

◆ Boone Co. Historical Society ◆

Editor: *Betsy Conrad*

September—October 2003

Alyce Conrad and Jack Rouse to be honored during October 4 event

Join the members and friends of the Boone County Historical Society at **6 pm Saturday, October 4**, for the second annual “Hoedown” at the **Florence Lions’ Clubhouse** (off LaCresta Ave.) when **Alyce Conrad and Jack Rouse** will be presented with Honorary Lifetime Memberships in recognition of their contributions toward preserving the history of Boone County.

The evening will feature a buffet supper (beverages will be available for sale by the Lions Club, a non-profit organization), and entertainment by the Taylor Made band. **NOTE: Reservations**

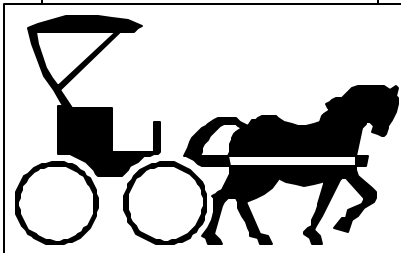
(\$15 per person) must be received no later than September 25. Mail your check to BCHS, PO Box 23, Florence, KY 41042, or bring it to the Sept. 25 meeting.



J.F. Daugherty, MD to speak at Nov. 20 Meeting

J.F. Daugherty, M.D., will present an interesting program on November 20 about his experiences as a physician in Boone County. Many will remember his father, Dr. Harry Daugherty, also a Boone County physician.

The mission statement of the Boone County Historical Society will be to develop awareness and promote appreciation of the history of Boone County.



Copies of *BOONE COUNTY: FROM MASTODONS TO THE MILLENNIUM*, the library-quality hard-bound volume full of fascinating stories and pictures of Boone County’s history, are available during business hours at **Florence Government Center for \$30. All proceeds go to the Boone County Historical Society.**

**NOTICE:
DATE
CHANGE!!!**



The September meeting of the Boone County Historical Society will be held on Thursday, the 25th (rather than the week before).

Bruce Ferguson will speak about the Bicentennial Commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery expedition on Sept. 25



after making the “Lewis & Clark” journey all the way out to Oregon with his wife Beth the week before.

The program begins at 7 pm at the Florence Government Center, Room C on the lower level. **Don’t forget to change that date on your calendar: Thursday, September 25.**

The Lewis & Clark Expedition: The members of the Permanent Party

by Laurie Wilcox

EDITOR'S NOTE: *We express our appreciation to Laurie Wilcox for doing the research and preparing the following article. Laurie is a Reference Associate with the Boone County Public Library.*

Since his youth Thomas Jefferson had been interested in western exploration. He had previously sponsored 3 expeditions to explore the land west of the Mississippi river to find an over land route to the Pacific Ocean. These early expeditions, for various reasons, had never made it past the Mississippi. The Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-1806 was a success.

The "Permanent Party" of the 1804-1806 Lewis and Clark Expedition had 33 members who journeyed from Fort Mandan to Fort Clatsop, Oregon, and returned to the east. There were many individuals who were a part of the Corps during its 1803-1804 initial stages of travel from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Fort Mandan, North Dakota, but only the members of this Permanent Party are listed below.

Meriweather Lewis – was born in Albemarle county, Virginia in 1774. He grew up on a plantation that was about 10 miles from Monticello, the estate of Thomas Jefferson. As a boy he learned to hunt and ride horses. After his step-father John Marks died Lewis managed the Virginia plantation. In 1792 Lewis had volunteered to lead one of Jefferson's previous expeditions west, but had been considered too young. Lewis joined the army in 1794 where he served under Gen. Anthony Wayne. Lewis was at the signing of the Treaty of Greenville but did not participate in the Battle of Fallen Timbers. It was in the service to Anthony Wayne that Lewis met William Clark. They served in the same unit for only 6 months.

Lewis became secretary to President Thomas Jefferson in 1801. During this appointment he lived in the White House for two years and he and Jefferson often spoke of the exploration of the west. In January of 1803 Congress approved the appropriations of the expedition. And Lewis began his preparations.

William Clark - born in Virginia in 1770. His family moved to Kentucky when he was young. He was the younger brother to George Rogers Clark. Clark joined the army in 1791 and fought in the Battle of Fallen Timbers under Gen Anthony Wayne. He was an excellent surveyor, and waterman. Clark retired from the army in 1796 for health reasons and to help his older brother George Rogers Clark. On June 19, 1803 Lewis wrote Clark to ask him to accompany him on the trek and explaining the mission. Lewis received the positive reply from Clark in Pittsburgh on July 25th.

