

'Iskitpe

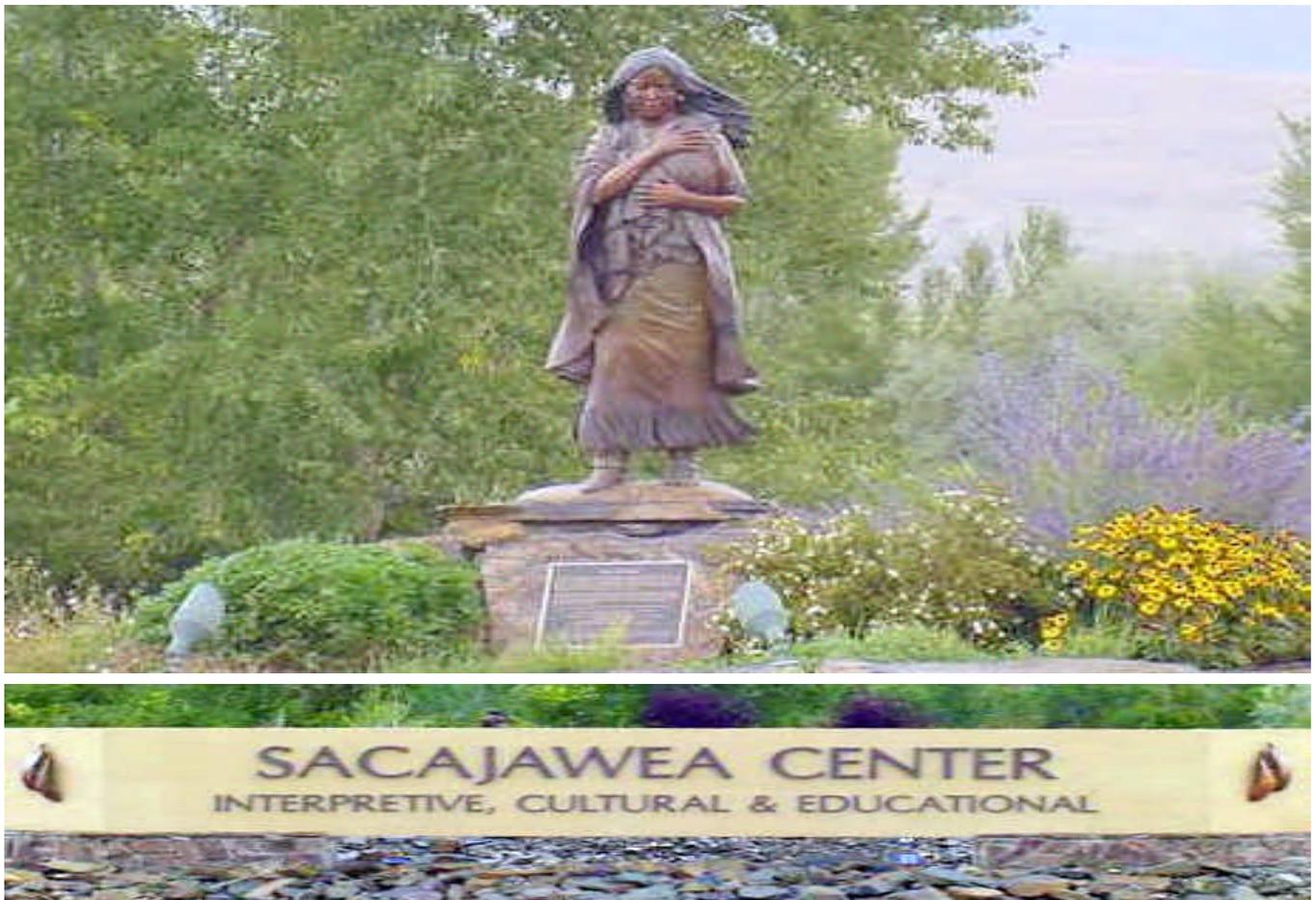


A Publication of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation

Volume 5, Issue 2

Summer 05

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



NEZ PERCE TRAIL FOUNDATION

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

August 4-6 2005

Salmon Idaho

Continued on page 4

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NOTES

It seems that the time for the Newsletter "Iskitpe" comes around faster each issue.

It has been a very busy time for the Foundation.

Of course the Annual Meeting was held and according to most it was a big success. The detailed minutes of the meeting are enclosed.

The up coming Board Development program October 1, 2005 in Lewiston Idaho will be a big step forward in making your efforts pay off. In addition to the training we will be looking at revising the by-laws. Some of the ideas we will be looking at are: 1. Changing the terms for the Board of Directors. Have only 1/3 elected each year, giving us more continuity in the operation. 2. Establishing Chapters along the Trail 3. Having a Executive Committee made up of 5 members. A 2nd Vice President, with the idea that the Officers being elected for 2 years and the VP moving up to the President position at the end of the term. Again a training for the position. 4. Setting up a committee system that would involve general members as well as Board members.

In the changing times with funds it is most important that we get as many members involved in the operation of the Foundation as possible.

We are preparing our budget for the FY 06 year for presentation to the Nez Perce National Historical Trail administration. It is a very challenging one with a very expanded list of programs. We are looking at several other funding sources for help.

The other big event we are planning is a program on Cultural and Economic aspect of the trail. The flyer for the program is enclosed in this issue. It might be something that you might want to hold in your area. If so let me know .

