Back By Popular Demand!
LCTHF White Cliffs Canoe Trip

The LCTHF, Portage Route Chapter, and Montana River Outfitters (MRO) are again offering a Missouri River Canoe Trip through the White Cliffs along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. **Join us July 10 to 14, 2023, for a fun and historic camping trip!**

The cost is $1,500 for LCTHF members and $1,600 for non-members (one-year membership included). This fee includes nightly tent set up and breakdowns, cot with air mattress, and three delicious meals prepared for you while you and friends, old and new, paddle, hike, explore, read the historic Lewis and Clark Journals around the campfire, and enjoy the pristine vistas seen by the Corps of Discovery. You must be able to paddle a canoe to participate in this program. A $500 non-refundable deposit is due with RSVP by May 31, 2023, and the remaining amount is due June 15, 2023. The trip also includes a tour of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Great Falls and the First Peoples Buffalo Jump in nearby Ulm and a visit to the Fight Site with Larry Epstein as your guide. Lunch and transportation are included on both field trips.

For more information on the trip or to make your reservation, contact Georgia Kline at gkline@lewisandclark.org or call 406-454-1234. Don’t forget to bring your Golden Age Pass! You will receive a tax-deductible donation receipt from LCTHF for a portion of this trip. Availability is limited. Call to reserve your spot today! **Text and photo by Sarah Cawley**

Plan to Attend the LCTHF's 55th Annual Meeting in Missoula, MT, from June 27 to 30, 2023! Please click [here](https://example.com) to register. You may make your reservations now at the meeting hotel, the Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown. The theme of the meeting is Travelers' Rest: Crossroads of Travel, Trade & Time.

See you at the Crossroads!

Lolo Creek as it flows into Travelers' Rest. **Photo by Mark Jordan**
Enter the LCTHF’s 2023 Photo Contest! The Photo Contest has five categories of topics: Landscape, People on the Trail, Historic Lewis and Clark Sites, Public Lewis and Clark Art, and Flora and Fauna. LCTHF members may submit up to two photos each in up to three categories. Non-members may submit one photo each in up to two categories. Non-members are welcome to become LCTHF members and enjoy the same submission privileges as members. Photos submitted to the contest must be taken within the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail corridor or at other Lewis and Clark historic sites. Photos must be taken by the person who is submitting them. The contest is open to non-professional photographers only. All photographers will agree to the LCTHF’s right to use submitted photos for any and all LCTHF promotional and membership materials including social media platforms at no charge to LCTHF. The LCTHF will be accepting photos until April 30, 2023, so send your entries in today! Winning photos will be used to create the 2024 LCTHF Calendar. For rules and submission forms, please visit lewissandclark.org.

Nominations for the 2023 LCTHF Awards are Open! Please send your nominations for awards in the following categories: Lifetime Achievement Award, Distinguished Service Award, Meritorious Achievement Award, Appreciation Award, and Youth Achievement Award. Information about awards criteria and the nomination process are detailed at the LCTHF website lewissandclark.org. The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2023. Questions? Please call the LCTHF office at 406-454-1234. Awardees will be honored at the LCTHF’s 55th Annual Meeting in Missoula, MT, from June 27 to 30, 2023.

Promote Your Event With the Lewis and Clark National Calendar
Are you planning an upcoming Lewis and Clark event? To have your event publicized in the LCTHF’s monthly calendar, please email your date, time, location and/or online access, and contact information to garykimsey55@gmail.com. Please submit the information by the 15th of the previous month. The calendar is emailed nationally on the first day of the month to all LCTHF members and to visitor centers and museums along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. It is also posted on the Lewis and Clark Facebook pages.

LCTHF Virtual 5K Run Registration for the LCTHF’s 2023 Virtual 5K run on Mothers’ Day Weekend, May 13-14, is open! The registration fee is $20. A t-shirt is available at an additional cost. Please visit lewissandclark.org.

