



"on the river where the journey began"

On The Ohio.....

The Ohio River Chapter

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

www.lewisandclark.org

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Meriwether Lewis Wm Clark

President's Report

The Ohio River Chapter had a very successful and enjoyable meeting at Marietta, Ohio. The meeting was in conjunction with the "Inland Waterways Festival" sponsored by the Ohio River Museum. The Festival was a one-day event held on Saturday August 3rd. The ORC has a booth with banners, display tables and posters depicting the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Multiple pamphlets, brochures and maps were made available to the public. There were 13 members of the ORC in attendance and all participated/shared time in the booth meeting the public and discussing the Lewis and Clark story. Richard and Sandy Hennings also had a booth displaying their extensive Lewis and Clark memorabilia and artifacts. I personally thought it was a great L & C display, the display included written descriptions and quotes from the journals describing the significance of each item. A lot of work went into creating this display and the Chapter owes a special thanks to Richard and Sandy for their hard work and meticulous attention to detail. Richard indicated that he had over 300 visitors sign their journal. The visitors were interested and receptive to the Lewis and Clark story.

Our topic discussed at the Chapter Meeting Saturday night was content and constructive for future ORC meetings. The discussion revolved around TEACHING versus TOURING activities at the ORC meetings. Teaching refers to Chapter members engaging others and making them aware of the L & C story while concurrently instilling in them a desire to learn more and to actively pursue the story. Some examples would be the meeting at Marietta, Kalamazoo or the Handshake event. Some Chapter meetings think that using props and demonstrations is the best way to teach the L & C story and bring it to life. It certainly makes for a lasting impression and it does not necessarily require period dress or re-enacting. Touring at meetings refers to the members visiting various L & C sites, historic sites, interesting sites, museums and the like as a part of Chapter meetings. Chapter meetings at New Harmony, Lawrenceburg and Fort Southwest Point, more or less, would be examples. Certainly, a long series of lectures can be boring and not very productive and touring, if it involved a lot of driving and travel could also be boring. I think the Chapter needs a balance between these two approaches to our meetings. The ORC is so spread out that it seems unreasonable to expect members to drive great distances for just a business meeting. I believe that is the reason our Chapter meetings have evolved into basically three day events. That would provide time for teaching, touring and an ORC business meeting. Naturally, we do want to continue having interesting and stimulating meetings and events for our members that will keep them interested in the Chapter. This is a legitimate concern for all Chapter members. I would like all of you to think on these points and the Chapter will have a follow up discussion at our fall meeting in Clarksville.

It is now time for each member to renew their membership in the ORC. Dues are now due. Richard has already e-mailed each member a "Membership Renewal Form" for year 2020. Please fill it out and get your dues in as soon as possible. For those members who are still delinquent with their 2019 dues, please add that payment to your current check and get caught up.

The next Chapter meeting and event will be "Lewis and Clark-the Handshake" in Clarksville October 5th & 6th, 2019. Sandy has an update elsewhere in this newsletter. Please, take time to check out the schedule and mark the

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dates on your calendar. I hope each of you are planning to attend and spend part of your time at the ORC booth engaging with the visitors and interpreting the L & C story for them. I will have lots of props, brochures, pamphlets and maps to help explain the story and to gift to the visitors.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Clarksville.
Chuck Crase
Ohio River Chapter President
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Board

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## Secretary's Report

**Minutes ORC  
Saturday August 3, 2019  
Layfatte Hotel  
Marietta, Ohio**

**Members present:**

Chuck Crase, President Alice Crase, Secretary, Jerry Wilson, Janice Wilson, Mike Loesch, Lorraine Loesch, Bill Forehand, Jennie Forehand, Jim Koss, Ginny Koss and Lorna Hainesworth.  
Also present for Chapter Functions, but absent from Chapter Business Meeting;  
Richard Hennings, Communications Officer and Sandy Hennings, Vice-President

**Guest speaker**

Glenna Hoff, Education/Program Director at Campus Martius and Ohio River Museums, was introduced to the group at dinner and gave a presentation on the naming of Marietta and local history. After dinner, she graciously answered questions and discussed David McCollough and his researching for his book, "The Pioneers". This was a very interesting discussion.

**Call to order:**

Chuck Crase, President, called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.