We have applied for a grant from the

Oregon Trail Foundation for creating a series of signs for the Wallowa home site. Will know in November if that is successful.

There is an international flavor to the Foundation with the addition of new members from the Netherlands and England. Thanks to the efforts of Lili Pasteur for the efforts in recruiting these members. She is the first to get the Chief Joseph Print. The new members are Fons Pasteur, Jan Pasteur, Marijke Pasteur, all from the Netherlands, John Pasteur, United Kingdom and Fons van Mourik, Switzerland. Thanks Lili.

If I can be of assistance in presenting a program in your area let me know. I will keep you posted of what is going on. One way is through e mail. Please send me your e mail address to get on the list.

Lilóoy 'ískit (Happy Trails) Jim Evans



?skitpe is a Nez Perce word that translates to "on the trail, path or road." This newsletter is published on a quarterly basis and serves the members of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation.

Submission: All readers are encouraged to submit material, stories, photos, and ideas that relate to the Nez Perce Trail for publication consideration. All submissions are subject to editing for grammar, clarity, length, and the editor reserves the right to reject any submission. Submissions may be made via E-mail, on a 3.5" disk, or on paper. Submissions must be made by the following dates:

Spring: May 31 Summer: August 31

Fall: November 31 Winter: January 31

Subscriptions: Subscriptions are free to members of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation. A one-year subscription for non-members is \$10 to cover the costs of printing and postage. For more information, call Jim Evans at 208.940 0053 or email executivedirector@nezperctrail.net.

The Sacred Silence of the Bear's Paw

When I was asked to write an article for the NPTA newsletter, I immediately began thinking about the issues that have become most important to me in the past four and a half years of traveling and researching for my forthcoming book, **Chief Joseph and the Flight of the Nez Perce: The Untold Story of an American Tragedy**.

My first thought was to emphasize how important it is that we each strive explain the trail as a story, since so many casual travelers see it as only a series of disconnected roadside stops. My second thought was to write about how important it is for us to continue the story beyond the surrender – through Bismarck, along the rail journey down to Leavenworth, then on to Baxter Springs and Tonkawa, and back to the Lapwai and Colville reservations. But slowly I realized that there is an issue far closer to my heart – an issue far more controversial, but far more crucial in my estimation. It is the issue of the Bear's Paw interpretive center I wish that center would never be built.

I know this has been discussed and planned and set into motion by people with far more investment and understanding than I. I know, too, that it will make the site more accessible and bring the story alive for more people. But in my heart of hearts, I believe it is a mistake.

I remember the first time I traveled the entire trail, and I made that long, desolate journey up from the Missouri Breaks and the McClellan's Ferry. As I came over that rolling grassland and saw in the distance the small pull-off that told me I had arrived at the surrender site, something released in me, and I broke down sobbing. What lay before me was not just the end of a journey, it was the end of a dream. I stepped from my car into the buffeting winds. With only a small brochure to guide me, I stepped along the paths, down into the gullies, across the small creek rimmed with willow. Here was a peg marking the spot where Ollikut fell; here a marker showing where twenty one soldiers were buried. I looked out into the distance, hearing only the wind and the heavy silence of the Montana plains.

There was no interpretive overlay between me and the power of the land. I walked the small trails with a sense of reverence, alone with my thoughts and feelings. This was not an historical event, it was a spiritual experience. It was awakening something deep inside me that went far beyond understanding, far beyond mind. It was a kind of hallowing.

I have since been back there many times, sometimes accompanied by others, sometimes at the commemorations, sometimes alone, with only the keening winds and whispering spirits to keep me company. But no matter whom I am with or how I am feeling, something deep and undeniable overtakes me.

I have no quarrel with historical interpretation. There is a place for such unfolding. The Big Hole battle site and interpretive center is a prime example. It leads us, step by step, through a crucial moment in the journey, and allows those who have not delved into the story a chance to learn it anew, and, perhaps for the first time, to get a sense of what the Nez Perce travelers, as well as the soldiers and volunteers, experienced in that isolated Montana valley on that fateful day in August of 1877.

But the Bear's Paw offers us something different. Here we do not learn, we feel. We hear those voices below hearing; we sense those presences beneath understanding. Truth is carried on the winds and in the blood knowledge of the earth..

This is hard to explain to Euro-American sensibilities. We seek the rational, the quantifiable. We make our decisions based on practicalities. And practicality says that an interpretive center will allow more people to experience the Bear's Paw and learn about the Nez Perce journey.

I cannot argue that. But, as a writer cares about the power of unseen forces, I cannot help but feel that an interpretive center, no matter how tastefully done and how well hidden from the battlefield itself, will cut into the great powerful emptiness of those plains and the overwhelming sense of spiritual presence that the battlefield now possesses.

I firmly believe there is a need for historical understanding of our nation's past. But I also believe that there are places in this country that should be left alone; places that should be honored, not interpreted. The Bear's Paw is such a place. The greatest honor we can do to that battle site is to leave it as it is – a lonely high plains grassland under monumental skies, with only the fewest of markings as reminders of the people who struggled, suffered, and gave their lives in pursuit of a dream denied.