A Bison to Call Their Own. Ohio River Region Adopt-A-Bison Committee members Janice Wilson, Lorna Hainesworth, Skip Jackson, and Jerry Wilson pass the Region’s payment for a year’s feed and veterinary fees for one bison to Paul Simpson, Big Bone Lick State Historic Site bison coordinator. Not pictured is committee member Ken Jutzi. Photo by Clare Best
Eagle Day at Kaw Point. Did you know that a bald eagle has 7,782 feathers? Or that it takes five years for a baby bald eagle’s head and tail feathers to turn white? Or that a female bald eagle is bigger than a male? These are some of the facts about bald eagles that Operation Wildlife (OWL) volunteer Gary Crain presented on Eagle Day, January 28, 2023, at the Lewis and Clark Park at Kaw Point in Kansas City, KS.

Through the efforts of Operation Wildlife, a Kansas-licensed advocacy group that provides rehabilitation and a temporary haven for injured or orphaned wild animals, Gary, who has been volunteering with OWL for 20 years, brought a bald eagle, great horned owl, red-tailed hawk, and Kessler falcon to the event. Each was tethered by its own leash to its own perch and appropriately distanced. Gary introduced the birds, gave background information, and detailed the recovery stages through which they had progressed.

My son-in-law, Rick Frausto, and my grandkids – Jack, 11, Caroline, 10, Taylor, 8, and Elizabeth, 6 – joined me at this unique event in the Kaw Point meeting and storage building. Grandson Taylor volunteered to help Gary with the presentation. To demonstrate the width of a bald eagle’s wingspan, Taylor held one end of a rope that stretched seven feet from Gary’s grasp. To demonstrate how it would feel to hold a bald eagle on your arm, Taylor donned an elk hide/Kevlar glove that extended up to his shoulder, and Gary placed a ten-pound weight on his forearm, the average weight of a male bald eagle.

“That’s heavy,” Taylor said. “And that’s why I don’t hold Frank the Bald Eagle during my talk,” Gary responded. Nothing beats hands-on learning!

Frank the Bald Eagle showed his majestic wingspan several times by stretching and flapping his wings while on his perch. Owing to his injury he will not be released back into the wild. Instead he will remain at the Operation Wildlife site and continue to be the star attraction at future Eagle Day programs! Participants were also invited to touch the bald eagle artifacts among them feet with talons, skulls of both male and female birds, and tail feathers from years one to five showing the coloration change from brown to white. To learn more about Operation Wildlife please visit website www.owl-online.org; Facebook www.facebook.com/operationwildlife; email OPWildLLife@aol.com. Submitted by Susie Taylor
My Great Grandfather Eugene Gass Painter was the great grandson of Lewis and Clark Expedition member Patrick Gass. Eugene told his two daughters and two sons the stories he had heard from his parents about Patrick and his exploits. My grandmother Sue Painter Strunk told me some of those stories.

As a child, Patrick lived with his grandfather. He left school at a young age and was apprenticed to a carpenter. Patrick also transported goods down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers by flatboat to sell in New Orleans. He sold the flatboat for wood and took a sailing ship around the coast to Philadelphia.

On one of these trips, Patrick encountered George Washington who was preparing his army to march to Washington, PA, in response to the Whiskey Rebellion. This inspired him to join the regular army in 1799. Stationed at Fort Kaskaskia, he worked as a carpenter. When Captain Meriwether Lewis arrived at the fort to recruit soldiers Patrick wanted to go, but Captain Russell Bissell denied his request. Bissell considered Patrick too valuable to the fort and told him he would need a carpenter for building forts and canoes and such. Lewis wanted to take Patrick, but Captain Bissell still refused to release him. According to our family story, Lewis pulled out the letter from Thomas Jefferson saying he could take whomever he wanted. Captain Bissell had to let Patrick go. Although he was a sergeant, Patrick accepted a commission as private. However, Sergeant Charles Floyd passed away three months into the journey. The crew elected Patrick as the new sergeant. Eugene "played" his great grandfather in a reenactment of Patrick’s election in present-day Elk Point, SD.

During the journey, Patrick continued his work as a carpenter, helping to build shelters, conveyances, and canoes. He supervised the building of Fort Clatsop and was the only journal keeper to record the dimensions of Fort Mandan. Lewis chose Patrick as one of the key builders of the Iron Frame Boat. One of my favorite stories described how Sacagawea carved a box for Patrick’s razor during the Expedition. The box is on permanent loan from the Gass family along with other Gass items from the Expedition in the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center at Cape Disappointment State Park in Ilwaco, WA.

