

Of Special Interest

- Report on Our Spring Gathering
- Plans for Our Fall Gathering in Auburn
- The birth of CALCTHF
- Remembering Bob Shattuck
- The Willard Clan



Mike Harding, Flight of Discovery Expedition Leader, addresses attendees at CALCTHF's Spring Gathering



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The Flight of Discovery Addresses CALCTHF's Spring Gathering May 20, 2013 Oceanside, California



On the morning of June 13, 2004, eleven westward-bound aircraft left the mouth of the Columbia River and soared above the waves of the Pacific Ocean for a few moments before turning south to land at the Astoria, Oregon, airport. Like Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery, the pilots and scientists had traced the water and overland routes of a continent, although in a somewhat different means of transportation and in a far shorter time frame. Two weeks earlier, on June 1st, the *Flight of Discovery* left The Falls of the Ohio near Clarksville, Indiana, with the goal of completing the historic Lewis and

(continued on page 8)

FALL GATHERING October 13, 2013 Auburn, California

Featuring the popular Garry Bush (Lewiston, ID) portraying Jean Baptiste "Pomp" Charbonneau (details coming soon in a separate flyer)

REMEMBER THIS DATE!

The Kvenvoldens Visit the LCTHF National Office in Great Falls, Montana

Earlier this month, Keith and Mary Ann Kvenvolden traveled over 4,000 miles by car in three plus weeks! After attending a memorial picnic for Keith's cousin in Cheyenne, WY (Keith's birth state), they visited several national parks and, for the 4th time, the Wind River Reservation in central Wyoming. After Grand Teton National Park they made their way to Great Falls, MT, to visit Mary Ann's niece. While there, they had lunch with Lindy Hatcher, LCTHF Executive Director, and were shown the directional sign our Chapter sponsored for the LCNHT Interpretive Center where one had not before existed. Mary Ann indicates that, while they had a great time, they were glad to get back to their home in Palo Alto and cooler temperatures.



Mary Ann and Keith Kvenvolden, with Lindy Hatcher, LCTHF Executive Director, checking out the CALCTHF sponsored directional sign to her office in the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Great Falls, Montana

CALCTHF ELECTION 2013 REMINDER

If you have not already sent in you ballot indicating your preference for our new Chapter officers please do so now.

**YOUR BALLOT MUST BE
POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN
1 AUGUST 2013 TO BE COUNTED**

California Chapter, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.

The Story Behind the Founding of the California Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation by Eleanor Ward

Editor's Note: On August 1, 1995, Eleanor and Bob Shattuck (now deceased) co-founded our Chapter. We are grateful for Eleanor's initiative and for her commitment to our Chapter and to the LCTHF for so many years. In 2004, Eleanor was awarded the Foundation's Distinguished Service Award. We congratulate her on her 90th birthday which was celebrated in 2012. Eleanor and her husband, Bob, who recently celebrated his 91st birthday, live in a retirement community in Santa Barbara, California.

My interest in Lewis & Clark was triggered by a great, great grandmother named Hannah Clark Lewis, 1774-1842, the wife of Benjamin Lewes (Lewis). This Benjamin was descended from George Lewes of Plymouth Colony and a founder, with his brother, of Scituate, Massachusetts, and then Barnstable on Cape Cod. Over time the Lewes became Lewis.

When I took an American History course in 1980 at DeAnza College in Cupertino the first issue I received of the magazine *American History*, featured the Lewis & Clark Story. There was an ad at the end of the article to send for more information on the Foundation – and I did – and I was hooked - and started receiving LCTHF material. At that point in time I was going for a degree in American History but switched to Art History and achieved that while continuing my school job.

In early 1986 I noted that the 18th annual meeting of the LCTHF was to be held in Portland, Oregon, and I told Bob I would like to go to it. While telling my Aunt Esther Smith of my plans she also decided to attend as our family had never really established their link to that wonderful story. That first meeting was a revelation for us and we continued to attend annual meetings together until Bob retired and we could all go. The membership at that time was just over 1,300 across the United States but excitement was building for the Bicentennial.

At the Louisville meeting there was a lot of discussion about forming state chapters. I think some Trail states had already formed Chapters and Bob Gatten, then President of LCTHF, asked me if I could start a California Chapter. So I came home and sent a letter to all those members listed in California – it wasn't many – and I received one response! In another year Bob Shattuck was again asked about starting a Chapter and we sent a joint

letter out to the listed members and this time got thirty-two responses. We set up a meeting in Vacaville but that spring California was flooded and we had to cancel so we waited until the annual meeting in Charlottesville, Virginia, to really organize and be recognized by the Foundation. I think we were the 7th or 8th Chapter and our membership included Utah, Nevada and Arizona! It was a fun time. It was still mostly the old guard of scholars and researchers who had set up the Foundation. One of our goals then was to get the signage up in all the trail states before the Bicentennial started and that was done.

