



The Badger State Chapter

Meriwether Lewis



of:

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.



William Clark

January 2004

Number 9

During this time in history; excerpts from the Journals, taken from Jim Rosenberger's "Daily Calendar."

Camp Dubois: Illinois country, across from the mouth of the Missouri River.

Jan 1, 1804: (Clark) A woman come forward to wash and do such things as may be necessary for the detachment. Several men come from the country to see us and shoot with the men...I put up a dollar to be shot for...George Gibson (our) best. The country people won the dollar.

Jan 5, 1804: (Clark) The creek rose considerably last night, the river full of ice...two men whom I sent to hunt grouse returned with part of a hog which they found hung up in the woods and brought in as bear meat...

Jan 8, 1804: (Clark) A Frenchman and his family came to see me today...this man made complaint that he had lost a hog...

Jan 9, 1804: (Clark) I returned before sunset and found that my feet, which were wet, had frozen to my shoes...

Jan 12, 1804: (Clark) My chimney got on fire last night, a fair morning...the boat is afloat and in perfect order.

Jan 13, 1804: (Clark) sent Nathaniel Pryor with letters and etc. to Capt. Lewis at Cahokia...

Jan 16, 1804: (Clark) John Colter, George Gibson and Mr. Pryor returned at 8 o'clock in the evening with a letter from Capt. Lewis...



Verne Huser

A Very Special Meeting

Oconomowoc, WI, January 10, 2004

A special meeting of the Badger Chapter was held in order to hear Verne Huser talk about "On the River, with Lewis and Clark."

Verne has been running rivers since the summer of 1957 when he began guiding scenic float trips on the Snake River in Grand Teton National Park. Since then, he has run more than a hundred rivers in 22 states and 3 Canadian provinces.

In addition to working as a river guide and outfitter, seasonal National Park Service ranger/naturalist, teacher (English, science, history), and environmental mediator, Verne has written seven books about rivers and river running.

His latest book, "On the River with Lewis and Clark" (Texas A&M Univ. Press, 2004) is about the rivers of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the boats they used, their techniques for getting them upstream and down and the river-related events of the Corps of Discovery. Formerly a high school teacher of English, science and history, Verne also served on the faculty at the University of Washington, taught at the Teton Science School and has worked for the National Park Service. Verne lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico and brought along with him a good sense of humor, plenty of knowledge and a twinkle in his eye.

As he started bringing the adventure to life for our group, Verne asked us to realize that all of this happened "only 3 lifetimes ago".

He pointed out the goals of the expedition, and asked us to consider whether or not it was really a good idea.



Lewis and Clark State Park, Monona Co., Iowa, Missouri River Valley "Replica" of Keelboat used on Lewis and Clark Expedition

Continued on page 2

The goals were: 1) To locate a feasible water route to the Pacific. 2) To establish latitude and longitude of the river routes. 3) To meet Indians, and make peace among the tribes. 4) To bring back samples of flora, fauna, minerals, etc. 5) To bring the party back safely.

The actual known accomplishments were: 1) The federal government funded the expedition. 2) They established a claim to the Northwest Territory. 3) Although no "Northwest Passage" existed, they did establish that you could cross the continent. 4) The contribution of the journals of Lewis, Clark, three of the four sergeants and one of the privates. (Some people consider the Journals to be the first American literature.)

Some of the other topics that Verne touched on were:

Their boats, from the canoes to the Keelboat, and how they sailed them.

The affect on various groups. For the Indians, many consider that it lead to the demise of their territory.

Sacagawea's place on the Expedition. She was not a guide as many surmised. She was an interpreter and a peace symbol. Tribes recognized that a woman and child would not be accompanying a war party.

The cost of the expedition was \$40,000. This was 16 times the original estimate. (Sound familiar?) *Editor's note: \$40,000 in 1803 dollars, converts to about \$483,000 today.*

The Badger Chapter is grateful to Verne Huser for taking the time to make this presentation to us, and to Jim Rosenberger for arranging it.

