

Home Front Chapter



**of the Lewis & Clark Trail
Heritage Foundation**

**P. O. Box 4737
Charlottesville, VA 22905**

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Home Front Chapter Meeting

Thursday, February 20th, 2002

St. Paul's Church, Ivy

7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Gene Crotty

on

“The Visits of Lewis & Clark to Fincastle”

*Mr. Crotty, a Botetourt County historical researcher, has written a book, **The Visits of Lewis & Clark to Fincastle**, published by the History Museum & Historical Society of Western Virginia in Roanoke. In it he draws from many letters of the two explorers as well as courthouse records and numerous local histories to tell of their visits, friendships and courtships in Botetourt County. He is also the author of three books on Thomas Jefferson, all published by the University of Virginia.*

From the GLAC (Glorious Leader and Commander)

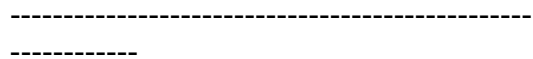
By the time you read this, the Jefferson's West Signature Event will have been finished. From the amount of time and effort that Monticello, the University, the Home Front Chapter, the Carolinas Chapter, and many others have put into this event, I know in advance that it will be a very big success. I want to thank Sue Van Wickler, her committee, and Scott Stroney from University Caterers for planning and managing the reception at Newcomb Hall. Captain Chauncey Hutter and his committee worked hard to put together and man the Home Front and Carolina Chapter Booth at Newcomb Hall. Jean Myers (ex-GLAC) was in charge of our booth at the Airport and received wonderful cooperation and help from Bryan Elliot, the Airport executive director. Page Henley coordinated a large number of vendors and the exhibit booths at Newcomb Hall, while Jane Henley brought together the information from the Foundation. Jock Fiery provided a huge amount of behind-the-scenes work. Anne Tufts secured banners and coordinated the sale of Home Front shirts and patches and served as photographer for the Home Front Chapter. The Carolinas Chapter came in force and helped in a variety of ways. Guy Benson, Taylor Haynes and Jack Weil provided super photos for the booth at Newcomb Hall while several members of the Carolinas Chapter pitched in to volunteer for the booth. The chapter also shared some of the costs of the Thursday night reception. Working with Kat Imhoff and Nancy King at Monticello has been a treat. Thanks to everyone who volunteered before, during, and after the busy week.

Our February speaker will be a very special person (and HFC member), Gene Crotty, who is from the Fincastle area near Roanoke and will be talking about Lewis and Clark's trip back from St. Louis to Monticello and Washington. Gene has done a tremendous amount of research and has just published a book on this topic. A lot of what he will talk about is related to our prospective trip to Fincastle-Abingdon in April. This should fire you up to take this trip with us.

At the May meeting we will have our chapter elections along with a program. Jean Myers, chair of the nominating committee, would appreciate suggestions. By the way, Linda Weldon (vice-GLAC) has done a magnificent job in arranging our programs and this has made my work at lot easier. Start thinking BIG ... we will be hosting the annual meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation in 2007, which means that we will start work in 2004, or before. In the famous words of Captain Hutter, "What have I forgotten?"

Ken

Wallenborn



DailyProgress reports on Home Front Chapter/Carolinas Chapter Reception

RECEPTION BRINGS TOGETHER LEWIS, CLARK FANS

By Olympia Meola
Daily Progress staff writer

It took Meriwether Lewis and William Clark 28 months and a

transcontinental trek to unite the Atlantic and Pacific oceans 200 years ago. But to bring together historians, political figures and Lewis and Clark buffs today, all it took was a little early American music and some salmon toast.

Scores of attendees of Monticello's commemoration of the expedition's bicentennial gathered in the University of Virginia's Newcomb Hall on Thursday to socialize over a common interest – Lewis and Clark.

"It's great because you get to see people that you don't (normally) get to see, and everyone has the same interest. You don't have to think of something to say," said Jon Mathrole, a member of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation chapters in St. Charles, MO, and in the Carolinas.

A resident of Society Hill, S.C., Mathrole said his interest in Lewis and Clark was piqued because his home in Nebraska, on the Missouri River, is just yards from a site where the explorers are believed to have camped.

