

Nifty Tidbits: by Chuck Rigby

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On Dec. 16, 1805 Captain William Clark records in his journal, "The winds violent. Trees falling in every direction, whorl winds, with gusts of rain Hail and

Thunder, this kind of weather lasted all day. Certainly one of the worst days that ever was!"

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was in the process of building Ft. Clatsop near today's Astoria, Oregon. They moved into the fort on Dec. 24"; by Dec. 30" the fort was considered complete. It remained their home until Mar. 23, 1806 when they gave it to the Clatsop Native Americans, packed up and headed east back to St. Louis. The men had been damp

and cold and sick and miserable all winter. They were anxious to leave Oregon, return to civilization and go home.

William Clark spent most of the winter organizing hunting parties for food and setting up the salt production process on the coast. Meriwether Lewis spent most of the winter writing detailed descriptions of the plants, animals and Native American activities that they had seen. The scientific part of the trip was very important to Lewis. He had been well trained in Philadelphia by scientists and Thomas Jefferson was depending on him to do his job well. These descriptions are very helpful to modern scientists who are trying to understand the Lewis and Clark discoveries and what the area was like then.

One animal Lewis described

that winter was the Western Gray Squirrel. We see them often in our woods or trying to cross the highway. The scientific name is Sciurus griseus. Sciurus is Latin for squirrel, griseus is Latin for gray, so the name means gray squirrel.

The specimens, both plant and animal, can be grouped into four categories: 1.

Those collected from May 1804 to Dec 1804. The winter of 1804-1805 was spent at Ft. Mandan in North Dakota. In the spring a boat was returned to St. Louis with living and dried samples that had been collected. 2. Those collected from April 7, 1805 to June 15, 1805. These were cached at the base of the Great Falls of the Missouri before the portage around the falls and were all destroyed by flooding and decay. 3.

Those collected from July 15, 1805 to Dec 24, 1805. Because of difficulties in traveling and trying to survive, very little was collected. They were also in a hurry to get to the coast as soon as possible. Most of these specimens did not survive the damp winter at Ft. Clatsop due to mice and mold. 4. Those collected from Mar 23, 1806 to Sept 23, 1806. This was a very productive collecting time. The spring flowers were out and the expedition obtained horses and boats for transportation. More than 2/3 of the total specimens were collected during this time period.

In previous tidbits it has been mentioned that many of these plants were taken to England by Frederick Pursh. Bourke Lambert obtained them when Pursh left for Canada and kept them in his collection until his death

in 1842. Attending the auction after Lambert's death was Edward Tuckerman. He was a wealthy Harvard botany graduate and recognized the value of the collection. He purchased the plants and in 1856 presented them to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. This is not the end of the story. The collection was not well protected or organized and some were lost in an unused storage area until rediscovered during a remodeling time for the building. It wasn't until 1966 that a real attempt was made to locate all the Lewis and Clark plants and bring them together in one place. There are now 178 known plants of which 140 came from west of the Continental Divide. 117 are located today in the Lewis and Clark Herbarium at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

Building a digital defense against tech support fraud

Welcome to the Oregon FBI's Tech Tuesday segment. This week: building a digital defense against tech support fraud.

You just received some really cool new gadget under the tree that is supposed to make your life easier – but you can't even begin to make sense of the instructions, if the device even had such a thing. It's enough to take the joy out of what's left of your holiday season.

The fact of the matter is

that many of us need help... if not now, then down the road. Here are two scenarios that you need to watch out for. In the first scam, you do an internet search for help with your device. You see posts or even paid ads that look legit... but aren't.

In the second scenario, the scam starts with the fraudster contacting you first. You get a message – via email, text, social media post or even a pop up on your screen – from someone pretending to represent a

well-known, reputable tech company. He tells you that some bad actor has already hacked your device, and you need help immediately to deal with some devastating malware that is about to destroy it.

Here's how to protect yourself:

- If you get a call from someone you don't know who says that you have a problem with your computer, hang up. It's a scam.
- If you get a pop-up message on your screen saying

that you have a security issue and need to call a specific number or click on a link for help, ignore it.

• If you have what you think is a problem, try shutting down and restarting first. Sometimes that resolves the problem.

- Make sure all anti-virus and malware software is up-to-date. Set your system to update automatically, and, when in doubt, run a scan yourself to see if there is an infection.

• If you do need tech support, go to a company that you know and trust. You should make the initial contact, preferably in person or by phone, using publicly-available contact information.

- Back up your files and important documents. No system is going to be completely secure. Copy all of your files to an external hard drive or cloud storage. If your computer breaks or is hacked, you will still have access to your files.

Finally, remember that the legitimate tech companies will neither contact you unsolicited to ask for access to your computer nor will they ask for account passwords.

If you have been victimized by a cyber fraud, be sure to file a report at the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov or call your FBI local office.

Today in History: by The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 13, the 13th day of 2021. There are 352 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 13, 1982, an Air Florida 737 crashed into Washington, D.C.'s 14th Street Bridge and fell into the Potomac River while trying to take off during a snowstorm, killing a total of 78 people, including four motorists on the bridge; four passengers and a flight attendant survived.

On this date:

In 1733, James Oglethorpe and some 120 English colonists arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, while en route to settle in present-day Georgia.