Let it be discovered, not presented. Let it be seen by those with eyes to see; heard by those with ears to hear. As for the rest, let them pass by. There is world enough to explore, interpret and understand. I know the decision has been made, and I respect that. But I believe in my heart that we will lose something great and fundamental if we do not leave that battlefield as it is, alive with that echoing silence and the presences that blow in the Montana high plains wind. Sometimes we do not need to commemorate, we need to hallow. To me, setting the Bear's Paw aside as sacred ground would be the greatest single honor we could pay to those who huddled, fought, and died there. Their voices would speak with more eloquence than all the maps, plaques, and interpretive centers that money can buy.

*Kent Nerburn is a member of the NPTA and the author of numerous books, including **Neither Wolf nor Dog: On Forgotten Roads with an Indian Elder**. His new book, **Chief Joseph and the Flight of the Nez Perce: The Untold Story of an American Tragedy**, published by HarperSanFrancisco, will be available at bookstores across the country in November of this year.*

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

DATE: August 4-6, 2005

LOCATION: Stagecoach Inn, Salmon, Idaho
Sacajawea Center, Salmon, Idaho
Big Hole Battlefield, Montana

ATTENDEES: Paul G. Wapato, Ruth Wapato, Paul C. Wapato, Charlie Moses, Margaret Moses, Myrna Tovey, Porter Pierce, Peggy Pierce, Mike Seale, Jim Evans, Toni Charlesworth, Dick Seymour, Sally Seymour, Karen Cawston, Gary Werner, George Hatley, Lola Hatley, Edith Powaukee, Georgianna Young, Barbara Berg, Carolynne Merrell, Gene Eastman, Charles Knowles, Candy Moulton, David Sorey, Gary Werner, Jane Shigley.

Guests: Jeni Jarvis, Mayor Stan Davis, Tami DeGrosky, Robert West, Tim Fisher, Doug Eury, Val Johnson, Sandi McFarland, Fred Snook, Loran Olson, Edith Powaukee, Rob Jagers, Terry Whittier, Renee Snyder

Session began at 9:00 a.m. with a greeting from President Paul G. Wapato. All present stood and introduced them selves.

President's Report

Since 2004 Annual Meeting at Wallowa, OR

- George & Lola Hatley presented with lifetime membership and blanket, July 22, 2004, at CJTR Camp near Buckhorn Overlook.
- NPTF Clarkston Office Closed July 31, 2004.
- Executive Committee Meeting, Spokane, WA, August 7, 2004
Discussion of Ft. Leavenworth ceremonies. Secretarial duties were reviewed with Jim Evans and go-ahead given to locate and set up office in Salmon, ID. The budget was reviewed and the hiking/equestrian route initiative was discussed.
- Interpretive Panel Dedication at Chief Joseph Campground near Cooke City, MT, October 9, 2004. Panel design was reviewed at our Tamastslitk Winter Annual Meeting. The ceremony was attended by Gallatin NF Supervisor Rebecca Heath, Yellowstone NP Supervisor Frank Walker, local Gallatin NF personnel, Administrator Sandi McFarland, Horace Axtell, Wilford Scott, the Lapwai drum, Ray and Nancy Stratford (Island Park, ID), and a number of local people. Since the dedication, this area has been flooded and the panel is not currently accessible.
- PNTS Leadership Strategy Retreat and National Trails Symposium, October 19-23, Austin, TX. Retreat topic was strategy to "take PNTS to next level", which includes putting Executive Director Gary Werner on full-time basis, it was well attended by NPS, USFS and BLM headquarters personnel, who indicated support for objectives. The Trails Symposium is very "nuts & boltsy", but is something we may attend more often as we follow the hiking/equestrian route initiative.
- Fort Leavenworth Historic Site Certification and Nez Perce Day Symposium, November 18-20, 2004. Interpretive panel on Fort, overlooking Nez Perce encampment area was dedicated on November 19. Well-attended by locals and school children. Symposium at St. Mary University presented by a historian from the University, two historians from the Fort. Sandi McFarland, Otis Halfmoon and Charlie Moses, Elders Horace Axtell, Andrea Axtell, Leah Conner, Myrna Tovey and Ruth Wapato were guest of the Foundation at these ceremonies. Through the efforts of Ruth Wapato, five Indian /Appaloosa theme quilts and a buffalo skin were on display at the Fort Leavenworth City Library.
- Budget Coordination Meeting, January 14, 2005, Orofino, ID. President and Secretary met with Trail

Administrator Sandi McFarland, Clearwater Forest and Region 1 personnel. A briefing on Challenge Cost Share Agreement (CSA) was provided. Our budget was presented with no response from the Administrator.

