

# Washington State Chapter, LCTHF, Inc.

## *Worthy Of Notice*

**November 2004 Newsletter**

Vol. 5, Issue 5

Tim Underwood, Editor

-- Dedicated to the Memory of Pam Anderson --



### **President's Message**

The mission of the LCTHF is to stimulate appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition's contribution to America's heritage and to support education, research, development and preservation of the Lewis and Clark experience. The chapter's last meeting emulated our mission statement. The boat tour of the Columbia and Snake Rivers resulted in a serendipitous research project (see article on Yakima River, page 7). With the aid of a GPS unit that *just happened* to show up onboard the participants in the boat tour were absorbed in another controversy relating to the expedition. It is typical of students of Lewis and Clark to explore the minute points of the expedition's story. We may not have solved the mystery but we sure had fun collecting the data for the spontaneous research project.

The chapter meeting at Lewis and Clark Trail State Park furthered the Lewis and Clark experience. Camping out in a state park and a potluck dinner was not comparable to the experiences of the Corps of Discovery but the ambiance was rewarding. Several period costume participants set the setting around a campfire dinner that the original expedition would have traded all their trade goods for the meal. The evening was concluded with campfire camaraderie that centered on the exploits of our heroes. The jug of Apple Pie (a special drink) was soon drained.

During the meeting the membership was informed of some of the chapter's and individual member's accomplishments in fulfilling our mission statement. Congratulations to Steve Wang for receiving recognition for his efforts pertaining to the remodeling at Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center – Cape Disappointment. George Eisentrout also received an LCTHF award for his service in supervising the development and display of the woodcarver's exhibit. Our chapter received an LCTHF Chapter Award for presenting the woodcarver's exhibit to the public and stimulating interest in the Lewis and Clark story. Our chapter also received an award form the National Park Service for its volunteer hours involving the Lewis and Clark Trail. Thanks to Rob Heacock for collecting all the information and reporting our volunteer hours.

Education Committee Chairman, Ruth Norwood, reported on a chapter project that will benefit teachers and encourage them to include the Lewis and Clark story in their classes. Members of the committee are developing a video tape for instructing teachers on how to incorporate the many topics that relate to the expedition into their courses; in addition to American heritage studies. The LCTHF Curriculum Guide will help middle school teachers to incorporate the Lewis and Clark story into their American and Washington State classes. Please consider purchasing a curriculum guide for your school district if you have not already done so.

The final topic of the evening pertained to next year's slate of officers and board members. Remember that our chapter election is held at our annual business meeting at the Washington State History Museum, Tacoma, in February (see "Future Events" section on the back page). Nominations are open for next years' leaders of the chapter. Please notify the Nomination Committee, Muff Donohue and Connie Estep, if you are interested in becoming involved. Our chapter needs your involvement to continue its fulfillment of our mission statement.

Doc Wesselius



## September 25, 2004 Boat Trip and Meeting

A beautiful fall sunrise, a mirror-smooth river and jumping fish – salmon, of course, and we without a net! - greeted the 34 members and guests at the Columbia Marina in Kennewick, the departure point for our boat trip to the Yakama and Snake rivers. Our first destination for this “sojourn” was the mouth of the Yakama River, or the Tapteal or Tapetete in the native language. Our mission was to try to determine, if possible, whether Captain Clark actually reached the mouth or if he just wrote a good description of it based on native information. (See page 7 for a more complete discussion on the matter.) And if he didn’t reach it, how far did he travel that October afternoon 199 years ago?

Our vessel for this trip was a 35-foot, 3-motor jet boat with open seating that was just right for the ensuing “discussions” about where Clark turned around. To be sure, the journals and maps were out to try and identify the islands and shoreline to bolster the arguments. Roger Amundson even had his GPS unit to check our mileages as we traveled up and down the rivers. We were fortunate to have with us copies of Martin Plamondon’s terrific maps of the area. They were, indeed, a great help. There were disagreements aplenty, but nothing that raised the ire too high. Most of it was good-natured arguing. We were lucky that several members have lived in the area for many years and were very helpful in identifying where features had once been before the dam impoundments. Some of the islands mentioned in Clark’s journal are still visible, but only as a small percentage of what they once had been. Thanks to member Gary Busselman, we learned that the railroad bridge between Kennewick and Pasco was built on the rapids that Clark showed on his map. From this, we were able to establish our location on the river fairly well. On our way to the “rapids,” we were shown the approximate location of where the “Kennewick Man” was found.



*Our "crew" for this sojourn.*

At the mouth of the Snake (Lewis's) River, we stopped for a short respite at Sacajawea State Park in order to explore the Visitor's Center, hear about the changes that have been planned – they are waiting for just one more permit! – and hear a delightful, though brief, group of fiddle ditties by park ranger Reade Obern.

