

Mouth of the Platte Lewis & Clark Stewardship Award Patch Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.

"The mission of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation is: As keepers of the Story - Stewards of the Trail, The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) provides national leadership in maintaining the integrity of the Trail and its story through stewardship, scholarship, education, partnership and cultural inclusiveness."

The Mouth of the Platte LCTHF Chapter undertakes this mission in the greater metropolitan area of Omaha, Nebraska and Council Bluffs, Iowa and also with our partners along the middle section of the Missouri River as it borders the states of Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota.

On August 6, 2007 a Memorandum of Understanding between the Boy Scouts of America and the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation was signed. On August 1, 2011 another Memorandum of Understanding was signed with American Heritage Girls and LCTHF. The purpose of these MOUs was to establish a general framework for cooperation between the LCTHF, Boy Scouts of America and American Heritage Girls. Through these MOUs the Foundation, BSA and AHG will collaborate on projects and programs that interpret the stories of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and provide stewardship of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. (Copies of the Memorandum of Understanding are attached) We also offer our stewardship award patch to 4 - H, Campfire USA and Completely Kids using the same criteria as BSA and AHG for completing projects to earning our patch.

The Lewis and Clark Trail also includes an auto route with distinctive road signs that follows the water route, mostly along the Missouri River taken by the expedition. The Mouth of the Platte Chapter wishes to encourage Boy Scouts, AHG, Campfire USA, 4-H and Completely Kids to learn more about the Lewis and Clark Expedition in this area by offering an embroidered patch. This patch can be earned by all levels of Boy Scouts, AHG, Campfire USA, 4-H and Completely Kids. Requirements to earn this patch should be completed with certification by each Troop leader. An application form is attached. We also welcome schools and other youth organizations that may wish to host organized efforts to pursue these requirements. Local troop leaders should act as counselors and sign off that each participant has completed the requirements and kept his/her journal.

Requirements

Requirement #1 and 2 are required of all applicants. All other requirements are optional, but at least two additional requirements must be completed for a total of four to earn the patch.

1. (Required) Visit in person (or virtually – see links below) the site of the First Tribal Council Sculpture at Fort Atkinson State Historical Park near Ft. Calhoun, NE. Keep a journal in which you note the date you visited the site, the date that Lewis & Clark met with the Otoe & Missouri Tribes, what you did while at the sites, and what you learned while there. Note the significance of the event commemorated by this site, and the significance of the “Council Bluff” in the history of this area. Links to site:

☞ http://www.ngpc.state.ne.us/parks/guides/parksearch/showpark.asp?Area_No=73

☞ <http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/parks/guides/parksearch/pdfs/Brochure73.pdf>

2. (Required) Read portions of the Lewis and Clark Journals referring to the First Tribal Council that occurred near the Ft. Atkinson State Historical Park, and the journal entries of the days leading up to and after August 3, 1804. Search in your local library for a source – the best source would be: *The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*. Volume 2 of the Nebraska Edition: *From the Ohio to the Vermillion*. University of Nebraska Press (2005). Or go online at:

<http://lewisandclarkjournals.unl.edu/namesindex/index.php?name=C>

...and scroll down to “Council Bluff (Nebr.)” and follow the links that appear when you click on that term. Summarize what you learn in a 1 page, double-spaced essay.

3. Plan and take a ten mile hike, or a twenty mile bicycle trip along some segment of the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail. Record in your journal the location and condition of any wayside exhibits or interpretive panels. Record in your journal if you had to pick up trash or clean the exhibits, as well as any other observations, such as any repairs that might be needed.

4. Visit all ten public art icons along the Lewis & Clark Trail Interpretive Icon Trail on either side of the Missouri River from Boyer Chute to Hayworth Park in Bellevue. Note in your journal: the medium of each icon (stainless steel, colored glass, etc.); try to find information about at least one of the artists; and express your overall impression of these displays of public art and interpretive panels. A brochure can be sent upon request, as well as detailed information about the art.

