CHAPTER HISTORY
MOUTH OF THE PLATTE CHAPTER
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

2001-
- In December 2000, Kira Gale a local historian was looking for someone to study the Lewis and Clark journals edited by Dr. Gary Moulton, of Lincoln, Nebraska with her. Darrel Draper (George Drouillard) was interested in working with her. Within a few weeks they had found a location at Western Historic Trails Center at Council Bluffs, Iowa for a study group to meet.
- January--The first study group meeting was January 9th. It was an organizational meeting to study the journals every Tuesday morning for two hours. There were 14 in attendance. During the month there were 3 study group sessions, and a field trip to Joslyn Art Museum to view some of the Carl Bodmer paintings owned by the museum.
- February--During the month, there were 3 study group sessions, and a dinner meeting. Ron Laycock, Board of Directors member of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation in Great Falls, Montana, was the guest speaker. There was a discussion about forming a Lewis and Clark chapter. The meeting was held at Tish’s Restaurant in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The officers for the Chapter would be: Kira Gale, President and Co-Captain; Darrel Draper, Vice President and Co-Captain; June Kent, Secretary; Robert Hasbroock, Treasurer; and Bob Hastert, Program Chair.
- March--The month was busy with 3 study group meetings, and a field trip to Onawa, Iowa to see the keelboat Butch Bouvier had built, and then to Sioux City, Iowa where Bev Hinds was tour guide to Lewis and Clark sites in that area. The March dinner meeting was an organizational meeting for the chapter. The 19th was also the deadline for naming the ASARCO site, a lead refinery by the Missouri River, closed in 1997. The chapter needed a name. Bob Hastert’s choice of *Mouth of the Platte Chapter* was adopted by members of the group.
- April was a busy month with 3 study group sessions, and 2 field trips. One trip was the National Council Tour of local Lewis and Clark sites, lead by Kira Gale. The other trip was to Nebraska City, Nebraska to visit with Doug Friedli, Co-Chair of the Missouri River Basin Chapter, in Nebraska City. The guest speaker for the monthly dinner meeting, at Caniglia’s Restaurant in Omaha, Nebraska, was Gerard Baker, Superintendent of Lewis and Clark Projects of the National Park Service—“Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future”.
The chapter was involved with Earth Day at Elmwood Park, selling chapter merchandise, and manning a petition signing booth for naming the ASARCO site.

- **May**—There were three study group sessions following the Expedition up the Missouri River.
  On the 7th of the month, petitions for naming the river site were delivered to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting.
  May’s dinner meeting speaker was Darrel Draper telling of “Nebraska: Crosswords of the Fur Trade.”
  Kira Gale organized a bus trip to the St. Louis, Missouri area and to take part in the Lewis and Clark Festival at St. Charles. She was the tour guide. Eleven members enjoyed this trip the St. Louis.
  On May 22nd, numerous Chapter members visited the Omaha City Council in regards to naming the lead refinery site.

- **June**—There were 3 study group meetings.
  Some attended the Lewis and Clark Keelboat Festival in Onawa, Iowa.
  At the monthly dinner meeting, Doug Friedli, of the Nebraska City Chapter, was the guest speaker. His topic was: “The New Visitor’s Center on the Bluff Overlooking the Missouri River”.
  On the 19th, the first issue of the Chapter’s newsletter “Upper Missouri Times” was printed.
  Chapter members encouraged and led by Bob Hastert attended an Omaha City Council Meeting to again discuss the naming of the riverfront plaza. Numerous articles to the editor of the Omaha World Herald appeared in the paper about naming the plaza, both for and against.
  From June 30 to July 2, there was a canoe trip on the Upper Missouri river lead by Darrel Draper.

- **July**—On July 13th, Chapter application and by-laws were mailed to National Headquarters in Great Falls, Montana.
  On July 17th, a very controversial issue was discussed again at the Omaha City Council about the name for the ASARCO site.
  Butch Bouvier was the speaker at the dinner meeting with his topic being “Just How Do You Move 13 Tons of Oak Upstream With Out an Engine”.
  There was also a field trip to the White Cat Fish Festival, and the Platte River lead by Kira Gale.
  On July 24, 2001, Rick Ruggles, Omaha World-herald staff writer reported the following: In a brief announcement in Mayor Mike Fahey’s office, two City Council members and a labor leader signed off on the name of the 23 acre riverfront plaza. The plaza on the old ASARCO refinery site Monday officially was named *Lewis and Clark Landing*.