After the Expedition, Patrick worked as a carpenter around Wellsburg, WV. He reenlisted in the regular army and fought in the War of 1812. Patrick returned to Wellsburg after the war where he worked as a brewery manager, ferry operator, and farmer on his father’s farm. While boarding with a man named Judge Hamilton he met the judge’s daughter Maria. On March 1, 1831, Patrick, 60, married Maria, 20. They moved to a farm and had seven children. My five-great grandmother Rachel was their youngest child, born when Patrick was 75. Maria died before Rachel was one, so Patrick paid a family to take care of her. He would visit her and bring her wildflowers. She described Patrick to my great granddad as “a kind old man.” When Rachel turned 18 she went to live with her sister and the foster family returned $18 to Patrick.

Patrick wrote the first published account of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1807. My great grandfather believed that Patrick’s original journal ended up in the Ohio River during one of the floods many years after his book came out. Patrick was active all his life, walking eight miles before noon every day until the end. The last member of the Expedition to die, he lived to be ninety-eight.

Editors’ Note: This article by Patrick Gass descendant Maggie Layne is excerpted from her longer essay for which she received the LCTHF’s Youth Achievement Award in 2022.
The Year 2023 Marks the 25th Anniversary of the Opening of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Great Falls, MT. The Lewis & Clark Foundation and the United States Forest Service have teamed up to make this a spectacular celebration of this incredible facility.

June 30, and July 1 and 2 will mark the dates for this event, to be held on the grounds of the Interpretive Center. It will feature presentations designed to appeal to all ages, including a talk from Dr Jay Buckley, walks, and lots of animals and music. We will have Native American dancers and firearm demonstrations and so much more. If you’re a Lewis and Clark fan, a history buff, or just love a celebration, you won’t want to miss it.

For more information, please call 406-452-5661 or visit www.lewisandclarkfoundation.org.

Clockwise from upper left: Honor Guard Fur Trapping Presentation; Swivel Gun Demonstration; Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center; Salish-Kootenai Native Dancer. Photos by Elizabeth Moore
"Their First View of the Pacific" (1919) by sculptor Charles Keck is delivered to the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center for storage. The bas relief with the frieze of York is on the bottom of the statue and is easier to see and examine than when the bronze was on top of its pedestal in downtown Charlottesville, VA, from which it was removed.

A Tribute to York. This year on Martin Luther King Jr Day, the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center (LCEC) in Charlottesville, VA, opened "A Tribute to York," a new permanent exhibition of photographs, sculpture, and a 3D print-out sponsored by York Place, a Black-owned business that itself honors York. "A Tribute to York" asks many questions: How do we represent a man when we can’t know what he looked like? When facts are unknown, how much can we rely on theories? The photographs on display include a portrait of sculptor Ed Hamilton standing by his statue of York in Louisville, KY. A non-representational, found-object sculpture honors York by referring symbolically to his struggles and dreams of freedom.

In organizing this exhibition, we discovered that the LCEC has the earliest sculptural representation of York in "Their First View of the Pacific" (1919) by Charles Keck which the City of Charlottesville is currently storing on our site after its removal from downtown. Along the base is a bas relief of scenes from the Lewis and Clark Expedition. On one side stands York, taller than the Native American figures who surround him in admiration. Underneath York’s form is the sculptor’s nameplate, as if Keck were identifying with York.

York Place also funded the 3D print-out for the exhibition that was created from a full-sized digital scan of the York bas relief. The completed black plastic print-out revealed an amazing amount of detail. Faces and figures emerged that were blurry within the bronze. The print-out had some of the qualities of a photographic negative, conveying information that is less apparent in the actual artwork.

In the bas relief York has a bare chest and a piece of fabric at his hips. Is the lack of clothing the standard art trope for slavery, or a rendition of how he danced in the lodges, or both? After “A Tribute to York” opened, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team at Charlottesville United Way asked us to make a presentation on York and to bring the 3-D print-out. The print-out is light, moveable, and not harmed by touching. It offered a tactile experience as we discussed and debated York’s depiction and the hierarchies of both the bronze statue and its pink granite base, still on Main Street. How do the different parts of the monument, now disassembled, reflect ideas and issues of gender, race, and race relations prevalent in 1919?

