THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.
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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 importance 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, and includes involvement in pursuits which, in the judgment of the directors, are of historical worth or contemporary social value, and commensurate with the heritage of Lewis and Clark. The activities of the National Foundation are intended to complement and supplement those of state and local Lewis and Clark interest groups. The Foundation may appropriately recognize and honor individuals or groups for art works of distinction, achievement in the broad field of Lewis and Clark historical research, writing, or debate which promote the general purpose and scope of activities of the Foundation. Membership in the organization comprises a broad spectrum of Lewis and Clark enthusiasts including federal, state, and local government officials, historians, scholars and others of wide-ranging Lewis and Clark interests. Officers of the Foundation are selected from the membership. The annual meeting of the Foundation is traditionally held during August, the birth month of both Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The meeting place is rotated among the states, and tours generally are arranged to visit sites in the area of the annual meeting which have historic association with the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

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., P.O. 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 CATEGORIES*

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* Dues are appropriate for the calendar year.
President's Message

by Clyde G. "Sid" Huggins

I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure, 1996-97 as president of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and it has been a pleasure to serve you and the organization. There is so much going on and so much more in the planning stages as we approach the bicentennial of the epic and historic venture, the Lewis and Clark Expedition. I truly wish that as an old country boy from Tennessee I could have been a member of the expedition. It continues to grieve me that some of the members who completed the expedition have been lost to history. As we move toward the bicentennial of the epic and historic venture, the organization turned to its secretary, Barb Kubik, for this role. Without the advice, counsel and support of Barb, this year would have been most difficult for me. Thanks, Barb, your presence was most appreciated.

Several months ago the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council in association with the National Park Service decided to initiate the concept of employing a joint executive director. A committee representing the council and the foundation developed a job description as well as a formal understanding for the role of such a person. This was followed by

(Continued on page 31)

From the Editor's Desk

This is a good news and a bad news day.

The bad news first. Vandals have destroyed the arch of the Eye of the Needle in the White Cliffs area of the Missouri River in central Montana. It happened in late May. They must have had a wonderful time knocking off the arch and watching the rocks tumble 200 feet down to the edge of the river. All that is left is two six foot rock columns. The good news about the bad news is it looks like the Bureau of Land Management may make a decision to rebuild the arch. Public support is 95 percent in favor of rebuilding. You'll find more about the needle in the News Update section of this issue.

Some more good news. The Great Falls Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center/national headquarters for the foundation is rising right on schedule. It will open its doors next spring with the grand opening set for July 4, 1998 during the annual meeting of the foundation and coinciding with the Portage Route Chapter's Lewis and Clark Festival. The whole show will stretch over a 10 day period. Talk about a full plate!

Even more good news (does it ever end?). Michelle Bussard has been selected as the new executive director of the foundation. She will start to work in September. Check the President's Message for more information about Michelle.

The grand opening of the new North Dakota Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Washburn was a blast. It opened during a three day festival in early June. (See article on page 30.)

Some of us had an opportunity to review a rough cut of the Ken Burns audiovisual production for the interpretive center. At this point, the orientation film is 25 minutes long. Even in the rough cut version it is a superb piece of workmanship. The finished product will be a real credit to the center and the foundation.

Foundation member Emilie Loring from Missoula,

(Editor's Note continued on page 31)

ON THE COVER—The Great Falls of the Missouri before Ryan Dam was built. Seeing the falls will be a highlight of the 1998 Annual Meeting.

Photo courtesy of Harry Mitchell
What the
Lewis and Clark Expedition
Means to America

Editor’s Note: The following speech was presented at the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council meeting May 9 and 10, 1997 in Nebraska City, Nebraska.

by Dayton Duncan

About this time 192 years ago, in the spring of 1805, Lewis and Clark and their Corps of Discovery had passed the mouth of the Yellowstone River, into what is now Montana, pushing forward, farther than any white men had gone before on the Missouri.

The riverbanks swarmed with game-and the men were astonished not only at the number of animals, but at their relative tameness.

"I think that we saw at one view nearly one thousand animals," wrote Sergeant John Ordway. "They are not today very wild, for we could go within 100 yards of them in open view, before they would run off, and then they would go but a short distance before they would stop and feed again."

"Saw a buffalo calf," he continued, "which had fell down the bank and could not get up again. We helped it up the bank and it followed us a short distance."

The first bighorn sheep they had ever seen appeared on cliffs above the river. Geese, swans, pelicans and cranes flew overhead. Bald eagles were everywhere, and Ordway got the quills from one of them to use in writing his daily journal.

Beaver were so numerous that the smacking of their tails on the water kept Clark awake at night. Lewis had brought along a Newfoundland dog, and it caught an antelope crossing the river. The men briefly made pets out of a litter of wolf pups.

"The game is getting so plenty and tame in this country," Ordway finally wrote, "that some of the party clubbed them out of their way."

Then he looked down on the ground and saw the biggest paw prints he had ever seen. He and the other men began to get excited.

The previous winter the Hidatsas had told the explorers about a bear they would meet farther west: big, ferocious, absolutely fearless, and almost impossible to kill. On April 29th, Lewis and another hunter finally saw their first one and killed it. It was the grizzly.

The bear was big-nearly 9 feet from nose to hind toe, an estimated 400 pounds after it was dressed-and while he could understand why Indians might be frightened of one, Lewis wrote in his journal that Americans with muskets had little to fear.

Then they met another grizzly. And than another, and another. Some took 10 to 12 slugs to kill. Some chased the men up trees, across the plains, over the river bank.

Finally, a chastened Lewis wrote in his journal, "I find that the curiosity of our party is pretty well satisfied with respect to this animal."

Over the last 15 years I have retraced the Corps of Discovery's route from St. Louis to the Pacific and back three times. More times than I can count, I have made additional trips to specific locations along their route.

In making our recent documentary film I have stood on the deck of a keelboat near St. Charles as it pushed through the red mist of early dawn and navigated against the Missouri's relentless current. I sweltered in the heat in Iowa. In Nebraska and South Dakota I've been eaten alive by chiggers and mosquitoes.

I slept in an earth lodge in North Dakota when the temperature outside was 30 degrees below zero. A few days later, when it was even colder and the radio was warning North Dakotans to stay indoors, I was standing with a cameraman, knee deep in snow, shooting a scene at the McLean County Historical Society's reconstruction of Fort Mandan.

I've been through the magnificent White Cliffs of the Missouri about six different times-once, with Steve Ambrose nearly 15 years ago, when the temperature was in the 90s; another time, more recently, with my friend and colleague Ken Burns when a thunderstorm broke over our campsite, invaded the ground beneath our tents, and left us cold and sodden for the next two days.

I've stood in awe at the base of the Great Falls, unfurled a 15-star
flag at the summit of Lemhi Pass; been caught by surprise by a sudden snow squall in early October in the Bitterroot Mountains. I've gotten seasick in a boat bobbing and rolling on the swells in the mouth of the Columbia.

And I've spent a truly unforgettable night at Fort Clatsop, alone with the spirits of the Corps of Discovery. As I read from their journals, I could share their mixed feelings of accomplishment and homesickness as they huddled on the Pacific Coast with an entire continent between themselves and their countrymen. And yet... And yet I must say "I find my curiosity with respect to this expedition is never satisfied." Why is that? What is it about the expedition that keeps drawing me back? I don't think it's some personal quirk of my own, because I've met many people, from all walks of life, with the same fascination and for whom an interest in the Lewis and Clark Expedition is the only thing they share in common.

What does the expedition mean not just to me and so many other Americans—but to America itself? Let's consider the possibilities.

For starters, there's a fascinating cast of characters:

- Meriwether Lewis—the brilliant, but troubled, commander. His journey took him from the comfort of the White House at the side of one of our nation's greatest presidents—and greatest minds—to becoming the first United States citizen to reach the Continental Divide, then on to the Pacific and back to Washington, D.C., where one senator told him it was as if he had just returned from the moon.

Along the way he wrote of the finest, most lyrical passages describing an almost indescribable landscape ever written by any explorer—or any writer, for that matter. His "scenes of visionary enchantment" from the White Cliffs and his description of the Great Falls rank as classics in American literature.

And his personal journey also took him to a darker rendezvous with his own demons at Grinder's Stand, three years after becoming a national hero.

- There's William Clark—gregarious, steady, trustworthy; a self-taught mapmaker of the highest order. He, I believe, is the rudder of the expedition, the man who kept things moving on an even keel. My own belief is that there could not have been a "Lewis Expedition," even though Jefferson always considered it as such. Without Clark I believe we might not be preparing for a bicentennial celebration.

- There was York, Clark's slave, who the startled Indians, who had never seen a black man, considered "Big Medicine" because of his size and color. Oh if only he had kept a journal! What we might learn from someone, raised a slave because of his color, who found himself in cultures that honored him because of his color.

- Sacagawea, the Shoshone Indian woman, and her baby Jean Baptiste. I wish she had kept a journal, too. Some novelists have tried to overstate her role—and her relationship with Clark—but the facts are really enough. Who can estimate what it meant to the men, as they dragged their canoes against the swift, cold, shallow current of the Jefferson River, to learn from her at Beaverhead Rock that they were finally reaching the headwaters of the Missouri and the homeland of her people?

And no novelist in his or her right mind would ever try to concoct the amazing coincidence that the Shoshone chief upon whom the entire success of the expedition rested—the man who could either provide the expedition with horses it needed to cross the mountains or leave them to their own devices—would turn out to be Sacagawea's brother.

- There is Toussaint Charbonneau, Sacagawea's husband, about whom neither Lewis nor Clark ever had one good word to say except that he made an exquisite white pudding, boudin blanc, using a recently emptied buffalo intestine. (I had thought of reading Lewis's detailed, and graphic, description of the process, since he wrote it on May 9, 1805, but this being an after-dinner speech, I decided against it.)

- Pierre Cruzatte, the one-eyed boatman who played the fiddle while other men danced and who almost killed Lewis by mistaking him for an elk; or George Drouillard, the master hunter: They were the sons of French-Canadian fathers and Indian mothers.

- There are Shannon and Ordway, Whitehouse and Gass, and so many others, including John Colter, who was destined to remain in the West and become one of America's first "mountain men"—the direct link between the expedition and the next phase of the nation's expansion into the West. And then there's the equally diverse and fascinating cast of Indian people the expedition met along the way:

- Wise and proud people like Black Buffalo of the Teton Sioux, who defused the tense moment that could have ended the expedition before its first summer was over;

- The generous Sheheke of the Mandans, who told Lewis and Clark before that harsh winter in North Dakota, "If we eat, you shall eat; if we starve, you must starve also."

- Cameahwait of the Shoshones, whose people were starving, who
had to decide whether to delay the annual buffalo hunt in order to help the first white men his tribe had ever encountered.

- Twisted Hair of the Nez Perce, whom Clark described as a cheerful, sincere man. And the old Nez Perce woman the expedition does not mention, but who may have persuaded her people to befriend the strangers from the East: Watkuweis, who told the Nez Perce, “do them not hurt.”

