

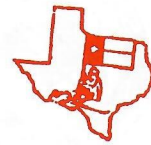


# The *Sitzmarke*

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# River Rafting

by *Lewis and Clark (alias Bill Bomberger and Sarah Granbery, the fearless trip leaders)*

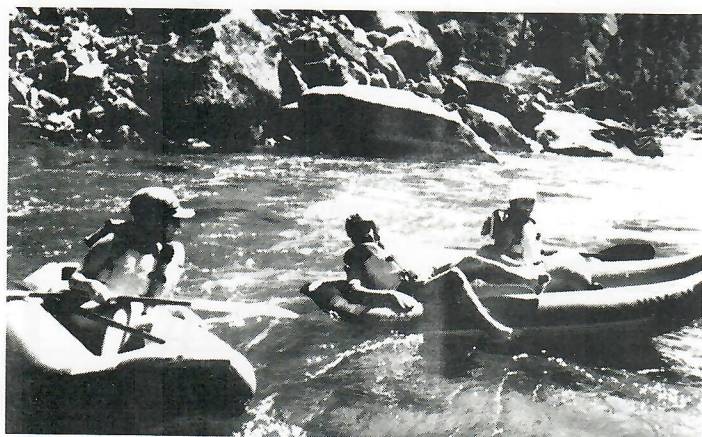
As this journey has come to an end, from the River of No Return, here is the diary that was found at the airport upon their return. Some background information for the non-history buffs in the club about this trip. Lewis and Clark were the first documented explorers to attempt to go down the Salmon River in Idaho circa 1805 in a wooden boat. Lewis and Clark hired the following guides for their journey, Toussaint Charbonneau, a French Canadian fur trapper living with the Hidatsas, is hired as an interpreter and also with his wife, Sacagawea, a Shoshone Indian. Our journey begins down river a little ways from where Lewis and Clark were unable to navigate the river due to the size and strength of the rapids and went overland to complete their journey to the Pacific Ocean.



point of civilization on the way. Had to stock up on fishing gear, licenses, and beef jerky for the duration of the trip. Picked up the rest of our guides: Jimbo, Star, Dan, and Shannon. Gained an additional participant at the river, a quiet chap named Andrew from Chicago. **Angie** and **Sarah** bestowed the dubious honor of changing his name to **Bubba** but he was not appreciative. Guide **Dan** begged for the honor and after some initiation we decided he was definitely **Bubba** material. We got our last minute instructions from these fearless river dwellers.

Guides tried to explain difference between tea parties and pee parties for the women. Our flotilla consisted of 3 oar rafts, 1 paddle raft, (3) 1 person kayaks, and 1 divorce kayak (2 person). **Susan Legg** and **Bill Bomberger** became the dynamic duo in the divorce kayak. Could not get them out of it. **Shann** was still sick. Disaster strikes, the first set of rapids we have a kayaker (**Delilah**) swimming in the 55-degree river. Rescue was successful. Early in the afternoon, bad weather strikes a hailstorm on the river. The kayak helmets were great if you had one. Put in for camp at Meadow Creek for the night. First strange occurrence of the trip happened- trip leader's pillow missing.

July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1999 - Broke camp and another strange occurrence is noticed, trip leader's sandals found under his tent, not beside the tent. Start early on the river, kayak battles beginning, not enough for everybody. **Shann** was feeling a little better. The divorce kayak occupied by **Angie Westergren** and **Sarah Granbery** for the morning. Our guides very jealous of their agility, 2 - 360 degrees rides on the wave in a hole, by all accounts should have gone swimming for this act of bravery. Discovered hot spring on side of mountain and just had to use the tub for medicinal purposes. **Glen Jennings** and **Bruce Khoury** started a sick contest of who would do the most river



July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1999 - All the preparations completed, we depart Houston for the great northwest. It is from the great concrete jungle with the big silver birds that we begin the trip. Had to stop for provisions in a place called Denver, as we became hungry from lack of food. Continued on to a smaller place called Boise, found **Janet Arentzen** and **Susan Legg** and then struggled to fit into very small white painted birds for 2 hours headed for the destination of Salmon, Idaho. Picked out a lead guide for the dangerous journey into the wilds, his name was Jon. Received our instructions on how to behave on the trip. Spent the night next to the river in a big fort called a hotel. One of our participants, **Shann Shinn** had a rough night, possible airsickness from the white painted bird ride. Put our resident Medicine Woman, **Dr. Carrie Burns** to work before we even hit the river.