**Opening ceremony:**

The opening prayer, pledge of allegiance and reading of "La Belle Riviere" were suspended because of the late hour. Members present were advised to google "La Belle Riviere", by Col. R. T. Durrett, and read this interesting 1888 article on the naming of the Ohio River.

The meeting site was then moved to the Hotel Lobby due to the excessive noise level in the restaurant.

**Approval of minutes**

There being no additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting of Saturday, March 19, 2019, Kalamazoo, MI, the minutes were filed.

**Reports of officers**

President;

Membership, delinquent dues; Chuck indicated that there are several active members with delinquent dues and he will be sending out notification emails to these individuals.

Chapter Insurance; Chuck stated that the Foundation's insurance coverage is being reviewed by President Lou Ritten. Lou has indicated by email that the Foundation's policy may not cover the individual chapters. Lou will be

investigating this issue and discussing the coverage options with the Foundation's insurance company and will keep us informed. Chuck further stated that it was essential that the ORC have insurance coverage. He further stated that the ORC may have to buy a rider to the Foundation's policy to extend coverage to the chapter. The issue was discussed by the membership but no action was taken. Chuck further indicated that this issue will be discussed in detail at the LCTHF Annual Meeting in St. Louis.

Handshake Event; Chuck indicated that he had a discussion with VP Sandy Hennings about the Event and she wanted to relay this update. She has discussed the insurance coverage for the Event with the Falls of the Ohio State Park and they have assured her that we would be considered guests and not vendors and therefore would not need additional insurance coverage. Sandy did indicate that she would email the membership an update on the Event within the next two weeks.

Future Meetings; Chuck also indicated that Sandy wanted the Chapter to discuss changing the focus of the Chapter Meetings from a touring focus to an interactive/teaching focus. The topic was presented and the membership discussed this issue but no action or decision was made. Chuck did point out that next year's meetings have not been scheduled.

#### Treasurer:

In Skip's absence, no financial report was available. Lorna did indicate that Skip told her he would email the report to the membership.

Communications Officer: No Report.

#### **Reports of committees**

##### LCTHF Wellness Challenge

Jerry indicated that in 2018-2019 there were 12 teams and 46 members. The 2019-2020 Challenge begins September 1, 2019. Jerry also stated that the committee would start working on a fundraiser for incentives for the program.

##### L&C EL Uniform Sign System

Mike Loesch gave a detailed report updating the committee's activities and subsequently submitted a written email summary of his comments as follows:

Following points

1. Members of the Eastern Legacy Signage project attended the trail extension ceremony conducted at the Falls of the Ohio State Park on May 13th. Approximately 300 members of the public, media, politicians, and Lewis and Clark related organizations attended the event. Members of the Committee met with representatives of the National Park Service after the event to discuss potential collaborative efforts between the ORC and the National Park Service in promoting and interpreting the newly created 1,000 miles extension located on the Ohio River between Cairo and Pittsburgh.

2. Members of the project will be attending a ceremony in Pittsburgh, PA on 15 August that dedicates the completion of a set of Lewis and Clark interpretive signs located at a Mt. Washington overlook that interprets historic events that occurred on Brunots Island on 31 August 1803. Ms. Brenda Applegate director of the Beaver County Historical Research & Landmarks Foundation worked for more than two years with the city of Pittsburgh, PA to get approval to erect interpretive signs and the Eastern Legacy signage. The signs were financed through a grant from the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Endowment Fund.

3. The Virginia Great Valley Lewis and Clark Eastern Legacy Trail (VGV-LCELT) has become a partner of the Eastern Legacy signage program. This is an regional umbrella sponsoring group with the potential of more than doubling the number of sites currently signed through the program (potential to sign from 50 - 100 additional sites).

4. Paige Cruz met with the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding potential placement of signage at the locks and dams located along their section of the Ohio River. If all locks and dams within the 4

districts along the Ohio are signed more than 20 additional facilities will be added to the program.

5. Passage of the recent extension trail legislation is opening additional opportunities to dramatically increase the scope of the Eastern Legacy Signage Program.

Submitted by Eastern Legacy Signage Program Co-Manager and Eastern Legacy Committee Member Mike Loesch

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Lorna made the following suggestions;

Read "The Pioneers" by David McCullough.

Bob Anderson has been hospitalized and everyone should send him a card.

Frank Muhly, considered the grandfather of the Philadelphia Chapter, turns 99 on August 4 and everyone should send him best wishes.

