

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN LEWIS & CLARK INTERPRETIVE TRAIL AND VISITOR CENTER

100 Valmont Dr., P.O. Box 785, Nebr. City, NE., Website: Discover@MRB-LewisandClarkCenter.org
402.874.9900, Fax 402.874-9909, E mail: efriesen@mrb-lewisandclarkcenter.org

NEWSLETTER - FALL 2009

TRANSFER OF PROPERTY CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 27 was the date of the official transfer of ownership of this center from the National Park Service to the Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Interpretative Trail & Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. The day included a ribbon cutting involving Ernie Quintana, Midwest Regional Director of the National Park Service, Bill Schenk, Chairman of our foundation board, President Thomas Jefferson (a.k.a. Patrick Lee) and Nancy Hoch, a member of our foundation board of directors.

It was a splendid day and a nice crowd was in attendance. Following the ribbon cutting was the official opening of our newest exhibit "Undaunted Anglers" which is located on the loft level at the center. This exhibit is a gift from the Federation of Fly Fishers, Livingston, MT.

At the evening celebration banquet President Jefferson was the after dinner speaker. He waxed eloquently as he shared his thoughts and aspirations for the Corps of Discovery. All in all it was a grand day and if you missed it you missed a wonderful opportunity to learn from the best.

UNDAUNTED ANGLERS EXHIBIT

It tells the story of the fish encountered by the Corps of Discovery from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Coast and back. Much of the work on the exhibit was done by Native American high school students from Idaho. The fish trap that is part of the exhibit was by high school girls and was in the Lemhi River for over a year and was the only one, of several, that survived. The female students who constructed the basket are of Lemhi Shoshone descent (Sacagawea's tribe). Native American fishing methods are a big part of the exhibit.

Building the exhibit was done by Brian Volkmer, Tom Schreiner, Bob Schreiner and Derek Vesely. They did a remarkable job to meet the Sept. 27 deadline. Transporting the exhibit from Livingston, MT. to Nebraska City was a donation from Viking Ship Trucking Company of Nebraska City. You must stop in and see this latest addition to the center.

VISITORS FROM FAR AND WIDE

To date, in 2009, we have been visited by folks from all 50 states of the United States and from 41 foreign countries. The most recent foreign visitors were from Georgia, Armenia, Moldova, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, (all part of what used to be the USSR) India, Senegal, Haiti and Bangladesh.

MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Author Kira Gale is going to present a program on Sunday, January 17, 2010 at 4pm here at the Center for members only. She recently co-authored a book on the death of Meriwether Lewis. She was the Meritorious Achievement Award winner in 2007 from the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and she will be available to autograph books after the program. Refreshments will be served. Save the date and come.

As we communicate with our members, it would be nice to be able to do it using email and thus save some \$\$\$\$. If we do not have your email address would you please supply that to Cheryl Hunt here at the Center. We will not share it with anyone else.

EXTERIOR PAINTING

This project was recently completed. Receiving stain were all of the timbers around the front entrance. The facades up around the rooflines and the ends of the exterior exposed ceiling timbers were painted. It looks so much better.

STONES & BONES EXPO

Along with the River Country Nature Center, we are going to be co-hosting this Pre-historic Artifact & Fossil Show on Saturday, February 27 from 9am to 5pm. In addition to exhibitors there will be demonstrations on Atlatl (spear throwing), flint knapping, pottery and more. Speakers will also be part of the program. Watch for a more detailed program of events as that date nears. The cost will be \$5.00, \$4.00 for seniors and military and children may get in at no charge.

PLEASE CONSIDER

Renting space here at the Center for Christmas parties, Graduation parties, family gatherings etc. etc.
Doing some of your Christmas shopping in our gift shop.

OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

On Sunday, Jan. 10 at 1:30pm Matt “Sitting Bear” Jones from Lincoln will be presenting on the Otoe-Missouria Indians

On Sunday, March 14 at 1:30pm Bev Hinds, a Lewis & Clark Scholar from Sioux City will be presenting on the medicines of the expedition.

Both of these programs are FREE and open to the public.