

# Worthy of Notice

Washington State Chapter, LCTHF, Inc.

[www.wa-lcthf.org](http://www.wa-lcthf.org)

**September 2008 Newsletter**

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## President's Message:

Here we are, another summer gone and still too many projects unfinished, school has started – for some it was earlier than others - and the cool weather is starting to make its presence felt. However, the cool evenings are a good time to spend around the fire-pit enjoying some “apple pie” and s’mores. It is also a great opportunity to rekindle our ties with the Lewis and Clark story. Reading the journals for the current date can draw up some interesting finds in the lives of the Corps as well as recall our own adventures along The Trail.

As it turns out, it is becoming more important to redouble our interests if the story and The Trail are to remain alive. Not only are industries trying to develop over The Trail route; e.g. the power company along the Portage Route or the grain elevators at Pompey’s Pillar, but now the federal government is getting into it, namely the IRS. Because of this, each chapter is required to sign off on a new charter – though the effective date will remain the original date – and update or replace our by-laws to more closely fit those of the Foundation. This means that the officers and board members will have to spend some time delving into this thorny issue to ensure that our chapter is in compliance with the Foundation so we will not lose our charter.

I am sure many of you, as I have, have moved on to subjects beyond Lewis and Clark. Probably most have jumped on the David Thompson and fur trade wagon. This is a logical step and one that is still connected to the Lewis and Clark story as David Thompson did cross the Corps’ trail at the Snake River confluence where he tried to usurp the efforts of the Captains by promising a NW Company trade house at that location. (None ever appeared, though.) To continue to study history of our area is great! However, we need to keep a view toward keeping the Lewis and Clark story alive and accurate. We are still being bombarded by nay-sayers about points concerning the Expedition along with the “revisionists” views of what happened. Our charge is to continue our efforts of the bicentennial to ensure that this revision material is done away with and that factual information is dispersed. It has not been an easy course though headway has been achieved.

In closing, I hope to see many of you at Mosier, OR and Stevenson, WA on October 25<sup>th</sup> for Roger Wendlick’s new information concerning the “3<sup>d</sup> winter site.” Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Tim

P.S. Please note that I have a new e-mail address. We do have a new, faster computer, but that still doesn’t do me any good. I’m still slow! ☺

## Condor Update: New information

Northern Arizona – In mid-March, two biologists released four more endangered California condors into the wild area above the Grand Canyon. Of the four giant birds, all born in captivity, three were born at the Oregon Zoo's Clackamas County breeding facility. Since first taking in the condors in 2003 and having released several into the wilds of California, Arizona and other locations, there has always been the underlying desire to reestablish a wild population in the Pacific Northwest. However, that may not happen anytime soon.

Most of the birds that have been rehabilitated were raised in special breeding facilities and only released after a careful, exhausting study of the intended area. Among the many items addressed – besides the obvious human population - are “What did they feed on? Where were the nesting sites? What were their movement patterns?” Add to this contemporary “infringements” such as power lines, toxins in the environment and loss of habitat. Perhaps most importantly “Is there enough room to accommodate the big birds?” whose ice-age ancestors were referred to as “avian jumbo jets” soaring through the skies. To find this information, a field study is currently under way conducted by Portland State University student David Moen. Working with funding from the Oregon Zoo Foundation, David has been able to scale steep cliffs and high trees to locate **any** evidence of historic nesting areas in our area. He is also drawing from local tribal stories that relate to the condor, which was highly revered among many tribes. In addition, David has been poring over the journals of early naturalists as well as archaeological records to help determine whether the big birds can be re-released here. (The archaeological records have indicated that the condor had been surviving well in the PNW for thousands of years. The last known sighting was in 1964 along the Clackamas River in Oregon.)

Evidence has shown that the birds had lived primarily in two distinct areas of the PNW; along the Columbia-Snake river system and in the Klamath/Siskiyou region of the Oregon-California border where the area is steep and forested. These areas are preferred over areas closer to population centers.

The return of the big birds to the PNW also has a “powerful advocate” in the southern Oregon area in the Yurok Tribe whose people have used the condor's feathers in dances and rituals that were tied to “seasonal renewal and regeneration” for centuries. Moen states that such “native cultures have values of sustainability.” Thus, the recovery of the condor becomes a “cross-cultural collaboration.” Perhaps, one day, these people will again be able to celebrate their old dances and rituals. Only time will tell.

(NOTE: David Moen will be speaking about his work as part of this years' “Ocian In View” program in Ilwaco. David will speak at 1 PM at the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum [the former Ilwaco Heritage Museum] on Lake St. in Ilwaco. See other information on OIV below.)

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### “Ocian In View:” Before and After the Lewis and Clark Journey to the Pacific Ocean Friday through Sunday, November 7–9, 2008

Again this year, Pacific County Friends of Lewis and Clark, in cooperation with the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum, the Friends of the Columbia River Gateway, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center (LCIC), the Chinook Tribe and Pacific Transit, are hosting “Ocian In View” for the enjoyment of all interested participants. A full lineup will be presented beginning on Friday evening with Chinook Tribal Chairman, Ray Gardner giving a talk on “The Finest Canoes,” the Chinook canoe and its role in traditional culture. Ray will actually have one there to show. On Saturday, local historian Jim Sayce will lead two bus tours of the upriver area to key spots that were part of early maritime exploration in the area before L&C. There will also be the annual open house at the Knappton Cove Heritage Center and the Chinook Tribe will host their Seafood Dinner at the museum from 4 PM to 7 PM. The day will wind down with a presentation at the Hilltop Auditorium by David Thompson author Jack Nesbit who will be speaking about naturalist David Douglas, the man for whom many plants in the PNW are named.