After re-embarking, we went up the Snake River toward Ice Harbor Dam. Along the way, we saw islands and the “point of rocks” that Clark mentioned in his journal. When we saw several White Pelicans, we even discussed how many gallons of water their beaks could hold, complete with the little verse to that effect, enthusiastically recited by Tom Laidlaw.

The return trip up the Columbia was used to check the mileages to confirm our downstream figures. They did, leading to the conclusion that Clark was off because of overestimating his distances. (Again, see the article on page 7.) Our GPS mileage was 10.7 miles compared to his 21 miles for the same stretch between the mouths of the Snake and the Yakama Rivers.

Upon our return to the marina and the traditional photo, we broke for lunch and re-assembled later for a caravan to Lewis and Clark State Park for the evening festivities. Along the way we stopped to see a seldom-seen plant, the prickly pear cactus, some different “sages” of the brush variety and a neat little tule mat tipi that was constructed by local high school students for a project.

At the potluck, we enjoyed Gary’s posole (See the recipe in the Nov. ’03 WON.)

and many other dishes to go with it, including

“Apple Pie.” (See page 10 for the recipe.)

Special guests included Captain Meriwether Lewis (Glen Allison), Sgt. Patrick Gass (Gary

Lentz), Pvt. John Shields (Tom Laidlaw), and Pvt. Joseph Whitehouse (John Orthman)

all in various styles of period dress.

A chapter meeting was conducted after the meal – despite some of us still dipping into the posole pot and the apple pie jug! First and foremost were the awards.

The chapter and two of our members were recipients of 4 awards at the August National Convention in Bismarck, ND. The State Parks and Recreation Department’s head of Interpretive Programs, Steve Wang, received an award for his outstanding efforts concerning the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Cape Disappointment State Park in Ilwaco as well as other parks around the state. George Eisentrout received an award for his tremendous efforts in putting together the flora and fauna wood-carvers exhibit and getting it out to the public. Along with the George, the chapter received an award for our sponsorship of the carving exhibit. This was one of only two chapter awards that were presented, the other being the Traveler’s Rest chapter for their work on that campsite. The chapter also received an award from the National Park Service for all of our volunteer hours of work to help preserve the sites and the story of the Corps of Discovery.

Committee reports followed, with Ruth Norwood bringing us up-to-date on the Education Committee. She met with Peter Donaldson to see about producing a Lewis and Clark instructional video for teachers that would include, besides history, math and science as it was used and related by the captains. This video would be directed toward the middle school grades but could be adapted for other grades, as well.

Sunday morning saw most of us on our way to Dayton to look at, and give input to, a scale “cut out” display of the May 2, 1806 campsite. Columbia County, behind the efforts of George Touchette, is going to recreate the camp – on the actual meadow site – by using life-size cut outs made of 5/16<sup>th</sup> inch plate steel – tents, baggage, people and horses all! Our job was to view the cutout layout and make comments on how it could be improved to make the scene as real as possible. This we did – much to George’s satisfaction. We then went out to the actual site 2 miles east of town on Patit Creek and visually recreated the scene in the meadow, with Gary providing additional information.

Again, following the customary group photo, we “broke camp” and made our own sojourns back to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, all having had another wonderful and very informative weekend on The Trail.



*The tule-mat tipi and friends*

# Kayaking in the Wake of Lewis and Clark

By Bill Lauman

I have always felt that for the enjoyment and real understanding of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, retracing their route in person is the frosting on the cake. Since 80-85% of their journey was by rivers, retracing means getting out on the water. During the last 5 years I have been fortunate to canoe through the White Cliffs of the Missouri River, float the last part of the Madison River to the Three Forks, motor boat through the Gates of the Mountain, paddle wheel the Columbia Gorge area, kayak between Skamakawa and Cathlamet, and recently, with our Chapter, to jet boat the Snake River / Columbia River confluence. So, when I was invited several months ago to join a group of kayakers for 5 days on the lower Columbia River, I eagerly agreed.

