

Camp River Dubois Dispatch

4th Quarter Official Newsletter of the Lewis & Clark Society and the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site

Volume 9 Issue 4

Manager's Corner: by Brad Winn

As we approach the 2018 Holiday season I wanted to take a moment to reflect on family, specifically our Lewis & Clark State Historic Site family. 2018 has brought the departure of some familiar faces from our daily routine and the introduction of some new members to our little clan.

Even though people come and go often, and pass through our doors every day, I am constantly struck by the impacts we have on each other's lives. Is it this human element, the connections and bonds that we create over the years to each other, our site, and our story that compels us or draws us together and to be so passionate about what we do here?

For me personally, I cherish the relationships that I have developed over the years. I so look forward each time when I scan over the schedule to see who is coming that day. I get excited about what stories we will share, good books that need to be added to our must read lists, jokes that you want me to try in my class! I wish so much that I could adequately convey the value and importance you all have as a part of my life, not just as superintendent of our historic site, but personally how much you all mean to me. I just hope that I have done my job in showing my appreciation for you becoming a part of our family.

In this season of thanks, holiday time, and family I wish for you the happiest of holidays. I am certainly thankful for the blessings and togetherness that this year has brought and look forward to the coming year and what new stories it is likely to bring. My best to you and your family from our family here at Lewis and Clark State Historic Site.



On November 13th (Which turned out to be Frank's Birthday), Brad traveled to Quincy, IL to visit the Good Samaritan Home to do a program on Lewis and Clark and more importantly to pay a visit with long time volunteers June and Frank Nagy, who now live at the Good Samaritan Home. After enjoying lunch with June and Frank and a tour of the facility, Brad conducted a 45 min program to an audience of 40 or more residents, staff, and family. It was a wonderful experience and a great time catching up with our friends and volunteers, the Nagy's. They told Brad to tell everyone hello!

What and the World is Going on?

The red headed American officer shouted, "Turn the cannon on the enemy and prepare to fire!"

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark departed the Mandan village on April 7, 1805 in the heart of North America. Another pair of American officers was in the midst of a 52 day desert crossing in North Africa. Marine Lieutenant Presley O'Bannon, like Clark from the Virginia Piedmont, was in charge of the American military escort on a mission against the Barbary pirates. The expedition was headed by William Eaton, a former Army Captain and American Consul to Tunis. He was now commissioned a U S Naval agent with the rank of Lieutenant, but assumed the rank of General for the purposes of the expedition against Tripoli.

The stated purpose of the military action was to restore the Pasha, Hamet Caramelli, back to power in Tripoli. He had been ousted by his younger brother Yusuf in 1795. Yusuf led the nation to piracy and extortion. American ships had been captured and their crews were held for ransom under cruel conditions. The young United States of America had been forced to pay tribute to safeguard their commercial vessels in the substantial Mediterranean market. In 1800, 20 per cent of the US government's expenditures went to pay off Yusuf and other pirate kings of this Barbary Coast of North Africa.

Numerous negotiations were attempted, but Yusuf kept increasing his demands and finally declared war on America. The United States, with help from the Two Sicilies and Sweden - with whom Yusuf had also declared war - blockaded the major ports with little success. A US warship ran aground and had been captured. A daring young Lieutenant, Stephen Decatur, successfully led a mission to sneak into the port, spike the ship's cannons, and set the *USS Philadelphia* afire so that it would not be used against them. This ship had

been financed by, built in, and named after his hometown. Its first captain had been his father, Captain Stephen Decatur, Sr. That same day, at Camp River Dubois, Meriwether Lewis was preparing to leave Sergeant Ordway in charge for a few weeks while he, and Clark attended to business and parties in St. Louis.

A desperate President Jefferson authorized a multi-pronged attack by land and sea to reinstall Hamet as Pasha. First, Eaton had to find Hamet Caramelli, the deposed Pasha, and convince him of their intentions and ability. Eaton, O'Bannon, and 9 American servicemen sailed up the Nile to find Hamet. Egypt had been destabilized by the occupation of Napoleon's French army from 1798 to its withdrawal 1801. The competing factions in the land of the pyramids were now the Ottomans (who controlled the ports) and the (Mamluks, among whom Hamet was hiding.)

