



2023 Annual Report President's Message

Standing at the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers during our annual gathering in Pittsburgh in 2022, I couldn't help but feel the weight of history. The sprawling 4,900 miles of rivers and trails, leading all the way to the Pacific Ocean, served as a poignant reminder of our role as Keepers of the Story and Stewards of the Trail.

The year 2023 emerged as a crucial chapter in the history of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, marked by pivotal moments that shape our path forward.

Firstly, the Board initiated a bold move by engaging a professional strategic consultant to help craft a comprehensive Strategic Plan, setting a new course for our organization.

Early in the year, the National Park Service presented us with an extraordinary opportunity—the chance to take on the stewardship of the Lewis and Clark Trail Experience, lewisandclark.travel. This initiative holds the promise of transforming our role in Interpretation, Education, Cultural Awareness, and Economic Benefits within our communities along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Then, in September, the departure of our Executive Director, Sarah Cawley, signaled both an end and a beginning. While bittersweet, it ushered in a new opportunity for growth and innovation. Our new leader, Richard Hunt, not only brings a fresh vision but also the organizational expertise needed to turn our dreams into reality.

These pivotal decisions—to chart a strategic roadmap, embrace the Lewis and Clark Trail Experience, and appoint experienced leadership—have equipped us with the vision and resilience required to thrive in the years ahead. This report is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers and members, filling me with pride as we continue our journey forward. Together, We Proceeded On!



James Sayre

Featured Initiatives and Accomplishments

Strategic Plan

A strategic planning initiative was launched in late 2022 to guide investment decision-making and resource prioritization over the upcoming multi-year horizon. The organization's Board, Committee leads, regions, chapters, partners, and stakeholder groups were engaged during this process to share perspectives, set expectations, and affirm direction for the future.

The planning process included individual and small-group interviews to collect information and synthesize feedback, building towards April and June 2023 workshops with the full Board where priorities for action and investment were determined.



It is the intent of the Board that the plan articulates a clear and comprehensive roadmap towards achieving the Foundation's priority objectives, acknowledging that the plan must flex and be amended as needed to adapt to changing circumstances. The plan should include measurable goals against which progress can be tracked.

The Board is willing to explore challenging subjects that spark debate and critical discussion. Relative to this Mission and Vision, the Board recognizes that diverse heritage and sharing of its stories encompass sensitive subjects and the historical context in which the Expedition occurred. Engaging with topics such as the treatment of women, mental health, slavery, and relationships with Native Americans is recognized as important and relevant to the organization's present-day educational and outreach initiatives.

Five themes emerged upon which actions and priorities should be considered. These five themes encompass our goals for the organization to (a) **strengthen financial resilience**, (b) ensure that the **Lewis and Clark story** is presented accurately and effectively across today's audience demographics, (c) act to **preserve and protect** the Trail physically, (d) deliver **education and outreach** effectively to a variety of audiences, and (e) ensure that our **governance** of the organization is robust.



Featured Initiatives and Accomplishments



Lewis and Clark
Trail Experience

Acquisition of LCTE—The Lewis and Clark Trail Experience (LCTE) represents an eight-year collaborative investment between the National Park Service (NPS) and diverse advisory trail groups, including LCTHF. The primary goal is to foster collaboration among tourism stakeholders for the protection, management, and promotion of sustainable tourism along the Trail.

This initiative has evolved into a fully operational online platform, providing travelers with valuable resources such as an online trail guide and a means to connect with over 1,900 Affiliates. These Affiliates, comprising public, non-profit, and commercial entities along the 4,900-mile Trail, serve as essential partners in facilitating Trail exploration. The LCTE platform acts as a bridge, linking visitors and tourists to opportunities for Trail exploration while offering insights into the work of the LCTHF. Moreover, it serves as a channel for public engagement, fostering interaction and involvement.

LCTHF has now assumed ownership of the LCTE, enabling its comprehensive use, integration, and further development to promote Trail exploration, preservation, education, and enjoyment by the public. Notably, NPS software developers will continue to maintain and enhance the platform without incurring costs for LCTHF.





Through collaboration with Affiliates along the Trail, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Experience aims to enhance community engagement and relations, ultimately establishing a more sustainable tourism-based heritage trail.

To explore the diverse offerings of this initiative, visit lewisandclark.travel.



