



Winter 2012

VOL. 26, NO. 1

(Ed Note: This issue revisits some of the highlights of the Lewis and Clark expedition completed 206 years ago and celebrated here at Ft Lewis 2003- 2006)

The Corps of Discovery captures a very wet prairie dog.



During their journey westward, the men of the Corps of Discovery were tasked with collecting specimens of plants and animals to send back for study. The men were unfamiliar with many of the new discoveries. One amusing incident relates to catching what some men referred to as a “barking squirrel”.

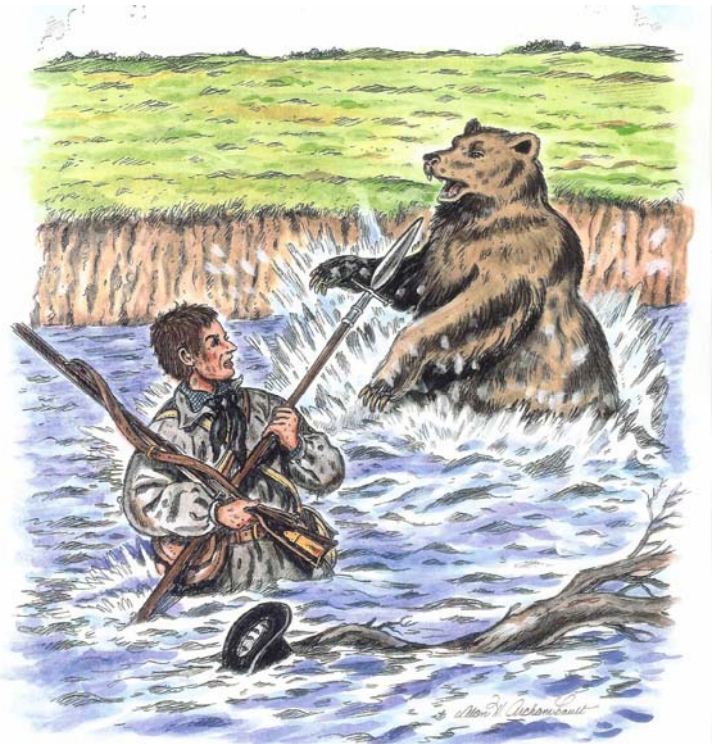
On 7 September 1804, Captain William Clark described the capture of what we now call a prairie dog.

“We set out at daylight and landed near the foot of a mound. Captain Lewis and I walked to the top. In descending, we discovered a village of small animals that burrow in the ground. We caught one by pouring

a great quantity of water in his hole. We attempted to dig to the bed of one of these animals. After digging six feet, we found by running a pole down we were not halfway to his lodge. Their village covered about six acres of ground and contained a great number of holes on top of which they sit erect, making a whistling noise and, when alarmed step into the holes. These animals are about the size of a small squirrel.”

Captain Meriwether Lewis and the Bear
June 14, 1805

This watercolor painting depicts Captain Meriwether Lewis confronting the charging brown bear with his espartoon. Lewis cradles his empty flintlock rifle, careful to keep its delicate mechanism out of the water. Lewis is dressed in rough frontier garb, saving his colorful military uniform for more formal occasions.



Cont. on pg. 3

President's Report-Ian Larson



A little over two hundred years ago this winter, after having reached the Pacific Ocean, the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the "Corps of Discovery," spent the winter of 1805 on the south side of the Columbia River near present day Astoria, Oregon. Their main concerns were to stay dry, warm, and sustain themselves during the winter, while waiting for spring to prepare for the long journey home. Little did they imagine what impact their achievement would have in stimulating the further exploration and opening up of the American West.

Several articles and illustrations by Alan Archambault reprinted from Banner archives highlight some incidents, both humorous and sober, that the expedition faced. It is worth remembering that the Corps of Discovery was a military expedition led and carried out primarily by Army officers and men.

