Our New President
L. Edwin (Ed) Wang

L. Edwin Wang, Minneapolis, Minnesota, was installed as the seventeenth president of the Foundation at the August 1985, 17th Annual Meeting in St. Louis.

Our new president's primary energies are devoted to being President of the Board of Pensions of the Lutheran Church in America (LCA). The Board of Pensions is a "captive" insurer for the LCA. It provides pension and insurance coverage for LCA's salaried clergy and lay workers. The Board of Pensions serves employees of more than 6,500 LCA congregations and other employing organizations such as colleges, hospitals, nursing homes, etc. Assets accumulated for the payment of future benefits of that employee-benefit-plan operation amount to more than $500 million. Although the principal headquarters offices of the LCA are divided between New York and Philadelphia, the Board of Pensions' operation is based in Minneapolis.

In addition to the presidency of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Ed currently serves in other directorial capacities. Since 1971, he has been a member of the Pension Research Council of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He is serving his second term as a director of Mutual of America Life Insurance Company in New York, and is Chairman of that Board's Product and Development Committee and also a member of its Executive Committee. Ed is a trustee and a member of the Executive Committee of the National Foundation for Philanthropy in Chicago. He is also an Elector for the Insurance Hall of Fame.

In 1967, while he was on leave from the Board of Pensions for several months, Ed was the recipient of an "Outstanding Service" award from then-Governor of Minnesota, Harold W. LeVander, for his service as Minnesota's Acting Insurance Commissioner. In 1970, he received an honorary doctorate (LHD) from Midland College at Fremont, Nebraska.

Although a Minnesotan for the past 29 years, the newly-elected president of the Foundation, has lived previously in two of the Lewis and Clark Trail states. Ed is an Oregonian by birth and he spent much of his boyhood as a resident of Nebraska.

In fact, Ed traces his earliest awareness of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to a story told to him by his grandfather in Nebraska. He was about five years old when his grandfather Thomas, a lifelong resident of Nebraska, told him about the explorers coming up the Missouri River and their relationship to the naming of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Mrs. Wang, Astrid, was born in Connecticut, and shares her husband's historical interests. They have a Western Americana book collection that exceeds 300 selections. Some 90 volumes are related specifically to Lewis and Clark.

Ed and Astrid have three children. David, their oldest, is a Lt. Col. in the Air Force. He is presently stationed at CINCPAC in Hawaii. They have two daughters. One is a graduate student at the University of Montana, the other is an attorney for a law firm in Whitefish, Montana. Their oldest granddaughter, Kristine, is a member of the Foundation. She attended the Foundation annual meeting held in Helena in 1981 with her grandparents.

Because of their 16 year residency in California (second time for Ed), just before moving to Minnesota, their earlier interest in the West was oriented to the Oregon-California Trail with a primary emphasis on the Donner Party.

Ed says the reading, a number of years ago, of Two Captains West by Albert and Jane Salisbury caused him to switch his primary western interest from the Oregon-California Trail to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. During his years of specialization on the Donner Party, a number of persons expressed surprise at his special interest in the Oregon-California Trail almost to the exclusion of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the latter being so essential to the opening and ultimate development of the West.

Our new president is especially fond of an attractively-framed John Clymer print which occupies the most conspicuous wall space in his office. That print, "Buffalow Gangue", was given to him by his co-workers at
President Wang’s Message

Why do I write about the events of the Foundation’s 17th Annual Meeting, when so many who read *We Proceeded On* were not at that meeting? The answer is that while nearly one-fifth of the Foundation membership did attend the St. Louis meeting and know as much (or more) about it as I do, yet three-fourths of our membership did not attend. It is for you then, who were unable to attend this year’s meeting, that I write this column. Hopefully, many of you who could not attend this year’s meeting will be able to attend the 18th Annual Meeting which is to be held in Oregon next August. However, that meeting will be discussed in the *We Proceeded On* issues of February and May, 1986. It is time now to address what happened in St. Louis! (See also the Annual Meeting Picture Pages in this issue of WPO.)

Winifred C. George, with the help of her personable and well organized associates, put on a most interesting program for us. Astrid and I believe that the 17th Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., held August 4-7, 1985 in that city was a resounding success! Winnie is an ardent Lewis and Clark enthusiast, a regular attendant at annual meetings of the Foundation. She is also President of the St. Louis Visitor Center, a volunteer organization.

Winnie’s message in the program for the meeting was prophetic in every sense of the word. It read: “We have said it before and we know it bears repeating. The people of St. Louis have not changed! We are still noted for our hospitality and friendliness. All of the Metropolitan St. Louis members and friends of the Foundation invite you to enjoy your visit. We look forward to greeting you with the same ‘harty welcom’ that the Lewis and Clark expedition received on that memorable day in September 1806 that marked the end of their epic journey.”

Following registration on Sunday morning and early afternoon, there was a Wine and Cheese Reception. The evening program began with a tram ride to the top of St. Louis’ famous (630 foot high) Gateway Arch followed by guided tours of the Museum of Westward Expansion. Both facilities are segments of the National Park Service Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. At the end of the day, a Lewis and (con’t on facing page)
Clark Puppet Show was a delight for all who attended.

After President Sherman’s expeditious conduct of the General Business Meeting on Monday morning, Ray Breun made an interesting presentation entitled: “The Economic Ambience of Lewis and Clark”. Claude Strausser’s audio visual expression of “The Changing Mississippi River from 1673 to the Present” provided insights not previously known by most of us in the audience. We were literally moved back in time and realistically so by the learned paper read by Norbury Wayman. It was entitled: “St. Louis as Lewis and Clark Knew It”.

Lunch at the Spaghetti Factory in the Laclede’s Landing section of the city provided a pleasant interlude between morning and afternoon activities. Laclede’s Landing comprises nine-block area of St. Louis that includes cobblestone streets, brick sidewalks, and renovated Nineteenth Century warehouses.

The highlight for Monday afternoon was a visit to Lewis and Clark State Park just south of Wood River, Illinois, where the mighty Missouri and Mississippi join. That park commemorates the location where the Expedition stayed from December 12, 1803 to May 14, 1804. The Expedition named the site, “Camp DuBois” or “Camp Wood.” While members were at this place, a tribute was made to the late Clarence H. Decker, who recognized his many significant contributions toward the preservation and development of this historic site.

Other afternoon events included a visit of the Cahokia Historic Area and a right-stirring presentation by the Alton (Illinois) Drum and Fife Program.

Following dinner at the Missouri Historical Society, Ella Tappmeyer, a charming toastmistress, introduced Peter Michel and Jim Barlow, Curators of the MHS, who told of the Lewis and Clark related memorabilia at that institution.

Tuesday morning’s events began with an audio-visual presentation by Dr. Marshall Crosby at the Missouri Botanical Gardens. He spoke and showed slides about the plants collected and documented by the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Visitors to the Gardens were most enthusiastic about the great variety of specimens exhibited.

Lunch was enjoyed on the patio at the General Daniel Bissell House. That house, visited by most of the members of our group, comes as close as any in St. Louis to replicating the William Clark residence which no longer exists. At the site, Dr. Betty Burnett made an interesting presentation entitled: “The Bissells and Lewis and Clark”.

Clark’s tomb at St. Louis’ Bellefontaine Cemetery in O’Fallon Park was visited by nearly all. Later, at the Old Cathedral, in downtown St. Louis, Dr. Betty Burnett spoke of William Clark’s association with it. In addition, Dr. Burnett also gave a brief history of the Cathedral Building and its antecedent structures.

A three-hour dinner cruise on the Mississippi in the “Huck Finn” Riverboat was enjoyed immensely. Among others on that cruise, I had the pleasure of meeting and visiting with St. Louis residents, Edwynne P. Murphy, first president of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, and William Clark Adreon, a great, great grandson of William Clark.

On Wednesday morning again, the General Business meeting was conducted with dispatch by Bill Sherman.

At mid-morning, the Foundation group journeyed to nearby St. Charles, Missouri, for a Rendezvous Program-Reenactment of the Court-Martial of three young men of the Lewis and Clark party who had misbehaved while guests of the residents of the St. Charles Community in 1804. Their conduct caused much embarrassment for their commanding officers. During a very hot noontime, a delicious “1804 Menu” luncheon was served by our most gracious St. Charles County hosts. St. Charles was the first Capitol of Missouri and much of the business district has been restored to be indicative of the early period.

At Old St. Ferdinand Church, in Florissant, Missouri, Dr. Ann Rogers informed us of the Florissant community’s link to Lewis and Clark.

With Prexy Sherman presiding, Missou actress Ceremonies, Winifred George once again showed the considerable talent she has for organization and good grace in the conduct of a quite busy evening. At the 17th Annual Banquet on Wednesday evening, the Cosmopolitan Singers led by their director, Helen L. Graves, kept us musically enthralled for more than an hour. Our speaker for the evening was our own Foundation member, Dr. John Logan Allen, Professor of Geography, University of Connecticut. Dr. Allen’s scholarly dissertation, “In the Wake of the Red Pirogue: Lewis and Clark and the Exploration of the American West, 1806-1845” added a significant and interesting dimension to our understanding of the immediate post-expedition period. See pages 7-12.

Ralph H. Rudeen, Olympia, Washington, Chairman of the Awards Committee, presented for the presentation of Foundation awards. Readers will note the pictures of award recipients and a description of the several awards presented. See pages 21-22.

Just before the conclusion of the evening’s festivities, the new officers for the 1985-1986 year were installed.

L. Edwin Wang, President

Our New President
Continued from Page 1

the Board of Pensions in recognition of twenty-five years of service with the Board of Pensions.

Following the 1984 annual meeting of the Foundation in Great Falls, Astrid, Ed, and a number of other Foundation members enjoyed the three-day float trip with Bob Singer’s Missouri River Outfitters down river from Fort Benton, Montana. That part of the Missouri has been only lightly modified by “civilization”.

Ed and Astrid believe the genuine friendliness and good fellowship which is experienced at the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation meetings is a large factor in motivating an expanded interest in the Expedition. One cannot long be a part of the Foundation without feeling the sincere enthusiasm and dedication to the purpose for which the Foundation exists. Since the Foundation’s future is so dependent upon continuing membership expansion, such a spirit among its members is a most desirable condition.

When a first-timer to the recent Foundation annual meeting questioned him about Minnesota’s association with Lewis and Clark, Ed responded by telling him about the long-lost William Clark “Field Notes” which were discovered in the attic of a dwelling in St. Paul, Minnesota in January of 1953.

In a letter to the editor, Ed voiced his
appreciation of the confidence shown by the Foundation’s directors in their election of him as president. He indicated his recognition of the responsibilities vested in that office and pledged the constructive use of his time and talent. Most of all, he spoke of the considerable accomplishments made by those who have preceded him.

As Foundation president, he solicits support of the membership and welcomes their advice, comments, counsel, suggestions, and help. Members with a particular interest, skill, or talent that would benefit the Foundation should express themselves so that he might share that information with the appropriate committee.

Apart from their interest in Western Americana, Ed and Astrid admit to still another: Egypt, the world’s greatest outdoor museum. They have been to Egypt previously and will have been there again by the time this article appears in We Proceeded On. Among many other fascinating places in Egypt, their two-week tour this year includes a five-day cruise down the Nile.

News Notes

Several Foundation members have reported that the architectural firm of Jones and Jones, Seattle, Washington, are conferring with a Dr. Dennis Paulson, Affiliate Curator of Birds and Zoo designer, Burke Museum, University of Washington, for the design of a new zoo at Roanoke, Virginia. A news release from the Burke Museum indicates that the theme of the new facility will be based on exploration with a section related to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Included will be interpretive displays about the Expedition and animals and plants native to three areas along the explorers’ route — the Missouri River, the Rocky Mountains, and the Northwest Coastal region.

An announcement has been received about a living history drama depicting the historic meeting of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the Indian woman Sacagawea, her husband Touissant Charbonneau, and the Mandan and Hidatsa Indians. The performances were held at the Knife River Indian Villages Historic Site, Stanton, North Dakota.

There were two performances on Saturday, August 17 and a single performance on Sunday, August 18, 1985. Sponsors were: the Stanton Players Unlimited; Knife River Indian Villages, National Historic Site; and the Stanton Community Action Group. Funds for the event were provided by local foundations, councils, associations, banks, corporations, and a newspaper. Philip A. Zemke wrote and directed the production. The announcement read: “Free and open to the public! Shaded seating, Native American and American Foods.”

Dr. Gary Moulton, Editor of the new edition of the Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, University of Nebraska press, Lincoln, has advised We Proceeded On of the tentative dates for the release and distribution of the journal volumes. They are as follows: Vol. 2, May-June 1986; Vol. 3, October-November 1986; and Vol. 4, February-March 1987. Work is progressing on the additional volumes and the dates will be announced for their distribution as Moulton advises We Proceeded On. It should be noted that the Atlas Volume, distributed in 1983, is identified as Volume 1 of the new edition.

A July 30, 1985 letter to Foundation President Bill Sherman from the Honorable Governor George A. Sinner, North Dakota, advised that the former North Dakota Governor Arthur A. Link has accepted Governor Sinner’s appointment to be his official representative to the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. Link has also been appointed Chairman of the North Dakota Centennial Commission. 1989 will be the centennial year for North Dakota (as well as for South Dakota, Montana, and Washington). On two occasions Governor Link joined members and guests at annual meetings. In 1975, at the Foundation’s Seventh Annual Meeting, Bismarck, the Governor welcomed and addressed the group at an evening cookout dinner at Fort Lincoln State Park (near Bismarck). In 1979, at the Eleventh Annual Meeting, one of the events was the all day charter bus trip from Glasgow, Montana, eastward to the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers. On that occasion Governor Link took time from a busy schedule (arriving by charter plane) to address those assembled on a beautiful summer’s evening at a most important place on the route of the Expedition.

