

---

---

# CAMP DISPATCH

---

Published at LEWIS & CLARK STATE HISTORIC SITE, (Madison County) by Staff

---

[Vol. 4.]

December 20, 2007

[No. 13]

---

## Saying Good-bye to Carolyn



Carolyn S. Raymer, 65, died Friday, Nov. 9, 2007, at Saint Anthony's Hospital in Alton. She was born April 18, 1942 and married Tim on Aug. 27, 1962. She clerked and worked in management at Central Hardware for 37 years. She later worked for Sears Logistic and Diakon in Granite City from 1998 to 2004. She volunteered at the Lewis and Clark Historic Site where she loved to visit and talk with the volunteers, staff, and visitors. She has been part of the volunteer program since we open our doors in 2003. In addition she has two sons, Kevin and Jason Raymer, both of Hartford; a daughter-in-law, Mary Raymer; two grandchildren, Rebecca and Natalie Raymer; two nieces, Crystal Winterberg and Stephanie Waterman, both of Wood River; and a brother and his wife, Robert "Bob" and Patricia Waterman of Hartford. Carolyn was laid to rest at Wanda Cemetery in South Roxana.

## *Boss's Corner*

*Brad Winn*

As we close 2007, it is important to take a moment to look back at the year that has ended. In our first year since the Bicentennial we have maintained consistent numbers in the absence of the attention that was given during the Bicentennial activities. This can be greatly attributed to the hard work on the part of the volunteers and staff to create a memorable and educational experience for those visitor's to the site. I have said many times that my goal was to create the feel for our museum as the community's local historic site. Something that folks from the surrounding communities will support by attending events, bring family and friend here when they visit and spreading the word about our wonderful area. I can say from listening to those folks that we see coming in time and again, signing the guestbook and saying "well this is my 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> ... visit here I am just bringing some folks down" that we have earned the admiration of the community.

Our job in the next years to come will be to keep and maintain that admiration. We will continue to build on our successes in the past year, such as Education Day, the Flags over the Mississippi, Traveling Displays and the outreach of the Detachment to serve as a fresh reason for folks to come and visit. There is however much more that we are working on. Our goal is to see the completion of a Day-Use area on site that will allow for 3 large picnic shelters and playground equipment that can be used throughout the week for school groups and on the weekends for the get-together's with family and friends. The completion of the new outbuildings, the Workmen's Cabin and the Settler's Cabin will further expand our interpretive and education programming. We also hope to become more integrated with our natural area's interpretation, by adding a path to the confluence and beginning the interpretation of the prairie. I look forward to work with you to meet these goals and I know as you have always done, will rise to meet the challenge with us. Thank you again for another great year and hang on for the ride next year.

### ***Camp River Dubois Outbuilding:***

The Staff at L&C have been involved in constructing an outbuilding. The logs were prepped by Rex Maynard. Dennis Nichols, Lonnie Fox, and Mike Stout had constructed the cabin in the shop. Eddie Brown, Bob Henry, Dennis, and Mike have assembled the outbuilding next to Camp River Dubois. Ron Stellhorn and Bob have added the wire mesh for the mortar mix. When finished, it will be a venue for blacksmithing and carpentry activities associated with the soldiers of Camp River Dubois. If you would like to volunteer for camp or demonstrations, please call the site for details.

### ***Settler's Cabin (1806-1812):***

The cabin will provide a new venue to demonstrate American frontier life prior to the organization of Madison County. Pam Imes has been working on a couple of grants to outfit the cabin with furnishings and other period items. We will be looking for volunteers to re-enact the rolls of the early settlers of Madison County. Pam, Joanne, and the volunteers are looking forward to candle making, sewing, cooking, soap making and gardening. If you are interested in participating in any of these activities, please contact Pam at 618-251-5811.

### ***Settler's Storage Outbuilding:***

In addition, plans for another outbuilding similar to the one being constructed next to the camp will be place next to the "Settler's Cabin." The building would provide needed storage and a shaded demonstration area. Dennis and Mike could use your help. There will be an announcement made in the near future concerning this project.

### **Maintaining Historical Authenticity:**

When in period clothing it should be the goal of that re-enactor to maintain historical accuracy. We at L&C follow a simple rule known as the "10-foot rule." If you have modern shoes that look historic from 10 feet away, then they're acceptable, but sneakers, snow boots, and wrist watches, etc... are out. It is better to dress in modern clothing then to be clothed in something modern that does not maintain historical authenticity. Think of your fellow re-enactors who have worked very hard to put together their clothing and then the next day a news paper has published a photo of the site's special event and there you are with snow boots or sneakers. We've all been guilty of some authenticity infractions from time to time, so let's improve.