Eaton gained an audience with the Ottoman Viceroy for a nighttime meal during Ramadan. Speaking in French to the interpreter, he gained the cooperation of the Ottomans by emphasizing the commonalities between Muslims and Christians and promising the Viceroy that, "we do not unsheathe the sword for conquest nor for spoil, but to vindicate our rights." Once he found Pasha Hamet, Eaton promised him the power of the United States in restoring him to the throne in return for peaceful relations. O'Bannon and the British Consul to Cairo witnessed the treaty signing.

On March 6, 1805, the expedition set out west from Alexandria, Egypt through the Barca Desert toward Derne, eastern-most city of the Tripolitans. It was a city with barely any land defenses except the desert, and would not be prepared for an attack from the land. During the march, temperatures ranged from a hundred degrees in the blistering sun to near freezing at night. Sudden rains would sweep in from the Mediterranean drenching the group with its general, his chief of staff, 8 marines, a navy midshipman, Hamet and 90 loyalists, and 70 Greek and 400 Arab mercenaries.

Around the same time the Corps of Discovery was leaving the Mandan villages, the Eaton army encountered a large camp of Bedouins, the warlike nomads of the desert. Eaton recruited a company of mounted warriors. Soon however, food supplies ran short. One of the 190 camels was butchered; marines traded their brass buttons for dates. Some Arab mercenaries prepared to raid the supply tent, but O'Bannon and his 7 marines faced down a mob of 200. Hamet's officers intervened with drawn swords and drove the crowd back. When they arrived at their supply point on the coast a few miles from Derne, the promised supply ships were not there. Eaton built fires on a nearby elevation and the next morning the supply ships started arriving.

After a week's rest, the army arrived at Derne. Eaton sent a flag of truce to the governor requesting safe passage and to purchase supplies. The governor replied, "My head or yours!" Eaton devised a three pronged strategy. The navy supply ships would bombard the city from the north. O'Bannon, with his American squad and Greek mercenaries, would fire on the city from a hill on the southeast with a field gun and muskets. Hamet Caramelli would lead a massed assault with the rest of the men from a ravine in the southwest.

Two days after Lewis and Clark found the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers in North America, the attack on Derne commenced in North Africa. The naval bombardment began and the defenders promptly abandoned their shore batteries. O'Bannon's command fired muskets and their field cannon until it was disabled. Hamet's forces, nearly 700 men, overran the defenses and captured the palace.

Seeing Hamet's success in the southwest, Eaton ordered his own men to attack. He led them on horseback down the hill swinging his Mameluke sword. Miraculously, he was not injured as the enemy melted away before them. Under heavy musket fire, they crossed the shores of Tripoli. A marine went down and Eaton was hit in the hand, yet the Derne defenders retreated in mass back into the city.

O'Bannon took charge and led his men over the walls of the fort capturing the heavy guns on the deserted fort wall. Turning the still loaded cannons toward the city, he raised the 15 star and 15 stripe United State flag, the first American to do so in a foreign war. He had command of the city.

Eaton's army secured the city despite several counter attacks. He began preparing for a march against Benghazi and then to Tripoli City in the weeks to come. Suddenly, he was ordered to abandon his mission. After this show of force, Pasha Yusuf Caramelli sued for peace and negotiated with the Americans. The piracy problem was solved...for a few years. The First Barbary War was over.

Eaton was furious, but he obeyed his orders. He returned to the United States where he was lauded for his exploits by the press and the people. He harangued Congress about the lost opportunity and the broken promise to Hamet Caramelli. Jefferson disavowed the validity of Eaton's treaty since it was never ratified by Congress. Later, Eaton served as the chief witness in Aaron Burr's treason trial. He died in Brimfield, Massachusetts 6 years after his triumph at Derne.

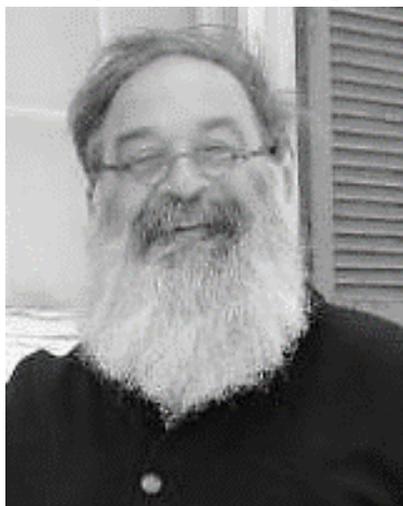
Hamet fled to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies and bounced around the Mediterranean. Yusuf remained on the throne until 1832, fighting against the US in the Second Barbary War. O'Bannon was awarded a Mameluke sword, the style of sword still in use by the United States Marines to this day. The second line in the Marine's Hymn makes reference to his squad's role in taking the fort at Derne by crossing the shores of Tripoli.

