THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

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Kennewick, WA 99337

H. John Montague, Treasurer
2928 N.W. Verde Vista Terrace
Portland, OR 97210-3356

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.
Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403

DIRECTORS

Harry Hubbard
Seattle, WA

Ella Mae Howard
Great Falls, MT

Ann Johnston
St. Charles, MO

Evergreen, CO

H. John Montague, Treasurer
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Ann Johnston
St. Charles, MO

Evergreen, CO

Ludia A. Trozpek
Clarenmont, CA

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Laguna Hills, CA

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3208 Parkview Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The purpose of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., is to stimulate public interest in matters relating to the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the contributions to American history made by the Expedition members, and events of time and place concerning the expedition which are of historical import to our nation. The Foundation recognizes the value of tourist-oriented programs, and supports activities which enhance the enjoyment and understanding of the Lewis and Clark story. The scope of the activities of the Foundation is broad and diverse, ranging from historical overview of the Salish-Kootenai Community College.

(Continued on page 31)

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. is open to the general public. Information and an application are available by sending a request to: Membership Secretary, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., PO Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403.

We Proceeded On, the quarterly magazine of the Foundation, is mailed to current members during the months of February, May, August, and November.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

General: $20.00 (3 years: $55.00)
Sustaining: $50.00
Contributing: $125.00

*For foreign memberships add: $5/year in Canada; $10/year in Europe; and $15/year in Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

by Stuart E. Knapp

By the time you read this column you not only will have received your registration materials for the 26th Annual Meeting, but hopefully will have submitted an early registration. This year’s meeting of the foundation will be in Missoula, Montana, from July 30-August 3. Members of the Travelers Rest Chapter and Nancy Maxon, annual meeting chair, have put together an outstanding program which features two well known historians/speakers, Dayton Duncan who wrote Out West and Lewis and Clark scholar Professor Harry Fritz from the University of Montana. As many of you know, the Missoula area was an important crossroads for the expedition and as part of the annual meeting there will be several field trips to such famous Lewis and Clark Trail locations as Lost Trail Pass, Lolo Pass and Lewis and Clark Pass. Another interesting field trip will be to the National Bison Range and Flathead Lake where a historical overview of the Salish people will be provided by Ron Therriault, Salish historian and English professor at Salish-Kootenai Community College.

(Continued on page 31)

We Proceeded On is the official publication of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. The publication’s name is derived from the phrase which appears repeatedly in the collective journals of the famous expedition.

E.G. CHUINARD, M.D., FOUNDER

Martin L. Erickson, Editor
1203 28th Street South #82
Great Falls, MT 59405

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2 WE PROCEED ON

2 WE PROCEED ON

MAY 1994
Sometimes my mind wanders all over the place when I sit down to write this column. It was doing just that this morning when Ed Wang gave me a call. Ed is chairman of the Planned Giving Committee and he was calling about names to put in the column of those who contribute financially to the foundation.

It reminded me that this planned giving is serious business. Actually, any kind of giving to the advancement of the knowledge of Lewis and Clark is serious and important business. It becomes more important as we approach the bicentennial of the expedition less than ten years down the road.

Fundraising is hard work. Fundraising takes dedicated people. It is exciting, aggravating, frustrating and fulfilling.

I sit on the board of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center Fund, Inc. That is the board that is spearheading the fundraising effort for the interpretive center to be built at Great Falls.

What started out to be an effort to raise $300,000 has grown into the need to raise $3,000,000. Whether it is like riding a roller coaster or a loop-the-loop, whether we are going up and down or in circles, the effort remains the same. When the money to be raised jumped ten fold, nobody batted an eye. The board is over halfway to the goal.

The same effort has been extended by the local people who raised the money needed for Fort Clatsop in Oregon where the expedition spent the winter of 1805-06. The goal was reached in North Dakota to build Fort Mandan where the expedition spent the winter of 1804-05. All along the trail people are responding to local Lewis and Clark Trail efforts whether it is putting up an interpretive sign or building an interpretive center or something in between.

Ed Wang and his crew are busting their fannies to raise money for the national Foundation. Money is needed to pay for this magazine (boy, am I expensive!), and a full or part-time executive secretary or director for the foundation. That includes the cost of setting up an office. A variety of other foundation activities are also funded through the dollars that you decide to contribute above and beyond your yearly dues.

A friend of mine tells me over and over again that it is not the lack of money that causes problems, it is the lack of ideas. The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation does not lack for ideas whether from board members, committee members, members along the trail or even your old editor occasionally.

With your help, it won’t lack for money, either.

The future of the foundation will be just about as exciting as you want to make it.

Bob Doerk, chairman of the Lewis & Clark Trail Coordinating Committee, knew the two historic explorers held international appeal. Still, he was surprised recently when he received a letter from Paris, written in French, from a would-be Montana tourist who is especially interested in Lewis and Clark.

"We are very interested in the magnificent trip of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark," the English translation of Xavier Millot’s letter reads. "Do you have information on this extraordinary adventure?"

The letter was read aloud, in French, at Tuesday's meeting of the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center Fund, the group trying to raise money to match federal funds for the center.

"It's just an indication that there's interest beyond the United States in the Lewis and Clark journey and epic," Doerk said.

ON THE COVER—The Mission Mountains are one of the many sights to see during the 26th Annual Meeting in Missoula, Montana this summer.  

Photo by Charles Campbell

ON THE COVER—The Mission Mountains are one of the many sights to see during the 26th Annual Meeting in Missoula, Montana this summer.  

Photo by Charles Campbell
Montana Welcomes You—

26th Annual Meeting to Be An Adventure

by Nancy Maxson

At our planning committee’s meeting in March, we took a stroll through Chuck and Suzi Campbell’s back yard, checked on the bitterroots sprouting in the early spring sunshine, and watched a red-tailed hawk circle around its nest. I was reminded that when we began planning the 1994 annual meeting last spring, the Campbell’s bitterroots were in full bloom and bouquets of the bright pink blossoms graced our meeting table.

As our planning committee sat in the Campbell’s home enjoying those bitterroot blossoms, we were all aware of the other Bitterroots—the mountains. In the warmth and security of our hosts’ 20th century home, we could all see the snow-covered Bitterroot Mountains—an awesome sight. For our 19th century Corps of Discovery, the Bitterroot Mountains were an awful experience; the mountains were another barrier to their westward progress. The theme for the 1994 annual meeting was as obvious as the mountains: Westward Barriers.

Also obvious were the core activities for the annual meeting: field trips retracing three branches of Lewis and Clark’s route converging at Travelers’ Rest. Meeting participants would experience for themselves the mountainous barriers Lewis and Clark struggled through with field trips to Lolo Pass, Lost Trail Pass, and Lewis and Clark Pass. Because the Lewis and Clark Pass trip would involve strenuous hiking, we decided to offer an alternate trip to the Flathead Reservation and the National Bison Range. This would offer participants the best opportunity to see some of the wildlife Lewis and Clark noted in their journals.

Once our basic program outline and theme were in place, we began the hard work of actually planning the annual meeting. We have accomplished much in the last year: developed a budget, negotiated with the meeting hotel, secured speakers, planned field trips, arranged for buses, written road logs, and printed our registration form. Now we are busy selecting menus, ordering port-a-potties, processing registrations, and answering many, many questions. When July 30th arrives, we will be ready to greet the Foundation’s members and treat them to four days of Lewis and Clark adventures.

If you have any questions about the annual meeting or need special arrangements, please call me, Nancy Maxson, meeting chair, at 406-542-2907. I’ll be happy to do whatever I can to make this annual meeting a memorable one for you.

THE DALY MANSION

The dinner stop on the Lost Trail Pass field trip will be at the historic Daly Mansion. Meeting participants will have the opportunity to tour this stately home at their leisure.

Marcus Daly, an Irish immigrant who became one of Montana’s Copper Kings, built this summer home in the Bitterroot Valley in 1890. He made his fortune in the copper mines of Butte, but used this summer home as a playground. The grounds include a pool, playhouse, and tennis court. The original 22,000 acre “Riverside Estate” included Daly’s stock farm where he bred horses.

Missoula architect A.J. Gibson designed the Georgian Revival mansion. The 42 room three story building has 24 bedrooms, 15 bathrooms, and 7 fireplaces faced with Italian marble. The mansion was closed after Mrs. Daly’s death in 1941 and remained vacant for over 40 years.

In 1987 the State of Montana acquired the home and 50 acres of grounds, featuring trees from throughout the U.S., and opened them to the public. The mansion, now a National Historic Site, contains many of the original furnishings and efforts continue to restore the house to its original grandeur.

NATIONAL BISON RANGE

In 1803, when the Corps of Discovery embarked on its journey, there were 50,000,000 bison on the American plains. By 1900, only 20 wild bison were known to exist.

There were private herds of bison. One of these herds was on the Flathead Indian Reservation in western Montana. Walking Coyote, a member of a Pend d’Oreille hunting party, brought five bi-
son calves back to the Flathead Valley in 1873. These five bison grew into the Pablo-Allard herd, which was eventually sold to the Canadian government for its highly successful bison preservation activities.

Part of the herd was also sold to the Conrad family of Kalispell, Montana. Thirty-four Conrad bison and seven other bison, two from Montana (two from Texas, and three from New Hampshire) were released onto the newly created National Bison Range in 1909.

The Bison Range was established in 1908. Encouraged by American public sentiment to rescue the bison from extinction and inspired by the American Bison Society’s leadership, President Theodore Roosevelt obtained appropriations to acquire the reserve from the Flathead Indians and fence it.

Today this 19,000 acre National Wildlife Refuge covers steep hills and narrow canyons on the southern end of the Flathead Valley. The elevation in the range varies from 2,585 feet to 4,885 feet. Three major wildlife habitats are present on the range: grassland, forest, and streamside thickets. These habitats support 40 species of mammals, large and small.

In addition to the herd of 300-400 bison, the range supports a number of other large mammals: 100-200 mule deer, 100-200 white tail deer, 75-100 elk, 40-100 bighorn sheep, and 50-100 pronghorns. There are also a few Rocky Mountain goats.

In 1921 the Bison Range was also designated a refuge for native birds. Two hundred and five different native bird species have been documented using the range. Glacial pot holes formed 12,000 years ago are now ponds, lined with cattails and supporting one of the largest breeding populations of redhead ducks on the continent.

Wednesday of the annual meeting participants will have the opportunity to tour the Bison Range. Bring your binoculars and cameras!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The keynote speaker for the Award Banquet Wednesday of the annual meeting will be historian Dayton Duncan. His talk is entitled The Challenge of Bringing the Lewis and Clark Expedition to Life on Film: So Many Great Journal Entries, But Oh, So Few Pictures.