All of them—and so many others—were told that they had a new “Great Father” in the East, and were promised health and prosperity now that the United States was claiming the West—a promise I believe Lewis and Clark made in good faith; but a promise, we now know, the nation that followed them across the continent did not fulfill.

There’s also an essential person who never made it west of the Blue Ridge Mountains—Thomas Jefferson. To Lewis he was “the author of our enterprise;” Clark called him “that great Charactor the Main Spring of the action.”

With Jefferson’s involvement the expedition takes on a larger meaning. Intermingled with his dispatching Lewis and Clark, Jefferson purchased the Louisiana Territory, that incredible act of diplomacy that doubled the size of his country and changed the course of American history. (Think of the United States without it—a United States that ended at the Mississippi; St. Louis as a “foreign city;” other parts of the West carved into other nations; the United States the equivalent of a North American Brazil.)

With Jefferson there is an analogy between the Corps of Discovery and the race to the moon 150 years later. Think of all the connections. This was the first official exploration of unknown spaces ever undertaken by the United States. It was prompted by an international race for prestige and control of those spaces. Jefferson told his rivals the expedition was for science, then sold it to Congress on commercial benefits. It was staffed by the military and employed the latest in technology—air gun and Harpers Ferry rifles; portable soup, that "Tang" of the early 19th century; and the keelboat, the biggest vessel the Missouri had seen at that point, the Saturn booster rocket that lifted them to the edge of the unknown before dropping back to "earth." The explorers brought back samples they collected—and though prairie dogs aren’t moon rocks, they still generated intense interest among the public. The men returned as national heroes, with gala balls in every town rather than ticker tape parades. Some, just like the astronauts who followed, had difficulty with adjusting to civilian life after re-entry. And, of course, it overran its budget.

Throughout it all, substituting for NASA and its scientists and powerful computers, with Monticello as "Mission Control," was the mind of Thomas Jefferson.

What does the expedition mean to America? There’s another answer. The long trajectory to the moon and beyond was launched by Jefferson in the model he conceived with the Corps of Discovery. And the country’s push to become a continental nation was also set in motion by the same remarkable president.

What else does the expedition mean?

If you are interested in ethnology, there exists no better record of the dizzying diversity of Indian peoples of the West at the dawn of the 19th century than the journals of Lewis and Clark:

People who lived in teepees and followed the buffalo herds on horseback; people who dwelt in permanent villages of earth lodges and tilled the soil; people who lived on rivers and survived on fish; people who braved the ocean, traveling by boat.

People who for hundreds of generations had called the land their home; people without whose help, the expedition would never have succeeded.

Some of the tribes by then had never seen white people before, and, as Joseph Whitehouse wrote of one encounter, “they signed to us that they thought that we had rained down out of the clouds.” Other tribes were already well-acquainted with whites, such as the Indians of the lower Columbia who had long contact with sailors:

“The persons who usually visit the entrance of this river for the purpose of traffic or hunting I believe are either English or American,” Lewis wrote. “The Indians inform us they speak the same language with ourselves and give us proofs of their veracity by repeating many words of English, such as musket, powder, shot, knife, file, damned rascal, son of a bitch, etc.” (That’s one thing that hasn’t changed in nearly two centuries—a sailor’s vocabulary.)

Whatever their previous history, each tribe’s customs, habits, dwellings, food, and other details were studiously recorded in the journals. And they are invaluable today, not only to modern scholars, but to people in those tribes who wish to reach across nearly two centuries of ceaseless change to recapture part of their own traditions and history.

The expedition is important to science-descriptions of 122 animals and 178 plants never before written down for what Lewis called “the enlightened world.”

Beyond that, the journals provide vivid descriptions of a terrain filled with wildlife in ways none of us will ever see: Plains covered by
elk and antelope and buffalo herds numbering, Clark estimated at one spot, nearly 10,000; herds that made him stop his canoes on the Yellowstone for hours as the beasts crossed the river; prairie dog villages covering 10 acres of ground; grizzly bears living on the plains; California condors flying overhead near the Pacific, and the Columbia River literally choked with salmon.

But more than anything else, this is a great story-our nation's own Odyssey, filled with hundreds of smaller, equally great stories and moments.

Sad moments-like the death of Sergeant Floyd during the first summer, just upriver from here. "I am going away," he whispered to Clark, "I want you to write me a letter." Then, before he could dictate it, he died and the Corps of Discovery buried their comrade on a bluff that still carries his name.

Playful moments-like holding foot races and games with the Nez Perce to get in shape for the return crossing of the daunting Bitterroots. They even played a game of base-a precursor of baseball.

Moments of incredible drama: the tense confrontation with the Teton Sioux, Private Richard Windsor hanging on for dear life on a slippery cliff over the Marias River, the deadly fight with the Blackfeet, the moment at Lemhi Pass when Lewis's exultation at finally reaching the Continental Divide was confronted by the vista before him: endless mountains where mountains were not supposed to exist.

And the ordeal of crossing those mountains.

It was snowing and cold. There was no game to speak of. They ate some of their horses; they even ate some of their candles to survive.

Clark, not exactly a whiner in his journals, wrote on September 16th: "I have been wet and as cold in every part as I ever was in my life; indeed I was at one time fearful my feet would freeze in the thin moccasins which I wore. To describe the road of this day would be a repetition of yesterday, except the snow, which made it worse."

Two days later John Ordway, camping at what the expedition named Hungry Creek, had this to say: "The mountains continue as far as our eyes could extend. They extend much further than we expected."

At Lemhi Pass, a myth that had begun with Columbus-the myth of an easy Northwest Passage-had been mortally wounded. But in the Bitterroots-in the fallen trees and steep slopes and cold camps without food, in those mountains that Patrick Gass called "the most terrible mountains I ever beheld"-the myth finally died.

There are also significant moments of American history with the expedition-and, I think, lessons to be learned from them.

In a nation that celebrates individual achievement, the Corps of Discovery succeeded through cooperation and teamwork. The captains broke military protocol and shared the command. They broke it again at the mouth of the Columbia, when the expedition needed to make the crucial decision of where to spend the winter. Instead of simply issuing an order, the captains allowed each person a vote in the matter.

There they are, this remarkable, diverse community in and of itself, which has traveled through the homelands and been befriended by so many other communities of native peoples; there they are, beyond the fixed boundaries of the United States, having crossed the continent the nation will spend the rest of the century expanding across, and they make this decision democratically, by involving everyone. Everyone. York votes—a half century before slaves are emancipated and enfranchised. Sacagawea votes—more than a hundred years before women or Indians are granted the full rights of citizenship.

It was, as we say in our film, Lewis and Clark at their best, which I believe is America at its best.

In some things, it took our country 50 or 100 years to catch up with Lewis and Clark and to follow their example. In some other things-like their relations with Indians-we never did.

But the example is still there-a Corps of Discovery that woke up each morning to face an unknown horizon whose only certainty was another day of hard work; a Corps of Discovery who pushed forward, if not confidence then at least dogged determination to move at least a little farther toward that horizon before the sun went down.

The struggle up the seemingly endless Missouri. The uncertainty and potential for disaster-with the choice at the Marias River. The month-long portage of the Great Falls-with violent hail storms, boiling sun, maddening bugs, prickly pears, and a rough, broken ground that was wearing out their moccasins every two days. Dragging their canoes up the Jefferson and the Beaverhead. The terrible ordeal over the Bitterroots. And those three discouraging weeks near the mouth of the Columbia, pinned down by storms, their clothes rotting and supplies dwindling, just a few miles from the ocean they had already traveled so many miles and suffered through so much to behold.

They captured it all in the three words that form the most recurrent phrase in their journals: "We proceeded on."

What does the Lewis and Clark Expedition mean to America? What doesn't it mean?
It means so much, because there is so much to it. And because, through the journals it is so accessible, so approachable, so human.

I compared the expedition earlier to the space program and going to the moon. But when I read the journals it is much easier for me to imagine myself with the Corps of Discovery nearly 200 years ago than it is to imagine myself as an astronaut in my own time.

Before coming here tonight I read the entries for July 19, 1804, the day they passed by what is now Nebraska City. They had been gone two months by this point and were already well acquainted with the Missouri, that mighty-and muddy-river whose consistent current tried every day to push them back to the Mississippi.

By now the daily struggle against that current had already settled into what must have seemed to the men as a never-ending, back-breaking routine: rowing with oars, pushing with the setting poles, or wading on the banks and straining with a cordeilling rope-trying to move that heavy keelboat a little farther upriver; suffering from occasional heat stroke and dysentery; and suffering again when Lewis treated nearly every ailment by drawing blood or dispensing his medicine of choice: those pills he had bought in Philadelphia from Dr. Benjamin Rush-laxatives so powerful that everyone called them "Rush's Thunderbolts."

The back of Private Alexander Willard would have been sore from something more: only a few days earlier he had been court martialed for lying down on guard duty and falling asleep. To this charge he had entered what I would consider to be the first attempt at a plea bargain west of the Mississippi: guilty of lying down, he pleaded, but not guilty of falling asleep.

The court martial found him guilty of both-and the captains had sentenced him to a hundred lashes on the bare back, at four different times in equal measure. I'm sure that as he-and the several others who had suffered similar punishments-passed this spot, it must have seemed that they had already been gone a lifetime.

But they knew they were still in the earliest stages of their long journey. (Something, I imagine, like all of you may feel at this point in your plans for the Bicentennial.)

William Clark wrote in his journal for July 19th that he named an island they passed Butter Island, "as at this place," he said, "we made use of the last of our butter."

During the day he left the keelboat and was walking through some woodlands on the shore near here, hunting elk-that's right, elk, here in the Midwest-when, he wrote, "I came suddenly into an open and boundless prairie. I say boundless," he continued, "because I could not see the extent of the plain in any direction. This prairie was covered with grass about 18 inches to 2 feet high and contained little of anything else."

These were men from Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire-wooded places with mostly vertical vistas. And now they are just beginning to enter a strictly horizontal world, for which they were totally unprepared.

"This prospect was so sudden and entertaining," Clark noted, "that I forgot the object of my pursuit." Now William Clark was not the kind of man who forget the object of his pursuit, however momentarily. But his first sight of a boundless horizon-this first intimation of the West and what would soon enough become a common sight-literally stopped him in his tracks. It is a remarkable-and I believe poetic-moment.

From the journal of Patrick Gass we learn that the expedition had set out at sunrise on this day, that they gathered chokecherries during their stop for lunch, and that they encamped for the evening on an island of willows.

Charles Floyd notes that the bushes of chokecherries were "about as high a man's head" and that the current they were fighting all day was, in his words, "strong." John Ordway also mentions the cherries; he adds that William Bratton came across a large quantity of a plant they called sweet flag; and that George Drouillard arrived at camp that evening with two deer for their supper.

Joseph Whitehouse adds more details. The weather that day was clear, he wrote, and in the shallow water near shore they saw two catfish-the "largest sized catfish" he calls them-which had grabbed hold of one another and could not let go. One of the French-Canadian boatmen shot them to add to the evening meal's larder.

According to Whitehouse, the cherries they picked were along a creek they called Butter Run (probably North Table Creek or South Table Creek here in Nebraska City) and not only did they delay until 3 o'clock there, but they put the wild cherries into the whiskey barrel.