After a day trip to Government Island, we kayaked 90 miles from the I-5 bridge in Portland almost to Astoria. I figured that the stretch of the Columbia from Portland to the mouth of the river at Cape Disappointment encompasses 19 Lewis and Clark campsites, 11 on the Westward trip and 8 on the return trip. We were not able to visit all of them on our trip, but we did see the approximate location of 10 sites and camped at 2 of them. The Lewis and Clark campsites that we saw were:

## Westbound

November 3, 1805— Government Island (Diamond Island)

November 4, 1805— On the mainland opposite the Willow Bar Boat Ramp at Sauvie Island (Wappato Island)

November 5, 1805— Near the Prescott County Park

November 6, 1805— Near Cape Horn

November 26, 1805—Near Burnside (After Crossing the Columbia River)

## Eastbound

March 24, 1806-- Aldrich Point (We camped here)

March 25, 1806-- Beaver Slough confluence with the Columbia (Near Clatskanie)

March 26, 1806-- Walker Island (We camped here)

March 27, 1806-- Near Goble

March 28, 1806-- North end of Deer Island

While I greatly enjoyed seeing these sites, I was sorry to miss both Pillar Rock ( Nov. 7, 1805— “Great joy in camp...”) and Grays Bay, where our heroes were trapped November 8-9, 1805. I had seen the Pillar Rock site by land, as I had the Hungry Harbor, Dismal Nitch and Station Camp sites. I still want to get to Grays Bay.

What was it like kayaking the lower Columbia almost 200 years after Lewis and Clark? I hold the Corps in even more awe and admiration after experiencing the river and weather so closely. We became very familiar with the currents and the tidal actions. The tides dominate this section of the lower Columbia River. We had to get up 1½ hours before daylight during our trip to get the benefit of the ebb tide, and keep very close to the banks during the flood tides. We did not experience the rain or wind that Lewis and Clark had, but we did have the fog. We needed all of our charts and our GPS to navigate correctly through the islands that comprise the present day Lewis and Clark National Wildlife Refuge on the south side of the Columbia above Astoria.

As I paddled and steered my 45 pound kayak, I could not help but think of the difficulty that the Corps of Discovery had doing the same with their 2,000 pound dugouts fully loaded and carrying 6-7 people subjected to the heavy rains and fierce winds from which we were spared. As we set up our REI tents, cooked our fresh food on gas burners, I thought of their lack of both. When we donned our dry clothes and Gortex jackets, I thought about their rotting clothes. It all made me realize what a difference 200 years makes. But, then again, when we gathered around our campfire each evening to talk, to laugh, and to sing, I was reminded that some things never change.

(Bill made this trip beginning a day after our chapter meeting in SE Washington in September. Thanks for sharing your experiences, Bill. WON, 2004)

## **LEWIS AND CLARK CULTURAL WEEKEND SCHEDULED FOR THE LONG BEACH PENINSULA OVER NOVEMBER 12, 13 AND 14, 2004**

'Ocian in View' program will launch the "One-Year Countdown" for the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Signature Event, *Destination: The Pacific*, and will feature programs on the California Condor and Interpreter/Hunter George Drouillard.

**LONG BEACH, Wash.** – Building up to the West Coast's signature Lewis and Clark event in November 2005, 'Ocian in View' will once again present compelling and entertaining programs that explore the significance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Those interested in delving into aspects of this important history are invited to the Long Beach Peninsula November 12 through 14 to discover more about the journey that shaped America's future.

The 2004 'Ocian in View' program will feature two evenings of lectures. On Friday, the naturalist aspect of the Corps of Discovery will be visited with talks about the California Condor, recovery efforts and related storytelling citing William Clark's journals, where this great winged raptor was first recorded. Saturday's presentations will offer perspectives and portrayals of George Drouillard, the hunter and interpreter whom Capt. Meriwether Lewis called one of the most important members of the Expedition. Guided history tours, Columbia River boat excursions, a Chinook seafood dinner, and more will round out the weekend's activities.

*Destination: The Pacific* is a nationally sanctioned Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemorative event, which will take place from Nov. 11 to 15, 2005, with events stretching from Long Beach, Washington, to Cannon Beach, Oregon. *Destination: The Pacific* will include 'Ocian In View' educational programs in both Oregon and Washington. The 2004 'Ocian in View' will launch the one-year countdown to this signature event commemorating the Corps' realization of Jefferson's quest – arrival by land at the Pacific Ocean – and the wintering over at Fort Clatsop.

'Ocian in View' is presented by the Pacific County Friends of Lewis & Clark. The program is made possible in part by a grant from Humanities Washington, a statewide non-profit organization supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, and local contributors. For more information on the program, call 360-642-2805 and for available lodging, call the Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau at 1-800-451-2542 or access the Peninsula's website at [www.funbeach.com](http://www.funbeach.com). Lewis and Clark information is available at [www.lewisandclarkwa.org](http://www.lewisandclarkwa.org).