- Winter Annual Board Meeting, February 12, 2005, Lewis & Clark Discovery Center, Lewiston, ID. Proposal presented to contract with Jim Evans to serve as Executive Director, approved by the board. It was agreed upon to hold the 2005 Annual Meeting in Salmon, ID. Possible OK & KS site certifications for 2005 were discussed. President Wapato informed the board that just prior to this meeting, the Trail Administrator indicated our Forest Service budget had been trimmed to \$30,000 – First cut of the budget looks like most of the reduction would have to be in the KS/OK activities, so new funding sources will be needed. Approaches considered included proposing a separate agreement to the Trail Administrator for the 2005 certifications. Vice-President Crystal White was authorized to continue work on the project. President Wapato recommended that the Executive Director Jim Evans be sent to the PNTS Advocacy Week in Washington, D.C. during the week of February 26 – March 2, to take advantage of an excellent opportunity to meet and work with key people from other non-profit organizations, as well as top Federal managers, the Board agreed with this assignment.
- Region 1 Coordination Meeting, March 30, 2005, Missoula, MT. The meeting was requested over a month earlier, but could not be scheduled until this date. President Wapato, Ruth Wapato and Executive Director Jim Evans met with Recreation Director Tom Puchlerz, Keith Thurlkill and Administrator McFarland to ensure all understand the Foundation is the only grassroots citizen group committed to the Nez Perce National Historic Trail and to ensure them we understand “Partnership” and are able to provide in-kind value to the Forest Service. Mr. Puchlerz said he understands that, but does not wish to support an organization just for the sake of supporting an organization. Support should be associated with specific outcomes. We assured him that we understand partnership and are able to provide in-kind value to the Forest Service. Administrator McFarland demonstrated with tables and pie charts that the \$602,737 budget is fully committed. She indicated that it was not likely that she would find available the \$5,915 additional funds we requested for Oklahoma-Kansas certification activities in FY 2005. It was also found that activity on drafting a CSA agreement for \$30,000 had not been processed. Mr. Puchlerz directed that this process be accelerated. (CSA was signed May 5 2005)
- Resignation of Vice President Crystal White, April 11, 2005.

After returning from an Oklahoma-Kansas trip supported by the Foundation, Vice-President White, in a conference call with the Executive Committee verbally shared plans for three certifications at Baxter Springs, KS, Centennial State Park, OK and Tonkawa, OK. Later e-mail and telephone contacts requesting detailed written planning and estimating information were not honored. Vice-President White then resigned.
- Interim Appointment of Vice President, Richard Seymor of Wallowa, OR, May 23, 2005, until the August 4 elections at the Annual Meeting.
- 10th PNTS Conference, Las Vegas, NV, June 18-22, 2005. Jim & Lynda Evans and Paul & Ruth Wapato represented the Foundation at this conference and attended workshops on tourism and education. The sponsors, the Old Spanish Trail Association, managed to find a well-located hotel without a casino for this busy meeting attended by 8 Scenic Trails and 15 Historic Trail organizations. The first two days were a facilitated “capacity building” workshop. Although aimed at PNTS, this material was also applicable to NPTF. The workshops of the tourism and education tracks seem particularly good at this meeting.
- Announcement of McCormack Landscape Design Cost Share Agreement, July 5, 2005 for sites in Oklahoma and Kansas by Nez Perce National Historical Trail. Since this award is for an activity the NPTF has been pursuing since 1998, and is based on planning conducted by an ex-officer of the NPTF, as a result of NPTF supported travel, it is an understatement to say that we are disappointed by this press release, which state that the NPTF supported and will take part in the project. We feel that our relationship with the NPNHT administration needs to be clarified, and we are currently working to that end. Our goal is to have the sites Certified and will work toward that goal.

Minutes of Winter Board Meeting Jim Evans, Secretary

MOTION: Minutes of the Winter Board Meeting were emailed and posted on the website for all members to review. Mike Seale motioned to approve the minutes; Ruth Wapato seconded. **Approved**

Treasurer's Report Charlie Moses, Treasurer

Charlie opened with comments re: Nez Perce people attending Green River Rendezvous and reminded us of the difficulty and involvement required at that time to travel the 1200 miles on horseback to rendezvous. This is also a very, very difficult trail to ride – very steep with downfall. He visited part of the trail to see if graves were visible. You really can't understand the trail by driving it. You have to get on it and walk or ride it

We need to have our Wallowa representatives get involved in clearing up where the trail is in that area. We need activity on the trail, expand our board members and officers involvement. As for the Treasurer's Report: we are operating off of reserves. We have reimbursement funds from the Cost Share Agreement pending.

NEZ PERCE TRAIL FOUNDATION – MARCH 1 TO JULY 31, 2005

COST SHARE AGREEMENT (6 months) #05-CS-11015600-049

Beginning Balance May 5, 2005		\$30,000.00	
	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Salary/Labor	\$13,374.00	\$8,976.00	\$4,398.00
Travel	\$8,500.00	\$6,777.87	\$1,722.13
Equipment/Rent	\$1,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$250.00
Supplies	\$3,500.00	\$2,373.59	\$1,126.41
Materials	\$1,626.00	\$500.00	\$1,126.00
Design/Fabrication	\$1,500.00	\$200.00	\$1,300.00
Totals	\$30,000.00	\$20,077.46	\$9,922.54

Secretary/Executive Director's Report Jim Evans

Operational Plan March 1, 2005 to August 31, 2005

Our general responsibility is to PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL. The U.S. Forest Service and the Nez Perce Trail Foundation share a mutual goal of promoting and protecting the Nez Perce National Historic Trail in local communities along the Trail as well as nationally. Opportunities for collaboration will focus on education, interpretation, special events, trail and heritage stewardship and preservation related to events leading to, including, and following the 1877 flight along the Nez Perce National Historic Trail.

To meet these goals the Nez Perce Trail Foundation shall:

Establish and support a functioning Foundation Office at the Sacajawea Center in Salmon Idaho.

COMPLETED

1. Provide quarterly interpretive programs at the center and elsewhere.

Program in planning with Lewis & Clark Heritage Trail Foundation for program in October

2. Provide intercultural exposure to meet objective of the Sacajawea Center. On going project.

3. Given the Foundation additional exposure through association with the Sacajawea Center. Through the Sacajawea Heritage Days program in August several thousand people will be exposed to the Foundation's

presence at the Center.

