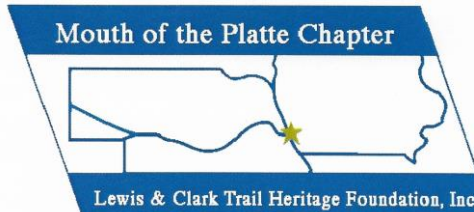


# Mouth of the Platte Chapter Newsletter

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

*"Keepers of the Story~Stewards of the Trail"*

February 2024 Edition



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, POMP!



Dear Mouth of the Platte Members and Friends,

Since our last newsletter, we've had a pretty good November, a pretty good December, and – so far – a pretty good February, but January qualifies as a “bummer” for MOP activities. January included several cancelled Study Group sessions and a last-minute cancellation of our January monthly luncheon due to frozen water lines at our planned venue – Denny's Restaurant. That cancellation at Denny's extended to our intended venue for February and March when Denny's then suffered from a fire. No personnel were injured, but the damage leaves the future of the Denny's at 84<sup>th</sup> Street questionable.

Not to be deterred, your Board “proceeded on”. Paula Imes checked out the renovated “Bunkhouse” at the Council Bluffs Pizza Ranch and declared it a good place to meet. Since the food is generally good, the price is right (senior discount provided!), and other factors are acceptable, we will be on track for a good February 20 luncheon featuring Mr. Rob Bozell, retired State Archeologist for Nebraska. Thanks to Harlan Seyfer for coordinating Mr. Bozell's presentation. See your e-mail inbox and page 10 here for details.

Thanks to newsletter editor Ann Woolard, there are extensive reports on our December lunch program, Study Group activities, and upcoming events in this newsletter. Thanks also to Ann for arranging a special presentation for our March 19 luncheon. Jean-Claude Overstreet on *French-Canadian Boatmen (voyageur/courer du bois)*. Mr. Overstreet will introduce us to songs used by the boatmen. Besides the history of the boatmen, Mr. Overstreet will talk about trying to get accepted for an 18-man canoe crew re-enactment in Racine, Wisconsin. Watch for the traditional e-mail notice for the lunch location. See p. 12.

Thanks to a spirit of volunteerism and devotion to Mouth of the Platte, our Tuesday, April 20, **evening** dinner meeting features MOP's own Jack Christ discussing *The Louisiana Purchase - How the Dominoes Fell into Place*. Jack offers a brief review of the diverse factors which led to the surprising purchase of the Louisiana Territory by the United States in 1803. You will be notified of the location for Jack's program.

Keith Bystrom continues to keep the LCTHF Board of Directors and the Northern Plains Region Board of Directors on track. He also contributes regularly to Study Group from his extensive participation in Lewis and Clark activities and his extensive travels. Talk with him about anything!

Thanks to Jim Christiansen for keeping Study Group focused and coordinated. Thanks, also, for managing the MOP finances.

Finally, thanks to all MOP supporters for your dedication to being *Keepers of the Story, Stewards of the Trail*.

Proceeding on!  
Don Shippy, MOP President

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- 13. MOP Board News: December 2023 – February 2024 (ADW)*

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- 16. In the News: New LCTHF Executive Director (ADW)*
- 17. In the News: Wayside Interpretive Exhibit Update (Harlan Seyfer)*
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| <b><u>MOP Board</u></b><br><b>President:</b> Donald Shippy<br><b>Vice President:</b> Keith Bystrom<br><b>Treasurer:</b> Jim Christiansen<br><b>Secretary:</b> Ann Dunlap Woolard<br><b>Board Members at Large:</b><br><a href="#">Harlan Seyfer</a><br>Paula Imes | <b><u>Northern Plains Region</u></b><br>Chair: Keith Bystrom<br><br><b>L &amp; C Trail Heritage Foundation</b><br><br>P.O. Box 3434<br>Great Falls, MT 59403<br>Phone: 406-454-1234<br>1-888-701-3434<br>Fax: 406-727-3158<br><a href="http://www.lewisandclark.org">www.lewisandclark.org</a> |
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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.



Pend Oreille River in Winter

Nebraska Snow, Winter 2023-24  
(Photo courtesy of Cris Wright)

Oregon Cascade Mountains

In the last issue, I promised to resolve our November cliff-hanger. Bratton recovered. Our heroes had success collecting tolerably good horses to ride and dogs to eat. Sacagawea collected some roots, and the men were able to buy others from the local Indians. There was enough wood and grass for fires with which to cook and to warm the crew. Natives not only traveled with them, at times they crowded each other in the trail or around the campfires. There was dancing, fiddle playing, and the demonstration of magnetism. The men had success hunting deer, bear, and waterfowl. They shared their meat with the Natives, and the Natives demonstrated remarkable hospitality through food sharing, even though they were coming off winter so food-deprived that they had to eat pine nuts and boiled lichen.

Both Captains were working to fill in the map begun on the outward journey. Native river names were adopted and river systems took shape. One river from the area that Moulton identified is the Pend Oreille River. Pend Oreille is an Anglicization of the French words for earring or “eardrop” -- *pendre* (to hang) or *pendeler* (to dangle) from the *oreille* (ear): Clark says “orniments worn by the Chopunnish are, in their nose a Single Shell of wampom, the pirl & beads are Suspended from the ears.” (p. 224)

Both Captains record specific names of Native men who seem to be influential: We-ark-koomt, Tetoh-ar-sky, Neesh-ne-park-ke-ook, Twisted Hair, Cut Nose, Broken Arm, Tin nach-e-mo-toolt, Hoh-hast-ill-pitp, and Yoom-park’-Kar-tim. The reader gets the distinct impression that real, respectful relationship has been established between the whites and Natives. This is a good thing, because the snow is still deep in the mountains, and the stay at Camp Chopunnish will last about a month, longer than any stay elsewhere, aside from the time spent at the two winter forts. They need each other.

Speaking of respectful relationship, Study Group members have done some amazing things to inspire respect during this quarter. Steve Wymore not only prepared a 50-page lesson, he initiated a relationship with a perfect stranger and single-handedly (well, wife Marilyn helped!) scheduled monthly meeting speakers Doug and Sharon Packard (see page 7); Della made our Sterling Ridge coffee before she took herself off to a doctor’s appointment; Jim made some extra phone calls to finesse Study Group meetings in the face of COVID restrictions at Sterling Ridge and broken pipes at Denny’s Restaurant and Our Savior’s Lutheran Church; Paula pushed through making a scheduled Study Group presentation, wearing a mask to protect us from her upper respiratory malaise; Mary kept showing up, in spite of a move to a new apartment and a significant surgical procedure; Keith prepared a 10-page full-color packet on Mulberry Bend Overlook; and Don kept the whole group informed and “on track.” If I didn’t mention Betty, Denny, Ginny, Peg, and Tom, it’s only because health, holidays, weather, slick roads, and venue changes have made for insurmountable obstacles to weekly fellowship. We all look forward to more meeting regularity in the coming months! -ADW  
(All quotes are from Moulton, *The Definitive Journals of Lewis and Clark: From the Pacific to the Rockies*, Volume 7).



Santa’s sleigh, Nebraska John Deere-style! Lewis and Clark would not have recognized this Deere!  
Thanks to the Fremont, NE, Platte Valley John Deere dealer for this display.

# Supplement to Study Group Notes

## Allure of the Wapatoe

4

Harlan Seyfer

Wapatoe is a starchy tuber.<sup>1</sup> Patrick Gass recorded, “The roots are of a superior quality to any I had before seen: they are called whapto; resemble a potatoe when cooked, and are about as big as a hen egg.”<sup>2</sup> The boys and girl of the expedition grew to love this wetland plant.

The Chinook, living along Washington’s Columbia River, first introduced the expedition to the wapatoe.<sup>3</sup> Paul Cuttright identified these folks as “Skilloot Indians, still another Chinookan tribe.”<sup>4</sup>

Clark wrote on November 4, 1805,

“We landed at a village 200 men of Flatheads of 25 houses 50 canoes built of Straw, we were treated verry kindly by them, they gave us round root near the Size of a hens egg roasted which they call *Wap-to* to eate[.]” Clark continued in his rewritten notes at Fort Clatsop, “we recognised the man who over took us last night, [*Nicolas Biddle note: our pilot who came in his canoe*] he invited us to a lodge in which he had Some part and gave us a roundish roots about the Size of a Small Irish potato which they roasted in the embers until they became Soft, This root they call *Wap-pa-to* which the *Bulb* of the *Chinese* cultivate in great quantities called the *Sa-git ti folia* [*Nicolas Biddle note: we believe it to be the Same*] or common arrow head— it has an agreeable taste and answers verry well in place of bread. we purchased about 4 bushels of this root and divided it to our party, ...”<sup>5</sup>

After the peaceful conclusion of this trading session, the expedition moved several more miles downstream where they camped. While preparing the evening meal several canoes of well-armed Skilloots arrived. The explorers accommodately invited them to join their meal. The encounter soon turned nasty. Most likely the two parties simply misunderstood each other. The explorers were ignorant of the Skilloot’s jealously-guarded role as middlemen in regional trade. The Skilloots were concerned about the competition these newcomers presented.

Anyway ... Clark observed, “Those fellows we found assumeing and disagreeable, however we Smoked with them and treated them with every attention & friendship.” But,

“dureing the time we were at dinner those fellows Stold my pipe Tomahawk which They were Smoking with, I imediately Serched every man and the canoes, but Could find nothing of my Tomahawk, while Serching for the Tomahawk one of those Scoundals Stole a Cappoe [a long, hooded coat of heavy material] of one of our interpreters, which was found Stufed under the root of a treer, near the place they Sat, we became much displeased with those fellows”<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Sagittaria latifolia*, AKA: wapato, whapto, Indian potato, potas, broad-leaved arrowhead or just arrow head; Cuttright, Paul Russell (Paul A. Johnsgard, Intro.), *Lewis and Clark: Pioneering Naturalists* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003), p. 238.

<sup>2</sup> MacGregor, Carol Lynn (ed.), *The Journals of Patrick Gass: Member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition* (Missoula: Mountain Press, 1997), p. 147; Moulton, Gary E. (ed.) and Thomas W. Dunlay (asst. ed.), *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 10, *Journal of Patrick Gass, (May 14, 1804 – September 23, 1806)* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1996), p. 166.

<sup>3</sup> Mansfield, Leslie, *The Lewis & Clark Cookbook: Historic Recipes from the Corps of Discovery & Jefferson’s America* (Berkeley, California: Celestial Arts, 2002), p. xiv; also refer to Holland, Leandra Zim, *Feasting and Fasting with Lewis & Clark: A Food and Social History of the Early 1800s* (Emigrant, MT: Old Yellowstone Publishing, 2003), throughout.

<sup>4</sup> Cuttright, Paul Russell (Paul A. Johnsgard, Intro.), *Lewis and Clark: Pioneering Naturalists* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003), p. 238.

<sup>5</sup> Moulton, Gary E. (ed.) and Thomas W. Dunlay (asst. ed.), *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 6, *Down the Columbia to Fort Clatsop, November 2, 1805 to March 18, 1806* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1995), pp. 15 & 17.

<sup>6</sup> Ronda, James P., *Lewis and Clark among the Indians* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1984), p. 176; Moulton, Gary E. (ed.) and Thomas W. Dunlay (asst. ed.), *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 6, *Down the Columbia to Fort Clatsop, November 2, 1805 to March 18, 1806* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1995), pp. 17-18.

The boys cut the banquet short, and “we proceeded on until one hour after dark with a view to get clear of the natives who was constantly about us, and troublesome, finding that we could not get shut of those people for one night, we landed and encamped...”<sup>7</sup> Although not particularly dangerous, it was a close situation.

Three weeks later the question was: Where to spend the winter of 1805-1806? The two captains decided to poll the party on the 24<sup>th</sup>. It appears everyone had a voice and a vote. “Janey in favour of a place where there is plenty of Potas,” wrote Clark, using his nickname for Sacagawea, who indicated the south side of the Columbia River was her choice.<sup>8</sup>

On the return trip on March 29, 1806, the expedition learned more about Wapatoe when the expedition received friendly Cathlapotle visitors in their camp in Clark County, Washington. Lewis observed,

they had also an abundance of sturgeon and wappetoe; the latter they take in great quantities from the neighbouring bonds [ponds], which are numerous and extensive in the river bottoms and islands. the wappetoe furnishes the principal article of traffic with these people which they dispose of to the nations below in exchange for beads cloth and various articles. the natives of the Sea coast and lower part of the river will dispose of their most valuable articles to obtain this root.<sup>9</sup>

Continuing, Lewis wrote,

we purchased a considerable quantity of wappetoe, 12 dogs, and 2 Sea otter skins of these people. they were very hospitable and gave us anchovies and wappetoe to eat. notwithstanding their hospitality if it deserves that appellation, they are great beggers, for we had scarcely finished our repast on the wappetoe and Anchovies which they voluntarily set before us before they began to beg. we gave them some small articles as is our custom on those occasions with which they seemed perfectly satisfied.<sup>10</sup>

Following up, Clark logged,

at 5 o'clock reembarked and proceeded up on ... to an inlet about 1 mile above the village and encamped on a beautiful grassy place, where the natives make a portage of their Canoes and Wapato roots to and from a large pond at a short distance. in this pond the natives inform us they collect great quantities of wappato, which the women collect by getting into the water, sometimes to their necks holding by a small canoe and with their feet loosen the wappato or bulb of the root from the bottom from the fibers, and it immediately rises to the top of the water, they collect & throw them into the canoe, those deep roots are the largest and best roots.”<sup>11</sup>

Homeward bound, Lewis and Clark split up, and on Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1806, near Washougal, Washington, Clark used a little magic (and humor) to get much desired wapatoe,

at 3 P. M. I landed at a large double house of the *Ne-er-cho-ki-oo* tribe of the *Shah-ha-la* Nation. at this place we had seen 24 additional straw huts as we passed down last fall and where as I have before mentioned reside at the Great rapids of the Columbia. on the bank at different places I observed small canoes which the women make use of to gather Wapato & roots in the slashes. those canoes are from 10 to 14 feet long and from 18 to 23 inches wide in the widest part tapering from the center to both ends

<sup>7</sup> Moulton, Gary E. (ed.) and Thomas W. Dunlay (asst. ed.), *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 6, *Down the Columbia to Fort Clatsop, November 2, 1805 to March 18, 1806* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1995), p. 18.