### 'Ocian in View' Program Details

#### ***Lewis and Clark and the California Condor*, Friday, Nov. 12, 7PM, Ilwaco Heritage Museum, Admission \$10**

Nearly two centuries ago, Capt. William Clark wrote in his journal the first scientific record of the condor in America. Near Ilwaco, Washington, he shot a condor feeding on a dead whale and measured its nine and one half foot wingspan. Once plentiful, the condor suffered near extinction and, by 1982, only 24 birds were known to be alive. Today through the efforts of dedicated captive breeding programs, the condor may soon be released to the Columbia River region.

The evening's featured speaker, Joe Burnett, Assistant Curator for the Condor Program at the Oregon Zoo, has been dedicated to increasing the population of the California Condor for eight years. He will draw from his extensive knowledge to discuss this magnificent bird and the unique breeding program at the Zoo. His talk, 'The California Condor – From Near Extinction to Breeding in the Wild – a Legacy of the Lewis & Clark Expedition,' will preview a 'Condors of the Columbia' exhibit planned for the zoo.

Setting the stage for Burnett, Rex Ziak, historian, cinematographer and author of *In Full View*, will draw from the Journals the connection between the condor and the Lewis and Clark Expedition. A nationally recognized Lewis and Clark speaker, Ziak uses storytelling to bring the drama of the Voyage of Discovery to light.

**George Drouillard – Pathfinder, Hunter & Interpreter, Saturday, Nov. 13, 7PM, Hilltop School Auditorium, Ilwaco, Admission \$10**

This entertaining program will offer an in-depth look at the life of one of the Corps' interpreters and hunters, George Drouillard -- a key member of the Expedition who is often overlooked in the telling of the Lewis and Clark endeavors. A remarkable linguist and tracker, he served as a diplomat between the native tribes and the captains, Lewis and Clark.

Jim Thom, author of *Sign Talker*, a book about Drouillard, will delve into the relationship between 'native' and 'white' cultures, which Drouillard, who was half Shawnee, half French, bridged. Roger Wendlick, Collector in Residence at Lewis & Clark College, will appear in costume and use sign language in a dramatic portrayal of Drouillard. His captivating presentation will offer insight into one of the most interesting members of the Expedition.

**A New Menagerie, Sunday, Nov.14, 2:30 PM, Ft. Columbia State Park Theater, Chinook, WA. Admission free; parking fee \$5.**

Gary Lentz, Washington State Parks Ranger, in the persona of Sgt. Gass, will present an historical overview of the animals encountered by the Expedition in the Pacific Northwest. Using pelts and other props, Lentz will give a beaver-trapping demonstration and share Meriwether Lewis' beaver bait recipe.

Additional activities for this weekend include the following:

A **seafood dinner** prepared by and benefiting the Chinook Tribe, Saturday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>, from 4 PM to 7 PM at the Ilwaco Heritage Museum, the event's co-sponsor. Partake of regional seafood, Indian fry bread, salad, dessert and beverages in the Chinook Nation's homeland. The cost is \$15 per person, \$13 for seniors, and children under 12 are \$5.

New this year is a two-plus hour **charter boat excursion** that will explore the waters Lewis and Clark navigated along the lower Columbia River. Trips will be both Saturday and Sunday mornings, departing at 9:30 AM from the Ilwaco Marina. The cost is \$45 per person. Advanced reservations are required and may be made by calling the Long Beach Peninsula Visitor's Bureau at 1-800-451-2542, or by e-mailing [Joanne@funbeach.com](mailto:Joanne@funbeach.com).

The ever-popular **narrated bus tours** of the Lewis and Clark campsites along the Columbia River – including a walk out to the Pacific Ocean on the Discovery Trail – will take place on Saturday and Sunday from 9 AM to 1 PM. The cost is \$25 per person with advanced reservations required and can be made by calling the Long Beach Peninsula Visitor's Bureau at 1-800-451-2542 or by e-mailing [Joanne@funbeach.com](mailto:Joanne@funbeach.com)

An **open house** at the newly-expanded Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Cape Disappointment State Park with light refreshments will be hosted on Saturday and Sunday from 10 AM to 5 PM both days.

A **book signing** by author James Thom will be held on Thursday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> from 5 PM to 7 PM at the Time Enough Books in Ilwaco's Harbor Village on the Port of Ilwaco. At this wine and cheese event, Thom will sign a number of his many books, including *Sea to Shining Sea*, *Long Knife*, *Sign Talker* and others. For more information, please call 360-642-7667.

At the Ilwaco Heritage Museum, the **grand opening** of *Don't Bother Me with the Facts* – a special Bicentennial exhibition about Lewis and Clark in popular culture – is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 4 PM. The show will be open for public viewing Friday evening during the Condor program and during regular Museum hours from 10 AM to 4 PM. For more information, please call 360-642-3446.