Symposium on Lewis and Clark to be Held in St. Louis in March 2004

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, in conjunction with the Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson National Parks Association and the Spanish Colonial Research Center of the National Park Service, announces a symposium to be held March 10-12, 2004 in St. Louis, Missouri entitled "Lewis and Clark: Legacies of an Expedition." The emphasis of the sessions of this three day symposium will be on topics relating to the legacies of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the Louisiana Purchase, relations with European governments, American Indian nations, and other topics of interest. A roster of 32 speakers will include Gary Moulton, Dayton Duncan, John Logan Allen, Daniel Botkin, Dan Flores, Landon Jones, William Foley, Clay Jenkinson, Jon Kukla, Carolyn Gilman, Albert Furtwangler, Ken Karsmizki, Joseph Mussulman, Jay Buckley, Carol Lynn MacGregor, Gerard Baker, Jeff Olsen, Stephenie Ambrose Tubbs and Amy Mossett.

Additionally, on the day before the symposium, Jerry Garrett, (former treasurer of LCTHF and an acknowledged expert on Lewis and Clark) will lead a bus tour of L & C sites in the St. Louis area. This tour will follow Lewis and Clark as they arrive in the St. Louis area in the fall of 1803 through their departure up the Missouri River in May 1804. Stops include the Cahokia Courthouse, Lewis and Clark Historic Site (Hartford, IL) Fort Bellefontaine and Bellefontaine Cemetery.

A number of Badger Chapter members will be attending the Symposium and some will go a day early and take the tour on March 9. If you would like to be a part of this excursion, contact Jim Rosenberger at (608)845-6365 or by e-mail at punkinz@att.net, and he will put you in contact with someone who is going. To learn more about the Symposium, go to: <http://www.nps.gov/jeff/LewisClark2/TheBicentennial/Symposium2004/Symposium2004.htm>

On the Trail with Lewis & Clark...by Calendar!!!

During this Bicentennial period, have you ever sipped your morning coffee and thought, "I wonder what Lewis & Clark were doing on this date 200 years ago?" Well don't be too surprised to learn that one of our own chapter members has provided the answer. Jim Rosenberger has produced a day-to-day desk calendar for 2004 with each day containing the journal entry made by Lewis and Clark for the equivalent day in 1804. So every morning, you can contemplate what this day would have been like for you, if you had been a member of the Expedition. Even better, (for you procrastinators) since the year has already begun, you can get your calendar for only \$6, and it will be mailed to you for an additional \$5.

Jim says the idea came from his wife, Mary. He was skeptical at first, doubting it could be accomplished. However, after getting permission from Gary Moulton and the University of Nebr. Press, Jim used the Moulton edition of the journals and in a couple of months, produced the calendar. The entries are paraphrased so you won't have all the detailed descriptions of flora and fauna or latitude and longitude, but other than that, the day to day activities of the Expedition are contained in the daily pages of the calendar.

Jim says he undertook the project because, "I thought it would be a challenge just to see if it was possible. When I found it could be done, I thought it would be a real accomplishment for something like this to come from a non-trail state and give our Chapter a bit of notoriety." Jim wants to get the calendar in the hands of non-Lewis and Clark enthusiasts and get them interested in the story, the trail, the Foundation and our Chapter. To get your copy, contact Jim at (608)845-6365 or by e-mail at punkinz@att.net.

President's Message



David Bubier

I recently finished a book on the "Central Overland California and Pikes Peak Express Company," better known to you and me as "The Pony Express." As an enterprise it only lasted 19 months, from April 3, 1860 until October 24, 1861, when the telegraph line was completed. The Pony Express was a subsidiary of the huge and famous freight and stage coach company of William Russell, Alexander Majors, and William Waddell.

