The Expedition’s journals frequently relate the activity of Cruzatte the fiddler. On June 25, 1805, Captain Lewis’ journal indicates that after preparations were completed to proceed on the next morning [see] “… were able to shake a foot … in dancing on the green to the music of the violin which Cruzatte plays extremely well.” (Thwaites, V. 2, p. 197). David Moffit, Portland, Oregon, an employee of the staff at the Fort Clatsop National Memorial (near Astoria, OR) provides this “Living History” demonstration for visitors to the Memorial. He is pictured above, in action, just outside of a squad room and in the parade ground at the replica of the exploring party’s winter establishment. Photograph by Roy J. Beadle.

Timothy Walker, Richmond, California, (the exploring party’s York) and Carol Jean Brafford, Sacramento, California, (the Expedition’s Sacagawea) are staff members at the Fort Clatsop National Memorial (near Astoria, OR). On the occasion pictured above “Living History” was really in action. York and Sacagawea were busy butchering and preparing deer meat, which was provided by the Oregon State Game Commission. The deer had been killed by an automobile only hours before it was brought to the Memorial. Photograph by “Frenchy” Chuinard.

1. Carol, an Oglala Sioux, was born on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, Oglala, Shannon County, South Dakota.
THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.
Incorporated 1969 under Missouri General Not-For-Profit Corporation Act IRS Exemption Certificate No. 5510153 — Identification No. 51-0167718

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Lynn Burris, Jr., 1972-1973
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Lansing, Michigan

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The purpose of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., is to stimulate nationally 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 following expedition which are of historical import to our nation. The Foundation recognizes the value of tourist-oriented programs, and supports activities which enhance the enjoyment and understanding of the Lewis and Clark story. The scope of the activities of the Foundation are broad and diverse, and include involvement in pursuits which, in the judgement of the Directors are, of historical worth or contemporary social values, and commemorative 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; distinguished achievement in the broad field of Lewis and Clark historical research; writing; or deeds 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 elected 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.

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

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President Doumit's Message

Photograph courtesy The Daily News, Longview, Washington

This will be my fourth and final message through We Proceeded On as your president. It has been a privilege and an honor to have been able to serve you during the past year — the first time my state of Washington has been so honored.

The next three years — 1979 through 1981 — should be important years for our Foundation for they mark the 175th anniversary of the years involved with the Expedition. 1804 was the year the exploring party traveled from today's Wood River, Illinois to present day North Dakota where they constructed and spent the first winter in their Fort Mandan. The next year, 1805, found them accomplishing their mission, leaving their Fort Mandan, ascending the Missouri River through today's states of North Dakota and Montana; across the Bitterroot Mountains of Idaho, and down the Clearwater River in Idaho; the Snake River in present day southeastern Washington State; and finally down the great Columbia River which provides today's boundary between the states of Washington and Oregon. They spent the winter at their Fort Clatsop establishment near present Astoria, Oregon. 1806 marked the year of their return, culminating in their successful completion of their journey of discovery.

These years should afford us an exceptional opportunity for bringing their accomplishments to the attention of the public. In an effort to obtain recognition for the Expedition, I approached the U. S. Postal Service with the suggestion that appropriate postal stamps be issued to commemorate the contributions of the Expedi-

We Proceeded On, July 1979
tion to our history. Because of a nessary two-year period devoted to the study and consideration of new commemorative stamp issues, it will be impossible to issue stamps related to the Lewis and Clark Expedition during 1979 and 1980. The Postmaster General in response to my suggestion did assure me that he would recommend that an appropriate stamp or stamps be issued to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the successful completion of the exploring enterprise in 1981.

I set out to undertake a number of projects which I considered to be important toward continuing the success of the Foundation.

In an effort to induce our members to participate more fully in the work and activities of the Foundation, I solicited their cooperation in serving on committees. In addition to the Board of Directors and the ex-officio Executive Committee, some thirteen committees with a total membership of 70 individuals were appointed to serve (see WPO, Vol. 5, No. 1, Feb. 1979, pp. 4 & 5). Some of these committees have been very active and it is expected that we will be receiving reports from them at the annual meeting in Glasgow, Montana.

Another project deals with membership. We have worked in two ways in this connection: first, by making a determined effort to retain our members; and, second, by conducting a consistent program to interest new people so as to provide for an increase in membership each year. With the help and drive of our Membership Chairman and Membership Secretary, Hazel Bain, we have moved in this direction to the extent that our total membership has already reached the highest total since the inception of the Foundation. It was not my wish to develop a massive membership, but I do believe that a steady growth in a solid membership is to be desired.

By far my greatest emphasis at this time is to encourage as many of you as possible to attend the Eleventh Annual Meeting of the Foundation at Glasgow. Our hosts, the Valley County Lewis and Clark Trail Society, have planned an outstanding program in an area replete with the history and heritage of the Expedition. Of course, as your president, I would like to have as large an attendance as possible. I realize that there is some concern about traveling in view of the present energy problems. This, therefore, should place a greater effort on those of us who are able to attend. I would hope to see a larger attendance from the Missouri River trail states at this meeting, since it is closer to their areas.

An examination of the details and program (outlined in WPO, Vol 5, No. 2, May 1979, p. 1; and in the packet enclosed with the mailing of that issue) will indicate the outstanding nature of the forth-coming Annual Meeting. We will have excellent speakers, and there will be excursions to areas which were actually traversed by the men of the exploring party.

Among recommendations that I have made to various committees are those to the Bylaws Committee for their consideration and recommendation to the membership at the annual meeting. In order that you may have a preview of my recommendations, I am submitting a brief resume here. To understand my proposals better in the texts of the bylaws that follow:

New proposed verbage will be indicated thusly: "(Proposed)" and the proposed new verbage will follow in upper case type.

Verbage for deletion will be indicated thusly: "(Delete)" and the verbage to be deleted will follow in italics.

Section 4.1 Annual Meetings. The annual meeting of the members of the Foundation, for the purpose of electing directors and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting, shall be held at such place in the United States as members may by resolution designate at a previous meeting. (Delete) The general practice shall be to fix the annual meeting at a suitable place within the state in which the first vice president resides. In the event the members fail to establish the time or place of the next annual meeting, or in the event it becomes impractical to hold the annual meeting at the time or in the place selected by members, the Board of Directors of the Foundation shall, as early as possible, designate the time and place of such meeting.

The verbage proposed to be eliminated (in italics) serves no useful purpose and creates problems each year for the Meeting Place Committee and for the Nominating Committee. At the present time, if we follow the existing verbage, despite the wording "The general practice shall be . . .", the 1980 annual meeting would be in Oregon, since the vice president resides in Oregon. As a practical matter, since approximately 60% of the membership resides in the states of Montana, Oregon, and Washington, invoking the " . . general practice . . ." would lead to virtually rotating all the annual meetings among these three states.