DAYTON DUNCAN—Challenges, Not Obstacles

Ken Burns and I have dreamed of making a documentary film about Lewis and Clark since the mid 1980s, long before he embarked on the Civil War series. We both consider the expedition’s saga to be one of the great stories of American history—what Paul Cutright called “America’s Odyssey.” In our minds, it remains the most remarkable, successful, and far-reaching exploration undertaken by the United States, as well as a wonderful human drama, populated by fascinating characters. In the 10-hour-plus series we are preparing for PBS broadcast in the fall of 1996, the expedition will play a prominent role in one episode—perhaps about 20 minutes—but we believe Lewis and Clark deserve their own film, probably 90 minutes in length—to cover the expedition in greater detail. We want to tell the story well, to fully develop characters (from the captains to enlisted men, from Sacagawea to the Indian peoples along the route), and to place the expedition in its historic context.

But just as Lewis and Clark set forth into territory the likes of which they had never experienced, we are embarking into something of a terra incognita for documentary films. One of Ken’s trademarks—from his films about the Brooklyn Bridge, the Statue of Liberty, the Civil War, and, this fall, Baseball—has been his way of intermixing interviews with scholars, letters and journals...
from the historical time, live cinematography, and photographs to place viewers in the historical moment. With Lewis and Clark we have the various journals—classics in their own right—and the cooperation of the leading Lewis and Clark scholars, who have agreed to act as consultants on the film. But this will be Ken’s first film on a subject in which there are absolutely no photographs; and, as anyone knows who has looked for Celilo Falls on the Columbia or traveled along the Mis-
souri on the Plains wondering when a grizzly bear or elk might appear, a lot has also changed in the scenery department.

That’s our challenge. We see it, however, not as a “western barrier,” but as an exciting opportunity—not only to reacquaint the American public with one of the significant moments in the nation’s history, but also to stretch our own skills as writer and filmmaker.

**Professor Brings Music of Jefferson to Stage**

by Ginny Merriam

The Missoulian, Missoula, Montana

Historians know that America’s third president and drafter of its Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson, ran a musical household. Monticello rang with the sounds of his violin, his wife’s harpsichord and the voices and instruments of his musical children and grandchildren.

But that’s about all they know, visiting University of Montana professor Nancy Cooper learned two years ago. Cooper’s discovery of the Jefferson family’s wealth of music just before she moved to Montana has led her on a research trail into the musical unknown.

“I was surprised by all the music of the Jefferson family,” Cooper said. “It was pretty much uncatalogued, unindexed, unexplored.”

Cooper, a harpsichordist and organist, was drawn to the music collection at the University of Virginia by her interest in French Baroque composer Claude Balbastre.

“This collection is 95 percent European, but it was owned by an American,” Cooper said. “The only thing I can think of was nobody thought there could be anything interesting, so nobody looked.”

Nothing is written on the music, “not even a music teacher’s note.” Cooper went to Jefferson’s letters and journal entries and his daughters’ letters. During spring break this year, a grant from the Faculty Development Committee sent Cooper to Virginia for 10 days for more study.

One of the songs Cooper researched is “Ogni dolce,” which translates as “sweet breeze,” written by Maria Cosway. During Jeffersons’ five years in Paris as minister to France, he fell in love with Cosway, who was married. He gave her a song, and she gave him “Ogni dolce.”

“I conjecture that she composed it for him,” Cooper said.

“People disagree if they had a fling or not. But if you read the letters they wrote to each other, it’s hard to believe they didn’t.”

Cooper also became interested in the Marine Corps Band, now called “the President’s own,” a name traced to Jeffersonian origins.

Cooper’s research sheds light on Jefferson the man. He had very good taste in music, was not interested in church music and was a traditionalist who still saw Europe as the cradle of Western music.

“He remarked that it was his lot to be in a country where music was in a state of deplorable barbarism,” she said.

Cooper, whose desk is surrounded by five piles of Jefferson materials, plans to continue her research. She recently agreed to act as music consultant on Ken Burns’ Florentine Films film biography of Jefferson for public television, and she sees the possibilities of articles and even a book about the music of Jefferson.

Nancy Cooper will give a presentation on Thomas Jefferson’s music after the Lolo Pass field trips.
Many North American Indian tribes played a ball and racket game similar to lacrosse.

Games, Sports and Amusements of Natives Encountered on the Lewis and Clark Expedition

by Robert R. Hunt

William Clark is typically designated the “mapmaker” of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, in deference to his particular specialty in the Corps of Discovery. But he also had a special interest in observing customs and habits of the native people encountered during the Expedition. He drew up a “list of questions” about such matters at winter quarters, 1803-1804, near St. Louis which he labeled “Inquiries relative to the Indians of Louisiana.” These questions were based in part on suggestions from Thomas Jefferson’s scientific friends in Philadelphia. Clark’s list became an important supplement to the Instructions issued by President Jefferson which would govern the conduct of the Expedition. With respect to the native nations, Jefferson had ordered that the party was to report upon “their ordinary occupations in agriculture, fishing, hunting, war, arts, & the implements for these”, as well as “peculiarities in their laws, customs & dispositions.” Clark’s supplemental list however had a separate special category on native amusements and diversions. Here is that list:

- Have they any and what are they?
- Do they with a view to amusement only make a feist?
- Do they play at any games of risk, what are they?
- Have their women any games particularly
to themselves, or do they even engage in those common to the men?

Do they ever dance and what is the ceremony of their dance.

Have they any music, and what are their musical instruments. ²

The captains conscientiously throughout the journey compiled their observations in response to these questions. Their journals include general comments about amusements of particular tribes with whom they spent the most time, as well as descriptions of specific games observed elsewhere en route.

**AMUSEMENTS OF THE NATIONS—IN GENERAL**

- **The Mandans:** Clark writes: “The amusements of the men of Mandans & neighbours are playing the Ball & Rackets, Suffustence Feists to bring the Buffolow (in which all the young & handsome women are giving to the old men & strangers to embrace, [] many other feists & Dances of a similar kind—the women have a kind of game which they play with a Soft Ball with their foot, they being viewed as property & in course Slaves to the men have not much leisure time to spear.” ³

- **The Nez Perce:** Clark writes: “Their amusements appear but fiew as their Situation requires the utmost exertion to procure food they are generally employed in that pursuit, all the Summer and fall fishing for the Salmon, the winter hunting the deer on snow shoes in the plains and taking care of their emence numbers of horses, & in the Spring cross the mountains to the Missouri to get Buffalow robes and meet etc.” ⁴

Lewis added more about the Nez Perce: “they appear to be cheerfull but not gay; they are fond of gambling and of their amusements which consist principally in shooting their arrows at a bowling target made of willow bark, and in riding and exercising themselves on horseback, racing etc. they are expert marksmen and good riders.” ⁵

- **The Shoshones:** Lewis writes: “notwithstanding their extreme poverty they are not only cheerfull but even gay, fond of gaudy dress and amusements...they are also fond of games of wrisk.” ⁶

Aside from these general comments about specific tribes, the Indian amusements which attract the most frequent mentions in the journals are horse racing and gambling. The Captains greatly admired the horses they saw with the Shoshones and the Nez Perce, comparing them with those back in the “U.States”—they “would make a figure on the South side of the James River or the land of fine horses,” ⁷ and “look like the fine English coasers,” ⁸ “marked much like our best blooded horses in virginia, which they resemble as well in fleetness...as in form and colours.” ⁹ The Captains were entertained by racing matches with these horses:

**Lewis at Camp Chopunnish**
May 19, 1806
“we amused ourselves about an hour this afternoon in looking at the men running their horses”

**Clark at “Clarks Fork”**
July 2, 1806
“The Indians and some of our men amused themselves in running races on foot as well as with their horses”

There are also passing references in the journals to other illustrative sports and games:

**Clark Near Dewey Co., S.D.**
October 4, 1804
Skipping ball on the river

**Clark Near Sioux Co., N.D.**
October 16, 1804
“boys in the water Swimming amongt the goats & killing them with Sticks”

**Clark at Fort Mandan**
March 29, 1805
“extraordinary dexterity of the Indians in jumping from one Cake of ice to another...

**Lewis at Missouri River Breaks**
May 28, 1805
“found...a football...is such as I have seen among the Minataries of Fort de Prarie.”

**Lewis at Ft. Clatsop**
February 2, 1806
“boys amuse themselves with their bows and arrows as those do of every Indian with which I am acquainted.”
Sham war for Mandan boys.
From George Catlin, Letters and Notes on the North American Indians, Edited by Michael MacDonald Mooney.

Mandan horse racing.
From George Catlin, Letters and Notes on the North American Indians, Edited by Michael MacDonald Mooney.
SPECTATOR PUZZLES

In watching some of the native sports and games, Clark acknowledged that he did not fully understand what was happening. Sergeant John Ordway, one of the party who also made “arresting ethnographic observations,” had the same difficulty. Journal entries on these subjects leave the reader guessing, not only as to the rules of the native games but also as to lack of details perhaps observed but not reported by the journalists. For example, with the Nez Perce on June 8, 1806, Clark reports that “several foot races were run.” The reader wants to know more. Were these sprints, if so, how far—or were they for longer distances? Further example: Clark’s entry of December 9, 1805 describing a Clatsop game “with round pieces of wood much the shape of the [blank] Backgammon which they role thro between 2 pins,” adding also “I do not properly understand it.” However, further entries in the journals, together with explanations by later editors and observers, can clarify some of these mysteries. Aided by additional information now available, the reader today can share those native amusements, even learn to revive those games and participate in them as in the earlier time.

BIDDLE’S SLEUTHING

Nicholas Biddle in Philadelphia was the first to face up to reader problems with journal ambiguities. Accepting the task of editing and preparing the raw material of the journals for publication, Biddle visited with Clark in Virginia in April 1810. During that visit he drew up his own “list of questions” (The “Notes”) on a wide variety of matters about which he needed more information than the original journals provided. Clark tried to fill in the answers, but throughout these visits and ensuing correspondence, questions continued to crop up about native games and amusements. Apparently Biddle was able during these exchanges to resolve the mystery of the “pins and checker” game noted above. His editorial notes include the following diagram and remarks:

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hole
the two pins
checker
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“placed about 1 foot apart, they roll about 10 feet—if go into hole thro the pins—win—if thro pins not in hole—not lose—if outside of pins Checker about 1 inch diam.”

