Title: Bicentennial Material Compiled by Hal Stearns, Jr.

Name of Creator: Harold “Hal” Stearns, Jr., Vice Chairman, Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission

Inclusive Dates: 2002-2006

Extent: 1.0 lf

Collection Number: AR024 (old number AR2009-031)

Name and Location of Repository:
William P. Sherman Library and Archives Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, 4201 Giant Springs Road, Great Falls, MT 59405.

Access Restrictions:
The collection is open for use and housed at the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

Language:
The contents of the collection are primarily English language documents.


Biographical/Historical Note:
The collection contains the papers and materials collected by Harold “Hal” Stearns, a member of the Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission and Chair of its Education Committee. The commission oversaw the events throughout Montana which commemorated the 200-year anniversary of the 1803-1806 Lewis and Clark expedition.

Stearns served in the Montana National Guard from 1963 to 2000, promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. In his civilian life, he received his BA in Communication Arts from Notre Dame, his MA in Western History from the University of Montana, and PhD in Education from the University of Montana. He taught high school history and other subjects for 28 years and served twelve years as adjunct professor at the University of Montana.

Since his retirement, Mr. Stearns has served as a Lewis and Clark interpreter for many tour groups as well as speaking across the country at various Bicentennial functions. At the Confluence of Cultures event May 28-30, 2003 in Missoula, MT, Mr. Stearns spoke on “Special Encounters: The Education Journey of Lewis and Clark and the Indians.” In his presentation, Mr. Stearns was dressed as and playing the role of William Clark as an older man looking back at the expedition. He will reflect on such things as how he perceived Indian life and culture, the
importance of Sacagawea to the expedition, and how both Indian and white learned from each other in the encounters they had.

**Scope and Contents:**

The collection consists of records, papers, and collected ephemera from Hal Stearns time on the Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission. The collection includes a total of two boxes, and items stored elsewhere in the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Library.

**Arrangement:** Left in general arrangement of collector.

**Acquisition Date:** 2009

**Acquisition Source:** The Collection was sent to the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation by Harold “Hal” Stearns, Jr. Vice Chair of the Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission.

**Processing Note:**

The *Bicentennial Material Compiled by Hal Stearns, Jr.* processing and finding aid creation was funded through a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, Omaha, Nebraska.

**Separated Materials:**

Ellis, Clifford B. *Pompey’s Pillar, Montana*. Post card. Object ID 2008.055.001


*A Part of History with A Journey Fourth*. Invitation. Object ID 2008.055.007


Sacajawea Heritage Days. Object ID 2008.055.012


Gantz, Richard A. Lewis and Clark At the Falls. Object ID 2008.055.014


Duncan, Dayton. Lewis and Clark in Montana. Article. 2008.055.017

Torgerson, Pat. An Agricultural Adventure with Lewis and Clark. Object ID 2008.055.018


Lewis and Clark the National Bicentennial Exhibition. Object ID 2008.055.021

Burns, Ken. Lewis and Clark the Journey of the Corps of Discovery Teacher's Guide. Object ID 2008.055.022

Longest, David and Stanton, James. Lewis and Clark the American Journey. Play program. Object ID 2008.055.023


Holland, Erik. Lewis and Clark Among the Earthlodge People. Object ID 2008.055.025


Welcome to the Grand Opening of the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitors Center. Event program. Object ID 2008.055.031

Building the Vision. Object ID 2008.055.032
Several newspapers were removed from the collection. They are stored in the Map Case under Newspaper, Hal Stearns.

1 archival box of miscellaneous ephemera collected by Hal Stearns to be processed into that collection as needed.

1 folder of various photos from along the trail removed to photographs collection.

**Restrictions on Use:**

LCTHF does not own copyright to all the materials in the collection. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners. No more than 25 percent of any folder may be copied.

**Preferred Citation:**

Item description and date. *Bicentennial Material Compiled by Hal Stearns, Jr.* AR 024. Box and Folder numbers. William P. Sherman Library and Archives, Great Falls, MT.

**Subject Terms:**

Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration.

Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission.

Lewis and Clark Expedition.
Container List

Title: Bicentennial Material Compiled by Hal Stearns, Jr.

Collection Number: AR 024

Sub-Series 1:

Box 1:

Folder 1: First Annual Lewis and Clark Symposium, 1972
Folder 2: Lewis and Clark in Montana- Interpretive Sign Strategy, 2000
Folder 3: Montana Bicentennial Master Plan, 2000
Folder 4: Montana- Lewis and Clark License Plates, 2001
Folder 5: Montana- Tourism & Rec Strategic Plan, 2003-2007
Folder 6: Montana- Lewis and Clark Legacy Campaign
Folder 7: Idaho Bicentennial
Folder 8: Oregon/Washington Bicentennial, 1970-2005
Folder 9: Nebraska Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission Strategic Planning, 2002

Box 2:

Folder 1: Bicentennial Signature Events 1
Folder 2: Bicentennial Signature Events 2
Folder 3: Oceti Sakowin Native Waters
Folder 4: On the Trail with Lewis and Clark in Montana- Stearns
Folder 5: Wonders of the Wilderness
Folder 6: L&C Publications-1
Folder 7: L&C Publications-2
Folder 8: Newspaper Articles
Folder 9: Research