Lewis and Clark students and enthusiasts traveling in Washington State may now visit two Lewis and Clark Interpretive Centers. Washington is the only state along the Expedition’s Trail with two such facilities, and plans are for the addition of a third center at some future time.1

On October 10, 1976, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, at Fort Canby State Park (Pacific County), Washington, high atop Cape Disappointment, was dedicated. See WPO, Vol. 2, No. 4, pp. 1-4. It was at Cape Disappointment that the exploring party first reached the shore of the Pacific Ocean on November 18, 1805.2

April 16, 1978, was the dedication date for the Sacajawea Interpretive Center, at Sacajawea State Park, near the city of Pasco (Franklin County), Washington.

1. The Commission has long range plans to construct a Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Clarkson (Astin County), Washington, at the Washington-Idaho stateline. When this project culminates, travelers following the Expedition’s trail westward will encounter the proposed Clarkson facility; will then proceed to the Sacajawea Center at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers; and finally arrive for the spectacular panorama of the rugged, scenic Pacific shore at the Cape Disappointment facility.

2. A speculation: This is the date documented in Clark’s, Ordway’s, Gass’ and Whitehouse’s [Newberry Library] journals. All report as did Clark that “...Capt. Lewis and his party returned having [gone] around [and] passed Point Disappointment and some distance on the Main Ocean to the NW.” [Thwaites: V. 3, p. 229]. Therefore, it may be assumed that Lewis’s party may have seen the main ocean, but may not have visited the actual shoreline on November 16th or 17th [we have no Lewis journal]. Gass in his journal when documenting the departure of Clark’s party [Clark says: “At daylight...”] on November 18th wrote: “Capt. Clarke and ten men went down to Cape Disappointment, to get a more full view of the ocean;...” [Gass/McKeehan; Ross & Haines Edition, p. 201.] It is a matter of interest that the Field brothers are indicated to have accompanied Lewis’s earlier reconnoiter, and to have been with Clark’s party at the later date. [Thwaites; V. 3, pp. 222, 230.]

3. Students following the progress of the exploring party in the journals which refer to this segment of the Lewis and Clark Trail may become confused. Today’s Snake River was the Expedition’s “Lewis River” (after Captain Lewis), and this designation appears in the journals along with other confusing nomenclature, in this instance the “Kimoenimin” River (obviously of Indian origin). Elliott Coues in his 1893 annotation of the 1814 Biddle narrative developed from the journals this geographic disorder. See Vol. 2, pp. 621-622, fn. 58; p. 635, fn. 12.

The point of land at the junction of the Columbia and Snake Rivers in southeastern Washington State is one of great interest to students of Northwest history. Before the arrival of the Lewis and Clark exploring party in October 1805, Indians used this vantage point as a camping ground. In August 1811, the Canadian geographer, David Thompson, of the Northwest Company of Canada visited the site. In the same year, David Stuart, a partner of John Jacob Astor’s American Company ascended the Columbia River to this point from that company’s fur trading establishment at the estuary of the river (presently Astoria, Oregon). Donald McKenzie, one of Astor’s men, who traveled overland, was in the vicinity in 1812, and remained for several years, and in 1818 founded Fort Walla Walla at the junction of the Columbia and Walla Walla Rivers, about 13 miles south and to the east of present Sacajawea State Park. Peter Skene Ogden trapped in this area in the 1820’s, and Jedediah Smith, the first white man to cross overland to California, and then travel from California to Oregon, in 1828, is known to have passed by this point when ascending the Columbia and traveling farther north of its confluence with the Snake River. In 1879, the Northern Pacific Railroad Company built the first railroad bridge across the Snake River. At the bridge terminus on the north shore of the Snake River, a town of 1500 people sprang up almost overnight, at the very spot where the Lewis and Clark Expedition camped 74 years earlier. The community was known as “Ainsworth”, named for Captain J. C. Ainsworth, who was president of the Oregon Steam Navigation Company. The Community was short-lived, however, for in 1883, the Northern Pacific Railroad built a bridge across the Columbia River a few miles (Continued on Page 5)
President Stensland’s Message

May I take this opportunity to officially invite our members and friends to attend the Foundation’s Tenth Annual Meeting at Vancouver, Washington, and I trust that we shall have great participation.

The program, August 13-16, 1978, was detailed in the May (Vol. 4, No. 2) issue of *We Proceeded On*. I am very aware of the work that the Washington Committee and Foundation members in the “Evergreen” state have done, and the follow-up that will be necessary as we all see through to completion this most important annual activity of the Foundation.

I would like to review and update certain Foundation goals and activities for all of our membership.

1. Membership: Collectively this is the key to the success of our Foundation. May I encourage each and every member to work on this important area.

We are encouraged by the organization of new entities or chapters of our Foundation: The Blue Mountain Chapter (Walla Walla, Washington-southeast Washington State-northeast Oregon State) now numbering 40 members, with Vi and Ray Forrest as the organizational leaders. And the Locust Hill Foundation (Charlottesville, Virginia and vicinity) with some 20 members, with Michael Gleason as the organizer.

2. Communication Efforts: Our quarterly publication, *We Proceeded On*, speaks well for itself. With the recent formation of a “Publications Committee”, we will sustain our very fine publication efforts.

As your president, I have now syndicated four issues of “President’s Notes”, which I send to Officers, Directors, Committee Chairmen, etc. This effort hopefully will tie our executive committee, directors, and state chairman more closely together.

3. Foundation Bronze Project: The Bob Scrivner bronze “Meriwether Lewis and Our Dog Scannon” continues to sell, and Committee Chairman Wilbur Werner investigates and seeks avenues for additional sales. As of now, we are “over the hill” on this already successful project – however complete success will be realized when all 150 bronzes authorized by the copyright are sold.

4. Committee Work: This is really the “key” to much of the success of our Foundation. We must be able to attain many of our accomplishments via the committee system.

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I would like to take this opportunity to give credit to our present standing committees with a separate listing together with the committee chairman's address (see below). This will allow individuals with specific interests to confer with committee chairmen and their committees.

I encourage anyone interested to be in contact with me. Please be assured that I will respond. Often times your ideas need to be shared so that some day they will start to bear the fruits of achievement.

Please note my change of address. Effective June 23, 1978, my mail should be directed to P.O. Box 205, Fort Benton, Montana 59442. You may reach me by telephone: Home 406-622-5573; Business 406-622-3323.

Have a good summer, and again, I encourage your participation and attendance at the Tenth Annual Meeting.

Gail Stensland, President

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**News Notes**

Foundation member Vivian Paladin, editor for *Montana the Magazine of Western History*, the quarterly publication of the Montana Historical Society, has been nominated for the Horace Hart Award, which recognizes contributions to the field of graphic arts. Nominations and awards are given annually by the Education Council of the Graphic Arts Industry. Acting in behalf of the State of Montana, Governor Thomas L. Judge made the nomination and commented that Vivian Paladin has been editor of the Montana quarterly magazine for the past twelve years and has been on the editorial staff for more than twenty years. He added that in his travels around the country, he finds that the historical publication "... has become one of Montana's best ambassadors."

