



# THE JOURNAL

## LEWIS & CLARK HONOR GUARD

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May 2007

Meetings of the Honor Guard are at 7:00 pm  
On the second Monday of the month  
At the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center  
Unless specified otherwise

**Next Meeting: May 14, 2007**



### Expedition Member Gets Marker

*The following is taken from information provided me by James Mallory, a member of the Board of Directors of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. He lives in Lexington, Kentucky. Lewis and Clark buffs in that part of the country have been very busy since the start of the bicentennial with an aggressive roadside marker program on what has been called the "Eastern Trail" but is now switching to the "Eastern Legacy" name.*

Saturday, April 14, 2007 was "John Collins Day" in Frederick County, Maryland. On that day a roadside marker to native son John Collins was dedicated. The marker proclaims he was a skilled hunter and a Superintendent of Provisions with the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He was the first Marylander to cross the North American continent.

The marker, located between Frederick and Hagerstown, was a project of the Ohio River Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation headed up by Todd Bolton with funding from the Maryland Historical Trust. Bob Anderson, who participated with the Honor Guard during the Signature Event in Great Falls, was one of the four Lewis and Clark re-enactors during the dedication (third from left).

In the dedication ceremony program a biographical sketch of Collins says..."after an auspicious start where he was twice court martialed for disobedience, Collins settled in and became a valuable member of the expedition. He was a highly skilled hunter; one of the finest on the expedition. Collins also proved to be a competent brew master during the expedition by making what Captain William Clark considered some very good beer. Ultimately Collins was revered by Captain Meriwether Lewis for his fidelity and orderly deportment. Following the expedition he became a fur trader and was killed during a fight with Indians on the upper Missouri River on June 2, 1823.

*According to Larry Morris' book "Fate of the Corps" he was the last member of the Corps of Discovery to meet a violent death on the frontier.*

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### All Present or Accounted For

After two days of counting, Walt Walker and Phil Scriver report a successful equipment inventory. Everything the Honor Guard owns in the storage shed at Lamphier's and at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center has been accounted for. The list of inventory items covers such things as eight regimental uniforms, a leather (buffalo hide) tipi, leantos, tents, four Harper's Ferry model 1803 rifles, four Charleville muskets, a pistol, powder horns, a gun safe, furs of several kinds, extra articles of clothes (some not quite correct), swords, bayonets, axes, shovels, hammers, dutch ovens, copper kettles, cooking utensils and one large trailer. The medicine box, trade goods box and fur boxes each have their own separate inventory.

Although we did not calculate the current value of the inventory, two years ago the Honor Guard owned equipment valued in excess of \$25,000.

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### Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center Anniversary

The Honor Guard set up four demonstration stations in River Camp during the Center's anniversary observance on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The day passed quickly with a good crowd on hand. In fact, when closing time came weapons, clothing, furs and medicine worked their magic; many visitors wanted to stay and hear more.

Center Director Jane Weber reported almost 1,500 visitors during the five hours the Center was open Sunday afternoon. Interest in Lewis and Clark continues to run high; this was one of the larger crowds to participate in the Center's anniversary activities.

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### **Website Nearing Completion**

At long last the new/revised website, [corpsofdiscovery.org](http://corpsofdiscovery.org), should be live by June 1<sup>st</sup>. After wrestling with structure and organization for several months John Toenyes and Phil Scriver have finally developed a simple and efficient (we hope) system to guide the novice as well as the long-term buff through the site.

Much of what was on the old site was retained although it has been cleaned up and standardized. Plans call for eventually having an extensive number of articles and photos available on the new site.

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### **Lewis and Clark Institute**

The Lewis and Clark Interpretive Association is planning seven workshop/field trips this summer starting with a nature walk to Sulphur Springs on June 2 and concluding with blacksmithing on September 15.

Other workshops are canoe trips from Fort Benton to Loma on June 16 and July 14; a horseback trail ride in the area of Tower Rock on July 21; a tour of four fur trading posts in the Fort Benton area on August 18. An interesting tour on August 4 will include stops at the Ulm Pishkun, the Historical Society Museum in Helena and a Gates of the Mountains boat tour.

Contact Sally Murphy at the Portage Cache or 452-5661 for details and participation.

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### **Upcoming Events**

Bus Tour, presentations, June 22

Parade, July 4

Festival Opening Ceremony, July 6

Festival Encampment, July 7

Festival Beans 'n Blarney, July 8

River Camp, September 1