1986 Meeting To Be In Oregon, Aug. 16-20

Foundation members will gather for the organization’s 18th Annual Meeting in Oregon, Saturday, August 16, and the 18th Annual Banquet will be an event on the evening of Wednesday, August 20, 1986. Foundation President Edwin Wang has appointed Malcolm Buffum, Portland, to be General Chairman, and he will be working closely with Dr. “Frenchy” Chuinard and his Oregon (Governor’s) Lewis and Clark Committee, and the Oregon Lewis and Clark Heritage Foundation. Malcolm will be the latter organization’s president during 1986. Plans are in the early stage, but are developing rapidly. Complete details will be forthcoming in the February and May 1986 issues of We Proceeded On. Mark your calendar, and it’s out west in Oregon next year!

Annual Meeting Locales Announced for ‘87-‘90

Planning ahead and looking toward having an important part in the Statehood Centennial Celebrations for North and South Dakota, Montana, and Idaho, the following locales have been established for future annual meetings:

19th Annual Meeting, 1987, Billings, Montana, August 2-5; 20th Annual Meeting, Bismarck, North Dakota, 1988, dates to be announced; 21st Annual Meeting, Montana, locale and dates to be announced; 22nd Annual Meeting, Idaho, (Lolo Trail) locales and dates to be announced.

Additional Information will be forthcoming in editions of We Proceeded On.

Editor’s Note:

We would like to include in each issue of WPO, news items detailing current or forthcoming activities related to the Lewis and Clark Expedition in each of the eleven trail states, or for that matter, any activity anywhere that would be of interest to members and readers. To accomplish this, we must rely on our Directors, their designated reporters, and other Lewis and Clark enthusiasts, to provide us with this information. We would be pleased to hear from you.

We Proceeded On, November 1985
Upper Missouri River BLM Publication

The Bureau of Land Management, Lewiston (Montana) District Office has published an informative little thirty-one page booklet that will be of great interest to anyone contemplating a trip in Central Montana's scenic, historic, and primitive segment of the Missouri River. Titled: Highlights of the Upper Missouri National Wild & Scenic River — Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail, the publication presents an excellent text written by Chanler Biggs, BLM, Outdoor Recreation Planner and Interpreative Specialist, Lewistown, Montana. The publication provides historical background material of the region, a summary of Lewis and Clark's traverse of the area, the subsequent activity of the fur traders, the establishment of forts along the river, and the coming of the steamboats and homesteaders. There is a section devoted to the region's geology, glacial effects, vegetation, and wildlife. The final pages relate to the recreational aspects and opportunities afforded by the 149 miles of "Wild and Scenic River" within a corridor that encompasses 131,840 acres of land, BLM's responsibilities for the management and interpretation of the region, and helpful information for those who wish to travel and enjoy this beautiful and historic segment of the Missouri River. Maps and illustrations enhance the text. 2

Copies of this publication may be obtained by writing to BLM, Lewistown District Office, Airport Road, Lewistown, Montana 59457.

2. Illustrations include: present-day photographs of the region; a reproduction of a Karl Bodmer, 1833, watercolor or aquatint; and early photographs of steamboats that brought supplies as far as Fort Benton and returned downriver with furs and prospector's gold during the 1830s and until the 1860s.

Updating Lewis & Clark In Recent Periodicals

Members will be interested in an excellent article in American History Illustrated magazine, issue for September 1985. Titled: "Fort Clatsop: Young America's Pacific Outpost — "This Place of Encampment"", the article is written by Stephen E. Henrikson. Henrikson has completed work for his degrees in history and anthropology at Portland (Oregon) State University. Well qualified to write about Fort Clatsop, his three years as a member of the NPS facility's seasonal ranger staff has made for the development of an informative, accurate, and captivating monograph concerning the 1805-1806 winter at the Lewis and Clark Expedition's establishment on the Pacific coast — the turn around point for their exploring enterprise. Henrikson is a fine writer. Lewis and Clark bibliophiles will want a copy of this magazine for the story the author tells and for the color renditions of John Clymer's "Visitors at Fort Clatsop" and "The Salt Makers". Other illustrations are exceptionally fine color photographs of the replica of the fort and the Park Ranger's "Living History" demonstrations. The magazine's cover illustration is of Chief Ranger Curt Johnson and Ranger Dan Dattuio silhouetted by the white-water torrent of Youngs River Falls — a landmark near the Fort Clatsop establishment that is documented in the explorer's journals. 1

Single copies of the magazine are available (in limited quantity) from the Fort Clatsop Historical Association, Route 3, Box 604-FC, Astoria, OR 97103. Copies may be available from the publisher, Historical Times, Inc., P.O. Box 8200, Harrisburg, PA 17105. Specify American History Illustrated, Vol. XX, No. 5, September 1985. Readers may be interested in the information that the magazine is published monthly, except July and August, and that the subscription price is $18.00 a year.

1. The nomenclature is not of Clark's origin, but appears to be the name Captain Lewis applied to this landmark (Thwaites, Original Journals, III:333). Geographically, the name is for the entire landmass, and not for a particular location on the headland bearing the designation "Clark's Point of View", an error that is often assumed by hikers who follow the trail over present-day Tillamook Head.

American West magazine, issue for September/October 1985, includes a travelogue-type article in the section of the magazine captioned "Hidden Inns & Lost Trails”. Written by J. D. Brown, the feature is titled: "Follow Captain Clark in Search of the Beached Whale". The article closely follows William Clark's journal account of his (and party of fourteen) travel from Fort Clatsop (the Expedition's 1805-1806 winter establishment) over the headland referred to in the journals as "Clark's Mountain and Point of View" (present-day Tillamook Head, the 1296 foot high coastal prominence extending into the Pacific Ocean just south of today's Seaside, Oregon), and to the whale that had stranded on the beach, a few miles south of the headland, near present Cannon Beach, Oregon. The distance traveled by Clark's party from the fort to the whale site involved about 30 to 35 miles. Author Brown describes a modern day traverse using state park-developed trails, and provides a mileage chart and a small map to enhance his narrative and to serve as a guide for anyone wishing to retrace the Expedition members' January 1806 experience.

Foundation Gift Memberships

If you have someone on your gift list who is interested in American history and the contribution of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to our nation's westward expansion, a membership in the Foundation, which includes the quarterly issues of We Proceeded On, would be an appreciated gift.

The Foundation has an attractive gift membership card which will list you as the sponsor of a membership. Send your gift membership fee together with the name of the gift recipient and the occasion (friendship, birthday, graduation, or holiday) you wish to honor to the Membership secretary whose address appears on page two.

We Proceeded On, November 1985
Ruth Strong, 1904-1985

Foundation member Ruth Strong, Skamania, Washington, retired teacher known throughout the Pacific Northwest for her botanical research and photography, died September 27, 1985, at the home of a daughter in Lake Oswego, Oregon. She was 81.

With her late husband Emory Strong, retired engineer and archaeologist, she traveled the Lewis and Clark Trail from the Continental Divide to estuary of the Columbia River (Washington and Oregon). These travels, in segments, over several years, included the identifying and photographing of flora and bird life in the regions contiguous to the explorers' 1805-06 traverse of Western North America. In 1970 the Strong's purchased property on the site of an old Indian village, just to the west of the geologic landmark (named by the Captains) Beacon Rock and the community of Skamania, Washington. They lived there until Mr. Strong's death in 1980 (WPO, Vol. 6, No. 2, pp. 17-18).

A daughter of early settlers who figured prominently in the development of the orchards in the Hood River Valley, Oregon, Ruth attended elementary school in Pine Grove, near Hood River, Oregon, and high school in Portland, Oregon. She received her BA degree in English at Mills College, Berkeley, California, and her MA degree at the University of Oregon. Following graduation she taught high school in Eugene and Portland, Oregon, and at Reed College in Portland.

As a team Emory and Ruth Strong contributed to the literature concerning the archaeology, botany, and ornithology of the west. Their photographic skills provided outstanding photographs and color slides which illustrated their many lecture appearances. Ruth's lectures concerning the plants observed and collected by Lewis and Clark were her frequent contribution to Lewis and Clark meetings. At the Foundation's 10th Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Washington, in 1978, her remarks and color slides about the plants observed by the explorers was a highlight of the meeting (WPO, Vol. 4, No. 4, p. 14). Ruth and Emory were the subject of a "Foundation Personality" illustrated essay that appeared in WPO, Vol. 4, No. 2, pp. 4-6, and an article they contributed to our publication concerning the "Location of the Lewis and Clark Campsite for April 6-8, 1806" was a feature in WPO, Vol. 5, No. 3, pp. 9-10.

Ruth Strong is survived by three daughters: Barbara Lee of Hawaii; Priscilla Carrasco of Salem, Oregon; and Julie Keppeler of Lake Oswego, Oregon; stepchildren Emory Strong, Shreveport, Louisiana and Arlene Strong, Cornelius, Oregon; a half brother Galen Ramsey, Toppenish, Washington; and a cousin Robert Hill of Hood River, Oregon. There are seven grandchildren. Memorial services are planned at the Menucha House, a religious retreat on the scenic Columbia River highway, near Corbett, Oregon. At this location there is a spectacular view of the Strong's beloved Columbia Gorge.

(Fonts and Figures)

Editor's note: As has been the custom since the inception of our publication eleven years ago, we have provided a transcript of our August Annual Banquet address in the issue of We Proceeded On following our annual meeting. Foundation member John Logan Allen, Professor of Geography, University of Connecticut, Storrs, is well known to Lewis and Clark enthusiasts and readers of this (see, WPO, Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 8-11) and other historical periodicals. His excellent 1975 book, a 412 page study of the geographical concepts of Thomas Jefferson and his Captains titled: Passage Through the Garden: Lewis and Clark and the Image of the American Northwest, is one of the important volumes about the historic enterprise. Dr. Allen is a native of Laramie, Wyoming. He received his B.A. in 1963 and M.A. in 1964 from the University of Wyoming. He was awarded his Ph.D., with distinction, in 1969 from Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts. He joined the faculty of the University of Connecticut in 1967, and from 1976 to 1981 served as the first head of the newly established Department of Geography.

John's unique ability to select graphic and intriguing titles for his speaking and writing accomplishments is manifest in his title for this year's Annual Banquet address. It relates to the important and far-reaching effects of the Lewis and Clark Expedition for the 1806-1845 period following the return of the exploring enterprise. Students of the saga of the Expedition realize that all of the party's vessels (the keelboat, the Red and White Pirogues, and their dugout canoes) induced wakes on the waterways traveled by the explorers. They also recall that it was the White Pirogue that was the principal vessel to return to St. Louis in September 1806, and that it was the Red Pirogue that was abandoned as unfit for use far up the Missouri River. When the editor inquired as to why he chose to include "In the Wake of the Red Pirogue," as part of his title, John responded as follows:

"Why the red pirogue? Good question, and I thought about it a lot when trying to figure out a title. There are two reasons behind my thinking. First of all, the red pirogue was used going upstream — toward the West rather than toward "civilization" and it seemed to me that it was the wake of that boat traveling upstream rather than downstream that was followed by the fur trade, etc. Second, it was the outbound journey that was critical — suppose the Captains and their party had come back via a trading ship from the Pacific northwest coast as per one of Jefferson's suggestions? The geographical information which set so many things in motion would have reached the American public and not via a pirogue arriving at St. Louis in 1806. I recognize that this is really a sort of convoluted and tortured logic and it could be confusing to many people without an explanation."

Dr. Allen's banquet address was well received by the nearly 200 individuals gathered for the event. Readers of We proceeded On will find the transcript of his address beginning on the facing page to be interesting and informative.
In the Wake of the Red Pirogue: Lewis and Clark and the Exploration of the American West, 1806-1845

By John Logan Allen

"...an American road to India throughout the heart of our country [referring to John C. Fremont's exploring enterprises] will revive upon its line all the wonders of which we have read — and eclipse them. The western wilderness, from the Pacific to the Mississippi, will start to life under its touch ... the channel of Asiatic commerce which has been shifting in its bed from the time of Solomon ... has become fixed upon the shortest, safest, best, and quickest route through the heart of America."

Senator Thomas Hart Benton (1782-1858)
Speaking on the floor of the Senate, Feb. 16, 1849

It is ... more than coincidental that Benton's summation of the results of Fremont's exploratory endeavor sound remarkably like words written forty years earlier by Meriwether Lewis, distilling what he saw as the essential value of his and Clark's own epic undertaking.

In 1953, one of the twentieth century's pre-eminent Western scholars, Bernard DeVoto, penned the following conclusion about the Lewis and Clark Expedition in his superbly edited Journals of Lewis and Clark: "It satisfied desire and it created desire: the desire of the westering nation'. 1 Subsequent scholarship should have taken that statement of DeVoto's and enriched it, enlarged upon it, and explicated it. Such, alas, has not been the case. We have, it is true, some excellent scholarly works on the great Expedition that have appeared since DeVoto's time. We know a great deal more than DeVoto knew of the captains' contributions to natural history, to geography, to ethnology. We have massive compilations of documents and correspondence and maps about which he knew little if anything. We even know more than he did about the place of the Corps of Discovery in the American imagination.2 And each year, for the past 17 years, we — the members of this marvelous organization — gather to teach and learn more about the Expedition: its inception, its organization, its leaders and their companions, its route, its equipage, its logistics. But seldom do we focus on its consequences — and when we do, we speak learnedly of the consequences of the Expedition for science, for knowledge of rivers and mountains and plants and animals and people. Here we stop. Or if we go any further, we do so briefly and generally: "Lewis and Clark paved the way west" or "The fur trade followed Lewis and Clark west" or "Migrants to the west coast used information from the Lewis and Clark journals". I want to suggest to you this evening that in doing what we have been doing — as admirable as it has been — we have not been living up fully to our stated purpose as an organization. We have been doing only part of our job of "bringing to this nation a greater awareness and appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition". We have not devoted enough of our energies to the investigation of the impact of the Expedition — to the role it played in satisfying and creating the desire of a westering people. How did the Expedition condition the nature of western migration and settlement? How did the Expedition shape subsequent exploration in the West? What was the real role of the Expedition in the development of the fur trade? What were the political and economic consequences of that epic trek to the Pacific? These questions relate to the impact of Lewis and Clark regional information on subsequent exploration — not just formal exploration but exploration in the broadest sense of coming to know a region. If we could but discover the answers to these and some other key questions, our mission of enlightening the public about the significance of Lewis and Clark would be more completely fulfilled.

