LCTHF’s Virtual 2021 Annual Meeting, Scheduled for September 12, 2021. The online event will include the Moulton Lecture by John Logan Allen, business meeting, awards ceremony, photo contest winners, 2022 Annual Meeting invitation, social time, and a short program. Please click on www.lewisandclark.org to register and receive online access.

LCTHF’s Ohio River Chapter to Hold Handshake Event on October 2, 2021, at the Falls of the Ohio Interpretive Center in Clarksville, IN, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM CDT. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark met at the Falls of the Ohio and shook hands on October 14, 1803, which marked the beginning of their epic exploration. Among the event’s attractions will be the flag raising ceremony with Skip Jackson as Lewis and Hasan Davis as York; talks and demonstrations; a play about the expedition; live music throughout the day; and the opportunity to speak with historians about Lewis and Clark and their era. In sponsoring the Handshake Event, the LCTHF’s Ohio River Chapter is partnering with the Falls of the Ohio Interpretive Center, Indiana Lewis and Clark Commission, and Indiana University Southeast Center for Cultural Resources. For more information and volunteer opportunities, please contact Sandy Hennings at sandybear48813@yahoo.com or 517-231-9193. Submitted by Richard Hennings

Bid early and bid often at the LCTHF’s 2021 Virtual Silent Auction to benefit the William P Sherman Library and Archives and honor Sue Buchel! We have many items for the auction this year, including exciting vacations to different states, collectables such as a Lewis and Clark Library in Miniature, and rare finds like the Lewis and Clark Dutch Oven set. You can register, see the full auction list, and bid at our Auction Website. This website will also allow you to make payments as soon as you win. The auction opens on September 5, 2021, at 12:00 AM MDT and closes on September 13, 2021, at 8:00 PM MDT. You may also donate to the William P Sherman Library and Archives’ general operations by clicking here. Submitted by Sarah Cawley

This Lewis and Clark Library in Miniature can be yours by bidding in the LCTHF Virtual Silent Auction from September 5, 2021, at 12:00 AM MDT to September 13, 2021, at 8:00 PM MDT.

“The Handshake” by Carol Grende in Clarksville, IN, where Lewis and Clark joined forces on the banks of the Ohio River.
LCTHF’s 54th Annual Meeting to Be Held in Pittsburgh, PA, August 7 to 10, 2022.

Pittsburgh is now the start of the Lewis and Clark National Historical Trail. Lewis had his boat built in the Pittsburgh area and began his journal there. Seaman and George Shannon also joined Lewis in Pittsburgh.

Lewis was familiar with Pittsburgh. He had been with the Virginia militia during the Whiskey Rebellion in Western Pennsylvania. Later joining the regular army, he was again stationed in the Pittsburgh area. He was also a military paymaster at Pittsburgh’s Fort Fayette. While there in 1801, Lewis received that life-changing letter from President Thomas Jefferson.

As an army paymaster Lewis traveled to military outposts as far afield as Cincinnati and Detroit. When President Jefferson wished to inform Lewis of his appointment as his secretary, he wrote to both Lewis and General James Wilkinson who received Jefferson’s letter in Lewis’ absence. When Wilkinson left Fort Fayette, the letter was entrusted to others including Lewis’ good friend Tarleton Bates. Lewis responded to the letter immediately upon his return. The letters telling this story are available at National Archives Founders Online.

Jefferson to Lewis, Washington, February 23, 1801: “The appointment to the Presidency . . . rendered it necessary for me to have a private secretary, and . . . I have thought it important to respect not only his capacity to aid in the private concerns of the household, but also contribute to the mass of information which it is interesting for the administration to acquire. Your knowledge of the Western country, of the army and all its interests . . . has rendered it desirable . . . that you should be engaged in that office.”

Jefferson to Wilkinson, Washington, February 23, 1801: “I take the liberty of asking the protection of your cover for a letter to Lieut. Meriwether Lewis, not knowing where he may be.”

Lewis to Jefferson, Pittsburgh, March 10, 1801: “Not until . . . friday last...did I receive your much esteemed favor of the 23rd Ult. In it you have thought proper so far to honour me with your confidence, as to express a wish that I should accept the place of your private Secretary; I most cordially acquiesce, and with pleasure accept the office . . . .”