Go to [www.thelafayettetrail.com](http://www.thelafayettetrail.com) for information on General Lafayette's Farewell Tour of 1824-1825 as the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary approaches.

Chuck distributed the following Volunteer Medals:

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Volunteer 2016 Pin

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Volunteer 2018 Pin

National Trails System 50<sup>th</sup> Year Volunteer Commemorative Medallion

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Alice Crase, Secretary

August 22 , 2019

Attachments:

1. Lou Ritten email
2. Mike and Lorraine Loesch email Aug 12, 2019
3. Letter from Mark Weekly, Superintendent LCNHT, Recognition of Volunteer Hours

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FROM THE JOURNALS

13th This morning being clear we pursued our journey at sunrise and after passing a few ripples over which we had to lift the boat we arrived at Marietta, the mouth of the Muskingum river, at 7 o'clock in the evening observed many pigeons passing over us pursuing a south east course. The squirrels still continue to cross the river from N. W. to S. E.—Marietta is one hundred miles from Wheeling; lay here all night wrote to the President of U.S. dismissed two of my hands, one of whom by the name of Wilkinson I had engaged at Georgetown, the other Saml. Montgomery, I engaged at Wheeling, my party from Pittsburgh to Mackintosh

was 11 strong from thence to georgetown 10, from thence to Wheeling 11, from thence to Muskingum 13, from thence to Limestone 12, at Wheeling I engaged Montgomery and a young man come on board and agreed to work his passage, on the same terms I engaged another at Marietta or the mouth of Muskingum— This evening was visited by Colo. Green ^{56th} the Postmaster at this place, he appears to be much of a gentleman and an excelant republican

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

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Second Annual Handshake Event

A fun and educational festival will be held October 5th & 6th at the Falls of the Ohio Museum, honoring the handshake that occurred between Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The two men met at the Falls of the Ohio, and it was here that the Corps of Discovery began. This event will draw Lewis and Clark supporters from around the area with displays representing the famed Expedition. Tour the grounds and witness a blacksmith forging iron into useful items, or a weaver making fabric from strands of wool. Try your hand at throwing a tomahawk or the bow and arrow. A display of 18th century medicines and instruments will certainly make you happy you to be living in the 21st century. A group of musicians using dulcimers and other stringed instruments will entertain throughout the day with music from days long ago. Several other activities and speakers are also planned.

With the Ohio River now officially designated as a part of the Lewis and Clark story, al of the communities along the river can now take an active role in telling this amazing story, especially Clarksville and the surrounding area..

Several folks have contributed much of their time in seeing that this event is a success, but now it is up to you to do your part. Gather up your family and friends and bring them to the event. You are almost guaranteed to not only learn something new, but have a good time doing so..

LCTHF WELLNESS CHALLENGE SPONSORED BY THE OHIO RIVER CHAPTER

The 2018-2019 wellness challenge ended June 30, 2019. All participants who completed the program will receive a special incentive prize (incentive prizes are awarded each year). To highlight the foundation's 50th celebration, this year's incentive is a 50th logo patch (see the photo). All of the participants have been notified of the patch and will receive it at the St. Louis Annual Meeting, or it will be mailed.

In order to receive a reduced price from our supplier, we ordered 100 patches. After awarding patches to the participants, we will have approximately 50 remaining. As a fundraiser for future incentive prize purchases, we are selling the rest. The price per patch is \$7.00. We will have the patches at the St. Louis Annual Meeting for anyone who wishes to have this keepsake. We would prefer check payment made to Ohio River



Chapter. If we still have remaining patches we will sell via mail (\$7.00 for the patch plus \$1.00 for shipping). You can contact us at wilsonjkw@yahoo or wilsonjanicem@yahoo.com.

ORC members, we have any extra patches at the Handshake Festival.

Janice Wilson

Jerry Wilson

LCTHF Wellness Challenge Sponsored by the Ohio River Chapter co-chairs

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FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

LCTHF EASTERN LEGACY REPORT

With the Lewis and Clark National Historical Trail now extended from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Wood River, Illinois we believe it is important to occasionally update our membership about sites, events, etc. of our Eastern Legacy. The August 2019 WPO featured several well written articles and the 2019 TOR had several as well.