Sunday will be an interesting day with two dedications, one of the “Ocian In View” nickel at LCIC and one for the Condor Bronze Sculpture at the boat basin in Ilwaco. The weekend will culminate with a talk at the museum by condor researcher David Moen explaining his work and that of the Condor Recovery Program. Should be a great week end; plan to attend. (Watch for more info in the Nov. WON.)

## Chapter Meeting: October 25, 2008 in Mosier, OR and Stevenson, WA

Our fall meeting will be held in two locations this fall. The morning session, **beginning at 10:00**, will be a field trip just east of Mosier, OR with the Oregon chapter to see Roger Wendlick's "3<sup>rd</sup> choice" location for a winter camp. We will meet at the mansion about 2 miles east of Mosier on old Hwy 30. You should have no trouble finding Roger's "pointy finger" along the road showing where to turn and park. (From Hood River, take I-84 about 7 miles east, take the Mosier exit, which is about an hour and twenty minute drive east of Portland. In Mosier, turn left onto old Hwy 30 and head east for about 2 miles, up into the orchard country. You should see the mansion well ahead of seeing the sign. If you make a sharp bend left around the house, you have gone too far! If this is the case, return to Mosier, have a good stiff drink and try it again in a more relaxed manner. ☺ ) From there we will work our way to the rivers' edge to a spot on private property where Roger has concluded that Clark had mentioned that the site would make an "eligible situation" for a winter camp. Because of some hiking, bring sturdy shoes **and** appropriate clothing for any weather. If you have any questions, you can contact Ellie McClure on her cell phone at 503-476-4884 or by e-mail at [ellie.mcclure@gmail.com](mailto:ellie.mcclure@gmail.com).

The afternoon will see us at the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center (CGIC) at **2:00-ish** for a meeting we hope will include Chuck Raddon of the Idaho chapter to speak about their efforts for hosting the 2010 annual meeting in Lewiston, ID. Other speakers will be Rob Heacock and Larry McClure. We also hope to have Roger join us for a Q&A session regarding his findings. A key event of the meeting will be the "official" donation of the Harry Hubbard Moulton collection to the CGIC. We are hoping to get a short article written for the next "Orderly Report." We hope to hear from director Sharon Tiffany about how members can access and use the first edition collection for any research they may be conducting.

This should be an interesting informational meeting at a beautiful time in the Columbia Gorge. Plan to attend both events. In fact, why not spend the weekend? It's a great time to be in the "gorgeous" gorge! And, the admission to the CGIC will be covered by the chapter, so there should be no reason not to attend! See you there on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>. (I understand the cider is really good in the Hood River Valley at this time of year! ☺ )

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### From The Trail ...

#### Fort-to-Sea Trail Storm Damage

Seaside, OR – The effects of the December, 2007 storm has made itself evident in connection with the Lewis and Clark Trail. Having recently been on a belated anniversary trip to Seaside, my wife and I stopped in at the Sunset Beach entrance to the Fort-to-Sea Trail, a section we had a great time walking last September. Imagine our horror and surprise when we saw the whole area around the trail-head absolutely denuded! The thick forest of shore pines that had been there last year were knocked down in huge swaths that made the place seem like a moon-scape; it had, in fact, been logged in a clean-up effort. The honey bucket and signboard really stuck out this time where they were almost unnoticed last year. The whole 2 miles to the Camp Rilea crossing under US 101 was affected as well as other parts of the trail.

Unfortunately, the terrible storm wrecked a great deal of havoc all up and down the northern Oregon and southern Washington coasts as well as inland. Many historical sites were damaged though most not too severely. The east end of the F-T-S trail also sustained damage as did Ft. Clatsop Nat. Mon. But nothing hit the fort replica itself. However, many of the big spruce trees and other smaller trees were blown down or to such attitudes that they were cut all the way down for safety reasons. It will be a shock to many on their next visit to these sites who remember the lush forests and tall trees to see giant holes where once a giant tree stood.

All is being cleaned up and the park does look good, all things considered. It is still a good destination for an outing; consider the "Christmas at Ft. Clatsop" program on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> (See back page).

## Future Events for the Washington Chapter

**Oct. 25, 2008** Fall chapter meeting at Mosier, OR and Stevenson, WA. Meet at the “old mansion” on Hwy 30 east of Mosier at a little before 10:00 on Saturday morning. After a trek to the possible “third site” for a winter camp, we will reconvene at the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Centre for an afternoon meeting with a board meeting to follow. It should be a great weekend to be in the Gorge.

**Nov. 7-9, 2008** “Ocian In View” will present its 2008 program in Ilwaco beginning Friday evening with Ray Gardner talking about the role of the canoe in Chinookan tradition. It will culminate on Sunday with a presentation by David Moen on his work with the California Condor program through the Oregon Zoo. It looks to be a very interesting time. Watch the November WON for more details. We hope to have a chapter gathering somewhere in the midst of all the happenings, TBD.

**Dec. 6, 2008** Christmas Dinner at Ft. Clatsop. This is another event in which we are encouraged to participate with the Oregon chapter. It has been quite popular in the past and should be no less so this year. There will be more definite details as soon as I can get them from Larry McClure or Dick Hohnbaum.

**Feb. 7, 2009** The annual chapter business meeting and election of officers, among other goodies. As always, this is the time for everyone to get together and figure in on the future of our chapter. With the federal government getting into the act, we have something to be concerned about. Please put this day aside to be heard.

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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.