Following the Virginia visit, Biddle write from Philadelphia to Clark in St. Louis on July 7, 1810 with further “catechism of inquiries with which you remember I importuned you not a little when I had the pleasure of seeing you.” Included in this “catechism” of twenty questions was one about games:

“Describe if you can a game among the Mandans which is mentioned only in Ordway’s journal, but which a gentleman told me Capt. Lewis described to him as resembling billiards very much.”

Rather apologetically, Biddle adds “there are you know a great many things of very little consequence, but still it is of some importance not to be wrong when we speak of them.”

For further help to Biddle, Clark meanwhile had arranged to send an eye witness, George Shannon, off to Philadelphia. (Shannon had been the youngest member of the Expedition and had pursued law studies at Lexington, Kentucky after the party disbanded in the fall of 1806.) As to the Mandans and “Ordway’s game,” Clark passed the buck to Shannon.

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I can’t describe the game among the Mandans mentioned in Ordway’s journal if Shannon can’t no one in this country can the Interpreter [i.e. Charbonneau] who is now with me can’t describe it, it resembles Billiards very much.”
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Fortunately for readers of We Proceeded On, Arlen Large has already considered Biddle’s quandary about this game and how he “finally doped it out.” Perhaps Shannon helped or
perhaps, as Large notes, Biddle “just inferred...from Ordway’s general description” how the game was supposed to resemble billiards. The reader is invited to make his/her own interpretation as to the billiards connection by reviewing, just as Biddle did, Ordway’s own language quoted herewith:

“They had feattish [flattish] rinks made out of clay Stone & two men had Sticks about 4 feet long with 2 Short peaces across the fore end of it, and neathing on the other end, in Such a manner that they would slide Some distance. They had a place fixed across about 50 yards to the 2 chiefs lodge, which was Smothe as a house flour. They had a Battery fixed for the rings to Stop against. Two men would run at a time with Each a Stick & one carried a ring. They run about half way and then Slide their Sticks after the ring.”

Does that sound like billiards?! James Ronda comes up perhaps with the most plausible connection, dim though it may seem—"Because the long throwing sticks looked like billiard cues, later white observers insisted that the Mandans and Hidatsas played billiards." (But who could have been “the gentleman” who told Biddle that Capt. Lewis had described the game as “resembling billiards very much”?)

At this point, the reader is entitled to an updated explanation of this Hoop and Pole (or Hoop and Arrow) game as subsequently clarified by later observers (but don’t look for a billiard table, ball or cue):

“The game of Hoop and Arrow was played in one form or another by Indian tribes throughout the North American continent. It was a target game and consisted essentially of throwing a pole, or shooting or throwing an arrow at a hoop or ring, the score being determined by the way the pole or arrow fell with reference to the target. There were two basic forms of the game. In one, a small beaded hoop was rolled along the ground towards a log. Just before the hoop hit the log, the contestants hurled their poles at the hoop, points being scored according to which part of the hoop was in contact with the pole when it fell. In the other form of the game, a netted hoop was rolled along the ground between the contestants, who attempted to throw the arrows so that they passed between the strings as near to the center of the hoop as possible. Hoop-and-arrow games demanded a high degree of skill and large wagers were laid on the outcome of contests.”
GUESSING AND GAMBLING

Biddle apparently found it easier to follow journal descriptions (December 9, 1805) of one of the most popular “games of wrisk,” a bean guessing game observed at Fort Clatsop on the Pacific, described by the Captains in considerable detail with several variations. Biddle succinctly boils down these descriptions as follows:

“The most common game was one in which one of the company was banker, and played against all the rest. He had a piece of bone, about the size of a large bean, and having agreed with any individual as to the value of the stake, would pass the bone from one hand to the other, with great dexterity, singing at the same time to divert the attention of his adversary; and then holding it in his hands, his antagonist was challenged to guess in which of them the bone was, and lost or won as he pointed to the right or wrong hand. To this game of hazard they abandoned themselves with great ardor; sometimes everything they possess is sacrificed to it, and this evening several of the Indians lost all the beads which they had with them.”

This game was observed not only at Clatsop but also among the Shoshones. There was a variation of it known as the “band game” in which teams of men on opposing sides guess at locating two bones hidden in their opponents’ hands. Clark observed this game being played between a group of Klickitats and a group of Skillutes on April 18, 1806. He also observed (same date) another “game of wrisk” among the “Skad-datts” (i.e. a division of the Klickitats) called the “4 sticks” game about which he gives great detail; again he adds that “this is a very intricate game and I cannot sufficiently understand to describe it.” This game has been later described by another observer as follows:

“The game consists in one of them having his hands covered with a small round mat resting on the ground. He has four small sticks in his hands, which he disposes under the mat in certain positions, requiring the opposite party to guess how he has placed them. If he guesses right, the mat is handed round to the next, and a stick is stuck up as a counter in his favor. If wrong, a stick is stuck up on the opposite side as a mark against him. This, like almost all the Indian games, was accompanied with singing; but in this case

Four-stick game; lengths of sticks, 12 and 11 1/4 inches. Counting sticks for four-stick game; lengths, 6 1/2, 11 1/4 and 19 1/2 inches; Klamath Indians, Klamath Agency, Oregon.

From Games of the North American Indians, Stewart Culin.
the singing was particularly sweet and wild, possessing a harmony I never heard before or since amongst Indians."

Illustrations of the four sticks, the masking basket, and the counting sticks used for this game appear at left and below.25

The Nicholas Biddle notes include this intriguing comment about amusements in general (as distinguished from comments about specific games such as noted above), apparently based on the Biddle-Clark visit in Virginia in 1810:

"The amusement most common among all is dancing chiefly at entertainments. Our frontier Indians play cards—in the Western mountains, they are very fond of horse racing & foot racing for wagers. Single horse racing & a purse also. Some ten or twelve run at a time to a certain point from 3 miles back again. On the Columbia near ocean the game with hands (?) (described)"26

These Biddle comments as we have seen, partially fill in the gaps on ambiguous entries in the journal. The reader learns from the above note, for example, that at least some of the foot races were for intermediate distances, not just sprints.

Basket for four-stick game; diameter, 18 inches; Klamath Indians, Klamath Agency, Oregon.

Possible combinations of large and small sticks in the four-stick game; Klamath Indians, Oregon. From Dr. George A. Dorsey.

MUSIC AND DANCE?

There are of course, as Biddle noted, numerous references in the journals to tribal dancing with various chanting and percussive accompaniments. Should these occasions be subsumed under the heading of "play and amusements?" Clark must have thought so, considering his inclusion of "feists," along with dance and music, in his "Amusements Questions." But it has seemed for the present purposes of this paper that native dancing, at least as described by the journalists, had special characteristics beyond a definition of "play" as shared leisure or "purposeless activity." The dancing was usually ceremonial, quasi-religious, communal—involving the entire "nation" all at once, and for specific purposes such as inviting the buffalo, or initiatory for the warrior sect, thus a larger subject in itself. Similar issues emerge when considering origins or motivations behind the games observed—their relation for example to skills of hunting, warfare, and commerce. Were native games really "just for fun" or were they a kind of "professional" training?... Lewis and Clark doubtless also observed, or heard about, other kinds of games—games of courtship, children's toys, dog and horse tricks. But these are speculative considerations beyond our focus here, which is deliberately limited to those spontaneous, impromptu diversions in the unguarded moments of native life, as specifically noted in Expedition journals.

Thanks to the accounts of Lewis, Clark, and their companions, with the help of Biddle and later editors, the reader may better perceive how native Americans in the Great West enjoyed their own sport and amusements. And with these insights one also glimpses how human beings everywhere, through sport, discover that "euphoric sense of wholeness, autonomy, and potency which is often denied...in the dreary rounds" of ordinary routine—27 whether of American natives in the 1800s, or of any other race or time.

(Notes on page 14)
(Where italicized words appear in the foregoing text, the italics have been added by the author.)

2Jackson: pp. 61-66
3Ibid: p. 160
4Gary E. Moulton, ed. The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln and London 1986, vol. 3, p. 488. All quotations or references from the journals noted herein are from Moulton, by date indicated in the text, unless otherwise stated in these notes.
5Moulton, 5:259
6Ibid, 7:252
7Ibid: 5:119
8Ibid: 5:92
9Ibid: 6:313
10Ibid: 6:313
12Moulton: 7:237i
13Ibid: 6:118-120
15Jackson: 2:497-545
16Ibid: 2:541
17Ibid: 2:550-54
18Ibid: 2:562

Foundation member Robert R. Hunt is a frequent contributor to WPO. He is a member of the WPO editorial board.

SPEAKER MAY DISPUTE CHUINARD MEDICAL CONCLUSIONS

A note from Joan Haefner, education officer for the Montana Historical Society, says MHS is sponsoring Dr. Ron Loge of Dillon, Montana speaking on the topic of “The Medical Aspects of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.”

Haefner says she understands that Loge disputes some of Dr. Chuinard’s conclusions in his book of the same name.

The program will be held in the Haynes Auditorium at MHS at 10:00 a.m. May 18. It is free and no advance registration is required.
Lewis & Clark and the American Bottom

EDITOR’S NOTE: The following speech was presented at the Foundation’s 25th Annual Meeting by Linda Mizell. It is based on Georgia M. Engelke’s book, “The Great American Bottom.”

The American Bottom, located on the east banks of the Mississippi River in southwestern Illinois is the alluvial land between the Mississippi and the eastern range of limestone bluffs which border the rolling prairies to the east. This shelf of land extended from opposite the mouth of the Missouri River for about 100 miles to a place where the Kaskaskia River once emptied into the Mississippi River. Then the Mississippi began to encroach on the Kaskaskia riverbed and during the flood of 1881, the lower tract of land called Kaskaskia was cut away and carried across the river to the Missouri side. It was called Kaskaskia Island and is the only section of Illinois lying west of the Mississippi River.

In this American Bottom lies some of the most fertile land in the United States. Here, the mound builders developed the most advanced civilization that has ever been accomplished by any Indians in this country. During the French occupation, the American Bottom was exploited as a fur-bearing area with very little interest shown in the field of agriculture, however, the early Americans and later the Germans, recognized the value of this land and compared it to Egypt. In the spring, the Mississippi overflows and deposits on this bottom land alluvial silt, forming a dark, rich loam of unusual fertility, just like the Nile River does in Egypt. This American Bottom extends from Grafton, Illinois to Chester, Illinois. It is about 100 miles long and from 4 to 7 miles wide.