That day they rowed the keelboat for what Whitehouse estimated to be 12 miles. Clark called it 10 and three-quarters miles, and is probably more accurate, but then again he was lost in rapture out on the prairie, not bending to the oars from dawn to dusk.

Whatever the distance, we can imagine them around their campfire that night, with the sound of the Missouri's steady current mingling with the pop and sizzle of burning cottonwood logs. It would be their first night without butter, but they would no doubt be enjoy-
ing their meal of venison and catfish and the warm glow in their throats from whiskey with a cherry aftertaste.

They would be tired from their labors, but I imagine Clark's report of that boundless prairie he had so suddenly stumbled into would have filled them with curiosity about what lay ahead.

They wouldn't know, for instance, that within a month their comrade Charles Floyd would be dead; that farther on they would run out of more things than butter: whiskey, then tobacco, and that there would be times when a good night's meal would be the flank of a horse or a roasted dog.

And though some of them had joined the expedition with hopes of gaining what John Ordway called "great rewards"—in land, double pay, and fame—I can't imagine that any of them, on that warm night when they camped near here, would have thought that in 1997 a group would be meeting to plan the national celebration of their journey's 200th anniversary.

Across the two centuries that separate us, we cannot speak to them. But if we listen hard enough, we can hear their voices speaking to us-reaching from the past and still calling us toward the next horizon.

"We proceeded on," they urge us all. "Every day is a day of discovery."

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**LETTERS to the Editor**

With the enthusiastic reception of Undaunted Courage and considerable attention already being given to the approaching Bicentennial, references to Lewis and Clark can turn up just about anywhere it seems, sometimes in the most unlikely places. But it is somehow reassuring that they also still turn up in the likely ones.

A case in point is a short article entitled "The Making of a Trapper," in the May 1997 issue of *Fur-Fish-Game* ("A Magazine for Practical Outdoorsmen" in publication for nearly one hundred years). The author, Mike Turner, briefly chronicles the pursuit of his outdoor interests "From upstate NY to a life in the Alaskan Bush."

As a farm boy of eight years, Mike confesses he "must have given the wrong answer to the question: What are you going to do when you grow up?" His woods related interests, with strong vocational dimensions, never wavered while growing up, however.

"The year I turned 14," he notes, "I became bedridden for several months. During that time, I acquired two volumes of Lewis and Clark's diaries. They were copies of the originals, word for word in their own handwriting, misspellings and all."

Joining the Army in 1958, in three years he had saved up enough to embark seriously upon a trapper's life, acquiring "mips of Alaska, homestead application forms..." and, of major importance to the success of the plan, a partner. They would spend a winter trapping in Colorado to augment finances, then off to Alaska! No doubt John Colter would have heartily approved.

To further his own ambitions as a trapper, of course, Colter asked for—and was granted—an "early out" from the Army. In Mike's case, just the opposite transpired—his enlistment was extended!

"Castro took over in Cuba, and the Army decided they couldn't run things without me."

When eventually released from the military, he discovered that his partner had disappeared. But not the dream. Years and family responsibilities intervened, but now "We spend our winters tending several hundred square miles of traline. In the fall we guide big game hunters and fish for salmon with fish wheels and nets."

"We're busy in between seasons building cabins, dog sleds snowshoes, boats, canoes and anything else we dream up or think we may need..."

"There are a lot of stories hidden within the account I have just presented. Some are humorous, and some are sad. But the point I have been trying to bring out is this: Believe in your dreams, and act upon them."

"If you sit back and wait for things to happen, you are going to be disappointed in what life brings. I have done everything I ever wanted to do. I wonder, how many people can claim that?"

As I finish writing this, I'm looking out over a snow-covered slough in front of the cabin. In the distance I can see..."

So does Mike conclude his brief account, a modest page and a half narrative understated with quiet resolve and perhaps a bit of 20th Century "undaunted courage" as well. We are left with a sense of purposeful accomplishments of a career outdoors man, who as a bedridden woodsboy "acquired two volumes of Lewis and Clark's diaries."

Any connection here?
Hugh Gildea
'98 ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING STARTS

The 1998 Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation will be held in Great Falls, Montana at the end of June in conjunction with the grand opening of the Interpretive Center and the tenth annual Lewis and Clark Festival. The co-chairmen have been selected and major committee directors have been assigned.

The organizational chart for Convention '98 looks very much like one would have seen for the Corps of Discovery. Co-Captains are Richard Martin and JoAnn Roach. There are three messes with a Sergeant in charge of each. Mike Lampheir heads the Activities and Events mess; Darlene Fassler heads the Administration mess and Charlie McCarthy is in charge of the Logistics and Protocol mess. There are privates assigned to each mess who are responsible for specific committee duties.

The overall theme for the Convention will be the Portage. A logo is being developed to graphically display that theme. Convention headquarters will be at the Heritage Inn.

A total of nine days full of activities are planned starting on June 27 and concluding on July 5. These activities will encompass the usual convention offerings as well as the Festival with its encampment, tours, botanical walk, children's day camps, and float trips. Events are being developed for the grand opening of the Interpretive Center that will complete the Lewis and Clark megaweek.

Dancing, hiking, hot sun, the great outdoors, sharing tidbits of history, and enjoying the pleasant company of fellow Lewis and Clark enthusiasts are all in store for those who come. Set aside next July 4, for a trip to the Great Falls of the Missouri.

Phil Scrver, Private
Corps of Discovery
Publicity Detail

HISTORY WITH A HEARTY ZEST

by Phil Scrver

History is dull! Sitting around reading musty old books and letters to see what happened 200 years ago is boring!

Says who?

That may be true if the reader wants it to be dull and lets it be boring. Many of us try to put some excitement into our research because we approach it with a reason. We do most of our reading to find a particular event, item, method or person. Our activities usually involve a specific fact or beginning point or place we are interested in. How frequently has a researcher started out to find one thing only to be delighted to find something entirely different; something totally unrelated to the starting query?

If your research has bogged down or lost its spark of excitement try this. Become personally involved in what you are researching. Try a new method. The key to successful ongoing research is to make it personal. Just as learning increases as a person moves from using one of the senses to using several, so can excitement and interest in research. Don't just read musty old books and letters, but become a part of that history. There are many ways to do so. The researcher is only limited by his or her imagination.

Here in Great Falls we have collectively personalized our learning and historical research by periodically stepping back into history and reliving it. Each year we present a four day festival of Lewis and Clark. Rather than working hard to put on an event, we view the festival as an opportunity to test our theories and put our learned facts in perspective by taking the time to live a small part of our history. A person will soon know if his deerskin clothes were made right and sufficient if that person must wear them for several days. Additionally, that prized creation must also stand the scrutiny of other experts in the encampment as well as that of the general public. Most researchers soon learn that the documents they study simply do not hold all the answers. The only way to get those, if in fact the answer can ever be found, is to relive that piece of history. Much history was never written, so the researcher must gain enough knowledge to "go back in time" and relive the history "thinking like the people would have during the particular time or activity under consideration." The researcher then fills in the holes. However, he must be careful to clearly denote these passages as theory, not fact taken from documents.

To be sure they get it right the re-enactors hit the books with a fervor to learn as much as possible. The Corps of Discovery diligently prepared for their journey by learning all they could through maps of the area and reading journals of other explorers. They prepared equipment, honed their skills and otherwise molded a group of individuals into the unit that would be able to overcome the extreme hardships they were to encounter. Our re-enactors take the
Art as a method of preservation is more frequently a result of the artist faithfully duplicating what he sees. Historians find the recreations years later and independently validate how faithfully the duplication actually was done.

Our local art association annually sponsors a three-day art auction and show that draws large crowds from across the nation. The Lewis and Clark community has become a partner in helping stage this show. We sponsor a speaker for one of the seminars and help with one of the biggest attractions of the show, "Quick Finish". Artists have a limited amount of time to create an original work. These pieces are sold at an auction immediately following the Quick Finish with the money going to "Lewis and Clark". The Portage Route chapter/Honor Guard provides several models for the artists during the Quick Finish. Large crowds surround the artists watching intently as pieces of art take form before their eyes.

Imagine the consternation of the artist if that image on the canvas has historical errors caused by bad research. Not only is it now a permanent record with the artist's name on it, but that model's face is also connected to the error. Strong incentive to be right. This is what gives a hearty zest to research.

The Lewis and Clark Festival is a perfect setting for artists to ply their trade and preserve history. The artist has the best of all worlds in that the historical research has been done for him. It has been critiqued and validated by other "expert" researchers. The artist is free to capture his subject matter however he chooses. His only duty to history is to faithfully reproduce what he sees.

There is a definite sense of satisfaction in seeing a large crowd attend a public offering, such as the encampment during the Festival. But the efforts expended to present the encampment take on a new meaning and a much greater significance when the results are captured on the artist's canvas. Those efforts change from creating a passing moment in time to one of permanently recorded history.

The partnership with Western Heritage Artists quickly became a winning situation for everyone as the artists used the Festival and the Portage Route Chapter/Honor Guard for subject matter. They in turn generated several thousand dollars for the Interpretive Center. Another method used in Great Falls to rejuvenate our research is the various projects done within the community. Several examples...
come to mind such as the Explorers at the Portage Statue, the ongoing archaeological dig at the Lower Portage Camp, identifying and certifying sites on the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, giving guided tours of local Lewis and Clark sites. All of these physical activities personalize our research. They also allow us to use more of our senses which results in our learning more. The more that we do the greater the demands for historical research. Historical correctness is absolutely essential for everything we do. This fact makes the research undertaken a very personal matter. That correctness also fosters a certain urgency. The need to be right focuses attention on us and causes never ending research. We can never say we know it all since new things turn up every day.

We, locally, consider it our responsibility to do our never ending research using the very latest information. We must try our best to be aware of what current research is going on around us so we are prepared to modify our knowledge to incorporate new found fact. A good example is when artist Bob Scrivener modeled and named his “Explorers at the Portage” statue in 1986, being aware of Jackson’s latest work, he named the dog Seaman instead of Sccannon.

The largest single project undertaken though is the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. The Center became the rallying point for the entire Lewis and Clark community as we drew in new members, formed coalitions and personally grew in our historical knowledge. It has become not the Center but our “Portage” so that correctness simply must be 100% correct in what we do and what we say. Quality, exciting research never ends.

**Lewis’s Iron Boat**

by Phil Scrivener

One of the interesting and grand failures of the Expedition was the iron boat Lewis designed and had built at Harpers Ferry. From Lewis’ own writings we know that this boat was 36 feet long 4 feet wide and 26 inches deep; the collapsible frame weighed about 90 pounds. Lewis estimated that the boat would carry a cargo of eight thousand pounds.

His plans were to carry the folded frame to the upper end of the portage around the great falls of the Missouri then assemble his iron boat to replace the pirogues for the trip down the Columbia to the Pacific.

We also know that the frame was covered with 28 elk skins and 4 buffalo hides. Pieces of willow and box elder were cut for the internal support structure. A mixture of beeswax, charcoal and tallow was used to seal the seams. Finally, we know that during construction the crew had trouble with the stitch holes “growing” as the hides dried.