"It's a fun thing to bring people together that are here from all over the country," said Sue Van Wickler, with the Home Front Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, which co-sponsored the event with the Carolinas Chapter.

Attendees squeezed into the small reception hall, which was flanked on two sides by exhibition rooms.

The mood was jovial and festive as period music filled the small space throughout the two-hour event. The Virginia Vagabonds, a string quartet, started in 1937, played 1850s fife tunes and period waltzes.

Jock Fiery, a 42-year Albemarle farmer, said the group reminded him of days when bands would play in one-room schoolhouses for the locals.

"It's maybe where your grandparents and great-grandparents met and fell in love and got married," he said. "I like the music of the early days. It's just happy."

A fife and drum band also entertained the crowd with "Explore the Purchase," a piece of music written especially for the bicentennial.

Tim Schulte, a 16-year-old drummer with the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps from St. Charles, MO, took time off from school to play with the 16-member corps. All members were dressed in 1804 U.S. Army uniforms and marched through the reception hall. Monticello was the first stop for Lewis and Clark, and Oregon's Fort Clatsop was the last. Chip Jenkins, superintendent of the fort, attended Thursday's reception after a day of exhibiting, and said the fort will hold a bicentennial event in November 2005.

"If you look at our country like a big quilt (the exploration) is one of the squares of the quilt," he said.

To Jenkins, the bicentennial commemoration is a "great opportunity to get reacquainted with this story."

(This story ran in The Daily Progress on Friday, January 17, 2003)

Thanks, Sue Van Wickler, for excellent leadership of this Home Front Chapter Event!

Reactions to the Bicentennial Commemoration

From Home Front Members:

Our Chapter's reception at Newcomb Hall was quite successful if

numbers in attendance, wonderful old Virginia country music by the Virginia Vagabonds, high decibels of excited chatter coming from hundreds of attendees, specially selected refreshments that seemed to disappear the moment they were offered, and a surprise march-through by the Lewis and Clark Fife & Drum corps of St. Charles, Missouri, have any significance!

It was a delight to be involved in this affair and I, for one, will not soon forget it. (And husband, Van, feels that he is now a legitimate member of Page Henley's Charbonneau Society!)

Sue Van Wickler,
Charlottesville, VA

Food brings us together. This was Mary Gunderson's theme as she brought history alive through food. Her talk and cooking presentation was one of my favorite events of the Bicentennial commemoration week. Mary is a nationally known food historian and has written many books for both adults and children. In her presentation Mary described the foods the Corps packed in the pirogue when they started up the Missouri. The staples were a commercial portable soup, salt pork, and hominy. She told us that during the journey the Corps traded corn, squash, and beans with the native people they met. The Native Indians also taught them how to find roots and nuts and which berries to pick. Mary said they probably could not have survived without the berries, which provided them with Vitamin C. The men hunted buffalo, deer, elk, raccoon, and muskrat. Supposedly, Corps members loved meat and ate up to nine pounds of meat a day although Mary disagreed with this fact, which is included in many history books. She

said they probably consumed three or four pounds a day which was necessary to pull the boats and perform the other strenuous work of setting up camp or just hiking through the dense forests or over the massive mountains.

Mary grew up in Yankton, South Dakota, hearing stories and reading about the expedition in school. It was only natural after getting a degree in home economics for her to combine her interest in food with her love of history and especially the story of the expedition. Mary's Food Journal blends eighty authentic recipes with brief history lessons about the expedition.

The presentation ended with tasting a sampling of three different foods she prepared for us.

Pat Richmond,
Charlottesville

The kick off event for the Bicentennial commemoration for Lewis and Clark had something for everyone. It was a tremendous demonstration of our American history, with its diverse culture and people. My favorite event was Ken Locke, Hoop Dancer, which brought together all ages to participate in this historical event.

Annie Laurie Hulen,
Leesburg, VA

Discover York

I was able to welcome the speakers to our York Place. I wonder how many buildings in the country are named for that member of the Corps? The Seaman exhibit was my favorite.