Plan, Coordinate and Conduct Annual Meeting and Educational Session.

COMPLETED

Maintain and expand membership to targeted communities through mailings and the Quarterly newsletter, 'Iskitpe

1. Develop 5 partnerships

COMPLETED. Appaloosa Horse Club, Idaho Backcountry Horsemen, Upper Lemhi Valley Chamber of Commerce, Lemhi Youth Employment Program, Sacajawea Center, City of Leadore, Idaho, Idaho Horse Council

2. Expand Membership to 150 in 6 months.

As of this date we have 90 members (4 months) 60% completed.

3. Develop advisory groups for interpretive history of route and events.

Provide broad public outreach through expansion and continued maintenance of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation

1. Complete revision of website. COMPLETED

2. Use of website to generate contributions for projects. Develop membership, provide educational, promotional material to promote the goals of the foundation, provide partnerships exposure and Trading Post material. ON GOING PROJECT

Plan, Develop and Implement Site Certification and Trail Development.

1. Continue planning and Partnership development for Certification for 1 additional site in Oklahoma. PLANNING INFORMATION CONDUCTED IN FALL OF 2004 WAS NOT COMPLETED. PROJECT WAS GIVEN TO ANOTHER PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL BY NPNHT. Budgeted amount will be available to us on other site certification as directed by Nez Perce Trail Foundation.

2. Plan, develop and implement hiking/equestrian route on 2 sections of the Nez Perce National Historical Trail. Planning and development are in the works for sections from Bitterroot Valley to the Big Hole and from Bannock Pass to Birch Creek.

3. Plan, develop and implement additional project for the preservation of the Trail. In planning stages with private individual for administration of grant to develop Educational Program for Nez Perce Youth through another Foundation. Working on developing other cost/share projects with other Federal Agencies.

- All financial accounting for the USFS has been moved to New Mexico.
- Conducted the National Trails Day event in Leadore (approx. 40 attendees).
- Attended the Government Funding Seminar in Idaho Falls Idaho
- Attended the Idaho Back Country Horsemen annual meeting in Worley, Idaho. Made a presentation and they

voted to become a partner, 850 members.

- By partnering with other similar organizations, should help our organization grow.
- The Chief Joseph Trail Ride is skipping the Clearwater Battlefield site.

Setting up the new offices at the Sacajawea Center in Salmon has gone rather slowly. But we are finally in the building that houses the Sacajawea Center's offices. We had a lot of volunteer help in building the stairs and painting the office. I'd like to thank Vetrhus Construction, Steve and Arnie, and Toni Charlesworth, who

donated most of the office furniture, Ben Baldwin, the Youth Employment Program kids and Lynda for all their help. We will be sharing the space with the Youth Employment Program.

- I am donating my travel that involves travel to events or organization that I am a member of. Also the phone service for the Foundation
- Need to come up with more in kind to match USFS funds. So please keep track and report all the time and dollars you contribute to the Foundation.
- With the upcoming Lewis & Clark, Sacajawea Heritage Days events we will get a great exposure.
- Leadore (population 90) has 3 National or Scenic Trails going by it and are interested in marking the route of the Nez Perce Trail from Bannock Pass to Birch Creek.
- We need to have an extensive campaign to get old members back in the Foundation

Thanks to Jeni for all her work in changes and improvements to our website. We will continue to expand the website for exposure and information sharing as necessary.

- There is a possibility of an Anonymous donation of \$50,000 for a Nez Perce Youth Program administered by the Foundation in partnership with others.

Received notice that we are in a will for donation of 1/4 of a sizable estate.

We are very grateful for these donations and encourage others to consider bequeaths to the foundation.

It has been a rewarding and pleasurable 4 months as Secretary and Executive Director. I have decided not to continue to act as both Secretary and Executive Director. Therefore I will not be a candidate for the Secretary's position.

Proposal of Improvements

Paul G. Wapato, President

- Re-assess strategy of foundation and come up with organizational improvements. As Charlie Moses said, we need to ride or walk the trail to understand the gravity of it. Making an effort to involve people who want to ride or walk the trail; but we also have members who aren't able to do this for reasons of age or health.
- We need to address the lack of involvement from Nez Perce People.
- There isn't time to address this in depth, but please refer to the information from Mark Smiley in your packets. In the near future, we could convene a session regarding Board Development. We need to look at the requirements and expectations of our board members. Perhaps invite people outside the organization as well as within.
- Many boards require members of the board to contribute more to the organization than just being a member. Board members could be expected to give to their cause as much as they give to any other organization except their church.

- There is some great stuff in the packets that were handed out. It is definitely worth looking at.
- Would like in early fall to have a board meeting to evaluate and discuss the duties of board members of the organization.
- A suggestion was made: if we want more participation from the tribes, we should go to their area and have meetings. President Wapato stated that at the fall board development and strategy meeting we could discuss such items as establishing chapters along the Trail which would allow us to increase involvement of members.
- It was also pointed out that there is in Idaho an organization that offers support, and training for non-profit organizations such as ours. It may be helpful to consult one of them.
- It was mentioned that we need to have more communications with our members; whether by email, letters, etc. and know more about our member's interests – possibly need to change the membership application to obtain this information.
- We need a working committee structure that would get members more involved. We need to outline our committees' needs and purposes of each. There were suggested committee structures in the last newsletter.
- Volunteers for the new board were:
 - o Jim Evans
 - o Myrna Tovey
 - o Ruth Wapato
 - o Carolynne Merrell
 - o Toni Charlesworth
 - o Gene Eastman
 - o Porter Pierce
 - o Mike Seale
 - o Dick Seymor
 - o Charlie Moses
 - Paul G. Wapato

THIS LIST WAS ACCEPTED

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mike Seale, Acting for Joe McCormick, reported that the nominating committee recommended the following individuals for the following offices.

