

“on the river where the journey began”

On The Ohio.....

The Ohio River Chapter Newsletter

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

www.lewisandclark.org

Vol 22

No. 1

May 2021

Meriwether Lewis

Wm Clark

Presidents Message

There are a number of changes coming to the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and its member chapters this year. These changes were previewed to the ORC Membership at the February 16, 2020 ORC Meeting at the Falls of the Ohio State Park by Lou Ritten, Foundation President. Lou has discussed these changes with the other chapters in regional meetings over the last year. The LCTHF board has also discussed these changes extensively and voted at a recent meeting to implement these changes. Realizing that not all ORC members attended this meeting and are not familiar with these changes, I wanted to bring the ORC membership up to date.

Lou cites many reasons for these changes, but the most important one is declining membership in the Foundation and in the member chapters. In fact, some chapters have become inactive and have folded. Of those new members, there are not enough who will actively support the chapters activities, serve as officers, or support foundation programs. For a variety of reasons, the Foundation Central Office has difficulty communicating with chapters, keeping up with chapter memberships, and accurately completing required paperwork for various partner agencies like the LCNHT and NPS. This lack of coordination and uniformity across our Lewis and Clark organization as a whole makes it difficult to provide certain services, like liability insurance, blended programming Pittsburg to the Pacific, enhanced recruiting, local promotional events, and region to region interactions and partnerships.

All in all, Lou wants to streamline the organization to make it more efficient, more economical, and more productive. Lou proposes establishing nine geographic Regional Chapters. Current chapters in these regions would merge into their Regional Chapter. Inactive chapters would be phased out. The Regional Chapter leadership will be in charge of handling the business and financial affairs and activities of the region. The Foundation would then communicate with only the nine Regional Chapters instead of twenty-some.



Take a look at this map of the proposed regions. The ORC, the only chapter in the Ohio River Region, would absorb some members from inactive eastern chapters but would be largely unchanged otherwise. Some regions, like the Northwest, will merge chapters (Oregon, Washington, and Idaho). New members get to elect their Home Region and must join the National Organization.

Another change will be in new and renewal memberships. All members will be required to join both the LCTHF and a regional chapter (their home region) and membership dues will be slightly higher. Memberships will be at a Basic Level and at a Sustaining Level. All levels of membership will include national and regional (home) membership, email-TOR, email communications, and one vote at national and home regional affairs.

To make the dues less costly, especially to new members, a Basic Level of membership is proposed with certain features made optional; paper TOR, email-WPO, paper-WPO.

Basic Memberships: To make the dues more reasonable, optional features will be offered for an additional fee allowing a member to customize their membership with the options they want at a more reasonable fee. Current plans allow a new basic membership for as little as \$25.00, plus any elected options (paper TOR, email-WPO, paper-WPO), and includes Regional and National membership.

Sustaining Memberships: Our familiar Family membership becomes Heritage membership and is projected to be \$100.00 (includes home region and national memberships, E-TOR for 2 email addresses, paper WPO, email notifications, 2 votes). Other levels include Heritage, Explorer, Jefferson, Discovery, Steward-life, Captain-life, and President-life and represent increasing levels of support for the LCTHF.

The Membership Form becomes “Come Join the Adventure” and is a one-page (front and back) all-inclusive form for new members, renewals, donations, member information and payment method. The back of this form will have the Regional Chapters information making it easy for a new member to select their home region. Eventually, all memberships will be renewed through the Foundation’s central office. The Foundation central office will collect the dues money and the distribute each region their portion. This model should simplify and unify record keeping for the central office and the regional chapters.

There are other issues to be considered with these upcoming changes, but I think these are the major points to consider. Lou will be sending out a notice to the entire membership in the near future outlining the improved structure of membership in more detail. But remember, although there will be changes to the overall operating structure, at the local level we members will still be protecting, maintaining, displaying and teaching L&C with our local groups the same as always.

Submitted by Chuck Crase, ORC President, 5/14/21

Chapter Business

Meetings

Plans for the “Handshake Event” are moving forward. At this time the Falls of the Ohio State Park is open but COVID restrictions are in place, masks required, social distancing, crowd control. The ORC will have to follow the state guidelines that will be in place in October, but the event should be a go. Sandy has done a great job with the arrangements for this year’s program with some significant modifications. Be sure to follow her updates. The Chapter needs a big turnout from the membership to make this event a rousing success. Plan on attending and plan on spending the day helping out.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee normally presents a slate of officers at the spring meeting, but with the COVID pandemic that was not possible this year. I plan on appointing a nominating committee in May and they will present the slate to the Chapter at the business meeting held during the Handshake Event. I want anyone who would be

willing to serve on the nominating committee to send me an email at, afccecrase@roadrunner.com, and I will be in touch with you.