To answer these questions would take more time and space than is available here. Rather, what I would like to do is to take those questions and offer some avenues of approach that suggest themselves to me as fruitful ones for future study — to lay out a skeleton outline, if you will, of what kinds of things we might best be taking a look at as we turn our energies to an investigation of the impact of what was, without question, one of the most important events of the nineteenth century in America.

To begin with, let me note that it seems self-evident to me that the paramount contributions of Lewis and Clark — particularly those which were relevant for the subsequent impact on exploration and settlement of the West — were in the form of geographical (or regional) knowledge. Prior to the Expedition, the West was a blank on maps and in minds — an area of rumor, guess, and fantasy. After the Expedition, it was reality — something upon which the mind could focus.3 Unfortunately, history simply is not so divisible to allow us to say exactly how important all this knowledge returned by Lewis and Clark was for the later development of the West. Nor can we estimate with any degree of certainty which bits of information may have been the most crucial. What we can say is that the knowledge with which they returned was selective in its impact. It was not until late in the nineteenth century, for example, that the scientific information obtained by the captains was received with much interest by the scientific community. But for other segments of the American public — the movers and shakers of western expansion, DeVoto's "westering people" — Lewis and Clark lore had more immediate utility. And, in the utilitarian society of the American frontier, that utility quickly became application.

I believe that there were, in the Lewis and Clark lore which began to be available to Americans upon the Expedition's return, two primary types of regional data which had an early and lasting impact on western migration, settlement, economic development, and exploration. These two types were information on the western resource base and information on western topography and terrain. The first type, that on the western resource base, helped to produce, in the American mind, a vision of the western interior — the Great Plains in particular — which would last until the end of

2. See, for example, the various published works of scholars such as Donald Jackson, Paul Russell Cutright, James P. Ronda, Gary Moulton, W. Raymond Wood, and the present author.
the nineteenth century and which would partially determine the nature of settlement in that region. In addition, variants on Lewis and Clark lore and their impact, looking first at Lewis and Clark lore on the West and the nature of western migration and settlement, and economic development.


In a paper to be published shortly as the lead article in the October issue of the Great Plains Quarterly, I have argued that while some segments of the American public did believe in the existence of the Great American Desert during the years before the Civil War, for the most part the people who believed in the Desert were the least likely people to be migrating. The idea of the Desert was strong in the urban centers of the Northeast — it was much less strong — if, indeed, it existed at all — in the South and West and on the western frontier. There is very strong evidence to suggest that the prevailing view of the Great Plains among those segments of the American public who were the most likely to migrate to the West was that of the Desert’s counterpoint — the Garden. Analysis of literature and correspondence, including the diaries of migrants on the Oregon and California Trails, shows that the common people describing the Great Plains used words like “prairie”, “meadow”, “savanna”, or “pasture” — and virtually never used the word “desert”. This in spite of at least one generation of schoolbooks — most of them printed in the Northeast— which carried the caption “Great American Desert” sprawling across the Great Plains. Where the historians have gone wrong is in assuming that: (1) the Great American Desert concept was diffused evenly throughout the American population; and (2) that it is universally acceptable. If we look at newspapers, letters, diaries and journals — in other words, at vernacular literature — we find that few of the common folk believed in a desert in the western interior. Rather, they tended to believe that the Great Plains was a region of considerable benefit and agricultural potential. The common folk — those with the most powerful incentives to believe in the economic utility of the West — tended to disparage the negative comments of explorers like Pike and Long or the desert descriptions of the early geographers and to adopt the more positive appraisals of the Plains. Chief among the positive appraisers of the Plains (and almost alone among major explorers prior to Fremont in their favorable descriptions) were, of course, Lewis and Clark. Throughout their journals for that portion of their trek between the mouth of the Kansas River and the Great Falls of the Missouri, Lewis and Clark enthused over the abundance of the Great Plains environment. And in his widely quoted and published letter to his mother, sent back from the Mandan villages, Lewis noted that “this immense river, so far as we have yet ascended, waters one of the fairest portions of the globe”. It was this kind of information that was more readily accepted by the migrating population than that of the desert proponents. As the common people shaped their own image of the western interior — an image that was independent of and frequently at odds with the elite image held by scholars and scientists in the Northeast — the highly favorable appraisal of the Great Plains presented by Lewis and Clark assumed a pre- eminent position. Of all of the published descriptions of the Plains available in 1840, less than half mentioned the presence of deserts in the western interior and of this group describing deserts, none attributed the information on deserts to Lewis and Clark. Conversely, in those descriptions carrying non-Desert connotations, nearly three-quarters refer to Lewis and Clark descriptions of the fertility and abundance of the plains east of the Rocky Mountains.

(continued on facing page)


And yet, if — as I believe the evidence suggests — the view of the Plains was so positive among the folk, why did the great migrations of the Forties and Fifties leap over the Plains to the Pacific? There are several answers to that question but none of the answers seem to explain why the drive to the West was a climate even better: "remarkably mild . . . the most favored spot of Providence . . . a land of savanna". It is apparent that the drive to Oregon went considerably beyond any simple rejection of the land which lay athwart the migrant’s path to the land of savanna.

Interestingly, the highly favorable view of the Oregon country was, like the positive impression of the Great Plains, derived chiefly from Lewis and Clark lore. I say "interestingly" because, as we all know, the descriptions of the Pacific Northwest in the journals of Lewis and Clark are, unlike the descriptions of the Great Plains, not terribly enthusiastic. Indeed, their evaluations of the Columbia Basin come as close as any commentary in the journals to the desert concept. Nor did the country between the Cascades and the coast come off much better. In fact, of the country lying west of the crest of the Rockies, the only two areas the captains envisaged as being suitable for an American farming population were the Weippe prairie country of Idaho, and the lower reaches of the Willamette and Cowitz valleys.

In spite of the unfavorable picture of the Oregon country painted by Lewis and Clark, advocates of American expansion and those who encouraged settlement of the Pacific coast, used extracts from their journals to support enthusiastic proposals. The best example of this process is to be found in the story of New Engander Hall Jackson Kelley — founder and "General Agent" of the American Society for Encouraging the Settlement of Oregon. Kelley was one of those appealing madmen that one runs across from time to time in historical research. He was cut from the same cloth as John Ledyard who proposed to cross the continent of North America via Siberia, Kamchatka, and the Pacific Ocean; and William Symmes, founder of Cincinnati, who believed that the earth was a hollow sphere with the sun in the center, and that mankind lived on the concave inner surface.

Kelley was born in New Hampshire in 1790 and received a BA degree from Middlebury College in Vermont in 1813. After schooling, he moved to Boston where he found employment as a land surveyor and public school teacher — he was seemingly destined for a life with nothing in it of the eventful. But in 1815, he read the Biddle History of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the course of his life was changed. From the History, Kelley developed a vision of the Oregon country. "The perusal of Lewis and Clark’s journals", he wrote later, "satisfied me that this region must, at no remote period, become of vast importance to our nation and of deep and general interest". Thus moved, Kelley began ignoring his profession and began to attempt to gather support for an Oregon settlement enterprise. He lost his job in 1823 — primarily because of his failure to show up for classes — and the following year, through several New England newspapers and magazines, announced to the world his intention to settle in Oregon country.

By this time, of course, other Americans had begun to derive the same meaning from the Lewis and Clark descriptions of the Northwest as had Kelley. As early as 1814, Henry M. Brackenridge of his Views of Louisiana had mentioned American settlement on the lower Columbia as both necessary and probable and used as an authority the reports — as yet unpublished — of Lewis and Clark. Influenced by Brackenridge and,

8. Journals, VII, 310. The "want of timber", Lewis noted, was due not to deficiencies of soil or moisture but to repeated burning of the plains by natives.


12. The content of Views of Louisiana makes it clear that its author had consulted at some length with Clark.
again, by Lewis and Clark, Thomas Hart Benton, in a series of articles in the St. Louis Enquirer in 1819-18, proposed the establishment of American colonies in Oregon—"Nothing is waiting," he declared, "but a second Daniel Boone to lead the way." It is apparent that Kelley saw himself as this second Daniel Boone. When Benton went to the Senate from Missouri, Kelley began to communicate with him. In 1828, the New Englander went to Washington and, through a memorial sponsored by Benton and Floyd of Virginia, made his first bid for national support of his project of settling Oregon country. In this memorial, based chiefly upon Lewis and Clark information, Kelley called the Oregon country "the most valuable of all the unoccupied parts of the earth in its salubrity of climate; its fertility of soil; its rich and abundant productivity; its extensive forests of beautiful timber." Well, Congress took no action on Kelley's memorial — and although he went on to found his society for the settlement of Oregon, Kelley never made the migration. But many other New Englanders did — indeed, the lure of Oregon was as strong in rural New England as in any part of the country — and we can say that, in large measure, the early settlement of Oregon was stimulated by the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the interpretation of its results by Hall Jackson Kelley and people like him.

There is, of course, one other major area in which resource evaluations by Lewis and Clark played a part in the economic development of the West — this was in their commentary on the wealth of fur-bearing animal populations in the Plains, Rockies, and lower Columbia Valley. And here, their resource evaluations were combined with their lore on topography and terrain to stimulate the early development of the American fur trade. But a word of caution here — it would not be well to place undue emphasis — as I think is too often done — on the role of Lewis and Clark in stimulating the fur trade. Many of the directional and locational incentives for the development of the fur trade were well in place in the years preceding the Expedition. (Jefferson, for example, had a pretty clear picture of the benefits to be obtained via a Missouri-Columbia connection which would tie the United States to the triangular trade, involving Northwestern sea otter pelts, with the South Atlantic and the Orient.) And one of the earliest fur trading ventures — that of Astoria — might well have gone forth without any kind of information or evidence from Lewis and Clark. (This is not to suggest that the links between the Expedition and the Astoria venture were non-existent or weak — only to say that their importance has probably been over-emphasized.)

I don't intend on diminishing the significance of the Expedition in the early fur trade — but I do want to be realistic.

In spite of this niggling and hedging, there was an important set of links between the development of the fur trade and Lewis and Clark — and they are links that have not yet been properly investigated by scholarship. First, of course, was the importance of their information on the resource base. Jefferson and others had long assumed that the primary resource area for fur was the Canadian Northwest and, of course, the lower Columbia sea otter region. Few had anticipated the abundance of fur-bearing animals that the captains had reported on the Missouri drainage system. Their reports of the numerous beaver populations of the streams of the Plaines and Rockies could not have helped but serve as a powerful lure to those interested in the fur trade — men who had heretofore tended to focus on regions farther north and more remote than the Missouri River. And their commentary on the huge bison herds of the Plains also were critical in the development of that portion of the fur trade involving buffalo robes rather than beaver. (The buffalo robe trade is frequently ignored in treatments of the American fur trade — but a recent study by David Wishart of the University of Nebraska suggests that the buffalo trade — financially at least — may have been more important than the trade in beaver pelts.)

Coupled with the captains' resource evaluations in conditioning the fur trade was, of course, their topographic/terrain data — the second major type of regional information which had far reaching consequences for the subsequent development of the West. The Expedition had, as we know, failed in its central mission: the location of Jefferson's "desideratum" — the water communication across the continent for the purposes of commerce. Nevertheless, until something better came along, the route they had pioneered to the Columbia was the one that was known. Lewis himself noted of this northern route via the Missouri River that, while it was not what they had hoped it would be prior to their journey, it was a route which would allow the transport of "articles not bulky brittle nor of a very perishable nature". The report from which this statement came was widely published in western newspapers beginning late in 1806 and shortly thereafter, John Jacob Astor began his plans to utilize the Missouri River route of Lewis and Clark to link the United States with a trading terminus on the Pacific — at the mouth of the Columbia. As stated earlier, Astor's plans were not a direct result of the Lewis and Clark Expedition — but certainly, as Jim Ronda has pointed out, Lewis and Clark served as a catalyst for the development of Astor's Pacific Fur Company. There were, of course, other fur trading ventures more significant and successful than Astor's; like his, they tended to focus on the Missouri River route — in spite of the Indian difficulties which barred the way to open Missouri trade for years after the Expedition, the westward trail blazed by Lewis and Clark would be the common route to the far West until the 1830s. Our old friend Hall Jackson Kelley enthused about that route with its terminus at the mouth of the Columbia: "[it will] open up new channels through which the products of America and the eastern world, will pass in mutual exchange, saving in every voyage, a distance of ten thousand miles; new channels, which opening across the bosom of a widespread ocean and intersecting islands, where health fills the breeze and comforts spread the shores, would conduct the full tide of a golden traffic, into the reservoir of our national finance". The words are more flowery than those of Meriwether Lewis — but the thought is the same.

We come now, finally you may say, to the last area of impact I want to discuss: that of the role of Lewis and Clark topographic information on subsequent exploration in the West. It is my contention that western exploration — up to and including the first two expeditions of Fremont — was heavily conditioned by the regional infit of information that was known. Part of that conditioning was based on the very positive results of the Expedition. Lewis and Clark had made known — in a very real and accurate sense — the physical geography of the upper Missouri River basin and the southern half of the Columbian drainage.

