

IDAHO CHAPTER LEWIS CLARK TRAIL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Spring 2009



Sacajawea Center June 6-7, 2009

Join us for a great L&C weekend in Salmon, Idaho the first weekend in June. It will include tours of the Sacajawea Center, River interpretive Trail, Lemhi Pass, and evening get together.

Here is the latest agenda for Sat. June 6th:

0900 (or 0930) Meet in Meriwether Theater-Intro and agenda

0945 Adjourn to River Trail (on foot)-

10:00 River Interpretive Trail Dedication Ceremony (public event-National Trails Day)

10:30-11:00 Walk the trails

11:00 Return to Meriwether Theater-Business meeting including election officers. Don't worry, there's no train coming - all officers have agreed to run again unless someone else wants their job. By our bylaws we must hold elections in odd numbered years.

We can arrange to take anyone physically unable to walk to and back from the Dedication site by vehicle, if we know in advance.

12:00 Break for Dutch Oven Lunch (Cost to be determined)

1:30-4:00 Mike Crosby Interpretive Programs- we might get three in. We could also do a short field trip to Discovery Hill (right outside of town where BLM has done some L&C Interpretation.)

Our speaker will be Mike Crosby .Mike is the author of "Joined by a Journey," The lives of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery. 126 pgs published by BLM, Dept of Interior.

Free time/dinner/tour the Interpretive Center

Optional Evening Entertainment: Sunset Concert in the Center Amphitheatre (7:00). Cost would be \$12 pp- Salmon Valley String Band (public event)

SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH

Optional Field Trip-Lemhi Pass (0900-1:30pm -we could park some cars in Tendoy so folks heading East afterward wouldn't have to come back to Salmon). Spend a couple of hours on the Pass with Center Interpretive Specialist Mike Crosby discussing the significance of the site and the events that took place there to the Expedition. Check www.salmonidaho.com for information about lodging in Salmon.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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IDAHO VESTS FOR MEMPHIS

Some chapter members will be traveling to Memphis in October for the National meeting which is being held there to mark the 200th anniversary of Meriwether Lewis's death. The Idaho Chapter will be hosting the 2010 meeting, so a strong and visible presence is needed to encourage members from other states to come to Lewiston the 1st week of August next year. To that end, a long discussed project is moving forward: A "leather" vest our members can wear to all L&C events. The leather is actually light weight fabric that looks like suede. On the back will be the Idaho State Image showing the L&C route and the main rivers. On the front will be an embroidered name tag. Other "stuff" may be added in the future. You can make your own with directions from the force behind our president, or we'll make arrangements to have one made for you. Give Penny a call at 208-476-3123 for more information. We'll have a prototype at the Salmon

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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TRIP TO CODY WYOMING IN JUNE

Above is the painting "Arriving at the Great Falls of the Missouri-June 13, 1805" by Charles Fritz, used with his permission.

Some of you may have received the flyer from artist Charles Fritz on his show of "100 paintings Illustrating the Journals of Lewis and Clark." It will be at the Buffalo Bill museum in Cody, Wyoming from June 6 to August 30, this year. This will be the only opportunity to see all 100 painting at one time. The painting of Lewis at the Great Falls of the Missouri is the best of several I've seen attempted. The difficulty is that the summer of 2009 is already quite busy. The only time I can do it is the week after our Salmon meeting. I'll be driving my pickup camper to Salmon and will continue on to Cody later in the week. The schedule and route are yet to be determined. If anyone else is interested in going along to visit this wonderful exhibit give me a call: Chuck Raddon 208-476-3123.

2009 – 2010 Dues are due

The Idaho Chapter board met by phone tag and agreed to dues of \$10 for two year membership to coincide with the term of our officers. This will keep our treasury solvent and will give a better indication of who is really interested in continuing membership. Idaho Chapter members do not have to be members of the national organization based in Great Falls. Benefits of Idaho Chapter membership include the following:

- Receive the quarterly newsletter which brings you news of Lewis and Clark related activities in and around Idaho,
- The opportunity to debate and vote on subjects important to chapter members,
- The opportunity to vote for and become an officer of the chapter.
- A reserve to draw upon when we want to help make some L&C thing happen. Recent examples include supplies for Pomp's grave site and monuments at Lolo Pass.

Send a check made out to Idaho Chapter, LCTHF to the chapter treasurer Holly Crawley, 7325 S. 5th West, Idaho Falls, ID 83404. Send your email address to receive the colored copies of the newsletter and to receive the Lewis and Clark related news that missed the newsletter or other national time sensitive information.

EXPERIENCE THE LOLO MOTORWAY



The Lolo Trail, that route over the Bitterroot Mountains traveled by Lewis and Clark and many other explorers and travelers needs help. Spend 5 days/ 6 nights helping maintain the trail, interpretive signs, and related historic sites. We will set up a camp near Sprit Revival Ridge and spend our days working on a variety of projects, doing a little sightseeing and learning a little history. Our camp of up to 25 energetic volunteers will begin the backlog of work. For more information about the Lolo Trail see the Clearwater National Forest's web site at www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater.

WORK TO BE DONE: The greatest need is to keep the existing trail from being overgrown by brush. To that end we will be equipped with long handled pruning cutters. Small crews will tackle various sections of the trail with a goal of 5 miles of brushing each day. The trail travels along the east-west ridge line intersected occasionally by the Lolo Motorway, a very rocky and primitive road. Along the road are many log interpretive signs which need to be oiled annually. You can't visit any part of the trail without doing some sightseeing so that together with local history will be included in all activities. We'll be doing our own cooking so we'll rotate kitchen duties.