What has this got to do with Lewis and Clark you ask? Nothing... at least nothing in a direct way. But what struck me while reading the book was that in a time of better communications and travel and with the support of a huge freighting conglomerate like Russell, Majors and Waddell; very little factual documentation exists about the development, organization and the accomplishments of the Pony Express.

Truths, half-truths, fiction and pure myth mix together to such an extent that one cannot determine what is real and what is make-believe about the events and personalities of this great enterprise. For example, no one wrote down the names of the first riders who started out from the West and the East to begin this epic journey!!! There is even conflicting accounts as to the location in Sacramento the riders left from... even with newspaper men and hundreds of well-wishers on hand!!

It's as if we had sent men to the moon and misplaced or simply forgot to document the details of the story!! Certainly for that time, sending a letter from St. Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California in 10 days was a feat of high "technology" for the era.

As to Lewis and Clark... the story of the Pony Express made me more appreciative of the men of the expedition and their supreme efforts to document in so many ways and by such different hands the story of Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. Where would we be without the journals, manuscripts, maps, letters and other documents of Lewis, Clark, Gass, Ordway, Floyd and Whitehouse? What would we do without the wealth of original source material from before, during and after the expedition? And what about the breadth of topics we have available to research, read about and discuss...flora, fauna, geology, foods, medicines, uniforms, hats, military discipline, 18th century customs, creative spelling and In-

dian cultures to name a few.

Where would we have found out so much about the "technology" of collapsible iron boats, portable soups, lead powder canisters and Rush's Thunderclappers? We Lewis and Clark enthusiasts are also blessed to have such capable men as Nicholas Biddle, Elliott Coues, Reuben Gold Thwaites (of the Wisconsin State Historical Society), Donald Jackson and Gary Moulton to carry on the story of Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery.

I realize once again the great gift given to us by these men. We have the opportunity today to explore the many facets of this wonderful 200 hundred year old story of discovery and exploration. In this bicentennial we have been given a wealth of original resources from which to experience great history.

David Bubier

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CHAPTER AND TRAIL ACTIVITIES

While the Bicentennial is going on around us, your Badger State Chapter has not been sitting idle. Here are



Jim Rosenberger

some of the things we have done over the past few months and what we will be doing in the next months to spread the story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition;

October 30 & 31, 2003; Chapter booth at the WEAC (State Teachers) Convention, Milwaukee, WI.

November 19, 2003; Presentation on the Expedition to the Waunakee First Pres-

byterian Church, Waunakee, WI.

December 5, 2003; By invitation, attended a meeting of the Charles Floyd Publication Committee of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison, WI.

January 10, 2004; Badger Chapter special meeting with guest speaker Verne Huser, Oconomowoc, WI.

January 12, 2004; Presentation on the Expedition to the Blackhawk Troop # 515 of the Girl Scouts of America, Cross Plains, WI.

February 20 & 21; The Third Century Committee of the

LCTHF will be attended by Jim Gramentine, Chairman, and Jim Rosenberger, member, in Great Falls, Montana.

March 21 – 22, 2004; Chapter Booth at the National Council for the Social Studies, Great Lakes Regional Conference, Madison, WI.

April 24, 2004; Badger Chapter meeting at Marquette University with guest speaker and Badger Chapter member, Matt Blessing.

If you conduct a Lewis and Clark presentation, let us know. If you need someone to do a presentation, please contact Chapter President Dave Bubier (dbubier@merr.com) or Chapter Vice-President, Jim Rosenberger (punkinz@att.net).

For those of you traveling the trail during 2004, here are the Bicentennial National Signature Events for the year;

March 10-14, 2004; Three Flags Ceremony, St. Louis, MO.

May 13-16, 2004; Expedition's Departure: Camp River Dubois, Harford, IL.

May 14-23, 2004; St. Charles: Preparations Complete, The Expedition Faces West, St. Charles, MO.

July 3-4, 2004; Heart of America: A Journey Fourth, Kansas City, MO.

