

# Camp River Dubois Dispatch

4th Quarter Official Newsletter of the Lewis and Clark Society and the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site Volume 12 Issue 2

## **Manager's Corner:** by Brad Winn

2021 marks my 20<sup>th</sup> year working at Lewis and Clark State Historic Site. It is remarkable to look back on 20 years which in many ways seems like just yesterday when I started here. Where were you in 2001? Do you remember seeing the Visitors Center being built that year, hearing perhaps of the coming Lewis and Clark Bicentennial and what that was going to be like for the Riverbend? Did you ever think that, “yeah one day I might like to look into volunteering down at that place and see what it is all about”?

Well I, for one, am glad that you did! My life is forever the better because of my time here, and without a doubt, the highlight of that time has been the opportunity to share this journey with all of you. I can honestly say that we would not be nearly as successful as we have been had it not been for the thousands of hours of time, effort and support that you have so willingly given to help make our site what it is. What a remarkable group of people that I have had the pleasure of working with over these years, the foundations that we have laid together will carry this interpretive center well toward the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lewis and Clark and beyond.

As we close out the year 2021, so much of our lives have revolved around the pandemic for what seems like an eternity. We are hopeful to maybe be finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. This December marks the return of one of our mainstay special events, the Arrival Event, marking the 218<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the arrival of the Expedition to Camp River Dubois. We hope this will be the first step in seeing things fully return to normal.

My goal now that we are starting to see staffing levels return to pre-pandemic levels is to begin in earnest to finalize the rebuild of Camp River Dubois. It has been far too long since we have been able to open the doors to the cabins and truly interpret and commemorate the importance of the Illinois County to the future success of the Expedition. This process will likely be quite an undertaking, certainly nothing like the year spent building the Camp in 2002 and 2003. Though I am still uncertain just how it will all work out, I know that I have the support and enthusiasm of you, the volunteers, and the Lewis and Clark Society behind me help see it done. I know I have spoken about goals and hopes to see this project commence, but there always seemed to be something that got in the way. Well, the time has come and I would like to see the Camp fully reconstructed by the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial!

## **President's Corner:** by Rex Maynard

### **Seventeen**

On October 11, 1806, the *Kentucky Western World* reported that an impromptu grand celebration was held in the City of St. Louis a few weeks earlier. The gala was held Thursday after the unexpected return of the Lewis and Clark Expedition on Tuesday, September 23. The evening before they arrived, news had spread like wildfire through the streets of St. Louis of the arrival of the boats of the Expedition at the Cantonment Belle Fountain. It was a former Spanish outpost and was now a U. S. Government Fur Trading Post. It was located on the Missouri River close to its confluence with the Mississippi,

only a few miles upstream from St. Louis. The next morning the explorers' motley collection of watercrafts approached the banks of St. Louis. Crowds thronged the riverbanks to see, to welcome, and to rejoice in the return of the crew that most people assumed had perished in the attempt to find the source of the Missouri River.

Preparations were quickly made for a banquet and Formal Ball in their honor at Christy's Inn. William Christy was an old Kentucky friend of William Clark. A sumptuous dinner was prepared, giving the captains tastes of foods they had only dreamed about for the last 28 months. The wealth of the fur trade gave the city's elite access to the finest of the fine. The successful return of the Corps was a promise of greater wealth for the St. Louis merchants and that made them very happy and ready to celebrate. During the feasting, 17 different toasts were planned commemorating the occasion. They would all raise their glasses and drink in honor of a particular person, place, thing or idea. Although Lewis and Clark displayed and gave away a flag with 15 stars and 15 stripes, they told the native peoples that they represented the 17 fires, the seventeen states that now comprised the United States. Ohio was admitted in March 1803 as the 17th state.

The number seventeen was very significant because in their view, this was the triumph of a union of self-governing states. At this time, the United States was often referred to in the plural form, many autonomous states cooperating to function for the good of all. It was only after the Civil War between the States, that the idea finally took hold that the United States was a singular entity. The statement "The United States are republics." evolved to become "The United States is a republic." Thomas Jefferson, founder of the Democratic-Republicans, unhappily saw this trending and wrote in August 1821 to fellow party member Albert Gallatin that, "...*Federalism has changed its name and hidden itself among us...To monarchize this nation they see is impossible; the next best thing in their view to consolidate it into one government a premier pas* [French for first

step] *to Monarchy.*" We often forget that Lewis, Clark and their fellow Jeffersonians did not view the United States as we do today.

For most of the last 200 years, we have seen the lionization of Thomas Jefferson, and that was evident in the first toast offered that night. "*To the president of the United States - The friend of science, the polar star of discovery, the philosopher and the patriot.*" He was being lauded for expanding the base of knowledge, however that was done, whether it was observations in a laboratory or explorations in the field. What we think of as science today was then called philosophy. Indeed, he was an active member and leader of the American Philosophical Society started by Ben Franklin. As the principal author of the Declaration of Independence, he eloquently expressed the patriotic principles that empowered these men to take up arms against King George. Since the Lewis and Clark Expedition left, Jefferson enjoyed an overwhelming landslide reelection to a second term and was very popular, especially in the west.