A new member of the Foundation, Mark McCorkle, Fort Collins, Colorado, has been in correspondence with members along the Lewis and Clark Trail about his "North American Odyssey". Mark left Fort Clatsop, Oregon on June 1, 1978, beginning a 3,300 mile retrace of the Expedition's Trail to Wood River, Idaho and St. Louis, Missouri. His journey will be by water, navigating the Columbia and Missouri Rivers, and overland, traveling the 450 miles of Lolo Trail, Bitterroot Valley, Lost Trail Pass, Salmon, Idaho country, Lemhi Pass, and other land routes in Idaho and Montana. McCorkle's present adventure is not new to his "rediscovery of America". In 1974, he bicycled 2,500 miles from Green Bay, Wisconsin to the Pacific coast. In 1975, he canoed 2,600 miles from Forsyth, Montana, via the Yellowstone, Missouri, and Mississippi Rivers, to New Orleans, Louisiana. Then in 1976, he hiked the 1,975 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mexican border to north of Mt. Rainier, Washington.

Mark will be putting together a little monthly newsletter describing his journey, and will be making photographs of scenes along the Trail. Members or readers of WPO, who would like to receive his newsletter and an occasional photograph each month, may send $5.00 or more to Mark McCorkle, 1112 Columbine Ct., Apt. 2, Ft. Collins, CO 80521. Your donation will cover his publication expense and help him meet other costs involved with his adventurous undertaking.

The editor had a delightful lunch hour and visit with this modern-day explorer on June 9th, when he reached Portland after a six day, 100 mile canoe paddle up the Columbia from the estuary. He was ready for a day's rest and a chance to let the sunburn cool off. The next morning he was "proceeding" toward Beacon Rock, Bonneville Dam, and points upstream on the Columbia River. He plans to arrive in Wood River, Illinois and St. Louis, Missouri by October 1978.

Foundation Director Mildred Goosman, Omaha, Nebraska, has advised the editor of the possibility that she may be able to arrange a visit and a possible interview with the great-grand niece of the Expedition's blacksmith, gunsmith, and general handyman, John Shields. She is a Mrs. Houston, who resides in Atchison, Kansas, and is reported to be over 80 years of age. If Mildred is able to arrange such an interview, she has promised WPO a vignette about her visit with Mrs. Houston.

Foundation Director E. G. "Frenchy" Chuinard, Portland, Oregon, has re-
Updating Lewis & Clark In Recent Periodicals

"The Assiniboines - Some Notes on the Assiniboine Indians Before Lewis and Clark: 1600-1800", is the title of a study by Bob Saindon in the most recent issue of "...a SQUAWL OF WIND...", the quarterly publication of the Valley County Lewis and Clark Trail Society, Glasgow, Montana.

Author Saindon indicates that this article does not portray the modern Assiniboine Indians, but endeavors to simply represent these Indians as they were known to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The article is well illustrated, and is annotated with copious notes.

Featured in the April issue (Vol. XXXIV, No. 3) of the BULLETIN, the quarterly publication of the Missouri Historical Society, is the monograph "William Clark's Struggle with Place Names In Upper Louisiana", by John Francis McDermott. Foundation member McDermott is well known in the teaching and historical studies field, and is presently Professor Emeritus, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville.

The treatise described above was read in brief form at the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, August 1977, at St. Charles, Missouri. Dr. McDermott remarks: "The Perversion of French Place-Names in the Mississippi Valley was never deliberate but it was often ludicrous and misleading and sometimes perpetrated historical errors which have remained uncorrected... Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were from time to time unwittingly guilty of this kind of misnaming."

A copy of the issue of the BULLETIN described above will be sent postpaid upon receipt of $2.50. Address your request to Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial Bldg., St. Louis, MO 63112.

1. Second Vice President, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.; Past President, Valley County Lewis and Clark Trail Society; Editor, "...a squawl of wind...".

Valley County Entity Reports From Montana

The recent issue of "... a squawl of wind ...", the publication of the Valley County Lewis and Clark Trail Society, Glasgow, Montana, provides the following news items and activities relating to this organization:

At an election of officers and directors at the January meeting, Gladys Silk of Glasgow was elected president of the Society for 1978. A native of Valley County, Gladys has been a busy participant in community affairs, and as a reporter for the local newspaper, the Glasgow Courier, for the past twelve years, is very much aware of past, present, and planned future activities in Valley County and northeastern Montana.

Other individuals elected to serve the Society include: Bunky Sullivan, Vice President; Donna Pecora, Secretary/Treasurer; and Annette Stensland and Bob Saindon, Directors. Also continuing as directors are Linda Madison and Leanor Cotton. Bob Saindon, who is presently 2nd vice president of the national Foundation, will continue as editor of the Society's publication.

Achievements of the organization during Past President Saindon's tenure in office, including the inception of the publication "... a squawl of wind ...", are detailed in President Silk's "President's Message" which appears in the current issue of the publication.

A new project for the organization is the production of a Lewis and Clark applique quilt which will depict 18 different scenes relating to the Expedition in Montana. The center section of the quilt will reproduce a map of Montana detailing the routes of the exploring party in the "Treasure State".

Field trips for the coming year are in the planning stage, together with preparations for a work party activity at the Stick Lodge under construction at the Pioneer Museum.

Editor's Note:

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

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to the north of present Pasco, Washington. The railroad machine shops were moved from Ainsworth to Pasco in 1884. Since the days of Ainsworth, the land now included in the State Park was used for stock grazing, and was a part of the holdings of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Carstens of Tacoma, Washington.

For many years the Daughters of Pioneers of Washington, Chapter No. 3, Pasco, Washington, envisioned the establishment of a Columbia-Snake River Park at this place. The Carsten family deeded the land now comprising the State Park to Chapter No. 3 of the Daughters of Pioneers of Washington, and on October 16, 1927, 122 years to the day of the arrival of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, dedicated a monument, provided by the Washington State Historical Society, in the park memorializing the famous exploring party. A handful of dedicated women were determined to carve a park out of the sand banks of the two rivers, the grazing land, and the sagebrush. They planted saplings which are now tall sturdy trees in the park. Prior to the installation of a water and sprinkling system, water was carried by pail to irrigate the young trees. By 1931, the woman’s organization, realizing that they could no longer provide physical and monetary effort to maintain and further the development of the park, presented the facility to the State of Washington, and the site, now administered by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, is known as Sacajawea State Park.

