



November, 2014

Mountain Man Monthly

The Authorized Publication of the
Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders Inc.

The Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, Inc. was chartered in 1969 by a group of men and women interested in their heritage and dedicated to preserving and promoting the sport of muzzle loading and buckskinning. CSML is a family oriented club that holds a broad range of functions such as camp outs, potluck dinners, and black powder shoots. CSML is affiliated with the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the National Rifle Association.

Views and opinions contained within articles submitted to the Mountain Man Monthly are not necessarily those of the editor or CSML. The editor reserves the right not to publish any article submitted but encourages articles on any subject regarding shooting sports and subjects related to the fur trade era.

Regular Monthly Meeting

December 4

Ornament Exchange & Finger Foods

December 7 - Paper Shoot

December 21 - Primitive Shoot

NO Regular Monthly Meeting on January 1, 2015

2015 Muzzle Loader of the Year Nominations are Due

DUES ARE DUE.....

President
Joy Hicks
Vice President
Roy Crouse
Treasurer
Gwen Blanchard
Secretary
Lois Schainost
Membership Chairman
Ted Beaupre

Range Officer
Todd Schainost
Assistant Range Officer
Ted Beaupre & Marlin Johnson

Primitive Exec.
Doug Davis
Assistant Primitive Exec.
Tony Hecker
Womens' Primitive Exec.
Dee Beaupre

Cannon Master
Richard Stites

Mountain Man Monthly Editor
Doreen Webb

UPCOMING EVENTS: CSML & Statewide

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	INFORMATION
Regular Club Meeting & ornament exchange	American Legion	December 4	bring a wrapped ornament & finger foods to share
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	December 7	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	December 21	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
<i>NO CLUB MEETING</i>		January 1, 2015	<i>HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!</i>
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	January 4, 2015	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Annual Board Meeting	Joy's House	January 13	set annual calendar & stuff!!!
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	January 18	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
CSMLA Muzzle Loader	of the Year	Nominations due to	Ken Wee by January 30, 2015
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	February 1	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	February 5	white elephant gift exchange
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	February 15	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
One Day Winter Convention & Trade Blanket Event	Elks Lodge Ft. Collins	February 21 (snow date March 7)	lots of fun and food; annual meeting of State Association; election of officers
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 1	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	March 5	regular club stuff & maybe demo
<i>Daylight Savings Time</i>	<i>begins on Sunday,</i>	<i>March 8, 2015</i>	<i>clocks ahead one hour!!!!</i>
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 15	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	April 2	club business & fun
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 5	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 19	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
NO CLUB SHOOTS IN	MAY - - - PREPARE	FOR THE ANNUAL	SHOOT!!!!
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	May 7	last plans for the annual shoot
40 th Annual Memorial Day Shoot	Florence Mountain Park	May 23-25	lots of shooting, sharing, and fun for the weekend!
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	June 4	review of the big event!!!

For CSML scheduled shoots; CALL SHOOT HOT LINE (719) 632-7690 after 9:00 a.m. on shoot day to be sure shoot is on!!!
Schedule is subject to change at any time and is based on information available at time of publication. On-line check csmlinc.org

PAST THINGS

For those of you who didn't make it to the November meeting, you missed a great opportunity to see the handiwork of some of our members and also to make some early holiday present purchases. We had several tables and lots of items to choose from. It's always fun to see what craft items our group has and the talent that they display.

The business portion of the meeting began with an introduction of the guests and visitors to the meeting. This time we welcomed Bob McKuen, Tyler O'Rourke, Garry Smith, and Mark Taylor. Mark advised that Liz was unable to attend but sent us her best wishes. Welcome to all of these visitors.

We ran through the club business rather quickly. The most important part of the meeting was the decision whether or not to meet on January 1 which is New Year's Day. The consensus of the those present was to cancel this meeting. ***AS A RESULT, THERE WILL BE NO REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING IN JANUARY, 2015.*** However, there is a January 13 board meeting at Joy's house. Don't forget and mark your calendar now.

Doug Davis discussed the work party on the range on November 16th. The shooting shed has been abused and it is time to fix it. Bring your gloves and masks (due to rat droppings) and help clean up this shed. A steel replacement floor will be laid to help keep the "gerbil on steroids" from getting into the shed and making a mess. The shed will be locked and access will be severely limited to preserve the integrity of the shed. ***None of this is open for comments!***

Ted did note that the annual dues are soon coming due. Please get with him and get your renewal done now.