I served on the original Bicentennial Committee where we brainstormed most of the ideas that culminated in the actual commemoration. Naming it a commemoration and not a celebration was the result of our listening to the negative Indian response to the Columbian Quintcentennial. A primary goal was to include the Indian tribes. We had no idea how all this was to be financed but of course some big money folks stepped in and made our dreams come true.

As an officer of the Chapter from its onset it was my pleasure to keep in touch with California members via email or phone. Distances in California limited our meetings so we opted for just three a year, one north, one south, and the annual meeting. It has worked well. We got the signage for Alexander Willard put up on Route 99 and at his gravesite cemetery in Elk Grove. During research on Willard we located a box of Willard memorabilia in a barn up north. A Willard descendant delighted in adding this memorabilia to her genealogy. One suggestion, to start book clubs in each area to share Lewis & Clark, culminated in just one that I know of, the one on the San Francisco Peninsula [the Bay Area Book Discussion Group] which has remained active to this day.

Bob and I have had a wonderful time with Lewis & Clark and in being part of the past Bicentennial celebrations. At least we have formed the basis for "PROCEEDING ON".



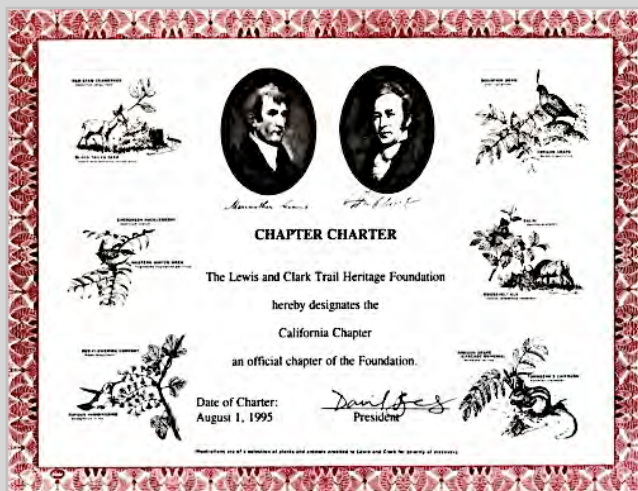
Bob and Eleanor Ward at the presentation ceremony for Eleanor's LCTHF Distinguished Service Award

**CALCTHF's Charter Meeting
27th Annual LCTHF Gathering
Omni Hotel, Charlottesville, Virginia
August 1, 1995**

A new Foundation Chapter, the CALCTHF, is born

Attendees

- Katharine & Don Alderman
- Pauline & Georgette Goslovich
- Ilene Hunter • Ned & Ethel Kirkham
- Donna Masterson • Bob Shattuck • Jim Steinhaus
- Ludd Trozpek • Bob & Eleanor Ward



*First Official CALCTHF Charter
August 1, 1995*



*First CALCTHF Officers
Bob Shattuck (President) and
Eleanor Ward (Secretary & Treasurer)*

Passing on Our Heritage

*by Phil Shriver
Great Falls, Montana
(reprinted with permission)*

Early Lewis and Clark researchers started their search for knowledge by studying as many details as possible to learn the who, what, when and where of the Expedition. Since much had already been written about the journey, and a great deal during the journey, these historians had a distinct advantage over those studying other explorations. However, the question "why" was still waiting, as were other questions: *How was it so successfully accomplished? What were the consequences of the expedition?* I am sure more questions can be thought of in addition to these.

As we study more of the related areas of history, as we broaden our scope, the more we can see these answers. These tangential aspects give clues that unlock the deepest secrets. These aspects also draw more people into the study. The total result of the study is increased by multipliers of the number of inquisitive minds involved. Only by getting the next generation involved in the continued study we inherited from those who went before us will these secrets be completely found. But how do we get the next generation to become involved?

Museums are full of the artifacts of our history. There are museums specializing in just about every era of man's civilization. As a people we are quite good at recognizing and preserving our historic artifacts. But does this equate to preserving our heritage? I think not. What artifacts can we collect to preserve a strong moral value of right and wrong, duty, honor, and country? How can we create a display of the code of principles that guided the writers of the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution? How does a father pass on the duty to defend freedom even if it means taking to the field of combat as a soldier? Can he give his son three generations of war relics and expect that son to feel the same way about them as he did? The physical "things" associated with our past remain "things" until the values are associated with them.

If we pass the values and the true heritage of concepts and ideals we hold dear, the artifacts will follow. But in order to do so means spending time with the family, nurturing inquisitive minds, making them a part of all your life - work, play, hobbies. A child's mind is like a sponge, eagerly soaking up everything. If a father provides the guidance for learning, his sons and daughters will inherit the heritage of both ideals and artifacts.

Remembering Bob Shattuck

(1930-2002)

by Ludd A. Trozpek

(adapted by the editor from an article
in the May 2002 edition
of "We Proceeded On")

Long-time Foundation member Bob Shattuck died peacefully on February 27, 2002, in Grass Valley, California, following an illness of several months. Bob was a member of the Foundation's board of directors (1997-2000) and was the founding president of the California Chapter. He was 72.