The co-captains met in Clarksville Indiana on October 15-1803. They left Clarksville on October 26, 1803 and headed west on their great adventure.

Sergeant Charles Floyd - was born in Kentucky. His father, Captain Charles Floyd, had served in the Army under George Rogers Clark. He was chosen by William Clark, subject to Lewis' approval, on August 1, 1803. Floyd was a cousin of the expedition's Sergeant Nathaniel Pryor. Floyd kept a daily journal from May 14, 1804, until two days before his death on August 20, 1804. Floyd's death was the only fatality among the members of the Corp during their historic trek.

Sergeant Patrick Gass - was born in Pennsylvania, June 12, 1771. He joined the army in 1789, and by 1803 was serving under Captain Russell Bissell's command at Kaskaskia, Illinois Territory (60 miles south of St Louis on the Missouri River). Gass was enlisted into the Corp on January 3, 1804. Gass was the last survivor of the Corp dying in 1870 at 99.

Sergeant John Ordway - was from Hebron, New Hampshire. Ordway was a well-educated man. His responsibilities included issuing provisions, appointing guard duties, keeping all registers and records, and commanding the group during absences of Lewis and Clark.

Sergeant Nathaniel Pryor - was born in Virginia in 1772. He moved to Kentucky with his parents in 1783. Pryor had taken a wife in 1798, and thus was an exception to the captains' recruiting stipulation that only unmarried men would be enlisted. Nevertheless, Captain William Clark enlisted him on October 20, 1803.

Private William Bratton - was born July 27, 1778, in Augusta County, Virginia. Bratton's family migrated to Kentucky about 1790. He enlisted as a member of the Corp on October 20, 1803. Bratton was an excellent woodsman, hunter and gunsmith.

Private John Collins - was born in Frederick County, Maryland. He was enlisted with the Corps January 1, 1804, transferring from an unlisted army unit. Collins was one of five chief hunters in the Corps.

Private John Colter - was born about 1774, near Staunton, Augusta County, Virginia. When he was about five years old, his parents moved to Kentucky. He was quick minded, courageous and a fine hunter.

Private Pierre Cruzatte - was of French and Omaha Indian extraction. He enlisted with Lewis and Clark on May 16, 1804, at St. Charles (Missouri). Before enlisting, Cruzatte had been a trader on the Missouri. He served as an interpreter and spoke the Omaha language and was skilled in sign language.

Private Joseph Field - was born about 1774, in Culpepper County, Virginia. Enlisted with the Corps on August 1, 1803. Joseph was chosen to lead a small detachment during Clark's Yellowstone River exploration on the Corps' return journey from Oregon.

Private Reuben Field - was born about 1772 in Culpepper County, Virginia. Brother to Joseph Field (see above). He enlisted on August 1, 1803. Both brothers were very good hunters and woodsmen.

Private Robert Frazer - was born in Augusta County, Virginia, Robert Frazer's enlistment date is unknown. In August of 1805 he is listed as a member of a scouting party.

Private George Gibson - was born in Pennsylvania. His enlistment was on October 26, 1803. He was an experienced woodsman, a good hunter and knew sign language. Gibson was also a fiddle player.

Private Silas Goodrich - may have been born in Massachusetts. His enlistment into the Corps was on January 4, 1804, at Camp Dubois, Illinois Territory. He was known as one of the Corp's best fishermen.

Private Hugh Hall - was born in Massachusetts about 1772. He enlisted in the Army in 1798. He was disciplined for drinking whisky against orders and was punished with 50 lashes in early July of 1804.

Private Thomas Proctor Howard - was born in Massachusetts about 1779. He had enlisted in the army in 1801, and entered the Corps on January 1, 1804. Howard was disciplined for climbing stockade wall to re-enter Fort Mandan after the gates had been closed for the night.

Private Francois LaBiche - was enlisted into the Corps on May 16, 1805, at St. Charles, Missouri. He spoke English, French and several Indian languages. He was a trader and boatman before joining the Corps.

Private Jean Baptiste LePage - was enlisted at Fort Mandan, on November 2, 1804. He was a French-Canadian fur trader who was living among the Hidatsa and Mandan Indians before joining the Corps.

Private Hugh McNeal - He was born and raised in Pennsylvania. He enlisted in to the Corps on April 1, 1804.

Private John Potts - was a German immigrant and a miller by trade. He joined the U.S. Army in 1800 and joined the Corps in November 1803.

