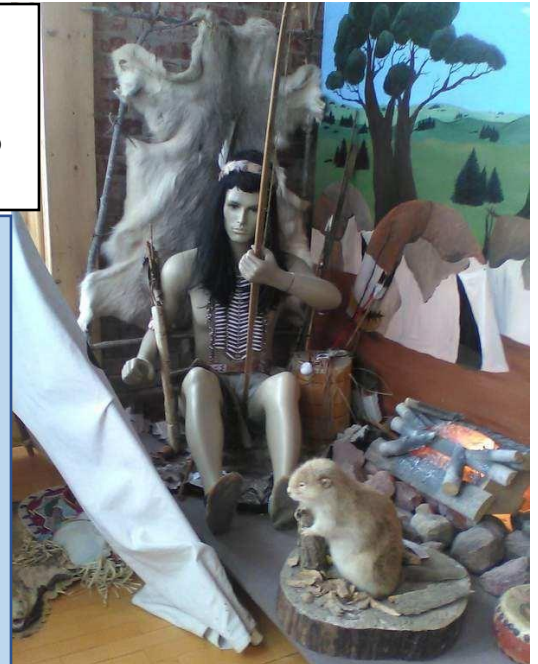
Thanks to the folks who
submitted articles to this issue
and to the staff at both Willa
Cather Library and Genealogy
Branch of OPL System who
enabled its publication!

Brad Holder
Mary Langhorst
Evelyn Orr
Mike Sweeney
THANK YOU for your
Donation to MOP!



Easy Daytrip
Johnson County Museum
289 Clay Street
Tecumseh, Nebraska 68450
By Mike Sweeney, D.D.S.

I made myself a promise years ago that, when I had more time, I would visit as many museums and historical sites as I possibly could. When I retired a few months back, it was finally time to start fulfilling that promise. Armed with the "What to See" list from the Mouth of the Platte Newsletter, I started my adventure. There are a number of great places on that list, and so far none have disappointed.



I wanted to share my most recent journey with you because it is a little bit out of the way and some of you may not have seen it yet. The Johnson County Historical Museum is located in Tecumseh, NE. Tecumseh is located about one hour south of Omaha on HWY 50. It's a pleasant drive through farm country with only a few areas of road construction.

You may recall that a lot of the filming for the 1987 ABC Television mini-series *Amerika* was done in Tecumseh. Its courthouse square is even more impressive in person. The museum is located on Clay Street just catty-corner from courthouse square. (If you don't know what catty-corner means, you are either very young or not a Midwesterner.)

The first floor of the museum is divided into two parts. One side is dedicated to local history and includes re-creations of an Indigenous American encampment, a homesteader's cabin and many other displays. I was lucky enough to have Mrs. Karen Johns as a tour guide. Karen was raised on a farm in Johnson County and taught in the local country schools. She has first-hand knowledge of a number of the exhibits. For example, the beautiful buffalo skin robe on display belonged to her great grandfather.

There are a great number of items on display. Everything is organized so well that it never feels cluttered. It is immaculately clean. I did not meet Sarah Williamson, the curator, but I am very impressed with her ability to organize. There are a great many mannequins throughout the displays in a variety of poses that lend a more life-like feel.

The second half of the main floor is the uniform room. Included in this room are artifacts and uniforms from every armed conflict from the War Between the States up to the recent actions in the Middle East. Each uniform is displayed with the name of the Johnson County resident who wore it. Also included are other types of uniforms such as cheerleader, band, and various athletics.

Upstairs is another floor full of treasures. Half of the space is divided into various businesses representing the early twentieth century, including a bank, a grocery store, a bar, a doctor's office and more. It features a bridal shop with actual wedding dresses from the community. The rest of the space is dedicated to a 1950's home interior complete with a "modern kitchen" and a kids' area with tons of toys from the era. Some of which, the kiddos are welcome to play with. Lots of childhood memories here. (Yes, I had a Mickey Mouse Club hat, and I'll bet I'm not the only one!)

That completes the main building, but there is more to come. Next door is a re-creation of a country school. Around the corner is a building dedicated to vehicles and equipment. Included here is an original covered wagon that once brought immigrants to the area. For gear heads in our group, there is a Ford Model T and a 1940 Graham Supercharger.

A few doors down sits a building that served the town of Tecumseh as a livery stable. Plans are in the works to have it restored. I'm looking forward to returning when that task is complete.

I think the Johnson County Museum is well worth the trip. It offers an intimate view of life on the prairie from 1854 on, presented with terrific attention to detail and tremendous pride. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 to 2. Come early so you have plenty of time to browse. They also have a *Monday Night at the Museum* lecture series that looks interesting. There is no fee for entry, but well-deserved donations are cheerfully accepted.