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Member Update.....

At the meeting we heard that Barb Johnson had been implanted with a device to help her heart to function better. Her lungs and kidneys were also working better and she should be able to return home soon.

A couple of weeks after that report, your Editor ran into Marlin and Barb and the local grocery store. Barb was looking a little tired, but given all that she has been through, it was just marvelous to see her. Her attitude is great and she is working hard to recover fully.

Barb explained that the doctors inserted a defibrilator into her chest and that helps with her heart beat. Her lungs and kidneys are working much better although she still tires easily. She has regular doctor visits to monitor her progress and she is excited to be at home.

When asked if the grandchildren were still there and spoiling him, Marlin reported that all had gone home and now once again, he is the chief cook and bottle washer at the Johnson household. The grin on his face indicated that he was glad to fill the role because Barb is at home now.

Please keep these good folks in your thoughts and prayers. We also understand that the sale of their home fell through so they are still looking to sell and move to Florida with their children. Let's all pray for a quick sale that goes through so that they can continue their journey.

Ron Melchert shared a bit of good luck that came his way. Seems as though Richard Stites does a holiday gift giving each year on behalf of an anonymous donor. This year Rich shared that gift with our friend Ron and presented him with a Walmart gift card. Richard knows how expensive it is to provide care for those in assisted medical facilities and how tight that can make one's budget. He felt that Ron was deserving of something special just for him. Ron hasn't made any decision yet on how to use the card as he is still so flabbergasted that he was the recipient. We are sure he will make a decision and use it wisely as that is the kind of guy that Ron is.

Let's all keep Ron and Juanita in our thoughts and prayers. We are all extremely lucky for having crossed in their paths and we need to do whatever we can for them. Their generosity has long supported the Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders.

CONGRATULATIONS, HURRAY, YIPPEE, WAY TO GO!!!!!! Our President Joy has been selected to head up an after school program at the

local school. Out of the blue, the school district called her and offered her the job of a lifetime. They knew what we already knew; Joy was the perfect woman for the job at hand. Her reputation had preceded her and the Good Lord knew she needed an income to survive.

The good thing is that Joy will have the same holidays as the school and still have a free summer to do the things she wants to do. This is just one of those miracles that we know do happen!!!! Way to go Joy!

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November 2 Paper

Pistol Shoot

By: Ken West

After the rifle shooters wimped out on the staple rule (if it takes more than 10 staples to keep your target from flying off the backstop, its too windy to shoot) - - they may have been afraid that the dust would blow out of their flash pans - - the pistol shooters went up to the steel range and conducted a primitive shoot. Admittedly, it took two hands to keep the pistol pointed at the vicinity of the targets, and we dropped the squirrel and prairie dog from the match as being impossible to hit in the wind, but the shooting was surprisingly good. (Fred shot the squirrel just to show that it could be done!) Ten targets were shot, the scores were:

Jim Murray	12 gongs
John Udovich	11 gongs
Fred LaChance	9 gongs
Ken West	9 gongs

As you can see, the tie-breaker was hotly contested.

The December meeting will need for you to

bring some finger foods to share. (Finger foods are defined as those foods that don't require any silverware and can be eaten with fingers.) Plates and napkins are all you will need to share in the goodies that will present themselves.

You also need to bring a wrapped ornament for the exchange. Those who bring an ornament will go home with a new ornament. We will draw numbers and then pick from the gaily wrapped boxes and bags on the table. The only requirement is that you must open the box or bag and show us what you received. This is always an interesting tradition and fun to do. Who doesn't need a new Christmas ornament for their tree??????

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CSMLA 2015 MUZZLE LOADER OF THE YEAR

Now is the time to get busy and write your letter for your candidate for the CSMLA Muzzle Loader of the Year. Look around you and pick someone that you feel is deserving and interview them and then write the best description of the reasons why you think they are the one.

Nominations do not have to be secret. The only thing you need to remember is that the judges have no knowledge of the candidates or their qualifications. That is what you provide! Your descriptions and details will be the factor that can sway the judges to vote for your candidate.

If you don't have a particular candidate in mind, ask around. There are lots of ideas on candidates that may spur you on.

Deadline for the nominations to be in the hands of the 2014 winner Ken Wee is January 30, 2015. Don't delay, mail your nomination today. Details of the criteria are available in the **Poke and Stroke** newsletter. If you don't have a copy, ask Joy or Doreen and they will get you one.