A man of few public words, Bob nonetheless was extremely well-read on the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the Oregon Trail, and various men and events in the history of his home state of California. His library contained some 500 books, and he apparently had read them all. He had prepared note cards on most of his Lewis and Clark books containing pithy two or three-sentence reviews. For one 1963 item he wrote: "This is the worst book claiming to be history I have ever read. The author made obvious mistakes about Lewis & Clark, Kearney, Frémont, and Carson. He knows absolutely nothing about the Indians." For another: "Western History written by a philosopher. He should have stuck to philosophy. Many errors in the Lewis & Clark chapter; I wonder how many in the rest of the book." A speculative book on Lewis's death gained this judgment: "The author is not accurate in the history that I know, so he is probably shaky on the rest." And Bob's comments on a well-known biography of Lewis: "Downgrades Clark's role. Considers the expedition the Lewis Expedition. He also thinks Lewis's death was not suicide, but murder. I disagree with both."

It was important to Bob that his Lewis and Clark books go for the benefit of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, and before he died he so donated them. Some of his Oregon Trail books went to the Oregon-California Trails Association, and some of his California books went to benefit the California Chapter of the Foundation. In an act of quiet generosity, Bob made the Foundation sole beneficiary to his life insurance and

retirement savings. He also purchased an annuity that benefited the Foundation for many years.¹ In these ways Bob had a positive, ongoing, and constructive influence on the bicentennial that he did not live to see and on the preservation of the story that he loved. We all miss the tall bearded fellow with the crew cut in the wide plaid short-sleeve shirt and Levis, camera slung over his shoulder. He had been a fixture at annual meetings for years. He knew that a string tie was as formal as one had to go at any meeting celebrating western history. One book in Bob's library was a book of quotations. He highlighted few of the many epigrams in the book, but this one attributed to Grellet was noted: "I expect to pass through this world but once; any good thing, therefore, that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now; let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Godspeed, Bob.

Ludd A. Trozpek
Claremont, California

¹ Editor's Note: Today, more than eleven years after his death, Bob's generous bequeaths continue to benefit the mission of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation via a board restricted fund known as the Shattuck Fund. A portion of this fund was used for monetary grants during the Bicentennial. The remaining funds continue to be used periodically to support the Foundation's monetary grants program. At the direction of the LCTHF's Board of Directors, a maximum of five percent (5%) of the fund balance can be used in any one year. As of March 31, 2013, the balance in the Shattuck Fund stood at \$25,322.

DID YOU KNOW?

**Past issues of *We Proceeded On*,
from 1974 (Vol. 1, No. 1) to
2008 (Vol. 34, No. 4), can now be
viewed and downloaded from the
Foundation's website at
www.lewisandclark.org
(PUBLICATIONS/WPO section)**

(a high speed internet connection
is highly recommended)

**Lewis and Clark Bay Area
Book Discussion Group Meeting
January 27, 2013
by Mary Ann Kvenvolden**

Our group of regular attendees was joined by Matilde and Jonathan Hollander, who became members of the CA Chapter last November at our Chapter Meeting in Palo Alto. A total of fifteen book group members were present this day at the Kvenvolden home in Palo Alto. We focused on the life and death of Sacagawea in recognition of the 200th anniversary in December 2012 of her reported death at Fort Manuel Lisa in South Dakota.

Philippa Newfield began the discussion with a report on her attendance at the regional LCTHF meeting in Pierre, South Dakota, last Fall. She discussed a talk by Gary Moulton on the topic of “Sacagawea - By the Numbers” (about the number of times she is mentioned in the L&C Journals).

Other book group members discussed books or articles they had read about some of the mysteries and questions that always linger about the life of this iconic Indian woman.

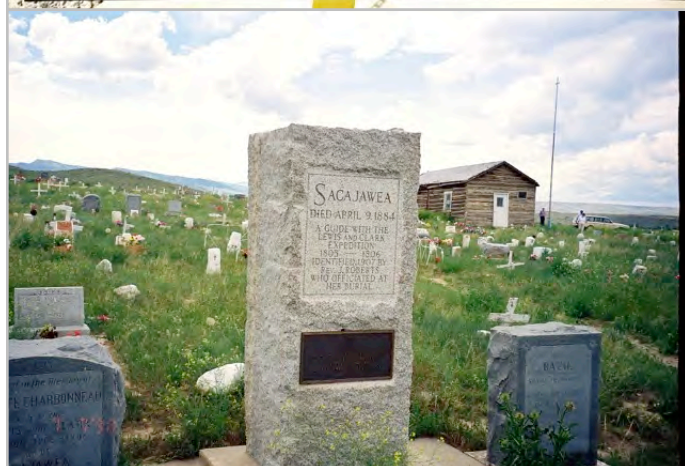
Our thanks to all who brought food to share after the meeting. Our next get-together is scheduled for April at the home of Virginia Hammerness in San Jose, California.