The LCTHF is partnering for the 54th Annual Meeting with the Senator John Heinz History Center (HHC) and the Beaver County Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation. The host hotel is the Drury Plaza Downtown Pittsburgh. Our Down the Ohio dinner cruise will be with the Gateway Clipper Fleet and Molly’s Trolleys will provide land transportation. Plans include all the elements of our pre-Covid in-person annual meetings with talks, group meals, awards, auction, trips, and get-togethers. Details will be forthcoming at the LCTHF’s virtual 2021 Annual Meeting on September 12, 2021, and in the February 2022 issue of WPO. Submitted by Jerry Wilson
LCTHF’s Portage Route Chapter Awards First Memorial Prize to Glen Kirkpatrick for Best WPO Article in 2020. The PRC recently lost four valued members: Ella Mae Howard, Ida Johnson, Don Peterson, and Mary Urquhart. To honor them and other members now gone, the PRC Board established an annual award in their memory for the best article from the preceding year’s issues of We Proceeded On. The PRC’s judges chose Glen’s article on “Fort Clatsop Revisited: The Hunt for the Elusive Pickets” as the outstanding article for 2020. They announced the winner on July 10, 2021, at Gary Moulton’s presentation sponsored by the PRC at the Lewis and Clark Festival in Great Falls, MT, and awarded Glen a certificate of honor and a check for $1,000.

Glen, a geologist by profession, is president of the Oregon Chapter, having served on its Board for 20 years. His interest in Lewis and Clark dates to 1994 when he researched the location of Clark’s Point of View on Tillamook Head. In the award-winning article Glen lays out his thoughts about the exact location of Fort Clatsop based on first-hand accounts of pioneer farmers in the area and historic photographs. He will use his award money to help start a fund for further archaeological research at Fort Clatsop using ground penetrating radar to identify the location of the pickets. During the Bicentennial Glen led the effort to have the Oregon Geographic Names Board designate Clark's Mountain in Clatsop County. He has researched Clark's ascent of the Willamette River and the Corps' travels in the Columbia River Gorge and its exploration of the Sandy River. Glen enjoys wilderness travel on foot, kayak, and horseback. He has kayaked 145 miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail from Bonneville Dam to Fort Clatsop and canoed 149 miles of the Missouri Breaks from Fort Benton to Jame Kipp Recreation Area. He lives with his wife Paula Beck in Molalla, OR, on a 10-acre farm with three horses, one dog, one cat, and too many chickens to count.

PRC President Lee Ebeling said he could think of no better way to honor past members than with this award—made even better by Glen’s plan to use the award money to fund further research at Fort Clatsop. The PRC Board is looking forward to awarding the Memorial Prize again in 2022 for the best article in We Proceeded On in 2021. Submitted by Norman Anderson

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If you would like to include your Chapter’s events in our next issue, please email your information to Philippa Newfield at philgor@aol.com by November 1, 2021. We mail TOR to members for whom we don’t have an email address and any members who ask to receive TOR via mail. If you wish to receive TOR electronically, please give us your email address.
—Philippa Newfield and Arend Flick
Co-editors, The Orderly Report

The CARES Act relaxes some limitations on charitable monetary contributions regardless of whether people itemize deductions. For Tax YR 2021 you may deduct $300 in charitable monetary contributions if filing singly even if you do not itemize deductions. Married couples filing a joint return may deduct $600.