The candidate does not need to meet all the criteria but should be a well rounded individual who supports and enhances the world of muzzle loading. Someone who does their best to help promote the events and attend them, works to help introduce others to the sport, and is an all around good individual that does their part but may not stand out in

the crowd. There are several well qualified individuals all around us and it is our job to get their name in the pot. Please take some time and make a nomination.

The winner will be announced at the one-day Winter Convention and Trade Blanket event on February 21st in Ft. Collins.

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Expansion of the Fur Trade Following Lewis and Clark By: Charles E. Hanson, Jr.

In its final conception, the Lewis & Clark expedition was intended to promote the opening of American trade with the Indians of the Missouri basin. There were many other considerations, of course: delineation of the northern boundary of the Louisiana Purchase; exploration of a commercial route to the Oregon country; and the eventual occupation and settlement of the entire area from the Mississippi to the Pacific coast.

The explorers were deeply concerned with the fur trade. They repeatedly promised traders and trading posts to the various Indian tribes. They tried to promote intertribal peace, which was always a prerequisite to a strong trading business. Lastly, they presented the American image in its best form, winning a number of tribes, like the Flatheads, to permanent allegiance and discouraging others, like the Sioux, from bullying travelers on the Missouri.

The actual story of the growth of our western fur trade after the return of the expedition is necessarily abbreviated in our history books. It's really not a simple story. That trail-blazing expedition did not, in one fell swoop, open the gates and point the way for many people to try something they hadn't thought of before.

St. Louis was already a fur trade town. It had been established for that purpose and what little wealth it had came from furs. Even as late as 1805, shaved deerskins were legal tender for taxes in St. Louis during the winter months. St. Louis traders had already been doing business as far upriver as the Arikara Indians and traded regularly with the Ponca, Omaha, and Oto Indians. They knew there were vast

resources of beaver in the Yellowstone country and they knew that good trade potential existed among the Arikara, Manda, Crow, and Shoshoni.

Several things conspired to discourage grand schemes for capitalizing upon these potentials. Spanish bureaucracy had discouraged them, there was too little capital available, and there were real problems with the upriver Indians. The Blackfeet already traded with the British, the Sioux were uncooperative and the Arikara unreliable. At the time the expedition left, these old problems still existed.

By the time the explorers returned, there was already some change. American settlers were coming to Missouri in increasing numbers, the old legal barriers to trade were down and adventurous small operators were moving into the wilderness. A few days after passing the confluence of the Yellowstone and the Missouri on their way home, Lewis and Clark met two members of an unsuccessful trading party to the Mandans who persuaded John Colter (a member of the Lewis and Clark party) to accompany them on a trapping expedition back up the river.

Below the James River, they encountered Jams Aird of Prairie du Chien with two canoes of goods for the Siouz. Near the Little Sioux River they met a boat owned by Auguste Chouteau going to the Yanktons. Between the Platte and the Nemaha they met one party of traders bound for the Pawnee and one going to the Omaha. Two days later the explorers encountered a pirogue of Pawnee traders, another carrying trappers to the Omaha country, and a trading party under M'Clellen. At the Kansas River they met Ramsey Crooks with a large trading party and five boats at La Charette.

It was certainly obvious that the fur trade was on the move, in spite of the fact that the public generally assumed the Lewis and Clark expedition had been lost as no word had been received from them. This was natural; St. Louis was the one town on our western frontier at the time which had to depend upon upriver commerce for any growth. Until steamboats were developed, it could not share in the busy commerce of the Ohio and the lower Mississippi and the restless new settlers refused to idly watch the world pass them by. The return of the expedition, with its successful traverse of the continent, just fanned the flames of enthusiasm with accounts that

were clear and objective. The previous reports by traders seemed designed either to encourage future financial backing or to discourage competitive efforts. Thomas James' was in Missouri at the time and he later wrote, "...their accounts of that wild region, with those of their companions, first excited a spirit of trafficking adventure among the young men of the West." To the older and more responsible leaders of the community those accounts furnished accurate information about transportation possibilities and the Indian situation.

In 1807 Manuel Lisa led a partnership venture up the Yellowstone. George Drouillard, an erstwhile Lewis and Clark man, was his lieutenant and John Colter joined him at the Platte. Lisa returned, successful, and helped organize the St. Louis Missouri Fur Company in 1808. The partners now included Auguste and Pierre Chouteau, Andrew Henry, Meriwether Lewis's brother Reuben and William Clark himself—in fact, practically everyone in St. Louis who was somebody in the fur trade.