<sup>8</sup> Moulton, Gary E. (ed.) and Thomas W. Dunlay (asst. ed.), *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 6, *Down the Columbia to Fort Clatsop: November 2, 1805 to March 18, 1806* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1991), pp. 83-84; since her opinion is given separately from the men of the party (including York), there is a question as to whether her opinion/vote counted. Wapatoes were plentiful on the south side of the Columbia River.

<sup>9</sup> Moulton, Gary E. (ed.) and Thomas W. Dunlay (asst. ed.), *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 7, *From the Pacific to the Rockies: March 23–June 9, 1806* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1991), pp. 27-28.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>11</sup> Moulton, Gary E. (ed.) and Thomas W. Dunlay (asst. ed.), *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 7, *From the Pacific to the Rockies: March 23–June 9, 1806* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1991), p. 30.

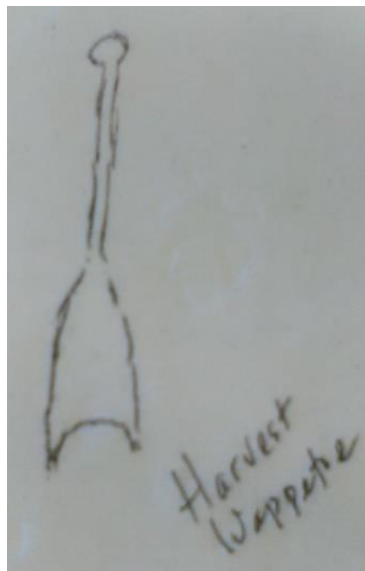


in this form and about 9 inches deep and So light that a woman may with one hand haul 6  
 them with ease, and they are Sufficent to Carry a woman an Some loading. I think 100 of those canoes  
 were piled up and Scattered in different directions about in the Woods in the vecinity of this house, the  
 pilot informed me that those Canoes were the property of the inhabitants of the Grand rapids who used  
 them ocasionally to gather roots. I entered one of the rooms of this house and offered Several articles to  
 the nativs in exchange for Wappato. they were Sulkey and they positively refused to Sell any. I had a Small  
 pece of port fire match in my pocket, off of which I cut (of) a pece one inch in length & put it into the fire  
 and took out my pocket Compas and Set myself down on a mat on one Side of the fire, and a magnet which  
 was in the top of my ink Stand the port fire cought and burned vehemently, which changed the Colour  
 of the fire; with the Magnit I turned the Needle of the Compas about very briskly; which astonished and  
 alarmed these nativs and they laid Several parsles of Wappato at my feet, & begged of (that) me to take  
 out the bad fire; to this I consented; at this moment the match being exhausted was of course  
 extinguished and I put up the magnet &c. this measure alarmed them So much that the womin and  
 children took Shelter in their beads and behind the men, all this time a very old blind man was Speaking  
 with great vehemunce, appearently imploreing his gode. I lit my pipe and gave them Smoke & gave the  
 womin the full amount of the roots which they had put at my feet.<sup>12</sup>

Overall, the Lewis and Clark Expedition's exploits with wapatoe – as a both trade item and vital food source – offer a glimpse into the complex relationship between Native Americans, the Expedition, and the natural world of the West.



Wapatoe leaf



Mike Bowman's back-of-the-napkin  
 rendition of a paddle used to  
 harvest wapatoe tubers  
 December MOP meeting  
 (see next page)



Wapatoe tuber

<sup>12</sup> Moulton, Gary E. (ed.) and Thomas W. Dunlay (asst. ed.), *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, Vol. 7, *From the Pacific to the Rockies: March 23–June 9, 1806* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1991), pp. 57-58.

**December 18 (Denny's Restaurant): Doug and Sharon Packard**

Topic: *Volunteering at Fort Clatsop and Grand Portage*

You never know what a day might bring, when something as mundane as the choice of a tee-shirt to wear for that particular day will change the course of history. From the beginning, here is how today's story unfolded:



The Packards spent their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with us!  
Congratulations, Doug and Sharon!

Doug and Sharon Packard spent their adult lives in Omaha, Doug as a Software Developer for the railroad and Sharon as an Educational Assistant at Westside High School. Upon retirement, they began to explore opportunities for travel listed on the website [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov).

Several factors narrowed their choice of venue to [Lewis and Clark National Historical Park](#) (including the former Fort Clatsop National Memorial). In no particular order, those considerations included the following: the gorgeous summer weather on the Oregon coast, the park's kayak program (Doug and Sharon are avid kayakers!), the park's offer of a free spot for their camper in exchange for 32 hours per week of volunteer service, and Sharon's brother living nearby. That fortuitous choice led the couple to learn more about Lewis and Clark so that they could share the information with park visitors. After their first season, the couple agreed that "Historical interpretation is what we like."



Over the summers of 2021 and 2022, they developed a working knowledge of the November 1805 to March 1806 Corps of Discovery sojourn in the area and of such Lewis and Clark sites as Dismal Nitch, Middle Village Station Camp, Cape Disappointment, Oregon's Fort Stevens, Sunset Beach State Park, and the Expedition's salt works. They enjoyed hikes to the nearby wetlands.



Doug and Sharon assisted with Ranger-led kayak paddles from the Netul Landing up and down the Lewis and Clark River. Eventually, Doug developed a series of short programs and led the kayak tours. Some of the programs that he developed and they presented at the fort were: the 15-star flag, writing with quill pens and journal keeping, the many uses of the flintlock, the hats of the Expedition, *Explorers of the Pacific Northwest*, and a Family-Feud-style presentation entitled *Fort Clatsop Feud—The Food Edition*.

Doug and Sharon had so much volunteer fun during their first summer at Fort Clatsop (2021) that they did a repeat in 2022. Then, they further developed their fur trade repertoire by spending the summer of 2023 at [Grand Portage National Monument](#).



Kitchen and Great Hall at Grand Portage



Fort Clatsop Feud



At both volunteer venues, Doug and Sharon wore costumes provided by the park. At Grand Portage, Doug re-enacted a *voyageur* (long shirt with a belt and--in his case--the *appearance* of no pants) and one of the gentleman owners (top hat/vest/cane/bad shoes) of the North West Company, a fur-trading establishment. At Fort Clatsop, Sharon re-enacted one of the nine young men from Kentucky (see picture, above right) and did costumed interpretation in a period kitchen.

Of course, each venue had its own tee-shirt selection, and that's where the Packard story and the Mouth of the Platte story began to converge. When the season ended at Fort Clatsop, Doug and Sharon came back to their home in Papillion, Nebraska. One day, during their mid-2023 off-season, the Packards decided to pay a visit to the Papillion Costco. Providence guided Doug's hand to his Fort Clatsop tee-shirt, and he threw it on. At virtually the same moment, the Packards and the Wymores headed out on their *shopping expeditions*, not realizing that a momentous encounter was about to ensue. Their paths crossed in the Costco Cafeteria, where Steve Wymore spied the Fort Clatsop reference on Doug's Tee. With some urging by Marilyn Wymore (Thanks, Marilyn!), Steve "made like" Lewis and Clark and "befriended" the Papillion natives and invited them to an audience with the Great Father Don Shippy and his MOP council.

We're so glad Doug and Sharon agreed to have lunch with us, tell us about their adventures, and lead us in a rousing game of *Fort Clatsop Feud—The Food Edition*. **Thank you, Doug and Sharon!**  
(To contact the speakers: douglaspackard5@gmail.com)

Remember this serendipitous encounter next time you reach in your closet for a Tee!

-ADW

### **January 16 (Denny's Restaurant): MOP Members      **CANCELLED****

Topic: *How Did You Get Started Coming to Mouth of the Platte Meetings?*  
*What Are Some of Your Favorite Mouth of the Platte Memories?*

We missed having this meeting because of bitter cold temperatures and snow. Be thinking about this topic because we will use it at a future meeting!



**Temps down to -40 F and wind chill temperatures even worse!**  
**This cold snap put us in mind of the Corps in North Dakota at Fort Mandan during the winter of 1804-1805!**



Address: 3505 Metro Drive, Council Bluffs (712-256-7701)

Topic: *Fur Trading Post at Fontenelle Forest*



Rob Bozell and an excavation crew in Hooker County in 2016.

Sometimes, we fail to recognize the significant accomplishments of our invited MOP speakers. As a stimulus to the Q & A session with our forthcoming speaker, John Robert Bozell, readers will find here a list of online publications to which Bozell has been a pivotal contributor. It can also be accessed through The Digital Archeological Record (tDAR) (<https://core.tdar.org/browse/creators/20103/john-r-bozell>). Most entries show a map of the area of research. Click on a few just to get an idea of the breadth of his experience. Clicking on his name, above, will take you to [NebraskaArcheology.org](http://NebraskaArcheology.org) for more information. (See also page 33)

- **Analysis of Vertebrate Remains (1982)**
- **Animal Utilization at Two Early Nineteenth Century Trading Posts in East Central Nebraska (1990)**
- **Archaeological Resources Assessment of the Proposed Cecilia Cellular Tower Site (IA-SC-008), Sioux City, Woddbury CO, Iowa (2002)**
- **An Archeological Overview and Assessment of Agate Fossil Beds National Monument, Sioux County, Nebraska (2004)**



- An Archeological Overview and Assessment of Homestead National Monument of America, Gage County, Nebraska (2005)
- Archeological Survey of the Cloud 9 Tract, Kearney County, Nebraska (1990)
- Archeological Survey of the Dein Tract, Washington County, Nebraska (1991)
- Archeological Survey of the Hamilton Properties Tract, Ft. Calhoun, Washington County, Nebraska (1990)
- Archeological Survey of the Hamilton Properties Tract, Ft. Calhoun, Washington County, Nebraska (1990)
- Archeological Survey of the Otoe County, Nebraska Rural Water District 3 Transmission Main Expansion (1990)
- Archeological Survey of the St. Helena Wastewater System Project, Cedar County, Nebraska (1991)
- Archeological Survey of the Thiessen Tract, York County, Nebraska (1990)
- Bone and Shell Remains from Fort Ellsworth, Kansas (1997)
- Cultural Resource Reconnaissance of Proposed Structure 35-11-6, Lincoln Creek Watershed, Hamilton County, Nebraska (1983)
- Cultural Resource Reconnaissance of Proposed Structure 35-11-6, Lincoln Creek Watershed, Hamilton County, Nebraska (1983)
- Cultural Resources Assessment of a Proposed Missouri River Ferry on the Winnebago Indian Reservation, Thurston County, Nebraska and Woodbury County, Iowa. (2001)
- Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Stratton East Project, (F-34-2[210]), Hitchcock County, Nebraska (1990)
- Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Stratton East Project, [F-34-2(110)], Hitchcock County, Nebraska (1990)
- Cultural Resources Investigations of the Eugene T. Mahoney State Park Recreation Roads, Cass County, Nebraska (1986)
- Cultural Resources Study of the Crow Butte Uranium Prospect, Dawes County, Nebraska, 2 volumes (1987)
- Cultural Resources Survey of the Nebraska Forest Highway, Route 7, Dawes and Sioux Counties, Nebraska (1984)
- Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Plattsmouth Airport Expansion, Cass County, Nebraska (1990)
- Cultural Resources Within the Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area, Scotts Bluff and Banner Counties, Nebraska (1992)
- Descriptive Analysis of Unmodified Vertebrate Remains Recovered From the Schuyler Site (25Cx1), Colfax County, Nebraska (1982)
- Emergency Evaluation of Native American Archeological Resources Encountered During Construction of Section 1, Mirdan Canal, Garfield County, Nebraska (1982)
- Fauna from the Hulme Site and Comments on Central Plains Tradition Subsistence Variability (1991)
- Great Oasis Fauna from Central Nebraska (1989)
- Highway Archeological Investigations at the Slaughterhouse Creek Site and Other Cultural Resources in the Pine Ridge Area (1988)
- Historic Places the National Register for Nebraska (1989)
- Identification and Analysis of Vertebrate Faunal Remains Recovered From the Logan Creek Site (25Bt3) Burt County, Nebraska (1983)
- Middle Woodland Complexes of Nebraska (1980)
- Nebraska Phase Archeology in the South Bend Locality (1995)
- Non-Human Vertebrate Faunal Remains Recovered During 1984 Surface Collections, at the Custer Battlefield National Monument, Montana (1984)
- Non-Human Vertebrate Faunal Remains Recovered During the 1985 Investigations at the Custer Battlefield National Monument, Montana (1985)
- Preliminary Cultural Resources Investigations Within the Proposed Crow Butte Permit Area, Dawes County, Nebraska - State 1: the Pilot Plant Study (1982)
- This Flag-Staff Is the Glory of the Fort: Archeological Investigations of the Fort Union Flagpole Remains (1986)