There is one more point of interest I would like to share. About twelve miles north of Tecumseh is the town of Syracuse, Nebraska. On the south side of town you can find the Hiway 50 Drive-In. It will bring back some memories of the days before fast food chains, and the food tastes great!

A Walk Through Time

August 26-27
Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm
Sunday, 9 am to 4 pm
 at the Rockhill Windmill Event Center
 5910 Ranch Road, Plattsmouth

During this living history event you will walk through history and talk to re-enactors from the Lewis and Clark Expedition, US Army: Fort Atkinson, Mountain Man Era, Oregon Trail, and the Civil War.

The event is free and open to the public.

In addition to the re-enactments, the following programs will be presented:

Aug. 26	11am	"Lewis and Clark: What Was Their Worth" Speaker: Renae Hunt
	3pm	"Train Songs and Tales" Presented by: David Seay
Aug. 27	9am & 1pm	"John Colter and the American Fur Trade" Presented by: Sterling Fichter

Funding for the two Saturday programs is provided by Humanities Nebraska, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Nebraska State Legislature, the NE Cultural Endowment and private donations.



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.

for more information: mrkeelboat@gmail.com

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=B9iyotRmN0>










[Click Here](#)
[for](#)
[Facebook](#)
[Link](#)

For more information contact:
Doug Friedli
Executive Director
Lewis & Clark Visitor Center
www.mrb-lewisandclarkcenter.org



Website:
www.LewisandClarkVisitorCenter.org
Address:
P.O. Box 785
Nebraska City, NE 68410
Telephone: 402-874-9900

100 Valmont Drive
Nebraska City, Nebraska 68410
www.LewisandClarkVisitorCenter.org
402-874-9900

Date		Day of the Week	Time	<u>Event Description</u>
August 16		Wednesday	Evening	Business After Hours: Lewis & Clark Birthday Celebration. Speaker: Brian Melage, author of <i>Never Eat Stink Bait</i> , about fishing in the Missouri River
September TBD		TBD	Call for information	Plein Aire Oil Painting Workshop: Todd Williams
September 16-17		Saturday & Sunday (Applejack Festival Weekend)	All Day	Lewis & Clark Reunion #19: Parade, Re-enactors, Mountain Men
October 8		Saturday	10-4	Second Saturday with a Soldier: Re-enactors
November TBD		TBD	Call for information	Fund-raising Dinner
December 27		Wednesday	Call for information	Christmas for the Birds
January 1, 2024		Monday	Call for information	First Day Hike

Remaining 2023 LIVING HISTORY schedule at Fort Atkinson:

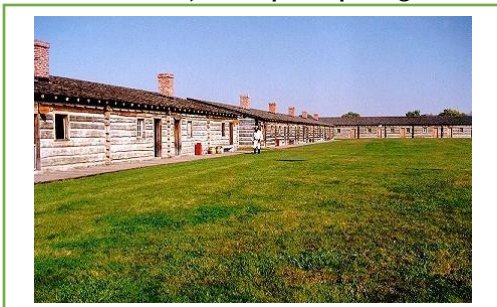
September 2-3 Military Timeline Event: Troops return from Arikara fight, Col Ashley, Hugh Glass and Jedediah Springfield. Archeological dig, special guest speakers.

September 30-October 1 Focus on the harvest, scythe demonstration to harvest hay (After the October 1 LIVING HISTORY weekend, the Visitor Center will close for the season.)

November 4 Candle Light Tour and Dinner at the Council House (paid reservation required) The Council House on the Fort grounds uses only candles in special Candle Chandeliers (no electricity) for the event.

Nebraska State Park vehicle entry permit is required. (Permits are available at the Visitor Center.)

For more information, call 402-468-5611 or visit www.fortatkinsononline.org



Fort Atkinson in Nebraska

Who was Sergeant Floyd?

He joined the Lewis and Clark Expedition on August 1, 1803, and, by all accounts, was knowledgeable, responsible, and dependable. He was appointed one of the Expedition's three sergeants on April 1, 1803. Sergeant Floyd took ill on July 30, 1804, as the explorers moved up the Missouri River toward the area of what is now Sioux City, Iowa. He passed away, according to William Clark's journal, with a great deal of composure. He was buried on August 20 on what the explorers named Floyd's Bluff. Medical experts today believe he probably suffered from a ruptured appendix with resultant peritonitis.

**August 19 (Saturday) -- 9 AM: Sergeant Floyd Memorial Black Powder Muzzle-loader Shootout**

If he were alive today, Sergeant Charles Floyd would likely be the first in line to compete in today's Sergeant Floyd Memorial Black Powder Muzzle-loader Shootout in Sioux City, Iowa. The shootout is scheduled to coincide with a weekend of events that mark the anniversary of Sergeant Floyd's death and burial on August 20, 1804, on a river bluff in what would become Sioux City. The shootout is hosted by the Sgt. Floyd Tri-State Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and the local Hawkeye Rifle and Pistol Club. The event's purpose is to highlight the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition during its time in the Sioux City area and to raise funds for current and future projects related to the Expedition's history.