July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1999 - Woke up early to catch the stage to the safe entry point on the river. Stopped at the last



swimming from a kayak. Picked camp for the night, hill climb to get to it, great views. Guides upset with group, used 6 rolls of toilet paper by day 2. Warned that the groover or the crapper could run out and we would be forced to use leaves, possibly poison ivy for the purpose. Several more strange occurrences found, pillow returned, flashlight lens covered with toothpaste, and a fart extinguisher was found in the trip leader's camp.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1999** - Day of terror is upon us according to the guides. Kayaks really start to heat up for participants. Big rapids forecasted for the day. **Gary Kuchinski** and **Delilah Hart** start out in the divorce kayak. River starts getting rough, **Susan Legg** and **Bill Bomberger** take over the divorce kayak for the fun stuff. **Angie Westergren** was put in charge of the paddleboat and was supposed to give a command over left and gave a command left over. This caused some confusion with the guide named **Bubba**, who promptly went to the left side of the boat and took **Sarah Brown** and **Sarah Granbery** into the river for a swim. **Bruce Khoury** went for a serious swim from a kayak. Lost one sandal, and a lens out of his glasses. **Carrie Burns** saved him by loaning him a pair of sandals. Lucky for him there was an extra pair. Made camp early, for a play day. Temperature on the beach at camp was 120 degrees in the sun, and 100 degrees in the shade. Hike up the hill was led by guide **Shannon**- poison ivy and a rattlesnake were found by the hikers. Had some guide games to play, king of the upside down kayak and cliff jumping. Later in the evening the guides prepared a sweat lodge for us to use after dark. Rumor has it that **Angie Westergren**, **Delilah Hart**, and guide **Star** were not fully clothed in the lodge, darkness prevented verification of this act. **Susan Legg** accused **Kandace**



**Armstrong** of an out of body experience by accusing **Susan** of snoring before she had even gone to bed. This could have been a side effect of serious consumption of river ritas during happy hour earlier in the evening. Strange occurrences for this day included a pretty good attempt at painting the trip leader's toenails while he was taking

a nap. He woke up too soon and found **Angie Westergren**, **Susan Legg**, and **Janet Arentzen** with paint in their possession saying who us? . That night **Kandace Armstrong's** pillow disappeared.



**July 24<sup>th</sup>, 1999** - Cloudy weather to start the day, by noon the weather was in the 50s and the water was feeling warm. Had to stop for all to put on most of the gear that they brought with them to stay warm. Another disaster strikes the trip, **Bruce Khoury** became ill after playing superman for the first 3 days. **Pat Khoury** was along to nurse maid him back to health. No more kayaks for **Bruce**. Good news, **Shann Shinn** got up enough courage to move to the paddleboat. Nature was disturbed by a loud noise from the kayaks, it sounded like they were trying to sing *Wild Thing*, but I am not sure. During the day, the chick paddle boat became the thing to do, it consisted of **Sarah Granbery**, **Angie Westergren**, **Janet Arentzen**, **Kandice Armstrong**, **Donna Hahus**, and **Sarah Brown**. The subject matter in the chick paddleboat is basically unprintable. Ask **Angie** about her Christmas joke sometime. **Carrie Burns** and **Glenn Jennings** tried the divorce kayak right before lunch. The kayak was promptly stuck on the rocks and they had to portage it across the rough rocks to get back in the water again. Later the dynamic duo had problems in the divorce kayak, **Bill Bomberger** dumped his partner **Susan Legg** in the river. Seems that **Susan** was too relaxed going into some rapids. Made camp at California Bar for the night. **Janet Arentzen** attacked 2 bees at the camp, not sure why yet. At happy hour, the guides started a game of twister. Guide **Star** playing in skirt without a stitch on underneath!. I am not sure what made it harder to play, too much beer or protecting her modesty. Even our guide **Bubba** (**Dan**) was wearing a skirt. Last night on the river. Lead guide, **Jon**,



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made the group earn trip t-shirts by performing around the campfire. Janet, Delilah and Gary performed some form of body contortion, while **Angie** and **Sarah G.** tattooed their bodies and did a little river flashing. Other performances were less flashy like singing *Leader of the Pack* by **Susan Legg**, **Sarah Brown**, and **Kandice Armstrong**. We had a pack of hyenas form after dark; somebody said it was **Sarah G.** and **Angie** laughing all night long. Strange occurrence for the night, the trip leader's tent was attacked by the hyenas and almost came down.

July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1999 - Broke camp for final day on the river. **Shann Shinn**, now fully recovered, gets in kayak for first time. **Pat Khoury** becomes brave and gets in the paddleboat. When the group reached the final 3 rapids, warnings were given by the guides about the dangers. **Susan** went swimming in the river after falling in the biggest hole on the river, kayak went flying without her. Following right after this, **Bill Bomberger** finally went swimming in the river, did everything wrong. The rescue teams were worried as he went crashing toward the rock wall at

a high rate of speed. **Gary Kuchinski** and **Delilah Hart** survived this rapid in the divorce kayak without any problems. Our lead guide Jon lost an oar during all of this and hoped that no one would notice. Star could not keep it quiet as she rescued the oar. Got back into some smaller stagecoaches (vans) for the return to civilization. Shopping now commenced in downtown McCall, Idaho. No more strange occurrences for the trip leader. Something is wrong.

July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1999 - Group was depressed, had to go home. Walked to small concrete jungle with little painted birds to return home. No birds in sight for group to travel on. One finally arrived and reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> bird was broken. Air taxi service scrambled to get 2<sup>nd</sup> bird from another airport an hour away. 2<sup>nd</sup> group made it to a place called Boise with just a little time to spare. **Janet Arentzen** went on home to Washington from there. On to the place called Denver for the rest of us with **Susan Legg** running off the bird to catch her next bird back to Chicago. On to the big concrete jungle called Houston to end the trip. A great time was had for all planning for another trip.