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The present building, which houses the new Sacajawea Interpretive Center, was constructed in 1939 through the efforts of Mr. Jay Perry, who was a Benton County Commissioner and a resident of Kennewick, Washington. A long time collector of Indian artifacts, he donated his valuable collection to the State of Washington in 1941, for display in one wing of the newly constructed facility. The other wing of the structure, until the recent April 16, 1978 dedication, had been closed to the public. This section of the building, with excellent new displays, interprets the Lewis and Clark-Sacajawea story. Mr. Perry’s continued interest in the Center has seen him instrumental in persuading other collectors to donate all or part of their collections for permanent display in the Indian artifact wing of the building, which has also been remodeled. As a tribute to Mr. Perry, this wing of the Center has been named “The Jay Perry Room of Indian Artifacts”.

Readers will find enclosed with the mailing of this issue of We Proceeded On, the program for the April 16, 1978 dedication of the Sacajawea Interpretive Center, and a folder describing the new facility. Readers are directed to the paragraph which clarifies the several spellings, Sacajawea and Sacagawea, used in the folder, and in this issue of We Proceeded On.

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Dr. Paul R. Cutright (left) and Dr. Michael Brodhead (right) have collaborated in developing the interesting article published in this issue of We Proceeded On. At the moment these two authors, after several years of joint effort, have near completion a full length biography of Dr. Elliott Coues, famous ornithologist, Army surgeon, and Western American historian. Lewis and Clark enthusiasts are probably most familiar with Coues' 1893 edition and annotation of the 1814 Biddle/Allen narrative based on the original journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.1

Readers are referred to the biographical resume of Dr. Cutright which appeared in We Proceeded On, Volume 4, Number 1, February 1978, page 6. In his *A History of the Lewis and Clark Journals,* Dr. Cutright provides a chapter on Elliott Coues and his contribution as a litterateur of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.


Dr. Elliott Coues and Sergeant Charles Floyd

By Paul R. Cutright and Michael J. Brodhead

All students of the Lewis and Clark Expedition are familiar with, and indebted to, Elliott Coues' *History of the Expedition Under the Command of Lewis and Clark,* a four-volume, highly annotated reissue of the 1814 Biddle edition. Of all Coues' historical publications it was the most important. To it, as to his other works, he brought his "enormous, encompassing, encyclopedic learning."

To Coues, the Lewis and Clark Expedition was "our national epic of exploration."2 It should occasion no surprise, therefore, that, soon after the 1893 publication of his Biddle reissue, Coues became deeply involved in an effort originated by citizens of Sioux City, Iowa, to erect a monument on the site of Sergeant Charles Floyd's grave and to purchase property at that site for a Sergeant Floyd Park. We first learn of Coues' interest in these projects through a letter he wrote on May 22, 1895, to George D. Perkins then editor and owner of the *Sioux City Journal.* Perkins published the letter in the May 26th issue of his paper and, to the best of our knowledge, it has not since been republished. As a consequence, we herewith reproduce it *verbatim:*

Dear Sir:—

I hail with acclamation the proposition made by you to erect a monument to the memory of Sergeant Charles Floyd, the first — and only — member of the Lewis and Clark expedition who lost his life in the long course of that ever to be remembered enterprise. As the editor of "The History of the Lewis and Clark Expedition," and the first to publish any account of it in the very words written from day to day by the immortal explorers, having all their original manuscript journals and field notes books before me, I have the most vivid and keeneest possible personal interest in everything that relates to the subject. I must confess that I am what my friends call me — "A Lewis and Clark enthusiast." But I do not think that anyone can read that "national epic of exploration" without sharing my enthusiasm. It is one of the grandest episodes in the history of our country. Every American can be proud of it. Every person in Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, South and North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington — for the expedition passed through all these states — has an interest in the immortal achievements of these dauntless pioneers. For every Iowan this interest focuses about the saddest incident of the whole journey — the death of Charles Floyd.

Correspondence with Mitchell Vincent of Sioux City has already informed me of what has thus far been accomplished, and I sincerely trust that the good work will go on to a speedy and successful issue. Nothing could be more appropriate than for all who are interested to assemble on the spot where Floyd was buried, August 20 next, on the ninety-first anniversary of his death, and form a Floyd Monument Association, for the purpose of carrying the project into effect, under the auspices and with the substantial cooperation of the state legislature.

Residents of Sergeant Bluffs and vicinity are better informed than myself of the exact nature of the ground at and near the original grave, and of the conditions under which a tract could be secured; but I can heartily endorse and warmly urge the proposition made by Mr. Vincent and others to purchase a tract of twenty to thirty acres to be set aside for a public park, upon the culminating point of which the monument is to stand.


3. During the course of his researches on the Biddle reissue Coues, as is now well known, rediscovered, at the American Philosophical Society, the *Original Journals of Lewis and Clark* and, for his personal use, had made a copy of them.
It is now nearly twenty years since I have been in Sioux City, and there must have been great changes in its environment; but according to my recollection Sergeant Bluffs has natural advantages which could at moderate expense be artificially improved with striking effect.

It will give me the greatest pleasure to forward the good work by every means in my power. Very truly yours, — Elliott Coues

No single event of the Lewis and Clark Expedition is better known to Americans than the sudden illness, death and burial of Sergeant Charles Floyd. On August 19, 1804, Captain Clarke had written in his journal: “Sergeant Floyd is taken very badly all at once with a Bilious Cholick,” and on the next day, August 20, had reported Floyd’s death and burial, and the erection on his grave of a “seed post” as a marker.

In years ahead, due to various circumstances, none anticipated, Sergeant Floyd’s remains did not rest in peace, were even irreverently abused. In September 1806, as Lewis and Clark returned from the Pacific, they found that in their absence Floyd’s grave had been partially opened and left uncovered. The remains apparently were left intact. They ascribed the sacrilege to the Indians, though the offender may well have been a wolf or some other predatory animal. Before leaving the location, the men of the party refilled the grave.

Sergeant John Ordway, in his journal, described the place of Floyd’s burial as “a handsome Slightly Round knob.” In time it became known as Floyd’s Bluff, and an important landmark to travellers who followed Lewis and Clark up the Missouri. Among these travellers — all of whom stopped at the bluff or took cognizance of it — were such celebrated figures as Thomas Nuttall and John Bradbury, both botanists; Harry Breckenridge, lawyer and writer; George Catlin, artist and eulogist of the North American Indian; Joseph N. Nicollet, scientist; and John James Audubon, artist and naturalist.


5. Ibid., V, 378. Surprisingly, neither John Ordway nor Patrick Gass alluded to the mound in their journals to this stop at Floyd’s Bluff.


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he stopped long enough at Floyd’s Bluff to make a drawing, one which depicts not only the bluff and environs but, also, Floyd’s grave, including the cedar post standing vertically at the top of the “handsome Slightly Round knob.”

Catlin, too, in words strictly Catlinian, reflected on his visit: “several times ascended it [the bluff] and sat upon his grave, overgrown with grass and the most delicate wild flowers...and contemplated the solitude and stillness of this tenanted mound, and beheld from its top, the windings infinite of the Missouri, and its thousand hills and domes of green, vanishing into blue in the distance...this solitary cedar-post, which tells a tale of grief — grief that was keenly felt, and tenderly, but long since softened in the march of time and lost. Oh, sad and tear-startling contemplation! sole tenant of this stately mound, how solitary thy habitation! how Heaven wrested from thee thy ambition, and made thee sleeping monarch of this land of silence.”

