

---

---

# CAMP DISPATCH

---

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

---

[Vol. 5.]

November 30, 2008

[No. 16]

---

## Saying Good-bye to Dick



Richard L. "Dick" Downer, 81, passed away Sunday, September 6, 2008, at Edwardsville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. He was born Sept. 17, 1926 in Hartford and married Virginia Braddy on Dec. 10, 1955. They had four children: Richard, Joli, Teresa and Ramona.

Dick was a U.S. Navy veteran severing in World War II and in the Korean War. He retired in January 1989 as an operator for Illinois Power Company, but he also worked for the Shell Oil Company and the U.S. Postal Service. He was a member of the Wood River VFW, Lewis & Clark Society of America, Wood River Moose Lodge No. 1349, and volunteered at the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site. Dick enjoyed baseball, softball, golf, and bowling. In his spare time he loved to manage youths in Little League baseball and was a very devoted St. Louis Cardinals fan. There were many days Dick would stop by the Lewis & Clark site just to talk baseball with Brad.

Dick was laid to rest on Sept. 10, 2008 at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens in Bethalto. He will be greatly missed.



## *Manager's Corner*

**Brad Winn**

Well the Holiday Season is upon us and we are nearing the 6th Anniversary of the site opening. We are anxious to start setting up the Holiday Decorations so be looking for the Lewis and Clark Tree.

There is much to be thankful for this year. We have had another successful year with our programming and interpretive efforts. Despite a few turns in the weather overall I would say it has been a good year. Be looking for that Settler's cabin to be completed soon and the start of work on the "Day Use" area in the spring.

All this being said I would like to reflect on the challenges we are facing in the coming year. We are close to losing a member of our site family. Due to the cuts that the entire IHPA is facing in this difficult year, Dennis Nichols will be laid off at the end of November. Please be sure to thank Dennis for all the hard work and dedication he has shown to our site. We hope that this will be a very short hiatus and I am anxious for a quick restoration of all the IHPA staff and sites closed. I thank all of you for what you have done in the past few months to support our site and the IHPA historic sites.

I would finally like to send my thoughts and prayers to the families of those whom we have lost this year. It was indeed a hard year for the site and myself personally as we have simply lost too many. To the families of Brian Widaman, Ruth Schramrek, Jerry Estes and Dick Downer please accept my most sincere sympathy and know that we are indeed lucky to have known your lost loved ones. They are gone but are most certainly not forgotten.

## Announcement for the Ladies:



On Saturday, January 17, 2009 the Lewis & Clark Site is hosting **"Women come by."** The event will feature traditional open fire pit cooking, which will include a cow's tongue and/or a pig's head or two. This event is dependent on the weather. On Saturday, the event will run from 10-2, but the camp will be open until 4 pm. It is unknown if the Settler's Cabin will be completed in time for use at this event. Pam Imes is in charge of the event. If you wish to participate, please call Pam at the site by January 5th. Ladies when you sign up to participate, be sure to leave a phone number you will be at on Saturday morning in case the weather is bad and we need to reach you to give information and/or cancel the event. Please call Pam at 618-251-5811.



On Nov. 21, 2008, Joyce Bort, Audrey Lewis, and Bev Zagar disentangled one of the greatest mysteries of the world. They figured out the Lewis & Clark Puzzle!



**Karen McDanel and Tim Raymer are the new Co-Managers of the Store of Discovery.**

Throughout November and December the *Store of Discovery* will have a 20% off sale on selected items in the store. Members of the L&C Society of America, store volunteers, and site employees' discounts will be applied to the 20% off sale items purchased. Stop by the Lewis & Clark site and check out the *Store of Discovery* for all your Lewis and Clark Christmas gift shopping.

### Sale Items:

Bust: Lewis, Clark, and Sacagawea  
 Book: Ballad of Seaman Coloring  
 Book: Captains of the Wilderness  
 12 Days of Christmas Ornaments  
 Stuffed Animal: Seaman (Large)  
 Book: Point of Departure (HB)  
 Illinois Point of Departure Pin  
 Candleholder Keeping Room  
 Metal Bedside Candleholder  
 Stainless Steel Travel Mug  
 Flute with Leather Sheath  
 Candleholder with Stuffer  
 Round L & C Ornament  
 Discovery Begins Pin  
 Double Candleholder  
 All Leather Pouches  
 God's Portion Book  
 Two Sided Puzzle  
 L & C Ornaments  
 All Coasters  
 CRD Mugs  
 Passports  
 All Caps