In 1794, President George Washington approved a measure adding two stars and two stripes to the American flag, following the admission of Vermont and Kentucky to the Union. (The number of stripes was later reduced to the original 13.)

In 1898, Emile Zola's famous defense of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, "J'accuse," (zhah-KOOZ') was published in Paris.

In 1941, a new law

went into effect granting Puerto Ricans U.S. birthright citizenship. Novelist and poet James Joyce died in Zurich, Switzerland, less than a month before his 59th birthday.

In 1964, Roman Catholic Bishop Karol Wojtyla (voy-TEE'-wah) (the future Pope John Paul II) was appointed Archbishop of Krakow, Poland, by Pope Paul VI.

In 1967, the Rolling Stones' double-A sided single "Let's Spend the Night Together" and "Ruby Tuesday" was released in the United Kingdom by Decca Records. (It was released the following day in the United States on the London label.)

In 1992, Japan apologized for forcing tens of thousands of Korean women to serve as sex slaves for its soldiers during World War II, citing newly uncovered documents that showed the Japanese army had had a role in abducting the so-called "comfort women."

In 2001, an earthquake estimated by the U.S. Geological Survey at magnitude 7.7 struck El Salvador; more than 840 people were killed.

In 2005, Major League Baseball adopted a tougher

steroid-testing program that would suspend first-time offenders for 10 days and randomly test players year-round.

In 2010, Haitians piled bodies along the devastated streets of their capital a day after a powerful earthquake, while in Washington, President Barack Obama pledged an all-out rescue and relief effort. R&B singer Teddy Pendergrass died in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, at age 59.

In 2012, the Italian luxury liner Costa Concordia ran aground off the Tuscan island of Giglio and flipped onto its side; 32 people were killed.

In 2018, a false alarm that warned of a ballistic missile headed for Hawaii sent the islands into a panic, with people abandoning cars on a highway and preparing to flee their homes; officials apologized and said the alert was sent when someone hit the wrong button during a shift change.

Ten years ago: Vice President Joe Biden became the first top U.S. official to visit Iraq since the country approved a new Cabinet; Biden emphasized to Iraqi

leaders that the U.S. wanted nothing more than for Iraq to be free and democratic. A funeral was held in Tucson, Arizona, for 9-year-old Christina Taylor Green, the youngest victim of a mass shooting that also claimed five other lives and critically wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

Five years ago: Less than a day after 10 U.S. Navy sailors were detained in Iran when their boats drifted into Iranian waters, they and their vessels were back safely with the American fleet. Defense Secretary Ash Carter laid out broad plans to defeat Islamic State militants and retake the group's key power centers in Iraq and Syria. The Al Jazeera America cable news network said it was shutting down two and a half years after its launch. Three winning tickets split a world-record \$1.6 billion Powerball jackpot.

One year ago: Anger swelled in Iran over the accidental shutdown of a Ukrainian jetliner and the government's effort to conceal its role; videos appeared to

show security forces firing live ammunition and tear gas to disperse protests. New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker dropped out of the Democratic presidential race after failing to qualify for a December debate. At a royal family summit in eastern England, Queen Elizabeth II brokered a deal to secure the future of the monarchy; it would allow Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, to live part-time in Canada. The Houston Astros fired manager AJ Hinch and general manager Jeff Luhnow after the pair had been suspended by Major League Baseball for a sign-stealing scheme. "Joker" led the way with 11 Oscar nominations. Joe Burrow threw five

touchdown passes and ran for another score, leading top-ranked LSU to a 42-25 win over No. 3 Clemson to capture the national championship.

Today's Birthdays:

Actor Frances Sternhagen is 91. TV personality Nick Clooney is 87. Comedian Charlie Brill is 83. Actor Billy Gray is 83. Actor Richard Moll is 78. Rock musician Trevor Rabin is 67. Rhythm-and-blues musician Fred White is 66. Rock musician James Lomenzo (Megadeth) is 62. Actor Kevin Anderson is 61. Actor Julia Louis-Dreyfus is 60. Rock singer Graham "Suggs" McPherson (Madness) is 60. Country singer Trace Adkins is 59.



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This month's Preparedness Calendar: What YOU can do to be ready for the next disaster!

(Each month this year we'll publish more items to add to your kit, so that at the end of the year you'll have a robust survival kit)

January 2021: Obtain these supplies to begin building your Disaster Survival Kit:

- a container for your disaster supplies
- (large plastic tote with lid, for instance)
- a pair of heavy duty work gloves
- a roll of heavy duty aluminum foil
- a roll of plastic wrap (i.e. Saran Wrap)
- a container of unscented plain liquid bleach, unopened
- a container of liquid dish soap
- a hand operated can opener and a bottle opener
- a gallon of water for each member of the family
- pet food and water



January 2021 Survival Preparation Activities:

Inventory what disaster supplies you already have on hand. Do you have camping gear? Any items useful for survival that you already have, add to your kit. Identify safe places to go in the event of fire, earthquake or other local disaster. Find them on a map, and plot at least two routes, if possible, to take to get there.

Conduct a "Home Hazard" hunt: info on pages 4 and 5 of Josephine County Emergency Services "Preparedness Handbook" found at <http://www.co.josephine.or.us/Files/Josephine%20County%20Preparedness%20Handbook.pdf>



This information sponsored by IV Fire Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the I.V. News

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