It is hard to believe that at one time this dark, rich soil of the American Bottom was thin and the land was hilly. Great glaciers of ice from the north drifted southward and continued until all but the southern tip of Illinois and a part of northwestern Illinois were covered with ice. As the ice sheets moved forward, they flattened the hills, filled in the valleys, and spread a deep layer of limestone and minerals over the land. In time, the climate changed and as the ice melted, streams and rivers were formed. History tells us that a swift, violent body of floodwater became a great roaring river, more than 20 miles wide in some places, and expanded from the bluffs west of the Missouri River to the bluffs that border the American Bottom. The Indians called this great river, Mississippi—Mississippi meaning big and sipi meaning river.

The first immigrants of North America, who are the true pioneers of America, came during the last ice age about 15,000 years ago. They crossed a land bridge about one hundred miles wide between Siberia and what is now Alaska. These early migrating Asian hunters followed the animals on which their livelihood depended and their generations spread out over two continents, reaching Mexico by 9000 B.C.

By this time the great Mississippi River had moved slowly westward and found a smaller channel in which to flow. A wide, wet floodplain was left infested with mosquitoes, flies, and gnats. Here, Indians of the woodland culture came in 700 A.D. and found wild berries, plums, persimmons, pecans, hazel and hickory nuts. They hunted, fished, and began to plant corn, squash and beans.

Later, but still in prehistoric times, around 850 A.D., the mound builders, Indians of the Mississippian culture, developed a highly orga-
nized method of agriculture, because of the rich, deep soil of the floodplain. We are told that this was the first farming commune in our land. Over 30,000 Indians lived in this bottom land which stretched from the point where the Illinois River joins the Mississippi River to the Ohio River.

Before the arrival of the white man, a confederacy of Indians occupied land lying along the Illinois to the mouth of the Ohio River. This territory was their hunting ground. They called themselves superior men, or the Illinois. They were the Kaskaskia, Cahokia, Michigamea, Peoria and Tamoroa tribes which numbered about 20,000 people and 4,000 warriors. They gave their name to the Illinois River and the whole country down to the Ohio River. These Indians were friendly and normally peaceful, but could be warlike and cruel. They lived in constant fear of the Iroquois Indians, a strong and powerful tribe who lived in the present state of New York. The Iroquois were nearly always in a state of war with neighboring tribes.

In 1673, the Illinois country was explored by Louis Jolliet, a fur-trader, and Father Jacques Marquette, a missionary. Friendly Indians had told these Frenchmen about a great river, "big water," called the Mississippi, but advised them not to make the trip. They told of great monsters in the river that would swallow them and their canoes and of the piasa birds atop frightful rocks that would devour them. Leaving the Wisconsin River, they entered the great Mississippi River and finally came to the frightful rocks with two piasa bird paintings on a cliff. Indians feared the paintings so much that they stopped their canoes and shot arrows at them. Later, after they had guns, bullets were used. Historians tell us that 10,000 bullets were found on the cliff.

In 1679, Governor Frontenac selected LaSalle to explore the Mississippi Valley and develop the fur-trade with the Indians. After Fort St. Louis, now known as Starved Rock, in the Illinois River was built, LaSalle returned to Fort Frontenac for supplies. During his absence in 1680, the Illinois village was destroyed by the Iroquois, who had secured firearms from the Dutch in New York. These invaders killed every living thing and mutilated the bodies. About 700 squaws were burned at the stake. Only 300 Cahokian warriors and a few squaws, returning from a hunting trip, were able to escape. They came to the floodplain of the Mississippi and settled in the area where the mound builders had lived. They called the stream of water north of the great mound Cahokia Creek. They tried to drink the water, but it was contaminated. Some Indians died and were buried in the southwest corner of the great mound. They left the mounds and became a wandering tribe. Historians claim that LaSalle met these Indians when he explored the lower Mississippi in 1683. Later, French trappist monks also left the area because the water was contaminated.

In 1699 French missionaries established the first permanent settlement called Cahokia in honor of the Cahokian tribe. Then in 1703 the Kaskaskian tribe migrated en masse because they were afraid of another Iroquois invasion. They settled on the right bank of the Kaskaskia River above its junction with the Mississippi River. This historic settlement was called Kaskaskia. Gradually a French population grew up on the east bank of the Mississippi. They lived peacefully with these Indians. They hunted with them, lived with them, and intermarried with them.

In 1717 John Law, a Scottish financier, had a scheme to develop this land, making people believe that gold, silver, and copper had been discovered and money was needed to develop mines. Philip Renault was sent from France with miners, mechanics, and laborers. He purchased 500 slaves in the West Indies to work in these mines. These Negroes were the first of their race to come to Illinois. They found no gold and very little silver—only coal. John Law was run out of the country and this disastrous failure was called "The Mississippi Bubble."

By 1730 there was a French population of several thousand in the well organized trading posts of Cahokia and Kaskaskia. Settlements were established on Cabaret Island and on Big Island, which is now called Chouteau Island. This was a good location to raise horses because here the Indians couldn't steal them. The French built flat boats and shipped the horses to New Orleans.

England watched as French settlements grew and the territory became the center of the fur trade. Fort Chartres, which had been built in 1720, was reconstructed in 1752. England went to war and gained the land from France in 1763.

Pierre Laclede and his family came to Illinois country from New Orleans in 1762 after he received an 8 year monopoly on the fur trade.
When the British took possession of the land, Laclede and his stepson, Auguste Chouteau, moved to a new settlement they called St. Louis. Most of the French moved to this new settlement or to St. Genevieve to live under the French government. They did not know that this territory had been ceded to Spain by a secret treaty in 1762.

Many Indians were friends of the French. Pontiac, an Ottawa chief, tried to organize the Indian tribes to overthrow the British forts in the northwest. He was defeated and soon after was assassinated in Cahokia by an Illinois Indian. The Ottawa tribe attacked the Illinois Indians to avenge the death of Pontiac. The Illinois returned to Fort St. Louis on the summit of a rock in the Illinois River where they died of hunger rather than surrender. This rock is now called Starved Rock and became the first Illinois state park in 1911.

The Illinois country became involved in the American Revolution when Colonel George Rogers Clark surprised the British at Kaskaskia and Cahokia and captured Vincennes. He took possession of the whole Illinois country and organized it under the jurisdiction of Virginia. The British defeat at Yorktown in 1781 assured the independence of the United States. Illinois country was then ceded to the United States, but frontier warfare between pioneers and Indians continued.

In 1783 a Frenchman, Jean Baptist Cardinal, and his family, left Cahokia and settled on the Mississippi River at Piasa, near where the piasa birds were found on the bluff. When Cardinal was captured by the Indians and taken prisoner, his family returned to Cahokia. Since Indian raids were frequent and attacks were made on unprotected settlements, stockades were built for defense against Indian attacks.

George Rogers Clark and his troops, who had held the Illinois country for 4 years, were dismissed in 1783. Some of these soldiers, who had recognized the value of the land, remained. Others later returned in covered wagons or in flat boats called "arks" bringing their possessions to establish permanent homes. The French, who had left the Illinois country when England took possession called the locality "The American Bottom" from the fact that only American settlers lived in this bottom land.

The Illinois country became a part of the Northwest Territory in 1787 and Arthur St. Clair was appointed governor. After organizing St. Clair County, a vast area which extended to the Canadian border, he wrote to Alexander Hamilton about this desolate wilderness and said that it was like sending a man to the moon.

History tells us that in 1800 the northern part of the American Bottom was unoccupied. It was by chance that James Gillham, an American white man who had been a soldier of the Revolution, crossed the northern part of the bottom in 1793. He was in search of his wife and children who had been captured by the Kickapoo Indians. James Gillham and his wife's family were from Christian Co., Kentucky. They had moved there after Daniel Boone had led a small group of settlers to Kentucky in 1775. Indian war parties often attacked these settlers and kidnapped many others.

It was in 1790 that James' wife, Ann, who was pregnant, and their three children, Samuel, Nancy, and Jacob, were taken captive. On foot for 3 days, the Indians hurried the mother and children without rest and very little food. After they reached the Ohio River, they crossed on rafts of dry logs. Several days later, they crossed the Wabash River and finally reached the Kickapoo tribe in northern Illinois.

James and his neighbors tried to pick up the trail, but failed. Leaving his son Isaac with his wife's relatives, he set out to find his family. He tried to get help from Governor St. Clair in Cahokia, but was told it was hopeless because of the hostilities between the whites and Indians.

After 5 years, James was told by a French trader at Kaskaskia that his wife and children were alive and living with the Kickapoo tribe along the Sangamon River. Traveling to this Indian village with several traders and two French interpreters, James was not able to ransom the baby born to his wife during captivity because it had been given to a childless Indian woman. But the Indians released the other captives for a ransom of about $8,000. Being the youngest at his time of capture, Jacob did not know English, nor did he know his father and it took some time to convince this 9 year old to leave the Indian tribe.

The family returned to Kentucky, sold their farm and came back to the American Bottom. They settled on Long Lake and built their cabin
on a clearing where the Indians had built a mound. At this same time Samuel Judy built a cabin on a militia claim along the bluffs. In 1802, even though Turkey Foot, a Pottawatomie, had killed two settlers plowing a field at the foot of the bluffs, settlers kept coming.

James Gillham wrote to his brothers in South Carolina and told them about this beautiful and fertile land. His brothers and children of his two sisters came with their large families to the American Bottom.

The population of the bottom multiplied rapidly. In Governor John Reynolds' book titled *My Own Times*, written in 1855, he said, "The large moral and worthy family of the Gillhams and connections formed a great portion of the American Bottom. The leading pioneers were Samuel Judy, five aged and respectable brothers, Thomas, John, William, James, and Isaac Gillham; and William B., Samuel, Joel and others of the Whiteside family."

James Gillham's sons married and lived in the very area while Lewis and Clark were preparing for their expedition. Samuel purchased a ferry from Charles Dejailais, a Frenchman, located at the head of Chouteau Island, making trips to the island and the west bank of the Mississippi. They constructed rude rafts on Chouteau Island to take corn, honey, bacon and other products to New Orleans. But Spain owned New Orleans and farmers found that sometimes Spain made them pay a heavy tax or perhaps they couldn't take their products to shore.

Then Napoleon, ruler of France at the time, persuaded the Spanish king to give Louisiana back to France. President Jefferson sent Robert Livingston and James Monroe to purchase New Orleans. Napoleon astounded Livingston by offering all of Louisiana for $15 million or three cents an acre.

Thomas Jefferson had always wanted to explore the far west and chose Meriwether Lewis, his personal secretary, and William Clark, younger brother of George Rogers Clark, to explore the unknown west. These two men were personal friends, experienced soldiers and both had personal training in the wilderness. Lewis requested permission to establish winter quarters at La Charette on the Missouri River, but the Spanish Minister refused. However, the Wood River location was a good one for training their Corps of Discovery for the extreme hardness and the severity of wilderness life.