Mary Ann Kvenvolden

*Statue of Sacajawea at the
Wind River Shoshone/Arapaho Reservation
in Central Wyoming*

Mary Ann and Keith followed with a presentation about the alternative story of Sacagawea’s death, in 1884, on the Wind River Shoshone/Arapaho Reservation in central Wyoming. Mary Ann discussed their three visits to this sight in 1998, 2002, and 2003, with photos of the gravestone marker, a statue and interpretive signs about Sacajawea (Shoshone spelling) and her life.



Mary Ann Kvenvolden

*Sacajawea Cemetery at the
Wind River Shoshone/Arapaho Reservation
in Central Wyoming*

**Lewis and Clark Bay Area
Book Discussion Group Meeting
April 14, 2013**

by Mary Ann Kvenvolden

Eleven members met on April 14, 2013, at the home of Virginia Hammerness in San Jose, California. Once again we covered a wide-ranging selection of topics that either related to Lewis & Clark or the Western Expansion that followed the Expedition.

Our group of history buffs enjoys the opportunity to share a particular article, book, or report that interests them in a certain way. Among topics covered at this meeting were: The Battle of San Pasqual, California (one of the final encounters of the Mexican War in 1846); the OCTA Conference in March 2013 in Tucson, Arizona, with a field trip on the Southern Trail to Apache Pass and Fort Bowie; two articles from *We Proceeded On*, one about Reuben Lewis (November 2012) and one about the death of Sergeant Floyd and medical knowledge of the era (February 2013); a recent news article about the Wounded Knee Battle site being put up for sale; a recently published book about the life of Edward Curtis who made it his life's mission from 1900 to 1930 to learn about North American Indian cultures and to photograph Indian people before they "vanished" or were totally assimilated; the novel "Sacajawea," by Anna Lee Waldo; the planting of seeds of Eucalyptus trees (brought by Australians during the California Gold Rush days) with the misplaced hope they could be used as railroad ties and for other constructions; Polish immigrants in California during and after the Gold Rush and their contributions to our state's early history. After this discussion we all enjoyed a leisurely supper and more time to visit, always an important part of these get-togethers!

OCTA's Field Trip to Fort Bowie

Fort Bowie was established to protect emigrants on their way to California via the Southern Emigrant Trail and the mail and passengers carried by the Butterfield Overland Mail Company from Indian attacks as they traversed Apache Pass ... as well as to protect access to the only known source of reliable water for many miles in all directions (Apache Spring). It was an active military outpost for thirty-two years (1862-1894) and was the hub of activity in the military campaigns to subdue hostile Chiricahua Indians, first led by Cochise and then by Geronimo.



Start of the 1.5 mile trail to Apache Spring and Fort Bowie



Remnants of Fort Bowie

The Cane

by Kathryn L. Downing Smith

Editor's Note: This letter was written by Kathryn L. Downing Smith. Kathryn's husband, James Simeon Smith Jr., was a grandson of Patrick Gass. Kathryn and James took care of James' mother, Annie Jane Gass Smith, who was the second youngest daughter of Patrick Gass, towards the end of her life¹. Likewise, Annie had taken care of Patrick Gass during the last ten years of his life². The letter is thus based on firsthand information of his last years. No one knew him in those years more intimately than Annie. Kathryn was a published poet³ but stays close to what Annie told her of Patrick Gass and his daily habits in the last years of his life. This letter is one of two letters that were recently provided to the CALCTHF by longtime CALCTHF member Kathleen R. Wade (Woodside, CA). Kathryn's other letter was published in the February 2012 issue of "Golden Notes". Kathleen is a great granddaughter of Patrick Gass. Kathryn L. Downing Smith and James Simeon Smith Jr. were her parents.

The field work on the West Virginia farm was finished for the day. The animals had been fed - always the animals first - the milking done and the stray eggs gathered from the hay mow.

Promptly at 5 o'clock the farm men filed into the house for dinner. No bell had been rung, for Annie and her wall-clock kept the same exact time and Annie was always to be relied upon.

After a dinner of fried pork, mashed potatoes and carrots, the old man left the table and walked slowly out to the family woodlot where he and the 3 boys frequently hacked and sawed the wood into short lengths for Annie's cookstove and longer ones for the fireplace. He stopped at the pile of wood which the boys had recently brought in from the Ohio Forest. He walked around the pile scrutinizing it as though looking for something in particular. He finally stopped and pulled out a stick from underneath, some five feet long and 3" in diameter. He looked at it more carefully and seemed satisfied that it was what he was looking for.