Lewis and Clark were among the first to describe, and experience, the instability of the Missouri River banks. Consisting of fine, powdery, alluvial soil, they often crumbled, as happened particularly when the river reached flood stage. As Coues graphically stated it: “The insolent and turbulent Missouri, ever restless turning in its bed, ever exploring its flood-plain for new channels in which to wind its way, ever making new bends and cutting off old ones, had exerted its incessant and irresistible force upon this miscalled one of the ‘eternal hills,’ [namely, Floyd’s Bluff].

By the spring of 1857, the side of Floyd’s Bluff next to the river had been so far taken away as to expose Floyd’s grave. Between it and the Missouri torrent was left an almost perpendicular precipice some one hundred feet in height.

Only by sheerest chance was this perilous condition of the grave discovered and reported. On a day late in April, 1857, a local resident by the name of M.L. Jones happened to be crossing the bluff and noted that the river, then unusually high, had cut deeply into the bank. He walked to the edge of the bluff, saw that the cedar post marker was gone and seemingly the grave, too. However, by lying on his stomach and inching closer, he could see bones projecting from the face of the cliff a few feet below him.

Jones lost no time in reporting his discovery to residents of Sioux City who hurried to the scene. 8 Once there, they quickly noted that “the box containing Sgt. Floyd’s remains was exposed for one-third its length, and being thus suspended over the river was in imminent danger of falling.” But what, if anything, could they do about it? They finally hit on a plan which they proceeded to carry out. By tying a rope around one of the men, the lightest of the group, they were able to lower him over the brink of the precipice until he had reached the


9. Ibid., 15, 15n.

10. Ibid., 16.
permanent monument to be erected in memory of Sergeant Floyd. The idea met with favor, but as the years went by and other interests intervened, it languished and was almost forgotten.

4.

More than thirty-five years went by before people of Sioux City and elsewhere again became earnestly interested in Sergeant Floyd, his grave and a monument to his memory. Two events were primarily responsible. The first, in 1893, was Coues' reissue of the Biddle edition of Lewis and Clark. The second, in 1894, was the discovery and publication of Sergeant Floyd's Journal. Both events quickly received national publicity, and newspapers, including the Sioux City Journal, began, in editorials, to reflect a reawakened public sentiment in favor of a monument to Floyd.

It was at this point that Elliott Coues threw his weight behind the proposition. He not only wrote the letter of May 26, 1895, earlier reproduced, to George Perkins but also an article titled "A Monument to Sergeant Floyd" which appeared in The Nation of May 30, 1895 (Vol. IX, p. 421), and a letter to the editor of The Washington Post who printed it in his issue of June 13, 1895. At about this same time the Associated Press, probably as a result of Coues' piece in The Nation, released a dispatch favoring the monument which news story went the rounds of uncounted newspapers.

On June 6, 1895, great momentum was given to the movement for a Floyd monument, and for a Floyd park, with the formation in Sioux City of a Floyd Memorial Association. Almost at once this organization had to face up to an embarrassing problem. A group of its members sent to Floyd's Bluff simply and, incredibly, could not find Floyd's grave. The marker had disappeared and foraging cattle had obliterated all trace of the burial site. Obviously, it would appear, Floyd had been so far forgotten that no one in recent years had even visited the grave. A second group which went to the bluff seeking to find the grave did succeed, though not until one of them declared that the earth covering the grave might well be of a different color from that of the original black prairie soil. Employing trowels and spades, they shortly located a patch of yellowish earth and, digging farther, disclosed "pieces of oak board about a foot long, much decayed." Then, some four feet below the surface, they found the coffin, "still in form, but so much decayed that the lid caved in when struck with the spade. The skull, including the lower jaw, and some other bones were found, in a good state of preservation."78

With the rediscovery of the Sergeant's remains now definitely accomplished, the Floyd Memorial Association set a date, that of August 20, 1895, for ceremonies attending the reinterment of the remains. The date was appropriate, being the 97th anniversary of his death. The Association, too, at once began elaborate preparations for the event. The secretary was instructed to write Elliott Coues and James D. Butler9 to ascertain whether either of both could be present to deliver addresses on the 20th. A committee was appointed to obtain receptacles for Floyd's skeletal parts and a proper stone to serve as a temporary marker. Other members of the organization were delegated to look into the purchase of the land of Floyd's Bluff to be used as a park. It was arranged that letters would be written to numerous dignitaries cordially inviting them to attend the ceremonies. One of them was mailed to Col. William Hancock Clark, eldest grandson of William Clark. Unfortunately the invitation, due to misdirection, did not arrive in time for him to accept.92 The Association saw to it that still other members handled the financing of the ceremonies, prepared the program and arranged the desired publicity.

In his letter accepting the invitation to attend, Coues expressed doubt as to the wisdom of reburying Floyd's skull; he thought it would be better preserved in some museum. The suggestion raised considerable discussion at the next meeting of the Association but, in the end, it was decided that "all the remains should be re commits the grave."93

Coues arrived in Sioux City on August 13, and with him Mrs. Coues. They stayed on until August 25, a

11. Ibid., 16. One report has it that the skull had already toppled down the cliff and was recovered at the river's edge.

12. Marshall F. Moore of New York had come to Sioux City in 1855 to practice law. He later went to the Northwest and became Governor of the State of Washington.


16. Ibid., 24-25.

17. James D. Butler (1815-1905), educator, was born in Rutland, Vt. He graduated from Middlebury College in 1836, and was professor of ancient languages in the Univ. of Wisconsin 1858-1867. He edited, for the American Antiquarian Society, Floyd's Journal, published by that organization in 1894.


19. Ibid., 28.
total of eleven days. On the 17th he attended a meeting of the Floyd Memorial Association, one that had been called to complete arrangements for the ceremonies to be held three days later. All present were interested in reports that the stone marker had been cut and inscribed, was ready to be laid, and that the earthenware containers (urns) for Floyd's remains had been obtained.

The events of August 20 began with a train ride to the foot of Floyd's Bluff. From there a procession, led by Gen. Hancock Post, G.A.R., and a fife and drum corps, marched to the top of the bluff. Following, in order, were: (1) old settlers; (2) officers of the Floyd Memorial Association, speakers for the occasion, and other invited guests; (3) city and council officials; (4) other organizations; and (5) the public. A total of some 500 persons attended.