One of the most intriguing characters in this story is Eaton's chief of staff. He was an Italian soldier of fortune, born Gerrasio Probasco Santuario, but who had assumed several identities through his adventures. He had served in the Austrian, French, British, and Ottoman armies. He had studied for the Catholic priesthood twice, temporarily converted to Muslim Dervish, and worked as a mapmaker in Washington, D.C. After an award of Missouri land for his part in the

Barbary War, he settled in Carondolet in 1811. He married into the French Gamache fur-trading family. It is very probable that he knew William Clark. In 1845, he died and was buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery on Franklin Street in St. Louis as John Eugene Leitensdorfer.

L&C Society of America News:

The slate of candidates and budget was accepted by the Board and will be presented to the general membership for approval at the December 9th meeting at the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site. Additional nominations from the floor will be open to the members attending. The L&C Society of America’s lunch is at 12:00 p.m. and the meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. The speaker for the



General Membership meeting will be Jon Parkin, Superintendent of Madison County Museum. The lunch is being catered by Jerry’s Kitchen in Granite City and the menu includes: Fried chicken, twice-

baked-potatoes, rolls, green beans, and dessert. Please call the store (618-251-6244) by December 5th, to RSVP for your lunch at \$7.50 per person.

Officers and Board of Directors: 2018-2020

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President | Rex Maynard |
| Vice-President | Steve Stunkel |
| Treasurer | Vicki Clifton |
| Secretary | Michael Kaufman |
| Steve Bollini | Mike Bortko |
| Irma Holmes | Karen McDanel |
| Brandon Paul | |

Nominated Board Members 2019-2021

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Deanna Barnes | Matthew Cook |
| Paul Imes | Everett Loy |
| Carole Rosenthal | |

Success!!! First Annual Craft Fair:

By Karen McDanel



The first annual craft fair sponsored by the Lewis and Clark Society at the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site was a success. We had fifteen vendors with a variety of crafts. A big hit was the apple butter and peanut brittle. Vendors sold baskets, pottery, fiber crafts, and jewelry. Vendors were placed in the lobby, multipurpose room, and gallery.

We had a number of visitors from around the area and out of town. The group from Indiana was surprised to see the fair happening and didn’t hesitate to spend their money on handmade goods.

We plan to do this again next year. The date is October 19, 2019. We look forward to having our vendors back and to adding new ones. We also look forward to our members supporting this event.

STORE OF DISCOVERY NEWS:

by Vicki Clifton

We had another great quarter in the store. Karen McDanel was the 2018 Store Volunteer of the year.

We did well at the Craft Fair. The vendors were pleased and we are already planning the 2nd Craft Fair in October 2019. Thanks to Karen and Pam for their hard work in ensuring its success.

We have several new items in the store including books, handmade items (shawls and crocheted hats and scarfs as well as beautiful baskets), and handmade soaps made by Boodle Bubbles, and L & C stickers

Benjamin's Blurbs: by Benjamin Pollard

I hope everyone is excited, because we all have a very important birthday coming up! Illinois will be celebrating 200 years as a state on December 3, 2018. This bicentennial allows a great opportunity to reflect on all the many accomplishments of the state.

The state can claim four presidents - Lincoln, Grant, Reagan, and Obama. Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment ending slavery, the first place to complete a skyscraper, and the first place to sustain a nuclear reaction. Some inventions from the 21st State include softball, steel plows, Ferris wheels, cellphones, pinball machines, and Popeye.

There have already been some celebrations of the bicentennial that staff and volunteers from LCSHS have participated in. Brad has helped with an Illinois Humanities podcast that will be released next month.