He carried it back to the house. The boys were sitting before the fireplace with their snow-damp boots off. Their feet in the warm slightly steaming sox extended towards the fire. The sox hand-knitted by their mother, Annie, were another of her accomplishments. As Patrick walked past his 3 grandsons, one of them asked, "What you got there, Grandpap?" A little self consciously he

replied "Oh, just a stick I found." Then he walked on toward a work table at the other end of the room. He began to tryout the stick for the possibility of a tough hickory cane. He cut the stick down to about a yard in length. He went to peeling off its half-green bark and cutting the nubs where the branches had grown out. He worked at it for an hour or two on each of three days until it was smooth, had a knot at the upper end and was tapered at the lower end. It began to look like a cane. He laid it out in front of the fire to season it and alternately polished and sanded it. At the smaller end he placed a metal band so the tip might not wear from contact with floor or ground. Finally the cane was finished.

He would try out the cane next day in his usual 4 mile walk to Wellsburg for the family mail, and possibly a mug of grog with his pals. The cane thumped down across the porch and out onto the dusty road. Annie watched his going. A little cloud of dust rose about each foot as he put it down and a smaller one from the cane.

A neighbor saw him coming and called out to his wife, "Here comes Pat, where is that letter he is to take?" Pat picked up the letter and went on to the P.O. On his return he left a couple of letters and the newspaper which his neighbor was expecting. As he reached the home porch, the thump of the cane told Annie that Pat was back. The cane at that point became a means of communication between Pat and Annie, for Annie was deaf! At the age of 8 she had entered the great quiet room of deafness through the door of scarlet fever, a common affliction of the time. About the house Annie was able to follow her father Pat's whereabouts from the lower level and up the stairs to his room by the tap of the cane.

Pat was 90 at that time with 9 years left to go before he would abandon the cane. He had not needed the cane when he was building the boats for the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He had not needed it as he walked on the cutting stones in the shallows of the Missouri River helping to push the boats upstream. No cane was needed while he was turning out the cottonwood wheels and axels for the improvised wagons built to portage the expedition around the Great Falls of the Columbia [Missouri]. Nor was a cane needed as he walked from Fort Clatsop to seaside on the Oregon Coast to see how the men were getting along with their assignment of evaporating sea water to get salt for the meat of their winter supply. He watched them bring up bags of sea water to the evaporating pots.

From 90 on the cane served him well, but at 99 he went to bed and Annie waited on him. After that the cane stood in

the corner of his room until the neighbors came in to help Annie prepare him for his simple casket which was placed with a chair under each end and the cane beside him.

Thus ended the life of Patrick Gass, the oldest and last member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

¹ Annie lived with Kathryn and James in Whittier, California, and then in Ventura, California, from 1913 to 1925. Annie died in 1926 at the age of 85 and is buried in Pasadena, California.

² Carol L. MacGregor, ed., "The Journals of Patrick Gass", Missoula, Montana, Mountain Press, 1997, p. 303.

³ Kathryn also co-authored the article "Sedulous Sergeant, Patrick Gass", in "Montana, the Magazine of Western History", Vol. 5, No.3, Summer 1955, with her husband James.

**Scenes from the Northwest Regional Meeting
Lewiston, Orofino, and Weippe, Idaho
Rendezvous on the Koos Koos Ke
24-27 May 2013**



Top to bottom/left to right: Weippe Prairie with Camas in bloom (MG); festival in Weippe community park (MG); festival pie sale (KJ); appaloosa and rider in period attire (KJ); entrance to Hells Canyon during jet boat trip up the Snake River from Lewiston (SL); and bighorn sheep observed in Hells Canyon during jet boat trip (SL)

Photo Credits: MG-Margret Gorski; KJ-Ken Jutzi; SL-Steve Lee

Flight of Discovery (continued from page 1)

Clark Trail in two weeks. The 2004 flight constituted the first stage of a multi-year project which extended to two more expeditions: one in September 2005 and also one in August 2006.

Between 2004-2006 the objective of the *Flight of Discovery (FOD)* was to use current technology, aviation and science, to compare present-day cultural, environmental, and anthropological resources to the 200 year old historical record contained in journals, correspondence, notes and samples assembled from 1804-06 by the Corps of Discovery. Another objective was to connect people, in particular young students, with their history and environment through the FOD's Trunk of Discover program.

Using actual images taken during their explorations, Mike's talk focused on his role as Expedition Leader for the *Flight of Discovery* and how his team of pilots and scientists used their aircraft and special knowledge to acquire scientific information related to 200 years of environmental and cultural change. Mike also discussed his team's experiences with the people they encountered.

When people first heard about the *Flight of Discovery*, in particular, when the FOD was planning the first outbound expedition in 2004, they always seemed surprised to discover that 2003-2006 constituted the 200th anniversary of the Corps of Discovery and the FOD members found it quite gratifying to reacquaint and enfold people into what is now considered to be the first great American adventure.

Most of the adults they spoke to learned about Lewis and Clark as children but didn't realize the context in which the expedition opened up the continent to westward expansion and the inevitable impact it had on Native Americans. The vast majority of folks they encountered also seemed to think that the FOD crew members were all wealthy individuals or that they had received a large grant from the government. The truth is that the *Flight of Discovery* was made up of ordinary people of modest means volunteering their time and money to accomplish something extraordinary.