The program began promptly at 2:00 P.M., and proceeded as follows:

I. View the remains in the urns, and examining Floyd's Journal.

II. Short address by Judge Wakefield, on behalf of Sioux City.

III. Short funeral sermon by Prof. James D. Butler.

IV. Singing of "Nearer My God to Thee."

V. Prayer.

VI. Ceremonial of burial of the remains, conducted by the G.A.R.

VII. Short addresses by Dr. Elliott Coues and others.

VIII. Setting of the stone over the grave.

Coues' talk was indeed brief, though appropriate to the occasion, and doubtless to some of his listeners painfully moving:

Ladies and Gentlemen: Instead of any poor remarks of my own on this interesting historic occasion, we will hear the very words which were penned on this spot by Capt. William Clark on the day of Sergeant Floyd's death, August 20, 1804:

"Died with a great deal of composure, before he died he said to me I am going away, I want you to write me a letter — We buried him on the top of the bluff 1/4 mile below a small river to which we gave his name. He was buried with the Honors of War much lamented, a seeder


22. Ibid., 30.

23. Ibid., 42.

24. Ibid., 44.

25. Ibid., 44.

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should show the origin, organization and proceedings of the association." This report, titled "In Memoriam, Sergeant Charles Floyd, Report of the Floyd Memorial Association," was published in 1897.

As our footnotes attest, we have already, in this paper, used several excerpts from Coues' report, such as has been its value to us; and we would be flagrantly at fault if we did not employ one more. To do so we should return to the ceremonies of August 20 and the initial exercise: "Viewing the remains in the urns."

Of those who viewed the remains no one, we are confident, was more interested than Coues. Supporting our conviction are unanswerable facts: Coues was a medical doctor, a skilled anatomist, and a trained observer with abundant curiosity. We should therefore hesitatingly accept as true his enumeration of Floyd's bones as reinterred on August 20. Earlier accounts, as we have seen, were vague and incomplete; Coues' was specific: "The skull, including the lower jaw [mandible]; the right femur, 18 inches long; a tibia, 15 inches; a fibula, 14 1/2 inches; part of the other fibula; one vertebra; one clavicle; and portions of several ribs — all in good preservation."

Starting? In the adult human skeleton there are approximately 208 bones, the number varying slightly with the amount of fusion in coccygeal vertebrae. Even if we regard the part of one fibula as a complete bone, and portions of several ribs as the full complement of 24, the bones of Sergeant Floyd reburied on August 20 add up to only 58. We are forced to believe, therefore, that the waters of the Missouri, during the space of 1807, had stripped from Floyd's bones more than three-fourths of his bones.

The primary objectives of the Floyd Memorial Association were, as we know, to obtain funds sufficient to purchase land for a Floyd Park and for a fitting monument to be erected on the site of Floyd's grave. The Asso-
archie graber, vice chairman of the washington (state) lewis and clark trail committee, presented an interesting and informative talk on early united states flags at the april 15, 1978 quarterly meeting of the committee at pasco, washington.

his discourse diagramed and commented upon the variety of arrangements of the field of five-pointed stars, and the number of alternating red and white stripes. these configurations changed frequently as additional states became part of the union. reference was made to the fifteen star — fifteen stripe flag carried by the lewis and clark expedition. see also, vol. 3, no. 2, p. 12.

land, oregon; gladys smolinski and her sister doris eller, of lewiston, idaho; ray forrest, walla walla; jacky rudeen, olympia; sylvia graber and maxine tweney, seattle; gracie craft, stevenson; richard, laura and brian krieg, skamania; and cindy sulenes, interpretive specialist at the lewis and clark interpretive center at ft. canby (cape disappointment), washington.

prior to the meeting, members and guests assembled at the chinese garden restaurant for luncheon. the meeting was held in the pasco pud auditorium, 1:30-3:50 p.m.

archie graber presented his review of early united states flags (see illustration).

the majority of the meeting time was devoted to finalizing plans and programs, and establishing the registration fee commensurate with the expense budget for the tenth annual meeting, which is being hosted by the committee in august (see story on page one, wpo, vol. 4, no. 2, may 1978).

several sub-committees are at work on various phases of the annual meeting activities, and will report at the committee's quarterly meeting on june 17, 1978, at vancouver, washington.

A motion was made and a resolution drafted and directed to the washington state board of geographic names. this in regard to a name change for the twin pinnacles at walula gap, on the columbia river, in southeastern washington. the suggestion is that the name of this geologic formation be changed from "two sisters" to "two captains".

Anecdote — From The Journals And Literature About the Expedition

Paul R. Cutright, in Lewis and Clark: Pioneering Naturalists, Univ. of Illinois Press, Urbana, 1969, pp. 18-19, comments on a "Joint Command", and the tempers of the two leaders.

"Possibly Jefferson did not think of the command as joint, but that is what it became. Lewis insisted on it. Most persons today, notably army officers, shudder at the idea of joint leadership. They insist that it runs counter to all sound principles of command, is like putting two scorpions into the same bottle. As things turned out, there was no cause for concern about Lewis and Clark. In 28 months together, under conditions of almost daily hardship and tensions, they met each and every problem, seemingly without even a whisper of dissent between them. Since the two men were so unlike temperamentally and in other ways, one wonders how this could have been so. Lewis was a dreamer, intent, fine drawn, reserved, unwavering, generally humorless. Clark was warm, companionable, a good judge of men, and easy conversationalist — but inclined to keep a portion of his counsel to himself — and highly successful in meeting the demands of actual living."

Iowa State University Honors Donald Jackson

One of four iowa state university alumni to receive the university's distinguished achievement award is foundation director donald jackson of colorado springs, colorado.

the award recognizes outstanding achievement as evidenced by preeminent contribution to education, government, social welfare, science, agriculture, finance, general business or the home. the awards were presented during "alumni days", june 2-3, 1978.

Donald Jackson, as our foundation members know, is a distinguished writer and historian. For twenty years he was editor of the University of Illinois press, Urbana, during which time he produced some 600 books for scholars throughout the world. Many of his...
We Proceeded On, July 1978

Oregon Committee Meets

The Oregon Lewis and Clark Trail Committee met at 9:30 A.M., Saturday, May 13, 1978. The meeting convened at the Portland Orthopedic Clinic (Chairman Chuinard's office) in Portland.

Committee members attending were: Chairman Chuinard, Vice Chairman Lange, Anderson, Beadle, Bounds, Goggin, Hallaux, Harvey, Lerback, Lundell, McClung, Rosa, and Williams. In the absence of Secretary Amacker, Chairman Chuinard kept notes for later development of the minutes of the meeting. Elisabeth Walton Potter, Oregon State Parks and Recreation Branch, Oregon State Highway Division, attended in lieu of David Powers III. Special guests were: Mitchell Doumit, Chairman; Hazel Bain, Secretary; Ralph Ru- deen, Executive Secretary; and Jack Ritter, all members of the Washington (State) Lewis and Clark Trail Committee.

Chairman Chuinard reviewed correspondence relating to: The new Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS) which replaces the previously designated Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR); See WPO, Vol. 4, No. 2, p. 10; the development of a Recreation Trail from Fort Clatsop to the Lewis and Clark Salt Cairn.