- **August**—At the National Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation in Pierre, South Dakota the Chapter was officially
recognized as a chapter. Nine chapter members attended the Annual Meeting.
At the chapter's dinner meeting, Bill Lutz, of the National Park Service, spoke of “The Mandan-Welsh Connection”.
- **September**—There were 2 study group gatherings. Dick Williams, Trail Manager of the National Park Service, spoke about “Trails and Markers of the Expedition” at the dinner meeting.
- **October**—There were 4 study group sessions.
The speaker for the dinner meeting was Ron Hull, Chairperson of the Nebraska Lewis and Clark Commission. His topic was “Proceeding On...Nebraska’s Signature Event in 2004”.
The Mouth of the Platte Chapter’s incorporation papers were filed with the State of Nebraska.
Charter of the Mouth of the Platte Chapter, a chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. was formed on the 22nd day of October, 2001.
- **November**—There were 3 study group sessions.
A field trip took chapter members on a “Lewis and Clark Camp Sites and Wild Goose Chase Tour” which was led by Kira Gale and Darrel Draper.
At the dinner meeting, the speaker was Dean Christiansen, a water well contractor, spoke about “Canoeing on the Missouri: From Montana to Illinois on the Muddy Missouri River”.
The Chapter now has its own internet site: [www.mouthoftheplatte.org](http://www.mouthoftheplatte.org).
- **December**—There were 2 study group sessions.
The dinner meeting speaker was Orville Menard, Professor Emeritus, University of Nebraska at Omaha, with the subject ”The Mysteries of the Corps of Discovery”.
- **Since March**, each month had a Board of Directors Meeting.
Bob Pawloski and Bob Hastert were advisors to the Nebraska Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission.

2002—
- **January**—The month was busy with 3 study group sessions, and a field trip to Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha, Nebraska.
The speaker for the month’s dinner meeting was Hal Stearns, national speaker for the Lewis and Clark adventure. Two grant applications were submitted to the Challenge Cost Share Program. They were (1) Lewis and Clark Signage for Nebraska-Iowa Trail, and (2) book proposal project on “Handssom Praries and Bald-Pated Hills on the Lewis and Clark Trail.”
- **February**—During the month there were 3 study group classes.
At the dinner meeting, Larry Foster, Acting director of Omaha Parks and Recreation Department, and Katie Blesener, of the Big Muddy Workshop, gave an update on the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Master Plan for the Riverfront Trail.
The following were elected to the Board of Directors for 2002 remained the same: Kira Gale, President; Darrel Draper, Vice President; June Kent, Secretary; Bob Hasebroock, Treasurer, and Bob Hastert, Program Chair.

- **March**—The dinner meeting speaker was Darrel Draper as “George Drouillard-Hunter, Interpreter and Indian Sign-Talker for the Corps of Discovery” in first person and in costume.

  There were 3 study group sessions.

- **April**—The study group members went to St. Joseph, Missouri to learn about the history of the city and visited a museum. There were also 3 study group sessions in the class room.

  For the monthly dinner meeting on 15th Ann Addison, Cliff Dorsey, and Melissa Langston spoke about “Discover the Whole New World of GPS (Global Positioning by Satellite).”

- **May**—There were 3 study group classes for the month. There was also a field trip to the Omaha Zoo.

  The dinner meeting speaker Jeannine Nauss, U.S. Corps of Engineers’ Official Representative to the U.S. Bicentennial, and Gerard Baker spoke about “A Tale of Two Corps.”

- **June**—There weren’t any study group sessions this month.

  The Mouth of the Platte Chapter had a booth at the Lewis and Clark Festival in Onawa, Iowa selling Corps merchandise and books. A number of members helped sell, and also attended some of the historical classes.

  At the monthly dinner meeting, Ann Addison spoke of her adventures as videographer on a trip from Fort Randall, South Dakota to Sioux City, Iowa—imitating Lewis and Clark—in “Return of the White Pirogue” built by Butch Bouvier.

