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# CAMP DISPATCH

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## *Managers Corner by Brad Winn*

By the time this newsletter goes out you will probably already begin to notice the new work that has begun on the Southeastern part of the site. We are beginning the first phase of construction on the new Day-use picnic area. During the last fiscal year, the Illinois Department of Transportation awarded as part of the Park Roads project, an extension of our overflow parking lot all the way to the Southern edge of the site property. This parking lot and bus turn around will provide access to the three future picnic shelters which will be installed, weather permitting, early next spring. The future hope for this project will be the inclusion of a playground and bathroom facility.

I am very excited about this expansion of the site's existing facilities. There has been a need since day one to accommodate the number of families and school children with a safe and sheltered area for them to picnic and recreate. This will continue our goal to become a historic site/park that is an integral part of the community; one that local visitors will continue to visit and bring family and friends to for years to come.

We owe particular thanks to our local elected officials, namely State Senator William Haine for without his support we would still be in the planning phase. Thanks should be noted to the IHPA for their support in prioritizing this project to the top of the Park Roads list in a timely manner to facilitate the quick completion of the overall work.

Finally, I would like to thank the Lewis and Clark Society of America for their continued support of our site operations in the form of community canvassing, financial support and commitment to the betterment of the historic site. I hope that you all are as excited as I am about this future project.

## *Youths at Work by Mike Stout*

Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site has participated in the federally funded "Youth at Work Program." This program is designed to put youths between the ages of 16 through 24 to work, but not replacing laid-off state workers. The Madison County and Training Department reported that there were 300 youths hired by over eighty different employers for the summer. These recruits are monitored, but so are the employers. The employers provide each employee a meaningful experience not only through labor, but through education which includes job readiness skills and seeking future employment.

Brad Winn (Site Manager) and Dennis Nichols (Head of Maintenance) guided Crew Supervisor Bobby Nordyke and his crew through many tasks while they were at the Lewis and Clark site. These tasks included chinking the small log cabin, repairing camp log cabin doors, rebuilding two stone sidewalks, and building a small garden fence at the "Settler's Cabin." The crew's other responsibilities included tree and bush trimming, lawn and garden care, and vegetation and rock removal. Hopefully, each crew member has learned many job related skills, etiquette in the work place, job safety, and most of all team work which is needed to maintain a well operated historic site.

Brad Winn is very pleased with the results of the program. "The Telegraph" newspaper of August 10, 2009 reported that Mr. Winn "Praised the program, asserting that the youths have been a big help with a number of backed-up projects, such as trimming, mulching and trail construction."

Photo on page 6.

## Third Annual “Junior Explorers” Camp

*By Joanne Lenhardt & Mike Stout*

During the week of June 22-26<sup>th</sup>, the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site were invaded with 14 youths ages 9 to 11. In connection with Lewis and Clark Community College a Junior Explorer Camp was held from 8:30 to 3:00 daily. All activities for the 5 days related to the expedition or life skills of 1803-04. Joanne Lenhardt and Melissa Pinkley were our head counselors with Ben Pinkley serving as junior counselor and respectively “gopher.”

The first day was “get your feet on the ground day”. Campers were divided into squads with each camper serving as sergeant one day during the week. Sergeants were squad leaders and helpers to the counselors and staff. Campers took a tour of the museum and camp and they watched the movie. They made journals, wrote with quill pens, scrunched t-shirts (compliments of the Store) for tie-dyeing. Also, the campers decoded the first of the daily secret messages, which was “preparation”.

Military drill began on the second day. They also learned camp skills with George McDanel, who taught students the dexterity of tying knots. The staff and counselors taught fire making with flint and steel, cabin log stacking, laundry skills, candle making, and dyeing with natural materials. Pam Imes introduced the art of paper making, and Ed Hamberg discussed and demonstrated the use of historic firearms to conclude the day.

On the third day, campers had lessons from guest speakers. Sarah Miller, of the Corps of Engineers, taught about plants of Illinois. Scott Isringhouse, of the DNR, discussed animals of Illinois. Bob Mitchell, from the LCSHS, spoke about rocks and fossils. Mike Stout photographed each student next to the Lincoln bike (see article on this page). Then the campers traveled to the confluence in the white pirogue where the “bloodbath” occurred. They shot each other with their water guns.