The Honor Guard decided they would build an iron boat for display during the Festival. They soon learned that translating written word to completed construction was not quite as simple as it sounded.

Although the boat dimensions were given, the thickness of the iron was left to experimentation. Was it 1 inch by 1/4 inch strap iron that was used or 1 inch by 3/8 inch? They could only guess and weigh the resulting frame. Although the boat frame was collapsible, was there a certain way it folded to make a manageable bundle for carrying? Much was learned through trial and error when the written research was exhausted. Another entirely new set of questions presented themselves when time came to sew the hides on the frame. Should hides be fastened one at a time, then sewed together or should several be sewed then attached to the frame. How many hides at a time worked best?

The Honor Guard spent many hours researching the written materials trying to learn all they could about how to make the iron boat. This research often took them seemingly far afield of Lewis and Clark to such areas as what grade of iron was available at the time; was the iron of that day heavier or lighter than today’s; if so where was the 1800 grade available from or could it be reproduced locally; what kinds of fasteners (screws, rivets, etc.) were available and what materials were they made of.

Honor Guard members visited (Iron Boat continued on page 31)
The Portage Route Chapter is committed to preserving and publicizing the "Lewis and Clark Story." One of the ways we are doing that is by placing name plaques of each member of the Corps of Discovery Expedition in the walkway around the base of the Explorers at the Portage statue in Overlook Park, Great Falls, Montana.

We are soliciting a sponsor for each name plaque. The wording on the 4"x12" slate plaque will consist of the Expedition member's name, rank and specialty along with the name of the sponsor. Cost for sponsoring a plaque is $500. (This is tax deductible since the Chapter has IRS nonprofit status.) There are only 14 plaques remaining and will be sold on a first come basis.
CAPTAIN LEWIS
Gets a Haircut

Editor's Note: This is the second of three articles Jim Large wrote for WPO before his untimely death.

by Arlen J. Large

On April 1, 1801, Meriwether Lewis arrived in Washington to take up his new job as private secretary to President Thomas Jefferson. Though on detached duty, Lewis was still a captain in the U.S. Army. Just a month later the Army's commanding general ordered haircuts for all officers and enlisted men. Decreed Brigadier General James Wilkinson: "For the accommodation, comfort & health of the Troops the hair is to be cropped without exception, & the general will give the example." The new rule outlawed the queues—braided pigtails or cord-tied ponytails—that numerous officers had worn for many proud years.

At least one portrait of Captain Lewis shows him wearing a rather short, polite queue during the two years spent in Washington prior to his Pacific expedition. Technically it may not have violated General Wilkinson's order as Lewis wasn't on active duty, and there's no indication that the Army ever gave the captain any trouble about it. Possibly that's because he avoided censure with a timely haircut, but exactly when that shearing occurred remains one of those little unsolved mysteries of Lewis and Clark expedition lore.

In the Army's active ranks Wilkinson's haircut decree caused an enormous fuss. It led to the court-martial of a senior Revolutionary War hero who ranked just below the commanding general. It split the Army into angry factions. Drawn into the dispute were heavyweights like 37-year-old ex-Congressman Andrew Jackson, Major General of the Tennessee militia. Politicians debated military hair length on the Senate floor.

President Jefferson refused to intervene publicly, but some people in Washington discerned an anti-Wilkinson, pro-pigtail tilt in his attitude. If so, it's tempting to speculate that the discreet queue being worn around town by the President's soldier-secretary may have been sending a subtle political signal.

People have always wrangled about head foliage for men and boys. Hippies, skinheads and everything between have used their hairdos to challenge the authority of fashion, of parents, of governments. Through his barber a man can say plenty.

It was just so at the beginning of the 19th century. Powdered hair drawn into a tasteful queue in the back symbolized the fading aristocracy of Europe. General Wilkinson wanted his troops to display a zippy image more fitting for the Army of the world's first constitutional republic.

Pigtail-wearers wanted Wilkinson's scalp, but most officers reluctantly complied. Captain Russell Bissell, then stationed at Wilkinsonville, Georgia, swore he would never bow to the official shears and furiously wrote out his resignation from the Army. Then he had second thoughts. When General Wilkinson came to inspect the post in 1802, there stood Bissell among the "roundheads." A year later at his new post at Kaskaskia, Illinois, an obedient Bissell would furnish some good men to the Lewis and Clark exploring party.

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Butler was a tougher case. Both he and Wilkinson had served in the Revolutionary Army. In seniority the colonel stood second only to the general. Over the years the two had become rivals, and the Army's anti-Wilkinson officers looked to Butler as their leader.

Soldiering in Tennessee, Butler refused to crop his elegant queue. Wilkinson at first granted his prickly subordinate a special exemption. That made Butler even bolder. He refused to publish the general's "cropping" order within his regiment, and word was passed that he expected his officers to follow his ornamental example. Somebody's haircut, once again, had become a surrogate for a broader issue. Wilkinson perceived a revolt against military discipline and good order. He demanded a court martial for Butler.

In 1803 a court at Frederick, Maryland, gave Butler a reprimand. Too lenient, Wilkinson fumed. The Jefferson administration was keeping its head down in public, but some writers suspect that it may have helped rig the generous verdict. During Jefferson's first term the President and Secretary of War weren't sure the devious commanding general was a team player, and they may have seen Butler as "one of the
few checks on Wilkinson's power," in the view of military historian Theodore Crackel. It was only later, after Wilkinson in 1806 ratified on Aaron Burr's conspiratorial Western dealings, that Jefferson seemed to become the general's unquestioning protector.

In the fall of 1804 Butler was again accused of disobedience. (Lewis right then was nearing the Mandan villages in modern North Dakota.) The new charge prompted 75 prominent Tennesseans to sign a fiery protest to Congress, with Andrew Jackson's name heading the list. The future Hero of New Orleans said Wilkinson's actions against Butler "degrade the military character of your army by illegal and unnecessary orders, unmerited censures, malicious arrests and reprimands, cruel if not ridiculous." 2

The Senate received Jackson's protest on January 30, 1805, and spent the whole day debating what to do with it. Virginia Senator William Branch Giles was among those voting to reject the petition outright. "Soldiers and subordinate officers ought never to think," Giles was quoted as saying. "They are bound to yield passive obedience and non-resistance in all cases whatever to the command of their superiors." 3 By one vote the petition was sent to a committee for study and burial.

In July, 1805, a second court martial sitting in New Orleans judged Butler guilty of mutinous conduct. General Wilkinson grimly approved the court's ruling for a year's suspension of pay and privileges. Before the sentence could be carried out, however, Butler died of yellow fever. It's said that Butler, defiant even in death, was buried with his famous queue trailing from a hole cut at the head of his coffin. 4

Captain Lewis was never linked directly to this controversy, but at
least during its early stages he wore a queue of his own—in two distinctly different styles. That’s evident from two profiles made from life by a remarkable artist—businessman of the day, Charles Balthazar Julien Fevret de Saint-Memin. An exiled French nobleman from Dijon, Saint-Memin arrived in New York at age 23 and took up portraiture for a living. He used a pen-guiding contraption called a “physiognotrace” to line his subject’s profile and then detailed the features with black and white chalk. From that life-sized portrait the artist engraved a reduced image onto a copper plate from which prints could be made. For $25 a Saint-Memin customer received the original chalk drawing, the copper plate and 12 engravings.

In 1798 Saint-Memin moved to Philadelphia, but also went on the road for pickup jobs in Baltimore, Washington, Richmond and Charleston. By 1810, when he returned to France, the artist had produced the images of nearly 1,000 Americans, including a whole gallery of government dignitaries.

His two Lewis profiles bear no reliable dates, and authorities disagree on when each was done. Ellen Miles, a curator at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Portrait Gallery in Washington, has attempted to answer this puzzle in a massive new catalog of Saint-Memin’s work.

Miles believes Saint-Memin “most likely” executed the first Lewis profile in May, 1802, while the President’s secretary was visiting his friend Mahlon Dickerson in Philadelphia. “The style of this drawing—with its bold contrasts and strong contours—and the cut of Lewis’s coat, suggests that it is the earliest,” writes Miles. The picture shows a complex, partially braided appendage at the back of the captain’s head. The original chalk drawing is “unlocated,” says Miles, but engravings are held in the collections of the Valentine Museum in Richmond and the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington.

More frequently seen in the expedition literature is a profile which Miles thinks was done later, judging by “the broad technique of the drawing and the type of coat Lewis wears, with an M-shaped notch in its lapel.” The Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis owns the original chalk drawing, which shows a ribboned queue reaching below the collar. The Corcoran and the National Portrait Gallery have engravings.

Miles reasons the ribboned-queue picture was done in 1803 or 1807, “just before or immediately after” the expedition, though she adds “the likely occasion was upon his return.” That may well be true, but an 1807 date would require some seemingly illogical barber-
shop decisions by Lewis.

In early 1807 the returned Pacific hero was Jefferson's guest at the President's House in Washington. After being appointed governor of Upper Louisiana Lewis resigned his commission from the Army on March 2. If he was still wearing a queue in quiet defiance of General Wilkinson, he now had the absolute right to keep it as a civilian. By April 1 Lewis was in Philadelphia to arrange for publication of a book about the expedition. And by May 5 he had finished sitting for his best-known likeness today, a traditionally posed portrait in oil by Philadelphia artist Charles Willson Peale. Rather than showing the curly-locked, queued hairdo of the Saint-Memin profiles, however, Peale depicted Lewis with a rather shaggy brush cut—exactly what he should have been wearing in the Army.

In determining whether Saint-Memin did his ribboned-queue Lewis profile in 1803 or 1807, it's necessary to locate the Frenchman and his subject at the same time and place in Washington, Baltimore or Philadelphia. That's difficult because of the scanty available record of their exact movements. The 1807 shag captured by Peale, however, suggests an 1803 date for the Saint-Memin profile explained this way: Lewis wore a queue throughout his service in Washington as Jefferson's secretary. Saint-Memin portrayed it both in the 1802 profile done in Philadelphia and again (the ribboned version) while Lewis was buying expedition equipment in that city in the spring of 1803, or in transit through Baltimore, or during the few days he was in Washington in late June. The captain went back on active Army duty in early July when he left Washington for the West. That would have been a logical moment for him to get a close-cropped GI haircut more in line with regulations and the rigors of wilderness travel. He kept the queue-less style throughout the 1804-1806 expedition, and still had it for Peale's portrait in 1807.

Saint-Memin executed a third picture of Lewis, which unfortunately throws no light on the ponytail puzzle. This 1807 work, which Ellen Miles thinks could have been done in either Philadelphia or Washington, is a full-length watercolor portrait of the explorer in wilderness buckskins. Around his shoulders Lewis wears the ermine tippet or mantle given him by the Shoshone chief Cameahwait in the Rockies in 1805. Whatever Lewis's hairdo was that day, it's utterly hidden by a weird bonnet shaped like a bird nest.