We marked African American History Month with readings about York and related art projects, especially printmaking with foam core. We are spotlighting “The Journey of York: The Unsung Hero of the Lewis and Clark Expedition” by Hasan Davis who had portrayed York for the LCEC during the Bicentennial and “In Search of York” by Robert E Betts. We learned that Old York, York’s father, most likely lived where the LCEC exists today, on the former land grant of Jonathan Clark, William Clark’s grandfather. York has the same family connection to Albemarle County as William Clark: neither was born here, but their fathers lived here. As the LCEC was created to honor local contributions to the Lewis and Clark Expedition, we will be augmenting our attention to York and listening to those who have taken on his legacy as their mission.

If you would like to see “A Tribute to York” and take part in our program, please contact us at lcecvirginia@gmail.com for reservations. Text and photos by Alexandria Searls, Executive Director, Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center
**LCTHF Past President and Partner Form New Art Venture.** David Borlaug, who also led the National Council of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial in the build-up to the commemoration, has formed a new partnership with Marci Narum. “Hang With Marci & David,” their online fine art concierge service, will bring together artists and art lovers. The website is [www.marcidavid.art](http://www.marcidavid.art). The two were previously co-directors of a nonprofit art gallery in Bismarck, ND, created seven years ago by the Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation. Borlaug recently ended his 22-year role as leader of the Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation in Washburn, ND, which he helped develop in 1995.

The duo is pleased to represent artist Michael Haynes who is well known to Lewis and Clark devotees. In fact, they have his last remaining Expedition-themed artwork available for purchase. All of Haynes’ work is making its way onto the company’s website as their relationship with Haynes develops. Other historical works presented by Marci and David include a series of “Mountain Man” pieces with emphasis on the Rocky Mountains; a collection of 25 paintings commissioned by the National Park Service (NPS) for interpretive panels at the Gettysburg National Military Park; a collection of American Indian-themed paintings created for the NPS’s Natchez Trace interpretation; and artwork also commissioned by the NPS for interpretation of the Dred Scott story. The company represents five other nationally-recognized artists including sculptor Michael Westergard of Plentywood, MT; Kay Burian, Manning, ND; Todd Clausnitzer, Bismarck, ND; Marcella Rose, Pelican Rapids, MN; and Sam Coleman, Bismarck, ND.

If you would like to include your Chapter or Region’s events in our next issue, please email your information to Philippa Newfield by May 1, 2023. All LCTHF members automatically receive TOR electronically as part of their membership. The cost of receiving a paper copy of TOR is $6.00 per year. If you wish a paper copy of TOR, please include your payment when you renew your LCTHF/Region membership. Philippa Newfield & Arend Flick, Co-editors
LEWIS AND CLARK ACROSS THE BITTERROOTS

A week-long tour visiting Lewis and Clark history

**WHAT:** Spend a week camping with Lewis and Clark history buffs, visiting the Lewis and Clark sites the Corps encountered on their arduous journey across the mountains while enjoying the incomparable views and remote back county of the northern Rocky Mountains.

**WHEN:** Sunday, July 23, 2023, to Saturday, July 29, 2023.

**WHERE:** We camp at Musselshell Meadows, near Weippe, Idaho, for three nights and spend Monday and Tuesday touring Lewis and Clark sites on the west side of the mountains. Wednesday, we move our camp to Powell, Idaho, and spent Thursday and Friday touring the high-country Lewis and Clark sites.

**HOW:** Bring your own tent or RV. We’ll run a big kitchen, so meals won’t be a worry. You will need to help with camp chores, but “many hands make light work.”

**WHY:** You’ll visit L and C historic sites like “Colt-Killed” Camp, Snowbank Camp, Lonesome Cove, the Sinque Hole, Indian Post Office, Smoking Place, Sword-Fern Camp, “Hungery Camp,” and Lewis and Clark Grove.

**THE DETAILS:** Cost is $500 per person or $900 per couple. On the tours we’ll carpool our rigs to keep the caravan size down. Maximum of 20 people on tour. This is a volunteer-run tour; your guides will be Idaho Chapter volunteers, so bring your happy face and be ready to help where needed. We are using the camp gear and lessons from operating the Lolo Work Week. For more photos, visit [lewisandclark.org](http://lewisandclark.org); then click on Regions/Chapters, Idaho Chapter Archived, then Lolo Work Week.