The fourth day started with fatigue duties in the camp. First, campers had to clean the cabins. Then they had to organize the barracks exactly as it would have been 200 years ago. Other crafts taught that day included sewing, model boat assembly and painting, and tin lantern construction. We didn’t actually teach the campers how to construct lanterns, but gave the kids hammers and nails and had them punch holes into soup cans.

On the last day, Pam Imes, Rachel Miner, Melissa and Abby Pinkley cooked the campers a great old fashioned meal. While the meal was being prepared the campers played games, made rope, and completed past due work. When parents arrived they were treated to a Lewis & Clark trivia game and the campers drilled and marched to their parents’ delight.

The staff would like to thank those who helped with the students’ scavenger hunt activities: Sally Munie, Karen McDanel, Ed Funkhouser, Dick Karns, Carolyn Dawson, and Tim Raymer. The camp was a great success. Thanks again for everyone’s efforts!

## *Lincoln Had a Bike?*



For several weeks in June and July “The Circuit Rider” motorcycle was exhibited at the LCSHS interpretive center. The creator, Kim Shirley of Kim’s Auto Body used many well known Lincoln renderings and depictions to decorate the motorcycle. The owner, Richard Levi is allowing the motorcycle to tour Illinois parks, museums, and historic sites to commemorate Abraham Lincoln’s 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday. It is now on display at the Old State Capital in Vandalia.

## *A Resounding Day* by Mike Stout

On September 12, the LCSHS presented a Music Festival, which was highlighted by George Portz and The Friends of Bluegrass. George is an Illinois State Fair Fiddle Champion and has performed and taught fiddle music throughout Southern Illinois. The Friends of Bluegrass blends bluegrass with Irish and Louisiana Cajun music.

Other musicians included Bradford Smith a Native American Flute musician and the Alton Dulcimer performers. Self-taught fiddler Rex Maynard was stationed in the Settler’s Cabin. Lindell Blackford and Scott Miller played in the almost completed Washer Woman’s hut.

There was a very positive public response to this year’s Music Festival. Staff estimates that four hundred visitors attended the special event. All-in-all it was a very good day.

## *Meet Lewis & Clark's 2009 Intern: Angela Otto*

Angela Otto is LCSHS newest intern and attends SIUE majoring in History with a minor in Anthropology. She is a graduate of Edwardsville High School where she was a member of the National Honors Society and the Thespian Society of the Drama Club. She is a member of a national co-ed service fraternity known as Alpha Phi Omega and Catholic Newman Student Union. She recently became a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She volunteers at the Colonel Benjamin Stephenson House in Edwardsville. She also sings in her church choir.

Angela's hobbies include cooking, sketching, theatre and music, video games, physical activities like weight-lifting and swimming, Japanese anime and manga, reading, going to libraries, museums, and enjoys watching historic reenactments.

After her history degree is completed she plans to obtain employment archiving within a museum and/or library.



## *Calendar for 2009 & 2010*

*As most of you know, after Labor Day the site will be open to the public 5 days a week till Memorial Day.*

**Flags over the Mississippi: Struggle for an Empire:** Oct. 10-11. This event will center on several military periods in America's history. Re-enactors will represent Native Americans, Spanish, French, British, and American military from 1750-1812. Cannons will be fired throughout the day and from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm Saturday there will be a night firing of the cannons and a walk through of all encampments.

**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner:** Friday, November 20, 2009  
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.

**Christmas Day:** December 25, 2009  
This year, Christmas falls on a Friday and the site will be closed. It will reopen on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup>.

**New Years Day:** January 1, 2010  
This year, New Year's Day falls on a Friday and the site will be closed. It will reopen on Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Education Day:** May 7, 2010  
This event will not be open to the public, but the site is expecting an overwhelming amount of 4<sup>th</sup> graders. 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 8-9, 2010  
Demonstrators will include: blacksmithing, candle making, soap making, coopering, cooking, weaving, carving, and much more.

**Kids' Day:** June 12, 2010  
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 the site will have a week long camp for 20 explorers ranging in age from 9-12 years old.

**Music Festival:** Sept 11, 2010  
Traditional bluegrass music will be performed by the Alton Dulcimer Players. Other musicians will include a drummer, a harpist, a cello player, and a fiddler.

## *The Store of Discovery by Ron Goldsmith*

The Store of Discovery continues to be on the lookout for new merchandise and is especially interested in staying abreast of new books related to the expedition. Two books by Kira Gale have recently been added to inventory. Ms. Gale was recognized for her many contributions to furthering information on the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 2007 when she received the Meritorious Achievement Award of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. One of her books that were recently added was Lewis and Clark Road Trips: Exploring the Trail across America. This large, colorful book provides photographs and information on sites along the trail and adds useful information about most of the other historic sites and points of interest near each of the Lewis and Clark sites on the trail. A detailed map as well as specific information for visiting is provided for each of the adjacent sites.