- Unmodified Vertebrate Remains from the Pigeon Roost Creek Site (23MN732), Monroe County, Missouri: a Preliminary Report
- Vertebrate Faunal Remains Recovered During 1985 Archeological Investigations within Voyageurs National Park (1986)
- Vertebrate Remains for Site 47BT73 (Nelson's Landing) Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, Wisconsin (1994)
- Vertebrate Remains from 1986 Investigations at Heartbreak Hill Shelter, 23DE7, Dent County, Missouri (1990)
- Vertebrate Remains from the Martin Farmstead (14RP322), Republic County, Kansas (1993)
- Vertebrate Remains Recovered with Burials in Ice House Excavation, Fort Union Trading Post (32WI17), Williams County, North Dakota (1992)

### March 19 (Location TBD): Jean-Claude Overstreet

Topic: [French-Canadian Boatmen \(voyageurs/courers du bois\)](#) (click on blue area for more info)



Overstreet at 2023 Timeline

Jean-Claud Overstreet is coming to us from his home near St. Joseph, Missouri. He belonged to the [U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary](#). He is a [Nebraska Master Naturalist](#). He participates in World War Russian/German military re-enactments ([World War I](#), [World War II](#)). So that we will be familiar with these genres, click on these links for the relevant websites for World War re-enactment and [historical re-enactment](#) in general.



Re-enactment of voyageurs landing at a depot

## MOP Board Meeting Minutes Summary

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December 5, 2023, and February 6, 2024

**Treasurer's Report:** Checking: \$2,686.58. Savings: \$2,888.54. LCTHF Grants (2) for Interpretive Wayside Exhibits: \$3,352.59.

**Membership Report:** Northern Plains Region currently has 127 members. We are waiting expectantly for our annual dues check from LCTHF.

**Past Lunch Meetings:** December 19: 11:30 a.m. at Denny's Restaurant (S. 84<sup>th</sup> and I-80). Program: Doug and Sharon Packard on *Volunteer Duty at Ft. Clatsop and Grand Portage*. This program was arranged and introduced by Steve Wymore. Doug and Sharon talked us through a Power Point presentation, and we played a game of *Fort Clatsop Feud – The Food Edition*. Lots of fun, good food, reasonable prices, and the venue was comfortable, if a bit chilly. We liked it well enough to use it again, but broken water pipes and a fire at the restaurant have intervened. January 16 meeting was cancelled for this reason. We plan to keep checking back and try it again, after repairs are completed.

**Future Lunch/Dinner Meetings:** February 20: 11:30 a.m. at Pizza Ranch at Metro Crossing (3505 Metro Drive, Council Bluffs, 712-256-7701). Program: Archeologist Robert Bozell on *Fur Trading Post at Fontenelle Forest*. Harlan Seyfer arranged this speaker.

March 19: 11:30 a.m. Location: TBD. Program: Jean-Claude Overstreet on *French-Canadian Boatmen (voyageurs/courers du bois)*. He will bring both paper and electronic material. Mr. Overstreet belonged to the Co Guard Auxiliary. He is a Nebraska Master Naturalist. He participates in both Butch Bouvier's *Timeline* and Russian/German military re-enactments. His wife, Carol, will attend, also. They live near St. Joseph, M

**We will return to evening meetings on April 16 at 6 p.m.**

April 16: 6:00 p.m. Location: TBD. Program: Jack Christ on *The Louisiana Purchase: How the Dominoes Fell in Place*. Jack offers a brief review of the diverse factors which led to the surprising purchase of the Louisiana Territory by the United States in 1803

May 21: 6:00 p.m. Location: TBD. Program: TBD.

**Lewis and Clark Interpretive Wayside Exhibits:** The new panels are beautiful. See a full progress report on page 17.

**Relationships:** Cass County Historical Society: Fund-raising drive for new facilities (p. 40). Panels erected spring 2024  
Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Visitor Center: Great progress on first cabin of Wood River Fort Annex. See p. 14.  
National Park Service Headquarters: Keith and Karla Sigala will inventory sculpture icons.

Omaha Parks and Recreation: Keith and Ann met with Dennis Bryers about signage on the Riverfront.

Sioux City Lewis and Clark Center: No news. See p. 40.

Western Historic Trails Center: We are attempting to ascertain who makes decisions about the closed center

**Study Group:** Steady attendance at weekly meetings. COVID recurrence at Sterling Ridge has limited our use of th facility. (see article, p. 3)

**Northern Plains Report:** No news. Meeting pending.

**Southern Prairie Report:** Keith attended a meeting in Kansas City on February 3, 2024

**LCTHF Board:** New Executive Director Richard Hunt took office February 5, 2024. He plans to visit Omaha soon. (se article, p. 16)

**Newsletter:** Next issue: May 2024. Submissions deadline: May 10, 2024.

Submitted by Ann Dunlap Woolard, MOP Board Secretary

(firedogpoet@yahoo.com)



# In the News

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Wood River Fort Annex

Butch's New Construction at Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center



Isaac Fichter and Doug Friedli



The chinking looks authentic.



Butch (left) and Isaac chinking

The daubing is complete inside and out on the first cabin. I worked Tuesday and Wednesday, daubing all day. Tedious work but satisfying. Today the east fireplace was to be covered in protective concrete mix then wattled (mud, Portland mix, dried grass, and straw) to look authentic. Fireplaces were constructed by Isaac per Butch's drawings.

This build is great for several reasons: 1) history remembered, 2) old ways learned by young folks to carry on, 3) comradery of the amazing crew, of which I am so proud to be a part.

My son, Justin, who works for KMTV Channel 3, hooked us up with a reporter who is coming down (no date, as of yet) to interview the crew. by Shirley Enos





Butch with Wood River Fort model

## Wood River Fort Annex: Links to videos

[Unloading logs](#)

[Notching chimney](#)

[Chiseling windows](#)

[Fastening everything together](#)

[Notching Ceiling Support](#)

[Chinking](#)

[Door Frame](#)

[Daubing](#)

[First Wall](#)

🌀 [Welding Fireplace](#) 🌀

[Center Beam](#)

[Last Log](#)

[A Little Fort Music](#)

See Page 39 for more pictures of fort construction



**From Doug Friedli:** Today (Thursday, February 8, 2024) we had a TV news reporter here from KOLN/KGIN Channel 10/11 in Lincoln to interview Butch, Sterling, and myself. He produces a weekly show called Pure Nebraska. The story on the Lewis and Clark fort will air tomorrow ([Monday, February 12](#)) on Pure Nebraska around 9:30 a.m. (←Click link to view) It will be on the Pure Nebraska Facebook page and on their website at [1011now.com/Pure](http://1011now.com/Pure) . KMTV Channel 3 in Omaha plans to send a reporter down in a week or so. Be sure to “save the date” for our 20th Anniversary Celebration on Friday and Saturday, August 23 and 24. It will be two days of exciting activities.



Approaching MRBVC from Hwy 2



Half-way up the drive to MRBVC



Unfinished chimney



Face of unfinished fireplace



Finished chimney

## NATIONAL LEWIS AND CLARK GROUP HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Richard Hunt to serve as the organization's new Executive Director, effective February 5. Foundation President Jim Sayce had this to say about Hunt: "Richard was one of 28 applicants for our Executive Director position. He was the unanimous choice of the Executive Search Committee, and the Board of Directors [also] unanimously endorsed his appointment during a special meeting on January 28. Richard has the skills and vision to help the Foundation promote our mission in the coming years. We could not be more pleased with this appointment and Richard's decision to join us in our work."

Hunt previously served as Video Producer and Marketing and Fundraising Committee Member for the Oregon California Trails Association [OCTA], based in Kansas City, Missouri. He splits his time between homes in Seattle, Washington, and the Kansas City area and has traveled frequently in his employment with OCTA. In his new role as Executive Director for the Foundation, he will likewise travel extensively, interacting with members, partners, and governments, including various tribal nations.

Hunt echoed Sayce's enthusiasm: "The opening of the Executive Director position for the Foundation offered me a tremendous opportunity at this stage in my career. My prior experience in both the for-profit and nonprofit sectors has prepared me for the work that lies ahead. The Foundation's recent decision to implement a bold strategic plan for future development and activities is exactly the kind of project I'm prepared to tackle. I'm looking forward to a long tenure with this organization."

Hunt has already hit the ground running on his first day, creating a Work Plan to help the Foundation implement a new Strategic Plan adopted in December 2023. He is preparing for meetings with Foundation members in the Northeast and Midwest, and will be traveling to Washington, D.C., with a Foundation representative to engage with congressional delegations representing states on the Lewis and Clark Trail.

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, created in 1969, is the premier organization in the United States promoting the story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and encouraging responsible stewardship of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (NHT). The NHT was established by Congress in 1978 and was enlarged in 2019 to include areas along the Ohio River to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Foundation's corporate offices are located in Great Falls, Montana. It collaborates with several partners, including the National Park Service, which oversees the Historic Trail. Hunt succeeds Sarah Cawley of Great Falls, who left the Foundation in mid-September to assume the position of Community Outreach Coordinator for the Great Falls Public Library.



**Richard Hunt**



In 2022, Butch “Mr. Keelboat” Bouvier, volunteers Isaac and Sterling Fichter, and staff members of the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center built a replica of the barge, often called a “keelboat,” used by the Lewis and Clark Expedition. They used Clark’s measurement and other well-documented historical information. The wayside interpretive exhibit above gives visitors the boat’s background and describes how the boat was used by the Expedition. Caitlin Campbell provided the graphic design of the panel. At the time, Caitlin was with the National Park Service Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail center in Omaha.

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

# To make our party comfortable

What's the weather like today? Hot? Cold? How will you get comfortable when you get home?

By July of 1804, the Lewis and Clark Expedition had been rowing, pushing, and towing their keelboat and two pirogues on the Missouri River for ten weeks. Oars needed replacing. Supplies had gotten wet and needed drying. Captain William Clark wrote that the crew were searching for a campsite where they could be comfortable and out of the sun.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition camped not far from here, about 10 miles above the mouth of the Platte River. A group of five men, including expedition carpenter Patrick Gass, cut down trees and made new oars. A hunting party supplied fresh deer, beaver, and turkey to eat. The crew named their campsite "Camp White Catfish" after an unusually large fish they caught in the river.

## BEATING THE BUGS

Though they got out of the sun, the crew were swarmed by mosquitoes while they camped near here. The expedition members smeared themselves with "couquebous" grease, a mixture of wax and animal fat, to repel mosquitoes. They also used Peruvian bark, which contained quinine, to treat fevers spread by mosquitoes. Today, you probably aren't carrying wax and animal fat to repel mosquitoes, but we still use quinine to treat malaria.

*"We set out very early with a view of getting to some situation... Calculated to make our party comfortable in a situation where they could receive the benefit of shade."*

—William Clark, July 22, 1804

"LEWIS AND CLARK - CAMPSITE AT TARENEN  
CHIEF, SEAN JO. NEWE, courtesy of Carl A. Lutz  
Gallery, Washington, MD, www.lpw.org/visit

Wayside produced with assistance from:  
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation  
and the Mouth of the Platte Chapter



Current Status of the Interpretive Wayside Exhibits  
By Harlan Seyfer

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| Interpretive Wayside Exhibit         | Location   | Condition  | Status at End of 2023  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Hunter, Watchdog and Faithful Friend | Lewis & Clark Visitor Center, Nebraska City  | contains information superseded by later research  | will be relocated to allow mounting of new "keelboat" marker. Exhibit panel currently in design.   |
| Crossing the Mouth of the Platte     | southwest bank of Platte-Missouri confluence   | Missing - Carried away in 2019 flood with the accompanying generic expedition exhibit    | a new location – out of the flood plain – was negotiated with the Cass County Historical Society to place the historical and generic exhibits next to the Society's white pirogue replica, a new panel with updated graphics and text was fabricated, and bases obtained. Both exhibits are ready and awaiting spring to be stuck in the ground.   |
| A Great Number of Wolves             | former Catfish Lake Restaurant   | Flood damaged and illegible, now inaccessible on private property (restaurant relocated) | new location has been negotiated with Bellevue Department of Parks on bicycle trail, wheelchair accessible, and near parking lot. Exhibit panel currently in design.   |
| A Lively Trade Route                 | on Missouri River bank, on Iowa Department of Natural Resources land west of former Western Historic Trails Center             | Missing - Carried away presumably in 2019 flood  | This exhibit will not be replaced do to security concerns due to the large number of homeless and occurrences of violence in the area. [Ashly Richardson, "Council Bluffs Police work to help solve homelessness," <i>WOWT News</i> , <a href="http://www.wowt.com/2021/11/06/council-bluffs-police-work-help-solve-homelessness/">www.wowt.com/2021/11/06/council-bluffs-police-work-help-solve-homelessness/</a> ] |
| An Island of Pelicans                | Pelican Point State Recreation Area, Nebraska  | Missing - Carried away in 2019 flood   | A duplicate panel was found on the grounds of the Fort Atkinson State Historical Park, the base was replaced, and the exhibit re-erected in the Pelican Point State Recreation Area (refer to photo)   |
| To Make Our Party Comfortable        | Riverfront Trail in Council Bluffs, on Iowa Department of Natural Resources land west of former Western Historic Trails Center | Flood damaged and illegible, as is the generic expedition exhibit accompanying it        | Panel fabrication is underway and will be available by spring, base has been purchased.  |
| Our Wish to Cultivate Friendship     | Day Use Area, Two Rivers State Recreation Area, Nebraska   | Flood damaged, parts of panel missing  | a panel with updated graphics and text was fabricated and replaced the damaged panel. The exhibit was rotated so that the reader would be facing the Otoe Indian village while reading.  |

Notes: The full-sized proofs of the panels "To Make Our Party Comfortable" and "Bringing a Boat Back to Life" have been approved. I-Zone has begun fabrication. They should have the two panels delivered to my door before the end of February. The two status reports should be e-mailed by February 7. I intend to ask permission to transfer the unspent funds of the second (Keelboat) grant to the first (Restore Panels) grant. The bases for the two panels "Crossing the Mouth of the Platte" and a generic panel are in storage at my house. The Cass County Historical Society and I agreed to wait until spring to "plant" them.