—FOOTNOTES—


6Miles, Saint-Memin, p. 339. Donald Jackson has taken just the opposite scholarly viewpoint, arguing that the Missouri Historical Society's ribboned-queue profile was executed first, either in Philadelphia in 1802 or in Baltimore in 1803. The "more mature" Lewis's profile with the braided queue "probably" was done in Washington early in 1807, according to Jackson, Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. (University of Illinois Press, Urbana, 1978) Vol. 2, p. 678n.
Story and Photos by Chesley and Carole Schart

It all began when we received our February 1996 issue of We Proceeded On. Glancing through the publication we came upon an article stating the need for volunteers for a Lewis and Clark Trail Project instituted by the National Park Service. Since we consider ourselves as amateur Lewis and Clark buffs we were intrigued by the possibility of spending a summer collecting data about the trail. By the time we finished reading the article we decided this was for us.

In contacting the trail manager, Dick Williams, the scope of the project was outlined and he agreed to supply us with applications. A month later we learned that we had been selected.

Dick Williams established a training session which took place at the NPS trail manager’s office in Madison, Wisconsin to acquaint us with the necessity for the trail project, the existing work records, and to familiarize us with a machine that turned out to be our nemesis, a laptop computer. Also, logistics for the trip, including routes of travel, maps and atlas, information drop-off points, invaluable lists of LCHTF contacts, and other essentials were discussed.

By the time we left Madison our carry-on luggage had turned into hold baggage and the enormity of the project we were about to undertake was starting to sink in. Printouts which included data for 603 site locations and three-page worksheets made up a portion of our supplies, to be complemented by computer manuals, mailing envelopes, film, paper and other items. We were also to be loaned a printer which eventually was presented to us when we again met with Dick Williams in St. Charles, Missouri during the Heritage Days celebration.

By the time we had loaded all our supplies, including our copies of the Lewis and Clark Journals and many other reference books, our 23-foot motorhome, which we renamed The Six-Wheeled Pirogue, had a very definite reduction in livable space and was sitting closer to the ground. However, our enthusiasm increased as the departure date approached to leave our Texas home and take on a once in a lifetime experience.

We left Livingston, Texas on May 11 and headed for St. Charles, Missouri. Our initial site locations were found in Jefferson City and our first stop was the state capitol. The date was May 15, which coincided with the departure of the expedition from Camp DuBois on May 14. From this point on our project was under way.

Carol and Chesley Schart on the last leg of their almost 12,000 mile journey.
Our Journey Begins

For planning purposes we decided to investigate the sites on the south side of the Missouri River as we traveled eastward. Also, locations in Illinois and St. Louis were researched at this time and pertinent data entered into our computer. In St. Charles we were given the opportunity of boarding the keelboat "Discovery," which was to travel along the explorers' water trail, after the Heritage Days celebration.

Then it was westbound on the north side of the Missouri until we reached the Kansas City area. Along the way we researched the sites located on the south side which we had not visited previously. All sites had been placed in the categories of existing, potential and other (museums, chambers of commerce, etc.). However, many of the potential sites were river accesses and the Missouri was sometimes uncooperative as we tried to reach these. Flooding was a problem and in many cases high water prevented us from reaching the access points. In one instance we were stopped by a road block along a major highway and advised of a washout. This brought about a long detour. Several sites could not be reached.

As we continued our travels in many of the small communities we met with people who were extremely interested in our project. They were aware of the journey that the keelboat was to undertake from St. Charles to St. Joseph and were looking forward to its arrival. People were helpful with their information and more than willing to assist. The small community of Miami, population 142, is an example. When we asked about a river front park a lady resident who was busily engaged in cutting grass in her front yard put aside her tools, gave directions and excitedly told us about the plans underway for the arrival of the keelboat.

Particularly, members of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF), when called upon, went out of their way to help. Many of these members spent much of their personal time to assist us and it was very much appreciated.

On to Fort Mandan

Upon our arrival in Kansas City we temporarily abandoned our
“pirouge” for a small rental car. The streets of downtown Kansas City, where some sites were located, were too narrow to accommodate even our 23-foot motorhome. This was one of the few times when we used other means of transportation and after completing this segment we crossed the state line into Kansas. This meant many river crossings to finalize our site search in Missouri as well, but it seemed to be the logical approach. We also elected to research Iowa, South Dakota and North Dakota on our way north, saving Nebraska for our return trip.

Upon reaching North Dakota, what we considered a major disaster took place. This happened when we attempted to review the data we had previously entered into our computer. We found a void and none of our entries had been retained. Hastily, while sitting on a folding chair in the rain at a pay phone in front of the entrance station to Beaver Creek Recreation Area, we placed a call to Dick Williams.

With laptop computer in place and with instructions, we tried to resurrect our loss-to no avail. Fortunately, we had our written worksheets.

Arrangements were made to get help at Knife River Indian Villages, a National Park Service facility where expertise on our computer programming was available. It took four days of commuting to Knife River from Garrison Dam to straighten out our problems, but finally they were corrected. We found we had lost our entries for Iowa, South Dakota and portions of North Dakota, a total of 50 records.

A good lesson was learned. Do backups more frequently and increase the written data on our worksheets. Again we became indebted to those who helped us along the trail and when we continued our journey it was with renewed confidence.

In recapping our travel segment to Fort Mandan we found that since we had started researching the trail in Missouri, we had covered 4,022 miles in 47 days. We are also aware that Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery had traveled 1,600 miles to reach the same destination from Camp Wood. In reviewing our route of travel we were particularly impressed with the amount of interpretation that had been done in Iowa and North Dakota. It was encouraging to find sites with such interesting displays. One of the best morale boosters for our project was seeing the familiar Lewis and Clark highway signs. At times we viewed these as an invitation to continue on. It was like meeting two friends along the trail.

**From the Plains to the Mountains**

With our computer restored, we completed our records in North Dakota and crossed into Montana at Fort Union. Our goal was to travel along the Missouri and include portions of Lewis’ return trip to Fort Mandan.

Lack of roads kept us away from much of the river after we reached Fort Peck Dam until we arrived at Fort Benton, which was familiar territory to us. From Fort Benton we were able to research most of the sites in the Great Falls area and again, following the mighty Missouri, we made our way to Three Forks. At this point our muddy friend changed names and became the Jefferson and eventually the Beaverhead River.

Once again we decided to route ourselves, saving Lemhi Pass for our return trip. It was on to the Bitterroot Valley via the Big Hole National Battlefield to renew acquaintances and as we crossed the Continental Divide we knew we had reached another milestone. On to Travelers Rest and the Lolo Trail.

**Travelers Rest to the Pacific**

Dick Williams had made advance arrangements with Chuck Cape Disappointment—at Fort Canby State Park. Here Lewis and Clark achieved the goal of reaching the Pacific.
Radon of the U.S. Forest Service, with offices in Orofino, Idaho, to conduct us over some sections of the actual Lewis and Clark Trail via Motorway 500. We met with Chuck at Powell Campground in the Clearwater National Forest on July 22, which was day 72 of our journey. The day turned out to be one of the most informative and exciting of our entire trip. There was one drawback. Even at this late date, some of the sites we were to inspect were not available to us because of snow conditions and fallen timber blocking the way. However, the opportunity to visit some sites which had been physically located by Ralph Space, former National Forest Supervisor, made up for any disappointment we felt. Chuck provided us with detailed Forest Service maps that we used to backtrack along the Motorway from accesses close to Kamiah, Idaho. Chuck also agreed to help us see the sites we were unable to view, on our return trip from the coast, conditions permitting.

Our planned routing now called for a shortcut. We traveled by way of Lewiston, Idaho along a route that the explorers used on their return trip from Fort Clatsop. This was an overland journey into Oregon, where we stayed at Umatilla. Again, a river crossing. This time it was the Columbia, which we paralleled along the north shore in the state of Washington. On the way we gave a tip of the hat to Skamania Lodge and visited the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center.

Once we entered the Columbia Gorge area we were greeted by a welcome change in temperature. After leaving the Lolo Trail our temperatures had been reaching the 100s and were not conducive to long days on the road. We didn’t notice the tide change as experienced by Lewis and Clark at Beav-er Rock, but we knew that our Cape Disappointment destination was not too far off. Fort Canby State Park hosted us and gave us the opportunity to experience what Lewis and Clark must have felt when they reached the Pacific. The date was July 30, day 80 of our journey and we had traveled 6,069 total miles. Several days were spent at the State Park and at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center.

After bringing our records up to date we reversed our direction of travel.

**From the Pacific to Lemhi Pass**

On to Oregon. A day at Fort Clatsop visiting the Salt Works at Astoria Column overlooks the city of Astoria, Oregon from Coxcomb Hill.

Seaside, and the site of the beached whale, were included in our itinerary. Astoria was impressive with the newly restored Column. The town was the location of one of our mail drops and before proceeding further we were able to find out how many bill collectors were following Lewis and Clark looking for us.

Throughout our journey we tried to avoid larger cities. However, Portland was a mainstay on our route and with determination and clenching teeth we did both our site searching and soul searching. It was with a high degree of relief that we left the city and located the Interstate along the Columbia that took us east.

Our route was along a continuing series of state parks. Some of these had interpretation and many have the potential for interpretation of Lewis and Clark. This was the time for investigating the many locks and dams that are located enroute. Again, interpretation was excellent at some of these and completely lacking at others.

Since we had taken an overland shortcut into Washington on our westward trip it was our plan to continue along the Columbia and into the Snake River, stopping at each of the locks and dams along the way. This routing contained wildlife refuges, Washington state parks and the Sacagawea Interpretive Center in Pasco. Once again the temperatures that we encountered in eastern Washington were in the 100s and distances between sites lengthened considerably. Lower Granite Dam was the finale of our travel in Washington state and we returned to Idaho.

Regretfully, we learned that trail conditions had not improved leading to the remaining Lolo Trail sites...
that were inaccessible during our trip west. However, we retraced our route along the beautiful Lochsa and Lolo Rivers until we reached the Bitterroot Valley. Then it was on to Lemhi Valley and Lemhi Pass, which we reached by taking the "pirouge" over the Back Country Scenic By-Way.

We were fortunate that we could see almost all of the sites in Idaho before returning over the Continental Divide into Montana.

**Along the Yellowstone**

Bozeman was the first major city we encountered as we followed Clark’s trail, which was to lead us along the Yellowstone River. Most of the sites were easily reached from Interstate 90, which we followed to Billings. Here we routed ourselves along Interstate 94, returning once again to Pompeys Pillar, which we had visited the previous summer, 189 years to the day that Capt. Clark had arrived. Eastern Montana had sections of road with long distances between stops and Sidney was a welcome sight with the realization that we had completed all our records along Clark's route. Much like the explorers, our pace seemed to quicken as we realized that our goal, to complete the journey, was becoming a reality.

**On to Nebraska**

We altered our route back into North and South Dakota and found ourselves camping in many of the same locations that we had stayed in on our journey west.

On August 27, day 108, we crossed the Missouri into Nebraska. Our routing took us to Niobrara State Park, Gavins Point Dam and Ponca State Park. In this area, while searching for an interpretive sign, we stopped at a local gas station and asked if there were any highway information signs close by. We explained our mission and then got the response, “Why, do you want to paint it?”