July 31-August 3, 2004; First Tribal Council, Ft. Calhoun and Omaha, NE

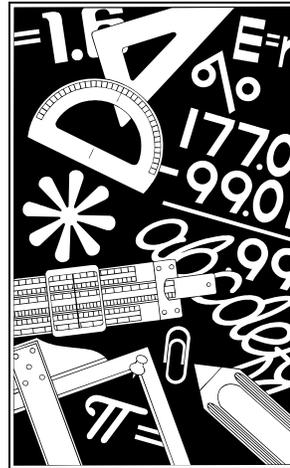
August 27-September 26, 2004; Oceti Sako-win Experience: Remembering and Educating, Oacoma/Chamberlain, SD

October 22-31, 2004; Circle of Cultures: Time of Renewal and Exchange, ND

=We're On The Web=

This is the 3rd issue of the Badger Chapter Newsletter to be available on the Internet. If you are not on the mailing list to receive the link, drop an e-mail to Bill Holman at: wghmch@chorus.net ...we'll send you a link where you can find it and share it with your friends.

What'd Ya Know...?



I think most Lewis and Clark enthusiasts involved with the Badger State Chapter and the story of the Corps of Discovery are aware of the connect to the expedition that Wisconsin has through the Charles Floyd journal. The journal is a treasured possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and is our physical link to the expedition. Many of you are also aware of William Clark's trips to Prairie du Chien and the establishment of a fort to protect the upper Mississippi fur trade during the latter days of the War of 1812. But how many of you are aware of Wisconsin's connection to another member of the expedition?

That connection would be with Private Alexander Hamilton Willard! Willard was in the U.S. Army and is listed as joining the expedition on January 1, 1804. He served as blacksmith and gunsmith, and was reputed to be a good hunter. He always claimed that he was chosen over 100 others because of his excellent physique. At a tall 5'10" and with dark brown hair and dark eyes, he was an imposing figure. You may recall that he was convicted of sleeping on sentry duty in July, 1804 and was punished with 100 lashes. It is believed that Willard may have kept a journal on the expedition, but to date it has not been found.

Alexander Willard was born on August 24, 1778 in Charlestown, New Hampshire and eventually moved to Kentucky. After his days with the Corps of Discovery, Willard married Eleanor McDonald in 1807 in Shelbyville, Kentucky. They had seven sons and five daughters. Two of the sons were named Lewis and Clark.

In 1808 through 1809, Willard was hired by Lewis to work as a blacksmith for the Fox, Sauk, Delaware and Shawnee Indians. He rejoined the Army to serve in the War of 1812.

Eventually he followed the Gold Rush in 1852 to California and died there in 1865 at the age of 87. He is buried in Franklin, California near Sacramento... and our Chapter's good friend and former LCTHF Treasurer, Jerry Garrett, most likely has visited even that gravesite!!! It is interesting to note that Willard lived to see the invention of photography, and is one of only two Lewis and Clark expedition members (the other being Patrick Gass) to have his picture taken!

What is the Wisconsin connection? Private Willard lived from 1824 to 1842 in Platteville and Elk Grove, Wisconsin!! What'd Ya Know!!

David Bubier

References: Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Harriet Peppard.

Letters from my cousin, Patrick Gass, On the Voyage of Discovery

Dear Bill,

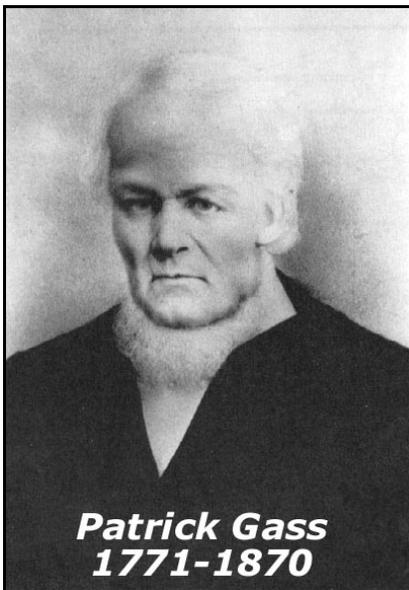
From time to time I'll try to write you a letter about what we have been doing during the month. (I will also use many of these thoughts in my Journal.) This one is about the first month of our journey during May, 1804.