1. Additional biographical information will be found in WPO, Vol. 1, No. 1, p. 5; Vol. 2, No. 4, p. 6, fn. 1.

Chairman Chuinard reported on the proposed legislation supporting the acquisition by the National Park Service of the Expedition's Salt Cairn at Seaside, Oregon, as an addition to the Fort Clatsop National Memorial. Governor Straub has indicated, and committee member Ler­back (Seaside) confirmed, that several home owners adjacent to the Salt Cairn are concerned about what might be done in the way of development if the National Park Service was to acquire this historical site. Ray Lerback was instructed, as the result of a motion, to convey to the proper persons/groups at Seaside that our committee would be very willing to respond to an invitation to come to Seaside to discuss the committee's activity regarding the Salt Cairn.

Irving Anderson reported on his research concerning the spelling of the name of the Indian woman, Sacagawea, and a resolution being prepared for submission to the U.S. Board On Geographic Names, which endorses uniform spelling with the letter "g" in lieu of the letter "j" (Sacajawea) or the letter "k" (Sakakawea).

Anderson then reviewed the historical markers project he has been involved with. The markers, interpreting selected Lewis and Clark botanical discoveries, and honoring pioneer land claimants, are installed within Portland's Downtown Waterfront Park. This project, which also includes landscape plantings of common Pacific Northwest botanical species first described by Lewis and Clark, is the culmination of a Bicentennial effort Anderson conceived and brought to conclusion as the chairman of a special committee.

Anderson then presented a brief discussion regarding Captain William Clark's recording of the Chinook Indian name "Ke-ke-mah-ke", for the stream now known as the John Day River, Clatsop County, Oregon. Clark recorded the Chinook name, both in his journal, and on his sketch map of the lower Columbia River. Duplication of names for the river now exists, because there are two John Day Rivers in Oregon. (The larger, or principal stream bearing this name empties into the Columbia in Oregon, Gilliam-Sherman County line, near the community of Rufus, Oregon.) Further studies may be made with respect to the practicability of recommending a name...
change to the Oregon Geographic Names Board, or alternatively developing interpretive measures explaining the historical precedence for the Chinook Indian name "Kekemahke" River.

Prior to adjournment of the meeting at 3:40 P.M., it was decided to hold the next meeting of the committee on Saturday, September 23, 1978, at 1:30 P.M. at the Astor Library, Astoria, Oregon. Members will be the guests of committee member Ed Harvey and Mrs. Harvey at their Astoria residence for luncheon at 12:00 noon.

New Material Added To Chatters' Collection

Readers are referred to a story which appeared in WPO, Vol. 2, No. 2, Spring 1976, pp. 9-10, about Dr. Roy M. Chatters' interesting collection of original newspaper stories (circa 1803-1809) which relate to Lewis and Clark and the Expedition.

The editor has recently received from Roy Chatters reproductions made from the originals of four more newspaper articles which are now part of his interesting and unique collection. These recent acquisitions are:

From the New England Palladium, November 25, 1803, heading reads: "From a Kentucky Paper", datelined, "Louisville, Oct. 29." The article announces that "Cpt. Clark and Mr. Lewis left this place on Wednesday last, on their expedition to the Westward." The article alludes to President Jefferson's organization of the enterprise; the consummation of the Louisiana Purchase in the early future; and that it is "...certain that they will ascend the main branch of the Mississippi as far as possible: and it is probable they will then direct their course to the Missouri, and ascend it". There is mention of Lewis's "iron frame of a boat"; and concludes the discourse saying that: "About 60 men will compose the party".

From the Connecticut Courant for November 11, 1806, heading reads "Philadelphia, November 10.", and the editor adds an introductory paragraph which reads: "More Wonders; - The following letter is copied from the National Intelligencer. The Rocky mountain sheep beats the horned frog all hollow." This reference to the Rocky Mountain sheep and the horned frog analogy was obviously prompted by the final statement in the "Extract of a letter from a gentleman at St. Charles [Missouri], to a gentleman in this town [Washington, D.C.], dated 23rd September 1806", which reads: "They have brought a number of curiosities; among which is a wild sheep; its head and horns weigh about 80 or 90 pounds. He was caught on the Rocky Mountains." Dr. Thwaites includes this letter in his Vol. 7, Appendix LXVII, page 348.2

From the National Intelligencer, May 15, 1809, heading reads: "Indian War in Indiana", datelined, "Vincennes (I.T.), April 9." The article reports that Governor Harrison, Indiana Territory, has received a "special express" from Governor Meriwether Lewis, Louisiana Territory, warning of the possibility of an Indian uprising. Included in the article is an extract from a letter from General William Clark dated April 4, 1809, "to his friend in Louisville" advising that Governor Harrison has been informed "of the situation of the Indians on the Indian side of the Mississippi". General Clark makes an analysis of the military situation in this letter, and adds a final sentence: "I do not think that the Indians will make any attempt, after they find we are apprised of their intentions." The balance of the copy reproduces under the heading "St. Louis, (U.L.) April 12. General Orders, Headquarters, St. Louis, April 6, 1809." In these orders signed by Meriwether Lewis, the governor, alluding to himself as the "Commander in Chief", directed that all the volunteer companies of cavalry, riflemen and infantry, in the Upper Louisiana Territory, are "to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning." There are other extensive military orders contained in this "General Order". Of added interest is the publication on the same page of this newspaper of an additional "General Orders, Headquarters, St. Louis, April 10, 1809", wherein Governor Lewis admonishes "...the extreme reluctance on the part of the young men of Louisiana, to engage in the [military] service...", and that this has necessitated activation of other militia, and command assignments and "classes". A page from the National Intelligencer for November 27, 1809, contains an article without heading which begins with the statement: "We some time since republished from a Western [newspaper] print a circumstantial statement of the circumstances attending the unfortunate death of Governor M. Lewis. Information, which we have received, induces us to think that statement in several respects incorrect. Perhaps the two following letters will explain the particulars of his death in a more satisfactory manner than any thing hitherto published." The first letter reproduced is captioned "Extract of a letter from a gentleman, dated Nashville, Tennessee, 18th October 1809." Readers of WPO will find this letter reproduced in Thwaites, Vol. 7, Appendix LXXVI, page 389, and also note that Dr. Thwaites indicates in a note that this letter was written by a John Brahan to Captain Lewis's friend Major Amos Stoddard. Brahan alludes in his letter to a Major Neeley [sic], and readers of WPO will find James Neely's similar and more detailed letter to Thomas Jefferson in the Donald Jackson volume. The second letter, which is reproduced, is captioned: "Extract of a letter from Governor M. Lewis, dated Chickasaw Bluffs [present Memphis, Tennessee], 22d Sept. 1809." Dr. Jackson includes this letter in his collection, and Lewis's letter was to Major Amos Stoddard at Fort Adams, on the lower Mississippi River (Mississippi Territory).