15. David Wishart, The Fur Trade of the American West, 1807-1840, University of Nebraska, 1979, chapters 2 and 3.
16. Ronda, op.cit.
system. They had done their job as Enlightenment explorers so well and so thoroughly that there was little point in later explorations retracing their steps. But an equal measure of the conditioning grew out of the negative results of the Expedition. I'm speaking, of course, of the captains' inability to locate — via the Missouri and Columbia drainages — the short portage to the Pacific that had been the dream and goal of geographical theorists from Columbus to Jefferson. The conclusions worked out by William Clark during the winter at Fort Clatsop were definite as to the impracticability of a true, commercially-feasible short portage between the Missouri and Columbia (Lewis's comments cited above notwithstanding). But Clark had also worked out a new version of the short portage upon which later seekers after an easy route across the mountains could focus their attentions. Clark's new set of conclusions showed an interlocking drainage area to the south of the Lewis and Clark crossing. This newly-envisioned pyramidal height-of-land — a core drainage region containing the headwaters of the Yellowstone, Platte, Arkansas, Rio Grande, and Multnomah (an imaginary stream necessary to drain the still-minimalistic Great Basin) — was, in the words of Henry Nash Smith, "the enactment of a myth that embodied the future". The core drainage area would become, according to Thomas Hart Benton, "what the Euphrates, the Oxus, the Phasis, and the Cyrus were to the ancient Romans, lines of communication with eastern Asia, and channels for that rich commerce which, for forty centuries, has created so much wealth and power wherever it has flowed". The concept would dominate western cartography and exploration until the 1840's and John Charles Fremont.

Upon the Expedition's return in 1806, Clark began increasing the sophistication of his view of the core drainage area as he began preparing the master map of the West which would be published in the forthcoming Biddle History. Clark used data primarily from the Expedition, but supplemented it with information from the travels of Zebulon Pike into the upper Rio Grande and Arkansas basins in 1805-07, the wandering of George Drouillard and John Colter about the headwaters of the Big Horn and Yellowstone in 1807-1808, and a manuscript copy of a Humboldt map of New Spain, obtained from Jefferson. Pike's accounts of his travels indicated basic agreement with Clark's Fort Clatsop conclusion on the core drainage area: "I have no hesitation in asserting", wrote Pike, "that I can take a position in the mountains from whence I can visit the sources of any of those rivers in one day". He was referring, of course, to those rivers noted by Clark as heading in a common source region, a region through which might be established "the best communication on this side of the Isthmus of Darien between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans". The information from Colter and Drouillard also pointed the way to a new transcontinental crossing by way of the common core region south of the Lewis and Clark trail. From the Colter-Drouillard maps and notes, Clark learned that from the upper reaches of the Shoshone River (a part of the southern Yellowstone drainage system) the "Spanish settlements" could be reached in a short overland journey. The information from the Humboldt map reinforced all of these conclusions and when Clark's master map was published with the History, the course of future exploratory objectives was fixed.

For example, when — after an unsatisfactory scientific exploration in the Missouri region in 1819 — U.S. Army Major Stephen Long wrote to his superiors in Washington proposing a course of exploration for 1820, he suggested as a penultimate objective the source of the Platte, Arkansas and Red rivers. Then, if Secretary Calhoun would approve, wrote Long, a side trip to the Pacific via westward flowing streams from the common source region might be undertaken as well. It is known that Long carried with him, on his 1819 expedition, a copy of the Lewis and Clark narrative. It is also known that his proposal was given serious consideration by the War Department and although a more modest plan to reconniters the source region itself was finally approved, it is clear that the government was more than a little intrigued by the possibilities outlined on William Clark's map. Long never did achieve a satisfactory reconnaissance of the source region (although he did provide the first reasonably detailed exploration of the central Great Plains) — but the point here is that his exploratory goals had been shaped by Lewis and Clark data.

In addition to formal exploration by the U.S. government, there were informal or privately-sponsored expeditions during the period following Lewis and Clark which also derived at least part of their objectives from information in the Biddle History or other sources on the Expedition. Chief among these, naturally, were the far-flung explorations undertaken by representatives of the American fur trade between 1810 and 1840. The overland crossing of the Astorians in 1811-12 was specifically designed to test the core drainage theory of Clark's map — to "explore a line of communication across the continent". The Astorians' overland experience seemed to confirm the existence of a core drainage area such as that postulated by Lewis and Clark as well as reawakening an older myth — one that pre-dated Lewis and Clark as far back as Marquette. According to a contemporary newspaper account, the Astorians had learned "that a journey across the continent of N. America, might be performed with a waggon, there being no obstruction in the whole route that any person would dare call a mountain". In the composite geography made from a combination of Lewis and Clark data and the reports of the Astorians on a still-fuzzy South Pass, the Yellowstone, Snake, Green, Rio Grande, and Arkansas still headed in the common source region — a region which might be an open, upland plateau rather than a complex series of mountain ranges. And added to those real rivers was the geographically-necessary Buenaventura — a river that existed, like Lewis and Clark's mythical Multnomah (which it replaced), to drain the region between the common source region and the Pacific.

For more than twenty years after the Astorians' additions to Lewis and Clark data, the fur trade would seek to answer the riddle posed by this composite geo-

21. For details on the belief in the proximity of Spanish settlements, see Allen, "Division of the Waters", op. cit., pp. 360-61.
Columbia was still the only feasible water connection between the Mississippi and the Pacific. This conclusion opened the way for Fremont's most important exploratory contribution: the Passage to India was no longer a water route but one by land. It had taken two generations of explorers responding to Lewis and Clark to demonstrate the fact finally and completely. The Passage of Jefferson and Lewis and Clark was replaced by the Passage of Benton and Fremont. But it is important to note that the Passage still existed. Fremont's father-in-law, Benton, described it: "an American road to India through the heart of our country will revive upon its line all the wonders of which we have read — and eclipses them. The western wilderness, from the Pacific to the Mississippi, will start to life under its touch... the channel of Asiatic commerce which has been shifting in its bed from the time of Solomon...[has] become fixed upon the shortest, safest, best, and quickest route through the heart of our America". It is, I think, more than coincidental that Benton's summation of the results of Fremont's exploratory endeavor sound remarkably like words written forty years earlier by Meriwether Lewis, distilling what he saw as the essential value of his and Clark's own epic undertaking.

And so we come to an ending of sorts. An ending of this preliminary and sketchy view of the role of Lewis and Clark in those critical events that took place in the West between their return and mid-century. But let this ending, serve also as a beginning. We will come, in less than twenty years, to begin the celebration of the Lewis and Clark Bi-Centennial years. As a preparation for that celebration, let us, as an organization, dedicate ourselves as much to the investigation of the great Expedition's real contributions to western development as to the investigation of the events of the Expedition itself. Surely, we can do no less.

24. H.C. Dale, The Ashley-Smith explorations...with the original journals (Glendale, California: 1941), pp. 152-55.
Ray Forrest—1911-1985

The announcement of Ray Forrest’s death reached and saddened Foundation members during the activities of the Foundation’s 17th Annual Meeting at St. Louis, Missouri. A resident of Walla Walla, Washington, and the husband of Foundation Director (1978-1985) Viola Forrest, Ray passed away on July 31, 1985, following a series of strokes. Prior to his illness Forrest was an active member of the Foundation’s Ad hoc Bronze Committee and is credited for the sale of several of the Foundation’s Scriver bronze “Meriwether Lewis and Our Dog Scannon”. With Vi Forrest he was instrumental in the implementation of the Blue Mountain Chapter of the Foundation (the chapter discontinued meetings when Ray’s illness precluded the Forrests’ activity). Born in Willows, California, he graduated from Washington State College, Pullman, where he met Mrs. Forrest. They married in 1938, and Ray was employed by the First National Bank in Pullman. The family moved to Walla Walla in 1945 where he established an insurance business and bought and remodeled the downtown Denny Building into a modern office complex. Forrest was the recipient of the Walla Walla Jaycees’ Distinguished Service Award for Community Service in 1947. He earned a 25-year perfect attendance record from the Walla Walla Kiwanis Club, and served as the club’s president in 1953. His activity with many civic organizations included: City Park, City Police, Southeastern Washington Fair Board, Walla Walla Chamber of Commerce, and as a director (1954-1979) of the YMCA. In addition to our Foundation, he gave time to several local fraternal organizations, historical societies, and to the Pioneer Methodist Church. He was a life member of the WSU Alumni Association. Following his retirement in 1963, he devoted much time to gardening and to the landscaping of the Forrests’ beautiful home. A special interest was his and Vi’s reworking of much of the trail route of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. In addition to Mrs. Forrest, Ray is survived by a daughter, Patricia Huntsman; a son, Gary Forrest, M.D., and four grandchildren, all of Olympia, Washington. (See also: “Foundation Personalities”, WPO, Vol. 9, No. 2, pp. 18-19.)

New 1985-1986 Member’s Handbook

Members interested in the organizational aspects of the Foundation (Articles of Incorporation and the Amended Bylaws) together with current information related to the locations and activities of the organization’s annual meetings, 1970-1985; the individuals who have served the Foundation as officers since 1970; and a recapitulation and description of Foundation Awards and their recipients may request a copy of the new 1985-1986 Foundation Members Handbook. This new thirty page publication will be forwarded promptly upon receipt of $1.50 or seven 22¢ postage stamps (to cover cost of printing and mailing). Direct your request to: WPO Publications, 5054 S.W. 26th Place, Portland, OR 97201.

Roy Craft’s Skamania County Pioneer Tabloid Is Bonus for Annual Meeting Attendees

For a great many years, Roy Craft, Stevenson, Washington, a great press photographer and “Editor Emeritus” of The Skamania County Pioneer has edited and produced an attractive tabloid consisting mostly of the fine photographs he has taken each year of the many events relating to annual meetings of the Foundation. The Crafts, Roy and Gracie, have been regular attendees at annual meetings beginning with the Sixth Annual Meeting in Seaside, Oregon and Pacific County, Washington, in 1974. This year was no exception, and his eight page annual meeting tabloid has been mailed to attendees of record for the August 4-7, 1985, meeting in St. Louis, Missouri. The same publication was included with the regular distribution to subscribers for the Wednesday, September 18, 1985 edition of The Skamania County Pioneer.

It was in 1958 that Roy, a Life magazine staff and a member of the publicity department of the 20th Century Film Studio, in Hollywood, California, came north with Gracie and purchased the Pioneer, a county-seat weekly newspaper published in Stevenson, Washington, in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge where the great river of the west has cut its way through the Washington-Oregon Cascade Mountain Range. In his editorial column titled “Talking it Over” Roy writes:

“I was the Pioneer’s editor and publisher until eleven years ago [1974] when we sold the paper to our young friends, Ed and Peg McLarney. I maintain a desk and occasionally jump on the paper. I call my corner of the Pioneer office my “play pen”. I have the title of Editor Emeritus. I try to sell the idea that “emeritus” means “meritorious”, but Skamaniians are too sharp for me. They know that it means “retired, but still hanging around”.

We Proceeded On, November 1985
Cameras Record People and Events at 17th Annual Meeting

On this and the pages that follow, the cameras of Foundation members Roy Craft and Ruth Lange have provided for us the photographic documentation of many of the activities related to this year's 17th Annual Meeting in St. Louis and vicinity. Elsewhere in this issue of We Proceeded On mention is made regarding Roy Craft's photographic tabloid section distributed with his home town's Skamania County Pioneer newspaper published in Stevenson, Washington. As he has done every year, copies of his tabloid section have been mailed to all members who attended the August meeting in St. Louis. Some of the illustrations in his tabloid are duplicated here.

Following the Annual Banquet, the 1985-1986 officers were joined by immediate Past President Bill Sherman for this photograph. (Left to right) Bill Sherman, Portland, OR; Second Vice President John Montague, Marietta, GA; First Vice President John Foote, Billings, MT; President Edwin Wang, Minneapolis, MN; and Secretary Edrie Vinson, Red Lodge, MT. Treasurer John Walker, Portland, OR, because of a previous business commitment was not able to be present for the banquet.

Foundation Vice President John Foote, Billings, MT (left), receives the logo and paper work that identifies National Park Service Certified Sites along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Tom Gilbert, NPS Midwest Regional Office, Omaha, NE made the presentation. The Foote family own and have developed, as a historic site, the property that includes the geologic landmark Pompeys Pillar. Located on the Yellowstone River, 28 miles east of Billings, MT, visitors to the site may view William Clark's "autograph" where he carved in the sandstone the verbiage "Wm Clark — July 25 1806".

Social time before the Annual Banquet. Left hand illustration (left to right) Lyle Woodcock, St. Louis; Mrs. Irving Dillard, Collinsville, IL; Gary and Faye Moulton, Lincoln, NE. Right hand illustration (foreground, left to right) Robert Carriker, Spokane, WA; Harry Fritz and son, Missoula, MT.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR — RESERVE THE DATES — AUGUST 16-20, 1986 FOR THE FOUNDATION'S 18TH ANNUAL MEETING IN OREGON**
Board of Directors Meet in View of the "Gateway Arch"

Before the Director's Meeting convened. In the left hand illustration (left to right): President Bill Sherman, Portland, OR; 2nd Vice President John Foote, Billings, MT; 1st Vice President (President Elect) L. Edwin Wang, Minneapolis, MN; and Director Todd Berens, Santa Ana, CA. In the left hand illustration (left to right): Past President Strode Hinds, Sioux City, IA; Past President Jim Large, Washington, D.C.; Director Chris Patton, Springfield, IL; and (back to camera) Treasurer John Walker, Portland, OR.

The Board of Directors Meeting gets underway. Standing to President Sherman's left Secretary Edrie Vinson calls the roll. Seated with backs to camera (left to right) Todd Berens, Gary Moulton, and Margaret Norris. Across from them (left to right) Ed Wang, Hazel Bain, Wilbur Werner, John Foote. The view out of the 24th floor window behind Sherman revealed the panorama of the 630 foot high "Gateway Arch", the landscaped grounds and the Mississippi River.