- **July**—A large number attended White Cat Fish Camp at the Western Historic Trails Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

  At the monthly dinner meeting Wynema Morris, a member of the Omaha tribe, presented a program detailing the part Omahans played in the Lewis and Clark journey was the guest speaker. She also spoke of Crouzatte and LaBiche of the Expedition.

- **August**—Six members of the Mouth of the Platte Chapter attended the Annual Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky.

  The speaker for the August dinner meeting was Dan Johnson, retired history teacher, as Meriwether Lewis. He was dressed in deer hide costume and was accompanied by a ‘talking’ mannequin in military uniform (William Clark).

- **September**—There were 3 study group sessions.

  Dr. Gary Moulton was the speaker for the dinner meeting. He told the story of editing the journals in “I Proceeded On.”

- **October**—The dinner meeting speaker at Caniglia’s Restaurant, was the Chapter’s own Dr. Carl Camp speaking about the “Voyages of
Discovery"—comparing the journeys of Christopher Columbus and
Lewis and Clark.
There were 3 study group gatherings.
Chapter membership was 192.

- **November**—During the month there were 4 study group sessions.
Jim Morley, representing Washington County Historical Association,
spoke at the dinner meeting about the subject—"A Tale of Two
Campsites" or "How Kanesville Could Have Been Renamed Council
White Catfish."
On November 21, the space shuttle, Endeavour, had two special pieces
of cargo on board to the ISS, International Space Station. This cargo
was a large Jefferson Peace medal, and a small 15 star, 15 stripe flag
from the closing dinner of the Annual Meeting at Louisville, Kentucky
in August. Dr. Bob Phillips, an astronaut in training, arranged for the
medal and flag to go up in space. The Mouth of the Platte Chapter
sponsored the flag for the Foundation.

- **December**—The speaker for the December dinner meeting at Caniglia's
Restaurant was Judi Morgan Gaiashkibos spoke of "Lewis and Clark:
Epic Adventure or Legacy of Destruction."
There were 2 study group gatherings for the month.

- **There was a Board of Directors meeting each month of the year.
Year end membership was 192.

2003—

- **January**—There were 3 study group sessions.
At the monthly dinner meeting speaker Fr. Thomas J. Coenen presented
"The Life and Times of Jean Baptiste Charbonneau—Sometimes Known
as Pomp or Pompy."

- **February**—There were 3 study group classes in February.
The speaker for the dinner meeting was Dale Clark as "Patrick Gass".
His faithful Newfoundland companion, Sailor Seaman Clark
accompanied him to the dinner, where he was the center of attention.
There was the yearly election of officers this month also. They were
Kira Gale, President; Father Tom Coenen, Vice President; Secretary,
Esther Bender; Bob Hasebrooch, Treasurer; and Bob Hastert, Program
Chairperson.

- **March**—During March there were 3 study group periods.
The speakers for the monthly dinner meeting were Jeanine Wehrbein,
one of the founders of the Shallow River Society, and Jim Swenson of
the Nebraska Games and Park Commission: Plattsmouth Overlook.

- **April**—During the month there were 4 study group gatherings.
The dinner meeting speaker for the month was Donna Goodier, Director
of the South Sioux City, Nebraska Convention and Visitors Bureau. She
told how her employer will participate in the Bicentennial
Commemoration.
May--May 3rd was the Dedication of Lewis and Clark Landing, and the Mouth of the Platte Chapter's Nebraska State Historical Society marker. Five members of the Chapter took part in unveiling the marker. The Mouth of the Platte Chapter along with the Douglas County Historical Society sponsored Captain Peyton (Bud) Clark visit for the weekend to Omaha. Captain Clark was attired in his 1803 US Army dress uniform.

June--There were 2 study group sessions in June. William Kloekorn, professor emeritus of English at Nebraska Wesleyan, was the dinner meeting speaker on June 17th. He talked about his book "Patrick Gass, Chief Carpenter".