Following is a list and short summary of several Eastern Legacy happenings. Some you are familiar with, others may be new, but they all have importance to the LCTHF, the LCNHT and to followers of the Corps:

May 13, 2019. 60 days out media event in Clarksville, Indiana, celebrating the signing of the trail extension. In attendance were many LCTHF members, Indiana Lewis and Clark Foundation members, LCDESC members (with their keelboat), as well as LCNHT staff. Also in attendance were Indiana, Kentucky and Clarkville politicians (thank you U.S. Senator Todd Young from Indiana) and many locals including staff of the Falls of the Ohio (Indiana) State Park.

May 25, 2019 The first of three Lewis and Clark events at Big Bone Lick State Historic Site in Union, Kentucky. The first event was a display of time period items. The second event was a Lewis and Clark themed hike held in June. And a third, a Lewis and Clark camp out, had to be canceled. The park staff and their friends group plan to continue with future Lewis and Clark activities.

June 9, 2019. Gass Family Celebration in Washington, Pennsylvania. Corps member Patrick Gass descendants Eugene Gass Painter (who was to turn 104) and Eugene's great granddaughter, Maggie Layne, were honored. Eugene received a nicely framed certificate for many years of telling the Lewis and Clark story and to Maggie for her work with Girl Scouts of America. In attendance were several LCTHF members from three different chapters, many Gass family members, as well as some locals.

June 28-30, 2019. Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 75th Anniversary. As followers of the Lewis and Clark interested in their Lewis and Clark sites. The main site is their Meriwether Lewis at Harpers Ferry Museum. Two LCTHF members served as volunteer guides and interpreters at the museum. President Jefferson happened to be there, as well. The park staff and their support group were very appreciative of LCTHF being an official sponsor of the celebration. They all recalled the wonderful cooperation displayed at our 2016 annual meeting.

July 8, 2019. Tour of Big Bone Lick State Historic Site in Union, Kentucky. Review of Lewis and Clark related sites. In attendance was the LCNHT superintendent, a member of the Lewis and Clark Trust, a LCTHF member, park staff and members of their support group. Proper trail signage was a major topic as was a visit with the park's bison herd (with my emphasis on the ORC Adopt-a-Bison program).

August 3, 2019. Marietta, Ohio. A very fine Ohio River Chapter meeting in conjunction with Marietta's Inland Waterway Festival. A good crowd in attendance including 12 ORC members.

August 9, 2019. Lewis and Clark at the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis, Indiana. For several years the Indiana Lewis and Clark Foundation has promoted the expedition in general and Indiana in particular, especially Clarksville. Now there is further promotion for the entire trail from Pittsburgh to Wood River and west to the Pacific

Ocean. Always an interested crowd. Three members of the Indiana L & C Foundation, who are also members of the ORC and LCTHF were in attendance.

August 15, 2019. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Down the River with Lewis and Clark. The dedication ceremony of an interpretive sign overlooking the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers which form the Ohio River, as well as overlooking Brunot's island. In attendance were members of the LCTHF, Ohio River Chapter and the Monongahela Chapter, the LCNHT superintendent, local politicians, and most importantly the executive director of the Beaver County (down river from Pittsburgh) Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation and her staff. As an added bonus members of the LCTHF Eastern Legacy Committee were given the honor of unveiling the sign.



Submitted by Jerry Wilson
Ohio River Chapter member

LCNHT EASTERN LEGACY DOWN THE OHIO

Thursday, August 15, 2019 several members of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and the Ohio River Chapter attended and participated in a sign dedication ceremony honoring the Corps of Discovery. The ceremony took place on Mt. Washington overlooking the confluence of the two rivers forming the Ohio River. Pictured in the photo are Mike Losech (LCTHF Eastern Legacy committee member), Brenda Applegate (Executive Director of the Beaver County, Pennsylvania Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation, and the person responsible for the ceremony), Jerry Wilson (LCTHF Eastern Legacy committee member), Paige Cruz (LCTHF Eastern Legacy committee chair) and Mark Weekley (superintendent of the LCNHT). Also in attendance were LCTHF and ORC members Jane Knox, Jim Knox, Lorraine Losech and Janice Wilson, as well as many local dignitaries. This sign dedication ceremony took place on Pittsburgh's Mt. Washington. Overlooking Mike's head is Brunot's Island and to the left of Mark (not visible in the photo) is the Point or Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle.