The second toast of the night was to: "*The Heads of the Department-The pillars that support the world's best hope.*" What we now call a cabinet of Department heads were Secretaries of: State - James Madison, Treasury - Albert Gallatin, War - Henry Dearborn, Navy - Robert Smith and the Attorney General Levi Lincoln. The third toast was to the just completed "*Missouri Expedition.*" It expressed the hope that the raw knowledge gained would be put to use and occasion greater benefits for the country. The fourth toast was to the "*hardy followers of Captains Lewis and Clark*" and a wish they would be counted worthy by their fellows. (We have no idea if any of them were even invited; only the Captains are mentioned.) The fifth toast was to the United States and intoned that people should always remember that while they may have political dissensions that "*united they stand - but divided they fall.*" The sixth toast was to the Territory of Louisiana that had received "*Freedom with bloodshed.*" The seventh toast was to Christopher Columbus and that the explorers

who imitate him may not suffer the same public ingratitude.

The eighth toast honored the Federal Constitution and the expectation that the “*Eagle of America*” would spread it to the four corners of the earth where it would serve as an inspiration. The ninth toast wished that “*the illustrious Washington, the father of America-May his guardian spirit still watch over us, and prove a terror to the engines of despotism.*” The tenth toast was a blessing on the Capitol of the United States, “*May the goddess of liberty, never cease to preside there.*” The eleventh toast called for “*peace with all nations; but submission to none.*” America had just stood up to the pirate nations of North Africa. The twelfth toast was to the Commerce of the United States. Nations with great commerce have great strength before the world. The thirteenth toast was dedicated to “*Agriculture and Industry.*” Jeffersonians idealized the independent farmer as “*the best support of government.*” The fourteenth toast was to the fallen patriots. “*May we emulate their actions and inherit their virtues.*” The fifteenth toast was to the Missouri River and that it’s wealth may be a blessing to all the nations of the world. The sixteenth toast called attention to the Congress, “*the National Council,*” hoping that it will be free of graft and political intrigue and that it may exhibit a “*true spirit of republicanism.*” The previous decade had seen the most bitter and divisive acrimony between the Jeffersonians and the Federalists. The seventeenth and most lighthearted toast was that the young maidens of the territory always admire “*hardihood and virtuous valor.*”

With many long and busy days ahead of them, Captains Lewis and Clark took their leave of the party. The newspaper correspondent reported that an eighteenth and perhaps impromptu toast was offered. All that were remaining raised their glasses in recognition of the Captains Lewis and Clark. “*Their perilous services endear them to every American heart.*”

## **Volunteer News:** By Cindy Upchurch

Thank you for coming to the Volunteer Dinner on October 18. It was cozy having the dinner at the Interpretive Center. I thought Chef Bob’s Catering did great with the food; hot and plenty of it.

New bricks have been recently added to the Memorial Area. As you pass by, you will see new names.



Recently, the site learned that Pat Waterman passed away. Pat’s brick will be added next to her husband Robert. They volunteered when the site opened.





Also this year, we learned that Steve Stunkel's Newfoundland dog, Seaman, passed away. Seaman volunteered for Education Day in the past.

## ***Ben's Blurp***

Arrival Forecast – Cold, Wet, and Windy

We all know that the Lewis & Clark Expedition landed near the mouth of the Wood River Creek at the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers on December 12, 1803. Most of our members could probably also tell you that the men had to construct their winter quarters from scratch. They felled and delimbed trees for logs, dragged them to camp, stacked the logs to their building shape, and packed the gaps with clay and prairie grass. Until they could move in, soldiers were stuck in their shared tents (not exactly the most comfortable of quarters).

What is often lost on most, though, is the awful weather that welcomed the Expedition in 1803. Arrival started with a terrible storm of hail and snow! You can see the quotes below from Clark describing each day. It isn't until December 18 that Clark's description is without the words cold, wet, or windy. The Detachment "move into their huts this evening" on December 20. That means for most of their first week at CRD, the soldiers were fighting through wind, snow, and mud to construct their cabins. Can you imagine a better motivator? The idea of a warm, dry cabin (no matter how crowded) probably kept the soldiers going.

The weather in the Illinois Country was far from the most brutal of the Expedition. But I don't doubt that CRD's harsh welcome helped sort out

some of the weaker recruits that were ultimately left behind. The captains would have been keeping a close eye on which soldiers were able to work through inclement weather.

Camp River Dubois Weather – December 12-20, 1803 – Descriptions from Captain William Clark's Notes

*Dec. 12 - about 2 o'clock and immediately after I had landed the N W wind which had been blowing all day increased to a Storm which was accompanied by Hail & Snow, & the wind Continued to blow from the Same point with violence.*

*Dec. 13 - set the men to Clearing land & Cutting Logs— a hard wind all day— flying Clouds*

*Dec. 14 – wind Continu to blow hard river rising—*

*Dec. 15 – Snow*

*Dec. 16 - the winds high to day— Cloudy— rais one Cabin at night*

*Dec. 17 - a Cold fine morning*

*Dec. 18 - Clear morning*

*Dec. 20 - men move into ther huts this evening... a hard frosty morning.*

## ***Anthony's Arrival***

It is with great joy that I announce my arrival as a permanent full-time employee at the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site. For those of you who have yet to meet me, my name is Anthony Tuzzo, and I am the new Site Tech at the site. I spent a couple of summers here as a conservation worker, and absolutely fell in love with the location. I spent a few years trying to come on board, but fate suggested I wait. As the old analogy goes "Good things come to those who wait". I hope to make that analogy come true, as the site has waited a long time for a Site Technician.