We Proceeded On welcomes submissions of articles, proposals, inquiries, and letters. Writers’ guidelines are available by request and can be found on the LCTHF’s website www.lewisandclark.org. Please send submissions via email to WPO Editor Clay S Jenkinson at wpo@lewisandclark.org. He may be reached at 701-202-6751. You can expect to receive confirmation of the editor’s receipt of your submission and further information about your submission within three months of the initial notification of receipt of your submission.
Tribes, LCTHF, and City Dedicate Monuments at Ne’Cus Village in Cannon Beach, OR. “We do not live on the land; we live with the land,” remarked Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes Secretary Dee Zimmerlee as part of the welcoming ceremony for a new monument honoring the people who lived at Ne’Cus, an Indian village at the mouth of Ecola Creek. Ne’Cus is where William Clark and his party camped January 8 to 9, 1806, not far from the site of the beached whale. The event was the culmination of an Oregon Chapter project funded by individual donations from the LCTHF’s 2018 Annual Meeting in Astoria, a 2020 LCTHF Trail Stewardship Grant, the city of Cannon Beach, the Clatsop-Nehalem tribal nonprofit, and the Oregon Chapter. Many volunteers devoted long hours, as well.

Clatsop-Nehalem Vice-Chairman Dick Basch, who was the National Park Service tribal liaison during the Bicentennial and until his recent retirement, opened the ceremony and his wife Roberta offered a welcoming prayer. Tribal Members Dee Zimmerlee and Ginger Erickson spoke of their ancestors who lived at the village. Mark Johnson, Oregon Chapter project coordinator, recognized the partners, funders, and Patrick Costello, the sculptor/stonemason who helped create the monument along with his son Zach. Cannon Beach Mayor Sam Steidel talked of the importance of Ne’Cus to the community and plans for the park and adjacent school buildings.

The monument consists of two large basalt boulders with bronze plaques, a vertical stela near the main street entering town, and a horizontal stone inscribed with a canoe image near the tribal “welcoming pole” closer to the beach. One plaque reads in part, “Tribal communities raise ‘welcoming poles’ with arms extended with these words of greeting: ‘so long as you treat this place and people with respect, you will be treated with great respect here.’” This was the tone of the afternoon dedication which attracted 60 attendees, among them tribal members, Oregon Chapter members, the entire City Council of Cannon Beach, National Park Service personnel, and local visitors. Several participants noted that, as the ceremony proceeded, they sensed that the buildings of north Cannon Beach seemed to disappear so that just the natural landscape surrounded them.

Several participants from the tribe are directly related to ancestors who lived at Ne’Cus before disease and resettlement displaced them from this part of their traditional lands. The Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes nonprofit has sought federal recognition in the past as their ancestors’ 1851 treaties were never ratified by Congress. Today Ne’Cus is a small park in the former playground of an abandoned school, which was a field trip stop during the LCTHF’s 2018 meeting.

After the dedication, everyone shared a traditional tribal feast featuring smoked salmon from the tribe and grilled elk huckleberry sausage provided by the Oregon Chapter. Participants lingered on lawn chairs and blankets for conversation and lawn games. Submitted by Mark Johnson
Hello All from the William P Sherman Library and Archives! In the summer everything heats up as people start traveling and doing research. The Library has been busy fielding research requests. These included: one visiting researcher requesting information on Reuben Lewis, brother of Meriwether Lewis; genealogy inquiries from two Lewis relatives, a Colter relative, and a Clark relative; and a researcher from France requesting information on the Confluence of Cultures program during the Bicentennial. It is very exciting to work with people across the country and around the world in meeting their research needs.

During the Lewis and Clark Festival in Great Falls, MT, on July 10, our Library Committee Members Beverly Lewis, Lynn Davis, and Doug Davis helped staff the LCTHF information booth. They were able to share Lewis and Clark information with approximately 89 people and gave away 50th anniversary WPO’s, maps, pins, and lollipops. Lynn and Tori Shaw, our AmeriCorps member, were able to answer questions and provide two WPO articles to a gentleman visiting with them about the source of the Missouri River. They were also visited by a Library of Congress employee who was impressed with our rare books collection.

In other Library news, we were able to fill our first Interlibrary loan request by sending out a book to Boise, ID. It feels great to share our Lewis and Clark collection with others. Remember, if you are looking for Lewis and Clark-related materials to try your local library. If they do not have what you are looking for, ask them to request an Interlibrary loan for you.