Another addition to the store's book section is The Death of Meriwether Lewis: A Historic Crime Scene Investigation written by James E. Starrs and Kira Gale. James Starrs has been involved in many historical investigations with one being the exhumation of Jesse James' remains. The book has been added as a third choice for readers to ponder in the mysterious death of Lewis. The earlier books still available in the store are By His Own Hand edited by John D. W. Guice and Meriwether Lewis written by Thomas C. Danisi and John C. Jackson. The three books each present differing points of view on Lewis' death.

Several new collector's items have also been placed on the store's shelves in the last month. Three different spoons and a thimble that are related to Illinois are now available. Visitors have frequently inquired of volunteers in the store about these items. None have been found that were specific to the Lewis and Clark Expedition, but each was available that featured an Illinois design using Abraham Lincoln's image. Two more magnets are also now available. One has an image of both Lewis and Clark while the other uses a photograph made at our site near the confluence of the rivers. A smaller image of Lewis and Clark is included at the bottom with the sign reading "The Journey Begins Here, Camp Dubois, at Hartford, Illinois.

These are some of the new items found in the store. Please stop in and check for others. The store is continually looking for new merchandise that would have some relevance to our mission.

### **NEW MERCHANDISE DISPLAY TABLE**

The Store of Discovery recently held a sale of all Christmas ornaments. The ornaments were displayed on a table at the entrance to the store. When the sale was no longer in effect, the items were returned to their usual places and the table was removed. Joe Frazier, a dedicated and frequent volunteer for both the site and the store approached management with the suggestion that merchandise should be displayed regularly in that same location. Joe stated that rotating items in that location would seem to draw attention to them since that was probably the first thing visitors would notice as they entered the store.

Joe's suggestion was immediately recognized as an excellent tool for showcasing a variety of items that are routinely available. His suggestion has been implemented and has already proved to be worthwhile as the store raises funds for educational programs here at Camp River Dubois. The entire group of volunteers appreciates the suggestion and hope it will inspire others to assist in the same way.

### ***Special Thanks:***

We at LCSHS wish to thank Jeff Gates for all the signs he has made and for the donation of the butter churn to the newly open "Settlers' Cabin."

# *Special Event Announcement*

## **“Flags over the Mississippi: Struggle for an Empire!”**

This is the third year for the special event “*Flags over the Mississippi: Struggle for an Empire.*” The theme of the event is centered on the European nations’ struggle to control the Mississippi River Valley and its natural resources. Re-enactors will represent European and American military units and Native Americans between the time periods of 1750 to 1812. The event is on October 10 & 11, 2009, Saturday & Sunday, and will be open to the public from 10am to 4pm. On the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a night firing of the cannons and visitors may also walk through Camp River Dubois and the military encampments from 6:30-8:30pm. Re-enactment groups include:

**Milicia de San Carlos:** (11-11:30 Sat. & Sun.) The military contingent represents the regulars of the Louisiana Regiment and the local militia. Both infantry and artillery are represented. Uniforms, civilian clothing, and equipment are authentic to the time period of the late 1700s. Their presentation at Lewis & Clark site will include a brief historical background on the importance of the Spanish presence in 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century St. Louis area. In addition to their historical presentation artillery pieces will be on display and fired.

**Les Companies Franche de la Marines du Forte de Chartres:** (12-12:30 Sat. & Sun.) When hostilities broke out at the beginning of the French and Indian War, the French Marines were the only French regulars in New France. They weren’t marines in the modern sense of the word, but the troops fell under the authority of the French ministry of the marine which was responsible for the administration of France’s American Colonies. The French Marines were independent companies of infantry. Most of their recruits came from France, but by the time of the French and Indian War, most of the officers were recruited from Canada. They will give a detailed description of the officer and soldier’s uniforms, and various other accoutrements. They will drill, parade, and fire their weapons by command.

**The First Royal Regiment of Foote:** (1- 1:30 Sat. & Sun.) This is the oldest Regiment of Foote in the British Army. Often times it is referred to as “Pontius Pilate’s Body Guard.” From 1757-1763 the regiment fought in North America during the French and Indian War. In 1757, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Foot saw action during the capture of Louisburg and in 1760 they capture Montreal. Re-enactors will drill, discuss their uniforms, and fire their cannons.