In the spring of 18098, the new company sent up a large and well-equipped expedition back up the Yellowstone.

The St. Louis fur trade as big business had now emerged, and it rolled on relentlessly with few setbacks, for another half century. Lewis and Clark didn't start it, but they gave it momentum, and they and some of their companions on the expedition were actual participants in the fur trade. But, let us leave that storey for a minute and catch up on some other very exciting events that followed the return of the Expedition.

By 1800 John Jacob Astor, a German immigrant, had become this country's leading fur merchant with extensive connections in Canada and Europe. He already had his eye on the faltering monopoly of British traders in the American Northwest and the purchase of Louisiana extended that horizon. Astor knew all about the lucrative fur market in China and the return of Lewis and Clark demonstrated the practicability of communicating with the Columbia River both by land and by sea. In the words of Washington Irving, "it was then that the idea presented itself to the mind of Mr. Astor, of grasping with his individual hand this great enterprise, which for years had been dubiously yet desirously contemplated by powerful associations and maternal

governments." The plan would include trading posts along the Missouri and Columbia and ship service from New York to the Columbia and on to China.

In 1808 Astor incorporated the American Fur Company and in 1810, as his plan materialized, he entered into an agreement with three Northwest Company men and Wilson Price Hunt to form "The Pacific Fur Company." In this way the high risk Columbia River enterprise was legally divorced from his other planned operations around the Great Lakes and the Mississippi valley.

The founding of Astoria and the disastrous events which lead to its eventual transfer to the British are another story. The harrowing experiences of Hunt's overland trip came about in great measure from the decision to deviate from the Lewis and Clark route in order to avoid the Blackfeet. Even though the Astoria adventure was a total failure, it did strengthen the American claims to Oregon already made by virtue of Lewis and Clark and it did instill in the American mind a feeling of ownership for that territory.

East of the mountains the American traders suffered years of reverses at the hands of the Blackfeet and the Arikara. Eventually, however, British competition among the Arikara, Manda, Gros Ventres, and Blackfeet was practically eliminated as far as the traders were concerned. Until the last, the Blackfeet remained the implacable enemies of trappers whether they were American or English.

Washington Irving's statement in *Astoria* that Blackfeet enmity toward Americans was due to the killing of a Blackfeet warrior by Captain Lewis seems to be totally unwarranted. When the expedition reached the upper Missouri it found British traders well-entrenched among the Mandans and the Blackfeet. The latter tribe, particularly, seemed to feel that traders from another country would be detrimental to their interests and helpful to tribal enemies like the Crow, Shoshoni, and Flathead. When Lewis' party encountered the Blackfeet they obviously tried to harm the Americans at the first opportunity and Lewis acted with adequate justification. An event of this small magnitude would certainly have been overlooked if the Blackfeet had felt it was in their best interest to do so.

Major Thomas Biddle wrote Colonel Henry

Atkinson in 1819 that the Blackfeet did not consider Lewis's action any cause for war and that they first met Lisa's men on a civil footing. Biddle said they later became enemies of Lisa's men because John Colter fought against them while he was traveling with a band of Crows, who were their hereditary enemies. In his book *The Men of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*, Charles Clarke says that the Blackfeet later told Lisa that they felt Lewis's actions in stopping the raiders was justified. Newspapers of the time blamed Blackfeet hostility on the activities of British traders.

Soon after the expedition returned, the Arikara savagely turned upon the Americans even though they had been cordial to Lewis and Clark. This change of face was occasioned by war between the Mandan and Arikara and the desire of the latter to stop all trade with their enemies. It is evident that the Captains were not any more able to overcome selfish tribal interests among the Arikara than among the Blackfeet. All in all, however, Lewis and Clark's diplomatic record was outstanding.

After the expeditions's return, the explorers continued to influence the western fur trade. The untimely death of Lewis, during his governorship of the territory, ended his influence, but William Clark became a legend. Jefferson appointed him the Indian agent for the new territory and he continued to strive for a secure future for the tribes. He as in frequent demand as a participant in Indian councils, and Indian visitors to St. Louis usually made a point of seeing General Clark. He believed in strong organizations to keep the fur trade in American hands and some of his own private business interests were in the fur trade. When the Missouri Fur Company was reorganized in 1812, Clark became its president, a tribute to his knowledge and prestige.