July--Study group classes were cancelled for the summer. On July 15, the dinner meeting speaker was Dr. Robert Phillips of Colorado State University. His topic was "Lewis and Clark and Astronauts: Both Paving the Way for the Future." (Dr. Phillips was scheduled for a space mission when a heart problem was detected and he was grounded for the mission). Later in the month, numerous Chapter members took part in White Cat Fish Living History Weekend at the Western Historic Trails Center at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

August--The Council Bluff Festival at Fort Calhoun, Nebraska was held the first weekend in August. The First Council sculptures were dedicated. Many ate dinner and enjoyed birthday cake to celebrate William Clark's birth later in the evening. Ten chapter members attended the Annual Meeting from August 10 to 13 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Drs. Doug Parks and Bob Phillips presented the Jefferson Peace Medal, and the 15 star, 15 stripe flag flown on the space shuttle Endeavour, last November, to members of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation where it is available for viewing. On August 19, the dinner meeting was on a river boat. Matthew "Sitting Bear" Jones' topic was "Where Have All the Otoes Gone? The Other side of the Story."

Membership was 215 at end of month.

September--The study group classes started again with 3 for the month. At this time, the group was studying and discussing Volume 4 by Dr. Gary Moulton. On the 16th, Jim Peterson of the Yankton, South Dakota area was a most interesting speaker telling the story of the Big Muddy River—'How did the Missouri River Flow 200 Years Ago.'

October--Jeff Olson, Public Information Officer for the National Park Service, was speaker for the monthly dinner meeting. He told about events for 2003 and 2004 along the Trail. There were 3 study group sessions.

On October 25, 2003 Kira Gale resigned from the presidency and Board of Directors because of health issues. Father Tom Coenen was elected president, and Bob Pawloski as vice president to serve until the next regular election in February 2004.
Membership at the end of October was 217.

- **November**—For the month there were 3 study group gatherings. The dinner meeting speaker on the 18th, was Dr. Paul Johnsgard, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. His topic was ‘A Natural History of Lewis and Clark on the Plains’.

  A musical, *Lewis and Clark, Part I. Manifest Destiny* was performed at Creighton University on November 13-16 and November 20-23.

- **December**—There were 2 study group sessions for the month.

  On December 16, Reverend Don Doll, Society of Jesus, of Creighton University, discussed the November musical held at Creighton University, and his photography involved with the musical.

  Kira Gale and Darrel Draper were presented awards from the Chapter for the foresight and service to the Chapter.

  **There was a Board of Directors Meeting each month.**

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**2004**

- **January**—The study group began Volume 5 of the Dr. Moulton journals. There were 2 study group gatherings.

  Nancy Hoch spoke about “Big Things Building at Nebraska City” for the monthly dinner meeting.

- **February**—There were 3 study group meetings.

  At the dinner meeting, Vic Gutman, president of Vic Gutman and Associates, activity and site planner in Omaha, discussed the July 31 – August 3 Lewis and Clark Signature Event.

  The election of officers was held with Father Tom Coenen, President; Bob Pawloski, Vice President; Esther Bender, Secretary; Bob Hasebroock, Treasurer; Bob Hastert, Program Chair; and Mary Lou Larson, Editor.

- **March**—Four study group sessions met for the month.

  From March 5 – 14, a theatrical show called *Sacagawea* at Omaha Theatre Company.

  On March 16, Ron Laycock, President of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, gave his perspective on “200 Years of Lewis and Clark.”

  On March 20, many Chapter members attended the Lewis and Clark Family Event at Fontenelle Forest.

  Dayton Duncan spoke at Joslyn Castle on March 29th on “What Lewis and Clark Means to America.”

- **April**—There were two study group meetings, and a field trip on April 13 to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri to view “George Catlin and His Indian Gallery”.

  At the dinner meeting, on April 20th, Joni Baillon, of the Omaha Parks and Recreation Department gave ideas and views of the entire Riverfront Trail with eight 14 feet tall sculpture icons reflecting the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

- **May**—There was one study group meeting.
On May 14, many members of the Chapter attended a first day ceremony for the three Lewis and Clark stamps issued by the US Postal Service, at Lewis and Clark Landing.

At the dinner meeting on May 18th, the Mouth of the Platte Chapter’s Signage Committee spoke of the eight 14 feet tall sculpture icons at sites on the Nebraska-Iowa Riverfront telling about the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

- **June**—Numerous members of the Chapter attended the Lewis and Clark Festival at Onawa, Iowa.
  
The dinner meeting speaker for the month was Dr. William Locke, from Hastings College. His topic was “Was Old Toby Really Lost?”

- **July**—James Rhonda professor of Western American history at the University of Tulsa presented a lecture at Joslyn Art Museum on July 10th. Many members attended.
  