We Proceeded On, November 1985
Cameras Record People and Events at 17th Annual Meeting

Following the final Foundation business meeting, new and past officers and directors assembled for this photograph. Front row from left: Bill Sherman, immediate past president; Edwin Wang, 1985-1986 president; Hazel Bain, past president; Edrie Vinson, secretary; John Montague, 2nd vice president; Jim Ronda, director; Todd Berens, retiring director. Standing from left: Hall Billian, director; Don Nell, director; Strode Hinds, past president; Art Shipley, director; John Foote, 1st Vice President; Bob Taylor, director; “Chris” Patton, director; Wilbur Werner, past president; Gary Moulton, director; Margaret Norris, retiring director; Bob Bivens, director; Winifred George, director; John Walker, treasurer; E.G. “Frenchy” Chuinard, past president; Bob Carriker, director; Jim Large, past president; and Bob Lange, past president and editor. We Proceeded On. Viola Forrest, a retiring director did not attend the annual meeting because of the death of her husband Ray Forrest. Roy Craft, who took the picture, is a director. (Article VII, Section 7.1 of the Foundation’s Bylaws states: “Past Presidents in good standing in attendance at Director’s Meetings shall be considered ex-officio members of the Board with a right to vote.”)

Aboard the Riverboat “Huck Finn” and the delightful three-hour Mississippi River Dinner Cruise: (Left to right) Past President Jim Large, Washington, DC; Past President and WPO Editor Bob Lange, Portland, OR; and William Clark Adreon, St. Louis, MO, great, great, grandson of Captain/General William Clark.

With the nighttime St. Louis skyline in the background, this photograph taken aboard the riverboat “Huck Finn” pictures: (left to right) Immediate Past President Bill Sherman, Portland, OR; First (Charter) President (1970) Edwynne Murphy, St. Louis, MO; and 1985-1986 President Edwin Wang, Minneapolis, MN.

Annual meeting time allows for the renewal of Expedition and Foundation related friendships. From left: E.G. “Frenchy” Chuinard, Portland, OK, second president of the Foundation; Hazel Bain, Longview, WA, fourteenth Foundation president; William Clark Adreon, St. Louis, MO, great, great, grandson of Expedition leader William Clark; Edwynne P. Murphy, St. Louis, MO, first president of the Foundation; and Charles C. Gass, San Francisco, CA, a descendant of the Expedition’s Sergeant Patrick Gass. Photograph was made during the Mississippi River dinner cruise aboard the riverboat “Huck Finn.”

Foundation member Irene Smith, Glasgow, Montana, has attended every annual meeting since the Glasgow meeting in 1979. For the past several years the annual meeting has presented the opportunity for the “Smith Clan” (Irene’s four sons and their wives) to get together. This year the “Clan” was at full strength at St. Louis. (Left to right): Rob, Glasgow, MT; Barry and wife Judy, Silver Spring, MD; Brad, Peekskill, NY; Irene, Glasgow, MT; and Spencer and wife Cherri, Winterset, IA.
Speakers Address Members and Guests at Missouri Historical Society

Following a delicious dinner at the Missouri Historical Society, James G. Barmore (left), Curator of Museum Collections, and Dr. Peter J. Michael, Curator of Manuscripts, spoke to members and guests about the Society's artifacts and memorabilia related to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Following their remarks, general exhibits as well as a specially arranged Lewis and Clark exhibit were examined as members toured the extensive museum. Before dinner was served, the "Country Store" (souvenir and book shop) was open as a convenience to Foundation visitors. Foundation member-authors were at an autograph table to inscribe books purchased at the shop.

Drum and Fife Corps Entertain and Parade at Cahokia, Illinois, City Park

A colorful and patriotic Drum and Fife Program was the pleasure of the charter bus travelers as they visited the City Park and Historical Museum in Cahokia, Illinois. The Alton, Illi- nois, Drum and Fife Corps in authentic costumes and with flag standards of the period provided an inspiring performance.

Bellefontaine Cemetery

On the Tuesday bus tour, attendees visited the Bellefontaine Cemetery in north St. Louis where General William Clark and other Clark family members are buried.

Events at Historic St. Charles, Missouri

An outdoor "1804 Menu" luncheon at a city park in historic St. Charles, Missouri, hosted by the St. Charles Department of Tourism, the St. Charles Rendezvous, and the St. Louis County Parks and Recreation Department was an event on Wednesday, August 7th. The Rendezvous group presented a reenactment of the Expedition's 1804 Court-Martial of three young men of the party who were tried for bad conduct. St. Charles was Missouri's first Capitol City and a tour of the many restored buildings and shops dating to the time of the Expedition followed the noon festivities.
Florissant, Missouri

Foundation member Ann Rogers spoke to attendees who were assembled in historic St. Ferdinand Church in the community of Florissant. An early settlement like St. Charles, Florissant lies to the east of St. Charles, south of the Missouri River, and about 16 miles north of St. Louis. The first St. Ferdinand Church was a log structure that was constructed in 1789, in an area noted for its rich farmland. The present brick structure replaced the log building in 1821. Father De Smet was at this place in the early 1820s prior to his departure for frontiers farther to the west. The Jesuits, interested in the Indian children's education, established a school at Florissant in 1824. The U.S. Government granted a subsidy to support the endeavor, and this was during the time that William Clark was Governor of the Missouri Territory. There are records that Clark visited Florissant, the church, and the school on several occasions. Dr. Rogers taught at the high school and college level for twelve years. With her husband, Dr. Joseph Rogers, she has traveled the greater portion of the Lewis and Clark Trail. Their research and Ann's photography have resulted in a photo-essay about the Expedition that is shown in schools and libraries, and she is the author of the fine little book Lewis and Clark in Missouri (reviewed in WPO, Vol. 6, No. 1, pp. 14-15).

Box lunches were served when attendees visited the General Bissell House. The Bissell home has been restored and dates to the same period (1810-1850), construction, and furnishings as the home of William Clark, which is no longer extant. There were tours of the house and Dr. Betty Burnett spoke to the group and indicated that Bissell and Clark had opposing views as to the treatment of Indians. Bissell's military career began as a fifer during the Revolutionary War, and he became commandant of Fort Bellefontaine, which preceded the present Jefferson Barracks military establishment.

Camera Records Visit to L. & C. Wood River Memorial

WPO Editor Bob Lange addressed members who were seated out of the blazing sun under the trees at Illinois' Lewis and Clark State Park near Wood River. Bob told of his and Foundation members' previous visits to this place. In 1973, 5th Annual Meeting attendees made the round-trip journey from St. Louis to the park via a chartered riverboat. There was a late afternoon picnic and program at the park. In 1977, during the 9th Annual Meeting, attendees enjoyed a river trip provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers barge and tugboat. This was an excursion downriver on the Missouri from St. Charles (Missouri) to the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and the State Park. Bob also described his and Ruth's visit with Clarence Decker in December 1980, shortly after the memorial's construction was completed. About that winter visit he described the leafless trees and barren landscape, the cold wind, the frozen puddles, and the blocks of ice floating down the Mississippi River. It was a scene, he said, more reminiscent to the season of the year and the conditions that the men of the Expedition experienced in 1803-1804.

(Related illustrations and story on facing page)
At the Park, Irving Dilliard, Collinsville, Illinois, a retired journalist, delivered an appropriate and poignant eulogy to the late Clarence Decker. He spoke and made reference to Decker's many contributions to the civic and business life in the East Alton — Wood River communities, his philanthropy and interest toward many causes, and most of all, of Decker's many years spent in the promotion and occasional personal financing of: acquisition of additional land; the building of an access roadway; clean up of the area; and the eventual planning and construction of a fitting memorial to the Expedition at Illinois' Lewis and Clark State Park. While editor of the editorial page of the St. Louis Post Dispatch, Irving Dilliard frequently wrote about the importance of preserving and developing the site of the Lewis and Clark Expedition's 1803-1804 winter establishment. One of these editorials, written in 1941, has been reproduced in We proceeded on, Vol. 3, No. 1, p. 9. Over the years Dilliard followed Decker's efforts and his ultimate success toward the development of this historic site.

In Memory of Clarence H. Decker

"With unrelenting crescendo, the symphony of a life replete with melodic progression hastens to its finale. And a friendship that is ours to share with its 'largos' and 'allegros' moves everlastinglly onward in sweet memories."

Members and guests at Lewis and Clark State Park gathered on the east bank of the Mississippi, directly across from the mouth of the Missouri, to witness a memorial tribute. A wreath was set afloat near the center of the river, in memory of the Foundation's past President and long-time Treasurer, the late Clarence H. Decker, East Alton, Illinois. It was Decker who over the years spearheaded the movement to preserve this site, and to develop the plans and see to the construction of a fitting memorial to the Lewis and Clark Expedition's 1803-1804 winter establishment at the confluence of the two great rivers of the North American continent.
Membership Secretary Ruth Lange and her "Talking Minolta" camera are responsible for the pictures on this page. Here she is demonstrating the technique of spaghetti twirling. Judging from the other pictures on this page everyone enjoyed the luncheon at the "Spaghetti Factory".

Our new Foundation Treasurer John E. Walker, Portland, OR, (right) sits beside Mrs. (Judith) Walker. James Meredith, Roche Harbor, Washington, to Judith's right, joins in the spaghetti eating.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR — RESERVE THE DATES — AUGUST 16 - 20, 1986
FOR THE FOUNDATION'S 18TH ANNUAL MEETING IN OREGON
Foundation Awards Presented at 17th Annual Banquet

Foundation Director Ralph H. Rudeen, Olympia, Washington, presided at the segment of the Annual Banquet devoted to the presentation of the Foundation's several awards.

Meritorious Achievement Awards

James P. Ronda, Youngstown, OH, receives the Foundation's highest award, the "Meritorious Achievement Award" for his book Lewis and Clark Among the Indians. Robert Carriker, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington, was requested by Awards Committee Chairman Ralph Rudeen to make the presentation remarks for this award.

Robert B. Betts, New York, NY was a recipient of the Foundation's "Meritorious Achievement Award" for his book In Search of York: The Slave Who Went to the Pacific with Lewis and Clark. Bob Betts was unable to attend the annual meeting. John Allen (right) accepted the award for him from Awards Committee member Bob Lange, who made the presentation remarks.

Framed Appreciation Award Certificates

Words of appreciation were expressed personally to Winifred George (right) St. Louis, Missouri, by many attendees. Her hard work and leadership as General Chairman for the 17th Annual meeting developed a meeting of outstanding quality. Following the presentation of the Appreciation Award by President Sherman, "Winnie" graciously acknowledged the interest and assistance she received from members of her committee and the citizens of the "Metro St. Louis" area.

Art Shipley (left), Bismarck, North Dakota, was the recipient of an Appreciation Award for his interest and effort toward increasing memberships in North Dakota. His work more than doubled the membership in his state. John Montague, Chairman of the Membership Committee made the presentation. It should be noted that the 20th Annual Meeting will be in North Dakota in August 1988.

Don Nell (right), Bozeman, Montana, has been the vital "spark-plug", organizer, and is serving as the charter president of the new "Headwaters Chapter" of the Foundation. The organization now boasts 22 members, and continues to meet monthly (more often during the summer months with Expedition-oriented field trips). For his interest and organization of this new Foundation entity, Don was presented the "Appreciation Award" from Hal Billian, Chairman of the New Entities Committee.
Youth Achievement Awards Presented at 17th Annual Banquet

Todd Berens, Santa Ana, CA, a member of the Foundation's Young Adults Activity Committee, presented the "Youth Achievement Award" to three recipients. The awards were sponsored in cooperation with St. Louis University and were part of "Missouri History Day program - 1985 Contest". (In the left hand illustration) Freddie Palmer, III and James Walker, Jr., Valley Park, Missouri, were joint recipients of the first prize, Junior High School Division. $100.00 funded by the Foundation accompanied the framed certificate. (In the right hand illustration) Tracy Anderson, Hillsboro, Missouri accepts first prize, Senior High School Division from Berens. $100.00 funded by the Foundation accompanied the framed certificate.

Seventeenth Annual Meeting Attendees

The listings that follow are based on information supplied by the 17th Annual Meeting Registration Committee. *Indicates that individual attended only certain events during the four day meeting.