Mike Harding is a pilot and one of the leading technical experts in the field of erosion control and environmental restoration. Since the Oakland Fire in 1991, Mike has played a key role in emergency soil stabilization efforts in over 42 fires nationwide including the 2003 and 2007 San Diego County/City Fires.



Some of the Exhibits On Display During the Flight of Discovery Team's Presentation

Upper right, Virginia Hammerness (San Jose) examines one of the FOD's "Trunks of Discovery". Lower left, Nan Kaeser (Duarte) samples some of the wonderful refreshments provided by Nan, Philippa Newfield, and Phillip Gordon



Members of the Flight of Discovery

Left to right: Rob McGann, Chin, Mike Harding, and Ron

The Willard Clan

by Nan Kaeser

Editor's Note: This article resulted from of a series of interviews that Nan had with Dr. Rodney Willard. Dr. Willard, a long time member of the LCTHF and CALCTHF, is a direct descendant of Alexander Hamilton Willard. He resides with his wife Barbara, in Redlands, California.

“With the propensity of the Willards to get into trouble, the family members have spread themselves all over the world” proclaimed Rodney, great, great grandson of the one who accompanied Lewis and Clark to the Pacific and back, Alexander Willard. As most of you know, Alexander was one of the blacksmiths on the expedition.

Rodney Willard, both a California chapter and LCTHF member, grew up hearing tales of his great, great, grandfather as told by his Uncle Rudolph “Dolph” Willard.

When the colonists started talking revolution, the Willard Tories eventually fled to Canada. A few went on a reverse migration to Holland. Simon, the beginning of the US clan, died in Charlestown, Massachusetts. Shortly before Alexander was born in New Hampshire in 1777, his father, Jonathan, joined the New Hampshire Militia in the Revolutionary War.

Alexander joined the U.S. Army in 1800 as an “artificer,” a repairer of artillery and other weapons. His unit was posted on the frontier at Fort Kaskaskia on the Mississippi River. It was while stationed here that he was drafted for the Corps of Discovery. As the readers know what happened in the ensuing years, we’ll skip to his return from that great trek to the West.

Within months after returning from the famous expedition, Alexander married Eleanor McDonald.¹ Rodney suspects, but can’t prove, that while at Fort Kaskaskia, Alex crossed the Mississippi River to visit Eleanor whose relatives were known to live there. The couple settled in current Missouri not too far from his friend, William Clark. In 1808, Lewis hired Alexander as a government blacksmith for the Sauk and Fox Indians.² Shortly after this, Clark assigned Willard to carry dispatches north up the Mississippi. On one of these trips he was to warn Nathaniel Pryor, who was running a trading post up the river, of an Indian attack. However, he was too late as Pryor had already been captured. (Pryor and another trader later managed to escape the building in which they were incarcerated just before the building exploded into flames.) On the way back down

the river, Alexander was fired upon by Indians, but he managed to escape.³ He was called back into active military service during the war of 1812.

Shortly after 1827, Alexander and Eleanor moved their family of seven boys and five girls⁴ to what is now Wisconsin, then in Michigan Territory. Here, Alexander was a miner and rancher. In 1836, a neighbor came running over to the Willard home. Breathlessly he panted out the tragic news ... their son, George Clark, named after Alexander’s good friend William, had just been shot and killed! The perpetrator was found guilty of manslaughter the following year.⁵ Also during this year, Alexander was once again back into war, this time the Indian War of 1836.

Then, in 1852, there was a shooting in the state house in which one of Alexander’s sons-in-law was involved. Due to this occurrence, the family thought it best to hightail it out of Wisconsin! As two of Alexander’s sons had visited California previously, it was decided that much of the family would move to the Sacramento Valley in that state. Once again, Alexander Willard, now at the age of 74, headed west. This time with those of his family who were not scattered elsewhere.

At one spot on the journey, their wagon train crossed the Lewis and Clark trail forty-eight years after Alexander’s first time there. This location was where he had lost a rifle nearly half a century earlier during the expedition’s first meeting with Indians since leaving St. Charles. The location was across the river from present Council Bluffs, Iowa.⁶ As the family settled in Franklin Township, California, interestingly, also living near Sacramento was Jean Baptiste Charbonneau. Though either’s name would probably have meant nothing to the other. Alexander having known of the baby as Pomp, and the latter would probably not have remembered any of the corps members names unless he had seen some of them occasionally when going to school in St Louis.

After the move, Alexander’s son, Joel, Rodney’s great grandfather, did some governmental surveying to convert the old Mexican survey land descriptions into a U.S. one in the northern part of Napa County which was split off to form the new Lake County. As part payment, he received some land in Lower Lake. Later, his brother who was running the family ranch in Franklin County died, so Joel came down to help with the ranching. During the Civil War, Joel took his family to Los Angeles, left them there with relatives, and went gold prospecting in the rough mining camps of Arizona which were not the place to raise children. So, there are Willards in the greater L.A. vicinity, too.

