

ON THE TRAIL

Newsletter of the Missouri-Kansas River Bend Chapter

A local chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.

August 2006

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Don't miss these upcoming programs!

Lewis and Clark in Films

Be cool on Sunday afternoons in August at our "Lewis and Clark in Films" series taking place on August 20 and 27.

Attendees will enjoy free films and commentary. Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. in the Film Vault at the Central Library in downtown Kansas City, Mo., 10th & Baltimore. The films are co-sponsored by the Missouri Valley Special Collections.

On August 20, attendees will enjoy two films: "Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West," an IMAX film by National Geographic and narrated by Jeff Bridges; plus "Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery in Missouri" produced by Missouri Department of Conservation. Comments will be pro-

A note from our Chairman:

Let's actively support these September 2006 events! Those of you who may not regularly attend or are relatively new, we hope to be a friendly group of Lewis and Clark-inspired students and you will enjoy your attendance to one or more of these events. In fact, please set aside Monday, September 11 at 6 pm, Tuesday September 12 at 6 pm, Wednesday September 13 at 6pm, Thursday September 14 at 6pm (and also 3 pm and also 10:30 pm) and Friday September 15 at noon and then you can say you made it to all the Kansas City-St. Joseph area Bicentennial 2006 Lewis and Clark Journals Nightly programs!

Please know that the chapter continues in January 2007 with our annual dinner (likely at Cascone's again.)

*Your obedient servant,
Dan Sturdevant, Chair*

vided by Dr. Pete Cuppage, a chapter board member.

On August 27, attendees will view "Lewis and Clark: Confluence of Time and Courage," a film by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and "Lewis and Clark Journals Nightly Kansas City Area Programs, June 23-July 18, 2004," a video produced by members of our chapter. There also will be a presentation by Jim Mordy, a contributor to the new book, "The Life and Times of Nathaniel Hale Pryor."

"Journals Nightly"

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of Lewis and Clark's return from the West in September 1806, our chapter will present "Journals Nightly," a series of live readings from the expedition journals on September 11-15. The readings will take place beside the Missouri River at sites along the trail near the 1806 campsites of the expedition. The programs will include an interpretation of the journal entries, relating the context of 200 years ago with the present and perspectives of the future, and will be presented by

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Missouri-Kansas River Bend Chapter
13A NW Barry Road, PMB DD
Kansas City MO 64155
www.moksriverbend.org

Our Mission:

The Missouri-Kansas River Bend Chapter supports the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation at the local level through events, activities, programs, promotion and protection of the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail. In addition, the local chapter encourages local interest in the expedition and related historic sites.

Kansas City area to welcome return of Lewis and Clark with September events

Communities in the Kansas City area are commemorating the 200th anniversary of the return of the Lewis and Clark expedition with events in September. Some of these events include the following:

St. Joseph, Mo.

From mid-August to the end of September, The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., 3406 Frederick Ave., is reshowing "Botanical Wonders of the Uncharted West: Flora of the Lewis and Clark Expedition." It consists of 50 paintings with interpretation from the journals. Additional Lewis and Clark exhibits are on display at the museum. For more information, contact Jackie Lewin at jlewin@magic-cablepc.com.

Atchison, Ks.

On September 12-13, reenactors with the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles, Mo., will be encamped on Atchison's riverfront. On September 15-17, Atchison will host "Legends and Legacies," a family festival with activities in Riverfront Park and at the Independence Creek Lewis and Clark Historic Site. Highlights will include the National Park Service's Corps II traveling exhibit, living history reenactors, demonstrations and food vendors on the riverfront, old-time entertainment,

mountainman rendezvous and dedication of a Kanza earth lodge dwelling replica at Independence Creek, Elks barbecue cookoff, fireworks display over the Missouri River and an All Faiths church service. For more information: www.atchison-kansas.net.

Leavenworth, Ks.

On September 13, Leavenworth will welcome the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles, which will be encamped until the morning of September 15. The city's annual RiverFest event on September 14-17 will include Lewis and Clark reenactors, exhibits, food vendors in Leavenworth Landing Park and fireworks over the Missouri River. Highlights include a dedication ceremony of Native American flags, reenactment of the collection of the raccoon grape-leaf plant, the last plant

specimen collected on the expedition, readings from the journals, evening musical entertainment, and singing "in the greatest harmony" late into the evening as recorded in the journals on September 14, 1806.

Kansas City, Ks.