The Mississippi River on which they trained was treacherous with shifting sandbars, crumbling banks and underwater obstacles. The Wood River, called the Mad River in those days, became treacherous after heavy rains. The Missouri was described as muddy and noisy, with a very swift current. Land along these rivers was overgrown with thick tangles of willows and cottonwood trees. Dense timber covered the land to the bluffs.

In the spring after heavy rains the region was one great body of water. Flooding left swamps and sloughs—a breeding place for mosquitoes, gnats, and flies. Swarms of green-headed flies attacked men and horses, leaving horses covered with blood. The winter was extremely severe with rivers frozen making river transportation nearly impossible.

Large snakes lived on the ground, under the ground and in trees and there were rattlesnakes and copperheads in the water. Gray and black wolves were plentiful. Wild cats were numerous. Panthers would attack men and dogs.

Life at Camp Dubois, now Wood River, Illinois, was just the beginning of Lewis & Clark's 28 month journey in search of a water route across the unchartered west. These men endured months of cold, weeks of hunger and fatigue, days of backbreaking labor under the prairie's sweltering summer sun and harassment from Indians.

From the journals of Lewis and Clark, we read the entry written on September 23, 1806, the last day of their journey as they arrived in triumph in St. Louis. Clark writes:

"Took an early breakfast and set out, descended to the Mississippi and down that river to St. Louis at which place we arrived about 12 o'clock. We suffered the party to fire off their pieces as a salute to the town. We were met by all the village and received a hearty welcome from its inhabitants."

But what happened to Camp Dubois? In 1806 some settlers moved into this camping site of the Lewis and Clark expedition and called it the Chippewa Settlement. George Catlin, the Indian portrait painter and explorer, told about this
settlement in his records. Lieutenant Zebulon Pike attended a wedding in one of these cabins. Soon after, Camp Dubois was washed across the river by the floods of the Mississippi.

Throughout the history of the American Bottom we learn that it became a favored land for the Indians, the French, the English, the Americans, and the Germans because of the confluence of three great rivers, the Mississippi, Missouri, and Illinois. As a means of transportation, these rivers made the American Bottom the center of commercial interests. Their broad river courses made possible the widespread and far-reaching trade that added to its wealth and assisted in cultural exchange. Early historians said it was a place where the east ends and the west begins. Today, although industry is located in the American Bottom, much remains the same as it did in yesteryear.

The range of bluffs that Father Marquette and Louis Jolliet described as “frightful rocks” are still there. The original piassa birds are gone, but a new piassa bird is located on the bluffs at Norman’s landing.

The bluffs, which form the outer boundary of the American Bottom, still mark the dividing line between the rolling prairies to the east. The great mound, now called Cahokia, still stands as a reminder of an ancient civilization, just as it did for many centuries.

The soil created of unsurpassed fertility was recognized by Father Marquette. He wrote in his journal, “No grounds on earth are superior in fertility or productiveness.” Today, this soil is just as fertile as it was during the time of the mound builders. Then, as now, fields of ripening corn can be seen stretching out to the bluffs.

Although the Cahokia Diversion Canal was built to control the Mississippi River, the American Bottom suffers from seasonal flooding. Newcomers were warned by the early settlers that the worst enemy to handle in the American Bottom was the rapid rise of the Mississippi River after excessive rains. The pioneers accepted this problem just the same as we do and tried to work out a solution.

Over the years, because of flooding and ice jams, these great rivers have cut new channels, but long after we are gone the Mississippi, Missouri and Illinois rivers will still be here and, as the song says, just keep rolling along.

Lewis & Clark Adventure on CD-ROM

VIAs Inc., a non-profit corporation located in Lolo, Montana, is the recent recipient of a planning grant from the Montana Committee for the Humanities to develop a proposal for a series of interactive multimedia CD-ROMs on the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

“We’ll be among the first to explore new ways of communicating the drama and complexity of the Lewis and Clark adventure to a yet wider audience, through state-of-the-art, 21st Century technology,” said Project Director Joseph Musselman.

The planning grant will be used to convene a steering committee of prominent western historians and multimedia experts, which will refine the focus and scope of the proposal. It will also support the preparation of a pilot episode to demonstrate some of the multimedia techniques to be used in the series.

Beginning in the fall, project funding will be sought from major American foundations, with production tentatively scheduled to begin in the spring of 1995.

The Montana Committee for the Humanities is a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.
Book Reviews


A Review by Judith Edwards

Let's start off by stating that Gary E. Moulton's multi-volume edition of The Journals of the Lewis and Clark expedition is, simply, a stupendous achievement. And that is true both in terms of task and in its execution.

Volume 8 encompasses the last leg of the Corps of Discovery's homeward journey, including the only time the leaders parted for a lengthy period of planned exploration. It also includes the only incident where Indian thievery led to exchanged gun fire, resulting in the death of at least one member of the Piegan Blackfeet tribe.

When Lewis and Clark left Camp Chopunnish on the Clearwater River on June 11, 1806, they were looking forward to getting across the Bitterroot Mountains on the Lolo trail. They had waited a month for the snow to melt and they were extremely disappointed to discover that the snow was still so deep that it obscured the trail. They cached their goods in trees and turned back—the first time they had retreated in the entire journey.

Hiring three Indian guides who found the trail easily, they proceeded on to Traveler's Rest, a trip that took six days instead of the eleven it had taken them on the outward journey. The decision to separate to explore parts of the region not covered in the preceding trek had been made at Fort Clatsop. Lewis hoped to add territorial claims to the United States if he found that the Marias drained northern reaches, while Clark would explore the Yellowstone and perhaps make contact with new Indian tribes.

Lewis's trip was eventful—and nearly fatal for him. First, there was the incident with the Piegan Blackfeet—the incident containing a curious lapse of vigilance on his part. And then, on August 7, Lewis, while hunting with Pierre Cruzatte who was blind in one eye and nearsighted to boot, was mistaken by that gentleman for an elk and shot in the thigh. While his wound finally healed well, Lewis was virtually immobilized for most of the remaining trip. Here one of the ironies of the trip is evident—if Clark, plagued by mosquitoes, had not moved on down the Missouri instead of meeting Lewis at the mouth of the Yellowstone as planned, it is doubtful that Lewis would have been off hunting elk with Cruzatte to begin with.

For readers, however, it is yet another example of the insightful intelligence and largeness of spirit that both Captains possessed. Cruzatte, when confronted with the fact, never really admitted that he had either shot Lewis or heard him call out afterwards. But Lewis, though at the moment he was wounded yelling "dam you, you have shot me," remarks in his journal entry that "I do not believe that the fellow did it intentionally, but after finding that he had shot me was anxious to conceal his knowledge of having done so." There is no condemnation or anger despite his dreadful discomfort and inconvenience.

Clark's exploratory trip was a vacation in comparison, though he was disappointed in much contact with Indians. It was on this trip, on July 25, that the group passed, and climbed, "Pompy's Tower" and Clark left his signature for future generations.

When the two groups came together again, Clark took over the care of Lewis's wounds and also the journal entries as Lewis was forced to lie on his stomach for much of the remaining trip. They had meetings with the Arikara and the Yankton Sioux and avoided the Teton Sioux who had proved untrustworthy in 1804. Soon they were encountering other boats traveling up river and the backdrop is cows on the banks instead of buffalo. At noon on September 23, they reached St. Louis where, the populace cheered these explorers whom they had given up for dead. The last entry is brief and has a wonderful "now for the rest of life" quality. Clark states, "a fine morning we commenced wrigging &c."

As Moulton does throughout the volumes that precede Volume 8, his notes follow each daily journal entry, making the edition contiguous—and a more pleasant perusal—for the reader. (Each
volume is indexed separately which is also a boon to readers.) The notes not only explain botanical, meteorological or geological arcana or locate geographical sites on our modern map that are spoken of in terms no longer used—or misunderstood by the Captains—they add to our knowledge base in specific areas. For instance, in Clark's entry of September 19, the party meets a Mr. La Frost who informs them that a “Mr. Pike and young Mr. Wilkinson had Set out on an expedition up the Arkansaw river or in that direction...” The extensive note (2, p. 355) tells us who Zebulon Pike was, where he went, identifies the other players in his trip plans, and follows him up after the trip until his death in 1813. Or, following the Clark entry of August 2, (11, p. 279) wherein he conjectures as to probable locations for forts and reasons for Indians trading at them, Moulton continues the story by giving us information on the Missouri Fur Company, Fort McKenzie, etc. Such detailed information, immediately following the journal entry, greatly enhances the reader’s sense of historical context and adds to our knowledge of current and future ramifications of the expedition.

And, of course, the edition, in its exhaustive scholarship, adds information learned since Coues and Thwaites, and corrects errors in those editions, and will be an invaluable tool for scholars researching any aspect of the journey.

Since entries by Lewis and Clark, until the last stage where we have only Clark’s entries, cover the same day and same events with Clark often copying Lewis’s entries, one could say that the reading is repetitive. Indeed, if the general reader is first being introduced to the Lewis and Clark expedition and is taken chiefly by the grand adventure it is, I still believe (perhaps heretically) that they should start with the Bernard DeVoto one volume condensation, which is continuous text. (And, he writes from the journals themselves, and not from Biddle’s History, using approximately one-third of the original or one-half of the daily log.) This avoids “the presence in the text of much material essential to the purposes of the expedition but unrelated to the running narrative, and a considerable drag on it.” (Devoto, B. p. V)

However, if you have had your appetite—and indeed your very focus of life interest—piqued by the short edition, finally you want to know everything! When you read both entries, the difference in personality and style between Lewis and Clark becomes fascinating. Clark’s entries are subtly more personal—an incident is linked with a specific person, a sentence is added with a personal touch. Referring to the demise of a black pheasant, Lewis says “we killed” to Clark’s “I killed.” (p. 60) In an incident where Colter’s horse fell and man and horse “were driven down the creek a considerable distance rolling over each other among the rocks. he fortunately escaped without injury or the loss of his gun.” Clark copies this entry by Lewis verbatim, but adds another sentence...”he lost his blanket,” thus noting that would be personal discomfort for Colter. (pp. 35-36) This continues—including Clark’s mentioning or crediting information from “the squaw” while Lewis remains generic.