**Interested in learning more?** Send an email to: [loloworkweek@gmail.com](mailto:loloworkweek@gmail.com). We’ll send you a packet about the tour week and an application form.
In Memoriam: James Alexander Thom  “I know some of you remember Jim, and his wife Dark Rain, from our days with the Bicentennial,” writes LCTHF Past President Barb Kubik. “Dark Rain was a Board member of our foundation and active in the creation of the Bicentennial Council’s Circle of Tribal Advisors (COTA), and she was a friend. Jim always accompanied her to the LCTHF’s annual meetings where he would entertain us with his dry wit and droll cartoons of the Corps of Discovery (I still have several). In fact, Page Henly and Rennie Kubik made Jim one of the early members of the ‘Charbonneau Society’ – made up of the men who followed the women who followed the Corps of Discovery!”

James Alexander Thom, the native Indiana famous for his historical fiction, died on January 30, 2023, at the age of 89. He is best known among Lewis and Clark enthusiasts for his book From Sea to Shining Sea about the Clark family which hooked many a trail follower including our late Past President Bob Gatten.

James Thom was born May 28, 1933, in Gosport, IN. After service in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War, Thom attended Butler University where he wrote about his experiences. He continued writing – for the Indianapolis Star, Nuggets (distributed at funeral homes), and other publications – and then turned to his great love, historical fiction. Thom published 15 books, including Long Knife about George Rogers Clark and Follow the River about Mary Ingles who escaped her Shawnee captors and made the 400-mile journey home during the 18th century.

In addition to doing his own detailed historical research, Thom strove for authenticity acquired through personal experience. To appreciate what an army might have encountered while traveling through a flooded area, he stood in a pond for six days during the winter. He also ate bugs, worms, bark, and roots to understand how escaped Shawnee captive Mary Ingles survived. After spending years with the Shawnee Nation United Remnant Band to learn about Chief Tecumseh, Thom became a member of the Moon Society, an honor reserved for non-Native Americans who are accepted into the tribe. He met tribal member Dark Rain, his wife of almost 33 years, at the induction ceremony. "He treasured books only second to human beings,” said Dark Rain Thom. Courtesy of Domenica Bongiovanni, Indianapolis Star

Virtual Lewis and Clark Travel Journal Workshop will be offered on March 25, 2023, at 1:00 PM PST at no cost to participants. Join historian Wayne Wilson for a fascinating workshop on keeping a travel journal. To register visit https://traveljournal.kartra.com/page/tcQ1397. The workshop, limited to 25 participants, will offer a link to downloadable pdf documents for planning your journal keeping on a future journey. A recording of the workshop will be available to LCTHF members for approximately one month after the presentation.
Bob Bergantino’s Gift to the LCTHF  Bob Bergantino, hydrogeologist and Lewis and Clark enthusiast, has donated a collection of his articles, maps, calculation sheets, and other historic gems to the LCTHF’s William P Sherman Library and Archives in Great Falls, MT. Portage Route Chapter member Lee Ebeling visited Bob and his wife Sharon at their home in Butte, MT, in January to receive the materials which he had compiled over the past 50+ years. Bob’s specialty is the navigation portion of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the captains’ geologic observations. Most of the donated papers concern Lewis and Clark’s astronomical and geographical recordings during the Expedition. Among the materials are complete maps with the campsites noted at every location, complete astronomical observations made with the latitude and longitude of each campsite, and notations of some of the campsites’ actual locations after Bob corrected the captains’ calculations. Bob points out, however, that Lewis and Clark’s calculations and notations of latitude and longitude are in many cases very accurate.

Bob’s life’s work, a monumental addition to the Sherman Library and Archives, is just one of the library’s Lewis and Clark collections for which donations will be needed to process and offer public access in the US and around the world. Please support the management and care of the library’s collections. 1) Click on annual library operations to donate funds or mail a check to LCTHF Library, PO Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403. 2) Donate objects or trip packages to the Annual Meeting silent auction by contacting the office (406-454-1234). Silent auction proceeds are a big part of the library’s funding. 3) Donate books and materials the library and archives. Please email library@lewisandclark.org to request the library’s wish list of books for the collection. Most importantly, please join the Library Committee to help us aid those seeking information about the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The library can also support you by providing materials on the Corps of Discovery through interlibrary loans to your local library. Submitted by Lee Ebeling and Della Van Setten, Library Technician