Now that the Lewis and Clark National Historical Trail officially begins in Pittsburgh, although I still go by UNDAUNTED COURAGE Page 117, "When they shook hands the Lewis and Clark Expedition began.", look for more "Down the River" articles in future OTOs.

Submitted by Jerry Wilson
Photos by Janice Wilson

LEWIS AND CLARK AT THE INDIANA STATE FAIR

Several members of the Indiana Lewis and Clark Foundation made their annual trip to the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis, Indiana on August 9, 2019. The group meets to help promote and educate interested persons about

Lewis and Clark in Indiana, especially the Falls of the Ohio area, the Lewis and Clark Eastern Legacy, and now the LCNHT extension from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Wood River, Illinois.

Pictured in the photo, which is located at the Indiana Department of Natural resources "Front Porch" are Jerry Wilson, Phyllis Yeager and Jim Keith. The photo was taken by Brian Kaluzky. It is always invigorating to know the interest the Lewis and Clark Expedition has with fair attendees

Submitted by Jerry Wilson
Indians Lewis and Clark Foundation member
Ohio River Chapter member



Congratulations to Gass Family Descendants

Eugene Gass Painter and great granddaughter, Maggie Layne, were honored at a June 9th, 2019 ceremony in Washington, Pennsylvania. Eugene was given a framed certificate for his many years of "telling the story" of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Maggie was honored with the first ever Girl Scout Patch awarded by the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. Be sure to check out the longer story that appears in the September TOR.

Thanks to LCTHF President Lou Ritten and LCTHF & ORC members Bud Clark, Janice Wilson, Jerry Wilson and former LCTHF executive Director Lindy Hatcher for making this happen.

See the photo of Gass family attendees and notice that Eugene celebrated his 104th birthday.

Submitted by Jerry Wilson



With this issue of your newsletter we will start a new series. I thought it would be interesting to learn the journey our members have taken to Lewis and Clark. This time it is from ORC President Chuck Crase. I will be reaching out to all of you in the future.

Thanks,
Rich

My Journey to Lewis and Clark

I became fascinated with Montana and the Lewis and Clark story in the summer of 1971. I had arranged an externship with doctors in Sidney on the Yellowstone River in Eastern Montana and in Polson on the Flathead Lake and River in the West. Alice taught school and had the summer off. So, we took the back seat out of our Volkswagen convertible and packed the Bug with camping supplies, luggage and the like. Unfortunately, the tent poles would not fit, inside the VW, so they were tied to the rear bumper. We put the top down and headed west.

In Sidney, the arid climate, vast rolling plains and distant snow-covered mountains made the Big Sky Country absolutely mesmerizing. We fell in love with Montana. We also noticed in driving around that there were a lot of Lewis and Clark Byway Markers. We stopped at all of them. We started doing some reading on L & C. one Saturday afternoon we headed out to an old fort historic site located where the Yellowstone River joins the Missouri River. The drive was a long one along a gravel road listed as a state highway. It was actually an access road for the ranches along the way plus the historic site. At one point we had to stop and wait while a rancher and his cowhands, on horseback, moved a herd of cattle across the road. This was quite a sight. I got out and took pictures. As the last of the cattle crossed the road, the rancher turns and tipped his hat to us. we returned the salute and drove on.

Arriving at the historic site, I noticed some markers, but no fort or other structures. The juncture of the two rivers was clearly seen from our elevated lookout. We saw the rivers, the valley, the plains surrounding the site, the dense tree line along the rivers, but no sign of civilization. There were no roads, no buildings, no power lines or structures in sight. This view, this country, these rivers looked exactly the same as when Lewis and Clark passed here. It was an amazing realization and a thought that has remained ingrained in me ever since. Having this experience, visiting other L & C sites and just being in Montana hooked me on the Lewis and Clark Story and on the Big Sky Country. They are both fabulous.

We did a lot of touring that summer, including The National Bison Range near Polson, the C. M. Russell Museum in Great Falls, Yellowstone National Park, The Tetons, Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyoming, Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, Fort Peck Dam and Lake, Glacier National Park and the Prince of Wales Hotel in Waterton Lakes National Park

Montana is still our favorite summer vacation destination. We have been over most of the LCNHT. We will never get tired of visiting the trail, Montana or the Rocky Mountains of the great Northwest.

Submitted by Chuck Crase/ ORC-President/LCTHF Bpard.



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