WHEN: The first week of August. We'll meet Sunday night, August 2 for dinner and a campfire, spend the work week on the Lolo Trail and we'll break camp after breakfast Saturday morning August 8.

WHAT YOU WILL GAIN: The satisfaction of doing work that needs to be done, visits to many historic sites, some "oh-Wows" at the incredible views of the endless mountains surrounding you, an idea of how the Nez Perce used these mountains, an understanding of the challenge of modern management of a historic resource, a whole lot of local history, lots of Lewis and Clark history, new friends, some sore muscles and perhaps a few blisters.

THE COST: Forest Service funding is dwindling so those who love these mountains for their history and their special places are going to have to step up. We've received a grant to help with two-thirds of week's foods, estimated at \$150 per person. Your week will cost you just \$50 plus your travel costs. Pre-teen kids charged at special rates. We'll do our own cooking. Bring your own plastic plates, utensils and drinking mugs.

WHAT ELSE IS NEEDED? Bring a tent, mattress pad and sleeping bag for the often cool nights and hard ground. We don't recommend a pickup-camper or travel trailers as the road is very primitive and you would experience significant damage. We suggest you drive SUVs or empty pickups with heavy duty tires because tire side wall damage is common. To travel to the work sites from camp we will consolidate crews into as few vehicles as possible. In regard to clothing think layers. Mountain weather is extremely variable that time of year and a bright sunshiny morning with "T" shirt temperatures often leads to an afternoon thunderstorm with heavy rain and hail. Be prepared.

MORE INFORMATION: The work project is organized by the Idaho Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, with support from other adjacent chapters and a grant from the Idaho Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee. Tools and technical support come from the Clearwater National Forest and you will be signed up as a National Forest Volunteer. For more information contact Idaho Chapter President Chuck Raddon at 208-476-3123 or by email at IdahoClarkie@gmail.com. We'll send you a several page information sheet about the project and what to expect before you commit to joining us.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Reflections

The past few months have been interesting from both a personal and L&C stand point. I spent 37 years with the Forest Service in many locations in three states working mostly in Recreation, Wilderness and Trails management, a field that is highly dependent on the politics and budget of the moment. It is difficult for all of us watching our particular passion being driven to near destruction by the budget axe. It doesn't make much difference if those passions are museums & history, wildlife & parks, education at all levels, or local community programs, the impacts are not pleasant. One can hold protest marches and write letters to the editor, but for the most part those actions are negative which leads to more negativity which creates a death spiral. As a young adult fresh out of the army in January 1961 I remember JFK's inaugural address: "*...ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country.*"

Well, it's déjà-vu all over again. Lewis and Clark is one of my passions, another is our natural resources. Both will be taking a back seat when it comes to funding from any source. I intend to make my concerns known to budget writers, but I also intend to do what I can as an individual to help out locally. I hope you will step up and become a positive support for your passions and for your community interests. The Lolo Trail Experience is one attempt to deal locally with what is happening nationally. Take time from your local efforts to spend a week in the high country. Your experience might gain you more than you give.

2010 ANNUAL MEETING

On The Trail in Nez Perce Country will be the theme of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation's annual meeting August 1-4, 2010. The meeting will be based in the Nez Perce Tribe's Clearwater Resort between Lewiston and Spaulding. This meeting will be mostly field trips punctuated with lots of good food. The opening will be Sunday night with a reception and a formal opening ceremony by the Nez Perce Tribe Honor Guard. Monday morning after a short business meeting and the Keynote address by both L&C and Tribal Speakers we'll board buses. Monday afternoon we'll visit Lewiston Hill overlook, make a stop at Chief Timothy park, and then on the "*Forgotten Trail*" and the Patit Creek L&C campsite and a catered dinner in Dayton, WA. Tuesday will board the buses early, travel up the Clearwater River to Kamiah for talks in the park about L&C in the area and how they fit into the Nez Perce spring time culture. Then uphill to the west end of the Lolo Trail at Lewis and Clark Grove for lunch and talks. After walking the three mile trail segment (or staying on the bus and visiting other Corps campsites) we head to the meeting place between the Corps and the Nez Perce people in Weippe. Dinner in Weippe and then downhill to Canoe Camp in Orofino and then back to Lewiston by 10 PM - A long Day! Wednesday will be in the Lapwai-Spaulding area where we will be treated to an air gun demonstration, traditional Nez Perce foods, visit with some Nez Perce horses, Nez Perce dancing and finally back to meeting headquarters for the final social, book signing, and ending Banquet.

That's the bare frame schedule put together by Chapter President Chuck Raddon, budget and fiscal chair Steve Lee, L&C speaker coordinator Jim Fazio, and bus master Norm Steadman. They are working with Nez Perce Tribal Tourism coordinator Farren Penny-Wilkerson. Soon we'll have a list of volunteer jobs that will needed as we get closer to the event. They include working with the caterers, bus guides, working at the registration table, and numerous other jobs. The team would like volunteers rather than trying to shanghai people into jobs that may not fit them.

FUTURE EVENTS:
JUNE 6-7TH-SALMON IDAHO RENDEVEOUS
AUGUST 2-6TH LOLO MOTORWAY PROJECT
AUGUST 2010 ANNUAL MEETING LEWISTON IDAHO

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