Sally Thomas, Charlottesville, VA,

One down; Fourteen to go!

All of the events were such high quality! The Charlottesville signature event was a magnificent success.

Jane Henley,
Charlottesville, VA

Thoroughly enjoyed Seaman exhibit at the Albemarle Office Building and talking with artists Dennis Sullivan and Frances Conklin.

Also enlightening seeing Indian exhibits in Newcomb. I look forward to the Buena Vista event before the opera.

Lossie Wilkinson,
Charlottesville, VA

What a week we had! A cold kick-off but such enthusiasm. The Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center of Virginia (LCEC) held two very successful events to share their plans and build support for the Lewis and Clark center that will be built here in our area. More than 250 people gathered on Friday evening at Buena Vista for buffalo, venison, grog, and great music. On Sunday morning, the board of the LCEC hosted a brunch attended by 350 people at the boathouse (barn) in Darden Towe Park. Many young people earned their Apprentice Boatman badge as they learned to hammer, saw, chisel, and drill. The 55' keelboat is taking shape and will be an integral part of the center.

If you haven't seen the Mandan interactive exhibit at the Virginia Discovery Museum, you really should stop by---east end of downtown Mall. It is very well done---you will be surprised!!

Jeanne Myers,
Charlottesville, VA

From Visitors:

The following responses were given by the young members and chaperones of the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps, of St. Charles, Missouri.

Charlottesville has been wonderful. There is so much history here. We're been to Monticello, University of Virginia, and Rotunda. We thank Charlottesville for the hospitality and the good times they provided us with.

Tim Shulte, Sgt.

I really like Charlottesville.

We're going to play at Monticello with the Old Guard. I'm a fifer in the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum corps. Nikki Napolitano, 10 years old

Charlottesville is a great place filled with history. I've had so much fun! I came here on a bus from Missouri with the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps I'm in. I've never been this far away from home before but it's been great! They are so nice here. I hope to come here again.

Erin Riddle

The Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps traveled from St. Charles, MO, to assist in the celebration of the 200 year anniversary of the beginning of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The Corps began the 800 mile drive from St. Charles through Louisville, Kentucky, Washington D.C. and to Charlottesville and with many scheduled events along the way, we arrived in the Charlottesville area. At the signature event we will be performing with the

Old Guard at Monticello celebrations on Saturday.

We have thoroughly enjoyed the trip and look forward to participating in many other celebrations of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

Dr. Michael J. Spezia

Parent of snare drummer Nick Spezia
(Editor's note: Dr. Spezia wrote quickly – and gave permission for “transliteration” of his doctor’s penmanship as necessary.)

Tid-bits from THE WEEK!

On Saturday, January 18, 2003, the *New York Times* featured a front page lead article on Lewis and Clark. Home Front Chapter’s own Jane Henley was extensively quoted in the article. Way to go, Jane!

Many of the out-of-town visitors for the Signature Event arrived at Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport. They were greeted with a variety of first-class exhibits, providing a wonderful arrival greeting. The airport built and provided special cabinets especially for the displays. A large presentation in the area beyond security featured a uniform and a bullboat. The boat was extremely eye-catching and received favorable attention by arriving passengers. In the baggage area, two displays feature beautiful smaller items, including souvenirs of the Lewis and Clark Centennial in St. Louis.

Displays at the airport will remain in place for a few weeks. Please notice Lewis and Clark at the Airport the next time you depart, arrive, or pick up a passenger.

Bill Barker, the Thomas Jefferson of Colonial Williamsburg, was one of the featured speakers during a reception at the American Rivers’ Voyage of Discovery exhibit at ACAC. Guests were asked to join in singing about Virginia’s own river, the Shenandoah.

Did you have to blink twice when you saw two or three or more *different* Meriwether Lewises/William Clarks/Thomas Jeffersons all on the very same day? Costumes of every type abounded during the Signature Event. Speaking of costuming, did you know that the fuzzy hats on the young people of the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps featured real bear fur and a whitetail deer tail?