OFFICERS

- o Paul G. Wapato, President
- o Dick Seymor, Vice President
- o Charlie Moses, Treasurer
- o Carolynne Merrell, Secretary

President Wapato called for nominations from the floor.

None were made.

MOTION Mike Seale made the motion that the slate be accepted by acclamation, Seconded by Porter Pierce

Continuation.

- Discussion was held on what direction should the Foundation be taking and it was agreed to hold a brainstorming session later on when time permits
- Jim Evans presented to President Wapato, on behalf of the Foundation membership, a painting of the meeting of Lewis and Clark with the Nez Perce in appreciation for his service to the Foundation.

There being no additional business at this time the meeting was adjourned for lunch and would continue with the Educational portion of the Annual Meeting.

Due to the absence of one of the Speakers, Frank Andrews, the continuation of the Business Meeting was continued Friday afternoon.

President Wapato called the afternoon session of the Annual Business Membership Meeting to order.

Discussion was continued on what direction did the membership want the Foundation to take.

A letter was read from Rosa Yearout stating her position on the subject.

All agreed that there were good points and that the membership needed to do an in-depth study of where and how we could best serve the needs of the Nez Perce Trail.

The Executive Director was given the task of setting up a Board Development Program as soon as possible to review our By-Laws, Strategic Plan and conduct a Board Development Program.

MOTION Dick Seymor moved and Mike Seale seconded that, The Executive Director contact past Board Directors who were not present to see if they wanted to continue to serve on the Board. They were to be informed that they must be a current member, having paid present and past due membership dues. Also that they would be willing to attend the Board Meetings. **PASSED 12 Yes 1 No**

Being no further business the annual business meeting was closed.

The Educational portion of the program was held. The group visited the Sacajawea Center and the Foundation's Office and enjoyed a BBQ. A summary of the Educational Programs will be in the next Newsletter.

SUMMARY OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

We had an outstanding group of presenters for the Annual Meeting.

First we had a warm welcome from the Mayor of Salmon, Stan Davis, not only did he give us a background on Salmon's history but he doubled as our guide for our tour of the Sacajawea Center.

Our Federal Partners made outstanding presentations, giving the Foundation a big hand in helping them support the Nez Perce Trail. The National Park Service was also our host for our visit to the Big Hole National Battlefield. Thanks to Doug and Tami for your support.

An update on the status of the Trail was given by Sandi McFarland, NPNHT administrator. This included presentation on projects in the Wisdom Ranger District from District personnel. The local BLM (Salmon) commented on the ongoing programs we are working on with them.

On the Educational Programs we were overjoyed with the programs presented, beginning with the presentation of George Hatley. Mr. Hatley one of the founders of the Chief Joseph Trail Ride, 40 years ago, made the emotional connection of the Appaloosa Horse and the Nez Perce Trail. The horse being the common thread that today brings cultures together to honor the Trail. He talked about his book (for sale on our Trading Post web site), "Riding the Nez Perce Trail Twice—1965 to 1990. The other presenter of what we called Writers on the Trail was Candy Moulton from Encampment Wyoming, who just finished her book "Chief Joseph—Guardian of the People" Candy took us through the research efforts that is entailed in writing a book.

Summary of Programs Continued

We were quite impressed with the effort and extent that she conducted her research.

The presentation by Loren Olson, Professor Emeritus of Music and Native American Studies, Washington State University was most enjoyable and interesting. Professor Olson has collected original music and songs from the Nez Perce. Having interviewed some of the original singers. He has put it together in a program called "The Nez Perce Music Archive—107 years of sound recordings. Included were original wax cylinder recordings of Chief Joseph singing. This was a rare treat for all.

Fred Snook a local attorney and historian, spoke on his family history, who settled in Lemhi county from the start of the community. He keep the audience in continuous laughter with his humor telling stories of early Lemhi County.

Terry Whittier, BLM, made the presentation at the Merriwether Theater on the life of the Corps of Discovery. Using replicas of the tools and other items used by the Lewis & Clark expedition was most interesting. It gave us an insight of the hardships experience by the Corps.

Our Key Note speaker was Gary Werner, Executive Director of the Partnership for the National Trail System, spoke after a great meal at the Shady Nook Supper Club, Gary's vast experience with all the National & Scenic Trails was shared with the group. He spoke of the great challenge facing the Nez Perce Trail Foundation in an era of diminishing federal support. Shared with us some of the things that other groups such as ours were doing. Several comparisons of how our Federal partner's ranks with other. He stressed the idea of the Nez Perce Foundation getting more involved with the Federal Partners in developing the action plans for the Trail. He was very complementary of the work that our Officers were doing in representing the Foundation in the PNTS. The ability of a small Foundation such as our to share the experience of our larger more funded partners is an asset that cannot be purchased.

He gave us several ideas on how we can grow and meet the challenge of meeting our goals toward promoting and protecting the Nez Perce Trail.

