



# Westward Barriers

Monthly Newsletter of the Travelers' Rest Chapter

of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

PO Box 447 – Lolo, MT 59847 [www.travelersrestchapter.org](http://www.travelersrestchapter.org)

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**Keepers of the Travelers' Rest Story – Stewards of the Lolo Trail**

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**The Meeting:** Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m. – Lolo Community Center

**The Program:** Lewis & Clark's Unique Experiences in Montana

**The Speaker:** Don Peterson - Author, Historian, Interpreter and Guide

Don Peterson has been a resident of Great Falls since 1950, and has made the explorations of Lewis and Clark his *Passion!* He has been a local Great Falls guide and historian for 21 years.

Don has served as President of the Portage Route Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation in Great Falls and served on the Board of Directors of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Association, and has been an active volunteer for the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation for many years. Don was the "Lewis & Clark Answer Man" throughout the Bicentennial since he had easy access & interest in the enormous Sherman Library at the LCTHF office in Great Falls.

Don has authored a book called "Early Pictures of the Falls: A Lewis and Clark Portrait in Time." It is a portfolio of early pictures of the falls taken before the dams were built. He recently published another book, "Images of America: Great Falls" (Arcadia Publishing of South Carolina). He has guided tours for History America Tours with Gary Moulton, Stephen Ambrose Tours, Creative World Travel, Adventure Caravans, Winnebago-Itasca Travel, and numerous individual Montana guests from all over the world.

On the more public side he has done interviews for National Public Radio, Detroit Free Press, Seattle Times, and has worked with numerous national authors, writers, and publishers including Gary Moulton and Ken Burns. He also contributed to the national bicentennial documentary video done by Gray Warriner and the US Army Corps of Engineers for their official bicentennial Lewis and Clark documentary. Don has done film segments for film producers from Canada and from Europe as well as Voice of America Television overseas broadcasts.

During the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Don also helped design, develop, fund (via grants) and place numerous interpretive signs in the Great Falls area. He has also helped design and fund several L&C brochures of the Great Falls area. Don enjoys nothing more than spending time learning as much as he can about his local, state and national history.

## Travelers' Rest State Park Update – Loren Flynn, Park Manager: Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP)

The Montana Legislature is considering several pieces of legislations that will affect State Parks in general and Travelers' Rest in particular.

**HB2** is the general spending bill for Montana government. For Travelers' Rest to continue to succeed, it is important that State Parks receive the spending authority requested by the agency in the budget submitted by Governor Schweitzer. Also, it is critical for Travelers' Rest that some "one-time only" personnel that was approved two years ago be continued. Rejection of either of these provisions would result in decreased services and preservation at Travelers' Rest State Park.

**SB13** addresses the optional fee paid by Montana residents when you register your vehicles. This program is currently an "opt out" (residents need to choose not to pay the fee). In return for approval of this fee several years ago, State Parks agreed to admit for free all persons in vehicles bearing Montana license plates AND give up any general fund monies for operations of State Parks. Because of this structure, resident use of Montana State Parks has soared nearly 80% in the past 8 years. And a study by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research in 2010 found that not only do Montanans support the current structure, more than 75% of resident visitors to state parks support increasing the "opt out" fee.

**SB13** would make the fee an "opt in." Washington State tried this approach and found that less than 3% of their residents chose to pay the fee, while under the current structure in Montana, only about 15% of residents opt out. If approved, SB13 will decrease funding for State Parks by between \$2.5 and \$3 million - close to 1/2 of the statewide budget - without replacing this with any other funding mechanism. **Obviously, this would be catastrophic for State Parks** - and the 1,600 private sector jobs and \$275 million in spending that parks create in Montana every year.

**Please contact members of the House Appropriations Committee and your local representative with supportive comments on these bills.**

District	Last Name	First Name	City	Email
43	Ankney	Duane	Colstrip	Goodwind.duane@gmail.com
6	Beck	Bill	Whitefish	Rep.bbeck@centurytel.net
32	Belcourt	Tony	Box Elder	tbelcourt@hotmail.com
7	Brodehl	Randy	Kalispell	brodehl@centurytel.net
63	Burnett	Tom	Bozeman	Tburnetthd63@hotmail.com
28	Hollandsworth	Roy	Brady	hgrain@3rivers.net
81	Hollenbaugh	Galen	Helena	galen@hollenbaugh.org
27	Cook	Rob	Conrad	Robc_hd27@itbusa.com
2	Cuffe	Mike	Eureka	mike@mcuffe.com
40	McChesney	Bill	Miles City	Macwilly66@msn.com
26	Mehlhoff	Bob	Great Falls	rmehlhoff@yahoo.com
100	Edmunds	Champ	Missoula	champ.edmunds@yahoo.com
88	Ehli	Ron	Hamilton	montanamutt@montana.com
61	Esp	John	Big Timber	Johnesp2001@yahoo.com
56	Roberts	Donald	Billings	None listed
78	Gibson	Steve	East Helena	Stevvedgibson52@gmail.com
85	Hiner	Cynthia	Deer Lodge	matthiner@hotmail.com
76	Sesso	Jon	Butte	jonsesso@yahoo.com
29	Osmundson	Ryan	Buffalo	ryanosmundson@gmail.com
37	McNutt	Walter	Sidney	walt@midrivers.com
22	Schmidt	Trudi	Great Falls	trudischmidt@q.com