A summary of the 2012 financial statement of The Friends is included with this issue of The Banner. The summary was prepared by Don Simpson, our treasurer, and is provided for your information. Please note that The Friends supported the Museum with just over \$12,000 in 2012. Some of the funds were used to pay Alan Archambault for the work he did in reconstitution of the Museum galleries. Also of note is the \$23,000 in gross sales generated by the Cannon Shop. Given the 3-day operating week of the Museum, the sales amount was quite a bit higher than we had expected. Profits from Cannon Shop Sales are the primary source of funds that The Friends provide the Museum. Given the tight fiscal challenges looming ahead for the nation's military, the ability to support the Museum as we are able becomes more significant. At this point we are well able to fulfill that mission.

Myles Grant has more information about gallery reconstitution in his column. Progress is slow, but steady. Alan Archambault, with funding from The Friends, continues to assist with the work. We are blessed to have Alan's assistance not only because of the quality of the work he does, but because he designed and prepared most of the original galleries himself, his knowledge makes reconstitution

Cont on page 4 col 1

Director's Report-Myles Grant

Dear Friends,



Since the last issue of "The Banner" we have doubled the amount of exhibit space we have opened to the public from approximately 5,000 square feet to approximately 10,000 square feet. At present we now have six galleries open- Soldiers of the Pacific Northwest, Army Family Gallery, Fort Lewis Gallery, Lobby Gallery Area, Medical Gallery and an ad hoc gallery dedicated to Isaac Stevens, governor of the early Washington Territory. Both unit and public feedback to our current gallery space has been overwhelmingly positive.

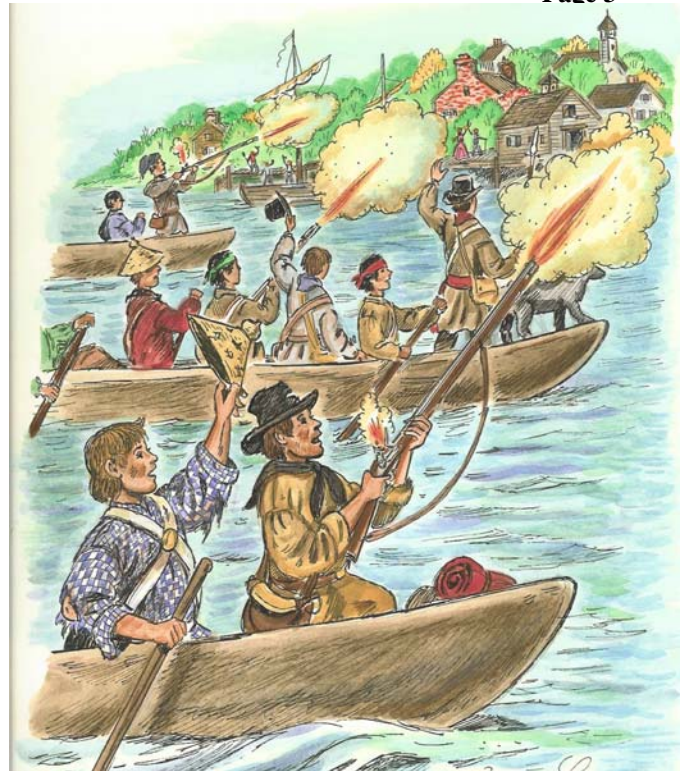
Things are progressing well with regard to the development of four more galleries on the Mezzanine level of the museum - the I Corps Gallery, 7th Infantry Gallery, Gallery of Valor and a Military Art Gallery. This forward progress can be directly attributed to the support and generosity of the Joint Base leadership in providing operational funding and assigning three highly competent NCOs to augment the museum staff. Additionally, the Friends continue to fund the historic research and artistic abilities of the former Museum Director, Mr. Alan Archambault, whose expertise and capabilities are a key asset to the museum staff as galleries are designed and developed. The Friends have also been invaluable with regard to providing operational funds for materials needed to construct the new exhibits. Lastly, the museum has been blessed with a core of very dedicated and diligent volunteers who have put in hundreds of hours of work the first month of this year alone, painting, planning and organizing workspaces and materials in order to allow the museum staff the freedom to better execute exhibit design and development - our volunteers are truly a force multiplier and we could not be successful without them.