The 'O, How Horrible is the Day' **open house** commemorating the Lewis and Clark Expedition's November on the Columbia River's north shore will take place at the Knappton Cove Heritage Center (3 miles upriver from the north end of the Astoria-Meglar Bridge) on Saturday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 3 PM, and on Sunday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> from 1 PM to 3 PM.

Contact Carolyn Glenn at 360-642-2805, or Carol Zahorsky at 360-704-3020 or [carol@zahorskypr.com](mailto:carol@zahorskypr.com) for more information. Then come and enjoy a great weekend!

## Did Clark See The Yakima River?

By “Students of Lewis and Clark Study”

(The following article was initially written by President Doc Wesselius, who asked several of the members who were also on the boat trip to review and comment on it. The result is a compilation of comments and ideas from six of us altogether. )

Controversy is the fuel of historical research. Students of the Lewis & Clark story are familiar with many controversies concerning the Corps of Discovery. Was Lewis's death murder or suicide? Did Clark see the Pacific Ocean from the Pillar Rock campsite? Was the air gun a single shot or a repeater? When was the first time the expedition saw Mount Hood and from where? Where is the iron boat? The list goes on and on. These questions are fascinating but difficult to verify. Therefore, many of us have learned to agree to disagree on these questions. This is what makes the study of America's epic transcontinental Expedition so interesting.

Our Washington State Chapter plunged into one such controversy during our fall boat tour of the Columbia and Snake rivers. The question arose, “*Did Clark actually see the Yakima River?*”

The challenge of consensus was picked up and examined by the group attending the tour. With the aid of primary documentation, period and modern maps, and a GPS, unit the investigation commenced. The tour boat's captain provided valuable local opinions and knowledge on the subject and Gary Lentz, Eastern Washington's foremost scholar on the expedition, provided reference material for those in attendance. As the boat left the marina we set out to solve the mystery – or create another controversy. *You be the judge.*

On October 17, 1805, Clark wrote in his field notes, “*from those lodges on the island an Indian showed me the mouth of the river that falls in below a high hill on the larboard side North 80 degrees West 8 miles from the island.*” Capt. Clark later wrote his final edition for the day's events, “*from those lodges the natives showed me the mouth of Tap teel River about 8 miles above on the west side.*” Both records provide pertinent information but what are these slightly different accounts telling us today? Was he shown the mouth of today's Yakima River? Was the location of the mouth of today's Yakima River pointed out to him? Many questions about actual occurrences related in the journals arise because of a difference in the style and syntax in the English language that existed two hundred years ago. On too many occasions these interpretations create the controversies pertaining to the expedition. Thus our modern day explorers on this boat tour attempted to sort out the known facts relating to this case.

Clark's **Course and Distance Log** reveals, “*the first course was N 83 degrees W for 6 miles to the lower point of an island on the larboard side. Passed an island in the middle of the river at 5 miles, at the head of which is a rapid. Then West 4 miles to the lower point of an island on the starboard side.*” Interpreting these bearings, the total distance traveled upriver was estimated to be 10 miles. The canoe course started at the point of the “*forks of Columbia,*” went upriver for 6 miles to an island across the river on the south side, and then went 4 miles across the river again to an island on the north side of the river. There the “*Tap teel River*” (today's Yakima River), 8 miles in the distance, was pointed out. Therefore, according to Clark's calculation the mouth of today's Yakima River was 18 miles from the Snake-Columbia confluence.

However, these distances are not consistent with the cartographic information. Clark's maps, compiled on a two-mile grid, represent an entirely different picture. The distance from the Snake-Columbia junction (present day Sacajawea State Park) to the Yakima-Columbia River confluence is depicted as being approximately 10 miles. Why is there such a mapping discrepancy? Probably the obvious answer to that question is due to Clark's field notes, final editions, and maps being compiled at different times. Did Clark adjust his original estimates when he compiled his maps? Notations of these changes in his Fort Clatsop journal writings, where we presume that the maps were created, are lacking.

Of course a major challenge would be in relating our modern investigations without considering the geography that existed two hundred years ago. The river confluence points and shorelines are not the same since Lake Wallula was created by the construction of McNary Dam. The water level in this area was raised creating new islands and inundating old ones. Historic rapids now lie quietly at the bottom of the lake. Hydrographic changes had also occurred prior to the construction of Columbia River dams which, in turn, changed the local topography. Until the river was dammed, islands appeared, disappeared, and moved with the seasonal flooding the river experienced. *Lewis and Clark Trail Maps – A Cartographic Reconstruction, Volume II*, by Martin Plamondon II, was consulted for modern data to compare the present geography with cartographic information prior to the area's inundation.