### **For Sale:**

Wall Tent by Panther

- 14' x 18'
- 12 ft. Ridge
- Stove Hole
- Ground Cloth
- Mud Flaps
- Ropes & Poles

Call: Katie @ 618-363-2136

### **Personnel Cuts: Dennis Nichols**



On November 30, 2008, 13 of the 28 Illinois Historic Preservation Agency's (IHPA) sites will be shut down. This is due to the 8% budget cuts the Governor of Illinois will make. In 1999, IHPA employed around 150 people. At present there are 90 employees, but by November 30, IHPA will be reduced to 56 employees. It is our hope that in the last hour these cuts will not be made. It is also our hope that if these cuts are made they only will be for a short duration.

One of those people being laid off is our Site Tech., Dennis Nichols. Dennis has been with IHPA for eight years and started in September of 2002 with the Lewis & Clark Site. Not only has he been the grounds keeper, but he has also been our Sgt. Ordway, leader of the "Detachment," and our friend. Dennis, may you always have the wind at your back. Good Luck!

## **Calendar for 2009:**

### **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.

### **New Years Day:** January 1, 2009

This year's New Year's Day falls on a Thursday and we will be closed on that day, and reopen on Friday the 2.

### **Women Come By:** Saturday, January 17, 2009

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

### **Education Day:** May 8, 2009

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 9-10, 2009

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

### **Kids' Day:** June 13, 2009

There will be stations of exploration where children will learn to make rope, fold a flag, drill as soldiers, and have 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 12, 2009

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. 10-11.

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: TBA**

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

### **Arrival at Camp River Dubois:** Dec. 12-13, 2009

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.

# *Special Event Announcements*

## **“Arrival at Camp River Dubois” December 13 – 14 at Lewis and Clark**

### *Commemorates the arrival anniversary of the Expedition*

*HARTFORD, IL* – The 205th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition’s arrival at their Illinois winter camp will be celebrated during “Arrival at Camp River Dubois” scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, December 13 and 14 at the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site in Hartford, Illinois. Activities will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. inside the Interpretive Center and at the replica of Camp River Dubois. The event is free and open to the public.

Several re-enactors portraying the soldiers of the Expedition will share the difficulties, harshness, and boredom of living at the camp during the winter of 1803-04. The men of the Lewis and Clark Expedition were dedicated to the success of the mission, and throughout Lewis and Clark referred to these men as “The Detachment.” The present day “Detachment” is a group of living history enthusiasts who create a window of history to help visitors see the everyday lives of these soldiers. The “Detachment” will participate in a shooting demonstration, prepare supper, and perform laundry, guard and other “fatigue duties.” Visitors are free to roam the camp and talk to these volunteers.

Several exhibitors will be inside the Interpretive Center. These include Glenn Weaver, whose Native American artifacts were collected throughout Madison and Jersey Counties, including the present location of the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site; Paul Imes, who will exhibit the medical tools used by Captain Lewis on the Expedition; Michael Stout, who will display carpenter tools of the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century; Rex Maynard will display the accoutrements of a new Lewis and Clark Expedition recruit; and Allison Bacon will exhibit furs from the animals inhabiting the region.

“Decorative Paintings,” is an exhibition by Missouri’s renowned artist Carolyn Bacon. She will present her work in still-life and landscapes painted in oils and acrylics on a variety of surfaces. These works may be viewed for two days only in the Interpretive Center - Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14. A reception is scheduled for 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday so visitors may meet and talk with Ms. Bacon.

Bacon graduated from Southeast Missouri State University and started her professional career as a school librarian, retiring after 31 years. She took several classes in tole painting, and 39 years later is still creating these unique works of art. Tole painting is the general term historically used to describe decorative painting on tin surfaces, especially in New England and by the Pennsylvania Germans. Decorative painters like Ms. Bacon now paint on a variety of surfaces. Bacon has painted ornaments for the White House Christmas tree and attended a gathering where she was praised for her work by First Lady Laura Bush. She has traveled throughout the United States and the world teaching, demonstrating, and exhibiting her creations.

The Lewis and Clark State Historic Site, administered by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, marks Site Number One on the National Lewis and Clark Heritage Trail. It features an Interpretive Center about the Illinois role in the Expedition, as well as an accurate reconstruction of the camp from where the Expedition began. It is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for free public tours, and is located along Illinois Route 3 a few miles north of I-270 in Hartford, Illinois. The site will be closed December 25 and January 1 for the holidays.