CALIFORNIA (13)
Donald Alderman, Pasadena
Katherine Alderman, Pasadena
Betty Berens, Santa Ana
Todd Berens, Santa Ana
Thomas Brown, Glendale
Duffy Douglas, Whittier
Sam Douglas, Whittier
Charles Gass, San Francisco
Georgette Goslovich, Santa Rosa
Pauline Goslovich, Santa Rosa
Virginia Hemmer, San Jose
Eva Tetreault, San Francisco
Joyce Tetreault, San Francisco

GEORGIA (2)
Dinna Montague, Marietta
John Montague, Marietta

ILLINOIS (7) (*4)
Joseph Barkley, Paris
David Brown, Wilmette
Marge Brown, Wilmette
*Kaye Cowles, Wood River
Michael Dotsen, Crest Hill
Albert Joseph, Des Plaines
Gladys Levis, Alton
*William Magurany, Wood River
Charles Patton, Springfield
*Lucille Rich, Wood River
*Judy Sheraka, Wood River

IOWA (5)
Marjorie Calabro, Council Bluffs
Bev Hinds, Sioux City
Strode Hinds, Sioux City
Cheri Smith, Winterset
Spencer Smith, Winterset

MARYLAND (2)
Barry Smith, Silver Spring
Judy Smith, Silver Spring

MINNESOTA (4)
Gerald Holcomb, Rochester
Susan Holcomb, Rochester
Astrid Wang, Minneapolis
Edwin Wang, Minneapolis

(CONCLUDED ON FACING PAGE)
MISSOURI (16) (*21)
*Wm. Clark Adreon, St. Louis
*Mary Anzalone, St. Louis
*James Barmore, St. Louis
*Ann Bates, St. Louis
*W. M. Bates, St. Louis
*Raymond Ben, St. Louis
*Bette Burfield, St. Louis
*Joy Davis, Union
*Paul Davis, Webster Grove
*Dora Door, Union
*Wm. B. Feherty, S.J., St. Louis
*Rosie Fischer, Reeds Spring
*Gregory Franzwa, Gerald
*Lois Fratila, St. Louis
*Mimi Jackson, St. Louis
*Ben Jeanning, St. Louis
*Joan Jeffries, St. Louis
*Mary Jean King, St. Louis
*Joan Lattimer, St. Louis
*Linda Lipton, St. Louis
*John Lucas, St. Louis
*Bob Maguire, St. Louis
*Joyce Mauzy, St. Louis
*Lois McElroy, St. Louis
*Louise Murray, St. Louis
*Donald Nelson, St. Louis
*Barbara O'connor, St. Louis
*Mario Palma, St. Louis
*Carolyn Paschall, St. Louis
*Bob Peters, St. Louis
*Edward Poulan, St. Louis
*Kathy Reif, St. Louis
*Joan Richardson, St. Louis
*Mary Robinson, St. Louis
*Barbara Smith, St. Louis
*Charles Smith, St. Louis
*Joyce Sokol, St. Louis
*James Stull, St. Louis
*Joan Taylor, St. Louis
*Betty Thomas, St. Louis
*Betty Thompson, St. Louis
*Barbara Toyler, St. Louis
*Richard Winstead, St. Louis
*Joyce Williams, St. Louis
*Ruth Wilson, St. Louis
*Betty Wood, St. Louis
*Martha York, St. Louis
*Pat Zieglar, St. Louis

NEW YORK (7)
*Margaret Norris, Fayetteville
*William Norton, Fayetteville
*George Richards, Jr., Chadwicks
*Brad Smith, Peekskill
*Judy Smith, Peekskill
*Gene Swanzy, Warwick
*Mary Ann Swanzy, Warwick

NORTH DAKOTA (6)
*Albert Kent, Bismarck
*Marjorie Kent, Bismarck
*Marilyn Kipp, Bismarck
*Ida Prokop Lee, Bismarck
*Sheila Robinson, Coleharbor
*Arthur Shipley, Bismarck

OHIO (6)
*J. Park Biehl, Cincinnati
*Ann Brown, Toledo
*Jean Cambridge, Strongsville
*Adele Ford, Toledo
*Jame Ronda, Youngstown
*Jeanne Ronda, Youngstown

OREGON (16)
*Eldon "Frenchy" Chinard, Tigard
*Dan Dallilo, Astoria
*Charles Evans, Mt. Hood
*Michael Foster, Astoria
*Dwight Garrison, Portland
*Myrtt Garrison, Portland
*Barry Hagen, C.S.C., Portland
*Billie Holecomb, Corvallis
*Robert Holcomb, Corvallis
*Robert Lange, Portland
*Ruth Lange, Portland
*Virginia Moore, Hillsboro
*William Sherman, Portland
*Charlene Holtz, Mt. Hood
*John Walker, Estacada
*Judith Walker, Estacada

Pennsylvania (8)
*Margaret Baynes, Reading
*Richard Baynes, Reading
*Harold Billian, Villanova
*Jane Billian, Villanova
*Dorothy Bond, Wayne
*Paul Bond, Wayne
*Margaret Bond, Toughkenamon
*Pownell Jones, Toughkenamon

TENNESSEE (2)
*Margaret Natsay, Nashville
*Martin Natsay, Nashville

WASHINGTON (28) (*1)
*Bernice Appelo, Grays River
*Carlton Appelo, Grays River
*Hazel Bain, Longview
*Eleanor Carr, Spokane
*Robert Carr, Spokane
*Grace Craft, Stevenson
*Roy Craft, Stevenson
*John Diffencher, Spokane
*Sandra Diffencher, Spokane
*Brian Hayes, Battle Ground
*Tim Hayes, Battle Ground
*Peter Hemenway, Battle Ground
*Claudia Hofhahm, Bremerton
*Victoria Hofhahm, Bremerton
*Charls Howson, Spokane
*Randall Kidd, Seattle
*Wendi Kidd, Seattle
*Laura Kreig, Skamania
*Richard Krieg, Skamania
*Kyle McHugh, Battle Ground
*Mildred McHugh, Battle Ground

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Change of Address

A costly part of the distribution and mailing of our quarterly publication, WE PROCEEDED ON is the administration and handling of mailed-out copies of the publication that are returned because the addressee has moved. Whether or not members have left a forwarding address with their post office when they moved, WPO is returned to the Foundation. We mail our magazine on a Non-Profit Organization bulk mail permit (a reduced rate type of Third-Class Mail, at about $.50 to $.80 per issue depending on the number of pages, inserts, and total weight). This type of mail is not eligible for forwarding and is returned to the sender (the Foundation). When it is returned we are assessed "Postage Due" at the regular single-piece Third-Class Rate (anywhere from $.50 to $.80 depending on weight). If and when we have your new address (sometimes provided by the post office), we mail out the returned issue to you and this postage costs us the same as the "Postage Due" fee when it was returned. The total cost of such transactions, therefore, costs the Foundation anywhere from $1.12 to $1.96.

If you are about to move, it would be much appreciated if you would provide us with your new address (the USPS has a card for this purpose, their Form 3576) - it will save the Foundation money as well as administration time.
In Search of York: The Slave

Book Review

By Irving W. Anderson


When it seems that every possible dimension of Lewis and Clark Expedition history has been exhaustively examined and published, the uncovering by researchers of dim, antiquarian evidence breathes new life into some vague aspect bearing upon the Expedition or one of its members. Robert B. Betts has now, In Search of York: The Slave Who Went to the Pacific with Lewis and Clark, through diligent documentary research, conclusively dispelled many myths and misconceptions concerning York, the black man-servant of Expedition fame.

Indeed, author Betts has contributed a two-dimensional work of substantive historical worth. First, Betts has objectively reviewed York's life role as the slave-companion of William Clark, both as boyhood playmate, and as a useful member of the exploring mission. And second, Betts has reconstructed the actual course of York's life-conflicts after the Expedition, specifically his despairing treatment under then common black/white cultural codes.

But the most dramatic of all the primary documents encountered by Betts is a letter never before published. Dated 13 May 1811, the letter was written to William Clark by his nineteen-year-old neighbor, John O'Fallon. Here, among other things, it is revealed that York remained a slave as late as 1811, and that he had a wife. But the most startling of all, he had fallen into disgrace with William Clark, and been hired to a man who had misused him.

This down-turn in York's life is further compounded by information revealed in the 1811 O'Fallon letter that York's marriage was about to be torn apart because the family who owned his wife was moving from Louisville, Kentucky to the Deep South. That York was powerless to protest this circumstance is brought into focus by Betts in his discussion of the then prevailing social and legal standing of blacks under the harsh practices of slavery. Although it is not clear exactly when Clark granted York his freedom, Betts cites a Washington Irving source, that York was a free man by 1832. However, since Betts could find no information of record regarding later Clark-York relationships he can only speculate whether the two were ever reconciled.

In addition to its superior historical content, In Search of York also stands out in literary quality and publication format. Its pagination, layout, type style and size, and its chapter annotations on the margin of each page make for ease of reading and ready chapter reference. Its illustrations are superb, as they include virtually every known depiction of York ever created, both antiquarian and current, in color and black and white. Annotated footnotes contribute materially to the scholarly product of the work, and its comprehensive bibliography provides a wealth of sources for further reference by interested readers.

Lastly, the author has appended a Special Note that graciously acknowledges the work of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. and its quarterly publication, We Proceeded On, in keeping alive the saga of our nation's epic in exploration of the American West. With the interest in Lewis and Clark Expedition history that In Search of York is bound to promote, it is certain that the Foundation will benefit, both in new memberships and greater public awareness of our organization generally.

Editor's note: Robert B. Betts has been a frequent contributor to We Proceeded On. See his: "We commenced a trip to the southwest last week." - "A Salute to the Lewis and Clark Expedition," in WPO, Vol. 6, No. 4; and "'We proceeded on': the 1803-4 expedition," in WPO, Vol. 7, No. 3.

Iowans Building Keelboat Replica

(Iowa State University Press, 1985, 63 pp., $6.95)

Ron Williams, Park Ranger at Lewis and Clark State Park near Onawa, Iowa, said the State Conservation Commission is donating lumber for the boat, which will be 55 feet long and 8 feet, 4 inches wide. But all other costs, material and labor will come from private donations.

Volunteers gathered at a workshop at the park last weekend to begin building ribs for the boat hull, Williams said. He added, that they will work the first and third weekend of each month.

A. C. "Butch" Bovier, a woodwright from Council Bluffs, will oversee the construction.

The group has been incorporated as The Friends of Discovery, and the boat will be named The Discovery. "The original boat was never named," according to Bovier, who indicated that he has put about 300 hours of research into the project seeking building plans.

The woodwright said in Council Bluffs that the boat will use 9000 feet of red oak to be supplied from State Conservation Commission forest preserves in northeast Iowa. "We'd prefer white oak," said Bovier. "But that is what we had in 1803 because it is non-porous. The original craft was built in Pittsburgh in 1803."

The volunteers have completed a "strongback," a platform on which the keelboat will be built, and have begun work on the boat ribs. "We'll spend the winter doing the hard work (constructing the ribs) indoors, and then next spring we'll take them outdoors and put them in the water," Bovier said.

Onawa, Monona County, Iowa, is located on U.S. Highway 20, south of Sioux City, near Blue Lake and the Missouri River. Present-day maps locate Lewis and Clark State Park (site of the Expedition's August 12, 1804, campsite) just north and west of Onawa.

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together.” And when it is finished, in 18 to 24 months, Bovier assumes that it could be the only authentic full-scale keelboat in existence. Bovier conceded that origin plans have been lost, and only drawings from William Clark’s journal to the water line are available.

That is where the dispute has arisen. Bovier said he based his design on those found in a National Geographic magazine article, “which, we feel, are pretty accurate. The Smithsonian Institution also had plans but theirs used a round-bottom construction.” Bovier is using a flat-bottom design, or more accurately a shallow V hull. The Missouri River of that day was only 4 feet to 5 feet deep and the Expedition’s boat, about 9 tons deadweight with a 3-foot draft, had to navigate sandbars and at times as little as 8 inches of water, he said. “There’s no way a round-bottomed boat could do that.”

Bovier said that once the boat is completed, Williams and his “crew” hope to launch it yearly at the park for people to see, and park officials hope to develop a park festival recreating the explorers’ passage through the area.

New Chapters Organize

Just as this issue of WPO reached the final preparation for going to our press, we received news about the organization of a “Sakakawea Chapter” of the Foundation in North Dakota. Mail received the same day announced that the recently appointed Governor’s Idaho Lewis and Clark Trail Committee was in the process of organizing a statewide Foundation chapter (name to be selected). We also have notice of an organizational meeting scheduled for November 28, 1985, for the purpose of establishing a Foundation chapter consisting of members in Missouri and Illinois. The February issue of WPO will provide additional details relating to these organizational activities.

1. The editor has indicated WPO’s policy with regard to the spelling of the Indian woman, Sacagawea’s, name. See: WPO, Vol. 1, No. 4, p. 4. Since many Foundation members in North Dakota prefer and make use of the spelling “Sacagawea” in lieu of the accepted spelling “Sacagawea,” we make no editorial alteration of the spelling related to the name of the new chapter in North Dakota.
1847 Edition of Sergeant Gass’s Journal Abounds with Absurd Illustrations

Lewis and Clark bibliophiles are quite familiar with the unique and quaint engravings that were included in the 1810, 1811, and 1812 editions of Sergeant Patrick Gass’s Journal. These engravings have been reproduced in much of the subsequent literature about the Expedition. They may not, however, be as knowledgeable about the illustrations reproduced on this and the facing page which accompanied the text in a rarer 1847 reprint of the earlier Gass editions published by Ells, Claflin & Co., Dayton, Ohio. Bordering on the ridiculous, particularly the portraits credited to be those of the Expedition’s Captains, the publisher appears to having been carried away by his statement on the title page: “New Edition with Numerous Engravings”. There are sixteen woodcut illustrations in addition to the atrocious renderings of the Captains. Nine examples of these are reproduced here, and it is apparent that these as well as the other seven have little bearing on the journal text. In fact, it is incomprehensible that Australia’s marsupial, the Koala, appears in one of the

LEWIS AND CLARKE’S
JOURNAL
TO THE
ROCKY MOUNTAINS
In the years 1804-5-6;
AS RELATED BY
PATRICK GASS,
ONE OF THE OFFICERS IN THE EXPEDITION.
New Edition with Numerous Engravings.

DAYTON;
PUBLISHED BY ELLS, CLAFLIN, & CO.
1847.

Captain Lewis. Captain Clarke.
illustrations. Sergeant Gass's journal is reproduced unabridged and is nearly verbatim from the 1807 paraphrastic version of the Sergeant's writings by David M'Keehan. The 1847 Dayton, Ohio, publisher must have felt that any prolific set of illustrations would enhance the sale of his book. The identification Grosvenor or Grosvenor appears on two of the 16 illustrations.