Gene Eastman, gave an outstanding overview of part of the Lolo Trail. Gene has a book out this is one of the best on Lolo Trail. He has taken several people on rides over the trail and the reports have been great. Thanks Gene for filling in for Frank Andrews who could not make the meeting.



The sites of Historical significance as outlined in the management plan for the Nez Perce National Historical Trail are:

1. WALLOWA VALLEY TO WEIPPE PRAIRIE—There are 23 historical events that took place here.
 - a. Chief Joseph Monument
 - b. Imnaha River Canyon Trail
 - c. Lone Pine Saddle
 - d. Dug Bar Crossing
 - e. Salmon River Crossing
 - f. Tepahlewam Camp
 - g. Tolo Lake
 - h. White Bird Battlefield
 - i. Lahmotta Camp
 - j. Settlers Graves
 - k. Salmon River Crossing at Horsehoe Bend
 - l. Salmon River Crossing at Billy Creek
 - m. Lt. Rain's Skirmish
 - n. Scout Foster's Grave
 - o. Cottonwood House
 - p. Cottonwood Skirmish
 - q. Clearwater Battlefield
 - r. Southern Nez Perce Tail
 - s. Looking Glass Camp and Skirmish
 - t. Misery Hill and McConville's Skirmish
 - u. Clearwater River Crossing
 - v. Original Tread
 - w. Weippe Prairie
2. WEIPPE PRAIRIE TO LOLO—4 historical sites
 - a. Musselshell Meadow
 - b. Lolo Pass
 - c. Lolo Hot Springs
 - d. Ft. Fizzle
3. LOLO TO BANNOCK PASS—10 historical sites
 - a. Ft. Owen
 - b. Ft. Corvallis (Ft. Skidaddle)
 - c. Ft. Skalkaho (Ft. Run)
 - d. Southern Nez Perce Trail
 - e. Scarred Trees
 - f. Gibbons Pass
 - g. Big Hole National Battlefield
 - h. Skinner Meadow
 - i. Montague-Winter's Ranch
 - j. Bannock Pass

Historic Sites Continued

4. BANNOCK PASS TO TARGHEE PASS 11 Historic Sites

a. Junction City b. Nez Perce Creek Rifle Pits c. Birch Creek Skirmish d. Corrine-Bannock Stage Road e. Hole—in—Rock Stage Station f. Dry Creek Stage Station g. Sam Glass Grave h. Howard's Camp Callaway i. Bugler Brooks Grave j. Camas Meadow Battle k. Targhee Pass

5. TARGHEE PASS TO CLARK FORK YELLOWSTONE 14 Historic Sites

a. Campsite b. Shively's Capture c. Radersburg Party Capture d. Cowan Shot (Radersburg Party) e. Helena Tourist Skirmish f. Captain Spurgin's "Beaver Slide" g. Radersburg Party Release h. Bart Henderson's Ranch Burned i. Dietrich Killed at Mammoth j. Baronette's Bridge Burned k. Weikert and McCartney Attacked l. Sturgis' Scouts Ambushed m. Campsite n. Dead Indian Hill

6. CLARK FORK YELLOWSTONE TO JUDITH GAP 8 Historic Sites

a. Bill Brockway Ranch b. P.W. McAdow Sawmill c. J.M.V. Cochran Ranch d. Canyon Creek Battle Site e. Crow Indian Raid f. Musselshell Crossing g. Sturgis and Howard Camps h. Judith Basin Raid

7. JUDITH GAP TO BEAR PAW 9 Historical sites

a. Reed and Bowles Stockade b. Cow Island Crossing c. Cow Island Skirmish d. Cow Creek Camp e. Ilges Skirmish f. Burning of Bull Wagon g. Bullwackers Graves h. Miles Butte Military Camp i. Bear's Paw Battlefield

There are a total of 79 Historic Sites that need to be marked. How many are marked today? Major sites such as Big Hole National Battlefield and the Nez Perce National Historical Park visitor centers provide an interpretive overview of the Nez Perce culture and their flight for freedom in 1877. To quote from the original operational plan " a moderate level of onsite interpretive displays or media presentations could be considered " It goes on to say "Emphasis will be placed on self-guiding publications (trail guides) trailhead orientation/information display exhibits, and simple, sturdy trail and interpretive devices."The Nez Perce Trail logo will provide identity to each interpretive site, as well as a route marker."

All this is presented to give all our members an idea of the magnitude of the tasks that we need to undertake as an organization. Through our partnership with the Nez Perce National Historical Trail administration—USFS, we are a nonprofit organization can bring to bear additional partnerships (funding sources) such as other Federal agency, State and government, local Development Agencies and private individuals to develop the sites and trail segments.

One of our goals is to have a defined route marked and signed with interpretive overviews. There are not too many days that go by without someone inquiring," how do I walk or ride a segment of the Nez Perce Trail." If you have an auto that is no problem. That has been done very well. But as many of you have said you cannot get the real feel of what took place or experience that personal event without being in touch with the Trail. This reflects the Nez Perce cultural relationship with Mother Earth.

There are many Trails that are adjacent to, overlap, or cross the Nez Perce National Historic Trail 1. Southern Nez Perce Trail 2. Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail 3. Lolo Trail 4. Continental Divide National Scenic Trail 5. Overland Trail 6. Bannock Trail 7. Bozeman Trail 8. Carrol Trail 9. Cow Creek Freight Road. I am sure that there might be more. We have developed a relationship with the Lewis and Clark people as an example of what can be done together to promote the Trails.

