

## Legacy Topics

Here are some topics for you to ponder. We would like to hear your ideas on these subjects or any other Lewis and Clark related subjects.

1. While the Expedition traveled across Montana in 1805 they didn't meet any Indians although they saw smoke and other signs of them having been in the area; some of the signs were only a few hours old. Why were there no encounters?
2. Both Thomas Jefferson and William Clark are looked upon as major figures in our history who played important roles in the development of our nation. Is it fair or appropriate for people today to discredit these men because they both kept slaves?
3. The Lewis and Clark bicentennial is now behind us and it is time to take a look at what went on during that three year period. Were the results worth the huge investment of money, time and effort? What lasting legacies were left? Was there anything done in the name of the bicentennial that can be a positive guide for our future?
4. How can the "Lewis and Clark community" capitalize on the national attention of the bicentennial into the future?
5. Yeoman work was done by Carolyn Gillman and Castle McLaughlin in gathering, cataloging and validating many Lewis and Clark Expedition artifacts. Consider the reasons for continuing the work started by these ladies. Imagine what treasures may be found as attics, basements, storerooms and long-forgotten warehouses are searched and their contents listed. Would such an historical treasure hunt be a valid expenditure of public money? Could such a resulting Lewis and Clark collection eventually be assembled into a single permanent collection? Where?
6. What were the two or three most significant results of the Lewis and Clark Expedition? Why?
7. If the Corps of Discovery had never made their journey and successful return what would have been different in the development of the West as a part of the United States?
8. Excluding Moulton's edition of the Expedition Journals, what are the best few books written about the Expedition; consider ones about the details of the journey, aspects of the Expedition, results of it or ones that are in any way related to the Expedition. They do not necessarily need to be nonfiction.
9. A hallmark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition was the extensive planning and preparations that went on before the journey began. Since nothing ever goes completely according to plan, what one thing would you change if you were one of the planners? Why would you make the change and what do you think would be the result of your change?
10. There have been many "what ifs" discussed that relate to the Expedition, and more that could be. Tell us about your favorites.