California Chapter, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.

When Alexander died at the age of 86, he was buried in the Elk Grove Cemetery just south of Sacramento. The California chapter of the LCTHF in April of 2008, held a meeting in Elk Grove where we visited both his grave and the new Alexander Willard Park.⁷ After Alexander's death, several of the sons moved to north eastern Nevada into Pine Valley near Elko. Here they planned on starting a cattle ranch from which to sell beef to the people who were migrating west through the area in covered wagons. The Willards who did not go to Nevada, stayed behind near the Sacramento River Valley.

It turned out, however, that the winters in that part of Nevada were too long and cold for a successful cattle operation, so the folks packed up, cattle and all to trek south into Arizona. During this migration, Uncle Dolph kept extensive notes. When the outfit arrived at the Colorado River, they found a good place to cross it into Arizona. While fording the river, Rodney's Great Grandpa Joel, who already had health issues, got wet, contracted pneumonia and died shortly before reaching Kingman, Arizona. Therefore, he was buried in Dolan Springs, near Kingman.

From there, the family continued the journey with the cattle further into Arizona, which was then a part of New Mexico Territory. While heading south intending to settle in the Green Valley of southeastern Arizona, they came across a U.S. Cavalry troop on the Fort Mojave Fort Apache Military Road. The Lieutenant strongly advised against going south as the Apache were "not yet under control". So, instead, they settled in the Verde Valley on a mining claim in the town of Cottonwood in 1878 or 9. At some point, Grandpa Joel's body was moved from Dolan Springs to Cottonwood's cemetery. Rodney's father, Joel, was born at the mine on Minus Mountain. His father (Rodney's grandfather) was George MacDonald Willard, known as "Mac". He had been born at Lower Lake before his father moved to the Sacramento River ranch.

Some of Joel's sons and brothers, including Dolph and Mac, built a house in Cottonwood for Grandma Mary, Joel's wife, Rodney's Great Grandma. That house is now the oldest one in town. Though no longer in the family, it is a tourist site in Cottonwood. Rodney was not born in Arizona but he spent some boyhood years there on the ranch near Cottonwood. The one room school house he and his cousins attended was five miles away, so sometimes instead of walking the distance, they would ride a horse. During recess, one of the favorite games was to play Ante Ante Over. Some of the kids would stand on one side of the school house, shout Ante Ante Over and throw a ball over the building, then dash around

to the other side to try to tag those who caught the ball.

When Arizona was working to become a state and Prescott was the capitol, due to the activism of Aunt Fanny Willard, the statehood proposal to the U.S. Congress requested women's suffrage in conjunction with becoming a state. Unfortunately congress turned this proposal down or Arizona would have been the second state to give women the vote! In any case you can see that the Willards are not slackers!

For years, the large Willard clan has held yearly reunions. Because there are so many of them who have become scattered all over the U.S. the reunions have taken place in areas that hold Willard significance in far flung spots about the country.

Some years ago the reunion was to take place in Cottonwood. A number of the clan members decided to take a pre-reunion trek. So, a caravan of 20 cars met in Elko, Nevada, near where the Pine Valley cattle ranch had been. Rodney was in the lead car and his wife, Barbara, was in the rear one. Using CB radios, they all stayed in touch as Karen [Rodney's daughter] read from Uncle Dolph's detailed notes. As they followed the route used to move the cattle south into Arizona, they found there were no fences barring the way, so they had little trouble traversing the dirt roads the length of Nevada to the Colorado River. However, here they could not cross where the family had forded and Grandpa Joel had gotten wet. There is a big lake there now, Lake Mead! So the caravan had to detour to Hoover Dam, drive over it, then back track on the east side to the Willard ford area. Here they picked up the trail and again continued following it to Cottonwood, ending their week long adventure just in time for the reunion with the rest of the clan.

Rodney was born in what is now California's renowned wine country. At the beginning of the depression his family moved to a ranch near Cottonwood, Arizona, then moved back to California at the beginning of World War II. Rodney was drafted near the end of the war. After his discharge, he finished college. Then, much like his great, great grandfather, he worked at a variety of jobs serving as a life guard; apprenticed as an electrical contractor until the copper supply vanished; and served as an "emergency" choir director. He then attended medical school at Loma Linda. During the first summer he worked as a U.S. Forest Service fire fighter on a crew in the northern Sierra.

After medical school, Alexander's great, great grandson was in family practice until all his school bills were paid

California Chapter, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.

off. Following his residency in Georgia, Loma Linda University recruited him for his specialty in pathology. Rodney has now taught there for forty-five years, a feat that is about to be celebrated at the school. He says he is retired, BUT he is still teaching!

Rodney's enjoyment of hiking, lead him to drag his flatlander bride, Barbara, on their honeymoon up the trail to half dome in Yosemite. But her fear of heights finally convinced him to agree to turn back to Yosemite Valley.