## **STORE OF DISCOVERY**



**Ron Goldsmith:  
Store of Discovery  
and Volunteer  
Manager**

The Store of Discovery is approaching the end of its first fiscal year under ownership by the Society. The store was predicted to have sales during the first year of \$65,000. That mark was reached December 12. The year has been good enough to reach the sales mark and to have the store stocked as well or better than it had been under previous ownership. There are more reasons for this year's success than can be listed here, but each has contributed substantially to the store's success. The months of May and October each saw sales of \$8400 while the low was February with \$1300. Since the interest of bicentennial events culminated in 2006, this year we are winding up may be a fair model of what we might expect in the immediate future.

New to the store in the past month are several items of interest. A blue tote bag with an image of the camp has been brought in along with several new books. One children's book of local interest is one Phyllis Bechtold has written in her Seymour Bluffs series. It is an interesting story about Seymour meeting Robert Wadlow, better known as the Alton Giant. Of interest to the adults in the area is a newly published book by John Dunphy that details most, if not all, sites of interest along the Mississippi in the area. The Lewis and Clark Site is included along with many more sites of interest.

These are only a few of the new items found in the store. Please stop in and become part of what has been a fine success story for the Society.

**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner:**

The L&C Community College provided us with a lovely room, good food and nice service.

The staff would like to say thank you to all volunteers for the hard work contributed to the L&C site. We appreciated and applauded everyone and their efforts. This year we had four volunteers who logged over 200 hours and they include: George McDanel, Wilbur Cruse, Joe Frazier and Sally Munie.

By December's end volunteer hours for Interpretive Center, CRD, and the Store of Discovery will total 12,129 hours. These hours represent time spent in outreach, educating, store keeping, re-enacting, and guiding visitors throughout the site. Also, it assists the site in meeting in-kind contributions for grants.

Thank you to the Store of Discovery for the lapel pins as a remembrance of the evening. The table decorations were provided and arranged by Joanne Lenhardt.

**“Women Come By”**

On Jan. 26, 2008 the ladies will take over CRD from 10-2. If you would like to be a part of this event give Pam a call at 618-251-5811.

**Calendar for 2008:****New Years Day:** January 1, 2008

This year's New Year's Day falls on a Tuesday which coincides with our regular schedule day closing of the L&C Historic Site.

**Women Come By:** January 26

The event will feature traditional open fire pit cooking, candle making, and soap making. This event is dependent on the weather. On Saturday only from 10-2, but the camp will be open until 4 pm.

**Education Day:** May 9

This event will not be open to the public, but expecting an overwhelming amount of 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Ok, maybe about 1000 students, but it seems like a million. These students will go from station to station learning many new, but historic ways of doing all sorts of wonderful games and skills.

**Point of Departure: Camp River Dubois,** May 10-11

Demonstrators will include: blacksmithing, candle making, soap making, coopering, cooking, weaving, carving, and much more.

**Kids' Day:** June 7

There will be stations of exploration where children will learn to make rope, fold a flag, drill as soldiers, and other fun adventures.

**Junior Explorers:** Sometime in late June we will have a week long camp for 20 explorers ranging in age from 9-12 years old.

**Music Festival:** Sept 13

Traditional bluegrass music is performed by the Alton Dulcimer Players. Other musicians will include: drummer, harpist, cello player, and fiddler,

**Flags over the Mississippi: Struggle for an Empire:** Oct. 11-12.

This event and will center on several military periods in America's history. Re-enactors will represent the Spanish, French, British, and American military from 1750-1812.

**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner:** December 5

Form 5:30-9:00 pm at the Godfrey Lewis & Clark College, the Commons Room.

**Arrival at Camp River Dubois:** Dec. 13-14

Experience the military life of the Lewis & Clark Expedition at Camp River Dubois in 1803-04. There will be a few demonstrators located inside the Interpretive Center and guest speakers.

**Christmas Day:** December 25

This year's Christmas falls on a Thursday and we will be closed on that day, and reopen on Friday the 26.

# Rescue Meow!!!



Mama cat needs a home and she will not have another litter of kittens and has been vaccinated.

## Announcements

### Tax Time:

Several volunteers need their hours for their itemized tax returns. Just see Cindy and get a copy your sign-in sheets.

### E-mail Addresses:

Each year we spend \$300 in mail outs of the site's news letter and we would like to reduce or eliminate this expense. We want to send the sites news letter by E-mail. We need all volunteers' E-mail address and we'll place an E-mail registration sheet by the volunteer sign-in-book. Don't worry if you do not have E-mail address, because we will still send you a hard copy.

Please help me I live in a tool closet. I need a good home.



Doesn't anybody want to love me?!!!



If you would like to adopt a kitty, please give Brad Winn a call at 618-251-5811. Let's find a home for these cuties before the holiday season ends.