

# Carolina Chapter Newsletter

A Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

**Volume 7, Issue 3**

**December 2017**

## **President's Note**

As we near the end of 2017, I want to thank all Carolina Chapter members for their continued interest in and support of our chapter. A special thanks goes to Jim Hendrix (Treasurer) and Russ Eagle (Newsletter Editor) for their outstanding work.

The Thanksgiving and Christmas season is my favorite time of the year. Over the years as we approach the holiday season, I have enjoyed reading the journals to "open a window" on how the members of the expedition celebrated Christmas. My favorite account is the 1805, Christmas at Fort Clatsop. Clark writes that meager gifts were shared with the men and laments that feasting was not possible (food was scarce) to celebrate "the nativity of Christ." He also shares that Sacagawea gave him a present. Far from home the spirit of giving was alive in celebrating Christ's birth.

Clara and I want to wish all members of the Carolina Chapter a very merry Christmas and a happy 2018.

**Trent Strickland. President**



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# FROM THE JOURNALS: CHRISTMAS AT FORT CLATSOP December 25, 1805

**Clark:** at day light this morning we we[re] awoke by the discharge of the fire arm of all our party & a Salute, Shoute and a Song which the whole party joined in under our windows, after which they retired to their rooms were Chearfull all the morning— after brackfast we divided our Tobacco which amounted to 12 carrots one half of which we gave to the men of the party who used tobacco, and to those who doe not use it we make a present of a handkerchief, The Indians leave us in the evening all the party Snugly fixed in their huts— I recved a presnt of Capt L. of a fleece hosrie Shirt Draws and Socks—, a pr. mockersons of Whitehouse a Small Indian basket of Gutherich, two Dozen white weazils tails of the Indian woman, & Some black root of the Indians before their departure—

Drewyer informs me that he Saw a Snake pass across the parth to day. The day proved Showerey wet and disagreeable.

we would have Spent this day the nativity of Christ in feasting, had we any thing either to raise our Sperits or even gratify our appetites, our Diner concisted of pore Elk, So much Spoiled that we ate it thro' mear necessity, Some Spoiled pounded fish and a few roots.

**Ordway:** Wednesday 25th Decr. 1805. rainy & wet. disagreeable weather. we all moved in to our new Fort, which our officers name Fort Clotsop after the name of the Clotsop nation of Indians who live nearest to us. the party Saluted our officers by each man firing a gun at their quarters at day break this morning. they divided out the last of their tobacco among the men that used and the rest they gave each a Silk hankerchief, as a Christmast gift, to keep us in remembrece of it as we have no ardent Spirits, but are all in good health which we esteem more than all the ardent Spirits in the world. we have nothing to eat but poore Elk meat and no Salt to Season that with but Still keep in good Spirits as we expect this to be the last winter that we will have to pass in this way.—

**Gass:** Was another cloudy wet day.— This morning we left our camp and moved into our huts. At daybreak all the men paraded and fired a round of small arms, wishing the Commanding Officers a merry Christmas. In the course of the day Capt. Lewis and Capt. Clarke collected what tobacco remained, and divided it amongst those who used tobacco, as Christmas-gift; to the others they gave handkerchiefs in lieu of it. We had no spirituous liquors to elevate our spirits this Christmas; but of this we had but little need, as we were all in very good health. Our living is not very good; meat is in plenty, but of an ordinary quality, as the elk are poor in this part of the country. We have no kind of provisions but meat, and we are without salt to season that.

The 26th, 27th and 28th, were cloudy with rain. We found our huts smoked; there being no chimneys in them except in the officers' rooms. The men were therefore employed, except some hunters who went out, in making chimnies to the huts. In the evening of the 27th we were informed that a large fish, answering to the description of a whale, was driven upon shore. In the forenoon of the 28th six men <sup>[3]</sup> started for the sea shore to make salt, as we have none in the fort. Two hunters returned, having killed a deer, and three went out to hunt.