Another proposal involves the organization of the Board of Directors which provides:

Section 7.1 Organization. The business affairs of the Foundation shall be controlled and directed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer (Proposed) AND (Delete) AND Past Presidents. (Proposed) IN ADDITION THERETO, THERE SHALL BE ELECTED DIRECTORS AS FOLLOWS:

A. ONE (1) RESIDENT DIRECTOR FROM EACH OF THE SIXTEEN TRAIL STATES.
B. ONE (1) RESIDENT DIRECTOR FROM ANY STATE ENTITY HAVING AT LEAST TEN (10) MEMBERS.
C. ONE (1) ADDITIONAL RESIDENT DIRECTOR FROM ANY STATE FOR EACH TWENTY-FIVE (25) MEMBERS, OR FRACTION THEREOF, AFTER THE FIRST FIFTY (50) MEMBERS FROM SUCH STATE.

It will be noted that I have proposed a resident director from any state, other than the Trail states, having ten or more members. At last report, California with 21 members, and Virginia with 10 members, would qualify for a director. In addition, I do believe that provisions ought to be made to elect a certain number of Directors at Large.

I believe that the three states with large memberships—my own state of Washington with over 100 members; Montana with 73 members; and Oregon with 68 members—should be entitled to director recognition commensurate with their membership.

You will note that I am proposing that past presidents be members of the Board of Directors. I believe that, if they are willing to serve, the Foundation should utilize their experience. There will be seven past presidents, who have maintained membership in the Foundation, at the close of my term.

Under my proposal, there would be approximately 35 members of the Board of Directors as follows: Five officers, seven past presidents, eleven Trail state directors, two entity state directors, and two each additional directors for Washington, Oregon and Montana, plus any number of directors that might be provided for "at large".

This number of directors might seem unwieldy, but Section 7.3 provides that a quorum consists of only 9 members so this should not preclude holding director's meetings because of a lack of a quorum.

One other matter concerns me and I believe should receive serious consideration in order to enable the Foundation to have more flexibility when se-
lecting places for annual meetings. I would propose that the following addition to the bylaws Under Section IV Section 4.5 Annual Meeting Program. The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the incoming vice president, shall name the Program Chairman and Local Arrangements Chairman for the Annual Meeting, which will occur when he is the president of the Foundation. These chairmen may solicit whatever support they need and they shall be responsible in their respective areas. This makes the Board of Directors responsible for the program at the annual meeting, and relieves the local areas of that responsibility and leaves them to make such local arrangements as might be indicated.

Obviously space in this message does not permit an in depth discussion of these proposals. I would suggest that any member having suggestions, and unable to attend the forth-coming annual meeting, should make their thoughts known to Marcus Ware, chairman of the bylaws committee, or to me.

Again, may I express my thanks and appreciation for the opportunity to serve as your president. I trust that my contributions have been favorably received, and I sincerely hope that I will see many of you at Glasgow, Montana, in August.

Mitchell Doumit, President

News Note

We transcribe verbatim the following news item which appeared in Variety, issue for July 4, 1979. The article is date lined, Hollywood, July 3.

David Dortort, Charles W. Fries and Ken Belsky have partnered to produce a three hour TV film for CBS Entertainment, based on the Lewis and Clark diaries and original material on Sacajawea [sic], Indian guide [?] of the expedition, written by Burch Mann.

Fries Enterprises, Dortort's Aurora Enterprises and Belsky's K-Bella Enterprises will produce the film, which will be written by Dortort, who also will be exec producer with Fries. Belsky, whose company has an exclusive development deal with Fries Enterprises, will be producer.

They plan to shoot the film along the precise course taken by the original L & C expedition, locationing in Montana and Idaho, and along the Missouri and Columbia rivers.

Dan Murphy – Our 11th Annual Banquet Speaker

Members and guests who will be attending the Foundation's Eleventh Annual Meeting and the Annual Banquet, at Glasgow, Montana, are looking forward to meeting and hearing Dan Murphy's banquet address.

Dan is a career employee with the National Park Service, presently located in Saint Louis at the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (the Gateway Arch). His previous assignments with the National Park Service have been in Utah, Arizona, Wyoming, and New Mexico. His original responsibility at the St. Louis facility was as Supervisor for the Museum of Westward Expansion at the Memorial.

Holding degrees in both history and archeology, a great deal of his work is in the Park Service's interpretive activities. Dan says: "My inclination is toward the dissemination of information to the masses; I believe very much in rock-hard scholarship, but with that, I think that legitimate popularization is a fine and holy thing, and quite necessary if the masses are to know our heritage." His specialty is the study of the westward expansion of the United States. Lewis and Clark students and enthusiasts know him best for the splendid and imaginative text that he developed in collaboration with David Muench's superb color photographs in the publication Lewis and Clark: Voyage of Discovery.1

Murphy, in a letter to the Editor, says: "I like what I call "experiential" history — as an addition to, not a substitute for, documentary scholarship. For instance, recently I tried running through the woods where the panic-stricken Illinois Militia did in "Stillman's Run" of the Blackhawk War — and I have a better concept of their panic than I had from reading the textbooks."

Dan Murphy has indicated that he will be speaking about some of the misconceptions he finds that people have about Lewis and Clark and the Expedition. These are based on conversations the tens of thousands who visit the National Parks and enter into conversations with the park rangers. "This", he says, "further stresses the importance of getting the basic story and accurate information out to them at every opportunity!"

1. See We Proceeded On, Vol. 3, No. 2, p. 7; and Vol. 4, No. 1, p. 11.


The Editor and the Foundation's Publications Committee welcome manuscripts dealing with the many aspects of the Lewis and Clark Expedition for publication in We Proceeded On.

Manuscripts (typewritten-double spaced) may be forwarded to the Editor or to any member of the Publications Committee (addresses are listed in the Publisher's Plate on page 2). As a non-profit entity, neither the Foundation nor We Proceeded On, is in a position to offer honorariums for published manuscripts. Contributors will receive ten copies of the issue in which their article is published.
Youth Activity Essay Winner - Liz Hahn

Liz Hahn, a senior at Glasgow High School is the 1st prize winner for the Essay contest sponsored by the Foundation’s Youth Committee. Bob Saindon, president elect of the national Foundation and chairman of the Youth Committee, is shown above as he presented Liz with a check for $25.00. Liz will read her winning essay at the noon luncheon, August 15th, during the 11th Annual Meeting of the Foundation. Her essay will also be published in the October/November issue of We Proceeded On.