The infrastructure improvements to the building in order to make it functional as a professional museum have also been progressing. The public address system was funded by the Joint Base and its installation is nearing completion. Additionally,

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(Copied from the journal of Captain Meriwether Lewis, in which he faithfully recorded his activities during the Corps of Discovery journey)

I selected a fat buffaloe and shot him very well, through the lungs; while I was gazing attentively on the poor animal discharging blood in streams from his mouth and nostrils, expecting him to fall every instant, and having entirely forgotten to reload my rifle, a large brown bear had perceived and crept on me within 20 steps before I discovered him; in the first moment I drew up my gun to shoot, but at the same instant recollected that she was not and that he was too near for me to hope to perform this operation before he reached me, as he was then briskly advancing on me, it was an open level plain, not a bush within miles nor a tree within less than three hundred yards of me; the river bank was sloping and not more than three feet above the level of the water; in short there was no place by means of which I could conceal myself from this monster until I could charge my rifle. I had no sooner turned myself about but he pitched at me, open mouthed and full speed. I ran about 80 yards and found he gained on me fast, the idea struck me to get into the water to such depth that I could stand and he would be obliged to swim, and that I could defend myself with my espartoon; accordingly I ran hastily into the water about waist deep, and faced about and presented the point of my espartoon, at this instant he arrived at the edge of the water within 20 feet of me; the moment I put myself in this attitude of defense he suddenly wheeled about as if frightened, declined the combat on such unequal grounds, and retreated with quite a great precipitation as he had just before pursued me.



Members of the Corps of Discovery fire a salute as they approach St. Louis.

Two hundred years ago the Corps of Discovery completed its epic journey to the Pacific Ocean and back to the St. Louis area. Captains Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, and the soldiers of the Corps of Discovery had traveled a total of 7,689 miles. They had mapped areas never before charted, had met and traded with over 50 native American tribes, and collected specimens and information on dozens of unknown plants and animals. They paved the way for tens of thousands of Americans who followed their trail in the decades to come. Their epic journey was to become the most famous story of exploration in the history of the United States.

Sergeant John Ordway described the homecoming in his journal entry for August 23, 1806 as follows:

“We set out after breakfast and proceeded on. Soon arrived at the mouth of the Missouri. Entered the Mississippi River and landed at River DuBoise where we wintered in 1804...We delayed a short time and about 12 o'clock we arrived in St. Louis, fired three rounds as we approached the town and landed opposite the center of town, the people gathered on the shore huzzahed three cheers. We unloaded the canoes and carried the baggage all up to a store house in town, Drew out the canoes. Then the party all considerably much rejoiced that we have the Expedition completed and now we look for boarding in town and wait for our settlement and then we intend to return to our native homes to see our parents one more as we have been so long from them.”

President's Letter, cont from pg 2

much more efficient and mistake-free.

We will make every attempt to complete the Banner and get it to you three weeks before our brunch meetings. Hopefully, this will give you time to plan, make your reservation, and send in a completed reservation with your check. Reducing the number of members who pay at the door facilitates the check-in process and avoids your having to wait in line to pay. However, you are always welcome to pay at the door if that is your preference.

Our guest speaker for this month's brunch is Mr. David Nicandri, former Director of the Washington State Historical Society. He also formerly served as Chief Curator of the Washington State Capital Museum. Mr. Nicandri will discuss the connection between Captain James Cook, the English explorer, and Lewis and Clark. It promises to be an interesting talk. Please join us Sunday, February 24th at Patriots Landing in DuPont!

Ian Larson, President

Museum Director's Letter, cont from pg 2

several alarm system modifications and improvements have been accomplished with only a few other physical security, track lighting and other building modifications still remaining to be resolved.