Reading the entire journal one gets certain impressions such as: How many times they mention mosquitoes; how much time they spent either getting rained on or drying out from getting rained on; how much time they spent chasing horses, and how much time was spent hunting and killing animals. In fact, the future portent for the demise of the massive herds of elk and buffalo is expressed in the voracious appetite the men had for meat, meat, meat. (Ironically, President Thomas Jefferson, waiting back home for information on the adventure he had set in motion, was primarily a vegetarian, using meat only as a condiment!)

And then there is the cumulative evidence of Clark’s inventiveness, making “mockersons” out of green buffalo skin for the sore feet of the horses as well as improvising medicines on the spot for serious ailments. Above all, there is the Captains’ thorough professionalism and enormous intelligence—perhaps the primary reason for the success of the expedition.

And now what do we do, now that this exhaustive edition is reaching completion? Are discoveries surrounding the expedition at an end? “The various editions of Lewis and Clark journals have been tied in some way to the discovery or use of new documents from the expedition” and this one is no exception. In his article on new documents (WPO, Nov. 1987) Gary Moulton talks about two new documents that have surfaced since his edition of the journals began publication—a promissory note in Lewis’ handwrit-
ing and a herbarium label from the expedition. And next year? I, for one, am looking forward to delving repeatedly into Gary E. Moulton’s edition of the complete journals. Helped by the expert explication and expansion offered in the notes, a reader’s discovery will last for years to come.

Foundation member Judith Edwards is the author of “Colter’s Run” reviewed on page 23. She holds a master’s degree in creative writing/journalism from City University of New York.


A Review by Robert R. Hunt

Diverse aspects of the Lewis and Clark Journals have been subjects of well-known books about the famous expedition: botany, ethnology, geography, geopolitics, linguistics, and medicine; also letters of key players, as well as the history of editing and publishing the journals—a roll call of authors like Moulton, Allen, Chuihund, Coues, Criswell, Cutright, DeVoto, Jackson, Osgood, Quaife, Ronda, Thwaites...these writers are almost biblical to anyone following the expedition. Their books compose a kind of “canon” alongside the journals. But such efforts have focused on the literal details of the physical journey, and are concerned mainly with scientific and historical interests.

With Albert Furtwangler’s new book, Acts of Discovery, fresh perspectives cast a bright new light, in a text worthy of a special place in the canon. Dr. Furtwangler [one of our own Trail Heritage members and habitue’, with his wife Virginia (an honored author in her own right), of our annual conferences] dramatically relates Lewis and Clark to the literary and philosophic context of the Jefferson era. From his base as a distinguished professor of English at Mt. Allison University (New Brunswick) he argues that the expedition journals are “a heretofore neglected American literary classic, some of whose features compare in intriguing ways with outstanding works by William Wordsworth, Mark Twain, Wallace Stevens and others.” One may gulp on first reading such a statement, considering the rustic, quotidian character of much of the Lewis and Clark writings. But the reader soon learns while proceeding with Furtwangler’s discussion that there is far more literary background in the journals than first meets the eye.

“The central idea of the book,” says the author, “is discovery.” He means “discovery” in a much broader sense than our customary use of the word, not just the business of documenting new terrain and cataloguing persons, places, and things. Simultaneously with these mundane tasks of observation the journalists were regularly confronted with “dozens of mysteries and adventures,” new challenges for their survival skills and resourcefulness, not only from the tedium of rugged travel, but also from the impact of wilderness upon their imagination. Day after day the journals bear witness, Furtwangler notes, to “a tension between deeply indoctrinated order and the effort to find new terms for new realities. Tension springs out unexpectedly in the midst of prosaic details (distances, bearings, descriptions of plants and animals, etc.). As to diet for example, the captains “explored not only with their eyes and ears and intelligence but also with their guts and wits.” Furtwangler cites Lewis’s comment on the bizarre food he had to endure (roots, dog flesh, etc.): “I have learned to think that if the chord be sufficiently strong which binds the soul and body together, it dose not so much matter about the materials which compose it.” Here, in Furtwangler’s view, is “the wisdom of solitude.” Lewis has voiced “a provocative reflection” deep in the wilderness, exposing “a questioning of his own culture...another flash of learning.” suggesting that he has come to know himself better.

Such introspective flashes abound in the journals, occasions such as Lewis’s 31st birthday, his bear encounters, calamities of the white pirogue, his first view of the Great Falls of the Missouri. In Lewis’s phrases and expressions on these occasions, Furtwangler recognizes specific patterns and emotions which had been asserted elsewhere in literature. His chapter on “The American Sublime” is a striking revelation of what may have prompted Lewis’s language on first viewing that “sublimely grand spectacle” of the Great Falls. To us today, these phrases may
sound like “the hackneyed stuff of guidebooks and garden manuals” (p. 40). But thanks to Furtwangler’s intimate familiarity with contemporary references, the idea of “the sublime” takes on much wider scope as background for Lewis’s words.

It is this insight in placing the Lewis and Clark journals in the intellectual context of the late 18th Century that is the rich feature of Furtwangler’s book. By looking in depth at the journal writings, particularly the introspective passages, the book uncovers layers of meaning in the phrases of the two captains which point the way to their own inner discoveries, and further, how their discoveries and observations relate to the world of Edmund Burke, Samuel Johnson, Immanuel Kant, William Wordsworth, Jane Austen, Thomas Jefferson, and other “greats” of those famous days.

It is against the backdrop of this literary and philosophic panorama that Furtwangler pilots the reader through special passages where Lewis and Clark interpret their mission, encounter native cultures, observe nature, puzzle over naming “new” things, confront harsh terrain, live with “ghosts on the trail,” and stand in the presence of the “Rockies by moonlight.”

Thus “discovery” acquires multi-dimensions in this book: not only an opening to a new world, physically the Great West, but also a revelation of the self-examination of two young officers impacted by an unknown wilderness; and too, a new awareness of how the contemporary culture conditioned these explorers. But there is indeed a further dimension for Albert Furtwangler himself, and for his readers. Contemplating the Lewis and Clark experience against an ever-present American restlessness (perceived by De Tocqueville and others through the years) he reflects upon its meaning mid the discontents of the late 20th Century. Alluding to Oliver Wendell Holmes’s Chambered Nautilus, he asks whether the writings of Lewis and Clark are now “an outgrown shell?” The vaunted past of the Corps of Discovery was ultimately “an act of mind.” The writings of that expedition, the author then concludes, “still challenge us to recognize the wilderness that is all around us here and now, and to face it with intelligent courage.”

According to a profile of Furtwangler in Contemporary Authors (the “Who’s Who” of the book world), his works ponder “many sides of some enduring American dilemmas. And... bring early leaders to life by catching them in the act of answering or transcending forceful challenges.” This has been superbly done for Lewis and Clark, just as had previously been done in the earlier remarkable books, Assassin on Stage (Lincoln), and The Founders (Washington, Adams, et al.).

The outside cover of Acts of Discovery provides a glimpse of Bierstadt’s beautiful painting of Mt. Hood, together with the endorsement of Arlen J. Large that “this is a first class performance.” For readers of We Proceeded On what better invitation could there be for opening these covers and discovering the world inside?

Foundation member Robert R. Hunt is a frequent contributor to WPO. He is a member of the WPO editorial board.


Two Reviews by Bob Doerk

From the reprinting of Burton Harris’ John Colter: His Years in the Rockies, Charles Scribner’s Sons, New York, 1952, for children, John Colter is finally getting his due. His story does lend credence to the adage “fact is stranger than fiction.” We must then ask, “Why did Mary Blount Christian decide to willfully disregard facts to present her story?” Colter deserves better and before you shell out $13.95 for this hardbound book, let me simply catalog a few errors noted at random:

1. John Colter was not recruited in Louisville, by Clark, for the Corps of Discovery.
2. The Mandan Indians were not encountered at Three Forks.
3. Captain Clark did not dispatch John Colter from Louisville to join Lewis and other members of the Corps of Discovery in St. Louis. (Clark and Lewis joined each other in Louisville in October, 1803.)
4. All members of the expedition, except for
Lewis and Clark and Ordway and Floyd, were not privates. What about Sergeant Pryor?

5. The dog’s name is Seaman, not Scannon.

6. Clark was not the oldest member at 33 (born 1770). Shields was born in 1769.

7. The supplies at Camp Wood were not coming from Harpers Ferry but rather St. Louis.

8. The Corps did not build the keelboat at Camp Wood.

9. They did not build a flat bottomed boat (bateau) which required 20 oarsmen.

Need I go on? I think not. I am simply puzzled why anyone would embarrass themselves by creating such an inaccurate piece of work.

Let’s get to a more positive review and see where you can spend $5.95 wisely. That is the cost of Judith Edwards’ well researched, well written soft cover book for children ages 8 and older. She uses the technique of beginning the story “in the middle” and then working back and forth, covering John’s earlier career and later career with reference to his encounter with the Blackfeet at the Three Forks of the Missouri. It is this vivid, action oriented episode that the young reader can identify with and is a way to perhaps kindle the latent curiosity that we all share as human beings. If this book can get into the hands of the children, or be read to them by adults, then maybe a life-long quest and fascination with American history may result. It is worth a shot and I simply say, get a copy of this book, share it with your kids and grandkids, and you will know you have done your part.

Two books, two messages conveyed about our society today. Can’t we let the excitement and thrilling, factual occurrences of our history speak for themselves? Do we need, or deserve, tacky research thrust upon us? I am a firm believer in the value of the novel in setting a tone and a certain feel for historic time periods. Centennial by Michener evokes a feel for the West that lingers with me to this day. It treated historic episodes with a vision (and caveats contained in the introduction) that worked. Taking a historic figure like John Colter, then jumbling the facts, does not work for Christian; but taking the facts and weaving a story that creates an emotional response at the same time it educates, works for Edwards and we are the better, within the Lewis and Clark community, for having this book available.

Bob Doerk is a past president of the foundation and chairman of the National Lewis and Clark Trail Coordination Committee.

“The Bingham of Louisville”

Author Chandler Dead at 56

New York Times News Service

David Leon Chandler, a Kentucky native whose books included “The Bingham of Louisville,” died at his home in Denver recently. He was 56.

The cause of death was complications from diabetes, said his literary agent, Jed Mattes.

The Bingham family once owned The Courier-Journal; Chandler’s book was among several on the family after it sold The C-J and other Louisville media holdings in 1986.

Chandler’s other books include “Brothers in Blood” (1975), a study of organized crime; “The Natural Superiority of Southern Politicians” (1977); and “Henry Flagler: The Astonishing Life and Times of the Visionary Robber Baron Who Founded Florida” (1986).

In June, Morrow will publish “The Jefferson Conspiracies: A President’s Role in the Assassination of Meriwether Lewis.”