Runners-up in the contest are Tom Hoffman, eighth grader in the Ophieum School, and Kelly McNulty and Nola Gurth of Glasgow High School. All four of the winners received a copy of the book, In the Footsteps of Lewis and Clark published by the National Geographic Society.

Judges for the essay contest were Vivian A. Paladin, Helena, Montana, Editor Emeritus of Montana: The Magazine of Western History, and Robert E. Lange, Portland, Oregon, past president of the Foundation and editor of the Foundation’s publication We Proceeded On.

The prizes for the contest were funded from the Foundation’s Raymond Darvin Burroughs Memorial Fund. “Dar” Burroughs, an author and director of the Foundation, passed away in 1976, and the Memorial Fund was conceived by his daughter, Mrs. William B. (Margaret) Norris, Fayetteville, NY (see WPO, Vol. 2, No. 4, p. 7). Mr. and Mrs. Norris regularly attend the Foundation’s Annual Meetings.


News Note

Orders are now being accepted for the first, in a series of four, solid bronze Lewis and Clark belt buckles. Spon­
sored by the Cut Bank (Montana) Lewis and Clark Festival Committee, the series will depict the Lewis and Clark Expedition – Voyage of Discovery – in Montana. Bob Scriber, world famous Montana sculptor1 has de­
signed and created the series, which will be cast in a limited edition of 500 se­
rially number buckles for each of the four designs.

The 1979 issue depicts the scene ti­
tled: “The Marias Explorers”, and


will portray Captain Lewis, the Field brothers, and Drouillard (Drewyer). The balance of the series will be cast and released in 1980, 1981, and 1982, and will include subjects depicting “Camp Disappointment”; “The Two Medicine River Fight Site”; and “Cap­
tain Lewis Near Cut Bank, Mon­tana”.

The 1979, “The Marias Explorers”, sells for $25.00 plus postage and han­
dling, and will be shipped to pur­
chasers in the fall of this year. Be­
cause of the limited edition, inter­
eted purchasers are urged to order as soon as possible. A $15.00 deposit for each buckle should accompany your order, and the balance will be due when you are notified that the buck­
les are available for shipment. Orders

for the 1980, 1981, and 1982 series will also be accepted at this time, and these may be slightly higher priced due to increased costs at time of cast­ing. The committee has announced that there will be a limit of three of each of the designs in the series per each individual purchaser.

Order forms and additional infor­
mation may be obtained from the Cut Bank Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1244, Cut Bank, MT 59427, or from Wilbur P. Werner, O. Box 1244, Cut Bank, MT 59427.

H. Bain Tells L. & C. Story To Washington State Group Meeting


In addition to workshop conferences related to a multitude of subjects con­
cerned with the organization’s activi­	ies, Hazel Bain, Membership Secre­
tary for the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., and a member of the Longview Association of Educational Office Personnel (the host group), addressed the assem­
bled. The title of her address appeared on the program as: “The Lewis and
Clark Trail – The Story of This Great Event in U. S. History Which Spanned the North American Continent, Traversing Areas Which Later Would Form Many of Our Western States.” Following her address, Mit­chell Doumit (Cathlamet, Wash­ington, and president of the national Foundation) presented and provided the narration for a group of slides re­
lating to the Expedition and the trail of the exploring party.

At the final banquet on April 22nd, Dr. Grant Hendrickson, Superin­
tendent of the Longview, Washington School District, was the speaker. The Subject of Dr. Hendrickson’s address was: “Reflections of Sacagawea”.

The theme for the conference which appeared on the program and regis­
tration form read: “Follow The Lewis and Clark Trail To Longview-Kelso”. Several of the workshops and meeting sessions were held in the Monticello Hotel’s Lewis and Clark Room (see WPO, Vol. 1, No. 2, p. 4).
Sixth Annual Symposium
Washington-Oregon Event

Some sixty Lewis and Clark enthusiasts gathered at Fort Columbia State Park, Ilwaco, and Fort Canby State Park — Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, all on the Washington State (north) shore of the Columbia River estuary for the Sixth Annual Washington-Oregon Lewis and Clark Symposium. This is an annual event jointly sponsored by the Washington (State) Lewis and Clark Trail Committee and the Oregon Lewis and Clark Trail Committee (See WPO, Vol. 5, No. 2, p. 7).

The Symposium banquet took place at Red's Restaurant in Ilwaco, Washington. Following the banquet the speakers were Victor T. Ecklund, retired Chief, Resource Area Studies Division, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Bellevue, Washington, and Dr. Robert C. Carricker, Department of History, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington. Ecklund's address was titled: "The National Park Service and the Lewis and Clark Trail". Dr. Carricker's interesting paper explored: "The Politics of Trans-Continental Exploration".

The final treat of the evening was a special open-house for this specific group at Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center where visitors watched the setting sun and approaching evening from this magnificent viewpoint high atop Cape Disappointment.

Donald Jackson Presents Paper At American Philosophical Society

In a letter to the editor, Don Jackson remarked: "I had the pleasure of standing where Jefferson used to stand as I delivered my paper at the American Philosophical Society." The date was Friday, April 20, 1979, and Jackson's paper was titled: "Jefferson, Meriwether Lewis, and the Reduction of the United States Army".

Donald Jackson's paper advances the interesting supposition that President Thomas Jefferson may have had another reason for bringing young Meriwether Lewis to Washington and Monticello as his private secretary, other than for the planning of the exploration of the trans-Mississippi west.

The paper is scheduled for publication later this year in the Society's Proceedings. Jackson, in his letter, when referring to his paper says:

As you will see, it is based upon my recognition of Lewis's handwriting on a single sheet of paper while I was cranking through the 50 reels of Jefferson microfilm last year for the third time. I am now suggesting that we have some evidence to show that Lewis was not hired as Secretary to train for an expedition; and I support the fact with some added indications that the [Lewis and Clark] expedition was not conceived until late in 1802, at least 18 months after Lewis became presidential secretary.

We Proceeded On will advise readers of the availability of the American Philosophical Society's Proceedings. Students and enthusiasts of the Lewis and Clark saga, despite the long standing tradition that Jefferson hired Meriwether Lewis in 1801, not as a secretary or aide, but as a trainee for a transcontinental expedition, will be interested in Donald Jackson's conjectures that this may not have been his purpose at all! Jackson states this so very well in the summation of his paper, when he states:

"... it seems evident that Jefferson hired Captain Meriwether Lewis for quite another purpose than to train him for a transcontinental expedition, and that he decided on that expedition much later than has previously been believed. And so when Lewis set out from Washington and Philadelphia, in the spring of 1803, to begin the nation's most enduring tale of exploration and adventure, he had the satisfaction of knowing that he already had served his President and his party in a rather unusual way."