In spite of this, he believed in the Indian Factory System run by the federal government which had been supported by Washington and Jefferson. He was convinced that the fur trade should be orderly, well-organized and centralized so that it could be managed in the national interest. When the Fort Osage factory was built, in present Missouri, Clark brought mounted militia men to protect the workers and held councils with the Osage and Kansa Indians, despite the fact that he was ill most of the time.

Along with the fur trading merchants of

Missouri, Clark supported the Bank of Missouri as essential to commerce, even though this position became very detrimental to his political ambitions. In 1822 he was made Superintendent of Indian Affairs in St. Louis and many of his legislative proposals for Indians were incorporated in the 1834 Indian Trade and Intercourse Act of the Indian Reorganization Act. William Clark died in 1838, but the Indians revered and remembered him for many years afterwards.

During his trip up the Platte in 1841, Rufus Sage quoted the Sioux Chief, Brave Bear, as saying that General Clark had told them that the country, and everything in it, belongs to the Indians. On the same occasion the aged Bull Tail spoke for peace between the races and said proudly that he had shaken hands with William Clark. In 1857 explorer Lt. G. K. Warren met an Indian who proudly displayed a medal given to his father by Lewis and Clark. All these men came from a tribe that the explorers had severely scolded in a council during the return trip to St. Louis in 1806.

In summary, the Lewis and Clark expedition did not make the western fur trade begin. Instead, the expedition accelerated its development and did all that was humanly possible to prepare the Indians for it. The successful completion of the exploration lent substance to subsequent American claims to the Oregon country and it promoted a national awakening of the vast potential open to the new nation in both the Louisiana Territory and the Pacific Northwest.

One of the immediate effects was the development of large fur-trading enterprises capable of wresting the trade from foreign interests and holding the territory involved. Another was the appearance of the American folklore hero - - the mountain man - - on the upper river and in the mountains.

All through our history the fur trade was the determining factor in making our frontiers economically supportable. The Lewis and Clark Expedition encouraged the merchants of St. Louis to unite in a major effort on the Missouri and it inspired plans on a grand scale by men like John Jacob Astor. These far-reaching influences on the growth of the western fur trade significantly affected the course of events in the West and Northwest for at least 50 years after the return of the expedition.

In Canada the British had relied upon private initiative for the exploration of routes to the West Coast. This young nation won the race to open a settlement on the Pacific because it had sent an efficient military force commanded by Lewis and Clark which found the way, and then encouraged private business to rise up and follow.

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SPIRITS: Fur Trade Cocktails

“Bumbo” was the name given a mixture of rum, water, sugar, and nutmeg that was century Hudson Bay Company posts.

Eggnog cocktails were served to the mountain men visiting Santa Fe during the days of the Mexican Republic. They could have been made either from New Mexican brandy, called Pass whiskey, or the whiskey distilled from wheat that was made by emigrant Americans.

Punch, the name originating from the Hindi word for five, referring to a total of five ingredients, was popularly served to officers at trading posts. Prince Maximilian mentions James Hamilton providing it at Fort Union: “We, therefore, enjoyed the evening with Mr. Hamilton, by the fireside, over a glass of punch, which beverage was our daily refreshment during our four week’s stay at Fort Union.”

Peach brandy was sometimes mixed with honey to make an even sweeter drink, and in western Pennsylvania, cider brandy (apple brandy or apple jack, as it was known in New Jersey where much of it was made) was mixed with whiskey to make a libation known as Half & Half.

Sir William Drummond Stewart describes mint juleps at the rendezvous; they contained whiskey, water, sugar, and mint. In 1839 Captain Marryat wrote that the julep was correctly made from a dozen sprigs of mint, a spoonful of white sugar, and two equal parts of peach and grape brandies.

Hailstorms were a libation mentioned that same year by William Augustus Murray, popular in the South and West and described by him as containing madeira or claret, French brandy, lime or lemon, ice, sugar, and fresh mint.

Athol brose, mentioned in North West Company records, is made from oatmeal, water, honey, and Scotch whisky. According to legend, the drink is named for the “Earl of Atholl, who quashed a Highland rebellion in 1475 by filling the rebel leader’s well with the mixture, which intoxicated him, making him easily captured. The recipe for Athol brose follows: stir cold water into oatmeal and mix to a paste. St aside for an hour and then strain through a sieve, pressing out as much liquid as possible. Discard the oatmeal. Blend honey into the oatmeal liquid, put it in a quart jar, and fill with Scotch whisky. Shake before using.”