Anecdote – From The Journals And Literature About the Expedition

M. O. Skarsten, in his book George Drouillard – Hunter and Interpreter for Lewis and Clark, and Fur Trader 1807-1810, Arthur H. Clark Co., Glendale, CA, 1964, remarks as follows about this important member of the exploring party:

"When Lewis and Clark engaged George Drouillard as interpreter for the expedition which they proposed to lead to the Pacific, they transacted a piece of business that yielded them returns beyond their most sanguine expectations; and this for the reason that George Drouillard was to demonstrate to them an ability and a willingness to serve them, not merely in the capacity of interpreter, but in several other capacities as well."

Elliott Coues discusses "George Dreyer... proper name believed to be Drouillard..." on pages 250-257, in his History of the Expedition under the Command of Lewis and Clark, Francis P. Harper, N.Y. 1893, and furnishes this description:

"Dreyer was a half-breed; the Indi- 4. Ibid. See text.


an side of him made him the best hunter and woodsman of the party; he was a crack shot, and simply invaluable. Drewyer and the brothers Fields seem to have been on the whole the most serviceable of the party, exclusive of the sergeants."

When Captain Meriwether Lewis forwarded his "Roll of men who accompanied Captains Lewis and Clark on their late tour to the Pacific Ocean..." to Secretary of War Henry Dearborn, on January 15, 1805, he wrote concerning Drouillard, although he used the spelling "Druylard," as follows:

"A man of much merit; he has been peculiarly useful from his knowledge of the language of gesticulation, and his uncommon skill as hunter and woodsman; those several duties he performed in good faith, and with an ardor which deserves the highest commendation. It was his fate also to have encountered, on various occasions, with either Captain Clark or myself, all the most dangerous and trying scenes of the voyage, in which he uniformly acquitted himself with honor..."

Postal Service 1805?

Of course not! The editor apologizes for the omission of a footnote referring to the "Meriwether Lewis's Letters To His Mother" story which appeared in the previous issue, Vol. 4, No. 2, May 1978, pp. 6 and 7. The missing footnote should have indicated to readers that Captain Lewis's letter to his mother written March 31, 1805, went forward to his mother via Corporal Warfington's party, and that at St. Louis, were turned-over to Captain Amos Stoddard, Captain Lewis's agent. Stoddard was responsible for dispatching these materials by post riders to Washington, D.C., or by barge via the Mississippi River to New Orleans, and thence to the eastern seaboard.

1. Letters, official communications, etc., as well as animal skins and skeletons, plant specimens, and other artifacts, traveled with Corporal Warfington's party, and at St. Louis, were turned-over to Captain Amos Stoddard, Captain Lewis's agent. Stoddard was responsible for dispatching these materials by post riders to Washington, D.C., or by barge via the Mississippi River to New Orleans, and thence to the eastern seaboard.


Annual Banquet Speaker

Founding Director and historian, author, editor, teacher and lecturer, Dr. Donald Jackson, Colorado Springs, Colorado, will be the speaker for the Annual Banquet, Wednesday, August 16, 1978. This is the final activity scheduled for the Foundation's Tenth Annual Meeting at Vancouver, Washington.

Jackson's address is titled: "Zebulon Pike - The Poor Man's Lewis and Clark". In a letter to the editor Don remarked: "I have proposed to the program committee for the August meeting, that I speak on all three of Thomas Jefferson's expeditions, which took place directly following the Louisiana Purchase: Dunbar and Freeman, Zebulon Pike, and Lewis and Clark. Tying them all together into the national purpose. I want to make Pike the central theme."

How delighted we are to have the informal photograph of Don Jackson, which he sent in response to a request. Don and Cathie now reside in their mountain retreat some 7500 feet above sea level in the Colorado Rockies. We envy them the view which we find Don partaking of in this photograph.

Blue Mountain Chapter Field Trip & Picnic

Southeastern Washington's Blue Mountain Chapter - Lewis and Clark Heritage Foundation scheduled a Sunday, June 25, 1978 pot-luck picnic meeting at 37 acre Lewis and Clark Trail Park, a Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission facility located on U.S. Highway 12, between Waitsburg and Dayton (near Huntsville), Washington. Inclement weather on the day preceding this event accounted for a smaller turn out than expected, but improved weather prevented cancellation, and 15 to 20 members and guests of the Blue Mountain Chapter assembled for picnic and activity.

Following the picnic luncheon, Mr. Mike Nickerson, the Park Ranger, reviewed for the group the history of the State Park, and the relationship this area has with the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The exploring party passed through this area on their return journey on May 2, 1806. The previous evening the party had camped about three miles west of Waitsburg. Following Mr. Nickerson's talk, the group returned, in their cars, to the historic Joyce McKinney Mantz farm near Waitsburg. The Expedition's journals relate that it was here on the land occupied by this farm... where a branch (today's Coppe Creek) falls in from the south-west mountains... and joins the Touchet River, the stream that the Expedition was following on their return journey in 1806.

Anecdote - From The Journals And Literature About the Expedition

Earle R. Forrest, in a 28 (unnumbered) page, bound, soft cover, monograph titled: Patrick Gass: Lewis and Clark's Last Man, published by Mrs. A. M. Painter (granddaughter of the Expedition's Sergeant: Patrick Gass), Independence, PA, 1950, comments on the death of Mrs. Rachel Gass Brierley, the youngest child of Sergeant Gass, on May 31, 1826, and makes this interesting observation:

"The death of Mrs. Brierley severed the last link that connected the present with the historic past of long ago. She was the last child of the 31 men and one Indian woman who were the first to cross the American continent, south of Canada, under Lewis and Clark. The lives of these two women - Mrs. Smith [an older daughter, died, February 2, 1825] and Mrs. Brierley - and their father covered a period of 185 years. Gass was born under the British Flag [1771], and during [his life and the lives of his daughters] this country grew from the original 13 states to 48, and they lived under every President from Washington to Coolidge."
Wilton Werner Interprets “Fight Site” Tour For Girl Scouts

Editor Keith Haugland, Cut Bank Pioneer Press, Cut Bank, Montana, was along with 26 Girl Scouts, their leaders, and a half-dozen parents, when Foundation Past President (1975-1976) Wilbur P. Werner led the way and was the interpretive guide for a tour to the Meriwether Lewis (Two Medicine River) Fight Site which is located about 13 miles by direct line and about 22 miles by road and trail southwest of Cutbank, Montana.

In a full length feature article in the Pioneer Press, issue for April 19, 1978, Editor Haugland provides a well written, accurate, and interesting account of the near disaster that confronted Captain Lewis and his three companions on July 26-27, 1806, at the site visited by the Girl Scouts and party. He comments about Wilbur Werner’s “Paraphrasing and reciting from memory large passages from the journal Meriwether Lewis wrote during the Expedition”, and how he “…was able to show the Girl Scouts where the Lewis party first caught sight of the Blackfeet [Indian] raiding party. He was able to show the approximate place where they met and first talked and then where the Lewis party and Indians camped for the night.”