**New Pelican Point Exhibit**



See <https://outdoornebraska.gov/location/pelican-point/>

# In the News

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## In the Spirit of Lewis and Clark: Lakota Man becomes the First Native American to Summit Mt. Everest



To be the first at anything is a privilege that falls to relatively few people. Lewis and Clark and company, for example, were the first U.S. military expedition to travel from coast to coast, the first white men seen by particular tribes, the first men to proclaim to the Native tribes the U.S. purchase of the Louisiana Territory, etc. Lewis and Clark participated in a Voyage of Discovery, not only of the geography, ethnography, meteorology, and sociology of the Louisiana Purchase, but of its concomitant psychology.

The argument has been made that **Lewis, from birth, was uniquely suited and situated to be chosen** to lead the exploration of the Louisiana Purchase. He was the “man of the hour” because of his life circumstances; i.e., birth into a respectable family, hunting/trapping background, proximity to Jefferson during his formative years, and so forth. And he wanted it: “entertaining (now) as I do, the most confident hope of succeeding in a voyage which had formed a darling project of mine for the last ten years (of my life), I could but esteem this moment of my (our) departure as among the most happy of my life.” (April 7, 1805)

We might be tempted to think that no such accomplishment could ever present itself in our modern age. Yet, just such an accomplishment has recently been achieved: within the last year, a Lakota Sioux man became the first recorded Native American to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

Dr. Jacob Weasel was born into the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in Gallup, New Mexico, and raised in Omaha, Nebraska. As a child, “Weasel experienced first-hand the hardships and brokenness many Native families face.” **Like Lewis under the tutelage of Dr. Benjamin Rush**, Weasel studied medicine, becoming the first ever Lakota trauma surgeon. In 2018, he relocated to Rapid City, South Dakota to begin his career.

**Lewis inspired other explorers.** Weasel researched the Everest climb and found nothing to indicate that a Native person had ever previously summited Everest, so he decided to be that person. “Not for myself,” he said. “I’m not going there to climb for me. I’m going there to inspire others to chase dreams of their own. I feel so grateful to be where I am and to be afforded all the grace and opportunities. I find myself in such a fortunate position....There’s a responsibility to use it as an opportunity to uplift everybody else around [me] and to uplift some kid on Pine Ridge with dreams and potential.”

**Lewis represented the U.S.** Weasel's community mindset springs from his cultural background. As he prepared his body for the rigors of the climb, he was supported by fellow Lakota citizen Rich Two Dogs, who blessed an eagle feather as a "...symbol of our people. And for all of the injustices and all the tragedy that we have faced in breaking the spirit of our people. I want you to take this and carry it to the top of the world as a symbolic gesture of raising the spirit of our people above all that we have experienced."

**Lewis was brave in the face of difficulties.** In spite of eleven fatalities on the Everest climb in early 2023, Weasel scaled the mountain with renowned mountaineer Lakpa Dendi Sherpa. As the men climbed, Weasel drew on his deep inner strength to confront and surmount the challenges. He hallucinated the faces of his three children and wife coming out of the rock formations, probably due to high-altitude cerebral edema and anoxia. For 63.5 hours, he faced the hazards of oxygen deprivation, frostbite, hypothermia, avalanches, and treacherous crevasses in Everest's "Death Zone," above 26,247 feet. He sustained a painfully bruising hit from a 60-70 mph racquetball-sized falling rock strike that could have broken his ribs. "Until you step foot on that mountain, you have no idea how close to death you are," Weasel said. "Even as a surgeon, having close contact with death fairly frequently, I experienced it completely personally on that mountain." Referring to the harsh conditions at Mount Everest's 29,029-foot summit, Weasel said, "You realize so strongly we are not meant to be here. The Earth does not want us here."

**Lewis left his brand on west coast trees.** Weasel left his friend's blessed eagle feather at the summit on May 17, 2023, just days before the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Edmund Hillary's May 29, 1953, triumph.

**Lewis's drive led him to the West Coast and back.** Weasel's "passion for adventure" led him to the summit and back. He has no regrets. As he said, "I will tell you, as much fury of the mountain that I experienced as I made my way, watching the sunrise and the shadow of Everest's perfect pyramid projected onto the valley in the background was one of the most beautiful things I've ever seen, to the point where I [couldn't] help but cry watching that."

"I wanted to show Lakota people and I wanted to show Native kids everywhere, that they're equally capable as anybody else to achieve whatever they want...and to dream big dreams and to chase after them."

**That you did, Dr. Weasel. That you did.**

-ADW

Dr. Weasel's climb raised funds for The Wopila Project, his nonprofit organization.

His goal is to raise  
\$100,000 for a playground in Rapid City's Lakota Homes Neighborhood  
and  
\$75,000 to support the establishment of three women's health centers in rural Nepal.

This material came from the *Navajo-Hopi Observer*, "proudly serving the Navajo & Hopi Nations, Flagstaff & Winslow, Arizona."

<https://www.nhnews.com/news/2023/jun/13/lakota-man-becomes-first-native-american-summit-mt/> (accessed 2-6-24)



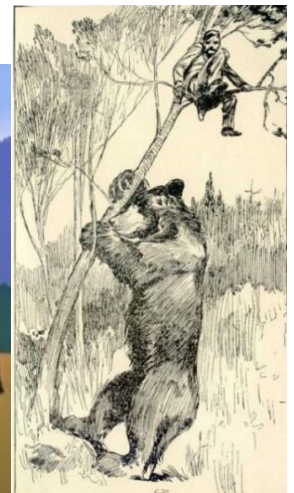
# WHERE'S THE HUMOR? 21

By: Jim Rosenberger, President Badger State Chapter, LCTHF  
From the Badger State Chapter *Field Notes* of October 2015

[https://www.lewisandclark.org/chapters/badger-state/pdf/bsc\\_2015\\_oct\\_news.pdf](https://www.lewisandclark.org/chapters/badger-state/pdf/bsc_2015_oct_news.pdf)

(submitted by Harlan Seyfer....used with permission)

In reading and studying the Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition one recognizes quickly that the journey was serious business. This was a military expedition on a mission to open up trade with the Native Nations and locate the trade route to the Far East as well as learn as much as possible about the Geography and Botany of the lands the expedition would pass through. This had to be serious business. No time for joking around. Oh sure, we know the men “kicked back” in the evenings, had their gill of whiskey and danced but is there any record of the men just joking around with each other?

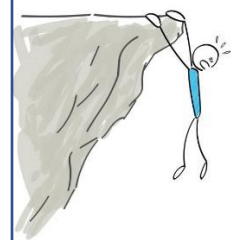


Certainly, there were events that took place which had the possibility of serious implications such as; Pvt. George Shannon getting lost, Alexander Willard dropping his rifle in a stream and William Bratton getting chased up a tree by a grizzly bear to mention a few. But knowing the ways of the men in a military unit, some of these events must have generated comments to poke fun at their fellow soldiers who were parties to the events. At a minimum, something like, “Hey George, which way is north?” or “Al, strap that rifle to your back so you don’t drop it.” At least something like, “Did you see the look on Bill’s face when that grizzly charged?” followed by laughter from the entire Corps. But there doesn’t appear to be any entries that really show humor. And yet...our captains always seem to come through.

While it may border more on satire, I think there are entries made by both Lewis and Clark that indicate they had a sense of humor. When the Corps of Discovery arrived at the confluence of the Missouri River and the Marias River, Clark took a group to explore the Missouri and Lewis took a group to explore the Marias. Lewis makes a June 7, 1805, journal entry; “It continued to rain almost without intermission last night and as I expected we had a most disagreeable and restless night. our camp possessing no allurements, we left our watery beads at an early hour...” No allurements? An allurement is something desirable, attractive, enticing or fascinating. After all the expedition has been through, there are no allurements? This is dry humor through the use of understatement, and I think it would at least get a smile from folks listening to the story.



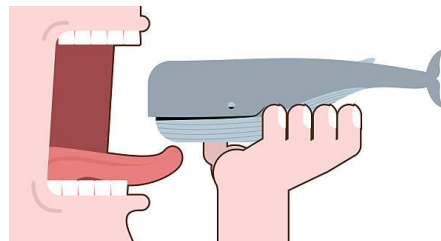
Lewis goes on to tell how slippery the ground was and that he nearly slid off a 90 foot precipice and also had to save Pvt. Windsor from falling off the precipice.



The rest of the day was not much better, but upon making camp in a deserted Indian stick lodge Lewis and his group have a “hearty supper” of venison and then Lewis comments, “I now laid myself down on some willow boughs to a comfortable nights rest and felt indeed as if I was fully repaid for the toil and pain of the day; so much will a good shelter, a dry bed, and comfortable supper revive the spirits of the weary, wet and hungry traveler.” Lewis almost falls to his death and he saves Pvt. Windsor from the same fate but he refers to the situation as one of a weary, wet and hungry traveler. I almost want to say, “Are you kidding me?” Again, I think Lewis is using understatement while he is also being philosophical and it results in a bit of dry humor.



While at Fort Clatsop, dealing with the rainy weather and the effort to maintain an adequate food supply, there are a number of entries that suggest a sense of humor. When Capt. Clark took men to get blubber from a beached whale, he commented, “...I thank providence for directing the whale to us and think him much more kind to us that he was to Jonah; having sent his monster to be swallowed by us instead of swallowing of us as Jonah’s did.” Get it? We swallowed the whale instead of the whale swallowing us. That is almost a line one of today’s stand-up comedians would use. That Capt. Clark is a real card.



Relative to the food available at Fort Clatsop, both Lewis and Clark make comments like, “...We had what I call an excellent supper of marrowbone, a brisket of boiled Elk that had the appearance of a little fat on it. This, for Fort Clatsop, is living in high style...” And again, “...We have three days provisions only in store and that of the most inferior dried Elk, a little tainted. What a prospect for good living at Fort Clatsop at present...” And further, “...We once more live in Clover; anchovies, fresh sturgeon and wappatoe...” I’ve heard of living in clover, but never accompanied by anchovies, sturgeon or wappatoe. Do you get the satire or even sarcasm in those entries? This could be classed as a “groaner” type of joke.

On March 26, 1806, as the Corps is returning up the Columbia River, Capt. Clark comments, “...After dinner I walked on shore through an elegant bottom on the south side to Fanny’s Island. This bottom we also call Fanny’s Bottom...” Editor Gary Moulton’s footnote comments, “...Supposedly named for Clark’s youngest sister, Frances...Fanny’s Bottom became ‘Fanny’s Valley’...perhaps because Clark had second thoughts...” There must be a story behind this naming, but certainly the captains had a chuckle over this naming and the men of the Corps a fairly hearty laugh.

So if we look for humor and look hard enough, it would appear to me that the captains and the men of the Corps, though subtle, did have a sense of humor and were able to maintain it through all the trials they faced on the expedition. But do keep in mind these were written entries in the daily journal with just a suggestion of humor. I have been a part of Army units, and I still have to believe there was joking around in the daily interaction of the men and around the campfire at night that resulted in a lot of laughter. I wish I could have been there to hear it.



by Harlan Seyfer

Unless noted, all journal entries are by Clark as found in Gary Moulton's *magna opus*. Camp Dubois is today Camp Wood, Illinois.

January 5, 1804, Camp Dubois: "Two men whome I sent to hunt grouse returned with a part of a hog which they found hung up in the woods & brought it in a[s] Bear meat."