During his career he became acquainted with early computers. You know, the kind that took up a whole room. He has continued to work with computers ever since. Sometime in the 80's he began developing websites, so he asked for and obtained permission from the Willard organization to develop a family website and has been its webmaster ever since!

The Willard Family Association began in the late 1800's or early 1900's with the New England Willards. At some point during the years, the Willard family became incorporated under Massachusetts law. When Rodney was a kid, a distant cousin wanted to join the DAR and thus, due to the requirements of that organization, family members started delving into Willard history in more detail. The bulk of the family members are in the eastern states. This group grew from those whose ancestors did not move west. There are also family members in Texas and there is even a Willard connection in Alaska! This is with a branch of the First Nation, the Tlingits⁸.

While Rodney was on a voyage up the Inland Passage one year, the boat stopped in Sitka. There Rodney saw, to his astonishment, a beautiful tapestry by the artist, Mary Willard, a Tlingit! The rest of the story was a little farther north in Haines. Here, as he found out by delving into the local history, a distant Willard cousin had started a school for the native Tlingits. The Indian names were so long and unpronounceable for the Europeans that the natives were asked to choose a European name. Often the name of a favorite teacher was chosen. You guessed it, a Willard was one of the favorites. Thus, the proliferation of Willards among the Tlingits. Half the names in the Haines phone book, according to Rodney, are Willards! Alas, Rodney has never been able to persuade the Willard Family organization to hold an annual meeting in Alaska!

Rodney has belonged to LCTHF since the 1970's and he very much enjoys going to Lewis and Clark meetings. Some of his most memorable experiences on the Trail have included visiting Fort Clatsop during an LCTHF meeting and, during another meeting at Clarksville, visiting William Clark's home and the Falls of the Ohio.

Rodney has five siblings, two of them are no longer living. His brother Dudley, who lives in Santa Rosa, is quite interested in the family's unique heritage. Those of you who attended the CALCTHF meeting in Elk Grove in 2008, probably remember his daughter, Karen, who came from Washington to speak to us on the Willard clan. But Rodney indicates that not all of the many Willards are interested in family history "because we are such rebels".

¹ Morris, Larry E. "The Fate of the Corps", Yale University Press (2004), p. 201. Except as footnoted, all other Willard history is per Dr. Rodney Willard.

² Ibid., p. 121.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid., p. 172

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid., p. 174.

⁷ See Vol. 8, No. 2 (April 2008) of "Golden Notes" for a description of this LCTHF regional gathering.

⁸ The Tlingit, also spelled Tlinkit, are an indigenous people of the Pacific Northwest Coast of North America. Their name for themselves is Lingít, meaning "People of the Tides".



Attendees of CALCTHF hosted LCTHF 2008 Regional Meeting visit Alexander Willard's gravesite in Elk Grove, California

Left to right: Karen Willard (WA), Karen Seaberg (LCTHF President) (KS), Rodney Willard (Redlands); Veronica Ponce, Dudley and Nadine Willard, Cindy (Willard) Danner and Kai Danner (all Santa Rosa); Keith Kvenvolden (Palo Alto), John Hess (Somerset), Mary Ann Kvenvolden, Pat Hartinger (Los Gatos), Robert Allison, Jr. (South Lake Tahoe), Walter Hartinger, Nan Kaeser (Duarte), and two unknown attendees.



*Keepers of the Story
Stewards of the Trail SM*

*We preserve, promote
and teach the diverse
heritage of Lewis and
Clark for the benefit of
all people*

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We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send them to CALCTHF (Golden Notes), at calcthf@verizon.net.

Newsletter Editor
Ken Jutzi

About the Foundation

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF), Inc. was created to stimulate public appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition's contributions to America's Heritage. The foundation serves as advocate, interpreter and protector of the trail.

The Foundation works with Native American tribes, site tourism bureaus and several federal agencies including the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S.D.A/Forest Service.

The Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), corporation. Memberships include subscriptions to *We Proceeded On*, the Foundation's scholarly publication, which is issued quarterly. Individual memberships are \$49 and your contributions above that are tax deductible. You are encouraged to learn more about the Foundation and to join. You may do both by visiting the foundation's website at www.lewisandclark.org or by contacting a member of the California Chapter.

About the California Chapter

The California Chapter is one of 32 Foundation chapters located throughout the country. We work in partnership with the Foundation to stimulate public awareness and appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition's contributions to America's heritage. We actively support education, research, and preservation of the diverse heritage of Lewis and Clark and we seek ways to support trail stewardship. We also have fun! To learn more, please visit us at www.calcthf.org.

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Please join us!

To do so, send your check or money order to:

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* Full time student (to age 21)

Treasurer's Report
Funds on Hand as of 5/31/13

General Operations: \$4,664
Bilingual Children's Book LCTSE Grant: \$4,125
Education along the Trail (Wolf Point) LCTSE Grant: \$2,729
(LCTSE = Lewis and Clark Trail Stewardship Endowment)