If you would like to know what we are reading at the Library, you can follow the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation on Goodreads. If you don’t have a Goodreads account, you can create one to rate, review, comment, and log your Lewis and Clark reading adventure. Currently, I am reading *The Mystery of John Colter: The Man Who Discovered Yellowstone* by Ronald M Anglin and Larry E Morris and *Floating on the Missouri* by James Willard Schultz. Don’t forget to support the Library by bidding in our Sue Buchel Tribute Auction or making a direct donation to the Library. Happy reading! Submitted by Della Van Setten

LCTHF Partners with Montana Conservation Corps. The MCC brought a youth crew of Montana high school students, aged 14 to 17, out on the Lolo Trail to perform trail maintenance starting at Wendover Cabin. This section of the trail had not been maintained for at least five years. It was overgrown and not walkable or even visible. Alex, the project partner, used a chainsaw to cut up all the big trees that had fallen over the trail. Our crew cut the smaller trees and cleared the trail, creating a wide corridor. They trimmed all the chainsawed logs to make them look more natural and moved them into the woods. This partnership is the result of the hard work and dedication of LCTHF Member Dick Fichtler. Funding is from the Forest Service with a Challenge Cost-Share Agreement. Submitted by Sarah Cawley
In Search of “Seens of Visionary Inchantment.” Thirty-eight years ago I canoed 149 miles of the Missouri River from Fort Benton to James Kipp State Recreation Area. I had always planned to go back, to see this landscape without the element of surprise. When the LCTHF offered a 49-mile guided trip on the river, the urge to return overwhelmed me. I had to see with more knowledgeable eyes this trail Lewis and Clark had blazed over 200 years ago.

Montana River Outfitters guided this wonderful "glamping" trip: tents, cots, mattresses all set up, excellent meals, and good company. At Coal Banks Landing we loaded our gear into the canoes and by late morning we were underway. The other participants paddled tandem in canoes, while I soloed in a kayak. The Missouri’s promising current seemed slightly less than three miles an hour, but the upstream wind did its damnedest to retard our progress. Despite the contrary wind, we reached Eagle Creek Campground in the late afternoon where Lewis and Clark camped on May 31, 1805. Our support crew had preceded us and set up camp. After a rest and change of clothes, the participants gathered in the food tent and shared their extensive knowledge about Lewis and Clark. Dugan Coburn of the Blackfeet tribe who accompanied the group related stories of his people and culture, enriching each morning and evening with unexpected surprises. On the opposite shore the White Cliffs reflected a pleasant sunset onto the calm river.

The next morning breakfast provided the necessary nourishment to propel us downriver under grey skies and cool temperatures. With no abatement in the current, we moved out between the gorgeous and fantastical rock formations that had so enthralled Lewis. When I swung my kayak around to face upstream I could identify with Karl Bodmer’s inspiration for his paintings. To me it is always worth looking back on what you have passed on the river as it adds a different perspective.

The first drops of rain fell during our lunch stop below Hole in the Wall. The rain, the thick cloud cover, and the breeze made standing around uncomfortably cool. Only paddling would warm us, so we set out again following the rain or perhaps the rain followed us. We proceeded on through the precipitation, fortunate that little or no wind worked against us as we followed the tortuous bends of the Missouri. Normally we would chatter excessively between canoes, but the desire to push onward and the constant pounding of the rain quieted us. Methodically paddling, we headed toward our next campground at Slaughter River, Lewis and Clark’s campsites of May 29, 1805, and July 29, 1806.
We landed, soaking wet, unloaded the canoes, and carried our dry bags up the rise. Hiding behind a cottonwood tree, I changed quickly out of my wet clothes and into long johns, sweat suit, and down jacket. All I cared about at that moment was warmth. The support rafts that usually preceded us eventually appeared, having had trouble with the Missouri’s gravel bars. Our crew rushed to set up camp and before long had served us a hot dinner of chicken parmesan and pasta. The cold wet weather faded from memory. Dugan made “medicine bags” from stones we had chosen along the river (or rather “stones that chose us”). He offered the appropriate prayers and then presented a neat little stuffed leather bag to each of us. A particularly beautiful sunset painted the wall and hills across the river a luscious orange.