Moulton notes that one of the men was John Collins. See below, January 9, 1804. But, there is something strange going on here. There are no wild swine in Illinois, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources has declared feral hogs an invasive species, never native to the state. Harsh words, but then swine/pigs/hogs/boars are not even native to the western hemisphere.<sup>13</sup> Why would a farmer butcher his hog in the woods and not on his farm? The answer is: he wouldn't. So clearly this was a feral hog (escaped domestic hog), fair game, field dressed where it was killed, and a portion carried away. Clearly also, Clark was not fooled when Collins and company said it was bear.

January 6, 1804, Camp Dubois: "a hog found in the Prairie by some men & they Skined [it] I send out Shields to enquire in the neighbourhood whoes hog it was & inform me."

Another feral hog. Taking no chances, Clark sends one of his most reliable men to ask around the neighborhood about missing hogs. Clark refers to John Shields. Both Clark and Lewis had high praise for him. Lewis even requested that the army grant Shields extra pay for his services on the expedition.

January 7, 1804, Camp Dubois: no mention of hogs (or beer)

January 8, 1804, Camp Dubois: "...a French man & his family Came to see me to day I trade with them for Onions, & gave Tin &c. This man made Complaint that he had lost a Hogg— Some Hog meat had been brought in as before mentioned, as the men whome brought it in are absent, I postpone the inquirey untill tomorrow."

Did Shields encounter this Frenchman in his "hog" investigation? Probably, but then again we don't know.

January 9, 1804, Camp Dubois: "Some Snow last night ... I took Collins & went to the place he found a Hog Skined & Hung up, the Crows had devoured the meet."

Interesting, crows devouring part of a large hog. Well actually yes, crows are omnivores and will eat virtually anything, including carrion, rotting meat. "Ah ha!" says Collins hypothetically to Clark, "the crows ate the Frenchman's hog!" "Obviously," Clark hypothetically replies, "That Frenchman's claim is unproven." Collins is let off the hook.

January 28, 1804, Camp Dubois: (speaking of beer below) Clark noted "at 6 oClock [the thermometer read] 14° above 0° then sadly added "Porter all frozed & several bottles broke."<sup>14</sup>

Porter is a dark brown beer favored by the British then as now (think *Guinness*). In the early 1700s the British discovered that if bottles were corked, the fermentation bubbles in the brew stayed there. Unfortunately 4% alcohol content is not high enough to prevent water from freezing at 14° – and expanding. Bang! No more intact bottle.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources, *Feral Hogs in Illinois*, <https://dnr.illinois.gov/oi/baferalhogsinillinois.html> (access 2024-01-27); Anesi, Peggy, "Feral Swine: Potentially the most threatening invasive yet," *Naturalist News*, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Illinois Extension, <https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/naturalist-news/2021-05-12-feral-swine-potentially-most-threatening-invasive-yet> (access 2024-01-27).

<sup>14</sup> Clark Journal, January 28, 1805.

<sup>15</sup> Holland, Leandra Zim, *Feasting and Fasting with Lewis & Clark: A Food and Social History of the Early 1800s* (Emigrant, MT: Old Yellowstone Publishing, 2003), pp. 251-252.



Collins was court-martialed twice by the captains (May 17 and June 29, 1804). Despite this, Collins stayed on the expedition's permanent party and was assigned special responsibilities.

On July 8, 1804, Lewis recorded in his journal (emphasis added): "In order to insure a prudent and regular use of all provisions issued to the crew of the Batteaux in future, as also to provide for the equal distribution of the same among the individuals of the several messes, The Commanding Officers Do appoint the following persons to *recieve, cook, and take charges of* the provisions which may from time to time be issued to their respective messes, (viz) John B. Thompson to Sergt. Floyd's mess, William Warner to Sergt. Ordway's mess, and **John Collins to Sergt. Pryor's Mess.**— These ***Superintendants of Provision***, are held immediately responsible to the commanding Officers for a judicious consumption of the provision which they recieve; they are to cook the same for their several messes in due time, and in such manner as is most wholesome and best calculated to afford the greatest proportion of nutriment; in their mode of cooking they are to exercise their own judgment; they shall (point) also point out what part, and what proportion of the mess provisions are to be consumed at each stated meal (i. e.) morning, noon and night; nor is any man at any time to take or consume any part of the mess provisions without the privity, knowledge and consent of the Superintendant. The superintendant is also held responsible for all the cooking eutensels of his mess. in consideration of the duties imposed by this order on Thompson, Warner, and **Collins**, they will in future be exempt from guard duty, tho' they will still be held on the royster for that duty, and their regular tour—shall be performed by some one of their rispective messes; they are exempted also from pitching the tents of the mess, collecting firewood, and forks poles &c. for cooking and drying such fresh meat as may be furnished them; those duties are to be also performed by the other members of the mess.

October 21, 1805 (over a year later), Clark cheerfully recorded, "one of our party J. Collins presented us with Some verry good *beer* made of the *Pa-shi-co-quar-mash* bread, which bread is the remains of what was laid in as [X: *a part of our*] Stores of Provisions, at the first flat heads or *Cho-pun-nish* Nation at the head of the [Kosskoske](#) river which by being **frequently wet molded & Sowered &c.**" [emphasis added].

Collins wasn't clever, Collins was lucky. Back on September 20 the Nez Perce had treated the expedition to some novel food, one of which was a bread baked from ground camas root – the *Pa-shi-co-quar-mash* bread Clark mentioned. It was delicious, and the Nez Perce were astonished at the quantity of the bread put away by each man, especially Clark. There were consequences. The evening of September 21 Clark noted, "I am verry Sick to day and puke which relive me".

"As it would for days," wrote historian James Ronda, "the root bread produced diarrhea and painful intestinal gas. Clark may have made a mental note to warn Lewis not to eat the bread!"<sup>16</sup> This experience should have caused Clark to minimize consumption by the men, at least to set the surplus aside for later. On the rugged, tossing trip downstream, the store of bread became "frequently wet molded & Sowered [soured] &c."<sup>17</sup> What Superintendent of Provisions Collins did was rediscover something the Egyptians had learned 3500 year earlier: to preserve their malted and starchy grain by baking it into a flat bread. Then – when beer was desired – soak the bread in water.<sup>18</sup>

John Collins was not boring.

[A grateful tip of the hat to the *Field Notes* of the Badger State Chapter for inspiring these thoughts.]



<sup>16</sup> Ronda, James R., *Lewis and Clark among the Indians* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1988), p. 158.

<sup>17</sup> Clark Journal, October 21, 1805.

<sup>18</sup> Holland, Leandra Zim, *Feasting and Fasting with Lewis & Clark: A Food and Social History of the Early 1800s* (Emigrant, MT: Old Yellowstone Publishing, 2003), p. 252; Leslie Mansfield in his cookbook includes a delicious-sounding "Honey and Beer-Braised Buffalo Ribs" recipe, requiring two cups of ale [Mansfield, Leslie, *The Lewis & Clark Cookbook: Historic Recipes from the Corps of Discovery & Jefferson's America* (Berkeley, California: Celestial Arts, 2002), p. 86].

# Book Review

25

*Fauna of the National Parks of the United States: Fauna Series No. 2*

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

July 1934

*By George M. Wright and Ben H. Thompson*

This book is comprised of a series of 1930s governmental reports concerned with the joint occupation of our national parks by men and wildlife. As Mr. Wright puts the question, "How shall man and beast be reconciled in the conflicts and disturbances which inevitably arise when both occupy the same general area concurrently?" He goes on, "Turning to the national parks, we find ideally exemplified the extreme case for which we are seeking, for here the law specifying land use permits neither the impairment of primitive wildlife nor the restriction of human occupancy. At one bold stroke, man has assumed the whole difficult problem in its most complex form, not really as a problem at all, but as a thing accomplished – and all this by high governmental decree." (Wright, p. 3, with tongue in cheek!)



Most of this thin volume is a discussion of overgrazing, inadequate winter forage, competition between prey and predator species, etc. There is discussion of taking some land away from the Ute Indians to create a more natural river boundary to park lands at Mesa Verde National Park, to which the superintendent of the Consolidated Ute Agency, Mr. D. H. Wattson replies, "I expressed to Mr. Finnan my belief that the Indians would raise no serious objection to a transfer to the park of these lands, providing in lieu lands of equal value for grazing were available and that in such an event I would be glad to recommend an exchange, but that an act of Congress prohibits any change in the areas of Indian reservations." (p. 100) I am afraid I see here a rather stereotypical white analysis of a Native reaction to U.S. governmental action.

While most of the reports are rather as dry as the landscape being discussed, some of the prose is worthy of Meriwether Lewis: "The Yellowstone-Teton area, roughly speaking, a plateau some one hundred and twenty miles long by sixty wide, of altitude varying from six to eight thousand feet, and encircled by mountains rising from three to six thousand feet above its plain, was one of the wildernesses late in yielding to man's violation. Though the three largest rivers of the country, first roads of exploration, clawed thirstingly at the flanks of the Gallatins, Absarokas, Wind Rivers, Hobacks, and Teton, the ruggedness of these ranges and their long lingering snow discouraged all but the hardest scouts like John Colter and Jim Bridger.

"In the course of time even this land was called upon to yield much from its rich stores of game and fur. The trappers who went in came out laden, yet they told little, as it was not their way incautiously



to brag about the best trapping grounds. The game beyond the mountains was nearly annihilated, and much of this was the same game that had summered in luxury on the abundant grasses of the plateau. Then the dude explorers and hunters—"Muggses" they were called in their day—came to take a share. Protection was only a name in the first years after the park was set aside, and very probably less than that insofar as the game was concerned. Finally, the automobiles, shrieking over fast roads, brought thousands of well-meaning but thoughtless visitors whose very presence would seem paradoxical to the concept of wilderness.



"In spite of all these vicissitudes, each one of them a fearful impact on the primitive, today the beavers are back by the hundreds, content in the freedom to pursue their inherent way of life, without ever a lurking fear that they might be born to ride to the Paris opera astride some dandy's eyebrows as did their beaver forefathers not so many beaver generations gone by. Down in the Bechler swamps, the lone loon is as solitary as the poet's version would be pleased to have it. Shiras moose thresh the willows in Willow Park, their behavior so naturally easy that the wide-eyed tourist might well wonder if it is not himself who is exotic in these surroundings and therefore the curious object. While watching a marten in the woods of Heart River, a coyote amongst the ghost trees of Middle Geyser Basin, a badger on the boulder-strewn hills of Lamar Valley, I have sometimes felt almost offended by the suspiciously elaborate disregard of my presence manifest in their behavior.

"But it is the birds of the water, beautifully wild birds by the thousand, that are encouragement and inspiration to the man who prays for conviction that the wilderness still lives, will always live. The shimmering silver sweep of the many lakes large and small, and the calm yellow-brown expanse of the broad, warm rivers harbor a varied and abundant bird populace....The concentration of so many waterfowl so high in the mountains is in itself an amazing thing. The readily apparent cause of this unusual spectacle is the abundance of warm shallow waters in both the streams and lakes which favor production of the preferred foods.



“Sometimes while I am watching these birds on the water, the illusion of the untouchability of this wilderness becomes so strong that it is stronger than reality, and the polished roadway becomes the illusion, the mirage that has no substance. The impression of the persistence of the primitive is strongest in those exciting minutes when the birds are observed struggling to outwit their natural enemies or in a competition against one another, themselves oblivious to all but the primeval urge of the moment.” (George Wright, pp. 28-30)

Ben Thompson puts the dilemma eloquently: “In northwestern Wyoming is a land guarded by mountains. It is a wilderness of forest, swamps, and lakes, broken by cliffs and lofty granite spires, and chiseled by crackling ice and the sunny dripping of water. Long river tentacles reach up to this high plateau from different oceans. In winter it is a land of heavy snow and sweeping sleet, and sometimes the night is whiter than day. Then the elk herds drift down from the sage and aspen valleys where the rivers go to warmer levels. The weasels turn white with little black tips, and the snowshoe rabbits have black-edged ears above muffed feet. Sometimes a great gray owl comes softly out of a wet sky. In spring it is a land of mist-blue forests and sparkling lakes. Then summer haze begins to rise from the forest and makes the great mountains look like bluer shadows in a blue sky. Ocean birds come sailing in to nest in unseen swamps. There is the mute whistle of ducks, the call of geese, and the “weer” cry of gulls. The marsh grass grows in seeping ground and the forest blooms; the pond lilies push their soft yellow lamps above water, and sage and lupine bask in the sun.

“Into this land people go for the love of it and to learn its ways. To save this wilderness just as it was ‘for the benefit and enjoyment of the people’, a portion of it was established as Yellowstone National Park.

“Here is a thing so glorious that it threatens to be impossible. How can the secret beauty of wilderness be opened to the people and remain unspoiled?” (Ben Thompson, p. 39)

One report, of interest to Lewis and Clark lovers, I will reproduce whole, as it concerns the bison:



“Bison always have held a unique position among the park animals because of the intensive management necessary to prevent their extermination. Now that their perpetuation is assured, radical changes will be made in the buffalo program.