Submitted by Chuck Crase, ORC President

From the Journals

September 18th

The morning was clear and having had every thing in readiness the over night we set out before sunrise and at nine in the morning passed Setart's falls; this being nine miles distant from our encampment of the last evening— this rapid is the most considerable in the whole course of the Ohio, except the rapids as they are called opposite to Louisville in Kentucky— the descent at Setart's falls is a little more than 4 four feet in two hundred fifty yards.

From "the Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition," University of Nebraska Press

Handshake Update

Save the date of Oct 2nd , 2021 to attend the 2021 Handshake event in Clarksville, In. It is shaping up to be a great show representing the meeting of Lewis and Clark at the Falls

If you are planning to attend, or hopefully, help out on this day, NOTE; there will be No food service on site, so pack a lunch, or visit one of the several restaurants in the area.

On Oct 1st, we will hold our first chapter meeting in quite some time at the Best Western Green tree inn in Clarksville, in the main lobby which has plenty of tables and chairs and easy parking and at no cost. Also, there are three restaurants within 100ft of the front door. Meeting will start at 6pm sharp.

You have already been sent the flyer. If you need further info, please email me.

Sandy Hennings
chair of Lewis and Clark-the Handshake
v.p. ORC

SAVE THE DATE PITTSBURGH 2022

THE 54TH LCTHF ANNUAL MEETING
DOWN THE RIVER 1803 THE JOURNEY BEGINS

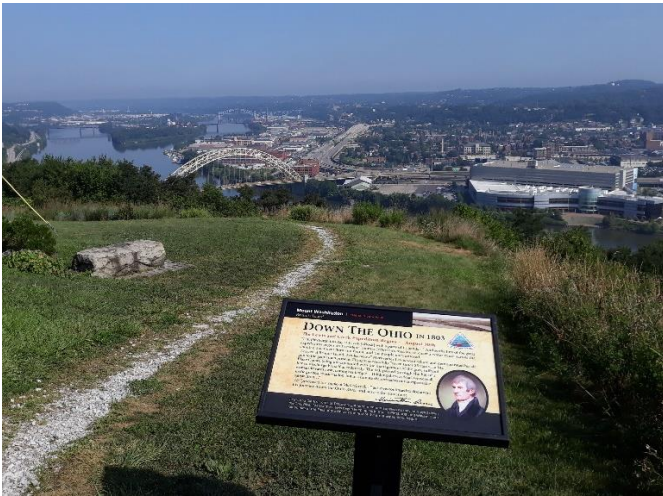
Down The River 1803 The Journey Begins is the theme of the 54th LCTHF Annual Meeting to be held from August 7 – 10, 2022 in Pittsburgh, PA. Of course, Pittsburgh is now the start of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail extending 4,900 miles and extends to Astoria, Oregon. The LCTHF meeting partners include the Senator John Heinz History Center and the Beaver County Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation. The meeting will concentrate on Pittsburgh area Lewis sites from the late 1790s to the early 1800s. The meeting will include a trolley ride of historic downtown Pittsburgh, live presentations and an Ohio River dinner boat cruise. The meeting headquarters and host hotel will be the Drury Plaza Pittsburgh Downtown.

Stay informed with up dates in THE ORDERLY REPORT, ON THE OHIO and WPO as well as upcoming LCTHF Outreach Committee blogs, Facebook posts, etc. Registration information traditionally appears in the February issue of WPO as well as the LCTHF web page (bringing in February of 2022)..

Thus, ORC members, plan on August 7 – 10, 2022. However, the Pittsburgh area has many historical sites, so s feel free to come early and stay late.

Photo of the Point at Pittsburgh by Janice Wilson (Was this the Expedition's departure point?)

Submitted by Jerry Wilson
On behalf of the LCTHF Eastern Legacy Committee



Officers of the Ohio River Chapter

President	Chuck Crase	afccecrase@roadrunner.com
Vice-President	Sandy Hennings	sandybear48813@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Skip Jackson	Jackson.skip@yahoo.com
Secretary	Alice Crase	afccecrase@roadrunner.net