On our last morning we loaded our gear into the boats and paddled downstream under a glorious blue sky. Each canoe cruised at its own pace. Most stayed at or near the front, making jokes across the boats. After about four miles, as the walls began to recede, we stopped for a short break at the Wall Primitive Boat Camp behind which lay a prairie dog town. The little “barking Squirrels,” as Clark labeled them, chirped at us more than they barked.

From there it was a mere eight-mile paddle to the Judith Landing take out near the Judith River. An occasional breeze rippled the surface of the water on a day marred by the smoke of unseen fires. The Missouri’s current lacked its upriver spryness, but we paddled along. I counted distance and time, figuring that we had about another 30 minutes on the river when our guide Jay announced, “There’s the mouth of the Judith River.” Just beyond we saw the bridge and below that the unloading ramp. The river had a tricky current at the ramp and most of the canoes had to be pulled in quickly before they slipped downstream. Our excursion ended at the Expedition’s campsite of May 28, 1805, having afforded us much joy, learning, and appreciation for the river that had meant so much to Lewis and Clark and now to us. The LCTHF hopes to run the White Cliffs Canoe Trip again in the summer of 2022. Please call 406-454-1234 for more information. Submitted by Mark Jordan

Challenged by Dugan to create a Lewis and Clark joke or poem, I penned the following:

My name is Pierre Cruzatte
I went out hunting one day
I knew not where the elk was at
So I fired and fired away.

Then I heard Captain Lewis shout
You have shot me in the ass
But as he came looking about
I blamed it on poor Patrick Gass.

--Mark Jordan

View from Hole in the Wall. Photo by Margaret Gorski

Take out at Judith Landing. Photo by Margaret Gorski
Rediscovering Spirit Mound. Living in Vermillion, SD, in the late 70s and early 80s, I knew there was a place called Spirit Mound that was a little ways out of town. However, I did not know why it had that name. I do not remember my teachers’ talking about the history of the place. When my family first moved there, the area was empty land. My brothers tell stories of sliding down the hill on old truck hoods. Mainly in later years we knew it as a farm lot. Mostly high school kids used the area as a spot to go drinking because it was out of town.

I continued my education at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion where I majored in English Education with a History minor. I was even required to read the Lewis and Clark Journals for a class. But I do not recall that anyone ever said that our close-by Spirit Mound was a place that was special in the story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Over this last year, my first working for the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Sioux City, IA, I realized that I needed to revisit Spirit Mound. I had learned that the Spirit Mound Trust, the National Park Service, and the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks had worked to restore the site as much as possible to the conditions that Lewis and Clark saw. Memorial Day came and the weather was gorgeous, so I drove from Sioux City out to the site. I was not prepared for the amazing changes. What had been a farm lot and old buildings was alive. Now the land is planted with prairie species. Songbirds and colorful butterflies are abundant. A well-maintained gravel walking trail leads to the summit. I walked the trail, marveling at the view.

What I did not find were any of the spirits that the legend of Spirit Mound warned against. In Clark’s journal, he explained the legend of Spirit Mound as follows:

... and by the different nations of Indians in this quarter is Suppose to be the residence of Deavels. that they are in human form with remarkable large heads, and about 18 Inches high, that they are Very watchful, and are arm’d with Sharp arrows with which they Can Kill at a great distance; they are Said to Kill all persons who are So hardy as to attempt to approach the hill; they State that tradition informs them that many Indians have Suffered by those little people. ... So much do the Maha [Omaha], Souis [Sioux], Ottoes [Otoes] and other neighboring nations believe this fable that no Consideration is Suffecient to induce them to approach the hill. [William Clark, August 24, 1804]

... One evidence which the Inds Give for believing this place to be the residence of Some unusial Spirits is that they frequently discover a large assemblage of Birds about this mound. ... [William Clark, August 25, 1804]

On August 25, 1804, Lewis and Clark and ten other men walked nine miles from their camp to reach Spirit Mound. They wanted to see this place that so frightened the Native people of the area. They did not find any spirits. What they found was a natural landform “mound” consistent with the surrounding terrain.