5. Plan, organize or contribute effort to developing an online presence for the icons described in #4. This online presence could be: a web site, social network site, location-based social networking service, or the like.

6. Visit one of the following Visitor Centers 1) Inside the 1st floor of the National Park Service Regional Headquarters near Omaha Riverfront’s Lewis & Clark Landing; 2) The Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center in Nebraska City; 3) The Sioux City Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center; or 4) Western Historic Trails Center in Council Bluffs. Look for information that represents the history of the Lewis & Clark Expedition in this area.

7. Read a book about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, also called the Voyage of Northwest Discovery, 1803 – 1806 or the life of Meriwether Lewis, William Clark or other members of the Expedition. In your journal record the book title, author and report on the content and value of the book. The book can be a documentary or biography

8. Attend a meeting or a field day event of any local/regional Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Chapter, such as the Mouth of the Platte Chapter. Record in your journal a report on the activities of the chapter meeting, the program presented and/or work accomplished at the meeting or field day.

Perform an environment/conservation Good Turn, or a local troop/Eagle Scout Project or service hours for your troop on some aspect of the Lewis and Clark Trail, acceptable to your local/regional chapter troop leader as appropriate. Record in your journal what your Good Turn or project was, how many, if any, helpers you had, the dates, segment of the trail, etc. and your role in the activity.

9. Make a presentation about the Lewis and Clark Expedition or some portion thereof to a school class, your troop or another troop, a civic organization or church group. Emphasize the First Tribal Council. Record in your journal the research you did, what sources of information you used, and include a brief report on your presentation, how it was arranged, how it was received and what you learned by giving the presentation.

10. Join a Chapter of the LCTHF and participate in its events. Help with the preservation of the story of the Voyage of Discovery. For example, you could participate in maintenance of trail signage, maintenance of a chapter library, write a report on the accomplishments of a chapter financial grant, or help prepare an edition of a chapter newsletter. Record in your journal what chapter you joined, and include a report of what you did as a participating member over the time period of your membership in the chapter.

11. Visit a commemorative site along the Lewis and Clark Trail other than the one visited for the first requirement, having some connection with the Voyage of Discovery, Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, or some other member of the Expedition. Record in your journal what you learned at the site, the date visited and with whom you visited and any other research you did about the site.

Your journal will become a valuable keepsake of your experience in regard to the Lewis and Clark Trail. In addition to a journal, you might want to keep a scrapbook or notebook of materials, informational leaflets, notes and other materials you acquire as reference material for further public presentations. Be willing to share what you have learned with others during the third century of the legacy of Lewis and Clark.

Many of these requirements will fulfill requirements of other merit badges, trail patches, service hours, etc. Be sure to check the merit badge requirement book to see what else you have fulfilled by doing the work for this patch. The application form for the Mouth of the Platte Chapter embroidered patch is part of this package of information. Please keep a copy of your approved application form you send to the Chapter when ordering the patch.

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Application

The following Boy Scout/American Heritage Girl/Campfire USA member/4-H member/Completely Kids member has completed the following list of requirements and thus earned Lewis and Clark Stewardship Award Patch.

Name _____

Group Number or designation _____

Applicant's Rank _____

Please indicate which Requirements were completed and date completed.

Number 1 – Required for all participants. Date _____ Journal complete.
Leader's initials _____

Number 2 – Required for all participants. Date _____ Journal complete.
Leader's initials _____

Number _____ Date _____

Number _____ Date _____

Certified by: Leader: Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

If possible, please attach **copies or summaries** of the applicant's journal for each requirement (can send by email as copies will not be returned with the patch). This is not required but is a way for the Chapter to receive suggestions for improvement of the program.

The Mouth of the Platte Lewis and Clark Stewardship Award Patch is offered free of charge.

Send application materials to:
Mouth of the Platte Chapter, Inc.
PO Box 3344
Omaha, NE 68103

If questions contact:
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