1. See WPO, Vol. 1, No. 1, p. 5; Vol. 4, No. 4, p. 6, fn. 1. Dr. Jackson is a Director of the Foundation.

2. The Society is located in Philadelphia, PA, near Independence Hall, and was founded in 1743. For a list of the original manuscript journals of Lewis and Clark and other memorabilia related to the Expedition in the archives of the Society, see Curtright, Paul R.; Lewis and Clark: Pioneering Naturalists, Univ. of Illinois Press, Urbana, 1969, pp. 448-449.

Oregon's Senior Senator Mark O. Hatfield (left) visits with Foundation Director E. G. "Frenchy" Chuinard just prior to the Property Transfer Ceremony at the Seaside, Oregon site of the Lewis and Clark Expedition's Salt Cairn (Saltworks). It was the dedicated interest of Dr. Chuinard, who as Chairman of the Oregon Lewis and Clark Trail Committee, and Senator Hatfield's specific accomplishment in introducing Congressional legislation, first in 1972, and finally in 1978, which as part of the "National Parks and Recreation Act", provided for the addition of the Salt Cairn Site to the Fort Clatsop National Memorial (see WPO, Vol. 5, No. 1, pp. 1 and 11). The June 23rd ceremony witnessed the transfer of the site from the Oregon Historical Society, who acquired the property in 1910, to the National Park Service. Following the ceremony at the Salt Cairn, Senator Hatfield addressed a gathering of several hundred at a luncheon at the Senior Citizens Center in Seaside, Oregon.
Principals at Salt Cairn Property Transfer Ceremony

(From left) Donald J. Sterling, President of the Oregon Historical Society; Robert E. Scott, Superintendent of the National Park Service Fort Clatsop National Memorial; and Russell E. Dickenson, Pacific Northwest Regional Director, National Park Service, Seattle, are pictured at the Lewis and Clark Expedition's Salt Cairn site, Seaside, Oregon. At the June 23rd Property Transfer Ceremony, Oregon Historical Society President Sterling presented the property deed for the site of the Salt Cairn to National Park Service Regional Director Dickinson. Recent Congressional legislation directed that the site be added to the Fort Clatsop National Memorial which is some 15 miles to the north and east near Astoria, Oregon. Now that the site is a part of the Memorial, Superintendent Scott will be responsible for its maintenance and administration. Photograph by Fritzi Chuinard.

Youth Activity Art Contest Award Goes To Steve Ringstad

Pictured here is Steve Ringstad, fourth grader at Irle School, accepting a $25.00 check from Bob Saindon, chairman of the Foundation's Youth Activities Committee. Steve was awarded first prize in an art contest. His drawing titled "Going Around the Great Falls of the Missouri" will be incorporated in the cover design of the Eleventh Annual Meeting Program for the Glasgow, Montana, August 12-15, 1979 meeting.

Saindon said that the contest proved to be most popular and over 400 art entries were received. Runners-up are Nadine Wimmer of Frontier Elementary School, north of Wolf Point, and Whit Anderson and Shawn Cornall of the Irle School in Glasgow. They, as well as Ringstad, received copies of Gerald Snyder's book *In the Footsteps of Lewis and Clark*, published by the National Geographic Society in 1970.

Judges for the art contest were Michael McCourt, curator of the Montana Historical Society and Archie M. Graber, Seattle, Washington, artist, sculptor, bibliophile, and student and authority on the Expedition.

The prizes for the contest were funded from the Foundation's Raymond Darwin Burroughs Memorial Fund. "Dar" Burroughs, an author and director of the Foundation passed away in 1976, and the Memorial Fund was conceived by his daughter, Mrs. William B. (Margaret) Norris, Fayetteville, NY (see WPO, Vol. 2, No. 4, p. 7). Mr. and Mrs. Norris regularly attend the Foundation's Annual Meetings.

9. Drouillard's & the Field brothers' Hunting Camp, shown as the April 7-8 campsite on Clark's map.
10. Wahclellah Village.

LOCATION OF LEWIS AND CLARK CAMPSITE FOR APRIL 6 - 8, 1806
Location Of The Lewis And Clark Campsite For April 6-8, 1806

By Emory and Ruth Strong

The location of the Lewis and Clark campsite for April 6, 7, and 8, 1806, on the return journey has puzzled many students of the Expedition. Even Elliott Coues,1 that genius for correlating contemporary maps with the journals,2 admitted that he "...could not fix the spot..." Both the journals and Clark's map are confusing.

The party camped April 1-5, 1806 near today's Washougal, Clark County, Washington, "...on the N. side of the [Columbia] river...opposite the upper entrance of the Quicksand [present day Sandy] river...". We believe they camped where the Washougal Woolen Mills now stand, for evidence indicates there was once a small bay there, and Lewis and Clark always camped, wherever possible, where the canoes could be sheltered. However, on his map,3 Clark notes this site as “Camped March 31 and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, of April 1806.”

All the journalists including Gass and Ordway record that this (the Washougal) camp was abandoned on April 6th. Captain Clark records: "...we had all the meat packed up and our canoes loaded ready for to set out...and proceeded to the Camp of Gibson & party about 9 miles...". Clark had noted on April 4th, "About noon we dispatched Gibson, Shannon, Howard, and Wiser in one of the lighter canoes, with orders to proceed up the Columbia to a large bottom on the South [present Oregon] Side about 6 miles above us and there to hunt until our arrival...we directed Drewyer and Field's [sic. the Field brothers, Reuben and Joseph] to ascend the river tomorrow and join Gibson & party."4

Captain Lewis wrote on April 6th, "...we took breakfast and departed at 9 A.M. we continued up the N. side of the river nearly to the place [opposite to the place] at which we camped on the 3rd [2nd, at the base of Rooster Rock in today's Rooster Rock State Park, Oregon] of November last [1805]...at a distance of ten miles from our encampment we met with our hunters in the upper end of the bottom to which we had directed them on the South side of the river. they had killed three elk this morning...we therefore determined to encamp for the evening at this place in order to dry the meat...we also directed Drewyer and the two Fieldes [what a trio!] to ascend the river early in the morning to a small bottom a few miles above and hunt until our arrival."5

Ordway noted: "Sunday 6th of April 1806...we loaded up and set out proceeded on very well about 8 miles and halted at the Camp of our hunters...". Gass says: "...proceeded on about 9 miles and came to our hunters' camp."6

So there can be no doubt that the April 6th campsite was on the Columbia River, above or upstream from their April 5th campsite, in spite of Clark's notation on his map.