## **50<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR ASTORIA, OREGON**

The 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation will be held on October 7-10, 2018 in Astoria, Oregon. Registration will open in February of 2018 at [www.or-lcthf.org](http://www.or-lcthf.org). The headquarter hotel will be the Holiday Inn Express, and the hotel is already accepting reservations at 503-325-6222. Be sure to mention that you are with the Lewis and Clark group.

Interpreted site visits for the meeting include Dismal Nitch, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and the Maya Lin Installation at Cape Disappointment State Park, the Fort Clatsop Visitor Center, the whale site and Indian Beach, the salt works, and McNeal's Folly.

Everyone will board a chartered Portland Spirit sightseeing vessel for presentations, meal, and a cruise on the Lower Columbia River with on-board LCTHF interpreters. You will also have many opportunities to explore local attractions on your own, including Astoria Column, the Fort to Sea Trail at Fort Clatsop, Tillamook Head, the Long Beach Discovery Trail, Fort Stevens State Park, the Columbia River Maritime Museum, the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum, and six different Clatsop Country history museums.

Astoria is a two-hour drive from Portland. There will be shuttle service available to and from the Portland airport. There will be plenty of free parking at all venues. While early October weather in the Astoria area can be beautiful, you should arrive prepared for rain.

Anyone interested in other hotels in the area, RV campgrounds, state parks, or Oregon Army National Guard Rilea housing should email [ellie.mcclure@gmail.com](mailto:ellie.mcclure@gmail.com).

Linblad Expeditions is offering a 7-day voyage on the Columbia and Snake Rivers in conjunction with the meeting. Voyagers will be able to complement their mouth of the Columbia experience by retracing Lewis and Clark's route from the mouth of the Columbia to Clarkston, Washington aboard Linblad's brand new expedition ship, the 100-guest *National Geographic Quest*. Bob Gatten will serve as the on-board historian. To make a reservation with a \$500 discount call 888-733-9007 or contact [groups@expeditions.com](mailto:groups@expeditions.com).

Attendees will receive a 10% discount at the Fort Clatsop bookstore & gift shop.

## **WE PROCEEDED ON**

*We Proceeded On*, the Foundation's scholarly journal, is delivered quarterly to all LCTHF members.

Members are also reminded that searchable electronic back issues of *We Proceeded On* are available on the foundation website.

Printed copies are available for some back issues. If you are interested, call the Business Office to confirm availability of the desired issue(s). Back issues are \$10.00 plus \$4.00 shipping and handling. You may order by sending checks to:

LCTHF WPO Back Issues  
P.O. Box 3434  
Great Falls, MT 59043

To purchase with a credit card, call the Business Office at 888-701-3434.

## **MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Members are reminded to please pay their yearly dues, which are \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for families. You can bring your payment to the next meeting, you can mail your dues to our Treasurer, Jim Hendrix, at P.O. Box 2094, Cashiers, NC. 28717, or you can mail them to Trent Strickland, 306 McLean Street, Hamlet, NC, 28345.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH LEWIS & CLARK?**

#### **2018 ANNUAL MEETING**

THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE THE 50TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FOUNDATION. IT IS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 7 - 10 AND WILL BE HELD IN ASTORIA, OREGON.

#### **2019 ANNUAL MEETING**

THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN ST. LOUIS. THE DATES HAVE NOT BEEN DETERMINED AT THIS TIME.

#### **2020 ANNUAL MEETING**

THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA. THE DATES HAVE NOT BEEN DETERMINED AT THIS TIME.

## **THE JOURNALS OF THE LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION**

All journal entries and references in this newsletter are from *The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*. 2005. U of Nebraska Press / U of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries-Electronic Text Center. 5 Oct. 2005, edited by Gary Moulton. The journals can be accessed online at:

<http://lewisandclarkjournals.unl.edu/index.html>

This newsletter was produced by the Carolina Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. To submit or suggest articles for upcoming issues, please contact Russ Eagle at [RussEagle@mac.com](mailto:RussEagle@mac.com). Digital photos for publication are welcome as well.

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