

George Drouillard Chapter History

The George Drouillard Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation is one of the youngest chapters in the organization, being first organized **after** the bicentennial celebration. Jane Randol Jackson, the chapter's first president and founder, had been instrumental in the planning and construction of the Red House in Cape Girardeau for the local bicentennial celebration. Afterwards, Mrs. Jackson sincerely felt that a chapter was needed in the area to continue the momentum of historical interest in the Lewis and Clark story.

Thus, on October 17, 2004, a small group gathered at the Red House to establish the George Drouillard chapter. The national organization issued the chapter's charter on January 27, 2005, and the chapter began a regular schedule of at least four meetings per year, beginning with a March, 2005 meeting.

Since that time, meetings have been held in a number of area sites, because the territory for this chapter is rather widespread. Holding chapter meetings in different locations in Missouri, Kentucky, and Illinois allows members to learn about a variety of important sites from the trail. The mission of this chapter is to bring together those with an interest in Lewis & Clark in the areas of southeast Missouri, southern Illinois, and western Kentucky, to share fellowship and scholarship. The regular membership roster currently lists approximately thirty members.