Captain Lewis wrote on April 7th: "...we employed the party in drying the meat today which we completed by evening, and we had it secured in Dried Elkskins and put on board in readiness for an early departure."7 Captain Clark said: "...we were visited by several parties of Indians from a village about 12 miles above us.8...we could not fix the spot..."9

The next day, April 8th, the wind blew so violently that they were forced to unload the canoes and "...compelled to remain during the day...".10 Captain Lewis took a walk on this day and for the first time differentiated between the thimble and salmon berries. He had originally considered them to be the same shrub.

It is evident that the party camped April 6th, 7th, and 8th, 1806, on the same site.

On April 9th, Captain Lewis records: "...We passed several beautiful cascades the most remarkable of these cascades falls about 300 feet [Oregon's Multnomah Falls, actually 620 feet] falls perpendicularly over a solid rock [wall] into a narrow bottom of the river on the south side. It is a large creek, situated about five miles above our encampment of last evening."11

The distances between Washougal and the April 6-8, 1806 campsite shown on the Mileage Chart (excepting that of Lewis) brings us to the vicinity of Shepperds Dell (see map) which is exactly what the journals say: "...at the upper end of the bottom..." a site that is about five

(Continued On Page 10)

5. Thwaites, Reuben G. (Editor): Original Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Dodd, Mead & Co., N.Y., 1904, Vol. 4, p. 224. Also note that the Sandy River is on the south (Oregon) side of the Columbia River.
6. Ibid., Vol. 8 (Atlas), Map No. 32 II.
7. Ibid., Vol. 4, p. 249.
8. Ibid., Vol. 4, p. 244.
9. Ibid., Vol. 4, p. 249.
13. Ibid., Vol. 4, p. 254.
15. Ibid., Vol. 4, p. 256.
16. Ibid., Vol. 4, p. 259.
17. Ibid., Vol. 4, p. 249.
MILEAGE CHART - APRIL 6 - 8, 1806

This chart shows the actual distances (mileage) and the distances documented in the journals and on Clark's map, which are related to the Expedition's travel for April 6-8, 1806.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journals</th>
<th><em>Actual</em></th>
<th>Lewis</th>
<th>Clark</th>
<th>Ordway</th>
<th>Gass</th>
<th>Clark's Map</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From Washougal, WA to April 6-8 Camp ...</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From April 6-8 Camp to Multnomah Falls ...</td>
<td>4½</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From April 6-8 Camp to Wahclellah Village ...</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washougal, WA to Wahclellah Village ...</td>
<td>1⅞</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*On present day maps. The April 6-8 campsite and Multnomah Falls are in present day Oregon, and the Wahclellah Indian Village is in present day Washington State.

(text continued from page 9)

miles (see chart) as Lewis says, below today's Multnomah Falls. The actual place must be close to where the railroad tracks now cross Youngs Creek, opposite the center of Sand Island (see map). Since the water is normally high in April, there would have been a channel between the south [Oregon] shore and the [Sand] island. Providing, of course, the island was there in 1806. Clark shows no island on his map.

On April 9th, the Corps of Discovery "...departed at 7 A.M. and proceeded on to the Camp of Reubin and Joseph Fields."

(Drouillard had returned to the main camp with some Wahclellah Indians to report that there was no game.) The party did not halt, but proceeded on to the Wahclellah village where they had breakfast.

It is nearly opposite this village that Captain Clark shows on his map the familiar symbol and the documentation: "Camped 7th & 8th April 1806". This would locate the Expedition on the present day Oregon shore at Milepost 35 on Interstate Highway I-80, in the vicinity of Dodson and about nine miles upstream from Shepards Dell at their April 6-8, 1806 campsite. This brings us to the "upper end" of the "small bottom above" where Drouillard and the Field brothers were sent to hunt on April 7th. We have no explanation for Clark's error in locating this campsite.

The Wahclellah Indian village was near present Skamania, Washington, on the north bank of the Columbia River, one mile below 840 foot high Beacon Rock. The remains of this Indian settlement, the largest the party saw on the Columbia, can still be plainly seen. It was here that the exploring party's John Colter recognized the tomahawk that the Indians had stolen from them when they were just below Vancouver, Washington.

the previous November 4, 1805. Colter seized the tomahawk and kept it, nearly precipitating a fight.

Students of the Expedition who use Salisbursys Two Captains West22 as a guide should be warned that their location of the Wahclellah village (page 140) is incorrect. We live on the property where the Salisbursys describe "...four lodge pits still clearly visible and Indian pictographs on a rock..." - really a petroglyph - can be seen, and have spent many pleasant hours searching out and authenticating Lewis and Clark sites and landmarks on the banks of the great Columbia River.

Guns Of Expedition Subject At Meeting Of Washington Group

Viola Forrest, Walla Walla, Washington, reports that thirty members and friends of the Blue Mountain Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation enjoyed a "double barrel" program on May 15th when Dr. Roy M. Chatters, Pullman, Washington, and Francis Christiano, Walla Walla appeared on the same evening program to tell members about the guns of the Expedition.

A slide lecture by Dr. Chatters depicted his ten-year research on the air-gun carried by the exploring party. His search took him to Vienna, Austria, where he learned that at the time of Napoleonic Wars, the air-gun was considered to be a silent, smokeless, short-range, lethal weapon. The air-gun carried on the 1804-1806 Expedition was more often used as a display and demonstration novelty which the Indians, as Captain Lewis says, found so "...perfectly incomprehensible that they immediately denounced it.

1. For biographical information concerning Dr. Chatters, and his varied interests in the Lewis and Clark Expedition, see WPO, Vol. 2, No. 2, pp. 9-10; Vol. 3, No. 2, pp. 4-6; and Vol. 4, No. 3, p. 12.


3. Detailed information concerning these rifles appears in Hult, Ruby El; Guns of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma, 1969. Today, Harpers Ferry is a National Park Service National Historic Park, located in the states of Maryland and West Virginia, at the confluence of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers, about sixty miles northwest of Washington, D.C.
Socajawa, by Anna Lee Waldo. Avon Books, N.Y., 1979, 1359 pages, bibliography, $8.95. Published in paperback. The publisher states: “Socajawa is an original publication of Avon Books. This work has never appeared in book form.”

It is hard to believe, but still another false perpetuating the world of fantasy surrounding the Indian woman member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition has surfaced in the apocryphal realm of paperback journalism. As advertised by the publisher, the book is implied to be a historical novel. We Proceeded On readers are cautioned, however, that this book is utter fiction, and actually so distorts documented facts concerning persons, places and events of the Expedition, that it poses a serious negative intrusion upon the integrity of U.S. history. Readers should not be misled by the author’s cosmetic attempt to legitimize her volume by the sound historical works listed in her bibliography, nor by the many verbatim quotes she has utilized to preface each chapter of her book.