The Grand Opening of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Icon dedication was July 19 at Miller’s Landing.
  
The dinner meeting speaker on July 20th was Bat Schanatona whose great, great, great grandfather was a member of the Otoe-Missouri “reception committee” at the First Tribal Council.

On July 23rd-25th, White Catfish Weekend was at Western Historic Trails Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Six Lewis and Clark lecturers and Winnebago dancers were part of the program.

On July 27th, there was an opportunity to “Walk with Captain Clark” at Lewis and Clark Landing, the 200th anniversary of William Clark coming ashore in the area of today’s downtown Omaha.

Corps II: National Park Service Traveling Exhibit “Tent of Many Voices” was located at Rick’s Boatyard Café at Lewis and Clark Landing on July 24 to 27. There were a river cruise and dinner, and Peyton “Bud” Clark was guest and speaker.

On July 29th, the Mouth of the Platte Chapter hosted a picnic and party for the crews of the keelboat and pirogues of the Discovery Expedition at NP Dodge Park.

On July 30th, members of the Chapter were “ambassadors” for the grand opening of the Nebraska City Interpretive Center.

- **August**—Many attended the July 31 – August 3 Signature Event at Fort Atkinson State Park at Fort Calhoun, Nebraska. William Clark’s birthday was also celebrated on August 1st.

Mouth of the Platte Chapter won the Outstanding Chapter Award at the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting at Bismarck, North Dakota. Nine members from the Chapter were in Bismarck to receive this award.

Bat Shunatona was the monthly dinner meeting speaker and his topic was “Granddad Was There to Meet Them.”

A number of Chapter members attended the Sgt. Floyd Burial Ceremony in Sioux City, Iowa on August 20th.

Chapter membership totals 212.
September--An authority about birds on the plains, Neal Ratzlaff showed slides about his subject “Black Woodpeckers, Butterboxes and Buffalo Pickers” at the dinner meeting.

October--The study group classes started with sessions reading and discussing volume 6 of Dr. Gary Moulton’s journals. Drs. Robert and Anne Diffendal, historians and geologists, spoke about “Nebraska/Iowa Vistas of Lewis and Clark” at the dinner meeting on October 19th.

November--There were 4 study group meetings. The dinner meeting speaker on November 16th was Stephen E. Adams, National Part Service Superintendent of the Lewis and Clark National History Trail. He spoke about “Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow”—what was expected during the reminder of the Bicentennial Commemoration.

December--There was one study group meeting. “The Music Behind the Musical Lewis and Clark: Manifest Destiny” was discussed by Frederick Hanna, Creighton University. He talked about writing, casting, and producing the musical.

**Each month had a Board of Directors Meeting.

2005--

January--The study group sessions started with Volume 7 of the journals. There were 4 study group meetings during the month. Pat Slaven was the speaker at the monthly dinner meeting on January 18. Her topic was “The Riverfront Trail and Icons.

February--There were 3 study group classes in February. Father Tom Coenen was the speaker for the dinner meeting. His topic was “Sacagawea’s Baby Will Be 200 Years Old.” Everyone was treated to birthday cake in memory of Pompy, Sacagawea’s baby. There was also a raffle to benefit the Omaha Indian School. There was an election of officers. The following were elected: Bob Pawloski, President; Stu Lynn, Vice President; Sharon Draper, Secretary; and Bob Hasebrook, Treasurer.

March—This month had 4 study group sessions. Darrel Draper spoke at the dinner meeting on March 15. His subject was “George Drouillard is Alive and Well.”

April—On April 1, the Mouth of the Platte Chapter co-hosted an informal dinner party for Peyton “Bud” Clark at the Omaha Press Club. There were 3 study group meetings for the month. KC Collins Hummel, Western Historic Trails Center director, spoke of the Lewis and Clark programs at the facility. There was also another raffle to benefit the Omaha Indian School at the dinner. On April 22nd and 23rd, the keelboat stopped at Omaha on its return to St. Louis, Missouri. Many chapter members dined with the crew on its trip south.

May--There were 2 study group classes in May.
On May 7, there was a regional meeting for the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation held at the National Park Service in Omaha, Nebraska.