Bitters was a polite excuse to drink for health reasons; it contained high levels of alcohol with a variety of natural flavorings and extracts, but was sold as a non-taxed medicine; it was killed by the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906 and the 1919 Volstead Act.

Shrub is a West Indian drink, made from lime or lemon juice, fruit rinds, sugar, water, and spirits. Rum is most often used. Here are three early nineteenth century recipes for shrub: “To 70 parts rum, brandy, or whiskey, add seven parts each lemon juice and orange juice. Add one part each orange and lemon peel, then add 100 parts sugar dissolved in 130 parts water. Let it stand until fine.” And, “shrub, a compound liquor, is made of ardent spirits, orange juice, and sugar . . . one pint of the best coniac brandy requires to be diluted with the expressed and filtered juice of four or six China oranges, and half a pound of refined sugar . . . [A third recipe is to] take of fourth proof rum, three gallons, ad thereto the outer rinds of six Seville or sour oranges, and six of lemons, and let those infuse for one or two days, then add three gallons of water, five pounds of sugar, and of sweet orange juice, three quarts; when well mixed and settled, fine with a gill or half-pint of milk, and rack off for use.” In 1822 St. Louis ordered from Astor quarter casks of Shrub.

Beer and Wine: “Pretty Bottled Porter, Indeed!”

Porter, also called stout or brown stout, is a

fermented beverage made of malted barley or other grain, yeast, hops, and water. Stout originally referred to a heavier variety of porter, extensively brewed in London and Dublin, but by 1900 all porters were referred to as stout. Porter originated in London in 1722. Taverns mixed two or three beverages: beer, ale, and "two-penny," but porter combined the taste of all three, and so was called "entire". Because laborers and porters drank it, it became known as porter. Stout was a name to indicate it was a desirable malt beverage for invalids and convalescents.

Porter's slightly burnt, bitter taste and dark brown color are due to its being brewed from high-dried malt, or from roasted malt if the color pale or amber is desired. The heavier stouts are vatted or stored until mature, up to a year and more, while light or draught Porter is aged for only six to eight weeks. In 1845 it generally contained only 4 percent alcohol.

Porter differs from beer in that the malt from which it is brewed is highly dried. Willich offered an 1804 recipe that included malt, licorice root, treacle, hops, ginger and capsicum, along with other additives. It had laxative properties and, if bottled, it acquired "a high flavor, and is much esteemed, especially, after having made a sea-voyage. A similar effect will result from sending such liquor to a considerable distance by land carriage."

Between 1768 and 1774, Phyn & Ellice shipped three tierces of porter to Illinois. In Michigan, fur trader John Long told of hiring two soldiers to roll a hogshead of bottled porter from his post to the fort. Long had removed the beer and had hidden two Indian girls inside in order to smuggle them into the garrison. However, the hogshead escaped the men rolling it; it hit a tree and the head flew off, exposing the females. The commanding officer smiled and remarked, "Pretty bottled porter, indeed!" The girls ran away in confusion.

Tobacco: Cigars

Cigars were introduced to the British during the French and Indian War when its troops captured Cuba. Many officers maintained the cigar smoking habit. Cabanas, a Havana brand dating to 1795, was a popular American import. Cigar-making received an impetus during the Peninsular campaigns of the

Napoleonic Wars when British soldiers adopted the cigarros of the Spanish populace.

American colonial troops had also served in Cuba, and cigar smoking proved to be a convenient way to use tobacco. Thomas Woods noted in backwoods Indiana: "We saw some children setting off to school; one boy came to the cabin to light his segar, that he might take a whiff going along to school. The men smoke segars, and many of the women (at least the married ones) pipes; we frequently saw women nursing their children with pipes in their mouths.

American cigars were first packed in barrels of several thousand. Early cigar boxes were made of cedar and branded or "top marked" with a Spanish name. In the 1830s segars became cigars in America.