Even novice Lewis and Clark Expedition enthusiasts will react in disbelief at Waldo’s wide-ranging imagination. Prime examples of her writer’s license include portraying York as midwife to Socajawa during the birth of her son, Jean Baptiste Charbonneau; depicting Socajawa pointing out the correct route to the Great Falls of the Missouri River which she had never seen, while the Captains labored in indecision for nine days as to the location of the falls while at the mouth of the Marias River; promoting a clandestine, fervent romance between Socajawa and Captain Clark; describing Pacific Ocean tidal influence, and the harvesting of abalone by Socajawa in present-day Idaho’s Clearwater River, more than 400 miles from the ocean; attributing quotes to Captain Lewis while at Pompey’s Tower [Pills].

The officers, directors and members of the Foundation acknowledge with gratitude the one hundred dollar memorial tendered the Foundation by Mrs. George A. (Leah E.) Guins in “Memory of George A. Guins”. George Guins, a resident of Portland, Oregon had maintained a membership in the Foundation since 1974, and a “Sustaining” membership since 1976. He passed away May 13, 1979, at age 72.

Born in Vladivostok, Russia, Mr. Guins was educated at the Russian Naval Academy, and in this country at the University of Puget Sound, Oregon State College, and Stanford University. He was a professional consulting engineer and naval architect practicing in Portland and the Pacific Northwest. He had a great devotion for his adopted country and a keen interest in the history and development of the United States. Thus his interest in the Foundation. It was the editor’s pleasure to have had many a pleasant luncheon with George—usually going over the page proofs for a forthcoming issue of We Proceeded On. He would always begin the conversation with the interrogation: “What are you writing about for the next issue?”

We Proceeded On, July 1979

-11-

Up-dating Lewis & Clark In Recent Periodicals

There are two articles of interest in the Summer Issue (Vol. 4, No. 1) of “...a squall of wind...”, the quarterly publication of the Valley County (Montana) Lewis and Clark Trail Society.

Society member Myrtle Burke relates the story of an episode involving a grizzly bear in June 1904 in the Timber Creek area of northeastern Montana, with a similar encounter almost a hundred years earlier, in the same area, when the Expedition’s journals indicate that six “good hunters” set out on May 14, 1805 to kill a grizzly and nearly lost their lives. Of special interest, the author relates, is artist Charles M. Russell’s oil painting of the 1904 encounter, which he did after hearing the story from one of the participants. Russell’s painting dated 1916, is titled “Loops and Swift Horses Are Surer Than Lead”, and the painting is reproduced in black and white on page four of the publication.

Charles M. Russell’s oil painting “York Among the Mandans” is reproduced in black and white on page two, together with the essay “York — Black Man In The West”, by Nola Gerth. Miss Gerth is a 1979 graduate of Glasgow High School, and her essay, which relates York’s contributions to the exploring enterprise and his activities following the return of the Expedition, was an entry in the Foundation’s recent Youth Activity Essay Contest for junior/senior high school students in northeastern Montana. Her essay earned for her runner-up recognition in the contest. Editor of the high school’s newspaper (1978-1979), she is presently in Costa Rica as the American Field Service Exchange Student. This fall Nola plans to attend college and major in journalism.

***


Voelker, one of several editors for the periodical has written a brief account of the famous Expedition, but not without some factual omissions and misconceptions. He indicates that the Missouri River is smaller than the Marias River, and his apparent misreading of the journals has Cap-
tain Clark, rather than Captain Lewis, with a party of four preceding the main party, and observing the "sublime spectacle" of the Great Falls of the Missouri on June 13, 1805. There is no mention of Lewis's side-exploration, with three men, of the Marias River and its tributaries, and the unfortunate skirmish with the Blackfeet Indians in July 1806.

Five beautiful color photographs — the magazine's cover and one other are credited to Ed Cooper — augment the text, and depict scenes along the Trail.

A post-script to the article states that

3. An event considered to be of importance by historians who tend to agree that this skirmish, which resulted in the death of one or maybe two Indians, had considerable effect on the relationship of Indians with the men of the fur trade and the nation's westward expansion in the years that followed.

1. Drouillard, Gibson, J. Field, and Goodrich.

MAP OF EASTERN MONTANA SHOWING — GLASGOW, VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA, LOCALE FOR THE FOUNDATIONS 11TH ANNUAL MEETING — FORT PECK LAKE — MISSOURI & YELLOWSTONE RIVERS
“Three Solitary Trees” Lose A Limb, But Survive Another Winter

Past President Wilbur P. Werner, Cut Bank, Montana, in a letter to the editor, reports on a recent visit and inspection trip to the Expedition’s ‘Two Medicine River Fight Site’ some 14 direct line miles and about 22 miles by road and trail in a southwesterly direction from Cut Bank.

As Wilbur says:
I think that it can truly be said that this site is probably the most untouched and inaccessible place in all the nearly 8000 miles of the Lewis and Clark Trail. Other than the “Three Solitary Trees” gradually depreciating with age, certainly the surrounding terrain must be the same as when Captain Lewis and his three companions were there 173 years ago. It is such a remote area that it has not been vandalized or defaced by man. I love to go down there — it is such a wild and beautiful place, and everything should remain as it is for a long, long time.

Wilbur’s comment concerning the depreciation of the three trees should not be taken lightly since he reports that during the past winter one of the larger limbs on one of the trees had broken off (see photograph of Wilbur inspecting this regrettable damage).

There has been speculation as to whether or not these are the same cottonwood trees described by Captain Lewis in his journal.

In 1964, Helen B. West in her treatise titled Meriwether Lewis in Blackfeet Country graphically identifies the site as authentic and further adds:

As an additional and scarcely believable

1. It was at this place on July 26-27, 1806, that Lewis, Drouillard, Reuben and Joseph Field, while on a side-exploration of the Marias River and its tributaries, were involved in the skirmish with a party of Blackfeet Indians. See the Thwaites Journals ..., Vol. 5, pp. 219-223. See also WPO, Vol. 1, No. 2, p. 4; Vol. 1, No. 4, pp. 10-11 — text and map.
2. Published by the U.S. Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Blackfeet Agency, Museum of the Plains Indians, Browning, MT, 1942.
3. Ibid., p. 12.
4. Dr. Cutright was accompanied by his late brother, Dr. C. R. Cutright, Wooster, Ohio, and Helen B. West and Robert H. Anderson, Cut Bank, Montana.
5. Published by University of Illinois Press, Urbana, 1969.