A brief history of me. Originally hailing from Detroit, Michigan, I joined the Army in 1997 as a construction engineer. During my decade of service, I met my spouse who hails from Bunker

Hill and came to this area. I learned several trades during this period of time, making myself truly a jack of all trades. It is these wide variety of skills that I'll bring with me to the site.



I'm more than just the new Site Tech though. I'm a fervent supporter of all my Detroit teams. I wear the colors of the Detroit Lions (with and without pride) almost daily. I'm also a very avid board gamer. To me board gaming is the pinnacle of maintaining face to face interaction while exercising my brain with games of strategy.

***Society News:  
General Membership Meeting –  
December 12 at 1 p.m.***

The General Membership meeting is set for December 12, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. We will be voting for officers and board members as well as other general Society updates. Lunch will be offered by Jerry's Catering at 12:30 p.m. If you are interested in coming for lunch, please contact the Store of Discovery or the site to make a reservation.

The Election of Officers will also take place during the General Membership meeting. The slate of candidates is as follows:

Officers for a 2 year term:

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Mike Kaufmann | President      |
| Rex Maynard   | Vice President |
| Karen McDanel | Secretary      |
| Vicki Clifton | Treasurer      |

At Large Board Members for a 2 year term:

- Fred Andres
- Mike Bortko
- Steve Bollini
- Irma Holmes
- Brandon Paul

***Arrival Weekend – December 11 &  
12***

We are thrilled to have the Arrival Celebration return this year on December 11 & 12. The event will celebrate the arrival of the Lewis & Clark Expedition to the area of Camp River Dubois where they made their winter encampment from December 1803 – May 1804. Many of our regular presenters will return to share what camp life was like for Detachment soldiers.

***A Visit with St. Nicholas***

A very special visitor will be arriving as well! St. Nicholas himself will show up from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. on both days (Dec. 11 & 12). You'll be able to learn about early 19th Century Christmas traditions and have your picture taken with St. Nick.

***Illinois Humanities Road Scholar  
Dr. Caroline Kiesel – April 23, 2022 –  
2 p.m.***



We are excited to host a new Road Scholar speaker in 2022. The program is sponsored by Illinois Humanities to ensure that sites around Illinois can host thoughtful programs about Illinois history and culture. Dr. Kiesel will be presenting on the struggle over slavery as Illinois entered statehood. Her program is described below:

***Did Black Lives Matter In Early Illinois?  
Voices From The Brink Of Slavery And Freedom***

In 1818, Illinois entered the United States with a Constitution declaring itself a free state, following the guidance of the 1787 Northwest Ordinance, which outlawed slavery north of the Ohio River. But slavery’s roots went back centuries in the region, and its hold on the young state was strong. In the first years of statehood, the Illinois legislature had a number of proslavery advocates who made a bold attempt to change the Constitution to allow slavery. They had already succeeded in building in limited slavery clauses into the 1818 Constitution which were to sunset in 1825, and they now wished to expand this foothold. Other voices vehemently fought against them, ultimately prevailing to preserve the free state.

Who were these voices advocating for a permanent constitutional change to allow slavery?

And who stood up against them, preserving the free state of Illinois we know? And ultimately, in what ways did these opposing voices support Black lives, or not? This performance-presentation offers a dramatic reading/adaptation of the voices of three key proslavery figures (Territorial Governor, Ninian Edwards; secretary of the Illinois Territory, Joseph P. Phillips; and proslavery delegate, Adolphus Frederick Hubbard) and three antislavery figures (Governor Edward Coles; anti-convention legislator, Nicholas Hansen; English emigrant and Illinois Secretary of State, Morris Birkbeck) from this period.

While stories of prominent antislavery figures from later years are more widely recognized (Elijah Lovejoy, Abraham Lincoln), the very early years of statehood were marked by a significant struggle for and against slavery that illuminates the inheritance of what some called “old slavery” in the region, and what was often benignly masked as “servitude.” Historical records offer these six figures’ words, which will be given a voice in the twenty-first century through this performance-presentation.

Illinois Humanities is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Illinois General Assembly [through the Illinois Arts Council Agency (IACA)], as well as by contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed by speakers, program participants, or audiences do not necessarily reflect those of the NEH, Illinois Humanities, IACA, our partnering organizations, or our funders

# 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](http://www.lewisandclarksociety.org)  
 Phone: 618-251-5811

## Lewis & 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** \_\_\_\_\_

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*Lewis & Clark Society of America  
 Newsletter  
 #1 Lewis & Clark Trail  
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