It should be noted, by making reference to Victor Palsit's "Bibliographic Data" in Volume One of Reuben Thwaites' Original Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, 1804-1806 (lxxi-lxxv), that the 1807 edition of Gass published by M'Keehan and printed in Pittsburgh by Zadok Cramer was without illustrations. The 1810, 1811, and 1812 editions printed in Philadelphia for Mathew Carey were each published with six engravings. Paltsit points out certain discrepancies regarding these six engravings in his descriptive notes relating to these three editions, and Elliott Coues in his 1893 edition comments (l:xxi): "To this edition, however, are added six full-page illustrations, in which the figures of men, trees, and animals are notable rather for the mathematical regularity of their lines than for any approach to 'curves of beauty'." While these six illustrations are outlandish and somewhat bizarre, they do have a certain charm and in a way connotate to the journal text. They are certainly not as far-fetched and irrelevant as those reproduced here from the 1847 edition. We should add that the spelling "Clarke" in lieu of the proper "Clark" appears in all of the Gass journal paraphrases.


(The illustrations on this and the preceding page have been reduced to about 70% of their original size.)
Foundation Members Ride Idaho's Lolo Trail

By "Chris" Patton1

The Triple "O" Outfitters of Pierce, Idaho, operated by Harlan and Barbara Opdahl, advised We Proceeded On that they would be offering tours along Idaho's historic Lolo Trail with emphasis on the 1805-1806 route of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. (See WPO, Vol. 11, No. 1, P. 19.) Two members of our Foundation, Ruth Backer, New Jersey, and the author, sampled their fare during the week (August 19-23) following the St. Louis 17th Annual Meeting. Though the Opdahls have had plenty of experience with hunting parties and are well equipped, this was their first attempt at conducting a historically oriented tour, and they did it quite well.

Two ladies from Lewiston, Idaho joined us. Therefore, the party consisted of three women and me, with a Forest Service Guide, and five Opdahls to care for us — awesome!

Ruth Backer determined not to miss the opportunity to photograph the same vistas afforded the Corps of Discovery. She had never ridden a horse and viewed the five day trip with some trepidation. But being assured that the use of the bottom half of a suit of thermal underwear would "soften the blow," like Lewis and Clark and their party, she bravèd the unknown with signal fortitude. Several of her stunning photographs accompany this text.

The uniqueness of this tour lies in the ability of the Opdahls to offer the traveler a choice of four-wheel drive, or four footed drive, or "shanks mare," and in any combination. This is possible, thanks to the CCC (the Civilian Conservation Corps) which in the 1930s constructed a primitive road through the Bitterroot Mountains approximately along the route of the Indians' Lolo Trail which the Lewis and Clark Expedition followed in 1805 and 1806. It is now a maintained Forest Service Access Road. In some places the road coincides with the trail and in other areas it parallels it at a short distance. Frequently the trail and the roadway cross each other. Thus any portion of the Trail may be reached by short excursions from the road, either on foot or on horseback. (I must say that when going up and down hills, I much prefer having a horse do the work, as did the Lewis and Clark party.)

We visited campsites of the Expedition, westbound from September 14 to September 21, 1805. Included were the camps identified today2 as:

1. Charles C. "Chris" Patton, Springfield, Illinois, is a long-time Lewis and Clark enthusiast, and is presently serving the Foundation as a director. In 1970, Chris was a member of a group who subscribed as a "passenger" on the initial Four Winds (Travel Agency) Lewis and Clark Expedition Tour. The late E.E. "Boo" MacFlinns was the tour historian on the initial tour, and a fellow "passenger" was 1933-34 Foundation Past President Arien J. Large. Patton has been a regular attendee at Foundation Annual Meetings, and almost annually retraces a segment of the explorers' route through the Trans-Mississippi West.

2. The origins for the names given to the many campsities and locations detailed in this article are not all names given by members of the exploring party. Subsequent travelers (Forest Service personnel, packers, trappers, soldiers, Indians and historians) have provided names of the nomenclature, and in many instances the names do connotate to statements and descriptions made concerning locations of campsites, and the party's activities, in the collective journals of the Expedition.

"Snowbank Camp", "Lonesome Cove", "Sinquie Hole", "Dry Camp", "Hearty Meal Stop", "Full Stomach Camp", and "Pheasant Camp". We also saw eastbound campsites made from June 15 to June 28, 1806. They are called today: "Small Prairie Camp", "Salmon Trout Camp", "Horsesteak Meadow", "Jerusalem Artichoke Camp", "Greenwood Camp", "The Smokin Place", "Bears Oil and Roots", and "Thirteen Mile Camp".

While the Expedition's westbound (1805) traverse was about four weeks later than was ours, we did experience some of the same weather extremes. We saw some snow, some hail, some rain, but mostly fair weather. Like the exploring party, we saw no game, not so much as a bunny rabbit, and, thankfully, few insects.

Of all the campsites, the most fascinating to me was the "Jerusalem Artichoke Camp" of June 25, 1806.3 It is located in a small meadow of not more than two acres on the inside of a bend in the Creek surrounded by steep hillsides. The Expedition camped at this place on their second attempt to cross the mountains on the 1806 eastbound journey. Ralph Space believes this site to be off of the old trail.4 It certainly was inaccessible from the road and it was necessary


4. Ibid.,Vol. 5, pp. 138-140.

5. Ralph S. Space, The Lolo Trail: A History of Events Connected with the Lolo Trail, pri-

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Lolo Trail (Idaho) travelers en route, and at the summit of, Sherman Peak. Brass (surveyor's) Bench Mark affixed to the huge boulder at the summit indicates an altitude of 6658 feet above sea level — a high point in northern Idaho's Bitterroot Mountain Range. Photographed on the boulder and enjoying the spectacular view, are: (left to right) Duane Annis (guide-interpreter) U.S. Forest Service, Orofino, ID; two fellow travelers from Lewiston, ID; Foundation members, Ruth Backer, Cranford, NJ; and "Chris" Patton, Springfield, IL. Photographs by Ruth Backer.

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to break a new trail to get there. Duane Ansis, our U.S. Forest Service guide and interpreter, showed us the way which is neither marked by trail nor blaze. This place, he remarked, had probably not been seen by more than a dozen people since the Expedition camped there. That statement alone spurred us to make the necessary exertion to find this site.

From the road at "Windy Saddle" we rode the horses down a steep slope to "Horsesteak Meadow", a distance of perhaps an eighth of a mile. Crossing Hungry Creek, we proceeded downstream through marshy ground for about a half mile at which point it appeared judicious to leave the horses and proceed on foot. Working our way along a brushy hillside just above the creek for another quarter mile, we finally came in view of a small meadow across the creek to the south. Finding some suitable stepping-stones, we crossed the creek and stood in the middle of the explorers' campsite where few had stood since 1806. A gentle rain was falling, but did not deter us from savouring the moment and the scene. It was here that Captain Lewis documented that "... at this place I met with a plant the root of which the Shoshones probably identified and dug some of these roots for Lewis. He declared that they tasted like the Arcticoke. We searched for such a plant or root, but found none.

Of the other sights we saw, the one from the top of Sherman's Peak was the most thrilling. It was here that Clark and six hunters, having proceeded ahead of the others to look for game, first saw the "... emence Plain and level Country to the SW. & W."

Toby, their Indian guide, told Captain Lewis that the Columbia River [actually only a tributary] flowed through that plain.8 Sacagawea probably identified and dug some of these roots for Lewis. He declared that they tasted like the Jerusalem Artichoke. We searched for such a plant or root, but found none.

They then realized that they had at last conquered the Rocky Mountains and were on their way following the waterways to the Pacific. Sergeant Patrick Gass wrote: "When this discovery was made there was much joy and rejoicing among the corps, as happens among passengers at sea, who have experienced a dangerous and protracted voyage, when they first discover land on the long looked for coast."

The highest point on Sherman's Peak is a large boulder about eight feet in diameter and easily accessible. We stood atop this boulder, 6655 feet above sea level, and distinctly saw the prairie that Clark had seen — still some 40 miles away. There can be no doubt but that Clark stood on that very spot peering through his "Spye glass" at the "emence Plain".

On our last day we rode the horses from a little west of "hearty Meal Stop" to "Salmon Trout Camp" as we followed the original undisturbed trail along the ridge above "Six Bit Creek". The trail led us for about five miles through the most beautiful virgin forest I have ever seen. Duane Ansis told us that this small stand of timber had not been burned over for 300 years and that the magnificent trees towering above us were at least that old. Surely, they were the same ones seen by the members of the Expedition. Hemlock, white pine, western red cedar (Lewis called them arbor vitae), and larch, four to six feet in diameter, were probably no more than a few inches smaller in 1805!

Old blazes on the trees, some of them only barely discernible, marked the trail. In some places one could see where the forest floor along the trail had been hollowed out by a millenia of moccasined feet and unshod hooves. Occasional windfalls, too high for our horses to step over, forced us to make small detours off the trail, an impediment also noted by the Expedition's journalists. About half way down the trail we came to "Full Stomach Camp", where we paused to search for a marker left by Ralph 

examine some distinctive boulders which we noted would be good candidates for mill stones.

The overhanging branches of the trees, high over our heads and heavy with long clusters of grey-green moss, almost blotted out the sky and added a somber touch to the majesty of these giant trees. On the forest floor we found Giant Lady Slipper, Baneberry and occasionally, in some rotting wood, clumps of Indian Pipe. In the open and sunny spots were: Fireweed, Indian Paint Brush, Goldenrod, and Wild Aster, all in full bloom and color, and complimented by the whites of voluminous Pussy-toes and Yarrow. The magic of this magnificent forest could not help but bring to mind, over and over again, the opening lines of Longfellow's Evangeline:

"This is the forest primeval. The murmuring pines and the hemlocks,
Bearded with moss, and in garments green, indistinct in the twilight,
Stand like Druids of old, with voices sad and prophetic,
Stand like harpers hoar, with beards that rest on their bosoms."

It was a good trip!

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**Back-Issues of WPO**

Back-issues of *We Proceeded On* are available for purchase. Some early issues are paper plate photo-offset reproductions of the original publications and the quality of the illustrations are slightly depreciated. Present-day printing and mailing costs require that back-issues be supplied at $2.00 each to Foundation members, and at $2.50 each to non-members. You may request a copy of a "WPO Feature Story Prospectus", which lists the titles, etc., of feature stories that have appeared in *We Proceeded On* and in WPO Supplementary Publications. A recapitulation of book reviews that have been published in *We Proceeded On* is also included in this prospectus.

Address requests for specific back-issues, or for the "Feature Story Prospectus" to 5054 S.W. 26th Place, Portland, OR 97201. Remittances should be made payable to the Foundation.
Montana Power Company Recipient of Foundation Award for Great Falls Riverfront Overlooks

The Foundation's Meritorious Achievement Award was presented to the Montana Power Company, September 29, 1985. The presentation was made during the dedication ceremonies for the recently completed Lewis and Clark Overlook downstream from Rainbow Falls and Dam on the Missouri riverfront, Great Falls, Montana.

This is the second overlook or viewing platform that has been completed and is a part of an ambitious program funded by the Montana Power Company along the southeast shore of the Missouri River adjacent to River Drive. A $75,000 grant made to the Riverfront Task Force, a civic agency that is overseeing the projects, has to date underwritten the major cost for two overlooks in the area of Rainbow Falls. Substantial donations of materials and services by local enterprises and crafts have greatly augmented the company's funding. Visitors will now find ample paved parking areas at the overlooks, which are well constructed platforms with interpretive signs relating to the history and geology of the region. The platforms provide an ideal and safe facility for views of the spectacular cataracts and avoid the danger of accidents along the rock escarpments bordering the river.

Unfortunately word of the completion of the initial Rainbow Falls Overlook, constructed in 1984, did not reach the Foundation's Award Committee in time for recognition and presentation of an award in August 1984, during the Foundation's 16th Annual Meeting in 1985.

1. The text on the award plaque reads: "For Outstanding Contributions in Bringing to this Nation a Greater Awareness and Appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition".

2. The second highest of five waterfalls on a twelve mile segment of the Missouri River, near Great Falls, Montana. For a report and pictures of the 1984 dedication of the Rainbow Falls Overlook, see We Proceeded On, Vol. 10, No. 4, pages 24-25.

3. Joining with the Power Company with funding, donations of materials, and craftsmanship are the following: United Materials; Montana Air National Guard; Falls Construction Co.; Malstrom Air Force Base; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; Portage Enterprises; Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation; Heritage Park Commission; High Noon Optimists Club; Green Thumb; Great Falls Hairdressers & Cosmetologists Association; Robert Rivens; Cross Country Club; Family of Harvey Baumgart; and Pacific Hide & Fur Co.

Great Falls, Montana. The award presented on September 29, 1985, at this second dedication, the Lewis and Clark Overlook, is the Foundation's recognition of Montana Power Company's participation for the improvements accomplished up to this time along the scenic and historic riverfront. Located 3/4 to 1/2 mile downstream from the earlier constructed facility, the Lewis and Clark Overlook affords a different view of Rainbow Falls, and the two overlooks will eventually be connected by a safe walking trail. The interpretive signs installed at this second location deal specifically with the Lewis and Clark Expedition's confrontation of the five falls along the river that necessitated a change from travel on the river to a 17½ mile portage from the mouth of Belt (the Lewis's Portage Creek) to the White Bear Island region, upstream from the Sun (The Expedition's "Medicine") River's confluence with the Missouri.

During the dedication ceremonies, the principal address by William P. Sherman, the past president of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, dealt with the importance of the exploring enterprise's arrival at the falls of the Missouri River. Their coming upon the falls confirmed the decision made several miles downstream at the confluence of the Marias and Missouri Rivers as to which of the two waterways was the Missouri. As Bill Sherman stated the "waterfalls proved to be the keystone of their orientation. They were then presented with a formidable portage of approximately 17½ miles in order to resume their travel. The portage around these Great Falls of the Missouri was critical to the successful completion of their journey."

"The discovery of the falls prevented the explorers from following the course of the Marias and ending their trek at the headwaters of that river on the east side of the Rocky Mountains rather than at the shore of the Pacific Ocean."