Hopefully by the next issue of "The Banner" I will be able to report that another 5,000 square feet of exhibit space has been added to our inventory of galleries open to train units on post and to educate the general public on the role and contributions of the United States Army in developing and defending our Nation.

Myles Grant, Museum Director



After 88 years, Fort Lewis finally has a statue of its namesake, Captain Meriwether Lewis of the Corps of Discovery, along with his Newfoundland companion, Seaman. The rain held off during the dedication, on 30 September 2005, to the leader of the U.S. Army venture that opened the door to the Pacific Northwest. The Fort Lewis Military Museum Director, Alan Archambault, prepared the concept drawing and advised the sculptor, Dr. John Jewell, with accurately portraying Lewis. The Association of the United States Army, Fort Lewis Chapter, formed a statue committee to lead the campaign to create the memorial, and the Seattle District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers designed the plaza. The statues stand in a new memorial park next to the post's visitor's center, before the Main Gate. This will allow people to visit the park without obtaining a pass to enter the post. The rest of the plaza will eventually feature a large 1803 map of America with the route of the Corps of Discovery expedition, educational plaques and another bronze statue of Sergeant John Ordway, to be dedicated in 2006.

FRIENDS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Below are financial statements representing the financial condition of our organization for 2012. Significant is the amount of \$12,036.90 contributed to the Museum and the amount that is available for Museum Support in 2013. For an organization of our size and a strictly volunteer force, we are in very good shape and well situated to continue to provide the necessary support to reconstitute the Museum and upgrade its displays as the Army enters a period of funding austerity.

FRIENDS OF THE FORT LEWIS MILITARY MUSEUM

STATEMENT OF NET WORTH & OPERATIONS, 2012

STATEMENT INCOME/EXPENSES

INCOME

CANNON SHOP			
SALES			\$23,022.06
COST OF GOODS SOLD			
BEG			
INVENTORY	\$54,819.45		
PURCHASES	<u>\$8,245.46</u>		
		\$63,064.91	
END			
INVENTORY	-\$48,052.13		
			\$15,012.78
OPN PROFIT			\$8,009.28
EXPENSES			
FEES			
PAY PAL	\$7.75		
CREDIT			
CARD	\$577.09		
		\$584.84	
SALES TAX		\$1,513.63	
SHIPPING/HANDLING		\$73.00	
SUPPLIES/ADMIN		<u>\$841.36</u>	
			\$3,012.83
CANNON SHOP PROFIT			\$4,996.45
MEMBERSHIP DUES			\$1,215.00
DONATIONS			\$1,217.62
ROYALTIES			\$123.15
INTEREST INCOME			\$377.41
MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS			<u>\$1,520.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME			\$9,449.63

EXPENSES

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS	\$1,567.00
ADMINISTRATION	\$262.20
INSURANCE	\$1,815.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$700.00
FEDERAL WITHHOLDING	\$1.13
DEPRECIATION	\$659.76
NEWSLETTER-COPIER	\$1,126.15
POSTAGE	\$135.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,266.24

TOTAL PROFIT **\$3,183.39**

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MUSEUM **\$12,036.90**

NET LOSS AFTER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MUSEUM **(\$8,853.51)**

STATEMENT OF NET WORTH**ASSETS:**

CANNON SHOP CASH/CHANGE	\$230.00
CASH IN CHECKING	\$24,955.26
CASH IN SAVINGS	\$41,833.89
CANNON SHOP INVENTORY	\$48,052.13
EQUIPMENT	\$9,823.05
LESS DEPRECIATION	<u>-\$9,621.74</u>
	\$201.31
TOTAL ASSETS;	\$115,272.59

LIABILITIES: **\$0.00**

TOTAL NET WORTH: **\$115,272.59**

RECONCILIATION

NET WORTH, 12/31/2011 **\$124,126.10**

NET LOSS FOR 2012 **-\$8,853.51**

NET WORTH, 12/31/2012 **\$115,272.59**

I have prepared these financial statements in my capacity as Treasurer of the Friends of the Fort Lewis Military Museum and not as a CPA in the practice of public accounting.