To everyone along on the tour, “All of a sudden, history was no longer a boring subject. Werner also explained why he is sure that this was the site of the fight with the Indians. Again quoting Lewis, he told of the steep bluff we had just walked down; and the three solitary trees just off the river where Lewis, his party and the Indians had camped that night.”

Elsewhere in the same issue of the Pioneer Press, in an editorial titled “Just Personal”, Editor Haugland writes:

I had some misgivings when I was first asked to go on a Girl Scout tour of the Lewis Fight Site last Saturday…

But it didn’t turn out that way. I had a ball. First of all I had a good guide, I rode with Wilbur Werner, who was giving a guided tour of the site to the scouts…

This was the first time I had seen Wilbur outside of his normal role as attorney dressed in a suit and tie. The excitement and pleasure he got from tramping through the coulees looking for buffalo bones was contagious. And being a history buff myself, I thoroughly enjoyed seeing the actual site where Lewis and his party had that encounter with the Blackfeet Indians.

I would recommend that if you ever have a chance to tour the Lewis Fight Site with Wilbur, take it. It is fun, you learn something, you see more beautiful country, and there isn’t a telephone to bother you for miles.

During the trip, the girls’ interest was aroused concerning artifacts in the area. Here, Werner is shown with some of the Girl Scouts examining buffalo bones, which are usually found in the draws and ravines in the coulees. He showed them a buffalo skull, and one very lucky Girl Scout found an almost perfect arrowhead earlier in the afternoon.

Members of the Foundation and the editor of WPO know all about Wilbur, who served our Foundation as our seventh president, and in so many other ways. We’re glad, Keith Haugland, that you and your newspaper have seen fit to tell people everywhere about this fine man, and his interest in many people, the outdoors, natural history, Montana history, and the story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

1. See also, WPO, Vol. I, No. 4, pp. 10-11. (By line story by Werner, with illustration and map, about the site.)
2. George (“Drewyer”) Drouillard, Joseph Field, and Reuben Field.

We Proceeded On, July 1978
The Expedition’s Brothers: Joseph and Reuben Field

By Robert E. Lange

In Captain Lewis’s “A Roll of men who accompanied Captains Lewis and Clark on their late tour to the Pacific Ocean...”, which he transmitted to Secretary of War, Henry Dearborn, January 15, 1807, the Captain provided these remarks with reference to the Field brothers:

“Two of the most active and enterprising young men who accompanied us. It was their peculiar fate to have been engaged in all the most dangerous and difficult scenes of the voyage, in which they uniformly acquitted themselves with much honor.”

Students of the Expedition, historians, and writers seem to be divided as to the spelling of the last name of the two brothers who were members of the exploring party. The journals abound in a variety of spellings, more often with the added “S”.

The earlier Lewis and Clark scholars - Biddle, Coues, Wheeler, Quaife, and Hosmer - lean toward the spelling Fields. Thwaites denotes Fields in his index and uses the same spelling in his notes. DeVoto, of course, in his condensation of the Thwaites’ work continued the pattern established by Thwaites. Charles G. Clarke stays on middle ground with the connotation “Fields (Field)”. More recent literateurs of the Expedition - Bakeless, Dillon, Jackson, Cutright, and Chuinard - favor the spelling Field.

The editor joins the latter group and offers justification for this stand, as he assumes the others do, from documents still extant and of an official nature, where correct spelling for legal reasons, etc. suggests greater accuracy. Dr. Donald Jackson, in his “The Congression Act Compensating Lewis and Clark [and the men of the Expedition], 3 March 1807.”


Document 248, pp. 378-378 (specifically p. 379 - both brothers have signed document). “Petition to the Senate and House, [after 3 March 1807].”


Olin D. Wheeler includes in his volume one of two volumes, a lengthy chapter

1. Fifth President of the Foundation, Editor, We Proceeded On.


We Proceeded On, July 1978
“Camp Disappointment” and the “Fight Site” are near present day Cut Bank, Montana.

Lewis’s journal states:

...R. Fields as he seized his gun [from the Indian] stabbed the Indian to the heart with his knife - the fellow ran about 15 steps and fell dead.

This is the only documented death involving the exploring party’s contact with the Indians they encountered during the whole time of the Expedition.

Recently, the editor, while pursuing the journals, noted Captain Clark’s entry for December 24, 1805, where he acknowledges that Joseph Field, working at the construction of their Fort Clatsop winter establishment, had fabricated for the Captains, out of a hewn timber, the writing desks for the commanders’ quarters. Just as Clark indicated his gratitude for this added convenience, we might also be indebted to this Field brother, since it was on these rough, but usable, writing desks that much of the documentation and cartography of the Expedition had its origin during the long winter months at Fort Clatsop.

6. The Expedition’s “Camp Disappointment” and the “Two Medicine River Fight Site” have been alluded to in previous issues of WPO. See: Vol. 1, No. 2, p. 4; Vol. 1, No. 4, pp. 10-11; Vol. 3, No. 1, pp. 10-12.

7. Most of the literature written about this incident tends to indicate that two Indians were killed in the skirmish. Lewis’s journal details the exchange of gunfire he had with several Indians who were attempting to drive off the horses. Lewis says: “... I shot him through the belly, he fell to his knees and on his weight he partly raised up and fired at me ... he overshot me, being barrel-headed I felt the wind of his bullet very distinctly.” There is no definite statement in the journals that the Indian shot by Lewis succumbed after returning Lewis’s fire. (Thwaites; Vol. 5, pp. 224-225.)


CAPTAIN LEWIS AND OUR DOG SCANNON

The illustration is of the 8” X 10” bronze created for, and copyrighted by, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage, Foundation, Inc. The work of the internationally known sculptor, Bob Scriver, the sculpture is limited by copyright to only 150 copies. Nearly ninety of the bronzes have been sold to Lewis and Clark enthusiasts, dog lovers, art collectors, etc.

Individuals interested in purchasing this beautiful and unique collector’s item may write for additional information, price quotation, and an order form to: Wilbur P. Werner, P.O. Box 1244, Cut Bank, Montana, 59427.

THE FOUNDATION NEEDS THE CONTINUED INTEREST AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF LEWIS AND CLARK ENTHUSIASTS ON A NATION-WIDE BASIS. WE HOPE, IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER, THAT YOU WILL CONSIDER LENDING YOUR SUPPORT TO THE FOUNDATION. IF YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, A PROSPECTUS DESCRIBING THE FOUNDATION, TOGETHER WITH A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, WILL BE FORWARDED PROMPTLY. ADDRESS YOUR REQUEST TO THE SECRETARY, IRVING W. ANDERSON, P.O. BOX 1405, LAKE OSWEGO, OREGON 97034.

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

- Capt. Meriwether Lewis, July 19, 1805.
- Capt. William Clark, May 14, 1805.
- Sgt. John Ordway, June 29, 1806.
- Sgt. Patrick Gass, June 18, 1806.
- Sgt. Charles Floyd, June 26, 1804.