On September 15-17, Kansas City will host "Shall We Gather at the River: The Wyandotte County Lewis & Clark Bicentennial and Ethnic Festival" at Lewis and Clark Historic Park at Kaw Point. Highlights of the event will be music, food and entertainment from various groups, a kid's zone with children's entertainment and activities, a spectacular fireworks display and a visit from the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles. For more information: www.lewisandclarkwyco.org.

Discovery Expedition of St. Charles Schedules Stops

On their return voyage to St. Louis, the reenactors of Discovery Expedition of St. Charles, Mo., are scheduled to make the following stops:

- September 12-13 Atchison, KS
- September 14 Leavenworth, KS
- September 15 Kansas City, KS

- September 16 Kansas City, MO
- September 17 Fort Osage, Waverly, Lexington and Lupus

Our chapter will feed expedition members at 6:00 p.m. on September 15 at Kaw Point.

For more information about Discovery Expedition, visit www.lewisandclark.net.

"Journals Nightly" continued from page 1 . . .

area historians. Each program begins at 6:00 p.m. (except for the noon program on September 15 in downtown Kansas City, Mo.) and lasts about 40 minutes. Attendees should bring chairs or blankets.

The schedule:

September 11 -

Nodaway Island River Access Area, Amazonia, Mo. "The Pawpaws Nearly Ripe"

Directions: Go north from St. Joseph on U.S. 59 (also known as K Highway) to Amazonia, Missouri. Go left on County T at Amazonia. Follow County T to sign for Nodaway Island River Access Area.

September 12 - Riverfront Park, St. Joseph, Mo.

"Met Mr. McClellin at the St. Mich. Prairie"

Directions: Park is at the west end of Francis Street.

September 13 -

Jentell Brees Conservation Area, St. Joseph, Mo.

"I Drank and found Great Relief"

Directions: Go south from St. Joseph on Mo. 759 (Stockyards Expressway) to County U (Alabama Street). Go west and south on County U for 5.5 miles to Contrary Creek Road. West on Contrary Creek Road for 1.2 miles to site.

September 14 -

Landing Park, Leavenworth, KS

"Sung Songs in Greatest Harmony"

Two additional programs will be a tour of Fort Leavenworth Museum at 3:00 p.m. with Director Steve Alley and "Singing in Greatest Harmony" from 10:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. in

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"Journals Nightly" continued from page 2 . . .

Leavenworth Landing Park." Sheet music and lights available for "singing in the greatest harmony."

September 15 - Case Park, 8th & Jefferson, Kansas City, Mo.

11:50 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. "Capt. Lewis and my Self assended a hill – a Perfect Command of the River"

Speakers: Jonathan Kemper ("This Statue and Historical Perspectives"), Dr. William Worley (as William Clark, "I Will Not Free You, York"), Shirley Christian ("Lewis and Clark and the Chouteaus").

Program will start at 11:45 a.m. at Case Park Overlook at 8th and Jefferson, with the noon ascent of re-enactors to the excellent overlook and historical perspectives to 12:30 p.m.

Trio to Present Concert at Kaw Point

The music trio of Don Lipovac, accordion; Dan Sturdevant, keyboards and vocal; and Bob Scagliotti, bassist, will present "Full Moon Rising III," a live music concert at Lewis and Clark Historic Park at Kaw Point at 7:30 p.m. on September 8.

The park is at One Fairfax Trafficway in downtown Kansas City, Ks.

The location is on the riverbank near the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers. From the upper parking level, take the lower walking path on the north bank of the Kansas River out to the point between the Rivers.

For more information, contact Dan Sturdevant at (816) 421-4783.

Welcome New Members:

Our chapter is pleased to welcome the following new members to our organization:

- John P. Jones Independence, MO
- Susan E. Taylor Kansas City, KS
- Susan Jepson May & Mary May Prairie Village, KS
- Allen & Carol Sales Stanley, KS

KC Designates Lewis and Clark Point

Upon presentation by Pete Cuppage, Ross Marshall and Dan Sturdevant, the Kansas City Parks and Recreation board unanimously voted to rename the circle area of the overlook at 8th and Jefferson streets in downtown Kansas City, Mo., as "Lewis and Clark Point." The point overlooks Kaw Point, the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers where Lewis and Clark camped in June 1804, and contains an impressive statue representative of the expedition erected by Jonathan Kemper in April 2000.