Completion of a Lewis and Clark Trail Stewardship Endowment Grant Project

For countless generations, human communities have called the Ecola Creek estuary home. Before the resort town of Cannon Beach, OR emerged in the late nineteenth century, a Tillamook tribal village— Ne'Cus—sat along this tiny brackish bay where it crosses the sandy beach to the open sea. The Lewis and Clark Expedition journals provided a tantalizing but fragmentary glimpse of this community.

Ne'Cus Village Interpretation

In collaboration with the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes and the City of Cannon Beach, we memorialized the ancient Indian village of Ne'Cus, located within the City of Cannon Beach.

We installed two basalt monuments at Ne'Cus Park with bronze artwork and text that interprets the importance of the village including the January 1806 visit by William Clark and a party of 14.





We have put more detail into the sculptures and focus on the history of the Ne'Cus village. We also added a third stone and a bronze plaque acknowledging the Trail Stewardship Endowment

We dedicated the monuments with a ceremony and tribal salmon meal. Thanks to all who made this collaborative effort possible.





Completion of Lewis and Clark Trail Stewardship Endowment And National Park Service Three Year Grant Sign Projects













Twenty-five years ago, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) developed a comprehensive cross-curricular guide tailored for middle school educators. This pioneering guide garnered acclaim from historians, teachers, heritage site managers, and youth leaders alike for its historical accuracy, respectful treatment of tribal cultures, and innovative approach

In 2023, thanks to the generous support of LCTHF members Philip and Sandy Barney, we had the opportunity to revitalize this invaluable resource. We enlisted the expertise of Lisa Prins to redesign the curriculum guide, incorporating new, interactive lesson plans, updated resources, and a more robust multicultural perspective.

The new lesson plans have been carefully crafted to be adaptable across a wide range of educational settings, suitable for elementary, middle, and high school students, as well as outdoor programs, summer camps, and adult learners. With over 50 enhanced activities and lesson plans, along with topic-specific bibliographies, educators have access to a wealth of resources to enrich their teaching. Contact the LCTHF Office for your free copy of the guide.

Curriculum Guide

The Corps of Discovery

A Curriculum Guide



Plants of the Expedition



At the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Great Falls, Montana, visitors can embark on a journey through history along a walking path adorned with 18 signs detailing the plants encountered by Lewis and Clark during their expedition from 1804 to 1806 in Montana. Thanks to the initiative of LCTHF VISTA intern Nicolette Ferris, a grant project funded by Montana Tourism has facilitated the replacement of deteriorated signage with new, enhanced displays.

These innovative signs now feature 3D printed tactile images of the plants, braille translations of their names, explanations of their significance to Lewis and Clark, insights into indigenous uses of the plants, and space for QR code stickers linking to audio guides and supplementary information. This comprehensive interpretive signage aims to make the exploration of history more accessible to all visitors, providing an enriching and enjoyable experience for everyone who visits. This initiative not only adds value to the visitor experience but also contributes to the broader goal of elevating awareness and appreciation of this significant piece of Montanan history.



2023 Annual Meeting

Missoula, MT June 27-30, 2023

More than 200 people gathered for the Annual Meeting in Missoula in June 2023, including five scholarship recipients from sites along the Lewis and Clark Trail. Hosted by Travelers' Rest Connection, the Annual Meeting included sessions with authors, experts, and living historians, as well as tours of local sites like Lolo Pass, Lewis' July 4 campsite, and the Bison Range. Dan Flores, author of *Wild New World*, delivered the Gary Moulton Lecture.





The closing celebration took place at Travelers' Rest State Park on the 217th anniversary of the Corps' return to the site on June 30, 1806. Thanks to all the volunteers and participants for making this event such a success. As one attendee said on the post-meeting survey, "I learned a lot from the speakers, but the more valuable thing for me was to spend time with Lewis and Clark friends and to make new friends."