We maintained our course on the west side of the Missouri into Omaha, where we were fortunate to get help from our daughter, who lives in the area. She provided transportation and an entire half-day was spent in Central Park Mall in downtown Omaha—not shopping, but looking for an interpretive sign. We found that the sign had been relocated to N.P. Dodge Park.

Finally, the last site we researched during our project was the Chamber of Commerce in Falls City, Nebraska. As we crossed the state line heading south for Texas, and home, we congratulated ourselves and agreed that, “Yes, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity.”

**Aftermath**

In summarizing our research for the project, we would like to offer the following. We logged a total of 11,929 miles during our journey, which began May 11, 1996 and was completed September 7, 1996—or 119 days later. We had researched 603 sites which were supplied to us, plus an additional 30 sites that we thought should be added to the inventory. Expenses averaged $52.95 per day, which included gasoline, food, camping and vehicle repairs, plus miscellaneous items.

Our biggest expense was gasoline. Also, we are indebted to the many friends we found along the trail and the help we received. We are particularly appreciative of the assistance given by the LCTHF, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Corps of Engineers, and many others. We hesitate to mention names because the list is so long and no one should be overlooked. The enormity of the project again stands out and we feel that our research will be useful to those with an interest in the trail in the future.

**One Final Thought**

Our original intent was to work for five days and relax for two. This went the way of all good intentions with our first week on the trail. We found ourselves working seven days and late (for us) into the night. No, you can’t see sites at night, but the ever-present need to do the paperwork and enter data into the computer dictated our work ethic.

**But, it was great!**

The Scharts may be contacted at 101 Rainbow Dr., Apt. 1465, Livingston, TX 77351.

Interpretation along Captain Clark’s trail going east.
When Nature Can't Be Put Together Again

by Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan

Editor's Note: The following appeared as an Op-Ed piece in the New York Times on June 14, 1997.

WALPOLE, N.H.—Sometime during Memorial Day weekend a national treasure was desecrated. Along a stretch of the Missouri River in Montana, vandals destroyed the Eye of the Needle, a graceful sandstone arch perched on a sheer bluff nearly 200 feet above the river. Someone apparently climbed the bluff and pried loose the top five feet of the 11-foot high arch, leaving behind only some broken beer bottles, the marks of a crowbar, and the rubble of a sculpture that nature had taken eons to carve.

Now, as the authorities search for the culprits, the Federal Bureau of Land Management is soliciting public opinion on whether to try to reconstruct the arch. We say, don't do it. Rebuilding a replica of the arch's top would violate the very basis of the region's beauty.

The Eye of the Needle is one of the signature sites of the White Cliffs of the Missouri, a natural wonderland first described in 1805 by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. Lewis rhapsodized for pages in his journals about the region's scenic splendor.

He compared the rock formations to "elegant ranges of lofty freestone buildings, having their parapets well stocked with statuary," to pyramids from ancient civilizations, to garden walls so straight and precise that "I should have thought nature had attempted here to rival the human art of masonry, had I not recollected that she had first began her work."

"As we passed on," Lewis concluded in what has become one of the most famous passages, "it seemed as if those scenes of visionary enchantment would never have an end." Camping in the shadow of the Eye of the Needle when he wrote those words on May 31, 1805, he was reminded that nature not only did her work first, but also was often better at it than mankind.

Over the nearly two centuries since Lewis wrote that description of the White Cliffs, the nation has expanded across the route that he explored, changing almost everything. But thanks to the area's remoteness and to a Congressional act protecting the site from development, the White Cliffs have remained unmolested. Along the more than 4,000 miles from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean of the Lewis and Clark Trail, it is still virtually the only place where a modern traveler can read from the expedition journals, look up, and see exactly what the explorers were describing.

Unmolested, that is, until now. A vigorous investigation and prosecution would deter future desecrations. But while punishing the vandals may bring justice, trying to re-create the arch would both miss Lewis's point and violate its spirit. Hard as it is to imagine the landmark gone, the broken remains of the arch should be left alone to serve as a reminder of the ease with which mankind can thoughtlessly destroy nature's handiwork, and of our responsibility to make sure that scenes of visionary enchantment never have an end.

Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan are co-producers of a forthcoming PBS documentary on Lewis and Clark.

Steve Ambrose suggests an all-weather sign at the site with a photo of the Eye of the Needle on copper with the story told in brief as Ken and Dayton expressed it:

"Here is how it looked in 1997 and in 1805 when Lewis described it first."

Washington State Begins Planning for Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

To properly understand the historic magnitude of Lewis and Clark's journey to the Pacific Northwest, and to adequately comprehend its consequences, the 1996 Washington State Legislature entrusted the Washington State Historical Society to take the lead in organizing and planning events and programs to commemorate the event. In partnership with the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and the State's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee, a statewide plan will be developed that will place the journey into an educational context that will include events, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, publications, and special curricula materials for elementary and secondary schools. Programs will be designed to inform and educate the state's citizens and communities about Lewis and Clark's monumental exploration and its impact upon the Northwest. The society and its partners will be seeking volunteers and support from interested individuals and associations. If you or your organization might be interested in participating in the planning, or simply wish to be kept informed, please send your name, address and telephone number to the Heritage Resource Center, 211 West 21st Ave., Olympia, WA 98501.
A May guest editorial in the Great Falls Tribune by the president of a custom travel planning company based in Bozeman, Montana, raved about Great Falls and its tourism potential. He said it should be the gateway to Montana tourism. He cited the location, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, the Charlie Russell Art Museum and other area attractions as the basis for his belief. At about the same time, foundation member and history professor Harry Fritz was giving a speech in Bozeman. In his satirical way he was blasting Great Falls people for being "positively insufferable" about Lewis and Clark saying, "They [Great Falls people] must think Lewis and Clark liked Great Falls." He then noted the difficult portage the expedition had around the falls of the Missouri River, the sinking of Lewis's portable boat and the fact that the expedition ran out of booze just south of town. Both speakers, in their own way, were boosting Great Falls and Lewis and Clark. Different strokes for different folks.

**Missouri River Landmark Destroyed**

A major landmark near the White Cliffs area of the Missouri River, the Eye of the Needle, was destroyed by vandals during the Memorial Day weekend. What took nature thousands or millions of years to build was destroyed in less than a day by witless vandalism. The arch of the Eye of the Needle was knocked down, leaving two six foot pillars standing. Other rock pillars in the area were also damaged.

The site of the vandalism is about 56 miles downstream from Fort Benton.

"This is one of Montana's crown jewels. For central Montana it's one of the biggest things," Larry Cook, the outfitter who found the damage, said. "Besides being so beautiful and historic, there is a kind of spirituality of being there. Before this, nobody had touched it. That's how special it is."

The Eye of the Needle has been photographed and painted for decades. It graces the cover of the latest Montana highway map and was sketched by early explorers and commercial artists.

"It's like a priceless resource we will never see again," said Chuck Otto, the Judith Resource Area manager for the Bureau of Land Management, which manages the area. "It took centuries to create and moments of poor decision to destroy. It's a real loss for those of us who had the ability to see it in the past and a loss for those people who will never see it. Arches are so rare in nature. It takes an extraordinary set of circumstances to form an arch."

The eye was formed from wind and water erosion in the soft sandstone, rock laid down under what used to be a huge freshwater lake.

"It's one of the prime landmarks, one of the major historic features, in an area that's a popular place because of its striking beauty," said Victor Bjornberg of Travel Montana, the state tourism agency in Helena.

The rock formation can be found in artwork as far back as 1833, the date of a painting by artist Carl Bodmer. The arch is also featured in a Jesuit priest's sketches done shortly thereafter. But even though the Eye of the Needle was striking, it could only be seen from down river, meaning plenty of floaters missed the landmark.

Whoever is responsible for the damage will probably be charged with a federal offense such as destruction of government property. The maximum penalty for a federal felony offense such as this is 10 years in prison and a $250,000 fine.

Reward money, expected to top $10,000, has come from people all over the country as well as from Montana. The Choteau County Sheriff's office and the BLM have received numerous tips about the case.

The BLM said it can reconstruct the needle if there is enough public support for the idea. So far, about 95 percent of the public response has been in support of reconstruction.

Steve Ambrose's "Undaunted Courage" is now out in soft cover. It includes two chapters that were not printed in the hard cover edition. They are titled "Lewis As Ethnographer" and cover his studies of three of the Indian tribes the expedition encountered. The missing chapters were first printed in We Proceeded On in February and May 1995. The soft cover edition is #2 on the New York Times soft cover best seller list.
Burns Documentary Premieres in Washington

Film maker Ken Burns premiered portions of his new four-hour documentary about the Lewis and Clark Expedition during the Lewis and Clark Experience on July 27 in Clarkston, Washington. The same program will be presented at the annual meeting of the foundation in Stevenson, Washington, later in the week.

"These twin cities (Clarkston, Washington and Lewiston, Idaho) to me symbolize their journey," Burns said. In U.S. history, the Lewis and Clark Expedition into the wilds of the West is "even more important than the moon landing in its significance," he added.

The two-part film, which will air on PBS November 4 and 5, relies on live cinematography rather than archival photos as in other Burns films.

Montana Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center on Schedule

The Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center/national foundation headquarters will have plenty of surprises added inside and out before the $6 million center opens, project officials say.

Outside, about six feet of berm will be piled against the upper floor, giving the building a lower profile to blend in with the prairie. An artificial stucco exterior will be added, in a combination of four colors with light shade differences, separated by recessed shadow bands that are designed to reflect the sandstone cliffs and plants on the opposite river bank.

Inside, the public will be surprised by how big the 25,000 square-foot center is, according to Ron Meyers, project engineer for the U.S. Forest Service. Particularly vast is the lower floor, with 18 foot ceilings. It is set into the bedrock of the bluff above the Missouri River.

The private group that raised $3 million to match federal funding to build the center, Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center Fund Inc., awarded a $1 million contract to Deaton Museum Services of Minneapolis to fabricate and install the interior exhibits.

"These exhibits might seem like quite a bit of money to the casual observer," Dale Gorman, president of Fund Inc., noted, but they will transport visitors back to what the explorers experienced in their epic journey.

"We want exhibits that are meaningful and authentic," he added. "They need to be educational, interesting and entertaining too, so the general public and not just the scholars will want to visit."

The main theme will be the middle portion of the explorers' journey and their encounters with various Indian tribes.

But, whether inside or outside the center building, visitors will learn about Lewis and Clark.

Fund Inc. has entered into an agreement with several local and state agencies to develop a $200,000 trail system next to the river.

An old county road will be replaced by a paved walking path from Giant Springs Park southwest below the interpretive center toward Black Eagle Falls. Signs will interpret the ecology. Interpretive center visitors will be able to walk to one or two living history sites during summer months. Seasonal staff and volunteers, in costume, will offer demonstrations such as loading, shooting and cleaning black powder rifles or building a dugout canoe.

The introductory film being produced by Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan almost never happened.

"It really knocked our socks off when they agreed to spin off an introductory film for us (from their four-hour PBS film on the expedition)," Gorman said. "We had contacted them earlier and they showed little or no interest."

When asked why they changed their minds, Dayton Duncan said, "We usually don't do this, but made an exception for two reasons. Principally, we're doing it as a way to give something back to all the people who overwhelmed us with their hospitality and generosity when we were filming in Montana and the Great Falls area. Also the timing was just right since Ken and I are just wrapping up editing the PBS documentary and have a fresh handle on all the good material we weren't able to use."