A Bear Story — McNeal Escapes A Grizzly

The date was Tuesday, July 15, 1806. The homeward bound expedition had divided forces at “Traveler’s Rest”, in the Bitterroot Valley, a few miles south of today’s Missoula, Montana. Captain Clark was on the way to the headwaters of the Yellowstone River, to descend that river, and meet Captain Lewis at its confluence with the Missouri. Captain Lewis, traveling to the north and east, had crossed the Continental Divide, at present day Lewis and Clark Pass, and had followed the Sun (their “Medicine”) River downstream to its confluence with the Missouri just upstream from the Great Falls. He and his party of nine arrived at the Great Falls of the Missouri on July 13, 1806. Lewis was preparing, on July 15th, for the side exploration he was to make with Drouillard and the Field brothers to follow and determine the sources of the Marias River. During the afternoon on this date, Hugh McNeal was missing from their camp with one of the horses that Lewis intended to take with him on the Marias exploration. Captain Lewis tells us of McNeal’s near disaster — what follows is from his journal for this day:

A little before dark McNeal returned with his musket broken at the breach, and informed me that on his arrival at willow run [on the portage] he had approached a white [grizzly] bear within ten feet without discovering it. The bear being in the thick brush, the horse took the alarm and turning threw him immediately under the bear; this animal raised himself on his hind feet for battle, and gave him [McNeal] time to recover from his fall which he did in an instant and with his clubbed musket he struck the bear over the head and cut him with the guard of the gun and broke off the breast, the bear stunned with the stroke fell to the ground and began to scratch his head with his feet: this gave McNeal time to climb a willow tree which was near at hand and thus made his escape. The bear waited at the foot of the tree until late in the evening before he left him, when McNeal ventured down and caught his horse which had by this time strayed off to the distance of 2 Ms and returned to camp. These bear are a most tremendous animal; it seems that the hand of providence has been most wonderfully in our favor with respect to them, or some of us would long since have fallen a sacrifice to their ferocity.

The following day Lewis, Drouillard, and the Field brothers proceeded to the north and west on their reconnaissance to the headwaters of the Marias River and to their “Camp Disappointment”, the most northern point reached by members of the Expedition. If McNeal’s gun was repairable, he would have to wait until this segment of the exploring party was united with Captain Clark’s party. John Shields, the Expedition’s gunsmith, was with Clark descending the Yellowstone and would not be available until the entire party were all together again below the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers.

2. Thwaites in Vol. 1, p. 11, fn. 1, says: “... these words set in italics enclosed in brackets, are in black ink and by several persons — Clark, Couet, or an unknown hand...”
John Shields: Lewis and Clark's Handyman

Gunsmith - Blacksmith - General Mechanic - For The Expedition

By Robert E. Lange

"...visited by many natives who brought a considerable quantity of corn in payment for the work which the blacksmith had done for them."

Captain Clark, February 5, 1805.

"...but for the precaution taken in bringing on these extra locks, and parts of locks, in addition to the ingenuity of John Shields, most of our guns would at this moment have been entirely unfit for use; but fortunately for us... they are all in good working order."

Captain Lewis, March 20, 1806.

"John Shields cut out my rifle & brought his to shoot very well. The party owes much to the ingenuity of this man, by whose guns are repaired when they get out of order which is very often."

Captain Clark, April 8, 1806.

Charles G. Clarke, in his Men of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, provides a brief biographical sketch on Private John Shields, and says that Shields was "born in 1769 near Harrisonburg, Augusta County, Virginia. Being aged thirty-five, when he joined the exploring party in 1804, he appears to be the oldest man of the round-trip party." Captain Clark was born in 1770, Sergeant Gass in 1771, and Captain Lewis in 1774, and there were several members of the party born between 1771 and 1774. Despite the statements made by the Captains, when recruiting men for the enterprise, that they would consider only unmarried men, Charles Clarke's biographical data indicates that Shields married in about 1790, while living in Kentucky, and that he and his wife Nancy had a daughter, Janette.

The Captains referred to him as one of the "nine young men from Kentucky...", and he served the enterprise as an enlisted man from October 19, 1803, until October 10, 1806. This man has been most often referred to as the blacksmith, gunsmith, or general mechanic of the Expedition's personnel. Like Sergeant Gass, who specialized, among other things as a carpenter, it was Shields, who the Captains extol as the man who improvised from what little metallic products they carried with them; kept the firearms in good working order, and probably formed their rounds of ammunition by melting the lead from the cannisters which contained their gun powder.

Captain Clark's journal kept during the winter at Fort Mandan provides this information:

The blacksmiths take a considerable quantity of corn today in payment for their labour. The Blacksmiths [sic] have proved a happy resource to us in our present situation as I believe it would have been difficult to have devised any other method to have procured corn from the natives... I permitted the blacksmith to dispose of part of a sheet iron calaboose (camboose, stove) which had been nearly burnt out on our passage up the river, and for each piece about four inches square he obtained from seven to eight gallons of corn from the natives who appeared extremely pleased with the exchange. Clark further explained that this material was used for making instruments to scrape hides, and for forming arrow points.

Both Olin Wheeler and Paul Cutright make the observation that William Bratton and Alexander Willard, in addition to John Shields, were blacksmiths. Cutright comments:

When repair work lagged, an imaginative brave saved the day by conceiving the idea that Shield's artistry could make an iron battle-ax for him. Shields obliged, with the result that he and his helpers soon had a rash of requests for these formidable weapons. They had a zest for their work, however, since they were rewarded by watching their stockpile of Indian corn grow larger and larger. So, due to the hardiness of the hunters and the industry of Shields, Bratton, and Willard, the explorers had plenty of food and good variety throughout the winter...

Shields other contributions to the success of the enterprise are many and varied.

When George Shannon was lost along the lower Missouri River from August 27 to September 11, 1804, it was John Shields along with Joseph Field who were assigned by the commanders to search for him. The journals do not document that they found him, but rather indicate that Shannon, thinking that he was behind the main party and the vessels on the river, had hurried on ahead of them, thus increasing the distance each day until he ran out of ammunition. When Shields and J. Field caught up with him, if they were the ones that did, he was near starvation and exhaustion.

Lewis's journal for May 20, 1805, credits Shields with the discovery of a "...bold spring or fountain issuing from the foot of the Lard hills...about five miles below the entrance of the Yellowstone River." Lewis commented further, that this was a significant discovery, since most of the springs they had encountered in this region "...without exception are impregnated with the salts [minerals] which abound in this country...."
Once Shields had completed his gunsmith and blacksmith duties and had all the guns in good working order, he apparently spent a good deal of his time using the firearms as a hunter. The Thwaites Index (Vol. 8) lists nearly seventy references to his activity as a hunter, and the much briefer Sergeant Ordway journal lists seven instances related to Shield’s hunting accomplishments.