Clark's approximate starting point at the Snake-Columbia River confluence was pointed out by the captain of the boat. We began our GPS measurements there. The confluence two hundred years ago was located several yards from the present point in today's Sacajawea State Park. Indian Island, a previous arm of the shoreline was isolated after Lake Wallula was created. It was encountered 1.1 miles from the starting point. The first island that Clark encountered, "*Island in the Middle*", was completely submerged below the current lake's water. Clark points out that this island was 5 miles from the starting point and was close by some rapids in the river. The only reference point today would be the BNSF railroad bridge, 3 miles from the starting point, which was built on the firm footing of the ancient rapids. Clark's "*Island on the Larboard Side*" is today's Clover Island, upstream from the Cable Bridge between Pasco and Kennewick and 3.6 miles from the Columbia-Snake confluence. The next bridge across the Columbia River, the US Highway 395 crossing, is 5 miles from the starting point. Its location became important later when trying to determine the location of Clark's "*Island on the Starboard Side*" where he visited Indian lodges and dined with the natives. The next reference point is Goat Island, 8 miles upstream from the starting point. Goat Island is just a small remnant of a large island that was located in the bend of the Columbia. At 9 miles, the lower point of Bateman Island was located. In Clark's time Bateman Island was attached to the southern shoreline and was the site of the large Chemna Village below the confluence of the Yakima River with the Columbia River. Today's junction of Yakima and Columbia rivers, 10.5 miles from the starting point, is a wide river delta instead of the distinct historic river junction Clark may have witnessed.

Having accumulated this information from our Columbia River journey, the next challenge was to determine the approximate location of the island where Clark received his information regarding the river flowing from the West into the Columbia.

Comparing Clark's field notes, final journal entries, and his map of the area with current GPS readings the following conclusions were made:

- Clark's 1805 estimate of an 18 mile geographic distance from the Columbia-Snake confluence to the Columbia-Yakima confluence was approximately double the current measured distances. His map, with two mile grids, closely depicts the actual 10.5 mile topographic distance. Therefore, instead of traveling 10 miles, by his estimate, he would have only covered approximately 5 miles upstream.
- Using the US 395 highway bridge as a reference point, the location of the submerged "*Island on the Starboard Side*" could only be approximated. The island on the north side of the river was across from today's Columbia Marine Park. Locating the exact position of the island where Clark received his cartographic information is left to conjecture. The downriver point of the island, Clark's cartographic reference point, was somewhere upriver from today's highway bridge and across the river from the Veterans Memorial in Columbia Marine Park. At 5.6 miles from the Snake-Columbia confluence, the memorial is a reference point for the approximate location of the submerged island, the extent of Clark's upriver travel.

The question still remains - "Did Clark see the Yakima River?" Using GPS measurements and direct line of sight distances from an island approximately 5 miles from the starting point would locate Clark about 5.5 miles to the Yakima River's confluence. From this location on the north side of the Columbia River a direct line of sight to the confluence on the southwest bank could have been blocked by the mainland due to a bend in the Columbia River's course. The presence of a large island, the top of which is today's Goat Island, would have also obscured Clark's sighting of the mouth of the Yakima River.

Other information that should be considered is as follows:

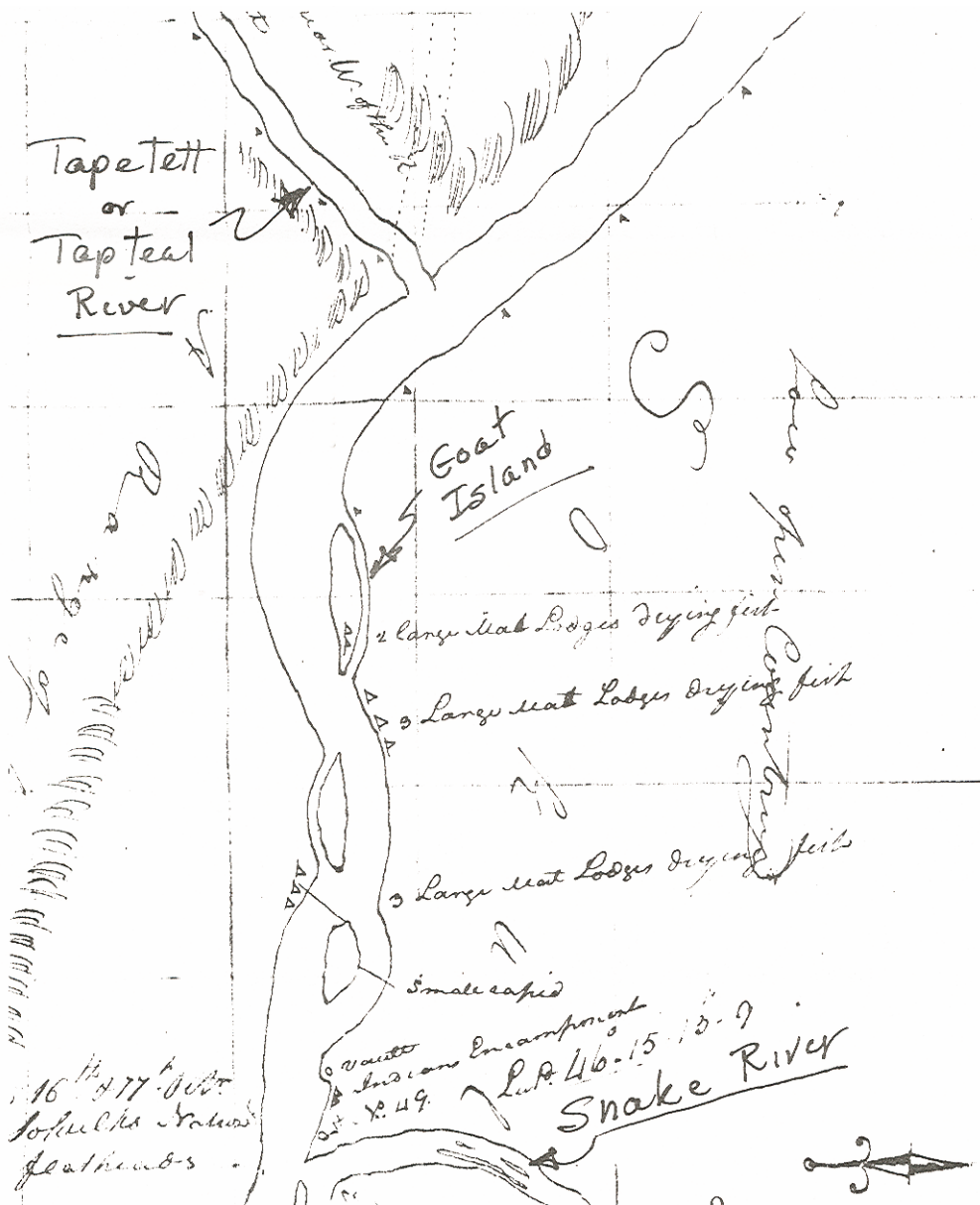
- The detail of Clark's map. Between the Snake River confluence and Goat Island, there is a great deal of detail shown; Indian villages, huts, rapids, islands and twists and turns of the river banks. However, beyond the lower point of Goat Island, there is no detail. All that is shown is more-or-less straight squiggly lines that represent the river's banks. Because of the great amount of detail of areas that we know he did actually view during the journey, this lack of detail would indicate that he did *not* actually view the mouth of the Yakima River.
- Regarding his statement that "*the natives showed me the entrance of a large westerly fork,*" does this mean that they actually pointed it out to him? Or, and what seems more likely given all the above information, did they, as many had done before, just draw a sketch in the dust



“showing” Clark approximately where they were on the island and where the Yakima emptied into the Columbia?

- The time of day and the river current. Clark left camp at 2 PM and traveled upstream. At the present rate of flow, the current on the Columbia is about 5 mph. Even at low water at this time of year and on the “wild” river of 200 years ago, the men would have had to paddle more than the current’s rate in order to gain any headway. This means that in order to reach the last island (Goat Island), they would have had to paddle some 2 to 2 1/2 hours. That would have made the time approximately 4:30. Since dark was around 6:30 (6:15 on October 17, 2004) and they had an hours’ trip back to camp, which they made at “dark,” this leaves only about an hour to hunt (they killed the sage grouse and several other birds and ducks), to look around and to socialize.

This interesting mystery was not completely solved despite our best efforts. It is typical of students of Lewis and Clark to explore the minute points of such controversies in search of historical reality. Even though the exact answer to the question was not determined on this trip, the challenge of sorting out small details and adding new information for future debates was a stimulating exercise. Did Clark see the mouth of the Yakima River on October 17, 1805? The elusive conclusion is up to you.



*Though not a good copy of the map in question, it will at least give an idea of the detail from the Snake River to above Goat Island.*

## Touchet Valley “Apple Pie”

The following recipe is for the “Apple Pie” drink that was served at the pot luck, courtesy of Gary Lentz. Enjoy it, but be careful. It has a bit of a kick to it! The best part is no fork is necessary!!

- 2 gallons apple cider**
- ½ cup honey**
- ½ cup dark molasses**
- 6 cinnamon sticks**
- 1 tablespoon whole cloves**

Add all of the ingredients together in a large covered cooking pot. Bring it to a simmer and reduce the heat to minimum. Simmer for about 2 hours on low heat

Turn off the heat and let the mixture cool slowly to room temperature with the lid remaining on the pot – several hours.