“In 1900, when a census was taken of the Yellowstone Park herd, 29 were counted and 10 more were estimated, or about a total of 40. In 1902, Congress appropriated \$15,000 to provide for the development of a Yellowstone bison herd. A semidomesticated herd was started with 3 bulls from the



Goodnight herd of Texas, and 18 cows obtained from Conrad Allard in western Montana. It is thought that the wild and tame herds have become one. According to Figgins' speciation, we conclude that the present Yellowstone bison is probably a hybrid of *Bison bison bison* from Texas, *Bison bison septentrionalis* from Montana, and *Bison bison haningtoni*, possibly the mountain form.

"The original nucleus of 21 introduced, in addition to the remaining natives, has produced a total of 2,279 since 1902. Two hundred and ninety-seven have been shipped alive. Six hundred and eighty-two have been slaughtered for meat. Forty-eight outlaws and cripples have been destroyed, and there have been 124 recorded losses from disease.

"Disease loss has been due to hemorrhagic septicemia. Outbreaks of this disease caused a loss of 22 buffalo in 1911; 53 in 1919, and 49 in 1923. Treatment is by vaccination with bacterin provided by the United States Bureau of Animal Industry. A supply is kept on hand in case of further outbreaks and hemorrhagic septicemia is no longer feared. It is estimated that Bang's disease (contagious abortion) affects from 38 to 43 percent of mature animals in the herd. Studies are being conducted to learn more about this disease and its possible effects on the herd. During the 1934 round-up, 84 cows and 4 bulls were tested and branded for identification. Sixty-five percent of the cows and all 4 bulls reacted positively to the test. The same individuals will be observed next winter to determine prevalence and progress of infection, effect on reproduction, period required to attain individual immunity, if any, and probable general effect on the future of the herd.



"There are now 1,128 bison in Yellowstone. It is proposed to reduce the herd to 1,000 owing to the declining carrying capacity of the range with ultimate intent to stabilize it at a number commensurate with normal range production. This situation is complicated because of utilization of this range jointly by wapiti, moose, deer, mountain sheep, pronghorn, and beaver.

"Today the bison of Yellowstone enter upon the third, and it is hoped the final period. In the first period, the bison was practically exterminated. The second period, extending from 1902 to 1929, was devoted to building up a new herd by every means at human command. The third period, which now becomes possible because the park has an adequate herd and the bison has been saved from danger of extinction generally, will be devoted to the task of returning the Yellowstone herd to the wild state insofar as the inherent limitations of the park will permit.

"To this end, castration of bull calves will be discontinued and the existing steers culled out as rapidly as possible. Calves will be permitted to run with the cows through the winter instead of being corralled and fed as formerly. Instead of there being a fall and a spring round-up only one will be held in the

future. Gradual reestablishment of the normal sex ratio of 1 to 1 will be sought. This will limit artificial management of the herd to a single round-up which will be necessary so long as there is a surplus to slaughter, to winter feeding at the Buffalo Ranch which will be necessary so long as the herd must be held within present park boundaries, and to disease prevention and cure. When these things are accomplished there will be once again a wild herd of bison in the United States.

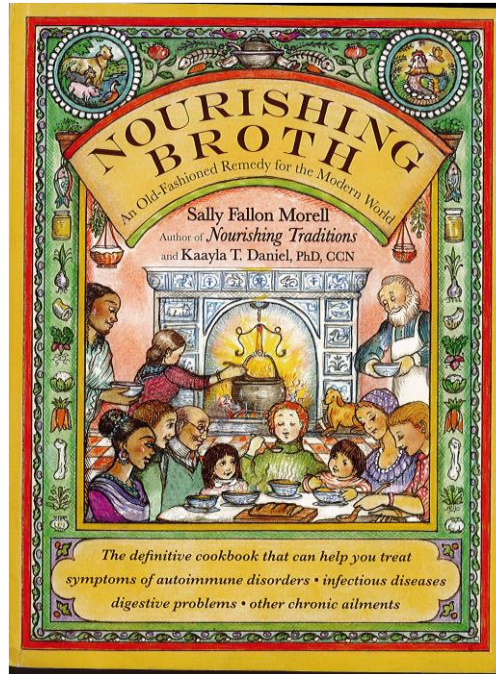
“In conservation of bison, Yellowstone will always be the most important national park in the United States. Glacier might rank second if the proposal to establish a herd which will summer in the park and winter on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation can be realized. A nucleus, including individuals of both sexes and all ages, would be held in a fenced enclosure of approximately one township on tribal lands in the vicinity of Boulder Creek. They would be held there for a period of 1 year to fix them in the habit of homing in this vicinity and then would be released. The Indians would be owners of the buffalo, responsible for their care, and would be entitled to the surplus. The Indian council, suspicious that the real purpose is to deprive them of more of their lands in order to extend Glacier Park, has been unwilling to accept the plan as yet.

“The only other bison to be found in the national parks consist of small exhibits at Wind Cave (maintained by the Biological Survey), at Colorado National Monument, and at Platt. All of these are under fence. They serve a useful purpose in affording to local visitors, who might not otherwise have this experience, the opportunity of seeing bison. They are also additional safety nuclei in case of disaster to the large herds. Under the President’s emergency program the paddock at Platt has been moved to a new location and increased in size so that the herd can be increased from the 5 formerly accommodated to a maximum of 30.” (Wright and Thompson, pp.59-61) -ADW



Bison Mural at Millard Public Library





## **Nourishing Broth: An Old-Fashioned Remedy for the Modern World By Sally Fallon Morell and Kaayla T. Daniel, PhD, CCN**

In the middle of winter, nothing satisfies as well as a hot bowl of soup, so February is a good month to read this book. This helpfully-illustrated tome is divided into three parts: Basic Broth Science (the chemistry), The Healing Power of Broth (applied to specific ailments), and Recipes (150 pages of soups--fish, chicken, pork, beef, etc.). It will have you rethinking the way you approach nutrition. A quote from the Introduction shows how this book applies to Lewis and Clark: Portable Soup!

“Broth would seem to be the least portable of foods, but ‘portable soup’ dates back to the ninth and tenth centuries when Magyar warriors overran Europe. A fourteenth-century chronicle explains how they boiled beef until it fell apart, chopped it up, and dried it so it could be easily transported on horseback. To have broth for dinner, the men simply added hot water. In all probability, our ancestors developed portable soups all over the world in much the same way. Native Americans, for example, most likely made soup from powdered pemmican. Some portable soups, of course, were made of powdered peas, rye, and other grains, legumes, and vegetables, but the most nutritious included meat and/or gelatin.

“In early seventeenth-century England, Sir Hugh Plat came up with instructions for a ‘drie gell...in pieces like mouth glew’ in *Victuall for Warz*. It was made from ‘neat feete & legge of beeff...boiled to a great stiffness.’ In 1743 *Lady’s Companion* described how ‘to make a veal glue or cake soup to be carried in the pocket.’ The recipe involved cooking a gelatinous broth, then boiling it down until it was so concentrated it could be laid out on pieces of fabric. It was then turned until hardened, dry, and stiff enough to be ‘carried in the Pocket without inconvenience.’ Many other cookbooks of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries described how to prepare what was known as ‘veal glew,’ ‘cake soup,’ ‘cake gravey,’ ‘broth cakes,’ ‘solid soop,’ ‘portmanteau pottage,’ ‘pocket soup,’ ‘carry soup,’ and ‘soop always in readiness.’ Eliza Leslie, in her *Directions for Cookery* of 1837, advised, ‘If you have any friends going the overland journey to the Pacific, a box of portable soup may be the most useful present to them.’

“William Byrd II (1674-1744), founder of Richmond, Virginia, advised making portable soup with meat, bones, vegetables, and anchovies boiled down to a viscous mass and then dried in the sun: ‘Dissolve a piece of portable soup in water and a bason of good broth can be had in a few minutes.’ Scottish poet Robert Burns describes hunters carrying portable soup in their packs.

“To successfully make portable soup, cookbook writers were clear: It was necessary to fill the stockpot with plenty of cartilage and connective tissue, which breaks down into gelatin. Without gelatin, there was no way the soup would harden.

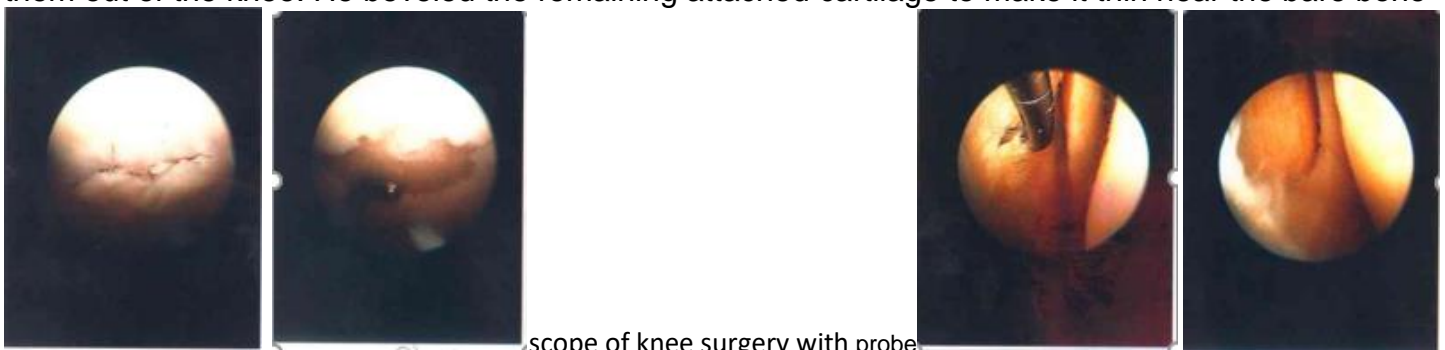
“Portable soups served travelers as well as the military. British ship captain and maritime fur trader Nathaniel Portlock described the use of portable soups on his expeditions in the 1780s. Captain Cook endorsed them because they ‘enable us to make several nourishing and wholesome messes and was the means of making the people eat a greater quantity of vegetables than they would otherwise have done.’ Apparently, the sailors didn’t much like the soup, however, and Cook reportedly flogged men who refused to eat it.

“Meriwether Lewis and William Clark took portable soup on the Corps of Discovery Expedition of 1804-1806, and considered it so essential they went over budget to pay \$189.50 for 193 pounds of dried soup packed in thirty-two tin canisters—like ones used for storing gunpowder, not cans as we think of them today. Lewis and Clark spent more on soup than on instruments, arms, or ammunition. But as their journals made clear, no one much appreciated the dried soup, though it sustained them when there was ‘nothing else to eat.’” (pp. 4-5)

While Sergeant Pryor did have repeated troubles with his dislocated shoulder, the journals may give evidence of some argument for the benefit to the health of the other soldiers from their meat-heavy and frequent meat soup diet. The following is an updated excerpt from the book (p.62), written by my neighbor, orthopedist Dr. Charles Henkel, 83, of Norfolk, Nebraska:

“My knee symptoms came on gradually. For years, I had used a bike for farm shuttling of tractor and truck and more—I pedalled across the pasture, on gravel roads, and on pavement 4½ miles to town to pick up a just-serviced vehicle to bring it back home. By 1994 my knee problems had increased to where the discomfort kept me from riding a bike even a few feet. Orthopedic Surgeon Matthew Reckmeyer, looking at both knees through an arthroscope, could see the usual cartilage covering was gone and the bare bone exposed. My osteoarthritis was already too extensive for one surgical procedure--transfer of plugs of healthy joint cartilage and bone from other parts of the joint. I didn’t want to wait until the symptoms were so bad that I would have to have a total knee replacement.

“Instead, Reckmeyer did some “housecleaning,” by which I mean he trimmed the unstable articular cartilage that was about to fall off around the edges of the exposed bone on multiple areas of the femurs and tibias of both knees. Using a punch, he cut the loose cartilage in small pieces and flushed them out of the knee. He beveled the remaining attached cartilage to make it thin near the bare bone



scope of knee surgery with probe

and thick at its place of full thickness. Next, he drilled down into the part of the bone having a much richer blood supply—a procedure called a “micro-fracture.” The explanation was that a blood clot was desired to form over the bare bone and be maintained temporarily by small vessels growing through the holes made in the cortical bone until it changed into fibrocartilage. The hope was the body’s healing response would result in a layer of scar tissue (fibrocartilage). While that’s a poor substitute for joint cartilage, it is better than nothing. My symptoms improved, but I always had fluid in the knee joints, indicating they were not as well as I could have hoped.

“Then, **about 2012**, my knee symptoms started improving further, and, instead of always having fluid, I seldom had it. When I asked the surgeon if I should thank him for this unexpected recent improvement, he said not at all. He said what he did could at best temporarily lessen symptoms and delay the need for artificial knee joints by months or a few years. What, then, might have caused the change?



“One of my farm activities is raising chickens on pasture, processing, and direct-marketing them. For years we gave away the chicken feet for free, but **in 2012** we began making very thick chicken foot broth for ourselves and adding this to all our soups and stews. Our broth consumption also greatly increased when we began marketing some of our pastured cows as ground beef, thus keeping most of the skeleton for ourselves. We have used all pastured chicken feet and mostly the bones from cattle and sheep, all of which had been entirely pasture/forage fed. When we lost our copious supply of chicken feet broth, we switched to mostly bone broth.



“I got back to using the bike as before and was doing so until perhaps 2019. From then until now (2024), my breathing limitation has kept me from knowing how much the knees could handle.