In early August 1805, near Lemhi Pass, Shields was in the advanced party with Captain Lewis, Drouillard (Drewyer), and McNeil, who were well ahead of the main party. Their purpose was to make contact with the Snake or Shoshone Indians. Having reached the headwaters of the Missouri and its tributaries, the main party would soon be abandoning travel on the waterways, would cache their canoes, and continue their journey overland. Lewis hoped that finding friendly Indians would provide a source for horses. When they did finally see, and attempted to make contact with, an Indian, it was Shields who probably did not see Lewis’s signal to stop advancing, and by failing to halt, forced the Indian so that he retreated. Lewis’s journal reveals: “...but looking over his shoulder he still kept his eye on Drewyer and Shields who were still advancing neither of them having the sagacity enough to recollect of impropriety of advancing when they saw me thus in parley with the Indian...”

He did not remain until I got nearer than about 100 paces when he suddenly turned his horse about, gave him the whip leaped a creek and disappeared in the willows. Instantly and with him vanished all my hopes of obtaining horses for the present. I now felt quite as much mortification and disappointment as I had pleasure and expectation at the first sight of this Indian. I felt a sorrowing at the conduct of the men particularly Shields to whom I principally attributed this failure in obtaining an introduction to the natives. I now called the men to me and could not forbear addressing them a little for their want of attention and impudence on this occasion."

After an incident such as this, today’s soldier would remark that he had just been “chewed out” by his commanding officer!


16. On the Continental Divide, Montana-Idaho state line, near Dillon, Beaverhead County, Montana; and Tendoy, Lemhi County, Idaho. The elevation of Lemhi Pass is 7573 feet above sea level.


18. In Seaside, Clatsop County, Oregon.

We Proceeded On, July 1799

(continued from facing page)

John Shields was involved in William Bratton’s recovery from a prolonged illness that began in February 1806 while he was working as one of the saltmakers at the Expedition’s Salt Works on the ocean shore west and south of Fort Clatsop, the winter establishment, which they occupied from December 1805 until March 1806. Bratton’s sufferings are described by Lewis in his journal for March 21, 1806:

...Bratton is now so much reduced that I am somewhat uneasy with respect to his recovery; the pain of which he complains most seems to be seated in the small of his back and remains obstinate. I believe that it is the rheumatism...

In fact his sickness was so acute that when the exploring party departed Fort Clatsop on March 23, 1806, for the return journey, Bratton was unable to walk and traveled in one of the canoes. When the party reached the “Great Falls” of the Columbia River near today’s city of The Dalles, Oregon, and gave up the use of canoes in favor of horses obtained from local Indians, Bratton, still incapacitated, was the only man who rode horseback. All others were afoot because of the scarcity of horses. Lewis states:

I found that he should get no more horses and therefore proposed to proceed tomorrow morning...for this purpose I had a load made up for seven horses, the eight Bratton was compelled to ride as he was yet unable to walk.

Thirty days later, when the Expedition reached their “Camp Chopunnish” in the vicinity of present day Kamiah, Idaho, Bratton was still an invalid, and was still on horseback.

It was at “Camp Chopunnish”, while the party waited for nearly a month for the snow to melt in the higher elevations before setting out for the traverse of the Lolo Trail and the Bitterroot Mountains, that John Shields suggested the treatment that would eventually effect a cure for Bratton’s illness. Lewis details the procedure as follows:

John Shields observed that he had seen men in a similar situation recover by violent sweats. Bratton requested that he might be sweated in the manner proposed by Shields to which we consented. Shields sunk a circular hole of 3 feet diameter and four feet deep in the earth. He kindled a fire in the hole and heated well, after which the fire was taken out and a seat placed in the center of the hole for the patient with a board at the bottom for his feet to rest on; some hoops of willow poles were bent in an arch crossing each other over the hole, on these several Blankets were thrown forming a secure and thick opening [awning] of about 3 feet high. The patient [Bratton] being stripped naked was seated under the opening in the hole and the blankets well secured on every side, the patient was furnished with a vessel of water which he sprinkles on the bottom and sides of the hole and by that means creates as much steam or vapor as he could possibly bear.

Lewis’s journal adds that Bratton was subjected to the steam and vapor for about twenty minutes; then taken out of the hole and plunged twice in cold water (probably the Clearwater River); and then returned to the sweat hole and steam treatment for another three quarters of an hour; before being removed and wrapped in several blankets and allowed to cool gradually. The Captain adds that during the treatment Bratton was given “copious draughts of a strong tea of horse mint.” Shields is credited with this added therapy, and indicated to Lewis that he had seen a concoction of “Sinnea snake root” used when mint was not available. Much to everyone’s delight, and certainly to Shield’s credit, the journal reports:

...this experiment was made yesterday; Bratton feels himself much better, and is walking about today and says he is nearly free from pain.

We do not have detailed information concerning John Shields after the Expedition returned to St. Louis. His discharge from the military is dated October 10, 1806. He received his pay plus a warrant for land in Franklin County, Missouri. Charles G. Clarke indicates that he spent a year trapping (continued on page 16)


22. Ruth Hill Strong (see WPO, Vol. 4, No. 2, pp. 4-6), a friendly and informed source to turn to with reference to the flora observed and documented by the Expedition, provides this information: “I think that it must have been Poligala senega, Senega Snake Root, that Shields knew and described to Captain Lewis. However, what is more intriguing to me is the identification of the plant they used as a substitute, and referred to as ‘horse mint.’” Ruth Strong is inclined to think that Piper’s guess, Lophanthus articulatus, in Thwaites (Vol. 5, p. 61, fn. 1) is not correct, but that more likely the plant used was Scutellaria angustifolia described in 1814 by Pursh (see reference to Pursh in Cutright’s “Well Traveled Plants Lewis and Clark”, in WPO, Vol. 4, No. 1 pp. 6-9) as having been collected by Lewis “on the Kooskooksee [present day Clearwater River], June 5, 1806.” The data indicates this to be in the vicinity of the Expedition’s “Camp Chopunnish” near today’s Kamiah, Idaho. Paul Conklin, in his Lewis and Clark: Pioneering Naturalists, page 41, refers to this plant as “Narrow-Leaved Skullcap”, which is another name for mint. As Ruth Strong says: “To me the date is provocative: a specimen of the mint family gathered at “Camp Chopunnish” within ten days of Bratton’s sweat bath treatment. Could this be their ‘horse mint?’”
We proceeded on, 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, 1806.