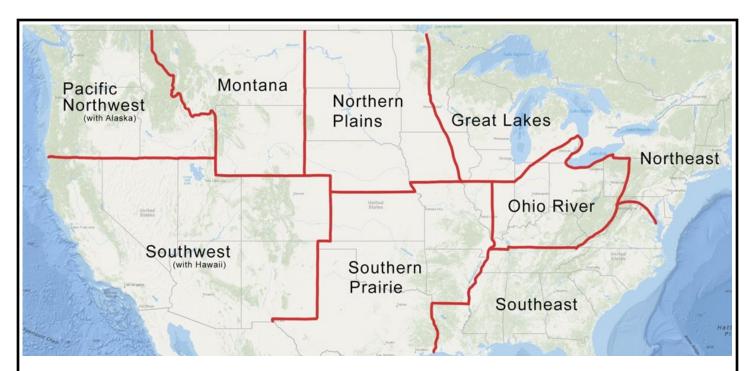
2023 Trail Stewardship Grants

Organization Name	State	Project Name	Grant Amount
Discovery Expedition of St. Charles	МО	Interpretative Staff/Interns	7,500.00
Discovery Expedition of St. Charles	МО	Lewis and Clark Film Series	7,500.00
Salmon Valley Stewardship	ID	Pioneer 4 th grade Tipi Program	3,200.00
Waterville Historical Society	ОН	Battle of Fallen Timbers 230 th	4,700.00
Travelers' Rest Connection	MT	Strategic/Interpretative Plan	7,500.00
Sacajawea Historical State Park	WA	Viewshed Restoration and Access	6,306.10
Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center	VA	Keelboat and Pirogue Repair	7,500.00
		Total	\$44,206.10



FY 2022—2023 Financial Statement

	9/30/2023	9/30/2022
Statement of Activities		
Revenues and other support		
Contributions, gifts, and donations	\$86,276	\$223,207
Merchandise sales and publications	1,570	2,420
Memberships	45,060	50,076
Investment return	371,086	(586,283)
Grants	3,870	38,447
Miscellaneous income	37,216	80,345
Total revenues and other support	\$545,078	\$(191,788)
Expenses		
Program services		
Library	\$12,072	\$12,770
Trail/Field programs	18,212	49,980
Merchandise/Publications	43,567	39,798
Total program services	\$73,851	\$102,548
Supporting services		
Management and general	\$249,045	\$215,992
Total supporting services	\$249,045	\$215,992
Total expenses	\$322,896	\$318,540
Decrease/Increase in net assets	\$222,182	\$(510,328)
Statement of Financial Position		
Assets		
Cash	\$126,869	\$272,540
Investments	3,323,284	2,964,642
Other current assets	2,986	3,744
Capital assets, net	8,976	11,270
Right of use asset, net (leases)	7,752	0
Library books and collections	189,163	188,703
Total assets	\$3,659,030	\$3,443,699
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$18,334	\$28,201
Current portion leases payable	2,005	0
Leases payable - noncurrent	5,744	0
Deferred revenue and memberships	42,173	46,906
Total liabilities	\$68,256	\$75,107
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	\$564,393	\$557,272
With donor restrictions	3,026,381	2,811,320
Total net assets	\$3,590,774	\$3,368,592
	¢2 650 020	
Total liabilities and net assets	\$3,659,030	\$3,443,699



Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

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President—Jim Sayce, Seaview, WA
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Thanks to all of our Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Volunteers for your Dedication and Service to the Trail.

Annual Report encompasses the LCTHF Fiscal Year Calendar 10/1/22—9/30 23



2023 Committees and Awards

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Philippa Newfield



Awards

Distinguished Service

Jay Buckley

Yvonne Kean

James Keith

Gary Kimsey

Steve Lee

Jerry Wilson

Meritorious Achievement

Arend Flick

Philippa Newfield

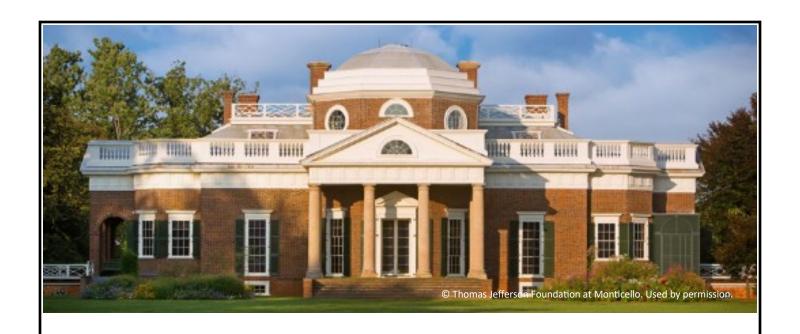
Appreciation

Robert Heacock

Ohio River Region

Adopt-A-Bison Committee





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