On September 16, Ben, Sterling, Justine, Bard, (Angela, Katie, Pam, and Barb not pictured) took part in a reenactment of the first state election in Kaskaskia. In the process of preparing for the reenactment, I learned how significant Nathaniel Pope, the territorial representative to Congress, was in getting Illinois statehood ratified. He expanded the Illinois territory to include Chicago's location and got "creative" with the census numbers to qualify the territory for statehood.

Keep an eye out for more celebrations as Illinois celebrates 200 years!

Upcoming Special Events:

**** Celebrate the Tradition of St. Nicholas***

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018, 10 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Come celebrate the Festival of St. Nicholas and his arrival in Cahokia! St. Nicholas will be visiting the Jarrot Mansion sharing holiday treats and sweets with visiting children. The tradition of St. Nicholas dates back to the 4th century telling the story of this generous and benevolent Christian Saint who became the inspiration for Santa Claus. St. Nicholas will be portrayed by retired Cahokia Courthouse staff member Jeff Winter. The mansion will be decorated for the holiday season in traditional frontier French trimmings where St. Nicholas will be greeting guests and wishing them a Happy Holidays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Families are encouraged to come visit with St. Nicholas and take photos with him. Tours of the Jarrot Mansion will also be held in conjunction with this event. Please bring canned items for donation to be distributed throughout the community of Cahokia.

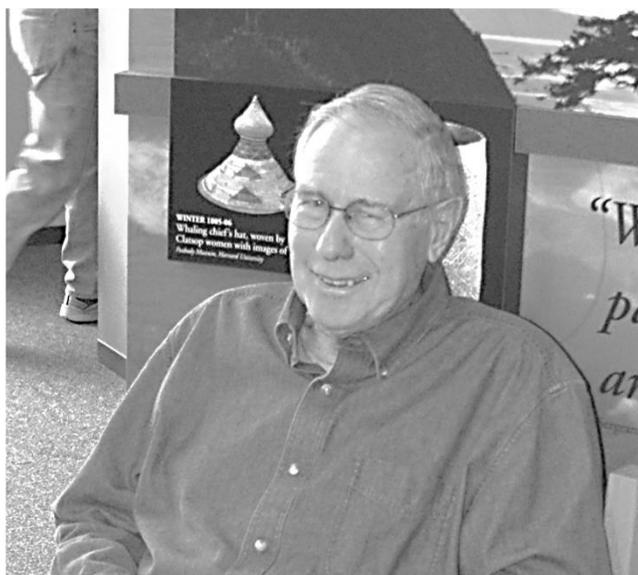
****Arrival at Camp River Dubois:***

Dec. 8 & 9, 2018. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

This special event celebrates the 215th anniversary of the Lewis & Clark Expedition's arrival at Camp River Dubois. Since Camp River Dubois has been shut down for safety reasons there will be no re-enactors outside for this event. Exhibitors like Bob Mitchell will be inside displaying rocks and minerals and Mark West will be exhibiting 18th & 19th Century antique tools. Steve Bollini will be presenting animal furs the men of the Lewis & Clark expedition acquired while wintering at Camp River Dubois. Ken Porter will be displaying his accoutrements and beads of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. The War of 1812 artillery unit will display and interpret their cannon. Ed Dulaney of the First

Royal Regiment of Foot will be presenting Colonial Wars and Western Expansion. Ken Gaffney will be crafting stone pipes from soap stone. Also, in case of emergency, Dr. Imes will be ready. Now Dr. Imes' knowledge only covers 19th century medicine, but I hear he is very fast at removing small frost bitten fingers and toes.

L&C Special Tribute:



****Jeff Gates:***

Jeff Arlan Gates, 91, of Edwardsville, Illinois, born Sunday, April 10, 1927, in East St. Louis, IL, passed away Thursday, October 4, 2018, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, Illinois. Jeff was the owner of Gates Auto-Electric in East St. Louis, Illinois. He was a member of St. George Episcopal Church, Belleville, Illinois, St. Louis Astronomical Society, Past Commodore Boulder Yacht Club, and St. Louis Science Center. Jeff was a veteran of the United States Navy in World War II. Jeff and Barbara have volunteered for many years at the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site. Jeff would talk with visitors while Barbara volunteered in the gift shop. Jeff was an avid woodworker and created several signs for the L&C site such as: "Camp River Dubois," "Washer Woman's Hut," and "Settler's Cabin."