“I keep up with the broth almost every day. Until two years ago, I had essentially no knee symptoms. I was physically active most all day every day caring for, by myself, 470 acres with cattle herd, sheep flock, laying hens, and the few broilers for our extended family. I heated two homes and one large farm building entirely with the wood I cut and hauled. I did such things as jump over the side of a three-quarter-ton truck to the ground below without bother, but then lecture myself to be thankful for how well the knees were doing and not flaunt it by such abuse. For a couple of years now I have had fluid in the knees much of the time, but not always, and an occasional ache that lasts a day or two.

“There are large studies that claim to show that it is not worth doing what I had done at my degree of severity. It has been over ten years since I submitted the anecdote, with no knee surgery!”

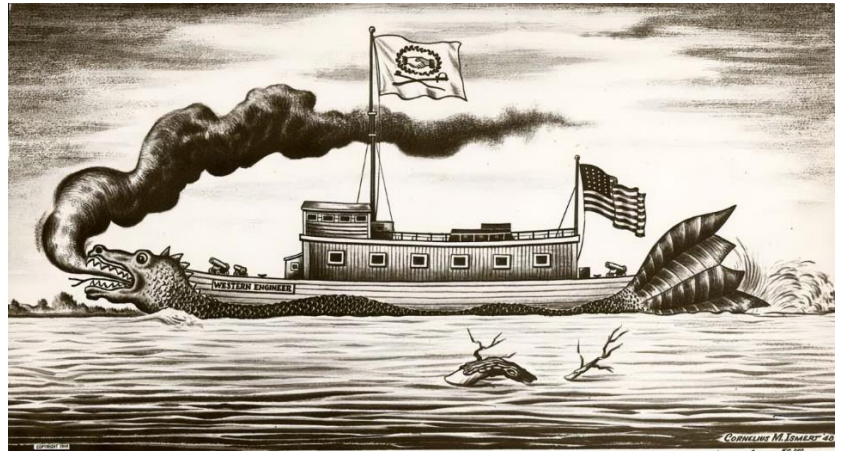
Thanks, Dr. Henkel. That’s powerful testimony for bone broth!

-ADW





Major Stephen H. Long



Western Engineer

## Journal Review

33

### Science and Survival at Engineer Cantonment

Edited by John R. Bozell, Robert E. Pepperl, and Gayle F. Carlson

#### **Part 1 (pages 2-11): Introduction and the Long Expedition (Pepperl and Bozell)**

“The early nineteenth century was an era of pioneering efforts in American continental exploration, featuring large-scale plans generally carried out by mixed parties of military and civilian personnel....These efforts not only set the stage for the expansionist agenda of the mid-to-late nineteenth century, but also contributed to the development of American science....The Long Expedition was part of a much larger military mission initially planned as the Yellowstone Expedition and later renamed the Missouri Expedition when the enterprise’s agenda and scope were reduced....[Major Stephen H.] Long proposed and organized the scientific component, which restarted the program of transcontinental exploration begun by Thomas Jefferson. The expedition set new standards for scientific exploration, helped to develop western-adapted transportation, and provided a model for government surveys of the western lands during the remainder of the nineteenth century. At the encouragement of Long and the American Philosophical Society (APS), the expedition was to include scientific exploration – for the first time using experienced field personnel....Long worked closely with the APS in selecting the scientific crew.” (p. 5)

#### **Part 2 (pages 12-23): The Long Expedition Stay at Engineer Cantonment (Pepperl)**

“The Long Expedition began in Pittsburgh in early May 1819 and over-wintered at Engineer Cantonment on the Missouri River from Sept 17, 1819, to June 6, 1820, while awaiting new orders....On September 19, 1819, the Long Party began construction of their quarters adjacent to a small harbor suitable for mooring their boats for the winter, and near Fort Lisa, the trading post operated by the well-known fur trader Manuel Lisa.” (p. 12) “A series of councils were held at Engineer Cantonment that involved most of the local tribes. A major objective of the expedition was establishing formal governmental contacts with the upper Missouri tribes....

\*On October 3, roughly a hundred Oto and a number of Ioway arrived at Engineer Cantonment. After the leaders were seated, one of the principal chiefs, *Shonga-tonga* (the Big Horse) introduced a series of dances accompanied by native instruments and songs performed to honor the occasion....The council with the Oto continued on October 4, with more than 200 of the three related nations in attendance.” (p. 14)

\*“[On] October 6, about 70 Pawnee...arrived near Engineer Cantonment about noon....The following morning...O’Fallon admonished them to...return [some] stolen items. By the close of the meeting, much of the stolen property had been returned....” (pp. 14-15)

\*On October 11, Major Long left the men with “orders that assigned specific tasks for each of the scientists to carry out over the winter months” and set out to return to Washington. These orders included “examine the country, visit the neighboring Indians, procure animals, &c....In addition, the scientists were to consult Long’s initial orders of the past March, including the objectives and questions provided by the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, and Secretary of War, Calhoun, as well as Jefferson’s instructions to Lewis and Clark.” (pp. 12, 14)

“A third council was held **at Camp Missouri** [emphasis added] on October 14 when 400 Omaha gathered at O’Fallon’s request and chose to air some of their own concerns and grievances....Small groups of individuals from several tribes visited the cantonment on a number of occasions for a variety of purposes.” (p. 15) “Like the Lewis and Clark Expedition before them, the Long Expedition also carried an air gun. Both expeditions employed this unique rifle for demonstrations to impress Native visitors....The Lewis and Clark Expedition used a rifle with an air reservoir in the stock that was pressurized with a hand pump. The Long Expedition likely used a similar gun.” (footnote 12, p. 22)

“Guidelines for Say’s ethnographic work were based primarily on Jefferson’s instructions to Lewis and Clark, along with specific guidance and questions compiled by a committee of scientists at the APS, several of which were physicians....interested in questions concerning diet, disease, and other health-related issues.” (p. 16) “A trek to the Pawnee villages was undertaken by O’Fallon, Dougherty, Graham, Say and a military escort from April 20 until May 6, 1820, and included visits of roughly three days at each of three villages.” (p. 17)

“Say and Peale worked as a team in documenting biological diversity in the cantonment locality....One of the most cited examples of the lengths Say and Peale went to in collecting specimens involves Peale’s numerous attempts to outwit and trap a very wary and crafty ‘prairie wolf’ or coyote....Following eventual capture...Say provided the systematic description and scientific name for this new species that...was not adequately documented by Lewis and Clark to be assigned a formal scientific name.” (pp. 17-18)

They made a number of hunting trips, some involving Natives (pp. 18-20). They exchanged social visits with Camp Missouri and Fort Lisa. While the filthy conditions at Camp Missouri “coupled with a very poor diet...resulted in a scurvy epidemic that ...was fatal for at least 160 men,” Engineer Cantonment avoided that problem. “The diet at Engineer Cantonment also lacked vegetables; however, the scientists had plenty of fresh meat..., which supplied the vitamins needed to avoid scurvy....[T]he successful use of steamboat transportation by the scientists...likely [gave] them an advantage in avoiding the deadly effects of illness and disease that plagued the military branch.” (p. 21)

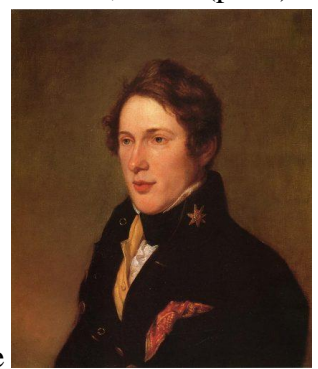
“Long returned from Washington [on May 27] with orders for an unanticipated, revised mission involving a quick journey to the Rocky Mountains,” and the Long Party left Engineer Cantonment on June 6, 1820. (p. 21)



Thomas Say



Titian Peale



### **Part 3 (pages 24-37): Discovering Engineer Cantonment, etc. (Carlson, Pepperl, Bozell)**

“Knowledge of Engineer Cantonment’s whereabouts was lost after its abandonment.” (p. 24) “[I]n 2002-03...two NSHS archeology projects were implemented...in response to a proposed widening of a county road that runs along the base of the Missouri River bluffs....Information obtained from on-the-ground inspections...plus [illustrations by Peale and a contemporary map] reduced the search area to approximately one mile of bluff edge....One location close to the northern edge of a modern quarry was found to match the Peale sketches remarkably well....In April 2003, a mechanical trenching machine ...was brought to the site. Several long trenches were placed....Archeologists...found items, [such as a] brass button and [a] trigger guard....The final preliminary field effort was a geophysical survey (ground penetrating radar and magnetometry).” (p. 25)



**John and Jill Lokke**



**Ravine behind Engineer Cantonment**

**Thanks to John Lokke for sharing the journal from which this summary was taken. John spent his youth exploring the modern quarry that matched the Peale sketches.**

“[During] systematic excavations [in] 2003, 2004, and 2005, [and] follow-up work in 2012, 2013, and 2015,...the NSHS State Archeology Office, with assistance from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Archeological Field School, the University of Nebraska-Kearney, and many dedicated volunteers...focused on the cantonment structural ruin [and discovered] a possible second building site...and an 800-year-old Native American camp....The [whole] site area covers about 3.5 acres.” (pp. 26-27)

Part 3 gives further details of the archeological excavations and the natural features of the site. It describes the horizontal log structures with dual fireplaces likely built at Engineer Cantonment and gives estimates of measurements, relating them to the archeological findings. It includes drawings and an aerial photo of the site with super-imposed feature diagrams. It also speculates about relationships between archeological findings, the use and occupancy of the main structure, and the outdoor activities engaged in by the scientists.

**Part 4 (pages 38-45): Material Recovered from the Archeological Investigation (Bozell, Pepperl, Carlson, Falk, Steinauer)**

Materials recovered from the archeological excavations included “more than 3,700 artifacts, nearly 2,000 identifiable [biological] fragments...and about 600 pounds of limestone and architectural debris..., the most complete collection of Early American period material culture from a very specific time period recovered archeologically anywhere on the Great Plains.” (p. 38) Part 4 includes a summary table and photographs of recovered materials. It also compares these fragments with those found at several contemporaneous sites. Although the similarity of glass fragments, for example, “was not essential to obtain a date of occupation, it does provide further corroborating evidence.” (p. 44) “The faunal collection includes remains from more than sixty taxa of animals...[and] is a diverse assemblage....While much of the recovered animal bone is probably subsistence-related...some could in fact relate to scientific collecting.” (p. 44) “Much of the collection of plant and animal specimens returned to the East Coast by the Long Party has been lost; consequently, some of these archeological items could be the only tangible material remains associated with this very early American natural history study.” (p. 44)



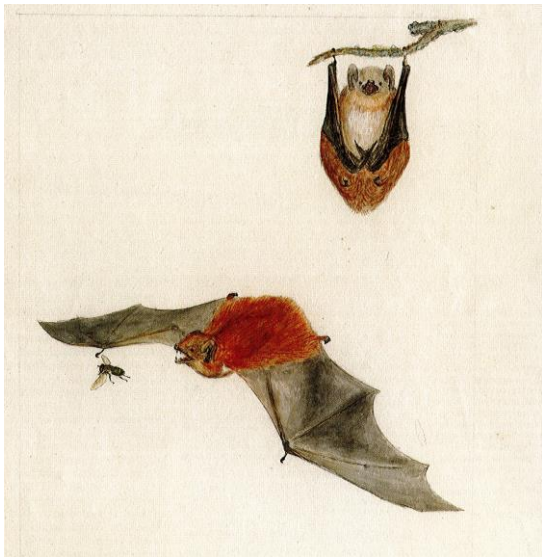


### Part 5 (pages 46-57): Science at Engineer Cantonment (Genoways and Ratcliffe)

“Long’s Expedition was the first party with trained scientists to explore the American West in the name of the United States government....[R]ecent papers conclude that both biologists and historians have missed the most important scientific work of the Long Expedition, which was accomplished during the winter of 1819-1820 at Engineer Cantonment....[T]hey probably gathered as much scientific data during the winter at Engineer Cantonment as they did on the rest of the expedition....This is the first place in America of which we are aware that a party of scientists attempted to produce a complete inventory of the mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, insects, snails, and plants occurring in a limited geographic area....” (p. 46)

“Comparing baseline biodiversity information through time, such as that documented by the Long Expedition at Engineer Cantonment with what we see there today, illustrates changes in habitats and their inhabitants and how or why these changes may have occurred.” (p. 47) “Losses in biodiversity....can be clearly seen at Engineer Cantonment where today’s habitats consisting of urban areas and agriculture are vastly different from the broad floodplain of almost 200 years ago.” (p. 48)

The remainder of Part 5 enlarges on two points: 1) the changes in vegetative growth (wide meadows covered in sedges replaced by trees, cultivation, and urban development), the channelization of the Missouri River, the draining of wetlands, the changes in fire frequency, and the effects of agricultural irrigation; and 2) the number of new species of plants and animals described from the vicinity of Engineer Cantonment. The authors conclude, “We are not aware of another site in North America that was surveyed during the remainder of the nineteenth century with a species richness that even approached [the] 303 species [of Engineer Cantonment]. Most areas during this time were surveyed for a few days and then the field parties moved along....This inventory was completed at a time when the impact of Euroamericans was just beginning.” (pp. 54-55) They conclude with a summons to further research, “Today’s modern inventory is tomorrow’s historical inventory, and so there is still an ongoing need for biodiversity inventories.” (p. 55)



Titian Peale



### Part 6 (pages 58-71): An Engineer Cantonment Bestiary: Art of Titian R. Peale (Genoways & Labedz)

“Beginning in the mid-1950s many of Long Expedition artist Titian Ramsay Peale’s images have come into institutional holdings, particularly the American Philosophical Society, American Museum of Natural History, and Library of Congress, where they have been made freely available to researchers and for exhibitions. This has allowed a rediscovery and reevaluation of Peale’s works....Peale [influenced] John James Audubon, Karl Bodmer, and George Catlin. Each of these men had passed through Philadelphia and visited the Peale Museum examining specimens, sketches, and completed paintings resulting from the Long Expedition prior to their own passage into the west....” (p. 58)

The remainder of Part 6 is a collection of representations of Peale art based on the Long Expedition.