At the monthly dinner meeting, on May 17th, Nancy Hoch from the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitors Center in Nebraska City spoke of the problems and successes the Center had experienced in its first year.

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June--There weren’t any study group sessions during the summer. David Hendee, Omaha World Herald reporter, discussed his coverage of the Lewis and Clark Commemoration from the first Signature Event at Monticello in 2003 at the June 21st dinner meeting. The 3rd raffle to benefit the Omaha Indian School was also held.

Some attended the Lewis and Clark Festival at Onawa, Iowa. Father Tom Coenen, Bob Hastert, and Esther Bender, three former officers of the Chapter were presented framed prints of the Lewis and Clark Trail in appreciation for their dedication to the Chapter.

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July--Caniglia’s Restaurant was closing, and the Chapter had to find a new location for its monthly meetings. A committee was set up to find a new location.

The speaker for the July meeting was Carol Brochmann. She shared her educational and travel opportunities while working as a consultant to the National Elderhostel Office, and the programs along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

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August--Five Chapter members attended the annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon from August 6 thru 10.

The Chapter dinner meeting was a picnic on August 16th at Western Historic Trails Center. Bev Hinds was the speaker for this outing and dinner. She spoke about Sacagawea and the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The dinner was catered from Mortensens.

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September—The monthly dinner meetings have a new location--Riverside Grille, in Council Bluffs, Iowa. (One of the Lewis and Clark icons is located here).

On September 20, Carl Camp’s topic was “Whatever Happened to Lewis’ Iron Boat?”

A survey to help direct the Chapter was sent out earlier in the month to be returned by dinner meeting time.

Study group members started on Volume 8 of the Dr. Moulton journals and there were 3 sessions for the month.

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October—There were 3 study group meetings.

A field trip to Glenwood, Iowa to view an earth lodge, and see the Donald Jackson books at the local library was enjoyed.

Steve Witte of the Joslyn Art Museum was the speaker for the dinner meeting. He spoke about Prince Maximilian’s travels to North America, 1832-1834.

Chapter members learned Fort Clatsop had been destroyed by fire on October 3rd.
November—There were 4 study group meetings.
Mary Gunderson was the guest speaker at the dinner meeting. She spoke about “Food Fueled This Journey: Cooking with Lewis and Clark.” Her cookbook was available for sale. She coined the word *Paleocuisineology* for work in food, culture, and history. There was a silent auction also.

December—There were 2 study group classes. Mary Green Vickery from Vermillion, South Dakota performed with “Songs Lewis and Clark Might Have Sung.” There was also a silent auction this month for fund raising.

**There was a Board of Director Meeting each month.
Membership at the end of 2005 was 194.**

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2006—

January—Study group members decided to select their own topics for presentation. There were 4 sessions of various subjects during January. The dinner meeting was January 17th, with Jeff Troupe, a member of the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles, Missouri portraying Private George Gibson.

February—During the month there were 3 study group meetings. The dinner meeting speaker on February 21 was Ron Hull, chairperson of Nebraska’s Lewis and Clark Bicentennial who spoke about Lewis and Clark activities in 2006. The following were elected to the Board of Directors for the Chapter: Bob Pawloski, president; Della Bauer, vice president; Sharon Draper, secretary; Don Shippy, treasurer; and Mary Lou Larson, assistant secretary.

March—There were 3 study group meetings. The monthly dinner meeting was cancelled because of inclement weather.

April—There were 4 study group sessions. Laurie Larson discussed the Shannon Trail.

May—For the month there were 2 study group classes. At the dinner meeting, Bob Pawloski’s topic was “Keeping Up with Lewis and Clark on the Web.” The chapter continued to sell clothing, uncirculated nickels, and books at the dinner meetings.

June—13 members went to Lewis and Clark Festival Days at Onawa, Iowa. Hans Heynau was the main speaker, and told of Celestial Navigation of the Lewis and Clark Trail

July—A large number of members attended White Cat Fish Weekend at Western Historic Trails Center in July. Forty members remained to attend the picnic on Saturday evening, July 22nd.

August—The dinner meeting was held at the Durham Western Heritage Museum, with Mick Hale discussing Lewis and Clark memorabilia.
A representative from the Omaha World Herald presented the Mouth of the Platte Chapter a plaque for partnering for education with the newspaper, *Newspaper in Education*.