Among the varieties developed were the thin, pencil-diameter "short sixes," also called "twofers" because they were priced at two for a penny. Long nines were simply a longer version of the same thing. Cheroots were the cheapest cigar, cut square at both ends. "Supers" were like modern cigars, but given a twist at each end to keep the wrapper leaves from unrolling rather than gluing them. "The cigar proper - - contrasted with cheroot, toby, or ... tobacco stick - - has an outer wrapper, an inner binder, and a filler blended from two or more types of leaf." Coronas are straight cigars 5-1/2 inches long. Half Coronas are 3-1/2 inches in length, and Double Coronas, 7-1/2 inches. Wrapper leaf color extends from Claro, the lightest, through Colorado, medium, to Maduro, the darkest. Various Havana qualities included flor (the best), followed by bueno and superior. Types included concha (short and thick); Espanado (tied with red and yellow ribbons; partagos (long); and regalos, large and finely made, and highly prized. A professional Cuban cigar roller could produce from 200 to 400 cigars per day.

Havana cigars, first brought from Cuba by Massachusetts general Israel Putnam in 1762, were imported at 100 million a year in 1849, along with Havana tobacco for domestic cigar manufacture. By 1844 American-made cigars with Havana filler were being made in Baltimore. They sold for \$16 a thousand, as opposed to \$3 a thousand for those with domestic filler. Cigar makers in the US called their product made entirely from Cuban tobacco "Clear

Spanish,” and with Cuban filler only, “half Spanish.” Cigar wrapper leaves were colored with a stain derived from walnut hulls soaked in alcohol. Cigar filler was placed in molds for seven or eight hours, then wrapped in a wrapper as a finish.

The popularity of Mexican or Spanish cigars soared among Americans during the Mexican War, followed by the impetus of the California gold rush. Cigar smoking escalated dramatically until the twentieth century.

Shoestring tobacco, raised in Pennsylvania, was flavored and made into cigars called stogies, named for the Conestoga freight wagon. A stogie has one tapered end, intended for insertion in the mouth. As cigar making in New England took hold after the Revolution, broad-leaved “Sweet Scented” Maryland tobacco was developed as Connecticut seed-leaf to use as wrappers. It replaced the old Shoestring variety except in the cheaper products.

In 1822 the Western Department of the American Fur Company ordered two “Half boxes” of Spanish segars at \$19, packed in a trunk and then wrapped with matting for \$3 more. Minnesota trader Joseph Rolette ordered a thousand Spanish cigars from the American Fur Company’s Western Department in 1827. The cost was \$11.25.

Maximilian noted that “the tobacco which Fur Company sells to them, to mix with their leaves or bark, is strong, dark, clammy, and black, and is in twists, six or eight inches long . . . The Tobacco of the Whites, unmixed, is too strong for the Indians, because they draw the smoke into their lungs; hence they do not willingly smoke cigars.” However, the Sauk Indians had willingly accepted Maximilian’s gift of cigars to secure their friendship the previous year.

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Some Fur Trade Measurement Terms

MACCARON: The term macarron is a deviant spelling of caccaron and derives from the French for a small cake or biscuit. Its meaning is a mixture or medley. In fur trade usage it indicated similar sized containers (usually small) of rum, brandy, molasses,

fruit, vinegar, etc., laced together in groups, usually of four, to facilitate their being portaged or intended for a single delivery. “The chief factor’s portion was one maccaron of biscuit, tea, chocolate, salted tongues, butter, and flour. The clerks got half a maccaron, and each might take what he preferred of the four beverages.”

BRASSE: The method of selling or giving it is described in a narrative of Pierre de Boucwherville where he tells of giving a “brasse” of tobacco to a Kickapoo chief in 1728. A length of rope tobacco was measured and cut off the roll. A brasse was about 5.34 English feet but in practice traders simply measured it off between the hands with arms outstretched to either side.

MADE BEAVER: Originally the value of a beaver skin, used to reckon all other fur prices as equivalents, and the prices for goods offered in exchange. As the price of beaver fluctuated from time to time and place to place, the made beaver became an arbitrary accounting tool for reckoning values. Usually it represented about fifty cents. Thus a beaver skin might be worth 20 made beaver (\$10) or even more on the books.

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We are always looking for articles to publish in the newsletter. Trips you have taken, a recipe you want to share, hunting stories, even a book report on something you have read are greatly appreciated. The deadline for each newsletter is the Thursday following the primitive shoot.

Take some time to submit some things of interest for the newsletter. We will take it in any format up to and including hand-written! If you send it via e-mail, please make the document an attachment and Word or Word Perfect is best. If you don’t have that, then save it as an adobe file so that I can open and read it.

I look forward to hearing from you members out there. I’m sure you all have something to contribute and it will certainly be more appreciated than you will ever know!