**Part 7 (pages 72-78): Engineer Cantonment and the Archeology of Exploration (Bozell and Pepperl)**

Part 7 points out the unique quality of the archeological research at Engineer Cantonment by mentioning seven other North American expeditions that have seemingly left no archeological trace by the very nature of their being constantly on the move. “Scholars have identified places that expeditions *visited*...[and] facilities that developed *as a result of expeditions*.” (p. 72) They “suggest that Engineer Cantonment may be an entirely unique type of archeological resource. Not only has it been definitely linked to the Long Expedition, but the site retains well-defined and archeologically informative features and material culture.” (pp. 73-74) “In addition, a record of detailed ethnographic information for the previously undocumented Plains tribes was made possible by the extended stay....” (p. 74) The rest of Part 7 is an explanation of further research that is worth pursuing, and how to do it, concluding with the statement, “[Now] that we have a firm location for Engineer Cantonment, the two other ‘missing’ contemporaneous...sites, Cantonment Barbour [1825-1826] and Lisa’s Post [1812-1824], may be somewhat easier to locate.” (pp. 75, 78)

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## Natchez Trace

Fall 2023

**Photos courtesy of Cris & Wryan Wright of Hastings, Nebraska**

When Meriwether Lewis was making his way back to Washington to straighten out the mess concerning his Expedition expenditures, these are some of the scenes he might have encountered (minus the modern bridge!).



**Leiper’s Fork**



**Birdsong Hollow Double Arch Bridge**



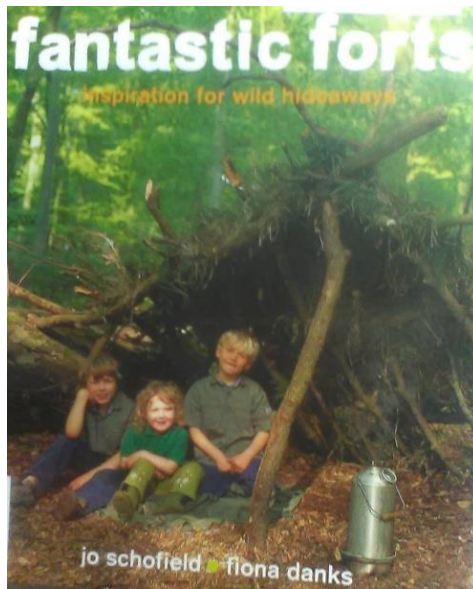


**Baker Bluff Overlook**



**Jackson Falls**





After you visit Butch's fort, make one of your own! This book tells you how. Creative kids are the future of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation!



Lewis & Clark at MRBVC Entrance

*Thanks!*

to Keith Bystrom for  
a generous donation

Congratulations to  
Denna and Lew Massey  
for celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup>  
wedding anniversary!



Doug Friedli, Director, MRBVC



View of fort from MRBVC



View of MRBVC along fort wall

For information contact:  
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dougfriedli@gmail.com  
mobile: 402-873-2215



Website:  
[www.LewisandClarkVisitorCenter.org](http://www.LewisandClarkVisitorCenter.org)  
Address:  
100 Valmont Drive  
P.O. Box 785  
Nebraska City, NE 68410  
Telephone: 402-874-9900

Butch Bouvier has built a winter enclosure so he can keep working inside it through the cold weather. We hope to cut the ribbon on the first of the five Wood River Fort Annex log cabins this year! (See Fort pictures on pages 14-15, and 39 of this newsletter.)

**Here are our events for the next few months:**

**Brown Bagging with the Birds:** Every Friday in February, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

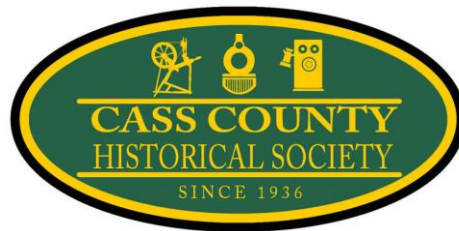
**Native American Artifacts Show:** March 9

**Saturday with a Soldier:** April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 21, October 12

**Business After Hours—Lewis and Clark Birthday Celebration:** Wed., August 14, 5-7 p.m.

**We will be celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024. Save the date! Fri & Sat, August 23-24.**

**Reunion #20/Applejack Festival in Nebraska City:** September 21-22



**From Margo Prentiss, Curator of Cass County Historical Society Museum:** The fund-raising for our new building addition is making good progress. Right now we have \$1,500,000 toward our goal of \$4,000,000. **Here are our events for the next few months:**

**Brown Bag programs** start Tuesday, February 13, and will be held at 12:00 on the second and fourth Tuesdays through May (except for Tuesday, April 9).

**Living History Day** will be Saturday, June 15, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It will be here at the museum. We will have the museum, farm building, shed, log cabin, caboose and pirogue open with various demonstrations. Not everything is lined up yet, but right now we have a quilter, a spinner and a blacksmith. We will have activities for children such as making rag dolls, candle making and playing the Stake of Homestead game. We've done this Living History Day in the past. It was well received and got people into the museum.

**Rock Bluffs School** will be open from 2:00 to 4:00 on July 21 and October 20, both Sundays.

For information contact:  
Amanda Gibson  
Education Coordinator  
lcuser@siouxcitylcic.com  
712-224-5242



Website:  
<https://siouxcitylcic.com/>  
Address:  
900 Larsen Park Road  
Sioux City, Iowa 51103

**Call for info on programs: Percy's Pals, Kids' Club Adventures, Young Historians, Growers' Academy, & Family Camp**

The older I get, the more I value the written word. In previous issues of this Newsletter, I have mentioned my nightly habit of recording a journal entry. In essence, I am writing a book about my life, one day at a time, just as did Lewis, Clark, Floyd, Ordway, Gass, and Whitehouse. As they were back-tracking eastward in 1806, they used their 1805 journals to remind them what to expect, both *around* the next bend and *from* the noteworthy individuals they had met. Even that wasn't foolproof, as Study Group has noticed confusion and inaccuracies in place names, dates, campsite locations, etc. Nevertheless, by referring to their records, the men surely fared better on their return trip than they would have by memory alone.

The return trip was also guided by the geography, which kept the Corps on track. Yet, geography, alone, did not keep every last man of the crew from *MISSING* an entire river system...the Willamette...hidden behind a long island. For that discovery, the Corps needed a guide from among the locals—someone intimately familiar with the landscape. Like Lewis and Clark, we also need “a guide from among the locals” to make significant discoveries on our journey through life.

As an example, I had the privilege of sharing the December MOP Meeting lunch table with Mike Bowman, Della Bauer, and Mary Jo Havlicek. In addition to learning about Mike's personal background (woodworking instructor at all levels—drafting, mechanical drawing, ancient hand tools, fine cabinet making, stairway building, etc.—including a teaching stint at Omaha Tech High School), I learned about Mike's family background. Mike is a sixth generation Plattsmouth resident, and his grandfather also taught woodworking at Omaha Tech H.S. Mike was able to tell me local Lewis and Clark tidbits I had never read in a book. For example, did you know there is a Lewis and Clark survey marker in the [Kenosha Cemetery](#), the oldest cemetery in the state of Nebraska? (Stay tuned for coverage in the May Newsletter!)

I have heard it said that “Every time an old person dies, the death is like having a library burn down.” Each one of us carries unique memories that could be beneficial and instructive to the younger generation. Even better for posterity is the writing down of those memories. While that may create a burden of paper—or electronic records—for one household, the right reader—one who cares—will find life greatly enriched in the future reading. After reading some family letters and papers recently, I was able to explain certain historical facts to one of my sons. He exclaimed, “I always wondered why things happened the way they did!” *Mystery solved.*

So, let's keep hoping that someone, somewhere, made a written record of what they heard and saw along the Natchez Trace (or in the nation's Capital) in October of 1809! See pictures, pp. 37-38. Maybe a definite answer to the mystery of Lewis's death will still turn up!



In this pencil drawing completed by Paul Calle in 1967, President Thomas Jefferson sends his private secretary Meriwether Lewis to lead the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Calle was an artist well-known for his work with the United States Postal Service, for whom he made over 40 pieces of art used on postage stamps.

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[firedogpoet@yahoo.com](mailto:firedogpoet@yahoo.com)



## **Mouth of the Platte Chapter Activities**

### **Weekly:**

#### **Lewis and Clark Study Group**

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

Meets: Every Wednesday, 9-11 a.m.

Primary Location: Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
600 Bluff Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa

Secondary Location:

Sterling Ridge Retirement Community (Theater Room)  
1111 Sterling Ridge Drive (126<sup>th</sup> and Pacific Street)  
Omaha, Nebraska 68144 (402-281-0472)

**Please call Jim before coming. Sometimes we have unexpected last-minute venue changes!**

Contact: Jim Christiansen

### **Monthly:**

#### **MOP Chapter Dinner**

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

Meets: Third Tuesday of the month

February 20: Archeologist Robert Bozell

Topic: Fur Trading Post at Fontenelle Forest

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Location: Council Bluffs Pizza Ranch at Metro Crossing  
3505 Metro Drive (712-256-7701)

Meal: Buffet with Senior Pricing

March 19: Jean-Claude Overstreet

Topic: French-Canadian Voyageurs/Courers du Bois

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

Meal: TBD

April 16: 6 p.m. Jack Christ

Topic: The Louisiana Purchase

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

Meal: TBD

May 21: 6 p.m. TBD

June 18: 6 p.m. TBD

Contact: Don Shippy

#### **MOP Chapter Board Meetings:**

Meets: First Tuesday of the month

March 5: 6 p.m. (Ann's house)

April 2: 6 p.m. (Ann's house)

May 7: 6 p.m. (TBD)

### **Annually:**

#### **June: Lewis and Clark Festival**

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

#### **July: White Catfish Camp Dinner**

**Our Chapter:** See list of Dinner Speakers at left  
<https://www.facebook.com/MouthofthePlatte/>

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### **Other Chapters:**

#### **Sergeant Floyd Tri-State:**

President: Doug Davis

Next meeting: April 2024

#### **Southern Prairie:**

[SouthernPrairie@lewisandclark.org](mailto:SouthernPrairie@lewisandclark.org)

[www.facebook.com/SouthernPrairieRegionLewisandClark](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernPrairieRegionLewisandClark)

President: Dan Sturdevant

**National Organization:** [\(LCTHF Calendar\)](#)

**LCTHF 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting:** September 23-27, 2024

Location: Charlottesville, Virginia

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

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

### **Other Organizations:**

**[Cass County Historical Society Museum:](#)** Tues-Sat 12-4.

Victorian Art (woodburning), John Falter to March 23

Living History Day: June 15, 10-4

Rock Bluff School open: July 21, October 20

**[Durham Western Heritage Museum:](#)** Tu-Sa 10-4. Su 12-4

Photos of Mulehead Ranch: to July 14

[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:](#)** 1<sup>st</sup> weekend each month

**[Historic Downtown Plattsmouth Association:](#)**

[historicdowntownplattsmouth@gmail.com](mailto:historicdowntownplattsmouth@gmail.com)

**[Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center:](#)**

Monday – Saturday 10-4. Sunday – 12-4 pm

Brown Bagging with Birds: Every Friday in Feb. 11-1

Native American Artifacts Show: March 9

Saturday with a Soldier: April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Fri/Sat, August 23-24

**[Mormon Trail Center, Winter Quarters:](#)** M-Sa 10-8, Su 12-8

Pioneer Pathways to Zion, 1846-1890

**[Nebraska History Museum Special Exhibitions:](#)**

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

Piecing together the past: to June 2024

[Villasur Hide Painting Reproduction \(Online only\)](#)

**[Pow Wows in Iowa:](#)** [www.powwows.com](http://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

Siouxland Garden Symposium: March 16, 9-3:30

Jody Lamp: Stories of American Agriculture: March 17, 2-3 p.m.

Young Historians Club (children): April 3, 10, 17, 24 & May 8, 15

**[Sioux City Public Museum:](#)** [Click here for virtual tour](#)

Indian Art of the Northern Plains: to March 3

**[Sgt. Floyd River Museum and Welcome Center:](#)**

[Click here for virtual tour](#)

**[Washington County Museum:](#)** Tues-Fri 9-5. Sat 9-1.

[Click here for virtual tour](#)