Donald A. Simpson
Treasurer

**FRIENDS OF THE FORT LEWIS MILITARY MUSEUM
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SUNDAY, Feb 24, 2013**

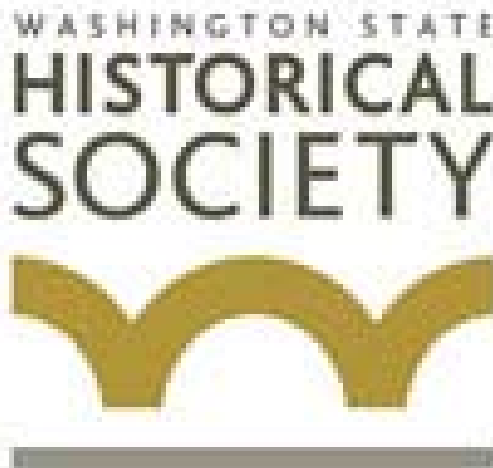
Place: **Patriots Landing, Olympic Dining Room**

Time: 1145-1215 Social Hour

1215-1330 Brunch

1330-1415 Program

Program: Our guest speaker will be Mr. David Nicandri, , a graduate of State University of New York (SUNY) at Plattsburgh, and the holder of a Master's Degree in history from the University of Idaho, who was director of the Washington State Historical Society from July 1987 to October 8, 2011. He formerly served as the chief curator of the Washington State Capital Museum, and is currently researching for a book on the "Tacoma Renaissance," countenancing the intersection of the Boldt Decision, the Puyallup Land Claim settlement, and the revitalization of downtown Tacoma.



Please return your reservation form and check by Thursday, Feb 21, 2013. Last minute reservations may be made by calling Paul Knoop at (253) 279-2598.

Return this form to LTC (Ret) Donald A Simpson, 6615 79th Street W
Lakewood WA 98499. Make checks payable to "The Friends".
Cost of Brunch for members and Guests: \$16.00 each.

Number of Reservations: _____ Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Name of Member: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Names of Guests: _____

Residents of Patriot's Landing do not need to make payment for the meeting, but are requested to make reservations for seating.

**The Friends of the Fort Lewis Military Museum
Board of Directors**

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 LTC (Ret) Thomas Morgan.....Vice President
 Joseph Koczur, Jr.....Secretary
 LTC (Ret) Donald Simpson.....Treasurer
 Mrs. Marion Ball.....Member
 SGM (Ret) Harry Schreiber.....Member
 COL (Ret) Paul Knoop.....Member
 COL (USAR, Ret) Patrick Powers.....Member

The *Banner* is printed three times a year and is mailed to all members of The Friends of Fort Lewis Museum. Articles may be submitted to the Editor or left with the Director of the Lewis Army Museum. The Friends assume no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts or other materials submitted for publication. Contents copyright by The Friends; contact the Editor for permission to reproduce any portion.

Editor.....Paul Knoop
 Assistant Editor.....Don Simpson

Visit the Museum web site for more information and purchases from the Cannon Shop.

<http://www.fortlewismuseum.com>

**Help Us Defend Our
Military Heritage-
Please Continue to be a
Friend of the Fort Lewis
Military Museum,
or join if you are not
currently a member.**

Reminder: Annual membership dues are now due if you are not a Life or Honorary member.

ANNUAL DUES

Individual.....\$ 10
Family.....\$ 15
Sustaining.....\$ 25
Benefactor.....\$ 50
Life.....\$100

(Please make checks payable to *The Friends* and send to Fort Lewis Military Museum, P.O. Box 331001, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA 98433-1001.)

***Friends of the Fort Lewis Military Museum
PO Box 331001
Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA 98433-1001***