On the 14th, we left our establishment at the mouth of the river du Bois or Wood river, a small river which falls into the Mississippi, on the east side, a mile below the Missouri, and having crossed the Mississippi proceeded up the Missouri on our intended voyage of discovery, under the command of Captain Clarke. Captain Lewis was to join us in two or three days on our passage.

Our corps consisted of forty-three men (including Captain Lewis and Captain Clarke, who were to command the expedition) part of the regular troops of the United States, and part engaged for this particular enterprize. The expedition was embarked on board a batteau and two periogues. The day was showery and in the evening we encamped on the north bank six miles up the river. Here we had leisure to reflect on our situation, and the nature of our engagements, and as we had all entered this service as volunteers, to consider how far we stood pledged for the success of an expedition, which the government had projected, and which had been undertaken for the benefit and at the expence of the Union.

The best authenticated accounts informed us, that we were to pass through a country possessed by numerous, powerful and warlike nations of savages, of gigantic stature, fierce, treacherous and cruel; and particularly hostile to white men. And fame had united with tradition in opposing mountains to our course, which human enterprize and exertion would attempt in vain to pass. The determined and resolute character, however, of our corps, and the confidence which pervaded all ranks dispelled every emotion of fear, and anxiety for the present; while a sense of duty, and of the honour, which would attend the completion of the object of the expedition; a wish to gratify the expectations of the government, and of our fellow citizens, with the feelings which novelty and discovery invariably inspire, seemed to insure to us ample support in our future toils, suffering and dangers.

On the 16th of May, we had a fine pleasant morning; embarked early, and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon arrived at St. Charles, and fired a gun. A number of the inhabitants



came to see us. This is an old French village; in the country around which, a number of Americans have settled. We remained at St. Charles until the 21st, where Captain Lewis arrived from St. Louis and joined us. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon we left under a salute of three cheers from the inhabitants, which we returned with three more and a discharge of three guns.

On the 25th, we proceeded three miles and passed a creek on the south side, called Wood river; the banks of the river are here high and the land rich: arrived at St. Johns, a small French village situated on the north side, and encamped a quarter of a mile above it. This is the last settlement of white people on the river.

On the 29th, seven men were sent out to hunt; six of whom returned. We waited here until 5 o'clock P.M. for the man, who had not come in, and then proceeded three miles, passed Deer creek on the south side, and encamped a short distance above it on the same side. A periogue and eight men had been left for the hunter who had not returned.

On the 30th, after experiencing a very disagreeable night, on account of the rain, we continued our voyage at seven o'clock A.M. At twelve we had a heavy shower of rain, accompanied with hail; passed a creek called Rush creek, on the north side; and four miles further, Mud creek on the same side. Here the soil is good, with cotton wood, sycamore, oak, hickory, and white walnut; with some grape vines, and an abundance of rushes. We halted and encamped at Grindstone creek on the south side of the river.

Thursday 31st. We were obliged to remain at this encampment all day, on account of a strong wind from the west. An Indian man and a squaw came down the river with two canoes, loaded with fur and peltry, and remained with us all night. Some of our hunters went out and killed a deer.

That's about it from here. I'll try to get a letter off whenever I can find time, but the Captains aren't too keen about our taking much time for writing...except the Journals. That's why I'll try to use some of these notes in both places.

Your cuzzin,

Patrick Gass

Note: Bill Holman, a Badger Chapter member and the editor of this journal, is the second cousin four times removed, of Patrick Gass. He has offered these "letters from the trail", which must have been held up in the mail.