Following his address, Sherman made the presentation of the Foundation's attractive plaque, the Meritorious Achievement Award, to Mr. Paul Schmechel, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Montana Power Company.

During the years to come, additional overlooks and improvements along the river are planned by the Great Falls Riverfront Task Force and the many volunteers who have an interest in seeing to the projects final completion.

Foundation Secretary Edrie Vinson Honored

(Developed from an account in The Carbon County News newspaper)

"Citizen of the Year" is the honor and title bestowed on Foundation Secretary Edrie Vinson by the Red Lodge Area Chamber of Commerce, Red Lodge, Montana. Edrie has resided in Red Lodge since June 1984, where she is Carbon County Historical Preservation Officer. Previously located in Helena, Montana, as a Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer with about ten years experience, Mrs. Vinson is now Executive Manager for the National Resources and Conservation, Major Facilities Siting Division, Edrie is in a great area for her type of work. She has made the observation that "More than 72 percent of the buildings in Red Lodge are from the historic period — 50 or more years old. They were built when the economy was booming. When the economy was not booming, people couldn't afford to tear down and build new, and that was really our blessing."

Since coming to Red Lodge, she has been instrumental in researching the city's rights to the land to the railroad depot, and eventually to the city's claim to the land, which Burlington Northern agreed to recognize. Edrie is working with property owners in Red Lodge and the nearby communities of Joliet and Bridger toward rehabilitating their property in order to qualify for a 25 percent tax credit. "Tax credits are a real financial benefit to people who want to rehabilitate their property, and fixing up present buildings in keeping with our history is much more beneficial to an area," she says, "and I'd like to see Red Lodge fixed up and painted up, particularly in historic colors, in order to let our best face shows itself and our visitors." Tree plantings and street lighting projects, instigated by local citizens, have had her support and endorsement. Her own enthusiasm has set examples for others and their interest has developed volunteerism toward further community development.

Foundation members join her fellow citizens in extending congratulations to Edrie for this recognition and honor.

1. Red Lodge, Carbon County, Montana, population about 2000, is on U.S. Highway 212, between Billings, Montana and the Wyoming state line. The highway crosses 10,940 foot high Bearooth Pass less than a mile south of the state line. Granite Peak, 12,798 above sea level, Montana's highest elevation, is only a few miles west of the city. This is a historic and scenic area, noted for its early mining camps, and as a present-day center for winter sports (skiing and snowmobiling) from early fall until late spring.

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Letter to the Editor
Describes Present-Day Travel on the "Trail"

Hardly a week passes that we do not take time to respond to members and readers who request information and suggestions about traveling the Lewis and Clark Expedition's Trail through the Trans-Mississippi West to the Pacific shore. Occasionally we do have responses from individuals and families who have followed in the footsteps of 1803-1806 exploring enterprise.

Douglas Cameron, Crystal River, Florida, in a recent letter to the editor provides a running account of a recent "Trail" excursion he and his wife Barbara (both maintain Foundation memberships) made to many sites along the route of the explorers. Cameron's descriptions and remarks and the editor's notes may be of interest to travelers who might have a plan to follow all or part of the "Trail" through or along the statelines of the eleven Trail States.

Dear Sirs:
This past summer my wife and I took a trip to the West Coast. We are very interested in the Lewis and Clark Expedition and one of our goals in making the trip was to visit as many sites related to the Expedition as possible.

First we visited the Museum of Westward Expansion at the "Gateway Arch" at St. Louis. The beautiful pictures [the photo-murals] and the descriptive words from the Journals are very impressive as is the bronze statue of Mr. Jefferson. Our next stop on the Trail was at the Clark Trail was at Sea Side, Oregon, to view the Salt C a i n [site of the explorers' "salt works" or the "salt makers camp"]. Then we continued on to visit Fort C l a t s o p. The National Park Service replica of the fort and the rangers' description and interpretation of the Expedition's winter there in 1805-1806, is very well done. We crossed the Columbia River's estuary from Astoria, Oregon to Washington State and headed west along the Washington shore to Cape Disappointment, Fort Canby State Park, and the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. High atop Cape Disappointment. At the center the saga of the Expedition is very carefully explained in words and pictures. The displays are planned so that the visitor ascends a ramp to finally behold an inspiring view of the mouth of the Columbia River and the Pacific Ocean beyond. We were fortunate to be there on a clear, bright day.

As we followed the Columbia River eastward, we stopped to see Beacon Rock, (Skamania County, WA) and 11,245 foot high, snow capped Mt. Hood was visible on the Oregon side of the river. It is said that so much of the Columbia River has been changed by dams and hydro-electric power generating facilities, since the Expedition descended and ascended the waterway in 1805 and 1806. In southeastern Oregon, we stopped to see the recently installed Lewis and Clark interpretive sign east of Pomeroy.1 We continued on to Chief Timothy State Park, just west of Clarkston, Washington and Lewis Island, Idaho. This state park's interpretive center is located near one of the Expedition's campsites.

We followed U.S. Highway 12 eastward and then northward through Idaho, which parallels the Lolo Trail traversed by the explorers in 1805 and 1806. Unfortunately the U.S. Forest Service's Lolo Trail Interpretive Center at St. Joe, Idaho near the summit of Lolo Pass was closed. We stopped at Lolo Hot Springs on the Montana side of the pass where the resort complex there appears to be a rather positive example of commercial development. We stayed overnight in the community of Lolo, Montana (eleven miles south of Missoula). We were within a short distance of the Expedition's "Travelers Rest" campsite and the next morning we stopped to view the historical marker alongside U.S. Highway 93. We traveled north to Missoula, and then followed U.S. Highway 90, south and east, to the community of Three Forks, Montana, where we visited

Editor'sNote:
1. The NPS Fort Catlasp National Memorial, near Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
2. A presently deactivated military fortification that was established to provide protection for the entrance to the Columbia River.
5. A campsite used on the outbound journey (September 9-11, 1805) and on the return journey (October 30-July 3, 1806).
6. The 6002 foot pass across the mountain range that separates the watersheds of the Gallatin-Missouri and the Yellowstone Rivers. The pass is named for John M. Bozeman, builder of the Bozeman Trail for immigrants and gold-seekers in the 1860s. Marshall Sprague in his The Great Gates: The Story of the Rocky Mountain Passes, Boston, 1964, states that this pass has been called Sacagawea [sic] Pass, p. 421. Sacagawea Peak (elevation 9665) is just north of Bozeman Pass, and the "g" spelling was recently applied by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (see WPO, Vol. 5, No. 4, p. 16).

And took advantage of the interpretive signs and displays related to the Expedition at Missoula State Park. Following U.S. 90, we crossed Bozeman Pass,6 as Captain Clark did with his party on the return journey on the way to the Yellowstone River. Unfortunately, no historical marker at Livingston, Montana, to recall Clark's party's journey through this area. A city park, however, along the Yellowstone River is named Sacagawea State Park, and Livingston's Park County Museum displays a very detailed map detailing Clark and party's journey over Bozeman Pass and his route along the Yellowstone to its confluence with the Missouri near the Montana-North Dakota stateline.

From Livingston we left the "Trail" and journeyed south through Yellowstone National Park, and then eastward across Wyoming. Eventually we crossed the Mississippi River at Alton, Illinois and stopped at Lewis and Clark Memorial at a setting similar to the 1804 location of the Expedition's 1804 Winter establishment which they called "Camp Wood". We reminisced as to what must have been the thoughts of members of the exploring party as they looked across the Mississippi River to the mouth of the mighty Missouri whose course was to be their route to the Rocky Mountains.

It was a very satisfying and interesting trip.

(signed) Doug Cameron

Editor's Observation: The Camerons, during their travels, were in the vicinity of several Lewis and Clark sites or exhibits that they either passed by or their letter did not report seeing. Some of these are: the Oregon Historical Society's collection of L. & C. memorabilia in Portland, the U.S. Army Engineer's Interpretive Center at Bonneville Dam, Oregon-Washington; Oregon's Hat Rock State Park, a L. & C. landmark on the Columbia River, about 730 miles east of Portland, Oregon; Washington's Sacajawea/Sacagawea State Park, at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers, near Pasco, WA; Lewis & Clark Trail Park, U.S. Route 12, near Waitsburg, WA; many historical L. & C. markers along U.S. Route 12, along the Clearwater and Lochsa Rivers in northern Idaho; the Gates of the Mountains on the Missouri River, just north of Helena, Montana; the Great Falls, Montana region, the overlooks of the Missouri Falls and the Giant Spring; and the Scribe Lewis and Clark heroic site memorial statue at Fort Benton, Montana. From Livingston, Montana, they might have journeyed eastward, 28 miles from Billings on U.S. Route 10, to Pompeys Pillar, where Clark's name and date are still visible on the sandstone face of the geologic landmark (see WPO, Vol. 2, No. 2). The editor realizes that no single traverse of the Lewis and Clark Trail will afford the time and convenience for visiting each and every location or exhibit relating to the famous Expedition. In fact, we hear from many enthusiasts who have followed in the footsteps of the Expedition by programming travel on a segment of the Trail each summer for several summers. They tell us that they haven't missed a single locale or interpretative experience. Travelers to and from the Foundation's annual meetings, which in themselves are interpretively oriented, often afford Trail travel opportunities.

We Proceeded On, November 1985

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WPO SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS

These publications bring to members of the Foundation and others, special items of interest, and on occasion, reprints of out-of-print publications that are not otherwise available.

WPO Publication No. 1, October 1976 $2.00
"Proceedings of the Eighth Annual Meeting, August 15-18, 1976, Great Falls, Montana"


WPO Publication No. 2, July 1977 .75¢
"Our Dog Scannon — Partner in Discovery"

Ernest S. Osgood's monograph about the Expedition's Newfoundland dog. A delightful perspective of the canine member of the exploring party; Reprint from Montana the Magazine of Western History, Vol. XXVI, No. 3, Summer 1977.

WPO Publication No. 3, July 1978 $1.50

A reprint of Biddle's 1925 monograph concerning the acquisition and preservation of the 800 foot high landmark on the Columbia River. Lewis and Clark described the geologic formation in 1805-1806. Annotations by Robert E. Lange.

WPO Publication No. 4, December 1980 $2.50
"Three Papers Presented at the Foundation's 12th Annual Meeting, Omaha, Nebraska, and Sioux City, Iowa, August 20-22, 1980"

Contents: "Sergeant Floyd and the Floyd Memorial at Sioux City, Iowa", by Edward Rusk; "Some Thoughts on the Death of Sergeant Charles Floyd", by E.G. Chinnard, M.D.; "Expansion of the Fur Trade Following Lewis and Clark", by Charles E. Hanson, Jr.

WPO Publication No. 5, August 1981 .75¢

The visit to the Missoula, Montana, courthouse was an event during the Foundation's Annual Meeting. This publication provides biographical information about Montana artist Edgar Paxson, and descriptions of two of the eight Paxson murals in the courthouse that depict incidents related to the Expedition in the Missoula Area.

WPO Publication No. 6, July 1982 $4.00

Dr. Cutright provides an in-depth study of activities related to the Expedition in Philadelphia, both before (1803) and after (1807-1814) the explorers' return. Litterateur Nicholas Biddle's contribution toward seeing to the publication of a narrative based on the Captains' journals is included in Dr. Cutright's fine monograph.

WPO Publication No. 7, May 1984 $4.00
Lewis's Woodpecker — Clark's Nutcracker

Color portraits of birds whose names memorialize the surnames of Captains Lewis and Clark. Reproduced from color paintings by Marie Nonnast Bohlen through the courtesy of Fawcett Publications and publisher Prentice-Hall, Inc.

Two 8 X 10 inch portraits with descriptive captions on fine paper stock in authentic color, and suitable for framing.

For more information concerning the ornithology of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, see We Proceeded On, Vol. 10, Nos. 2 & 3, May 1984.

WPO Publication No. 8, November 1984 $3.00

This is an unabridged transcript of a paper presented at the 16th Annual Banquet of the Foundation, Great Falls, Montana, August 8, 1984. Dr. Fritz in his fine speaking and writing style, and backed by his extensive knowledge, has produced this review of the purpose, organization and personnel of the exploring enterprise. In addition it presents a fine recapitulation of the Expedition's documentation of their experiences and discovery of what is today the great state of Montana. It was in Montana where the exploring party spent the most "traveling" days while traveling the most miles, overcame one of their greatest obstacles to their favorite river travel (the Great Falls of the Missouri), and established their most numerous night encampments.

Prices for the above publications include postage and cost of production only.

Order from: WPO Publications, 5054 S.W. 26th Place, Portland, OR 97201. Make checks payable to the Foundation. Postage stamps are acceptable in lieu of checks.

THE FOUNDATION NEEDS THE CONTINUED INTEREST AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF LEWIS AND CLARK ENTHUSIASTS ON A NATION-WIDE BASIS. WE HOPE, IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER, THAT YOU WILL CONSIDER LENDING YOUR SUPPORT TO THE FOUNDATION. IF YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, A PROSPECTUS DESCRIBING THE FOUNDATION, TOGETHER WITH A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, WILL BE FOREWARDED PROMPTLY. ADDRESS YOUR REQUEST TO THE SECRETARY.

WE PROCEEDED ON derives from the phrase which appears repeatedly in the collective journals of the Expedition:

"this morning we set out early and proceeded on ..."
"... wind from the S.W. we proceeded on ... until 8 o'Clock ...
"... the fog rose thick from the hollows we proceeded on ..."
"We proceeded on with four men in front to cut some bushes ...
"We set out early proceeded on past a Island on the S. Side ..."
"... clouded up ... We proceeded on under a fine breeze ...

Capt. Meriwether Lewis, July 19, 1805.
Capt. William Clark, May 14, 1805.
Sgt. John Ordway, June 29, 1805.
Sgt. Patrick Gass, June 18, 1805.
Pvt. Charles Floyd, June 26, 1804.