Strain the mixture through a clean cotton cloth to remove the cinnamon and cloves.

Add one fifth (28 ounces) of 190 proof Everclear or Clear Springs alcohol. Stir well. (In a pinch, substitute Bacardi’s 151 Rum for the 190 proof alcohol.)

Store in a crockery jug tightly stoppered and it will last for years – or, until you finish it!

The resulting mixture will be approximately 5% alcohol – a little more than beer and a little less than most wines – and taste just like apple pie...with a little kick. (Glass containers can be used but need to be *tightly* stoppered and should be kept in a dark location.)

The yield will be approximately 9 quarts, maybe enough for the coming holidays.



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## Exit Laughing . . .



The dirty secret of the Lewis and Clark Journals

*Finally, the truth be known!*

# Membership Renewal for 2005

Another year has slipped past; here it is, November again! We have seen some good things take place for the chapter; two very informative meetings in the field, the marketing project, planning for next years' convention, to name a few. With all the other things taking up time in our lives, it seems as if it were just last month that we were meeting in Tacoma and getting a preview of the new exhibit that was about to open.

It is also time to think about membership renewal for 2005. While a few of you are paid up through 2005, most of us are not, and need to consider sending our \$15 check to Rob so that we are good for the next year. Unlike most chapters in the LCTHF, our dues are not broken down into categories of membership, but a single amount that is good for any individual, family or organization, it makes no difference. We have done this in order to encourage as many people who are interested in the Lewis and Clark story to join the chapter. Again, that is just \$15! Not per person in a family that joins, just \$15 **per registration**. Compared to other chapters, that is a very good deal.

Send you checks to Rob using the form below as soon as you can, and please mark them "2005 dues."

Thanks!

(NOTE: If you are not sure of your status, contact Rob for clarification. He can be reached at 509-924-4020 or by e-mail at [heacock1@mindspring.com](mailto:heacock1@mindspring.com).)

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Optional – will be included with membership roster*

### **Chapter Membership**

\$15.00 per year (Jan – Dec) for any person, family, firm, association or corporation.

Please make checks payable to:

**Washington State Chapter, LCTHF, Inc.**

**Mail to:** Rob Heacock, Membership Chair  
13908 E. 27<sup>th</sup> Ct.  
Veradale, WA 99037

Dues are kept as low as possible to encourage wide membership. In addition, members are encouraged to make supplemental donations to help support the organization.

**Please mark if address has changed.**

**NOTE: if you have recently renewed your membership, thank you. Please disregard this notice.**

The above dues are for the Washington State Chapter only. Bylaws state that Chapter members must be current members of the National Foundation. Annual dues are: Individual, \$40 per year; Family, \$55 per year. Membership includes the quarterly magazine *We Proceeded On*. Send foundation dues to: Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403.

## Future Events for the Washington State Chapter

Nov. 12 -14, 2004 – Ilwaco, WA The “Ocian In View” weekend program will be held on the Long Beach Peninsula again this year. Come and hear Joe Burnett speak Friday about the California Condor and the breeding program at the Oregon Zoo. On Saturday, James Thom will acquaint us with George Drouillard, hunter and interpreter. Roger Wendlick will also be there to sign for us, just as “Drewyer” did. Sunday will be a real “zoo” when Gary Lentz brings out his furs and skins and talks to us about the animals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Plan on a fun-filled weekend on the coast! (See pages 5-6 for full details.)

February 5, 2005 – Tacoma, WA. The annual business meeting will be held at the Washington State Historical Society Museum on the mezzanine level. Along with presentations, there will be the election of officers and board members for the next year. Perhaps most importantly will be the update on the planning for the National Convention that will be in Portland next August. More help is always needed. Please plan on attending to find out how you can be a part of the great festivities next summer.

August 5-10, 2005 – Portland, OR. “Gateway to the Pacific,” the 37<sup>th</sup> annual National Convention will be held at Lewis and Clark College in Lake Oswego, OR. This will be our chance to “show off” our part of The Trail. A large number is expected, so plan early to come on down and spend some time on The Trail. There will be two days of tours to the important sites of the Expedition, good food and great camaraderie. Mark your calendars and watch for more details in the coming issues of *WON*.

### ***WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER***

***Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.***

128 Galaxie Road  
Chehalis, WA 98532

### **November 2004 Newsletter**



The mission of the LCTHF is to stimulate appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition's contribution to America's heritage and to support education, research, development and preservation of the Lewis and Clark experience.