Lewis and Clark climbed the hill at this location on Sept. 15, 1806 (note in this newsletter the commemorative program to be held at noon on Sept. 15, 2006).

Our Condolences

We are sad to report the recent death, from cancer, of chapter member Catharine Gardner. We extend our condolences to her friend Annie Reed who joined Catharine as an enthusiastic supporter of Lewis and Clark programs over the past several years.

www.moksriverbend.org

River Bend Chapter Membership Application

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Are you a member of the National Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation?

Yes No

Signature: _____

Please check a membership category:

- \$5 Full-time Student
- \$15 Individual
- \$25 Family
- \$50 Non-profit / Organization
- \$100 Corporation

Addition contribution of \$ _____

Total amount Enclosed: \$ _____

(Make check payable to Missouri-Kansas River Bend Chapter)

Complete this form and mail with payment to:

Missouri-Kansas River Bend Chapter
13-A NW Barry Road, PMB #DD
Kansas City MO 64155-2728

Chapter members enjoy April bus tour

by Ross Marshall

Approximately thirty members and guests participated in our bus tour on Saturday, April 8. Our first stop was at Big Lake State Park in northwest Missouri, site of Lewis and Clark's campsite of September 10, 1806.

On the way up, we reviewed issues surrounding the Louisiana Purchase, preparations that Lewis and Clark made for the journey, and read journal excerpts covering the expedition as they journeyed from Kaw Point to the Nebraska border in late June and early July, 1804.

Our next stop was at Nodaway Island, a beautiful riverside setting near the campsites of July 8, 1804 and Sept. 11, 1806.

A wonderful lunch was enjoyed at Ryan's Buffet in St. Joseph.

We traveled through historic St. Joseph to Wyeth Hill, a high park that overlooks the Missouri River and its original wide loop to the west has been straightened, but would have been the location of the expedition's campsite of July 7, 1804.

A short downhill drive took us to Riverside Park, the principal ferry location for emigrants traveling the Oregon and California trails in the 1840s and 1850s. It also was near the expedition's campsite of September 12, 1806, which they correctly called St. Michael's Prairie.

King Hill Overlook was our next stop. It was another terrific view of the river bottom and St. Michael's Prairie area.

We then descended King Hill and traveled about five miles southwest of St. Joseph to another riverside setting called 'Jentill Brees,' which is near the expedition's campsite of July 6, 1804. On the morning of July 6, 1804, Sgt. Floyd wrote "Set out proseed [proceeded] under a Jentell Brees from the South west the water wase So strong that we could Hardly Steem it."

"We proceeded on" as the journals often said, and went south to Leavenworth. Just under Centennial Bridge is the approximate campsite of both July 1, 1804 and



Tour guide Ross Marshall (on left) and participants on the April bus tour of the Lewis and Clark Trail pose for a photo beside interpretive signs in Leavenworth.

September 14, 1806. They camped on the "Isles des Parques" or Field Islands.

Earlier in the day of September 14, the expedition met boats of trappers coming upriver and were able to obtain whiskey, something they had not had for more than a year.

Clark recorded that they "Sung Songs untill 11oClock at night in the greatest harmony"

Our group returned to downtown Kansas City, having experienced a little of what the Lewis and Clark expedition witnessed in both 1804 and 1806.

Upcoming National Events . . .

National Foundation Meeting

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation will hold its 38th annual meeting on Sept. 18-19 in St. Louis.

The theme of the meeting is "Untold Stories: Endurance, Discovery, Achievement." Attendees will travel the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, visit historic sites associated with the expedition, and experience educational and entertaining reenactments, programs and performances. In addition, members share their experiences and renew friendships with fellow expedi-

tion history enthusiasts.

For more information: www.lewisandclark.org.

Final Signature Event of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

The final Signature Event of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial will be Sept. 20-24 on the St. Louis riverfront.

The event begins with a two-day symposium followed by a weekend of activities. The weekend, which kicks off with a historic opening ceremony on the Riverfront, will be highlighted by tours to Lewis and Clark historic sites, a multitude of educational exhibits and

activities providing fun for all ages, and thought-provoking presentations by American Indian tribes, environmentalists, scholars and educators.

The event will commence with an evening of lively entertainment, including comedians and musical acts and a reflective closing ceremony, which will provide transition into the next 200 years. In addition to the signature event, communities in both Missouri and Illinois are planning commemorative activities throughout the region.

For more information: www.currentsofchange.org.