The shootout will be held in two sessions. For the first session, the sign-in and practice will start at 9 am, with the competition beginning at 11 am. For the second session, the sign-in and practice will start at 1 pm, with the competition beginning at 3 pm. Location: Hawkeye Rifle and Pistol Club outdoor shooting range, 2240 Allison Ave.

This shootout will be near the annual Sergeant Floyd Memorial Encampment (August 19 & 20) at the Sergeant Floyd River Museum and Welcome Center. See next entry.

August 19 (Saturday) – 10 AM to 4 PM: Sergeant Floyd Memorial Encampment

In Sioux City, Iowa, the annual Sergeant Floyd Memorial Encampment will be held at the Sergeant Floyd River Museum and Welcome Center, 100 Larson Park Road. The encampment gives visitors the opportunity to explore an 1804 living history camp that replicates the Lewis and Clark Expedition's camp in the riverside area of what would become Sioux City. The encampment will showcase authentic tents, camp equipment, uniforms, and firearms like those used by the explorers. Re-enactors from the local Sergeant Floyd Honor Guard will interact with visitors to bring the history of the encampment to life. The encampment has free activities for children all day. It is sponsored by the Sioux City Public Museum and Sergeant Floyd River Museum and Welcome Center. The encampment will be held in conjunction with a ceremony marking the death and burial of Sgt. Floyd. See next entry

August 19 (Saturday) – 6 to 7 PM: As a way to honor Sergeant Charles Floyd and the Lewis and Clark Expedition, historical re-enactors in full-dress uniforms will re-create the burial of Sergeant Floyd. In this annual ceremony, Sergeant Floyd Honor Guard re-enactors perform the ceremony from 6 to 7 PM at the Floyd's Monument, 2601 South Lewis Boulevard, Sioux City, Iowa. **Attendees should bring lawn chairs, as no provision is made for seating.** This free event is sponsored by the Sioux City Public Museum and Sergeant Floyd River Museum and Welcome Center.

August 20 (Sunday) – 10 AM to 3 PM: Sergeant Floyd Memorial Encampment (see above)

*"There is nothing so captivating as
new knowledge."*

Peter Mere Latham (1789-1875)

(Collected Works, Book I, Ch. 25)

Editor's Desk:

The written word is paramount. Without the journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the experiences of the Corps of Discovery would have been lost to those of us living in the modern age. Floyd, Ordway, Gass, and Whitehouse each proved to have a slightly different angle on the endeavor than the captains, and sometimes one word was enough to reveal it. Consider, for example, Gass's observation that the "Old Baud" kept nine girls as prostitutes (March 21, 1806). Neither of the captains ever noticed that there were that many different girls, as the girls did not all come to Fort Clatsop at once. Gass, too, noticed "a great quantity of sheep-sorrel growing in the woods of a very large size" (March 14, 1806). To me, this low-key observation was significant because sorrel is a plant fit for human consumption. He was probably eating it. My mother's family came west by wagon train in the 1860s. They identified and used the prairie plants beneficial to them. Mom taught me to eat sorrel. Even now, while my neighbors work to eradicate it from their yards as a weed, I guard mine and gather it for salad.

During this last quarter of Study Group, Don enlarged and copied for us a reproduction of the list of names of Expedition members prepared by the captains to leave with the Natives for the purpose of substantiating the U.S. claim to the coastal lands established by the Corps' early presence in the area. As I perused it, I couldn't help thinking how many men's unique viewpoints had been lost by their not having kept a written record of their experiences.

What about you? Are you leaving a written record of your life? Journal-keeping is all about routine: a dedicated notebook, a reliable writing instrument, and five minutes once a day before bedtime to capture the day's highlights. Who is to say, 200 years hence, that some coterie of interested historians won't celebrate you as a member of an influential generation? We are living through times of momentous change. Don't let your voice be lost!

Ann Dunlap Woolard, Editor
P.O. Box 6004
Omaha, Nebraska 68106
402-342-7524 (landline)
firedogpoet@yahoo.com

**Board Member
Paul Imes at
Camp White Catfish**



L & C Trail Heritage
Foundation
P.O. Box 3434
Great Falls, MT 59403
Phone: 406-454-1234
1-888-701-3434
Fax: 406-727-3158
www.lewisandclark.org

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.