Chandler was born in Covington, Kentucky. He attended Boston College but failed to graduate after betting his tuition money on a losing horse. After serving in the merchant marine and the Navy, he began work as a journalist.

His survivors include his third wife, Mary Voelz Chandler, and four children.

Gifts in memory of...

Winifred George
L. Max Lippman, Jr.

Fellow Fund Gifts:
Charles C. Patton

NOTE: Names of installment donors to the Lewis and Clark Fellow Fund are listed when final payment is made.
Wading through deep snow near Fort Mandan last week, documentary script writer Dayton Duncan and cinematographer Allen Moore hoped to capture on film a harsh North Dakota winter similar to the one experienced by Lewis and Clark in 1804.

They got their wish...and then some.

The two PBS filmmakers captured footage at Lewis and Clark's campsite in the most miserable conditions imaginable as snow piled up and windchills dipped near 50 degrees below zero.

"We really hit the big jackpot on this one," said Duncan of last Wednesday's blizzard conditions.

The two were in Washburn Wednesday through the weekend to film scenes for an upcoming 90-minute public television documentary on Lewis and Clark's journey. Directing the film will be Ken Burns, renowned for the popular and critically acclaimed "The Civil War" series which appeared on PBS in 1990. It became the most watched series in all of PBS' history.

The duo's trip to Washburn was the first production trip for the film which should appear on PBS sometime in 1996 or soon after.

Simply titled "Lewis and Clark," the documentary is being written by Duncan with Moore shooting the live action footage along the Lewis and Clark trail from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean.

"We wanted to get some good winter scenery to replicate Lewis and Clark's stay at Fort Mandan," said Duncan. "We had planned to come last year in February, but then there was a big thaw."

"Luckily we came at the right time this year," said Moore.

The bitter cold winds may have chilled the two and they did experience some difficulty with the camera in the extreme cold, but Moore said they captured some great footage at the fort.

"The severity was very evident visually," said Duncan. "It was very much like 1804. They [Lewis and Clark] recorded temperatures 40 degrees below and several of the men got frostbite."

"We're not from Hollywood. They probably wouldn't go out in that," he said later, laughing.

Besides shooting scenes at the Fort Mandan replica, three miles west of Washburn, Duncan and Moore also filmed buffalo on the Dan Wicklander ranch, shot footage along the frozen Missouri River, and traveled to Fort Abraham Lincoln near Mandan as well as the Knife River Indian Villages near Stanton.

Hailing from New Hampshire, Duncan has been through the area a number of times in the past. Six years ago he wrote a book on the Lewis and Clark journey, entitled "Out West." For that book he spent a couple of nights in an earth lodge while the temperature was 30 degrees below outside.

"I knew when you come to North Dakota in January to dress warmly," he said.

Duncan said he has experienced such winters in New Hampshire, with the exception of this past week's extreme wind chill. Moore, on the other hand, comes from Maryland and was hit by the weather. "I've never been to the arctic before, but this is close," said Moore.

The Lewis and Clark documentary will be one in a series of films being created by Burns over the next 10 years, under the title "American Lives." It is one of three projects that Duncan and Moore are currently working on with Burns.

"Lewis and Clark" will include the film shot
Today I received my February, 1994 issue of WPO and my new membership card.

At the moment I’m on a Lewis & Clark “high”—I’m not an expert, just an enthusiast, but I just had to write and tell you that last Tuesday (22 February), I gave a talk to the Regina Film Makers (Continued from page 25)

by Moore, as well as some archival images. Moore said the live footage will probably be more prominent than in some past documentaries as there are no photographs of the expedition. The film will also contain various interviews with Lewis and Clark scholars, as well as narration and readings from the Lewis and Clark journals.

Both Duncan and Moore have worked with Burns on past documentaries. Duncan was a consultant on Burns’ “Civil War” series, and Moore shot much of the live action footage of the nine episode, 11-hour documentary. The two also worked with Burns on his history of baseball, a documentary series which will appear on PBS next fall on the scale of the Civil War series.

Moore said the Civil War series helped propel documentaries onto a higher status level with the public. “The appeal of the documentary increased. We’ve all done documentaries for a long time and it was nice that people recognized it for its entertainment and informational value.”

Both men were thrilled with the reception they have received locally. Sheila Robinson of the McLean County Historical Society has been a great local contact, said Duncan, as well as Ernie Dierks and Lyle Lind. North Dakota film commissioner Jeff Eslinger accompanied them on their first day out.

Duncan and Moore plan to return to the Washburn area for more filming when the snow begins to thaw. “We’ll be back two or three more times,” said Duncan.

In the future they hope to go to the Cross Ranch to film the ranch’s herd of buffalo.

Director Ken Burns will accompany Duncan and Moore on some of these future trips as the filmmakers cover the entire Lewis and Clark trail over the next two years.

branch of the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society on Lewis & Clark.

One of the members is related to General George Rogers Clark and their speaker organiser thought that I would be an apropos speaker.

What I tried to do in my talk was to tie together the Americans and the Canadians in “Trails West” (the title of my address). I worked at Hudson’s Bay House in Winnipeg when I first emigrated to Canada in 1966, for the editor of The Beaver magazine. Over the past six years, my husband and I have covered the Lewis & Clark trail from Montana to the Pacific. What I talked about was the “Bay men”—Fort Astoria and why they were there and how Lewis & Clark were instrumental in showing the way by providing the route.

I included Fort Vancouver and Dr. John McLoughlin and his country wife Marguerite, the Whitman Mission, the Oregon Trail, the Barlow Road, and Alexander MacKenzie’s route across Canada. I spoke for about an hour and was amazed that the questions lasted for almost another 45 minutes. Surprisingly, I was able to answer almost ALL of them!

Some of the comments afterwards were interesting—one lady said, “I’d heard about Lewis & Clark in school but I must have been asleep—you made them so alive and real.”

I used overheads from my books and I had a lot of my own books on display: Bernard DeVoto’s Journals; Roy Appleman’s wonderful book; Jim Rhonda’s Lewis and Clark Among the Indians; and Fielding’s Lewis & Clark Trail. I had lots of personal photos, a piece of rock from the Rock Fort, but to these genealogists my pièce de résistance was William Clark’s descendancy chart which I obtained from John Clark in Brighton, Michigan for a donation to the restoration of Clark’s gravestone. They were enchanted!

As I said, I’m not an expert, not an academic, just someone who is totally enthused with the Corps of Discovery and trying to “spread the word.”

Yours sincerely,

Carole-Ann Wyant

Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada
by Steve Lee, Chair

The Young Adults Activities Committee was established by the Foundation bylaws to provide assistance in planning and implementing youth activities for the annual meeting and presentation of awards for outstanding accomplishments for persons under the age of 21. President Stu Knapp selected me as chair last August and the committee includes Marilyn Clark of Helena, Montana; Michael Dotson of Crest Hill, Illinois; William Jenkins of Scottsdale, Arizona; and Barbara Kubik of Kennewick, Washington.

The committee will be working to accomplish the tasks as outlined in the bylaws. However, I would also like to invite the membership to make suggestions as to potential activities for the committee. Any ideas that will foster interest and study of Lewis and Clark and the Expedition among our youth are most welcome.

Currently I am also serving as president of the Idaho Chapter of the Foundation. We have endeavored to include young people in our chapter activities and I wanted to share with you a few of the activities.

First of all, the chapter has been conducting a fund raising effort for a project to place the Foundation’s videotape in each school district in Idaho. As a state with two separate segments of the trail, there is a lot of interest in Lewis and Clark throughout the state in the schools. We are well on our way to placing a copy of the tape in each of the 113 districts in the state.

The Chapter also brought the 1992 National History Day winning exhibit to Lewiston for display during 1993 and 1994. It also won the Foundation’s “Youth Achievement Award.” The display, entitled “Lewis and Clark: Corps of Discovery,” was made by Brian Horn and Ian Walsh. We have been publicizing the fact that this was the National History Day winner in hopes of encouraging students to enter the local competitions.

Last summer the Chapter sponsored a camping trip on the Lolo Trail in northcentral Idaho. We encouraged families to attend this three day event. We did have young people along and I’m sure they will long remember the experiences we had during those days. There were great vistas from high mountain peaks including Rocky Point Lookout; wildlife including deer, elk and moose; and a snowball “fight” when the group happened upon a snowbank on a ridge that had managed to survive the first two weeks of July. Another highlight for the kids was reading the messages left at the “Indian Post Office” rock cairns. They liked hiking, climbing on rocks, and the evening bonfires. Hopefully we left a lot of fun memories with these kids during those three days and that they will remember them and associate Lewis and Clark with a fun experience.

These are a few of the ways we have tried to bring Lewis and Clark to young people. Please share your ideas with the Committee by contacting any member or me at P.O. Box 96, Boise, ID 83701 or (208) 336-5066.

Sarah Swanson and Teresa Coons on the Lolo, Lewis and Clark and Nee-Me-Poo Trail, summer 1993.
Member Responds to Criticism of Interpretive Center

Editor's Note: The following letter to the editor in Clark encountered during their epic exploration, and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center proposed for Great Falls. The lack of chairman of the National Lewis and Clark of the Great Falls (MT) Tribune was written by Member Responds to Criticism of Interpretive Center facility!

I shall attempt a succinct defense of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center proposed for Great Falls. The lack of understanding within some segments of our community must be profound when the Great Falls Tribune is construed as being a supporter of this facility!

1. The mission of the Center will be to interpret the Lewis and Clark Expedition and all that implies to understanding our heritage, to interpret the plains Indian culture that Lewis and Clark encountered during their epic exploration, and to interpret the high plains ecology in a way that has never been done before.

2. It is a federal project meaning that Congress has appropriated $3 million as long as it is matched by other than federal funds, dollar for dollar, by September 30, 1995. So far approximately $1,765,000 has been raised for that match with many initiatives currently underway to get the rest. It is also a federal project in terms of the Forest Service having responsibility to administer the center once it is built.

3. The interest in Lewis and Clark is national in scope...and even international. From Monticello, through Charlottesville, Virginia, through D.C., Harpers Ferry, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, down the Ohio River, past Louisville and up to Wood River, Illinois and St. Louis, Missouri and points west, the "on site" interest in this fascinating and instructive portion of America's heritage is real and immediate. If you want to know what is happening along the trail, simply drop a line to the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403...yes the 1500 member Foundation (members in all 50 states and four foreign countries) is headquartered right here in Great Falls...and staffed by volunteers.

