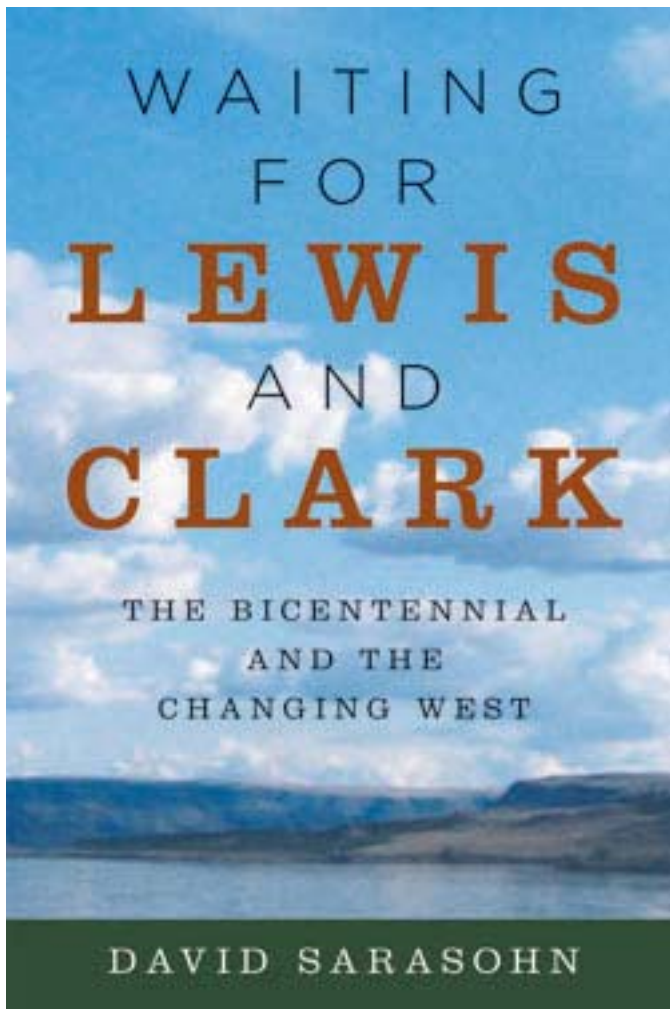


# W I L D H O R S E R E S O R T     C A S I N O

Contact: Charles Denight  
Phone: 541-966-1973  
Email: [charles@wildhorsesort.com](mailto:charles@wildhorsesort.com)

For Immediate Release

**Lewis & Clark book author  
to appear at Tamástslíkt,  
home to one of his subjects**



This photo is available. Please email [charles.denight@wildhorsesort.com](mailto:charles.denight@wildhorsesort.com)

Pendleton, OR -- One of the earliest discussions in the planning for the current Lewis & Clark bicentennial was about what to call it. Indian Tribes didn't want to celebrate it, since the expedition led by the two explorers was the first of many incursions that eventually devastated their Tribes. In the initial discussions, more than five years before the four-year event began in 2003, people began to agree on "commemoration".

David Sarasohn, an editorial writer for *The Oregonian*, has written a book, *Waiting for Lewis and Clark*, about the planning for the bicentennial commemoration and he will sign it and discuss his observations at the Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute from 2-3 p.m., Sat., Oct. 22. The event is one of many to take place Oct. 21-24 as Tamástslíkt hosts the Corps of Expedition II, a National Park Service exhibit with a variety of performances, presentations and exhibits related to the commemoration.

Across thousands of miles, Indian Tribes, environmental activists, tourism promoters and keelboat re-enactors have seen the Lewis & Clark bicentennial as a rare opportunity to convey their message or make a dollar. Sarasohn has participated in the planning for the event and his book follows the clash of ideas and values when Tribal members, politicians, chamber boosters and MBAs set about planning an event. The book is crisply written and funny in some places as Sarasohn roams from Washington DC, through small towns and across reservations.

Sarasohn's book includes profiles on key players in the planning, including Tamástslíkt's Director, Bobbie Conner. Sarasohn describes Conner as "a blunt-cut woman with explosively curling black hair" who "offers an unblinkingly clear-eyed view of any situation." She was an early planning participant and became the vice-president of the National Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission, the officially designated planning body, as well as the chairman of COTA, the Circle of Tribal Advisors, who provide guidance to the Commission.

Sarasohn offers insightful observations. Regarding the Missouri River, the nation's longest and strongest, which carried the Lewis & Clark Expedition over thousands of miles of their mostly watery journey, he notes, "If the United States had been settled eastward from the Pacific, we might think a massive Missouri flowed from the Rockies to the Gulf of Mexico, with a pleasant tributary called the Mississippi joining it from the north."

Sarasohn has a Ph.D. in American History from UCLA and in 2002 was awarded the Eugene C. Pulliam Editorial Fellowship to study the Lewis and Clark bicentennial.

Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute is located at Wildhorse Resort & Casino, 10 minutes east of Pendleton. From Interstate 84 take exit 216 and follow the signs five minutes to Wildhorse Resort and the Institute. Coming from the north, take the Mission exit from Highway 11 just northeast of Pendleton and follow the signs for about ten minutes to the Wildhorse Resort and the Institute. Tamástslíkt is open 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition to exhibits telling the story of the three Tribes' history and culture, there is also a Museum Store and the Kinship Café.

For more information: 541-966-9748 or [www.tamastslikt.com](http://www.tamastslikt.com). Direct dial the museum store at tollfree 1-866-282-2022. Tamástslíkt is owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.