On the 22nd, the chapter helped host the Flight of Discovery at Western Historic Trails Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

- **September**—The dinner meeting was a picnic with Captain Bud Clark and the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles on their return trip to St. Louis, Missouri.

From September 18 thru 24, seven members attended the Annual Meeting, and Signature Event at St. Louis, Missouri.

- **October**—There were 3 study group sessions.

Tim Cowman, geologist from the University of South Dakota, was the dinner speaker. His lecture was about the “River Morphology and the Dynamic Missouri River.”

- **November**—There were 3 study group meetings.

Dr. Gary Moulton was the month’s dinner meeting speaker: *Research Impact of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial*.

The Missouri Valley History Conference planners had invited the Mouth of the Platte members to speak at the conference in March 2007.

- **December**—There was one study group meeting.

There was a field trip to Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha, to view Catlin paintings of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

At the Christmas buffet on December 17th, Bob Pawloski was the speaker: Pics from *Currents of Change Signature Event-Final Signature Event of the Bicentennial*.

**A Board of Directors Meeting each month continued.**

2007—

- **January**—There were 3 study group sessions, and a field trip to Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha, Nebraska.

Dick Williams, formerly from the National Park Service, spoke of the *Reflections on the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial*. The meeting was at the Riverside Grille in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

- **February**—This month had three study group sessions.

The dinner meeting speaker was Stan Wostrel: Stories and Pictures from *Clark on the Yellowstone*. It was also Memorabilia Night with newspaper articles, and items gathered along the Trail for the Bicentennial. Forty one attended this dinner meeting. The election of officers was delayed until September.

- **March**—There were 3 study group meetings.

Darrel Draper was the dinner meeting speaker. His lecture was about *Celestial Navigation*. Thirty six dinners were served.

Mouth of the Platte Chapter members volunteered at the Missouri Valley History Conference at the Embassy Suites in downtown Omaha. Dr. Carl Camp and Stu Lynn were speakers at this conference.

- **April**—There were 3 study group sessions.
Six chapter members attended the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation’s Regional Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, hosted by the Missouri-Kansas River Bend Chapter.

Dr. Robert Miller, professor at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, was the guest speaker on Sunday, April 15th for the dinner meeting. His topic was: Native America, Discovered and Conquered.

- May—This month had 2 study group sessions.
  Jack Christ was the speaker for the monthly dinner meeting. He spoke about “Reading Between the Lines of the Lewis and Clark Journals.”
- June--Numerous members volunteered for National Trails Day on June 2nd at icons along the river.
  Many Chapter members went to the Onawa, Iowa for the Lewis and Clark Festival. There was a memorial for “Buffalo” Bill Sanders. There wasn’t a dinner meeting this month.
- July—On July 21st and 22nd, many Chapter members attended White Cat Fish Weekend at the Western Historic Trails Center. On Saturday evening, July 21st, there was a picnic for 34 attendees. Birthday cake was available for all after dinner.
- August--From August 5th through 7th, eight Chapter members attended the Annual Meeting in Charlottesville, Virginia. Kira Gale received the 2007 Meritorious Achievement Award from the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation at this meeting. Marge Bibeaux spoke about Native American Culture and appaloosas at the August dinner meeting. The Chapter received a 2007 award for partnering with the Omaha World Herald’s Newspaper in Education.
- September—There were three study group sessions.
  Dan Wiley, of the National Park Service, spoke about “Protecting the Resources/Preserving the Story—the Proposed Highwood Coal Power Plant” (in Great Falls, Montana area) at the dinner meeting for the month, on September 18th.
  There was an election of officers for the coming year: Della Bauer, president; Carl Camp, Vice president; Don Shippy, Secretary; Mary Holoun, Secretary; Mary Langhorst, assistant secretary; and Bob Pawloski, past president.
- October--There were three study group meetings in October.
  Dr. Don Hickey, history professor at Dana College in Blair, Nebraska, portrayed Alexander Hamilton. A question and answer period followed the lecture.
- November--There were three study group sessions.
  For the dinner meeting, Mike Bowman, a member of Discovery Expedition of Saint Charles and Chapter member, talked of October on the River with DESC. There were 52 guests for dinner.
- December—For the month, there were 3 study group classes.
  At the monthly dinner meeting, Dr. Ed Zinizzas, history professor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, was the speaker. He spoke of Honoring the Native American Culture.
Board of Directors Meeting each month.

