

521 North 10th
Bozeman, MT 59715
23 July 2007

Ron Laycock, Past President
Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.
Box 3434
Great Falls, MT 59403

Dear Ron:

THank you for your letter of July 12th concerning collection of History of the Lewis & Clark Foundation. I am honored to be included with the many who have contributed so much. My contributions have been minor but I do have a few comments I would like to share.

A clarification of your words descriptive of Don's slides from the Trail may be necessary. Don did devote time and energy to collecting the slides from many generous donors. He also made efforts to determine from the donors that the slides could become part of the Lewis & Clark archives. It may be a misnomer to call them Don Nell's slides, however, as he did not take the slides. The collection only exists because of the generosity of others.

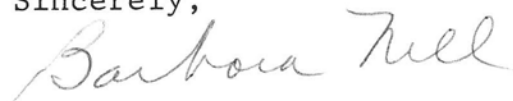
I believe Don's chief aim as president was education. He believed so strongly in this amazing expedition and he thought everyone should have the opportunity to learn all about the effort and appreciate its value.

Don first became interested in the Lewis & Clark expedition when he asked about an artifact in our local courthouse and received a very unsatisfactory answer. This was probably a year or two before he was able to make a connection with the Lewis & Clark Foundation. It became his aim to spread the word and make the Foundation more accessible to the general public.

It is my understanding that after his term as president, Don sent all of his papers to the Foundation headquarters. Almost everything that was in Don's office is now in my basement and available for use.

My best wishes for a successful annual meeting in Charlottesville. I have fond memories of a previous meeting there.

Sincerely,



Barbara Nell