Heartfelt Condolence:

The L&C staff and volunteers would like to send our condolences to the family of Mike and Pat Bortko for the loss of their son Steven Elliot.

Volunteer News: *by Cindy Upchurch*

Congratulations Fred Andres! You are Volunteer of the Year. Every week Fred greets and informs visitors in the gallery. One time he took on the challenge of creating bison sausage from scratch. So again, congratulations on your volunteer service and cooking.

We also would like to congratulate Karen McDanel for being Volunteer of the Year for the Store of Discovery. Thank you for your many hours of service and for organizing and coordinating the first "L&C Craft Fair."



To all the volunteers at the site, thank you so much for contributing over 3,000 hours in 2018. It is your dedication that makes everything operate smoothly.

As the end of 2018 approaches, we will develop a new 2019 Special Events calendar.

Once a year, Brad collects shirts or jackets from volunteers and staff to have Logo It monogram the garments with the Lewis and Clark insignia. If you want a garment emblazoned, just give it to Cindy. Be sure to attach your name. The monogramming is paid by the site and free of charge to the volunteer.

Lewis & Clark State Historic Site Volunteer Application

NAME (Print, Last, First, MI) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

BEST WAY TO CONTACT YOU: HOME _____ WORK _____

CELL/MOBILE _____ EMAIL _____ @ _____

NAME OF EMPLOYER (If employed): _____

EMPLOYMENT TITLE: _____

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE: _____

Do you prefer to work in the (Circle the best answer.)?

Interpretive/Visitor's Center Store of Discovery Camp River Dubois Special events

Please circle the days and times of the week you can volunteer. (Monday and Tuesday are seasonal.)

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

All Day or AM (9am – 1pm) or PM (1pm-5pm)

Number of hours you estimate you can volunteer: Weekly _____ Monthly _____

Other information you feel pertinent to your application: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

EMERGENCY CONTACT'S NAME: _____ RELATIONSHIP _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS: HOME _____ WORK _____

CELL/MOBILE _____ EMAIL _____ @ _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please submit application to: Lewis & Clark State Historic Site, Attention Volunteer Program, #1 Lewis & Clark Trail, Hartford, IL 62048. Thank you for your interest in the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site. Have a great day!

Commemorating the Point of Departure Since 1957



Lewis and Clark Society of America
 #1 Lewis & Clark Trail
 Hartford, IL 62048
www.lewisandclarksociety.org
 Phone: 618-251-5811

Lewis and Clark Society of America Membership Information

The Lewis and Clark Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public about the immense importance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The dues structure is:

Student	\$10	_____	Make checks payable to Lewis and Clark Society of America and mail to #1 Lewis & Clark Trail, Hartford, IL 62048. Members receive a 10% discount on items purchased in the Store of Discovery, located at the Lewis & Clark State
Individual	\$20	_____	
Family	\$30	_____	
Business	\$45	_____	
Non-Profit Organization	\$35	_____	
Life-Time Membership	\$300	_____	

Please complete form and return to Lewis and Clark Society of America:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ **EMAIL** _____

This newsletter is a publication of the Lewis & Clark Society of America, Inc., and the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site. All Society members and Site volunteers are invited to contribute articles or photographs to the newsletter. Articles published do not necessarily represent the opinion or policy of the Lewis & Clark Society of America, its Board of Directors or its Officers. The Camp River Dubois Dispatch will be published on a quarterly basis and mail March, June September, and December. Please submit by email to LCSA@CampRiverDubois.com or by mail to:

*Lewis & Clark Society of America
 Newsletter
 #1 Lewis & Clark Trail
 Hartford, IL 62048*

Articles and photographs will be used on a space available basis and may be edited as necessary. Both LCSA and LCSHS reserve the right to reproduce and distribute items submitted.

The Lewis and Clark Society of America

Officers

Rex Maynard, President	2019
Steve Stunkel, Vice-President	2019
Michael Kaufman, Secretary	2019
Vicki Clifton, Treasurer	2019

Board of Directors

Mike Bortko	2019
Brandon Paul	2019
Steve Bollini	2019
Matthew Cook	2018
Irma Holmes	2019
Karen McDanel	2019
Everett Loy	2018
William Moore	2018
Paul Imes	2018
Carole Rosenthal	2018