2008—

- January—Starting this month a financial report will be printed and included in the quarterly Chapter newsletter to clarify information to the members.
  In January there were 2 study group classes.
  At the dinner meeting on January 15th, thirty nine guests heard Kira Gale present: Meriwether Lewis' Death Conspiracy Theory.
- February—The month had three study group meetings. Eighteen members celebrated the 7th birthday of the study group. There was a birthday cake and photo opportunity for the occasion.
  It was Memorabilia Night with a raffle at the dinner meeting. The guests enjoyed a birthday cake for Pompys' 203rd birthday.
  Harriet Otis, an Omaha artist, gave a print called the Lewis and Clark Expedition at the Confluence of the Platte and Missouri Rivers to the Mouth of the Platte Chapter in 2002. The print was framed and placed on loan to the Western Historic Trails Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa.
  An Incoming Loan Agreement was signed on February 19, 2008 by KC Hummel, manager of the Western Historic Trails Center, and Della Bauer, president of the Mouth of the Platte Chapter.
- March—There were 3 study group sessions.
  Ron Gravais, Lakota artist, spoke about: Native American Perspective Through Art. Some of his art was on display, and bought by members attending the dinner.
  Chapter membership totals 111 members.
- April—Study group classes totaled three this month.
  Dr. Michael Tate, history professor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha discussed his book Indians and Immigrants: Encounters on the Overland Trail at the monthly dinner meeting.
- May—There were two study group meetings.
  Andrew Peters, local artist, presented a lecture about Carl Bodmer on the Missouri River in the Omaha/Council Bluffs area.
- June—Eight members volunteered for National Trails Day on June 7th.
  Boy Scouts from a local troop handed out brochures at several icons along the Riverfront. Five days after Trails Day, a tornado killed four Boy Scouts at a camp north of Council Bluffs, Iowa. One of the boys killed had accumulated service hours at the icon at the Western Historic Trails Center.
  Numerous members of the Chapter attended the Lewis and Clark Festival at Onawa, Iowa.
- July—Some chapter members attended Reunion #1 at the Missouri River Basin Interpretive Center at Nebraska City on July 19 and 20. Neal Ratliff, of the Mouth of the Platte Chapter, presented a power point
presentation about birds of the Lewis and Clark Expedition after the dinner on Saturday evening.

On July 26 and 27, Mouth of the Platte Chapter members attended White Cat Fish Camp at the Western Historic Trails Center. A picnic followed with 40 dining together.

Mary Holoun has resigned as secretary for personal reasons. Mary Langhorst will fill this vacancy.

- **August**—For the dinner meeting in August, Carl Camp led a discussion and PowerPoint presentation at the Chapter Strategic Planning Meeting: *Thinking About the Future*.

The Chapter received the 2008 award for being involved with the Omaha World Herald in *Newspaper in Education*.

- **September**—This month had two study group sessions. Ten Chapter members attended the Annual Meeting in Great Falls, Montana. Each board member was given a copy of the Chapter Operating Guide, obtained at the Annual Meeting in Great Falls in August.

The dinner meeting was a Strategic Planning Meeting, and an election of officers. The following were elected as officers: Della Bauer, president; Carl Camp, vice president; Don Shippy, treasurer; Mary Langhorst, secretary; and Bob Pawloski, past president.

Total Chapter members: 97.

- **October**—There were 3 study group sessions.

Carol McBryant, Jill Hamilton-Anderson, and Nicole McHenry from the National Park Service, discussed volunteer opportunities for the Chapter.

- **November**—There were 2 study group meetings. Twelve study group members went to Lincoln, Nebraska to see an exhibit from the University of Illinois’ Newberry Library, at the University of Nebraska. The collection was titled “Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country.”

Jeff Barnes was the speaker at the dinner meeting on 18th. He discussed forts of the Omaha/Council Bluffs area.

There was a membership total of 96 for the month.

- **December**—The month had 2 study group sessions.

The dinner meeting was cancelled because of inclement weather.

The membership total ended at 96 for the month and year.

**There is a Board of Directors meeting each month,**

Prepared by:
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Lewis and Clark Trails Heritage Foundation