Today Spirit Mound is one of a few remaining physical features identifiable as a place Lewis and Clark visited and recorded. As I hiked the trail to the top, I could almost imagine the Corps of Discovery as they explored this feature. I promised myself that I would revisit this site many times. Submitted by Theresa Jackson
Comrades in bronze: Sabra Tull Meyer’s statue in Jefferson City, MO, represents (l to r) York, Lewis, Seaman, Clark, and Drouillard. Photo by Shannon Kelly

“How can you tell who is who?” A tourist looks up at the statue. She sees two men in early 19th century garb, an amalgamation of military uniform and buckskin, who are gazing into the distance. The tourist’s traveling companion answers her question, “I guess the first guy on the left is Lewis and the next one is Clark?” The familiar language of imagery in art and sculpture distinguishes the two men. Both captains may have a spyglass and/or a compass in hand but William Clark is more likely to be the one holding the compass, reflecting his cartographic duties and accomplishments. Meriwether Lewis often grips his trusty espiouon and wears military headgear. Many a Lewis statue’s left face is shaded by the tip of a plumed chapeau bras!

The Missouri capital in Jefferson City is home to the splendid Lewis and Clark Monument. A group of statues, it presents York, Lewis, Seaman, Clark, and George Drouillard. The ensemble was sculpted in bronze by Sabra Tull Meyer and dedicated in 2008. The sculptor researched the details of her subjects painstakingly. York sits on a rock at the far left, looking out to the west with an expression of hope. He holds his rifle, famously an expedition privilege for him. Drouillard is at the far-right end. He has long hair and is crouched in a classic tracker pose. The captains are the only ones whose likenesses are known to have been produced during their lifetimes. Garbed in a frock coat over his officer’s uniform, Lewis grasps his closed spyglass. His right hand rests on his hip and his feet are planted in a determined stance as he gazes up and westward. Artists from 1807 onward have captured the quiet charisma in Lewis’ demeanor. This introverted swagger can be found in numerous contemporaneous renderings of him. Seaman stares adoringly up at Lewis with the gift of a dead bird on the ground. In art Seaman is usually a perfect rendition of his modern Newfoundland breed. Bareheaded, Clark wears a frock coat and uniform. Lacking his classic prop, the compass, he holds a sextant instead. This reflects the expedition charge as an Enlightenment mission that had serious scientific goals. Clark’s visage is optimistic and focused. He is not merely the second head on pop culture’s two-headed hydra of exploration LewisandClark. As we explore the Lewis and Clark Expedition in public art, think about the meaning behind each creation and the subtle historical minutia hidden in plain sight! Submitted by Shannon Kelly

Mount Hood from the lock at McNary Dam on the Columbia River, July 18, 2021. This is a rare view: no clouds or haze and the sunset was just right. Lewis saw Mount Hood from north of the Oregon border on October 18, 1805, but this is only the second time in four years that the photographer has seen Mount Hood from here. Photo by Robert Heacock
Signs Replaced at Kaw Point in Kansas City Area. Missouri-Kansas Riverbend Chapter Member Susie Taylor, her son Kelly Taylor, and his two sons Trace and Evan recently replaced three educational panels at Kaw Point’s Lewis and Clark Historic Park at the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers at the suggestion of Riverbend Chapter Member Jimmy Mohler. The signs feature maps, photographs, and journal quotations from the explorers’ stay at Kaw Point in June of 1804. While at Kaw Point, the Corps rested, repaired equipment, dried out supplies, took navigational observations, and wrote in their journals.

Last fall the family removed three of the five panels and their bases from the Lewis and Clark outdoor display at Kaw Point which were weathered and defaced by vandals. Kelly and his sons took the panels home, scraped away the marred information, and glued replacement panels onto the bases. Then they returned to Kaw Point on May 2, 2021, and installed the replacement panels and bases.

The replacements were part of an ongoing Riverbend Chapter effort to maintain and, if necessary, replace the two dozen signs in northwestern Missouri and eastern Kansas. Funding is provided by the Riverbend Chapter and the LCTHF with grant assistance from the National Park Service. The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail has been working through the LCTHF’s Trail Stewardship Committee to help chapters update signs from the Bicentennial. Please visit www.lewisandclark.org for more information on how to secure support for sign replacement. Submitted by Gary Kimsey.