**Native Americans:** (2-2:30 Sat. & Sun.) Native Americans re-enactors will include Jim Hart and Tony Gerard. Their presentation at this special event will cover clothing, weapons, tools, lodging and utilitarian items used by the Prairie tribes in the 18th and early 19th centuries in Illinois and Missouri.

**The Detachment:** (3-3:30 Sat. & Sun.) William Clark and his men known as “The Detachment” arrived at what would become Camp River Dubois on December 12, 1803. Throughout the modern day “The Detachment” will be giving tours of Camp River Dubois and address visitor on the U.S. Army dress, weapons, and military life of a soldier. The Detachment will lead closing ceremony from 3:45-4 while cannons fire the camp flag will be lowered.

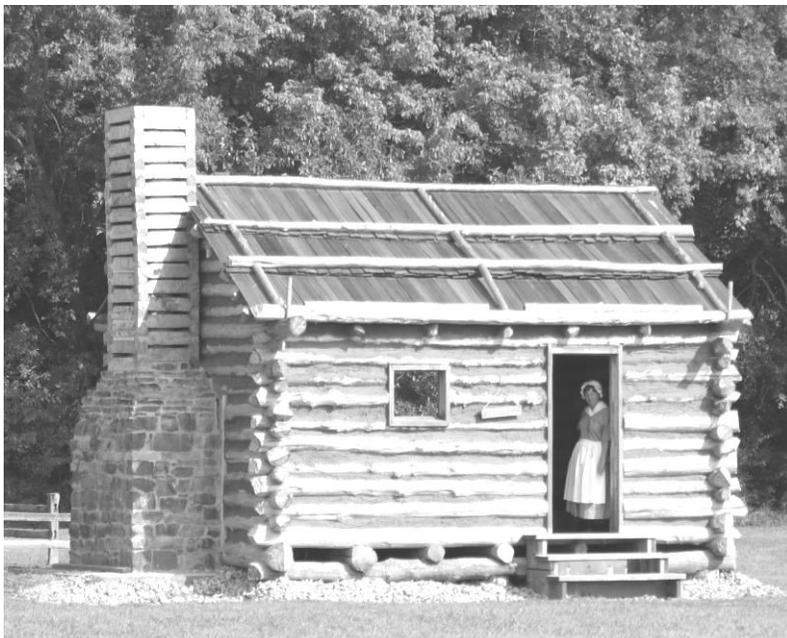
**Sons of the American Revolution:** On Saturday and Sunday Tim Raymer and supporters will present the history of the U.S. Flags (Time TBA) in a 30 minute ceremony in front of the interpretive center’s entrance doors. They also will display all state flags along the front sidewalks.

### **Detachment Members**

**Please remember to let Mike Stout and/or Dennis Nichols know if you plan to attend the “Flags over the Mississippi” special event Oct. 10 & 11. Please RSVP by Oct. 1, 2009. Your help is greatly needed. We can be reached at 618-251-5811 Tuesday-Saturday.**



The 2009 summer workers of the “Youth at Work Program” include (L-R): **Monteal Harper, Marcus Walker, Lawrence Cox, Travis Wallace, Desarael Black, Bob Nordyke,** and squatting **Justin Freeman.**



### “Settlers’ Cabin”

*By Mike Stout*

The “Settlers’ Cabin” is almost completed, but open for tours. Two porches need to be constructed, and the chimney needs to be chinked and capped. The interpretation of the cabin will center on the English Americans moving into what is now present day Madison County.

At the time of Lewis & Clark there were about 20 English American homesteads and one French American family living within the area. It is not known how many French families lived along Canteen Creek located east of the Cahokia Mounds area. The French also tried to homestead Choteau Island in 1750, but the island was abandoned shortly after pear orchards were planted. Ephraim Conner is credited as the first homesteader in Madison County from 1799-1800. However, a Frenchman named Jean Baptiste Cardinal settled on Pisa Creek in 1785, but was kidnapped by Native Americans and his family sought security in Cahokia that same year.

The “Settlers’ Cabin” will interpret how these English American homesteaders lived from day to day between 1800 and 1815. After the homesteaders built these simple log cabins they spent the next 1-5 years collecting the best logs to build their log houses (squared logs) or brick homes. They then moved into their new homes and these simple log cabins such as ours became storage sheds or another needed out building.