Answers for last issue's "Do You Know" quiz

I One of our chapter members has the honor of having named *The Orderly Report*, the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Membership Newsletter.

C One of our chapter members is a faithful member of The Alexander Mackenzie Voyageur Route Association.

I One of our chapter members is also a member of the Illinois Chapter of the LCTHF.

D One of our chapter members is on the Board of the National Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

L One of our chapter members is on the National Council of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial.

E One of our chapter members is a relative of Patrick Gass.

C One of our chapter members is also a member of the Minnesota Chapter of the LCTHF.

F One of our chapter members is serving in the armed forces in Saudi Arabia.

H One of our chapter members has a long-standing interest in the Custer/Little Big Horn Battle field Association.

J One of our chapter members works for Old World Wisconsin.

K One of our chapter members is a relative of Meriwether Lewis.

BONUS POINTS:

G One of our chapter members lives in Indiana.

A One of our chapter members lives in the State of Washington.

M One of our chapter members lives in Virginia.

Can you guess who is who? Some names can be used more than once.

A. Charles Blair B. Dave Bubier C. Judy Coccia D. Jim Gramentine
E. Bill Holman F. Dan Kacmarcik G. Laura Labadie H. Harriet Peppard
I. Jim Rosenberger J. Charlotte Shirven K. Laura Streich L. Patti Thomsen
M. Dr. Herman Viola

11-14 right = Capt. Lewis; 10 right = Capt. Clark; 9 right = Sacagawea; 8 right = York;
7 right = Charbonneau; 6 or less right = Moses Reed (The Expedition's deserter and black sheep of the story.)

THE WISCONSIN CONNECTION

While Wisconsin is not a Lewis and Clark "Trail" state, we do have some links to the Corps of Discovery of which we can be proud.

Both Lewis and Clark were aware of the importance of Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin as a trade center. On a number of occasions, they mention Prairie du Chien in the Journals, mostly while at Camp Wood in 1803 and 1804. The Captains continued to recognize Prairie du Chien's importance while serving as government officials in St. Louis.

Perhaps our greatest sense of pride comes from the original copy of the Charles Floyd Journal which is the permanent property of the Wisconsin State Historical Society. In addition to the Floyd Journal, the Lyman Draper Collection, at the Historical Society, has a large collection of Clark family papers, including correspondence of George Rogers Clark and William Clark.

Some other Wisconsin links to the Corps are William Clark visiting Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin in 1814 and again in 1825 and Clark's oldest son, Meriwether Lewis Clark, serving as Aide de Camp to General Henry Atkinson during the Blackhawk War of 1832. Lieutenant Clark traveled throughout southern Wisconsin during the campaign. Other members of the Corps, such as Alexander Willard and Nathaniel Pryor spent time in and around Wisconsin territory after the Expeditions return.

Additionally, Reuben Gold Thwaites and Milo Milton Quaife, both past directors of the State Historical Society, edited and published Journals of the Expedition.

To learn more detail on Wisconsin connections to the Corps of Discovery, plan on attending the Badger Chapter's April 24, 2004 meeting at the John P. Raynor Library, Marquette University, 1355 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI. Chapter member, Matt Blessing, will present his paper on the role Reuben Gold Thwaites had in bringing

the expedition back to the attention of historians and the general public with a focus on Thwaites' discovery of the Floyd Journal.

Jim Rosenberger

Newsletter articles



Got an interesting article about the Lewis and Clark Expedition or someone who shares our interest in "The Journey" that you would like to share with others through this newsletter? Then write to either Dave Bubier at dbubier@merr.com or Bill Holman at wghmch@chorus.net. If you don't have e-mail, call Dave at (608) 846-8716. If you include a picture with your article, we will be happy to return it upon request.

Treasurer's Report

As of January 10, 2004 we have \$1,231.05 in the Treasury.



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