## Travelers' Rest Chapter – Membership Information

\* Please check your mailing label to determine if it is time for you to **RENEW** your Membership

Please provide the requested information listed below and make your check payable to the Travelers' Rest Chapter:

**Send Payments To: Travelers' Rest Chapter · PO Box 447 · Lolo, MT · 59847**

New Member       Renewal       Address Change      **2011/01**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Scout (Student) \$5       Private (Individual) \$10       Platoon (Family) \$15

Interpreter \$25       Corporal \$50       Sergeant \$75

Captain \$100       General \$500       Jefferson (Lifetime) \$1,000



### The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Storytelling Series at Travelers' Rest State Park Continues!

- Saturday, January 29, 11:00 a.m. – Louis Adams, Salish Stories
- Saturday, February 5, 11:00 a.m. – Vernon Finley, Kootenai Stories
- Saturday, February 12, 11:00 a.m. – Tony Incashola, Salish History
- Saturday, February 19, 11:00 a.m. – Allen Pinkham, Nez Perce Stories
- Saturday, February 26, 11:00 a.m. – Scott Frazier, Crow Stories
- Saturday, March 5..... 11:00 a.m. – Tom Schenarts, Ranger Tales

\* Many Thanks to over 200 wonderful and visionary people for their support of the Travelers' Rest State Park Education Auction Fundraiser held on January 21<sup>st</sup>. A good time was had by all! ☺

## - Video Donated to the Missoula Library -

**THE SPIRIT OF SACAJAWEA** one-hour video that was shown at the January Membership Meeting of the Travelers' Rest Chapter and was extremely well received has been donated to the Missoula Library by TRC member Joel Shechter. The Chapter and Joel were receiving requests to borrow the video, and Joel thought it would be more easily available to a larger audience if he donated the video to the local library for general public use. **THANKS JOEL!**

## - BRIGADE MEETING -

The Travelers' Rest Chapter Brigade (Historical Re-enactors of the Lewis & Clark Era) will meet on Thursday, February 3, at 5 pm at Travelers' Rest State Park. New Members are encouraged to attend and join in the fun, comradery and educational aspects. The TRC Brigade participates in daytime and overnight encampments, mostly during the summer. For more information, please contact either Scott Cameron (381-0759) or George Knapp (549-4431).

Travelers' Rest Chapter  
c/o Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation  
PO Box 3434, 4201 Giant Springs Road  
Great Falls, MT 59405  
www.lewisandclark.org  
**Scott Sproull – TRC Newsletter Editor & President**

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**Presentation**  
by Don Peterson  
**Lewis & Clark's**  
**Unique Experiences**  
**In Montana**

Thursday, Feb 3rd  
7:00 p.m.  
Lolo Community Center

● —————> Westward Barriers <————— ●

**From the Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition Edited by Gary Moulton:**

[ February 14, 1806 entry by Captain Clark while at their Fort Clatsop Winter Quarters west of today's Astoria, Oregon ]

The inference therefore deduced from these premises are, **that the best and most practicable rout across the Continent** is by way of the Missouri to the **Great Falls**; thence to *Clarks* river [today's Bitterroot River] at the entrance of **Travellers rest Creek** [today's Lolo Creek], from thence up **travillers rest Creek** to the forks, from whence you prosue a range of mountains which divides the waters of the two forks of this Creek, and which still Continues it's westwardly Course on the mountains which divides the waters of the two forks of the Kooskooske river [today's Clearwater River] to their junction; from thence to decend this river to the S. E. branch of the Columbia [today's Snake River], thence down that river to the Columbia, and down the Latter to the *Pacific Ocian*—. There is a large river which falls into the Columbia on its South Side [today's Willamette River] at what point we could not lern; which passes thro those extencive Columbian Plains from the South East, and as the Indians inform us head in the mountains South of the head of Jeffersons River [an incorrect mix up with the Snake River] and at no great distance from the Spanish Settlements...

( **Bolding**, Underlining, [Modern River Identifications & Comments in Brackets] are provided by the Newsletter Editor )

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