Producing the interpretive center film is "not a money-making proposition for us," Duncan said, "and would have cost a lot more (than the $100,000 they would charge) if we were starting from scratch. But we'll have access to a much higher-budgeted documentary, so can do it for a lower price."

Gorman readily agreed.

"We're tickled with getting a Ken Burns film," he said. "This is tremendous."

Lewis and Clark Commemorative Coins Proposed

A commemorative coin bill that would honor Lewis and Clark is pending in Congress. The Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act, H.R. 1560 was introduced May 8 by Rep. Doug Bereuter, R-Neb. It seeks a maximum of 200,000 silver dollars and 200,000 clad half dollars.

A review by Bob Doerk

Several years ago, I read Ellis's Passionate Sage: The Character and Legacy of John Adams and found it to be quite the best book on Adams that I had read since Catherine Drinker Bowen's biography, published decades ago. When asked what his next book would be, he indicated it would be a similar study on Thomas Jefferson. I don't think I personally have waited longer for the publication of a book "with baited breath" unless it is my continuing wait for the third volume of William Manchester's biography of Winston Churchill!

And Ellis has not disappointed me. I have read much about Jefferson over the past twenty years and, unlike William Shakespeare (who left only six signatures in his own hand), Thomas Jefferson left a huge amount of letters and other documentation. This has led to so much information on Jefferson that contradictions were bound to rise, particularly about his thought and philosophy. It really overwhelming an amateur like myself or Jefferson's professional biographers like Dumas Malone and Merrill D. Peterson who stated that after 50 years study of Jefferson, he was not certain he had yet arrived at the essence of the man!

My best advice is that if you want to know the real Jefferson, particularly the wellspring of his thinking, read this book. It is tightly reasoned and hard to summarize but I will provide some random thoughts.

Ellis very effectively concentrates on five periods of Jefferson's life and "bridges" these periods with enough background to help us understand about Jefferson's life, externally and internally. By organizing his book in this matter, he cuts to the chase without a lot of extraneous information that would bog down the effort. And he hits upon the vital aspects of Jefferson's thinking process that makes sense out of mass.

Jefferson held the principles of the American revolution to be near and dear throughout his life. As Ellis implies, he really did believe what he had put into the Declaration of Independence, although he didn't care for the changes foisted upon that document. His dislike of England, natural during the revolutionary period, remained with him to a greater or lesser degree all his life. His distrust of centralized government, as represented by Great Britain, continued to motivate his thinking to the end. His belief in the inherent ability of the average citizen, the basic goodness of human nature, the sense of freedom from control and "can't" was vital to his thinking until the last few years of his life. And his belief in education and learning, for which he is so recognized, was coupled with a feeling that the revolutionary era and it's principles could carry forward in changing environments and times. He believed that to be the downfall of England...it's abandonment of a more ideal time represented by Anglo-Saxon England, ruined, in part, by the Norman Conquest.

COINS—Cont. from p. 24

Each silver coin would have a $10 surcharge and each half dollar a $7 surcharge.

The Secretary of the Treasury would direct two-thirds of the surcharges to the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council for activities associated with commemorating the expedition's bicentennial, and one-third to the National Park Service for activities to mark the bicentennial.

Designs for the coins would be emblematic of the expedition and each coin would bear the dates 1804-06. The obverse of the coins would bear the likenesses of Thomas Jefferson and Lewis and Clark.

The designers should "consider incorporating appropriate elements from the Jefferson Peace and Friendship medal which Lewis and Clark presented to the chiefs of various Indian tribes they encountered and shall consider recognizing Native American culture."

The designs would be selected by the Secretary of the Treasury after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and review by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee. The legislation calls for the issuance of the coins to begin on the date of enactment of the legislation and no coins can be struck after December 31, 2003.

—Coin Wor
How, then, do we square away the contradictions? How could somebody so frugal with the public's funds and such a meticulous keeper of personal financial records, be in such a financial mess, squandering his assets? How could a minimalist in government, believing that government best which governs least, stretch the "strict construction" of the constitution to allow for the purchase of Louisiana? How could such an advocate of freedom for the individual, all individual's, own slaves? How could such a philosopher/statesman who abhorred even the thought of fractionalism be such an activist when it came to the "down and dirty" part of the political game? Well, he was a man of his times and that is part of the answer, but only a minor part. There are others, which Ellis so admirably deciphers.

Jefferson detested controversy and confrontation, even in his thinking. He resolved this dilemma to the degree that he did his thinking in "compartments" and when that didn't work, by "rising above" the conflicts and contradictions at hand. He could delegate the rough and tumble of politics to his close friends, James Madison and James Monroe. Let them deal with Congress, the newspapers, and foreign governments. He would manipulate behind the scenes, being readily embarrassed if caught in the act. He would think sublimely about the rights of man in a visionary sense while at the same time ordering a slave at Monticello to be whipped. He would go over his financial accounts in great detail, recording even the most minute purchase and demonstrating his need for frugality while at the same time ordering vast amounts of wine for his wine cellar or books for his library. He could do this by not consciously making the connection between the concept of freedom and holding a slave or by keeping exact books but spending beyond his means. And this thought process prevailed throughout his life.

Jefferson enjoyed books to an uncommon degree. His libraries became legendary. He said he could not live without them. Yet Jefferson, the intellectual bar none, wrote only one book and that an answer to a questionnaire not intended for publication. Only when a pirated version appeared in France did he consent to a publication with all the faults corrected. Why didn't he write another book? Ellis suggests that it again reflected his thought process. Jefferson would write letters. He was perhaps the most prolific letter writer in history, certainly among American statesmen, and this enabled him to tailor his thoughts to a targeted, limited audience. For example, when he wrote a letter to a Frenchman it was to extol the virtues of French architecture, cuisine and culture. When he wrote to a fellow American about France, it might well be to warn the recipient of the dangers of sending his/her children to France as part of the European tour as French culture suffered from a lack of morality and a certain amount of degenerate behavior! In short, much like a modern day politician, Jefferson wrote content depending on the audience. But he believed what he said. By psychologically compartmentalizing his thoughts, he was able to do this without fully realizing the contradictions because they did not register with him. Such is Ellis' argument.

Ellis is attempting to bring Jefferson down to earth, to make him relate to the age in which he lived, to make him a human being with strengths and weaknesses who actually trod the earth from 1743 to 1826. He acknowledges Jefferson's strengths. His strenuous work habits, his vision (he saw the inability to solve the slavery issue as leading to a civil war), his wide ranging intellectual interests, the desire to do what was right for his country regardless of personal cost (accepting the Louisiana Purchase despite its constitutional problems) selling his library to the government to establish the Library of Congress after it's destruction in the War of 1812, and his abhorrence of war leading to the disastrous embargo of 1807, and his fidelity to his family.

Ellis clarified my thinking about Jefferson, taking himwarts and all. His image today is being bandied about by every conceivable group. He is being used as a prop to support domestic terrorism (he distrusted government, wanted a minimal government, believed in a little blood letting now and then), to support state funded education, to crystallize the fears about "judge made law" through the court system. He is also being used to support excess authority taken by the presidency, to support racism in our society, and in support of the highest ideals to which this country aspires.

When I think of Jefferson, I think of Lincoln in the sense that Lincoln said that every decent impulse stemming from the American ideal had it's origin in the Declaration of Independence. America is a concept as much as a nation state and our challenge for the future is to allow our diversity to be channeled into the positives incorporated in Jefferson's thinking and in his life and filter out the contradictions as representative of a great mind with assets far outweighing liabilities.
Cass County Historical Museum, 646 Main, Plattsmouth, in what is now Cass County, Nebraska. Eastbound, the expedition whisked past the same area in one 73-mile day spent hell bent for home. Few would say that any of these days were significant in the grand scheme of things-unless, of course, you were born that any of these days were significant in the grand scheme of things-unless, of course, you were born and raised in Cass County.

So it is with Gertrude Wood. Her grandfather's farm lay in the same flood plain tramped by the expedition's hunting parties, and as Gertrude grew up, its hay field was still well-populated with descendants of rattlesnakes that plagued the men. As her mother grew up, large quantities of Indian beads and arrowheads could still be found at sites mentioned in the journals.

Gertrude first heard of the expedition as a child while attending a one room school in Cass County. Her daily walk to and from school passed within a mile of the expedition's route and her book reflects an interest in the expedition that grew with the years. Eventually the author and Donald, her "life's companion on the trail," traveled almost the entire route across the country and every foot of it in Cass County.

I had the privilege of joining these elderly explorers one muggy day in 1992. Our goal was to find a logical camping site that might have been used by the party the night of July 20, 1804. The tall slough grass, stinging nettle, and "mat-like deposits of flood-borne trees and limbs" provided us with plenty of adventure and renewed our respect for the pioneer travelers. Gertrude recalls that day in her book along with the result of finding no likely camp site. More importantly, she tells why. The next year heavy rains sent large sections of river bluffs into the flooding Missouri and a tornado ravaged huge cottonwoods and bur oaks we had admired. In a single year the surroundings we traversed were completely altered by the hand of nature.

This is perhaps the main contribution of Mrs. Wood's little volume. She and her husband have examined river charts over the years and visited the shores, bluffs and flood plains over and over. From their amateur sleuthing, they are able to point out where the mouth of the Platte River was when its current pushed Jefferson's little navy to the far side of the Missouri. Were the men to return today to visit where they pulled their boats ashore that night (July 21), this book would tell them to search for the spot far from the river near runways of what has become Offutt Air Force Base. Modern visitors can also use the book to locate the site where Clark shot a yellow wolf and to find out what prominent landmarks still exist largely unaltered. These landmarks and the green strips of riverside vegetation give Cass County the distinction of still having "very special places...that resemble what the men of the expedition saw along the Missouri River."

This book is an unexpected spin-off from the survey conducted by the Foundation's National Lewis and Clark Trail Coordination Committee. Under the leadership of Bob Doerk, segments of the trail were assigned to volunteers who scoured them for sites worthy of interpretation and protection. The Woods were the volunteers covering the section from Peru, Nebraska, to the mouth of the Platte. They discharged their duties well, then went far beyond by writing this book about the Corps of Discovery's three days in their county.

Gertrude Wood is not a professional writer and you will not find her book a foot-noted or scholarly treatment of her subject. Nor, disappointingly, will you learn much about the methods she and Don used in researching locations such as the elusive camp site of July 20. However, we owe the author our gratitude for compiling a record of three ordinary days in the life of the expedition and adding to them her unique insights about the historic environment as it exists today. She also contributed art and photos by her and her husband. The Cass County Historical Society is to be commended for funding the publication of the book. Efforts such as these will introduce local children and adults to the story of Lewis and Clark, as well as enrich the visits of tourists. Without such books, the less famous sites of the expedition might easily be overlooked in our rush to the popular places, and even forgotten and destroyed by those who live nearby.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**WISH TO BUY**: Bronze by Robert Scriber entitled "Lewis and His Dog, Seaman." $1,000 or consider offer. Patrick Holland, 2814 Cotter Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715; (406) 586-1362 (home) or (406) 587-9202 (office).
First Map of Oregon Country
Drawn on Deer-Skin by Indian Near The Dalles

J. Neilson Barry of Portland is a determined person with an extraordinary devotion to accurate history of the Pacific northwest. Because he has such characteristics and attributes, it is now possible for schools, libraries or even individuals to possess photographic facsimiles of the very first map ever made of the Oregon country.