Private George Shannon - was born in Pennsylvania in 1787. Shannon enlisted at Louisville on October 19, 1803. He was a relative of Governor Shannon of Kentucky, and at age 18 he was the youngest member of the Corps. Later in life Shannon became a lawyer and served as a Senator from Missouri.

Private John Shields - was born in 1769 near Harrisonberg, Augusta County, Virginia. He was enlisted into the Corps at Louisville on October 19, 1803. Shields was part of Captain Clark's party during the return journey from Oregon.

Private John B. Thompson - Clark praised him as a valuable member of the party.

Private Peter M. Weiser - was born in 1781 in Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the Corps in November 1803. He

became a fur trader after the cross-country trek with Lewis and Clark.

Private William Werner - little is actually know about him. He may have been from Kentucky. He was disciplined for fighting with John Potts and is mentioned as having a strained knee in 1805.

Private Joseph Whitehouse - was born in Fairfax County, Virginia, in about 1775. His family moved to Kentucky when he was young. He enlisted in the army in 1798. He was enlisted in the Corps in November 1803.

Private Alexander Hamilton Willard - was born in New Hampshire in 1778. In 1800 he enlisted in the army while living in Kentucky. He received a punishment of 100 lashes for sleeping while on sentry duty. He was a blacksmith by trade and an assistant to John Shields.

Private Richard Windsor - was enlisted into the Corps on January 1, 1804. His was an experienced woodsman and a productive hunter throughout the journey.

Toussaint Charbonneau (Interpreter) Born near Montreal around 1759, Toussaint Charbonneau was a French Canadian fur trader who had lived among the Hidatsa and Mandan Indians since 1796. He was the husband of Sacagawea. Sacagawea spoke both Shoshone and Hidatsa; Toussaint spoke both Hidatsa and French.

Sacagawea (Interpreter) - wife of Toussaint Charbonneau, she was a Shoshone woman. In 1800, when she was about 12 years old, Sacagawea was kidnapped by a war party of Hidatsa Indians. When the Corps arrived at Fort Mandan she was about 16 years old and 6 months pregnant. She was an invaluable interpreter and guide for the Corps as well as the only woman in the Corps.

George Drouillard (Interpreter) - George Drouillard, the son of a French Canadian father and Shawnee Indian mother, enlisted in the Corps in November 1803. Drouillard was an excellent scout and hunter, he also was a knowledgeable interpreter. Drouillard and York, the slave, were the only non-military members of the Corps to complete the journey from camp Dubois to the Pacific and back.

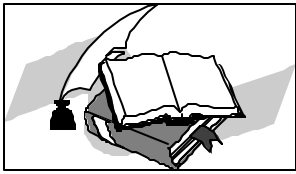
York (Slave) - was the slave of Captain William Clark. He was the first African American to travel across the continental United States. He was about the same age as William Clark. York joined the party at Clarksville Indiana and was written about in many journals as a good hunter. He was released by Clark 10 years after returning from the journey. His fate is uncertain. For further reading on York please see the article "York, The Slave who went with Lewis & Clark" in Northern Kentucky Heritage Magazine Vol. 10 No. 2 page 26.

References Sources used for this article are:

Ambrose, Stephen. Undaunted Courage, Simon & Schuster, 1996.

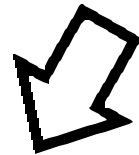
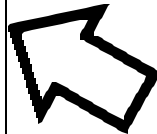
http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/inside/idx_corp.html

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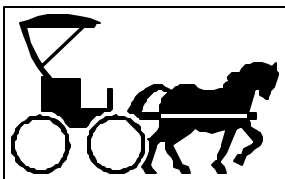
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Please note...

**Reservations (\$15 per person) for Oct. 4th “Hoe Down” due Sept. 25.
 See article on Page 1 for details.**

The Boone County
 Historical Society pro-
 vides program meet-
 ings on the third
 Thursday evenings of
 January, March, May,
 July, September and
 November. Unless
 otherwise announced,
 the meetings will be
 held at the Florence
 Government Center,
 8100 Ewing
 Boulevard.



BCHS Membership Privileges

Annual Membership Fee is only \$15 per household, **due every January**. This modest fee covers the cost of our newsletter mailings. We appreciate all who have joined the Boone County Historical Society to help us preserve and make known some of the history of our County. Encourage your friends and neighbors to join and attend our meetings. Membership fees can be sent to:

**BOONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 P. O. BOX 23
 FLORENCE, KY 41022-0023**

The Boone County Historical Society has received **tax-exempt status**. This means that all gifts to the Society are tax deductible.