The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* featured a fabulous 44-page insert about Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. Thanks to Carlos Santos, Charlottesville correspondent for the Times-Dispatch, for making copies available for the use of schools and scholars.

NEXT Signature Event
October 14-26, 2003
Falls of the Ohio, Louisville,
Clarksville

Various activities will take place over the thirteen days at Falls of the Ohio, Louisville, and Clarksville, marking the place where Lewis and Clark met and embarked together on the journey, having in their company nine-plus men.

Discovering the Rivers of Lewis and Clark

ACAC, Albemarle Square, and its basketball teams, generously gave up the basketball court for exercise of a different kind during the week of January 13-18. An immense exhibit provided by American Rivers (for more information on this fascinating organization, see www.AmericanRivers.org) filled the basketball floor. Visitors to the exhibit could walk the length of the Lewis and Clark Trail, from St. Louis to the Pacific, witnessing the natural wonders that the explorers discovered on their magnificent river trip.

Oversized photographs and passages from the journals told the story of a dozen “reaches” along the Missouri, Yellowstone, Snake and Columbia rivers---how the expedition found them, what has happened to them in the nearly 200 years since, and in many cases, how sections are being restored to health.

Children could climb into a reproduction of the prow of the famous explorers’ keelboat. A mini-theater continuously showed two video shorts by the History Channel, featuring historian Stephen Ambrose.

The exhibit was created by American Rivers – official conservation partner of the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council – in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The display is on a four-year, 25-city tour of science and history museums, shopping malls, and riverfront festivals. Thanks to American Rivers for the detailed-yet-interesting exhibit and to ACAC for its generous accommodation for the huge exhibit while it was in Charlottesville.

CORPS OF DISCOVERY II UPDATE

Corps of Discovery II - 200 Years to the Future debuted at Monticello, launching the bicentennial observance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. From Charlottesville it begins a three-year cross-country odyssey, retracing the preparation and exploration routes of the original Corps of Discovery in 1803-1806.

Corps II facilities consist of three tents supported by heating, electrical, and audiovisual systems housed in an adjacent semi-tractor trailer, which also transports the exhibition. Approaching the entrance, visitors come face to face with colorful life size images of Indians painted in the 1830's.

This dramatic scene reminds visitors at once that Indians were in America long before Lewis and Clark encountered them - and that Indian contributions were essential to their success and very survival. On entering the first tent, visitors will be greeted, oriented, and provided with a set of digital audio headphones. Wearing the headsets, they proceed into a larger exhibit tent, where they will experience the Lewis and Clark Expedition depicted on colorful display panels while listening to a narrative accompanied by period music and sound effects.

At the conclusion of the exhibit, visitors return headphones before entering the largest of the three tents: the 150 seat Tent of Many Voices. Here an array of public programs and activities

will be featured, ranging from musical performances to debates, traditional cultural skill and folk life demonstrations, school programs, and presentations from state and federal agencies and tribes.

“The Tent of Many Voices is a place to explore in-depth the broad themes of the Corps of Discovery II,” said Park Service Superintendent Gerard Baker. “It provides a public forum for individuals, agencies, and organizations to address topics of local interest in association with the bicentennial observance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. It is foremost a place to educate, entertain, and inform.”

While the National Park Service is coordinating and underwriting much Corps II design, production staffing and transportation, no NPS arrowhead will be displayed, save on the uniforms of park service employees. Corps II is a cooperative venture drawing upon the assistance and participation of private, state, federal and tribal partners.

CORPS of Discovery II is on exhibit at Monticello Visitors Center until January 29 and then moves to a location on the downtown mall from January 30 until February 10. Don't miss it!

Gift to the Home Front Chapter

Past President of the Trail Heritage Foundation, Barbara Kubik, presented the Home Front Chapter with two CDs, in gratitude for the assistance of members with the Makoche concert

on January 17th at the Performing Arts Center. The CDs are “Sounds of Discovery” and “People of the Willows,” featuring members of the Makoche troupe. Thank you, Barbara.

SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!