With all this in mind please send us your ideas on what we can do as an Organization to meet this necessary challenge.

SHOW ME & I FORGET, TEACH ME & I REMEMBER, INVOLVE ME & I UNDERSTAND

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



OTHER EVENTS OF 2005



Some Comments from the President

I know that many readers were not able to attend our 2005 Annual Meeting in Salmon, Idaho during the first week of August. From the accounts elsewhere in this issue, you've seen that you missed a very interesting program conducted in a really attractive locale. We hope that more of the readers of *'Iskitpe* will join at the 2006 Meeting.

Those of you who were absent at Salmon, but attended our 2004 Meeting in Wallowa or have read recent issues of *'Iskitpe* may wonder: "why this guy Wapato is still around? Didn't he announce last year that 2004-2005 was his last year as President?"

Yes, I did make that announcement, and at our Winter Board Meeting last February, we tasked the Nominating Committee to find a candidate for President to offer at the Salmon meeting. At the Winter Board Meeting, we also chose to employ Jim Evans as the first Executive Director of our organization, a very significant development in the growth of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation.

Working with Jim to implement our move to becoming a more widely-involved organization, while remaining true to our commitment to the heritage of the War of 1877, I soon saw that many of issues we encountered could not be resolved during my 2004-2005 term. This was further confounded when problems with our long-projected historic site certification program in Kansas and Oklahoma exposed some organic difficulties in our relationship with the Forest Service.

While I'm not saying our current issues can be resolved only with my help, they are so tangled that a new officer would have a real problem getting up to speed. A few weeks before the Salmon meeting, these considerations led me to inform the Nominating Committee that I'd accept their nomination for an additional one-year term.

So, there I was: after accepting the Foundation's "thanks, goodbye" gift (a very nice print of Lewis & Clark meeting the Shoshone near Salmon), I was re-elected to another term.

So, I'm still here. I hope that, by next summer, our operational issues will appear less formidable to your next President; at least, I will work toward achieving that situation. I'll make this promise: this will be my last term. And, please: no more gifts. I've already got mine!

Paul Wapato

President



LOOKING GLASS

Looking Glass a Nez Perce War chief was the son of a prominent Nez Perce chief. He was opposed going to war with the United States he never the less became a respected battlefield commander, he convinced the band to flee to Montana, despite Joseph's opposition, and then persuaded them to stop at Big Hole, where he incorrectly believed they would be free from attack. After soldiers under the command of Colonel John Gibbon surprised the Nez Perce there on August 9, inflicting heavy casualties, Looking Glass lost much of his prestige as a military leader.

Nearly two months later, when the Nez Perce were finally surrounded by Colonel Nelson S. Miles' troops in Northern Montana's Bear Paw mountains, Looking Glass remained stubbornly opposed to surrender. By this time, however, Joseph had concluded that surrender was the only viable option, and on October 5 1877 he rode out to hand over his rifle.

That same day, Looking Glass set out to join Sitting Bull's band in Canada, but before he could make it to the border, he was killed by a Cheyenne scout.

Is Your Membership Current?

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation relies on membership fees to provide many valuable services to our members. With your continued financial support, the Nez Perce Trail Foundation is able to continue serving the community as an advocate for the Nez Perce National Historical Trail. Please take a few moments to check the status of your membership. To verify your membership expiration date, please email Jim Evans at executive director@nezperctrail.net. To update your membership dues, send a check to Nez Perce Trail Foundation; 194 Highway 28 Salmon, ID 83467.

Annual Dues:

Individual: \$30 Senior \$15 Family: \$50

Non Profit/Gov/Sponsor \$100 Corporate: \$500

Check your address label for expiration date

OFFICERS NEZ PERCETRAIL FOUNDATION 2005-06

PRESIDENT: Paul Wapato , Spokane, Washington

president@nezperctrail.net

VICE-PRESIDENT: Richard Seymour Wallowa, Oregon

vicepresident@nezperctrail.net

TREASURER: Charlie Moses, Jr., Elmer City, Washington

treasurer@nezperctrail.net

SECRETARY Carolynne Merrell, Moscow, Idaho

secretary@nezperctrail.net

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Jim Evans, Salmon, Idaho

executivedirector@nezperctrail.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joseph O. McCormack, Wallowa, Oregon

Porter L. Pierce, Vancouver, Washington

Michael D. Seale, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Ruth Wapato, Spokane, Washington

Gene Eastman, Weippe, Idaho

Mollie Eastman, Weippe, Idaho

Myrna Tovey, Malad City, Idaho

Cathy Quistgard, Joseph, Oregon

Toni Charlesworth, Idaho Falls Idaho

Nez Perce Trail Foundation

194 Highway 28

Salmon Idaho 83467

WEB SITES

Nez Perce Trail

Foundation

www.nezperctrail.net

Nez Perce National

Historical Trail

www.fs.us.gov/npnht

Nez Perce National

Historical Park

www.nps.gov/ncpe

Sacajawea Center

www.sacajaweacenter.org

Nez Perce Tribe

www.nezperce.org

Wallowa Band Interpretive Center

www.wallowamezperce.com

Confederate Tribes of the Umatilla Indian reservation

www.umatilla.nsn.us

See our web site for more