The Portland historian contributed generously of his own time over a period of several years to make the map available—at sizable contributions of his own funds.

Original Map Revealing
It is nothing less than incredible that Indians Lewis and Clark encountered along the Columbia river should have profound knowledge of Pacific northwest geography. But that they did, and they drew maps in the sand, which the explorers copied with great fidelity. They spotted the Grande Ronde river, the Touchet—and the main streams.

Historian Barry has favored the Roving Reporter with a copy of the smaller map whereon he has annotated the Indian names applied to the rivers and streams with present spelling; also a larger copy whereon only Indian names appear. Excerpts from the Barry communication follow:

By J. Nelson Barry
We are so accustomed to take for granted what everybody well knows, that few ever stop to realize—even if they ever knew it—that as late as 1792 there was uncertainty as to the inland sea—was depicted on maps where the Oregon country really is.

Sixteen years after the declaration of independence it was not known that the Oregon country is dry land, not water.

Came Mostly by Water
It was 13 years later in 1805-29 years after the declaration of independence: after Washington had served two terms as president and John Adams had served two terms, and Jefferson had served one term—that the first white man crossed the Oregon country under Lewis and Clark.

Oddly enough, they traveled mostly by water. Because so much had been in the trench of the Snake and Columbia rivers, they knew only such landscape as they had seen.

Beyond, in every direction stretched vast unknown wilderness. It is difficult to realize that.

Consulted Indians
Returning, Clark wanted to know of that vast unknown wilderness. So, at the dalles of the Columbia, he had Indians draw the first map of the Oregon country. Those...Indians had no automobiles, no highways, no road maps. They didn't even have paper and pencil. Yet all Indians gladly drew maps. Sometimes they used a chunk of charcoal on deerskin, or Indian matting; sometimes they drew with one finger on the ground.

Once they prepared a map on the ground, using twigs, pebbles and little mounds of earth. Clark would then copy them and write the Indian names.

First Map Published
When the journals of Lewis and Clark were compiled (published in 1814) the president ordered a map of the West. Clark only knew the narrow routes he had traveled, so used the Indian maps.

This was the first published map—38 years after the declaration of independence when Madison was president.

Clark's map was prepared for the etchers by Samuel Lewis, a Philadelphia cartographer. However, only a few copies were published in 1814, in the first edition. Being prior to photography, some later editions had hand copies, that differed. Few have seen all the maps, or know how they differ, or which is authentic.

One From Many
Clark compiled his general map from many Indian maps. Yet that first map was the basis and groundwork. It might be interesting to guess how much geography those Siwashes would know. That first map shows how much they knew. It is of the vast region from Puget sound to beyond modern Missoula; from north of Kettle falls to Salmon falls, Idaho.

Probably the most important aspect for Lewis and Clark was that the first map showed the Indian trail eastward from where Missoula now is. That, probably, was the first suggestion of the short return route by Lewis.

He went from Travelers' rest camp at the mouth of Lolo creek, near modern Missoula, to Great Falls in 10 days. It took 57 days on the westward journey (to cover the same general distance).

The map shows the Touchet river, along which the party traveled briefly on their return: Lake Coeur d'Alene, Spokane river, Spokane falls, Little Spokane river and Latah creek; camas ground where Tekoa now is.

All that by Indians at The Dalles, in 1806.

(Past continued on page 30)
Clark Guessed Wrong

I am personally interested in the geography of the Oregon country. When I lived in New York City I became interested in Eastern Washington and my friends joked because I made maps to try to interest them to come with me...I came in 1895, over a half-century ago...I met the son of Henry Spalding and boarded with one of the Sager girls-survivors of the Whitman massacre.

Merely stupidly gazing at an Indian map, or an early map, and guessing, is puerile and silly. It required scientific analysis and know-how. For example: Clark supposed that the Okanogan river was the main Columbia; the very best map in 1819 depicted Fraser river and the Okanogan united to be the main Columbia.

Fictitious River

That map (1819) was used for the treaty with Spain and it depicted the Willamette ("Multnomah") river as rising where Utah now is, and that fictitious river came very nearly becoming an internal boundary.

It is extremely difficult to analyze such maps...When I identify anything I annotate the modern name on an enlarged photostat (of the original). Few libraries have such maps... enlargements... nor data for identification.

The cost is in locating whereabouts of a rare map and getting a photostat; then the photographic stages; the reversed print. There is valuable time required, and know-how to annotate a map and to make it understandable.

New Process Used

Photostats cost $1.50 and sometimes various photographic stages cost $5. Then I learned of the Ozalid process. A special reversed print is placed on sensitized paper and placed in a large machine that produces a photographic facsimile. Any number can be made... and is practically a photograph.

Requests for these are pouring in from coast to coast... and Canada. It is the only such set in the world, and being a labor of love I almost give them away. There is a prodigious amount of extremely toilsome drudgery in the making.

New Interpretive Center off to Great Start in North Dakota

The North Dakota Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Washburn, North Dakota, which had its grand opening in early June, is reporting an excellent startup, according to Director Kristie Frieze.

"The first two weeks of operation, we counted over 5,000 visitors," says Frieze, who notes that just about all 50 states and a number of foreign countries have already been represented by those visitors.

Over 2,000 were on hand during the grand opening weekend, giving the center a boost in its first week of operation. Highlights of the grand opening included presentations by Gary Moulton, editor of the Lewis and Clark Journals; Jeanne Eder, portraying Sacagawea; Native American flute player Keith Bear; and a special appearance by Clay Jenkinson, who portrayed both Thomas Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis.

Keynote speaker for the dedication ceremony was U.S. Senator Kent Conrad of North Dakota.

A number of Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation members have been guests at the center, and Frieze makes a special point of inviting all foundation members to stop in Washburn on their way to the national meeting in Stevenson, Washington this summer.

Visitors will find, in addition to interpretive displays telling the story of the "Fort Mandan Winter," an art gallery featuring the prints of Swiss artist Karl Bodmer.

"In addition, the Fort Mandan replica is located just two miles away from the new Interpretive Center, so don't miss this opportunity for an all-new Lewis and Clark experience this summer," stresses Frieze. "You will also find the Knife River National Historic Site just 22 miles away, across the Missouri River."

For more information on the North Dakota Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Washburn, call 701-462-8535 or write P.O. Box 607, Washburn, ND 59577.
IRON BOAT—
Cont. from p. 12
Stirbridge, Massachusetts and Williamsburg, Virginia where they verified their experiments with size and type of iron. They also found that by experimenting with actually building the boat they came to more fully understand what they had been reading.

A final and strange fact came to surface through their research. The design for the boat was the same that is currently used by Eskimos along the Bering Strait. In fact the design was very common, possibly dating back to the 1600s.

We now realize two very important things as a result of the research and experimentation. It was not one thing that caused Lewis’ iron boat experiment to fail; it was a number of problems. All the materials used were wrong except the iron frame. Materials available in the east were not at hand on the portage. Secondly Lewis did not design the boat. What he did was prefab it so it was collapsible and more portable. He applied current technologies of his day to solve his transportation problem.

WPO CLASSIFIED ADS
Classified rates in WPO are 50 cents per word for foundation members. 75 cents per word for non-members. $10.00 minimum. Deadline for ads is six weeks before the publication month of the scheduled quarterly issue, e.g., March 14 for the May issue.

WPO DISPLAY ADS
Display advertising must pertain to Lewis and Clark and/or North American history such as books, art or related works for sale and conferences, workshops or other meetings. Black and white camera ready advertising only.
Rates are: full page—$500, half page—$250, one-third page—$167, one-quarter page—$125, one column inch—$16.67.
Deadline for ads is six weeks before the publication month of the scheduled quarterly issue, e.g., March 15 for the May issue.

EDITOR'S DESK
Cont. from p. 3
Montana chastised me severely for some typos in the May issue. She wrote, "You really need to get a live person to proofread We Proceeded On. The May issue has errors which neither computer spellers nor grammar programs will catch." Now Emily is an attorney at law so I really need to watch my P’s and Qs. Emily, I do have a live person proofreading the magazine. I am the old school type of person who doesn’t use spell check. I use a dictionary. You will be happy to hear that I may be able to afford a pair of reading glasses soon and then I will do a much better job of seeing what I’m saying.

EDITOR'S DESK
Cont. from p. 1
the appointment of a search committee composed of two persons from the foundation, Cindy Orlando and Ludd Trozpek, and two from the council, Dark Rain Thom and David Nicandrei with Barb Kubik as coordinator. A national search identified several candidates who were interviewed by the Search Committee including the presidents of the foundation and the council. From this process an executive director has been identified. She is Michelle D. Bussard, a native of Oregon. Michelle comes to the new position from Washington, D.C., where, since 1994, she was president and executive director of the non-profit organization Leadership Washington. She earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a master of urban and regional planning from George Washington University. It is a pleasure to welcome her to the position of joint executive director of the council and of the foundation. She is scheduled to commence this position on or about September 1, 1997 and she will have her office in Vancouver, Washington.

A new mission statement for the foundation was developed and approved at the 1996 Annual Meeting. It reads as follows: “The mission of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., is to stimulate public awareness and understanding of the Lewis and Clark Expedition’s contributions to this nation’s heritage.” What better way to carry out this mission than the written word and in recent years the television screen. We owe a debt of gratitude to those modern day historians, authors and TV producers who have so aptly brought the expedition to the attention of all Americans. A resounding thank you to Steve Ambrose, Gary Moulton, Jim Rhonda, Dayton Duncan, Ken Burns and many, many others. The untimely death of Jim Large has left a large void in the life of the foundation. We miss his presence and his vast storehouse of Lewis and Clark information. A recent newspaper article states the above most clearly, “Ambrose’s widely acclaimed book Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson and the Opening of the American West is the definitive account of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He pieces together new facts about the terrain, food, weather, and native peoples. Ambrose called the private journals of the expedition a priceless gift to the American people.” What more can one say? The above reinforces the Mission statement.

The annual meeting of the foundation, July 26-30, 1997 at Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, Washington in the Columbia River Gorge has all the signs of being a very exciting experience. Barb Kubik and Ed Callahan serve as co-chairs for this year’s annual meeting and all its activities and they promise it to be most exciting. The co-chairs have a strong group of assistants and your attendance has the potential for being a memorable one. I look forward to seeing you there.

WPO reserves the right to reject any advertising deemed unsuitable.
All advertising or inquiries should be sent to: Editor, We Proceeded On, 1205 28th Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405. Telephone: (406) 761-4705.
Capt. Meriwether Lewis / Thursday June 9th 1805

.... I did not however loose my direction to this point which soon began to make a roaring too tremendous to be mistaken for any cause short of the great falls of the Missouri. here I arrived about 12 OClock....