**Home Front Chapter Field Trip
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
April 4, 5, 6**

**The group will stay in Abingdon.
Reservation information and
details of this very special trip
will be mailed to each member of
the Chapter.**

**For now,
SAVE THE DATE!**

WAYSIDE EXHIBITS ON THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL

Visitors traveling in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark will be seeing nearly 25 new waysides (outside exhibits) along the trail. Many communities and groups have been working hard to tell their part of the Lewis and Clark story, and wayside exhibits are an effective way to do this without worrying about staffing a visitor center.

If you are traveling the trail, keep your eye out for the informative wayside panels. They will help interpret the local activity of the Corps and will assist you as you discover the history, geology, flora, and fauna of the Trail.

Locust Hill Graveyard News

Repairs have begun on Reuben Lewis' grave in the Locust Hill Graveyard. In late 2002 vandalism to the grave caused damage to the gravesite. A crane was required to return the slab to its place. Howell Bowen is in charge of the repairs. Officials have no clues or information leading to the identity of the vandals.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE – FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Now thru April 1

“Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West,” by National Geographic
At the IMAX, National Museum of Natural History, in Washington, DC

March 28, 29, 30

“Supplied for Survival - Meriwether Lewis at Harper's Ferry,” a Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Event

April 4, 5, 6

Home Front Chapter Trip to South Western Virginia – Abingdon, Fincastle, Cumberland Gap

April 5 thru August 4

“Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West,” by National Geographic
At the IMAX, Science Museum of Virginia, Richmond

May 10

3rd Annual Lewis and Clark Festival

Lee Park, Charlottesville
10 a.m.-5 p.m.

August 10-13

35th Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Philadelphia, PA
Pre- and post-meeting tours:
Aug. 9 & 14

Harper's Ferry Hosts Weekend Events

Harper's Ferry National Historical Park presents a three-day Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration the weekend of March 28, 29,, 30, 2003. The weekend will feature music, drama, scholarship, and living history programs along with the formal opening of the park's new permanent exhibit, “Meriwether Lewis at Harper's Ferry.”

Special programs will feature Dr. Gary Moulton, Daniel Slosberg (Pierre Cruzatte), Bill Barker (Thomas Jefferson), Dick Cheatham (Meriwether Lewis), Hasan Davis (York). Corps of Discovery II will also be featured.

There are no special fees for these commemorative activities. The only cost is \$5.00 park entrance fee, which is valid for three days from the date of purchase.

More information: 304-535-6298
www.
nps.gov/hafe/lewis

**AMTRAK AND NPS BRING
THE LEWIS AND CLARK
STORY ALIVE**

If you like trains and train travel, you'll really like this information!

The historic travels of Lewis and Clark come alive on Amtrak's Empire Builder between Chicago and the Pacific Northwest, as the train travels between Williston, ND and Shelby, MT. For the past two years, guests on the *Empire Builder* have followed in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark by retracing the epic journey of the Corps of Discovery along the historic route.

Trails and Rails is a national partnership between the National Park Service and Amtrak to provide onboard educational programs to passengers. Programs are presented intermittently over the train's public address system in the lounge car and in other designated areas of the train. Volunteers are available to answer questions about the region, the parks, and the NPS. They also provide traveling displays and hand out literature.

"This is an excellent out-reach program for the Park Service to make contact with non-traditional visitors to our National Parks and for them to learn more about the Lewis and Clark Expedition," said Andrew Banta, Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site Superintendent. "With this Trails and Rails program, visitors will have the opportunity to learn what has and hasn't changed since 1804.

"The success of the outreach programs on the *Empire Builder* has led to additional Lewis and Clark-related programs on other Amtrak routes. In Missouri, the outrun between St. Louis

and Jefferson City features daily programs during the summer months and weekend programs during the winter months. Future plans include possible programs from Pittsburgh to Washington, DC, focusing on the preparations made by Captain Meriwether Lewis. "

From National Park Service
*THE CORPS
EXPLORER*

**THANKS TO
EVERY MEMBER
OF THE HOME
FRONT CHAPTER
FOR
HARD WORK,
ENTHUSIASM,
DEDICATION,
DILIGENCE, AND
HOSPITALITY
DURING THE
WEEK OF
JANUARY 13-19!**