4. Once the center is built, there are many federal programs in being that will allow real dollars to flow into Lewis and Clark Trail segments in Great Falls and throughout Montana. Three of these specific programs are the Challenge Cost Share monitored by the Forest Service (FY 94: $35,197 million for trail maintenance and $32,102 million for trail construction), the Challenge Cost Share monitored by the National Park Service ($1.9 million in FY 94 with one-third of these funds earmarked exclusively for the 14 national historic and scenic trails managed by the NPS of which the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is one), and the Department of Defense Legacy Fund ($50 million in FY 94 and earmarked for heritage projects on or adjacent to military installations...the Lewis and Clark Portage Route traverses Malmstrom AFB and was a military expedition) The Rivers Edge Trail board of directors, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the Cascade County Historical Society, and many other groups are all excited about the follow-on funding possibilities and partnerships that will enhance the social and cultural attributes of our city, county and state.

5. Why would a social and fiscal conservative, like me, support this so-called "pork" project? I wrestled with that very concept and did my research and discovered that these projects are being done in other states and in other locales. The Gorge Interpretive Center along the Columbia River, the Oregon Trail Visitors Center in Baker City, the visitors centers cropping up in Senator Robert Byrd's home state of West Virginia all testify to this fact. The question is the ALLOCATION of limited federal funding. If it is not used in Montana, the tax bill is not reduced...the funds simply go elsewhere on a reallocated basis. This may be distasteful to some, it may be distasteful to me personally, but it is the reality we face politically, in all that implies. By the federal matching requirement, many projects, well intentioned though they be, fall by the wayside. Those with commitment and fortitude make their projects "work" and that is happening in Great Falls. The doomsayers who say "this Interpretive Center will never be built" may be right, but I doubt it...the grass root support
MPC Donates $1.1 Million to Center

The Montana Power Co. made good its offer to donate $1.1 million toward construction of a Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Giant Springs on the Missouri River in Great Falls.

The utility still needs the approval of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), but said it would amend its application to relicense nine dams on the Missouri-Madison rivers system and allocate the money to the Lewis and Clark project.

The grant will come from $3 million in previously adopted protection, mitigation and enhancement (PME) measures for the Great Falls area. Fish, wildlife and recreation measures are required by the federal energy agency to offset environmental impacts from hydroelectric production.

Montana Power agreed in January to reconsider its PME measures for the Great Falls area.

(Continued on page 30)

MEMBER RESPONDS TO CRITICISM
(continued from page 28)

coupled with the vision and tenacity of many of our local, county and state leaders from the business community, non-profit organizations, all government levels, and from individuals has simply been too powerful...it will become a reality.

6. Finally, who will visit this Center? The Jefferson National Expansion Museum under the arch in St. Louis gets 4.5 million visitors a year...the first third of that museum experience is related to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Two pages of their sales catalog are devoted to Lewis and Clark items. The Foundation, mentioned above, can hardly keep up with the requests for information about the trail...folks wanting to hike it, bike it, camp along it, visit it by auto and RV, canoe it, take the five day horseback trip over Lolo Trail, etc. It is a trip and travel destination that traverses the country much like one long, thin museum. Fort Clatsop, at the end of the Expedition route in Oregon, gets 260,000 visitors a year even though it is in an isolated location. They keep expanding their facilities, parking lots, etc. and still can’t keep up with the demand. The Oregon Trail Visitors Center, funded and built by the BLM and opened last year, exceeded their optimistic attendance projections by 100 percent! Are Americans and foreign travelers interested in history, heritage, and concrete examples of what made this country great? You bet they are and every statistic backs this up. The Center is an accident waiting to happen in the best possible sense. You can play a part by simply getting involved, or at least learning what is happening and what this kind of center means for all of us, economically, culturally, and socially.

Best regards,

Robert K. Doerk, Jr.
Great Falls, Montana 59404

The following letter was also printed in the Tribune.

Recently voiced comments casting doubts upon the validity of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center are based, unfortunately, on failure to be realistic about the potential of a valuable site. Lewis and Clark’s expedition was essential to firming the fabric of our nation in the face of foreign encirclement, and to preserve that integrity is as important today as it was in 1803-06.

As a Montanan from birth who grew up in the Sun River Valley next door to Lewis and Clark campsites, I feel strongly about these efforts to honor the corps and its achievements. They richly deserve continued support for those efforts.

The Pompeys Pillar site east of Billings, with its only existing evidence of the passage of the expedition, is an astounding success, with 40,000 visitors in 1993, its first year after public acquisition and development.

I am totally opposed to any waste of public money at any level, but these efforts deserve support and offer multiple return in public enlightenment and to the local economy.

John Willard
Billings, Montana
after the federal government pledged $3 million toward the interpretive center on the condition that it be matched.

Interpretive center boosters have until October 1995 to come up with the matching funds. If they are successful, construction would begin after that date.

The interpretive center has been in the works for about four years and its original cost of $9 million has been reduced. The building would be built on donated state land near Giant Springs State Park, and would portray the middle part of Lewis and Clark's journey which led them through this region.

The money the utility is pledging toward the interpretive center comes from satellite interpretive sites that were to correspond with the Lewis and Clark center, an MPC news release said.

"The PME measures were developed with the belief that the interpretive center would be fully funded by the federal government," said Elvin Fitzhugh, MPC coordinator of recreation and land-use planning. "We would have taken a different approach with our PME measures initially, if we thought the center wouldn't have been funded."

The $1.1 million will come out of two proposed projects—Black Eagle Island near Great Falls and Sulfur Springs which is in the vicinity of MPC's Morony Dam. Unchanged are $1.9 million worth of other PME recreation projects in the Great Falls area, such as satellite interpretive sites, boat ramps and scenic overlooks on the Missouri River.

MPC had planned to spend $1.5 million to develop Black Eagle Island into a park with boat ramps, picnic tables and camping facilities. But that has been scaled back to $500,000. The project will include three boat ramps while eliminating urban improvements in favor of a less-developed but more natural island area.

Some of the money is available because of volunteer efforts last year by the Lewis and Clark National Forest, Waste Management of Great Falls and the Montana Conservation Corps that improved a trailhead at Sulfur Springs.

The $1.1 million pledge to the Lewis and Clark Center was supported by city and county governments, two state agencies, the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service. Also offering support were local recreational and commercial groups.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
(continued from page 2)
This year, registration will include a special child's general registration for youths 15 and under. The early registration deadline is July 8. The Village Red Lion, on the Clark Fork River in Missoula, will be the meeting headquarters.

Speaking of young people, I was pleased to hear from Brian Horn and Ian Walsh again. These are the two young men who won the National History Day contest two years ago while they were junior high school students. The LCTHF gave them the Youth Achievement Award Certificate at the 24th Annual Meeting. Their project was titled: "Lewis and Clark: Corps of Discovery." Now they are high school sophomores and are at it again with a project involving the geography of the Lolo Trail. I wish them the best of luck and encourage them to continue their interest in American history.

Last month I received notice that a new entity, "The Home Front Chapter," was formed in Charlottesville, Virginia. On behalf of the officers and directors of the LCTHF, we wish you great success. Charlottesville will be the site for the 27th Annual Meeting of the foundation with Jane Henley as program chair. Besides this new chapter in Virginia, there are chapters in Bozeman, Dillon, Great Falls and Hamilton, Montana; Boise, Idaho; Council Bluffs, Iowa; St. Louis, Missouri, and Portland, Oregon. New chapters are being formed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Seattle, Washington, and Santa Barbara, California.

The good news from the National Park Service is that the grant application 1st Vice President Bob Gatten submitted for support for the position of Executive Director or Executive Secretary, was approved in the sum of $32,000. Great credit also goes to Dick Williams of the NPS who gave us so much assistance. Now it is up to the Board of Directors and the officers of the LCTHF to decide on the exact title for the position, shape the job description into a final form and hire someone. With this new level of organizational support accompanied by the recent formation of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council, membership and foundation activities should increase substantially. Besides the award of funding to the Foundation, the NPS is also providing $8,000 support to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council to assist in some organizational meetings.

Once again I want to thank the members of the Travelers Rest Chapter for all the work they have done in setting up the 26th Annual Meeting. See you in Missoula.

IN THE WAKE OF LEWIS AND CLARK
OCTOBER 19-25, 1994
A Study Group Benefiting the Foundation
Join Jack Taylor as he hosts a unique tour benefiting the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

In the Wake of Lewis and Clark is a voyage along the Columbia and Snake Rivers. The Columbia was a key to the opening of the West, providing a riverain path for the explorations of Lewis and Clark.

As members, you will sail this beautiful and natural highway through arid plateaus, forested mountains and fertile farmland to Hells Canyon, more than 450 miles upstream on the Snake River. Along the way you'll visit Fort Clatsop National Memorial at the site where Lewis and Clark had their winter headquarters. Special Expeditions is a company known for exceptional educational voyages.

Jack Taylor will not only host our Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Travel group, but has also been invited to be the guest lecturer on this sailing. Those of you who know Jack are familiar with the extensive knowledge he has to share. Jack is an authority on the botanical explorations of the region, from Lewis and Clark to the middle of the 19th century. He is past president of the Headwaters Chapter and has been a tour host for the Museum of the Rockies at Montana State University.

The 70 passenger Sea Bird is the perfect ship for our study group. Its small size enables us to easily gather for lectures and discussions. The small zodiac landing craft is also perfect for exploring the narrow canyons.

Our foundation will benefit from this journey. A donation of $100 will be made in the name of each passenger who sails with us. The donation is given by Livery Travel, the travel planner for this benefit.

The enclosed brochure gives details on this voyage. To sign up or obtain more information call Marlene at Livery Travel, 443-1410, MT 1-800-823-2323, or US 1-800-735-6343.
JOSEPH WHITEHOUSE / MONDAY 16\textsuperscript{TH}
SEP 1805.

...when we awoke this morning to our great
Surprise we were covered with Snow...we mended
up our mockasons. Some of the men without
Socks raped rags on their feet, and loaded up
our horses and Set our without anything to
eat...kept on the ridge of the mountain...

WILLIAM CLARK / SATURDAY (MONDAY)
SEP 16\textsuperscript{th} 1805

...I have been wet and as cold in every part as
I ever was in my life, indeed I was at one time
fearfull my feet would freeze in the thin
Mockirsons which I wore, after a Short Delay
in the middle of the Day, I took one man and
proceeded on as fast as I could about 6
miles...and built fires for the party...we En-
camped at this Branch in a thickly timbered
bottom which was scurcely large enough for us
to lie leavil, men all wet cold and hungary.
Killed a Second Colt which we all Suped hartily
on and thought it fine meat...