Temporary Location (until further notice):

Sterling Ridge Retirement Community (Theater Room)

1111 Sterling Ridge Drive (126th and Pacific Street)

Omaha, Nebraska 68144 (402-281-0472)

Usual Location: 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

September 19: Nolan Johnson

Topic: Fort Atkinson Archeology

Location: Washington County Historical Museum

102 N. 14th Street

Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023



Time: 5:00 p.m. Self-guided Tour

6:00 Bring Your Own Brown Bag Dinner

September 27: Field Trip--[LCTHF Maps Exhibit](#)

Location: Ponca State Park (see p. 8)

Time: Contact Jim Christiansen

October 17: 2023 Annual Meeting, Memorabilia Auction

Topic: MOP Memories Night

Location: Council Bluffs Pizza King Restaurant

1101 N. Broadway

Time: 5:30 p.m. Social Hour

6:00 Dinner

November 21: TBD

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

MOP Chapter Board Meetings:

Meets: First Tuesday of the month

September 5: 6 p.m. (Harmony Court)

October 3: 6 p.m. (Ann's house)

November 7: 6 p.m. (TBD)

Upcoming One-time Events

41

Our Chapter: See list of Dinner Speakers at left

<https://www.facebook.com/MouthofthePlatte/>

Other Chapters:

Sergeant Floyd Tri-State:

President: Doug Davis: xjewelerdoug@hotmail.com

Southern Prairie: SouthernPrairie@lewisandclark.org

www.facebook.com/SouthernPrairieRegionLewisandClark

President: Dan Sturdevant (816-679-5925) dan@sturdevantlawoffice.com

National Organization:

(LCTHF Calendar)

LCTHF 56th Annual Meeting: September 23-27, 2024

Location: Charlottesville, Virginia

Info: lewisandclark.org

[Link to Lewis and Clark Activities Descriptions](#)

Other Organizations:

Cass County Historical Society Museum: Tues-Sat 12-4.

A Walk through Time @ Rock Hill Windmill Event Center

5910 Ranch Road, Plattsmouth, Nebraska

August 26 (9-5) & 27 (9-4) (see p. 37)

[Link to other Cass County Special Events](#)

Durham Western Heritage Museum:

Tues-Sat 10-4. Sun 12-4.

[Link to Bus and Walking Tours](#)

Fontanelle Forest: 8-5 [Fontanelle Trading Post](#)

Nebraska's Deep Roots-Trading Post Bicentennial: to Dec 2024

Fort Atkinson Living History: (See p. 38)

September 2 & 3 Military Timeline Event

September 30 & October 1 Focus on the Harvest

November 4 Candlelight Tour and Dinner

Historic Downtown Plattsmouth Association:

historicdowntownplattsmouth@gmail.com

Summer Concert Series: Sept 1

Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center:

Monday – Saturday 10-4. Sunday – 12-4 pm (see p. 38)

Mormon Trail Center at Winter Quarters:

M-Sat 10-8, Sun 12-8.

Nebraska History Museum Special Exhibitions:

Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat 9-4. Thurs 9-8. Sun, Mon closed.

Piecing together the past: to June 2024

Pow Wows in Iowa: www.powwows.com

Sarpy County Historical Museum: Tues-Sat 10-4.

WanderNebraska: to May 2024

Sioux City Lewis and Clark Center: Tues-Fri 9-5 Sat-Sun 12-5

Spanning the Missouri River: Bridges Then & Now

Sgt. Floyd River Museum and Welcome Center: (see p. 39)

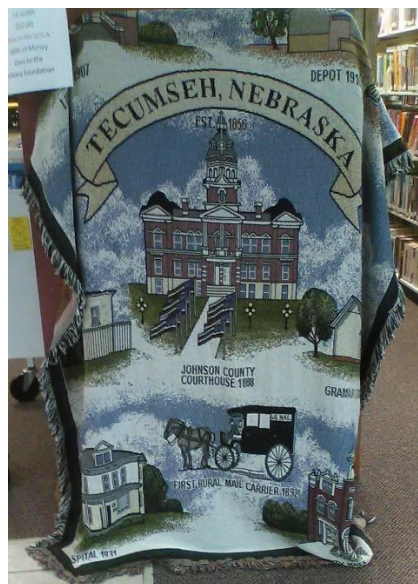
Sgt. Floyd Memorial Encampment: August 19 (10-4), 20 (10-3)

Sgt. Floyd Monument:

Sgt. Floyd Burial Re-enactment: August 19, 6 pm (see p. 39)

Washington County Museum: Tues-Fri 9-5. Sat 9-1.

Nolan Jackson on Ft. Atkinson Archeology: Sept. 19, 6pm



Afghan Commemorates Local History

Photos from
Tecumseh Library



Complete Louis L'Amour Collection

This is a free online publication.
Mailed print subscriptions are available for \$10/year.
Send PAYMENT and ADDRESS to :



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



Johnson County Jail in Tecumseh, Nebraska